Angeles National Forest
Sawmill-Liebre Reforestation Site Preparation
Project Statement of Work

Background: The Angeles National Forest is planning a reforestation project covering 266 acres of severely burned forest within the 2013 Powerhouse Fire. The Powerhouse Fire was a 302,741-acre human-caused fire ignited in May 2013 by electrical power lines. The majority of the burned area was comprised of non-forested shrub land that regrows quickly following wildfire. The remaining burned area was comprised of conifer forest-type species and hardwood species, and reforestation efforts will focus on this area.

The project is spread over a 47.29 mile² area along the Sierra-Pelona Ridge. The stands in the project area consist of 37 individual units averaging 7 acres in size. The units are defined by areas where montane woodland conifer areas with big cone Douglas-fir forests existed pre-fire (Natural Conifers), severely burned preexisting plantations (Plantations), and severely burned oak woodlands (Hardwoods). Some are separated by areas of chamise chaparral and mixed chaparral vegetation communities.

Scope: The NFF is seeking a contractor to complete all necessary mechanical site preparation tasks (mastication is preferred, but other methods are acceptable) for the 115 acre Plantation Areas. Site preparation includes*:

- Mechanical removal of competing vegetation.
- Reducing brush to 10% cover within the plantations by mechanical means.
- Felling hazardous trees where necessary for safety prior to planting. (Downed trees would be retained on site.)

*Slope percent will determine site preparation methods: Mechanical (usually mastication) would only occur on slopes less than or equal to 30%.

Additional Project Details:

- Mechanized equipment including but not limited to tractors, masticators, or power shears will be limited to slopes less than or equal to 30%.
- The 10% brush cover will be located randomly over the entire project area and not clumped in one spot.
- Natural advanced conifer regeneration will not be treated but left alone, this includes oaks greater than 3 inches in diameter.
- Masticated material will be left on site.
- Depth of masticated material will not exceed six inches.
- Mastication will not expose more than 50% of soils.
- Mastication (other mechanical treatments) will be done to leave a stuba height of no greater than 3 inches.
- Equipment will not be operated on wet soils. If equipment use results in rutting of 4 inches or more, work will be postponed until soil moisture decreases or appropriate measures have been established to accommodate equipment use.
• Berms created by tracked or wheeled equipment will be broken up or re-habilitated. Berm height shall not exceed 3-5 inches. Maximum allowed berm height is 5 inches. Access trails will be rehabilitated and smoothed.
• Site preparation can take place up to the edge of the Pacific Crest Trail or other system trails (both sides) but will not cross over or be on top of the trail.
• Snags over 16 inches will be left unless they pose a safety risk to equipment personnel or other others.
• No activity within 300 feet of a perennial stream or 100 feet of intermittent stream. No chips, chunks or other debris from mechanical or hand treatments will be left within the streambed, trail surfaces, drainage ditches, or road surfaces.

**Planting Information***:
• For Plantation units, trees will be planted to a 12x12 to a 15x15 foot spacing (approximately 200-300 trees/acre).
• Trees will be planted where evidence of conifer trees is present prior to fire (snags, stumps, downed logs, stump holes).
• Replanting will occur in areas needing additional trees to meet minimum stocking levels (50%) and 75-100 trees per acre.
• The minimum distance between trees is 4 feet. Planting will not occur under the drip line of live trees or under power lines.

*Planting information is included here as reference only and are not part of the Scope of Work for this contract.

**Accessibility**: There is a range of accessibility throughout the project area, with some units being accessed by primitive dirt roads and some with hiking access only. Mechanized access and use on sites are dependent on roads and slopes within the units.

**Project Timeline**: Work will commence no sooner than April 2020 and be completed by September 2020.

**Pre-Bid Site Visit**: The National Forest Foundation and Angeles National Forest will hold a pre-bid site visit on February 11, 2020.

**Pre-work Conference**: Prior to commencement of work, the Contractor shall meet with the NFF and the Angeles National Forest to discuss contract terms, work performance requirements and work progress schedules. Also, at this meeting such things as sanitation, camping requirements, fire prevention and suppression plans will be developed. The meeting will be held at a time and place determined by the NFF.

**Camping**: Under the terms of this Contract, camping is not permitted in Forest Service Campgrounds. The Contractor may be permitted to camp elsewhere on the National Forest. Camping on the National Forest is not a right; and shall be subject to approval by the Contracting Officer.

**Wet Weather Operations**: Contractor operations may be conducted outside the Normal Operating Season subject to certain requirements and Forest Service approval. The wet weather /winter season normally begins approximately November 1st and ends approximately May 1st.
Project Maps:

Figure 1- Project Area Map 1
Figure 4- Northeast Map