Request for Proposals
The Blue Rush 10S18 Fuels Reduction and Roadside Hazard Reduction Project

Background and Statement of Work:

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) and the USDA Forest Service are working together to protect and restore the Sierra National Forest through targeted efforts. In 2019, NFF and Sierra National Forest began collaborating on the Blue Rush 10S18 Fuels Reduction and Roadside Hazard Reduction Project (Blue Rush Project).

The Blue Rush Project is located on the High Sierra Ranger District, along the 10S18 road (about 10 miles from Dinkey Creek Rd). The project will improve stand conditions and reduce roadside hazards by the felling of all dead conifers within 200 feet of the road. Salvageable material may be made available to the Contractor for removal.

General Specifications:

(1) Description of Work – This Request for Proposals is for services related to conifer felling and/or piling within 200ft of the 10S18 road, on approximately 103 acres. The specific work activities are identified in the Schedule of Service Work Items table. Additional information, requirements, and specifications for each item are provided in the attached appendices.

   a. **Fuels Treatment**: Mechanical felling and/or hand felling of dead/dying conifers, brush and slash treatment, skidding, piling of material, and fire-lining of piles on up to 28 acres.

   b. **Fuels Treatment – Partially-Felled**: Mechanical felling and/or hand felling of dead/dying conifers, brush and slash treatment, skidding, piling of material, and fire-lining of piles on up to 7 acres of partially felled area.

   c. **Fuels Treatment – Fisher Area**: Mechanical felling and/or hand felling dead/dying conifers, skidding, piling of material outside of Fisher Area, and fire-lining of piles on up to 68 acres.

   d. **Pile Reconstruction**: Reconstruction of up to 10 piles.

The Contractor can propose to use mechanical or hand treatments, or a combination of the two. Hand felling may be required in parts of the project area. This should be considered when preparing the bid for felling.

Prior to submitting a bid, the Contractor is highly encouraged to attend the scheduled Pre-bid Tour on Monday, May 4th, or visit the site independently to view the Project.
The Contractor shall supply materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work described. The Contractor shall perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner. Orientation to the project site to support initiation of the work, project administration and oversight will be done by an NFF Forester, with support from Forest Service staff.

Project Location – APPENDIX A includes a map of the project displaying the entire project area within which treatments may occur. The map displays treatment areas, stream management zones/equipment exclusion zones, protected trees, limited operating period areas, and access details. Additional units may be identified prior and during project implementation. The project site ranges from about 4,600 to 5,100-foot elevation.

Work Schedule

The project is expected to begin as soon as conditions allow and Limited Operating Periods (LOPs) permit. The LOP for fishers is March 1st through June 30th, while the LOP for California Spotted Owls is March 1st through August 15th. The contract termination date will be November 15, 2020.

Pricing Schedule

Service Work Items – Please provide a price to perform the following service work:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Price $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Fuels Treatment</td>
<td>Acre</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Fuels Treatment - Partially-Felled</td>
<td>Acre</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Fuels Treatment – Fisher Area</td>
<td>Acre</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Pile Reconstruction</td>
<td>Pile</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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</table>

For service work specifications, please see Appendix B.

Other Project Requirements and Specifications

(a) Utilities – A NFF Forester will assist the contractor in identifying a camping area near the project site if spiking is the desired option for the crew. The contractor shall contact the NFF Forester for assistance and then make its own arrangements for temporary facilities if needed.

(b) Specifications – Project work shall be accomplished in accordance with the specifications and management requirements listed in the attached appendices, as follows:
   - APPENDIX A – Map
   - APPENDIX B – Service Work Specifications
   - APPENDIX C – Fire Plan Specifications
**Contractor Qualifications**

(a) **References** – Please provide three references.

(b) **Past Experience** – Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies and meadow restoration.

**Proposal Requested**

If interested in this project, please provide a bid for the above statement of work. Please provide a general work plan and description of how the work will be accomplished (i.e. type of equipment to be used, number of crewmembers, names of subcontractors etc.), and a timeline of how work will progress and be completed. As part of your general work plan and timeline, please describe how you will accomplish this.

For questions about the project specifications and details of producing the bid, please contact Evan Ritzinger (eritzinger@nationalforests.org and 530-204-7252). This is a request for proposals only and quotations furnished are not offers. This request does not commit the National Forest Foundation to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of submission of the quotation or to contract for supplies or services.

**Equal Opportunity Provider**

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

**Contractor Selection Process**

NFF will select a contractor after reviewing the bids received. Once a contractor is selected, we will prepare a separate contract document. NFF anticipates selection of contractors by the week of May 18th. Work may begin as early as July 1, and when ground conditions permit.

**Your bid should be emailed by 5:00 PM Tuesday, May 12th**

Please e-mail it to:

Evan Ritzinger
National Forest Foundation
eritzinger@nationalforests.org
APPENDIX B: SERVICE WORK SPECIFICATIONS
10S18 FUELS REDUCTION AND ROADSIDE HAZARD REDUCTION

Project Location & Description:

Location: The areas to be treated are in the Blue Canyon area of the High Sierra Ranger District on the Sierra National Forest. This area can be accessed from the old tollhouse grade (off highway 168) or from the Dinkey-Shaver road out of Shaver Lake. From the district office in Prather continue on highway 168 to the “top of the four lane” section of highway. This is a four-way intersection, turn right and go down the old tollhouse grade for 1 mile to the junction with the Peterson Mill road. Turn left onto this road (the Mountain Rest fire station is at the intersection). Follow this road for about 6 miles to the end of the county road, (the road is now the 10S02 road), continue about a mile further to a four-way intersection at the top of a long hill, this is the start of the treatment area known as “4 corners.” Turning left here will put you on the 10S18. The treatment area will continue on this road just past the 10S77 and up to the private boundary. The alternative is continue past the “Top of the four lane” on highway 168 to the village of Shaver Lake (about 6 miles). Turn right onto the Dinkey-Shaver road and follow it about 9 miles to the intersection with the 10S17 road. Turn right onto this road. The 10S18 branches off of the 10S17 with a right hand turn right before the Blue Canyon work center (about 10 miles from the Dinkey Creek Rd).

Description: The areas is a roadside corridor where the treatment area is defined as 200 feet from the road prism (to be called roadside areas). Boundaries will be determined virtually using a provided GPS file (Avensa). The contractor must provide their own devise for using this program. Fisher areas will be also determined virtually, and may be partially flagged using orange flagging. Stream courses are mapped in Avensa using a color scheme which identifies their corresponding mandatory buffer distances. The project maps are intended to show the general shape and location of the work areas. If any map and field boundaries conflict, the field boundaries shall govern. Positions of streams and topographic features, when shown, may also be approximate and field conditions shall govern.

1. SPECIFICATIONS OF SERVICE ITEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
Introduction:
The primary purpose of this project is to reduce the hazard and fuel loading created by the large number of dead trees. The goal of the project to reduce both the hazard of falling trees to the roadway and people using the road and at the same time reduce the fire danger created by the large volume of fuel. The project will include the felling of all the dead trees (dead trees being those that have no needles, have red needles, etc.) within 200 feet of the listed roads and within the unit boundaries. The created slash, any existing slash and brush already onsite must also be treated to reduce the fire hazard. The preferred method of this treatment would be to pile the material for future burning. Alternative proposals for treating this hazard will be considered, as long as they meet the objectives of reducing the hazard from the dead trees and reduction of onsite fuels. Live trees (conifers and hardwoods) are to be protected and not damaged by the contractor’s activities. The contractor can propose mechanical or hand treatments or a combination of the two. Proposals must meet the specifications found in this document. Hand felling may be required in parts of the project area.

The project is paid for by the acre (except re-piling). For roadside areas the acreage will be measured in GIS. Note this is not equal to simply measuring the road and multiplying by 400 feet because it accounts for overlap resulting from bends in the road. For site prep units the area will be measured with a hand held GPS.

In roadside areas suitable for machines to work (generally <35% slope and not in streamside management or other protected areas) the dead trees within 200 feet of the road prism are to be felled. If the slash treatment involves piling the material for future burning the felled trees are to be bucked into lengths that allow the proper construction of the burn pile. The remainder of the slash within the unit is to be piled for future burning (unless an alternate treatment is agreed upon). This includes existing and created slash and brush alive or dead. Trees that have already been fallen or have fallen naturally are to be treated as existing slash.

In roadside areas where the slopes exceed 35% the specified felling is still required. When possible logs within 50 feet of the road shall be skidded and piled. The slash shall be lopped and scattered unless an alternate is proposed and agreed to.

Item 1: Fuels Treatment

Felling:
Roadside units: All dead trees within 200 feet of the road are to be felled. The exception is oak snags which are to be felled only if they will reach the road if they were to fall from natural causes. The contractor shall discuss the felling of all oak snags with the NFF representative.

- Felling may be by hand or machine except in areas too steep for machine work and areas specifically prohibited from machine work.
- Felling must adhere to all safety practices including Personal Protective
Equipment (PPE).

- Signs must be placed on the road to warn travelers of the felling activities. They shall be placed in both directions. When felling may impact the road, road guards must be in place for traffic control.
- Felling must not damage live trees.
- Trees hung up during felling must be dealt with till they are safely on the ground. Felling green trees to accomplish this requires NFF approval. The government will determine if this material will be made available to the contractor.
- Trees shall be felled so that they can be treated as required. Trees that fall outside the 200 foot area must still be limbed and the slash lopped and scattered. This may be waived if the ground is so steep that it would be too dangerous but, in most cases, will be required.
- There are special requirements in some of the areas identified on the map. These include:
  - Fell trees away from aquatic features when possible.
  - Fell trees perpendicular to and away from the creek.
  - Fell trees toward the road where they can be and piled.
  - Do not fell into open grassy area that are identified as protected.
- Trees felled into the road must be cleared promptly and without damaging the road.
- All project created stumps, including those of shrubs, shall be less than 6 inches high as measured from the uphill side and less than 12 inches as measured from the downhill side.
- All unobstructed stumps shall be severed below the lowest live limbs or stems of trees and brush.
- Occassional scattered stump heights exceeding specifications are permissable when no more than 8 inches from any natural obstacles such as rocks or downed logs.

**Skidding:**

- Existing skid trails shall be used whenever possible. New skid trails shall be constructed only with government approval. Operations shall be conducted to minimize the number of skid trails required. Skidding shall not damage residual vegetation, other resources or improvements.
- Skidding on natural surface roads is approved but repair of the road surface will be required. Skidding on oiled or paved roads requires prior NFF approval, and should only be done when necessary. Contractor must make their best effort to limit skidding on oiled or paved roads.
- Five down logs per acre are to be left. These shall be at least 20 inch diameter and 20 feet long whenever possible. It is preferable that at they be in varying states of decay. Logs shall not be left directly adjacent to the road or burn pile. Logs should be aligned so as not to roll.

**Slash and Brush Treatment (Piling):**

- The Contractor shall pile at least 75% of the slash greater than 3 feet in length.
- Manzanita and other large brush shall be uprooted and crushed before being
placed in a pile, facilitating a tightly compacted pile and creating small pieces that are left behind as ground cover.

- Brush may be defined as woody vegetation, manzanita (*Arctostaphalos patula*), and Ceanothus species, alive or dead. Bearclover (*Chamaebatia foliolosa*) is not included as brush, and may be left untreated.
- Slash and vegetation may be left in place where vegetation is close enough to leave trees that the removal of the vegetation would cause damage to the leave trees. Leave trees and vegetation not specified to be treated shall be left undisturbed.
- If piling with a dozer/brush rake, the brush rake shall be suspended approximately 6 inches (15 cm) above ground level, to retain a 50% soil, duff and smaller fine material ground cover. This material should not be so much as to impede planting or be a fuels hazard. Materials which are less than 3 inches in diameter and less than 24 inches in length may be left to attain the ground cover requirements. If the slash cover exceeds 50%, the Contractor shall pile the smaller fuels to meet the slash piling requirements. If a grapple tool is used the same cover requirements apply.
- On occasion there might be longer lengths of slash and debris. If this occurs, the Contractor shall cut the slash into lengths that allow piling without injuring the residual crop trees, and the burning of the pile without damaging residual vegetation. The contractor must not damage the standing trees when moving this material. In areas where there are no standing live trees that could be damaged longer material may be piled. In these areas fewer and larger piles facilitate burning.

**Pile Specifications:**

- Piles shall be built in a haystack shape.
- Piles or any portion thereof shall be located in openings at least 15 feet from the nearest leave trees, drainages, Control Areas (CA), or unit boundaries, and 30 feet from snags. Piling cannot occur inside designated Fisher Areas. There may be areas where pile placement is difficult because of the remaining crop trees. The contractor may have to push the material to a suitable pile location. A suitable location is one where the pile may be burned without damaging the crop trees or other protected vegetation.
- The size of the pile shall be adjusted to the size of the opening and the size of the surrounding trees. If the opening is large the pile may be large, if the opening is small the pile size must be adjusted. The size of the surrounding trees also is a consideration for the pile size. If the trees are large and the limbs are farther from the ground the pile may be a little larger but if the surrounding trees are smaller with the crown near the pile the pile must be smaller. More space is required above (uphill) the pile than below. The piles should be worked from all sides.
- Piles shall be compact and be as free of dirt as possible. Piles that are not a minimum of 90 percent soil free shall be reworked. If, in the judgment of the NFF, the piles contain excessive soil, the piles shall be broken apart, re-piled, and the soil dispersed over the area. To create a more compact pile, push large
logs piled parallel in the base of the pile and continue to push additional slash on top.

- The length of the pile shall be approximately equal to its width, and the height shall be at least half of its diameter.
- Materials overhanging the pile’s edge that are greater than 6 feet (2 m) in length, shall be cut off and materials placed into piles.
- When building piles with log like material care should be taken to build the pile so the logs will not roll down the hill both during the pile construction and as much as possible during burning.
- All materials partially pushed over, hung up, left in an unsafe position, shall be either reworked with the tractor or felled by hand.
- Soil disturbance caused by the Contractor’s operations which may cause erosion shall be cross raked on the contour.
- Existing water-bars shall be left intact. The Contractor shall avoid water-bars or lift the implement blades prior to driving over them. The Contractor shall restore, at no cost to the NFF or Government, water-bars in skid trails, fire-lines, spur roads, road blocks, and other items affected by his/her operations. Erosion work must be completed in a timely manner. This means that the erosion structures must be maintained and in working condition when a weather event is predicted regardless of progress of the other work.
- Grapple piling shall adhere to the same specifications as stated for tractor piles. In addition, in an effort to minimize ground disturbance the contractor shall try to operate in a fashion that maximizes the use of the boom and minimizes the amount of area the machine actually tracks over. The operator shall work the pile from all sides. This will help prevent fire from creeping out of the pile when burned. The pile shall not be connected with areas of un-piled material (example: non-work areas, areas with only small ground cover, snag patches streamside zones).
- Hand piling may be required in some of the areas, at the discretion of the Contractor. The piles shall be well constructed in a haystack shape and the material in the pile densely placed. The piles shall be placed in a way that does not create dispersal barriers to western pond turtle movements.

**Fire Line Specifications:**

- Fire-line is to be constructed with a regular blade around each pile. In the past, equipment such as feller-bunchers, processors, skidders, tractors and excavators have been used.
- Fire-line is to be one dozer blade wide (approx. 10 ft), scraped to mineral soil and water bars placed where necessary and in a timely fashion.

**Item 2: Fuels Treatment – Partially-Felled**

Same as Item 1, above.

**Item 3: Fuels Treatment – Fisher Area**
Same as Item 1, above, without treatment of slash, Manzanita and other brush.

Felled trees are to be skidded out of designated Fisher Area and piled, in accordance with ‘Piling Specifications’ in Item 1, above. No piles may occur within Fisher Area.

**Item 4: Pile Reconstruction**

Piles will be re-piled in accordance with ‘Piling Specifications’ in Item 1, above.

A visual example of a good pile and bad pile are provided, below:

**Good Pile:**

**Bad Pile:**

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**2. EQUIPMENT & ACCESSING THE PROJECT SITE:**

The contractor should check these roads to determine how best to bring equipment to the project area.

Note: Moving between segments may or may not require use of a transport. If the road surfaces are dirt it is usually acceptable to walk the equipment on that road, if however, the road surface is paved or chip sealed or otherwise improved prior approval must be obtained from the NFF. The Contractor must make their best effort to limit equipment walking on roads that are paved or chip sealed or otherwise improved. Also some roads are not suited to a long transport. Some of the roads are also in poor repair. It is recommended that the contractor examine the routes to the units to determine the transport needs.

A. **Accessibility:** Work site access instruction as given here is for information only. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to determine the most suitable route to the project area. The Government will not provide special maintenance or snow plowing to open roads or keep roads open.

B. The Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining all permits necessary for
the transportation of equipment on Federal, State, County, and private roads.

C. **Boundaries:** A GPS file with the designated track areas will be provided. It is up to the contractor to provide a means of displaying and following this GPS file, and to complete the contract to specification.

D. **Examination of Project Work Area:** The bidder is strongly encouraged to inspect the project work area. The NFF has provided estimates of treatment area acreages. It will be assumed that the bidder has satisfied her/himself as to the nature of the work to be performed and the character of all conditions to be encountered. The attached map is intended to show only the general size and location of the project units.

E. Within the general work area, the NFF may exclude from payment non-work areas which exceed one half acre such as: rock areas, groups of trees, or other special areas such as excessively steep slopes. The acres actually treated within the unit boundaries will be measured after work is complete to determine acres for payment.

### 3. PRIORITY OF WORK AND WORK CONDITIONS

The NFF may specify the priority of work by item or sub-item within an item, without additional cost. Work may be performed at any time during the period of the contract, except during the following conditions:

a. In accordance with the Fire Plan in Appendix C.

b. When the NFF or Forest Service determines that adverse weather has made access or project production, unacceptable, too dangerous or ground damaging, or continued vehicular travel would cause unacceptable road damage.

c. Between dusk and dawn (unless otherwise agreed upon by the NFF and the Contractor).

d. On Sunday (unless otherwise agreed upon by the NFF and the Contractor).

e. **Limited Operating Period (LOP) for fishers (Protected Trees; will be marked)** will prohibit operations from March 1\text{st} through June 30\text{th}.

f. **Limiting Operating Period (LOP) for California Spotted Owls** will prohibit operations in designated areas from March 1\text{st} through August 15\text{th}. This may be adjusted or waved if the District Biologist determines that species of concern are not using the area.
g. Sections that need to be surveyed before work can begin. The maps of these areas are provided to you in the appendix. Once the Forest Service has determined work can begin, they will inform the NFF and the Contractor of this.

4. CONTRACTOR FURNISHED EQUIPMENT

The Contractor shall provide all transportation of equipment, tools, personnel, and supplies to the work sites. The Contractor shall be responsible for all fuel, lubrication, repair, and replacement for his/her equipment. All chainsaws and other motorized equipment shall be equipped with Forest Service approved spark arrestors and meet Calif. Division of Industrial Safety specifications. The following are minimum equipment requirements:

The contractor may propose any equipment that can do the job to the specifications. The equipment must be able to work slopes up to 35% with possible short runs at a greater slope. There are areas where the equipment may need to work in tight spacing between living trees or protected resources. The contractor must be able to work between the trees without damaging the standing trees. The equipment shall have an OSHA approved rollover protection system. If piling is to be done with a tractor, it shall be equipped with a brush rake which is strong enough to pile the material, push brush from the ground and place this material in a pile that is properly constructed and free of dirt. Piling is not to be done with a regular dozer blade. An alternative to the brush rake would be a grapple system capable of actually picking the slash up to place in the piles. If required the fire line is to be constructed with a regular blade. In the past equipment such as feller-bunchers, processors, skidders, tractors and excavators have been used.

Tools and supplies necessary for making emergency and routine repairs and servicing.

Power or hand saw(s) may be needed for slash pile maintenance and to prepare material to be piled.

The Equipment Operator(s) and Contractor’s representative must be able to speak fluent English and understand the written English language.

All equipment will be stored beyond 325 feet from any occupied western pond turtle habitat. Fueling is also to occur outside the 325 feet.

5. INSPECTION OF EQUIPMENT

After award, the NFF and Government reserve the right to inspect the equipment to be furnished. If the equipment is found to be in such condition to indicate the need for frequent repairs and delays in performance, it shall be rejected. The decision of the NFF and Government will be final as to whether equipment is in suitable condition for acceptance.
6. CLEANING OF EQUIPMENT

The Contractor shall certify in writing that off-road equipment is free of noxious weeds prior to each start-up of contract operations and for subsequent moves of equipment to contract area. The certification shall indicate the measures taken to ensure that off-road equipment is free of noxious weed shall be identified.

The Contractor shall notify the Forest Service at least 5 working days prior to moving each piece of equipment on to National Forest Land, unless otherwise agreed. Notification will include identifying the location of the equipment’s most recent operations. Unless the prior location of operation is known to be free of noxious weeds as documented in a Weed Risk Assessment, Forest Service may assume that the equipment is contaminated with noxious weed seeds. In general, because of the magnitude of the yellow star thistle infestation in northern and central California, equipment coming from off-forest sites will be considered contaminated and cleaning/washing will be required. Upon request of Forest Service, arrangements will be made for the NFF or Forest Service to inspect each piece of equipment prior to it being placed in service.

If the Contractor is working in a Forest Service project area that is known to be infested by noxious weeds, the contractor must clean off-road equipment prior to moving equipment into another Forest Service unit that is not infested with noxious weeds.

Contractor shall ensure that the equipment moved on to National Forest Land is free of soil, vegetative matter, or other debris that could contain or hold seeds. Contractor shall employ whatever cleaning methods necessary to ensure compliance with the terms of this provision, and shall notify Forest Service prior to moving each piece of equipment onto National Forest Land. Notification will include identifying the location of the equipment’s most recent operations. Upon request of Forest Service, arrangements will be made for the NFF or Government to inspect each piece of equipment prior to it being placed into service. This will prevent the introduction of the seeds of noxious weeds onto National Forest Land.

7. DEFINITIONS

A. Control Area - “Control Area” refers to archeological sites. There are no known archeological sites within the project area – language pertaining to Control Areas is included in the event that archeological sites are discovered during implementation.

B. D.B.H. - Diameter at Breast Height, measured 4 1/2 ft. above the ground on the uphill side of the tree trunk.

C. Ground Cover or Duff Layer - Living or dead vegetation. Usually consists of a
composition of cast needles, fine sticks or twigs, live plants, and slash less than 4 inches (10 cm) in diameter large end.

D. **Mineral Soil** - State of soil, generally below where humus and large organic matter is not present. The absence of combustible material.

E. **Slash** – All debris and material created by logging or pre-commercial thinning activities.

F. **Snag** - A standing dead tree with a DBH of at least 16 inches (45 cm) and at least 20 feet (6 m) tall.

G. **Leave Tree** – A healthy looking, well-formed, undamaged tree, to be left undisturbed. Oaks are to be included as leave trees.

H. **Cull Log** – A non-utilized log over 18 inches in diameter on the small end, and 10 feet in length.

I. **Opening** – An area where there are no leave trees or snags within 30 feet of each other.

J. **Pile** – An assemblage of slash and vegetation laid or lying one upon another to create a compact mound, bundle, or heap, that is soil free. A pile is created by the dozer pushing slash and vegetation with the brush rake during the piling operations.

K. **Vegetation** – A woody plant, live or dead, with no main stem, which does not usually grow higher than 8 feet. For example: ceanothus, manzanita, and choke cherry

L. **Windrow** – A pile which is longer than it is wide.

M. **Cross-Raked** – Removal of mounds and gullies caused by tractor’s slash piling operations in order to prevent erosion of topsoil. Usually performed crossing from side to side of the unit, contour to the slope.

M. **Noxious Weeds** – Those plant species designated as noxious weeds by the Secretary of Agriculture or by the responsible State official. The primary species of concern for the project area are: Yellow Star-Thistle, Medusa Head, Klamath Weed, Bull Thistle and Italian Thistle. Any plant species designated as noxious by the California Department of Agriculture would be of concern if found in the project area. This list can be viewed at [www.cdfa.ca.gov/weedhome](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/weedhome).

N. **Plastic Limit** – A measurement of soil moisture.
8. **NON-WORK AREAS/LEAVE TREES/RESOURCE PROTECTION**

A. Non-work areas will be identified by any of the following: 1 mapped or 2 flagged with specified color. No tractor intrusion, tractor refueling, disturbance, damage, or felling shall be allowed in these areas.

B. The Contractor shall not operate and shall not refuel within Stream Management Zones (SMZ). Stream management zone boundaries will be identified with white with blue polka-dot flagging, or otherwise designated prior to commencing unit treatment.

C. The Contractor shall not operate within 25 feet of meadows.

D. Equipment shall not cross meadows, stream channels, and/or designated non-work areas except at locations designated by the NFF.

E. Areas marked as unworkable, if larger than one half acre, may be measured and deducted for the treated acres.

F. Leave trees and seedlings shall be avoided. The Contractor shall work in such a manner that will not damage (surface or sub-surface) the bark, bole, or roots of these live trees. When avoidable damage occurs, the Contractor shall be liable for actual damages.

G. The Contractor shall not pile any down logs with a diameter greater than 30 inches (76 cm) at the large end unless directed to by the NFF. The objective is to leave 5 large logs per acre. When possible three of these logs shall be in decay classes 1, 2 or 3 and at least 20-inch diameter and 20 feet long.

H. Piling operations will be restricted to periods when surface soils in the operating area are drier than the "plastic limit", to a depth of 30 cm (12 inches). A test to determine the plastic limit can be measured by rolling soil with your hand on a flat surface that produces a wire of soil 1/8 inch in diameter. Equipment shall be operated only when soil moisture conditions prevents unacceptable compaction or soil displacement. Typically, soil moisture conditions are a concern from November to May.

I. Protection of Land Survey Monuments. The Contractor shall protect all known survey monuments, witness corners, reference monuments, and bearing trees against avoidable destruction, obliteration, or damage during the Contractor's operations. Known corners are identified on the contract maps by black diamonds. It is the Contractor's responsibility to locate and protect them during operations. If the Contractor causes such damage, the Contractor shall hire the appropriate registered land surveyor to establish or restore at the same location the monuments, corners, or accessories. Such surveyors shall use procedures in accordance with the "Bureau of Land Management Instructions for the Survey..."
of the Public Lands of the United States" for the General Land Office surveys, and in accordance with the State law for others. The Contractor shall record such survey in the appropriate county records.

J. Protection of Improvements. Contractor shall protect improvements from damage and shall be responsible for their timely restoration if damaged by Contractor's Operations. Improvements include, but are not limited to, water tanks, fences, gates, pipeline, culverts, heli-spots, existing roads, underground cable, and all private property.

K. Bulldozers, or other track vehicles, shall only be walked on paved or chip-sealed roads when necessary and only at the discretion of the NFF. Rubber-tired equipment is acceptable on paved or chip-sealed roads and does not require prior NFF approval.

L. Exit and entry of units shall be confined to within unit boundaries unless otherwise stated by the NFF. Entry and exit points to the unit shall be chosen to reduce resource damage and soil erosion.

M. Prevention of Oil Spills. If Contractor maintains storage facilities for oil or oil products on the project area, the Contractor shall take appropriate preventative measures to ensure that any spill of such oil or oil products does not enter the soil, any stream, or other waters.

If the total oil or oil storage exceeds 4996 liters (1320 gallons) or if any single container exceeds a capacity of 2498 liters (660 gallons), the Contractor shall prepare a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan. Such plan shall meet applicable EPA requirements (40 CFR 112) including certification by a Registered Professional Engineer.

N. Protection of Cultural Resources. Location of known historic or prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties related to American history, architecture, archaeology and culture, such as settler or Indian artifacts, protected by American Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431433), National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470), and implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95 and 36 CFR 261.9(e)) will be identified on the ground by the Forest Service. The Forest Service may unilaterally modify or cancel all or portions of this contract to protect an area, object of antiquity, artifact, or similar object which is or may be entitled to protection under these Acts regardless of when the area, object or artifact is discovered or identified. Discovery of such areas or objects by either party shall be promptly reported to the other party.

The Contractor shall protect Controlled Areas (CA) shown on the Project Maps, by AVOIDANCE, and shall protect all known and identified or discovered historic
or prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties related to American history, architecture, archaeology and culture against destruction, obliteration, removal or damage during the Contractor's operations. The Contractor shall immediately halt and notify the Forest Service if damage occurs to any cultural resources and immediately halt operations in the vicinity of the resource where damage occurred until the Forest Service authorizes the Contractor to proceed. If such damage is negligently or willfully caused by the Contractor's operations, the Contractor shall bear costs of investigation and restoration in accordance with 36 CFR 296.14(c), provided that such payment shall not relieve the Contractor from civil or criminal remedies otherwise provided by law.

Wheeled or track-laying equipment shall not be operated within such areas except on roads, tractor roads, or skid trails approved by the NFF. The Contractor may be required to restore disturbed areas where incursion has been approved by the NFF.

Track-laying equipment shall not be operated through Control Areas even though there may be roads through them, without prior approval by the NFF.

All known Controlled Areas will be identified prior to operation and are identified on the ground with flagging. The sites may be re-flagged immediately prior to operations.

Some activities may be required within the controlled areas: This will require consultation with the District Archeologist and may require on site monitoring by the Archeology staff.

O. Protection of Sensitive Plant Populations. No known populations of sensitive plants occur within or adjacent to the designated units. Any protected plants located within any of the units will be designated for protection by the Government.

1. To maintain stand diversity, trees and or brush providing homes to wildlife shall not be damaged or disturbed.

R. Control of Dust Near Sensitive Areas. The NFF may require the Contractor to cease operations when the wind speed is such that dust from operations will blow into sensitive areas. Sensitive areas are those occupied by the public including developed campgrounds and residences. Periods of shut down will not count against the Contractor's time.

S. The Contractor shall remove all trash from the work site.

T. The Contractor shall be responsible for determining the location of buried utilities and preventing damage to them.
U. Areas with an excessive amount of rock, thin gravelly soils or rock outcrops shall be avoided. These areas will be designated by the NFF.

V. Heavy equipment may not work or leave the boundaries of the work areas without written permission from the NFF. This is intended to avoid the possibility of damage to sensitive or protected sites outside the work boundaries. Walking of tracked equipment will not be allowed on chip sealed roads without prior NFF permission. Rubber-tired equipment, however, does not require prior NFF permission.

The NFF and Government have the right to inspect and test all services called for by the contract, to the extent practicable at all times and places during the term of the contract. The NFF and Government shall perform inspections and tests in a manner that will not unduly delay the work.

If the NFF or Government perform inspections or tests on the premises of the Contractor or a subcontractor, the Contractor shall furnish, and shall require subcontractors to furnish, at no increase in contract price, all reasonable facilities and assistance for the safe and convenient performance of these duties.

If any of the services do not conform to contract requirements, the NFF may require the Contractor to perform the services again in conformity with contract requirements, at no increase in contract amount. When the defects in services cannot be corrected by re-performance, the NFF may (1) require the Contractor to take necessary action to ensure that future performance conforms to contract requirements and (2) reduce the contract price to reflect the reduced value of the services performed.

If the Contractor fails to promptly perform the services again or to take the necessary action to ensure future performance in conformity with contract requirements, the NFF may (1) by contract or otherwise, perform the services and charge to the Contractor any cost incurred by the NFF that is directly related to the performance of such service or (2) terminate the contract for default.

The NFF, government and/or their appointed representatives may visit the work units to observe the Contractor's work in progress.

Each unit shall be inspected separately and inspection results shall not be averaged with those of other units.

9. UNIT ACCEPTANCE

The Contractor shall submit a unit to the NFF for acceptance only when the Contractor's inspections for quality control assure the work specifications have been met. The NFF and Government may perform formal inspections to determine acceptance of the work units.
If the results of the Contractor’s inspections cannot be verified by the NFF and Government’s inspections, the NFF and Government may elect to conduct all subsequent inspections. If the NFF and Government do assume the burden of the Contractor’s inspections, the NFF shall charge an inspection charge of $10.00 per acre.

10. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance of this contract is from the effective date of the Notice to proceed, and all work shall be completed by the assigned contract end date.

Failure to begin work on schedule will make the contract subject to immediate termination for cause.

Delays due to normal adverse weather, weekends, and holidays have been included in the calculation of contract time. The NFF and Government reserves the right to set the priority of items or sub-items.

Schedules
The Contractor shall provide to the NFF for approval, a practicable work schedule after receiving the Notice to Proceed and before the post award conference. Any changes to schedule shall be subject to NFF approval.

If, in the opinion of the NFF, the Contractor falls behind the approved schedule, the Contractor shall take steps necessary to improve its progress, including those that may be required by the NFF, without additional cost to the NFF. In this circumstance, the NFF may require the Contractor to increase the number of shifts, overtime operations, and days of work.

Failure of the Contractor to comply with the requirements of the NFF under this clause shall be grounds for a determination by the NFF that the Contractor is not prosecuting the work with sufficient diligence to ensure completion within the time specified in the contract. Upon making this determination, the NFF may terminate the Contractor’s right to proceed with the work, or any separable part of it, in accordance with the default terms of the contract.

Note: If more than one contract is awarded, the contract time will be adjusted proportionately. Offerors are required to submit pricing for all items; award will not be made for less than the total item amount.

11. WINTER SHUTDOWN

When winter weather sets in and the continuation of work is impractical, upon written request by the Contractor, the NFF may authorize a total suspension until such winter
weather has passed and work can proceed. During the period of total suspension, the calendar days elapsed will not be charged against the contract time.

12. MEASUREMENT

Acreage shown in this contract is estimated. Completed acres for payment will be determined by using a handheld GPS or GIS as specified in earlier paragraphs. GPS does not compensate for slope distances or acreage. Contractor is advised to estimate costs and production applicable to specific conditions of forest projects.

13. ACREAGE RE-MEASUREMENT

a. Re-measurement of the acreage under this contract will be made upon the written request of the Contractor. Request for re-measurement must be made in writing within 10 days after piling has been completed on an individual unit.

b. Re-measurement will be made along the boundaries using the same criteria and method as specified above.

c. If re-measurement indicates an acreage difference of no more than 5 percent from the original acreage measurement, the Contractor shall pay the actual costs of the re-measurement. Where the difference is less than 5 percent the results of the first measurement will be used. Payment will be based on the second measurement where the difference is more than 5 percent. No adjustment will be made for differences of 1 acre or less.
1. **SCOPE:**

The provisions set forth below outline the responsibility for fire prevention and suppression activities and establish a suppression plan for fires within the contract area. The contract area is delineated by map in the contract. The provisions set forth below also specify conditions under which contract activities will be curtailed or shut down.

2. **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

   A. Contractor

      (1) Shall abide by the requirements of this Fire Plan.

      (2) Shall take all steps necessary to prevent his/her employees, subcontractors and their employees from setting fires not required in completion of the contract, shall be responsible for preventing the escape of fires set directly or indirectly as a result of contract operations, and shall extinguish all such fires which may escape.

      (3) Shall permit and assist in periodic testing and inspection of required fire equipment. Contractor shall certify compliance with specific fire precautionary measures in the fire plan, before beginning operations during Fire Precautionary Period and shall update such certification when operations change.

      (4) Shall designate in the Fire Plan and furnish on Contract Area, during operating hours, a qualified fire supervisor authorized to act on behalf of Contractor in fire prevention and suppression matters.

   B. Forest Service

   The Forest Service may conduct one or more inspections for compliance with the Fire Plan. The number, timing, and scope of such inspections will be at the discretion of agency employees responsible for contract administration. Such inspections do not relieve the Contractor of responsibility for correcting violations of the fire plan or for fire safety in general, as outlined in paragraph 2.A above.

3. **DEFINITIONS:**

   The following definitions shall apply:

   **Active Landing:** A location the contractor may be skidding logs into, or performing other operations such as delimming, log manufacturing, and chipping logs. Except for EV and E days, loading logs or stockpiling chips only, on a cleared landing, does not constitute an Active Landing.

   **Hot Saw:** A harvesting system that employs a high-speed (>1100 rpm) rotating felling head, i.e., full rotation lateral tilt head.

   **Mechanical Operations:** The process of felling, skidding, chopping, shredding, masticating, piling, log processing and/or yarding which requires the use of motorized power which includes, chainsaws, chippers, motorized carriages, masticators, stroke delimiters, skidders, dozers etc.

4. **TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT:**

   The Contractor shall comply with the following requirements during the fire precautionary period, as defined by unit administering contracts:

   **The Fire Precautionary Period is set by the State of California which is April 1 through December 1 of any year.**
This contract requires, does not require, Section 4E of the Fire Plan.

A. Fire Tools and Equipment: Contractor shall meet minimum requirements of Section 4428 of the California Public Resources Code (C.P.R.C.). Fire tools kept at each operating landing shall be sufficient to equip all employees in the felling, yarding, loading, chipping, and material processing operations associated with each landing. Fire equipment shall include two tractor headlights for each tractor dozer used in Contractor's Operations. Tractor headlights shall be attachable to each tractor and served by an adequate power source. All required fire tools shall be maintained in suitable and serviceable condition for fire fighting purposes.

Trucks, tractors, skidders, pickups and other similar mobile equipment shall be equipped with and carry at all times a size 0 or larger shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches and a 2-1/2 pound axe or larger with an overall length of not less than 28 inches.

Where cable yarding is used, Contractor shall provide a size 0 or larger shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches and a filled backpack can (4 or 5 gallon) with hand pump within 25 feet of each tail and corner block.

B. Fire Extinguishers: Contractor shall equip each internal combustion yarder, fuel truck, and loader with a fire extinguisher for oil and grease fires (4-A:60-B:C).

Skidders and tractors shall be equipped with a minimum 5-BC fire extinguisher.

All Fire Extinguishers shall be mounted, readily accessible, properly maintained and fully charged.

Contractor shall equip each mechanized harvesting machine with hydraulic systems, powered by an internal combustion engine (chipper, feller/buncher, harvester, forwarder, hot saws, stroke delimber, etc), except tractors and skidders, with at least two 4-A:60-B:C fire extinguishers or equivalent.

C. Spark Arresters and Mufflers: Contractor shall equip each operating tractor and any other internal combustion engine with a spark arrester, except for motor vehicles equipped with a maintained muffler as defined in C.P.R.C. Section 4442 or tractors with exhaust-operated turbochargers. Spark Arresters shall be a model tested and approved under Forest Service Standard 5100-1a as shown in the National Wildlife Coordinating Group Spark Arrester Guide, Volumes 1 and 2, and shall be maintained in good operating condition. Every motor vehicle subject to registration shall at all times be equipped with an adequate exhaust system meeting the requirements of the California Vehicle Code.

D. Power Saws: Each power saw shall be equipped with a spark arrester approved according to C.P.R.C. Section 4442 or 4443 and shall be maintained in effective working order. An Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved fire extinguisher containing a minimum 14 ounces of fire retardant shall be kept with each operating power saw. In addition, a size 0 or larger shovel with an overall length of not less than 38 inches shall be kept with each gas can but not more than 300 feet from each power saw when used off cleared landing areas.

E. Tank Truck or Trailer: Contractor shall provide a water tank truck or trailer on or in proximity to Contract Area during Contractor's Operations hereunder during Fire Precautionary Period. When Project Activity Level B or higher is in effect, a tank truck or trailer shall be on or immediately adjacent to each active landing, unless otherwise excepted when Hot Saws or Masticators are being used. See Section 6 for specific contract requirements.

The tank shall contain at least 300 gallons of water available for fire suppression. Ample power and hitch shall be readily available for promptly and safely moving tank over roads serving Contract Area. Tank truck or trailer shall be equipped with the following:

1. Pump, which at sea level, can deliver 23 gallons per minute at 175 pounds per square inch measured at the pump outlet. Pumps shall be tested on Contract Area using a 5/16 inch orifice in the Forester One Inch In-Line Gauge test kit. Pump shall meet or exceed the pressure value in the following table for nearest temperature and elevation:
The pump outlet shall be equipped with 1-1/2 inch National Standard Fire Hose thread. A bypass or pressure relief valve shall be provided for other than centrifugal pumps.

2) 300 feet of 3/4-inch inside diameter rubber-covered high-pressure hose mounted on live reel attached to pump with no segments longer than approximately 50 feet, when measured to the extreme ends of the couplings. Hose shall have reusable compression wedge type 1-inch brass or lightweight couplings (aluminum or plastic). One end of hose shall be equipped with a coupling female section and the other end with a coupling male section. The hose shall, with the nozzle closed, be capable of withstanding 200 PSI pump pressure without leaking, distortions, slipping of couplings, or other failures.

3) A shut-off combination nozzle that meets the following minimum performance standards when measured at 100 P.S.I. at the nozzle:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G.P.M.</th>
<th>Horizontal Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Straight Stream</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fog Spray</td>
<td>6 - 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) Sufficient fuel to run the pump at least 2 hours and necessary service accessories to facilitate efficient operation of the pump.

When Contractor is using Hot Saws or Masticators, an additional 250 feet of light weight hose, approved by the Forest Service, shall be immediately available for use and be capable of connecting to the 300 feet of hose and appurtenances in (2) and (3) above.

This equipment and accessories shall be deliverable to a fire in the area of operations and is subject to the requirements for each specific activity level identified in Section 6.

**F. Compressed Air Foam System:** A Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) is a fire suppression system where compressed air is added to water and a foaming agent. By agreement, Contractor may substitute a CAFS or functional equivalent in lieu of the tank truck, trailer or fire extinguishers, provided it meets or exceeds the following specifications and requirements:

2. Units shall be kept fully charged with air; water and foam concentrate as recommended by the manufacturer and have the appropriate tools to service the system.
3. The unit shall contain enough energy to empty tank and clear hose prior to exhausting propellant.
4. The unit shall be capable of being completely recharged within 10 minutes.
5. When used on cable yarding landings, the unit shall be outfitted for immediate attachment to carriage and transported without damage to the unit.
Fire extinguishers required for Hot Saws, Masticators and similar equipment identified in Section 4 B. above may be substituted with a 3 gallon CAFS.

Tank truck, trailer or equivalent may be substituted with a 30 Gallon CAFS with at least 550 feet of one inch hose and an adjustable nozzle with enough water, air and foam concentrate for at least one recharge.

This equipment and accessories shall also be deliverable to a fire in the area of operations and subject to the requirements for each specific activity level identified in Section 6.

5. **GENERAL**

A. **State Law**: In addition to the requirements in this Fire Plan, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws of the State of California. In particular, see California Public Resource Codes.

B. **Permits Required**: The Contractor must secure a special written permit from the District Ranger or designated representative before burning, welding or cutting metal or starting any warming fires. If contract requires Blasting and Storing of Explosives and Detonators, an Explosives Permit may be required pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code, Section 12101.

C. **Blasting**: Contractor shall use electric caps only unless otherwise agreed in writing. When blasting is necessary in slash areas, a Fire Patrolperson equipped with a size 0 or larger shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches and a filled backpack can (4 or 5 gallon) with hand pump shall remain in the immediate area for an hour after blasting has been completed.

D. **Smoking**: Smoking shall not be permitted during fire season, except in a barren area or in an area cleared to mineral soil at least three feet in diameter. In areas closed to smoking, the CO may approve special areas to be used for smoking. The Contractor shall sign designated smoking areas. Contractor shall post signs regarding smoking and fire rules in conspicuous places for all employees to see. Contractor's supervisory personnel shall require compliance with these rules. Under no circumstances shall smoking be permitted during fire season while employees are operating light or heavy equipment, or walking or working in grass and woodlands.

E. **Storage and Parking Areas**: Equipment service areas, parking areas, and gas and oil storage areas shall be cleared of all flammable material for a radius of at least 10 feet unless otherwise specified by local administrative unit. Small mobile or stationary internal combustion engine sites shall be cleared of flammable material for a slope distance of at least 10 feet from such engine. The COR shall approve such sites in writing.

F. **Reporting Fires**: As soon as feasible but no later than 15 minutes after initial discovery, Contractor shall notify Forest Service of any fires on Contract Area or along roads used by Contractor. Contractor's employees shall report all fires as soon as possible to any of the following Forest Service facilities and/or personnel listed below, but not necessarily in the order shown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dispatch Center</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office Address</th>
<th>Office telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nearest FS Station</td>
<td>High Sierra</td>
<td>29688 Auberry Rd Prather, CA 93651</td>
<td>559-855-5355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspector</td>
<td>Olivia Roe</td>
<td>29688 Auberry Rd Prather Ca.</td>
<td>559-855-5355 ext 3315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Ranger</td>
<td>Kim Sorini</td>
<td>29688 Auberry Rd Prather Ca.</td>
<td>559-855-5355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When reporting a fire, provide the following information:
- Your Name
- Call back telephone number
- Project Name
- Location: Legal description (Township, Range, Section); and Descriptive location (Reference point)
- Fire Information: Including Acres, Rate of Spread and Wind Conditions.

**This contract ☒ requires, ☐ does not require, Section 5G of the Fire Plan.**

**G. Communications:** Contractor shall furnish a serviceable telephone, radio-telephone or radio system connecting each operating side with Contractor's headquarters. When such headquarters is at a location which makes communication to it clearly impractical, Forest Service may accept a reasonable alternative location. The communication system shall provide prompt and reliable communications between Contractor's headquarters (or agreed to alternative) and Forest Service via commercial or Forest Service telephone.

**This contract ☒ requires, ☐ does not require, Section 5H of the Fire Plan.**

**H. Fire Patrolperson:** Contractor shall furnish a qualified fire patrolperson each operating day when Project Activity Level C or higher is in effect. When on duty, sole responsibility of patrolperson shall be to patrol the operation for prevention and detection of fires, take suppression action where necessary and notify the Forest Service as required. This Fire patrol is required on foot, unless otherwise agreed. By agreement, one patrolperson may provide patrol on this and adjacent projects. No patrolperson shall be required on Specified Road construction jobs except during clearing operations unless otherwise specified.

The Contractor shall, prior to commencing work, furnish the following information relating to key personnel:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Supervisor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Patrolperson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**I. Clearing of Fuels:** Contractor shall clear away, and keep clear, fuels and logging debris as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welding equipment and stationary log loaders, yarders and other equipment listed in California State Law:</th>
<th>10 feet slope radius</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tail or corner haulback blocks:</td>
<td>All running blocks shall be located in the center of an area cleared to mineral soil at least 15 feet in diameter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lines near, between or above blocks:</td>
<td>Sufficient clearing to prevent line from rubbing on snags, down logs and other dead woody material.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**6. EMERGENCY PRECAUTIONS**

Contractor's Operations shall conform to the limitations or requirements in the Project Activity Level (PAL) table below. Project Activity Levels applicable to this project shall be the predicted activity levels for the Fire Danger Rating Area(s), or fire weather station(s) stated in the Contract Area Map Legend on Integrated Resource Service Contracts (IRSC’s), and other contracts where applicable.

**Fire Danger Rating Area/Fire Weather Station for Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mt. Rest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The Forest Service, in its sole discretion, may change the predicted activity level if the current fire suppression situation, weather and vegetation conditions warrant an adjustment. If practicable, Forest Service will determine the following day’s activity level by 6:00 PM. Contractor shall obtain the predicted Project Activity Level from the appropriate Ranger District Office before starting work each day.

**Phone Number or Website to obtain Predicted Activity Levels:** 559-500-4488
Forest Service may change the Project Activity Level Table to other values upon revision of the National Fire Danger Rating System. When Contractor is notified, the revised Project Activity Levels will supersede the levels in the Project Activity Level Table below.

**PROJECT ACTIVITY LEVEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Project Activity Minimum Requirements and Restrictions. Restrictions at each level are cumulative.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Minimum requirements noted above in Sections 4 and 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1. Tank truck, trailer, or approved CAFS substitute shall be on or adjacent to the Active Landing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| C     | 1. When Hot Saws or Masticators are operating, a tank truck, trailer, or approved CAFS substitute shall be within \( \frac{1}{4} \) mile of these operations. Effective communications shall exist between the operator and the Active Landing.  
2. Immediately after Mechanical Operations cease, Fire patrol is required for two hours. |
| D     | 1. Immediately after Hot Saw or Masticator operations cease, Fire patrol is required for three hours.        |
|       | 2. No Dead Tree felling after 1:00 PM, except recently dead.                                                 |
|       | 3. No burning, blasting, welding or cutting of metal after 1:00 PM, except by special permit.                |
| Ev    | 1. The following activities may operate all day:                                                            |
|       | a) Loading and hauling logs decked at approved landings.                                                   |
|       | b) Loading and hauling chips stockpiled at approved landings.                                             |
|       | c) Servicing equipment at approved sites.                                                                 |
|       | d) Dust abatement, road maintenance (Chainsaw use prohibited), culvert installation within cleared area, chip sealing, paving, earth moving or rock aggregate stock pile loading and installation (does not include pit or quarry development). |
|       | e) Chainsaw and log processing operations associated with loading logs or other forest products at approved landings. |
|       | 2. Hot Saws or Masticators may operate until 1:00 PM; provided that:                                      |
|       | a) A tractor with a blade or other equipment capable of constructing fireline is on or adjacent to the active landing or within \( \frac{1}{4} \) mile of the operating equipment. This piece of equipment shall have effective communication with the Hot Saw or Masticator. |
|       | b) Any additional restrictions specified by the Forest.                                                     |
|       | 3. All other conventional Mechanical Operations are permitted until 1:00 PM.                               |
|       | 4. Some operations may be permitted after 1:00 PM, on a case-by-case basis, under the terms of a PAL Ev Variance Agreement. Activities for which a Variance may be issued are: |
|       | • Rubber Tire Skidding                                                                                 |
|       | • Chipping on Landings                                                                                 |
|       | • Helicopter Yarding                                                                                  |
|       | • Fire Salvage                                                                                         |

When approved by a Line Officer, a Variance Agreement can be implemented when the criteria specified in the agreement are met and mitigation measures are in place. This approval is good for ten (10) days unless cancelled sooner or extended by the Contracting Officer for an additional ten (10) days. Variance approval can be withdrawn at the sole discretion of the Forest Service. Variance approval is contingent on the 7-day fire weather forecast, fuel conditions, site characteristics, current fire situation, state of Contractor’s equipment for prevention and suppression readiness, type of operation and social and community considerations etc. (See attached Project Activity Level Variance Agreement).
The following activities may operate all day:
1. Loading and hauling logs decked at approved landings.
2. Loading and hauling chips stockpiled at approved landings.
3. Servicing Equipment at approved sites.
4. Dust abatement, road maintenance (chainsaw use prohibited) or loading stock piles and rock aggregate installation (does not include pit or quarry development).
5. Chainsaw operation associated with loading at approved landings.

All other activities are prohibited.

This Project utilizes “The Project Activity Level” (PAL), an industrial operation’s fire precaution system. The following Climatology Chart indicates the Historic Activity Levels for the Project Fire Danger Rating Area or Fire Weather Station utilized on this Project. This is only a historical average of the Activity Levels for the identified Fire Danger Rating Area or Weather Station.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fire Danger Rating Area/Weather Station</th>
<th>Years Analyzed</th>
<th>Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Expected Days per Month at Each PAL Value</td>
<td>Analyzed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Region 5 Project Activity Level (PAL) Ev Variance Application/Agreement**

**Project Name:** __________________________________________

**Contract Number:** _______________________________________

**Contractor Name:** _______________________________

**Request #, for period:** ________________________________

**Units/Subdivisions Affected:** ______________________________

### Location of operation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slope</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elevation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels on site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuels in surrounding area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Day PAL Outlook</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short range predictions (Red Flags)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fuel Moistures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response time of suppression resources</th>
<th>Potential for ignition</th>
<th>RAWS location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Current Fire Situation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draw down information</th>
<th>National Readiness Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Contractual considerations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normal Operating Season</th>
<th>Frequency of recent contract fires in area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of operation</td>
<td>Contractors past/current performance &amp; equipment readiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other site specific mitigation or precaution (i.e. Contractors proposals)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Social & Community Considerations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proximity of high value resources</th>
<th>Sensitivity of location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

I have considered the above request and determined the specified mitigation measures or actions must be implemented to continue operations in Project Activity Level Ev. Unless extended, the approval remains in effect for ten (10) calendar days unless cancelled sooner or extended by the Forest Service for an additional ten (10) days. At the sole discretion of the Forest Service, this variance can be modified and/or cancelled at no cost to the government.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fire Management Officer Concurrence</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Line Officer Approval</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor Representative</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>