

Request for Quotes
Simmons Unit 7 Whitebark Pine Restoration
Idaho Panhandle National Forest, Idaho

Background and Statement of Work:

This project will protect whitebark pine plus trees from encroachment and potential wildfire and remove undesired species to provide a mosaic of canopy layers across 69.3 acres in a semi-primitive area on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest. The treatment involves the removal of all species other than whitebark pine with six inches or less DBH. Down woody material will be slashed and scattered throughout the Unit in preparation for a post-thinning broadcast burn that will be conducted by the Forest Service to reduce the transmission of White Pine Blister Rust throughout the Unit.

Information Requested

If interested in submitting a bid for this project, please provide a quote for the above statement of work by providing:

- technical approach
- work experience
- cost
- capacity for this project
- experience in similar projects

This is a request for quotes 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.

Specific requirements are detailed below.

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

General Specifications

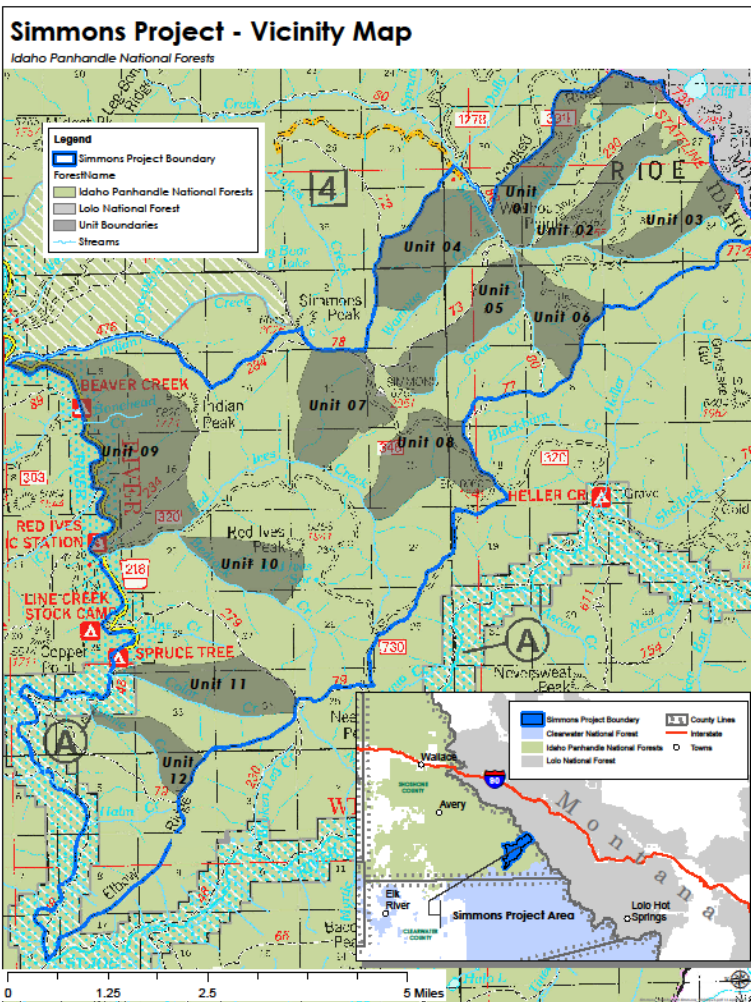
- (a) Description of Work – This Request for Quotes is for restoration services related to Simmons Unit 7 including the following:
1. Using hand tools, thin all species six inches or less in DBH, other than whitebark pine. No whitebark pine will be cut or damaged. Density will vary across the treatment unit.
 2. Using hand tools, create 50-foot buffer around all whitebark pine plus trees (painted with orange paint) and a 30-foot buffer around all other whitebark pine (marked with pink flagging). These buffers are intended to protect the whitebark

pine trees from the post-thinning broadcast burn. The Forest Service will mark whitebark pine trees with orange paint and pink flagging prior to project start date.

3. Lop and scatter using hand tools. Down woody material will be slashed and scattered throughout the Unit in preparation for the broadcast burn that will be conducted by the Forest Service. Woody material should not exceed 11-12 tons/acre of unevenly distributed material greater than three inches DBH.

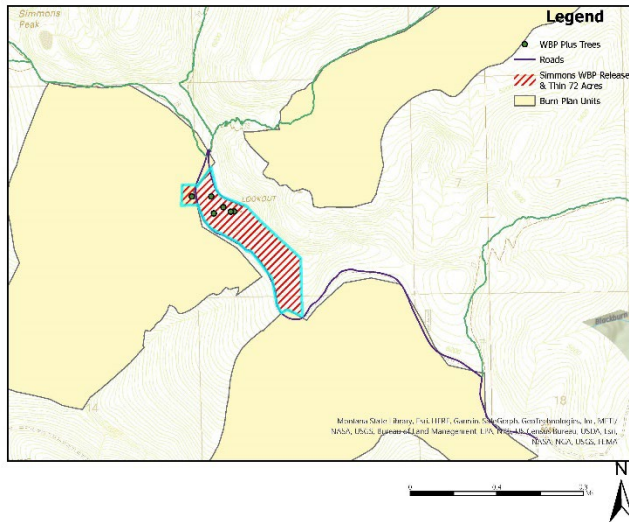
The Contractor shall identify what they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work described. The Contractor shall perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner.

- (b) Project Location – The project area is on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest, on the St Joe Ranger District, in the upper St. Joe River Drainage in the upper Simmons Creek Drainage (Simmons, Washout, Goat and Wampus Creeks) and the St. Joe River Drainage in Indian, Bonehead, Red Ives, Bedrock, Color, and Game Creeks (see attached maps). Project will occur in the upper NE corner of Unit 7 in (attached map). Unit 7 is along NF-346/Simmons Tower Rd off NF-320/Cedar Creek Road. Project is in Shoshone County.



Map of Simmons project Vicinity.

Simmons White Bark Pine Fuel Break



Map showing upper NE section of unit 7 where treatment will occur.

(c) Work Schedule – July 1, 2024 - December 1, 2024.

Other Project Requirements and Specifications

- (a) Utilities –The project area is remote, and lacks developed infrastructure. There will be no sanitation, water, electrical or housing services available. The Contractor shall make its own arrangements for temporary facilities if needed.
- (b) Specifications – Project work shall be accomplished in accordance with the following:

Thinning:

- All species that are not whitebark pine ≤ 6 -inches DBH will be cut to meet leave tree spacing specifications.
- In areas where no >6 -inch DBH trees exist, thin stand to target spacing of 20 x 20 feet between live bole centers for all non whitebark pine tree species.
- Flush cut stumps as flat as possible to maximum height of 6 inches above the ground leaving NO live limbs remaining attached to the stump.
- Protect all marked trees (painted and flagged whitebark pine) and survey monuments. When cutting trees avoid felling trees into or on whitebark pine. Damage to whitebark pine should be avoided.

Buffer:

- Utilizing hand tools, create a 50-foot buffer around all plus trees (painted with orange) that will protect trees from post-thin broadcast burn.
- Utilizing hand tools, create a 30-foot buffer around all non-plus tree whitebark pine (flagged with pink flagging) that will protect trees from post-thin broadcast burn.

Lop and scatter:

- Down woody material will be slashed so that limbs are removed from trunk and lie flush with the ground. Trunks will be cut into lengths no longer than 4 feet.
- Slash will be scattered so that it is outside of the whitebark pine buffer zones.
- Slash will be scattered so that woody material should not exceed 11-12 tons/acre of unevenly distributed material greater than three inches DBH.

Insurance Requirements

Upon selection of the winning bid, the Contractor agrees that it has and shall maintain the following insurance coverage indicated below. The effective date of all coverage shall precede the start of any work.

- a. State minimum workers' compensation insurance coverage for its employees, if any.
- b. Broad form general liability, property damage, and automotive liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of any person and \$2,000,000 for bodily injury, death, or damage to property of more than one person. The Contractor shall name NFF an Additional Named Insured and provide NFF with a certificate of insurance evidencing such coverages, prior to the initiation of the Scope of Services.
- c. If the Scope of Services includes professional services as identified herein, Contractor shall also provide professional errors and omissions liability insurance. Professional services for purposes of this section include, but are not limited to performing architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, land surveying or planning, preparation and signing or stamping of drawings, maps, surveys or construction specifications, or design and development of computer software, programs or websites by the Contractor or by subcontractors on behalf of the Contractor, for which professional liability insurance would typically be required. The minimum coverage limits required are \$1,000,000 for each claim and \$1,000,000 annual aggregate.

Prohibited Telecommunications Services and Equipment

The Contractor is responsible for compliance with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment identified in 2 CFR 200.216.

Payment/Performance Security

Contractor shall post cash, a letter of credit, bond, or other financial security that is easily convertible into cash in a form acceptable to the NFF, in its sole determination, to assure completion of the work required under any subsequent agreement and payment of all amounts lawfully due to all persons supplying or furnishing to the Contractor or Contractor's subcontractors with labor, laborers, materials, rental machinery, tools or equipment used or to perform the work. Contractor may incorporate required associated costs into mobilization costs or other approved expenses.

- a. Work that is classified as construction in accordance with the Miller Act or Little Miller Act or if required per conditions of the funding source, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of any Agreement. For the purposes of this

Request for Quote, construction is defined as “any contract greater than \$100,000 for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work where the federal government is the owner”, or

- b. If Contractor is not self-performing at least 85% of the total contract value or if the cost of materials is in excess of the larger of \$100,000 or 50% of the contract total, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of the agreement, or
- c. If the value of the agreement is in excess of \$250,000, Contractor will be required to post financial security in a form acceptable to the NFF in the amount of 5% of the total agreement value up to \$250,000 in total financial security.

American Made Products. The work associated with this RFQ is subject to Build America, Buy America Act. P.L. 117-58, Secs 70911-70917, and as such, domestic content procurement preference requires all iron and steel, manufactured products and construction materials used within the scope of this Agreement, be produced in the United States.

Federal Exclusion Verification

The selected Contractor will be required to affirm that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

Federal Flowdown Provisions

Flowdown Requirements: Any Agreement associated with this RFQ may be subject to flowdown requirements under associated federal or state funding agreements, which are included and made part of by this reference.

I. REQUIRED COMPONENTS

Technical Quote

Please provide a detailed technical approach to the work.

Contractor Qualifications

- I. Past Experience – Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies.
- II. References – Please provide three professional references that can speak to past performance.

Pricing Schedule

Contractor shall price work according to the schedule below. Prevailing wages are required per conditions of funding sources.

	Task/Item	Units	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
(a)	<<fill in using description of work bullets above>>			
(b)				
(c)				
(d)				
(e)				
			Total Bid	

III. SUBMISSION, EVALUATION, AND CONTACTS

Contractor Selection Process

The NFF will use the Evaluation Factors below to review each submitted bid. Based on the outcomes of that selection process, the NFF will notify successful and unsuccessful bidders by May 13, 2024 and will prepare a separate contract document.

- Price
- Previous Work History
- References
- Contractor availability / Project timeline

Point of Contact

Please submit any questions about the project in writing to the Point of Contact.

Marlee Ostheimer
National Forest Foundation, Northern Region Program Manager
mostheimer@nationalforests.org

Responses will be shared with known interested parties by email or otherwise posted at <https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp>.

Bid Submission

Submit bids via email to mostheimer@nationalforests.org by April 29, 2024.

Equal Opportunity Provider

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