

Request for Proposals
Base of Princeton Forest Restoration Project, Phase II
San Isabel National Forest (adjacent private lands), Colorado

NFF Background:

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is a congressionally chartered nonprofit organization with the simple mission of bringing people together to restore and enhance National Forests and Grasslands. The NFF is the leading organization inspiring personal and meaningful connections to our National Forests, the centerpiece of America's public lands. Working on behalf of the American public, the NFF leads forest conservation efforts and promotes responsible recreation. We believe these lands, and all they provide, are an American treasure and are vital to the health of our communities.

Project Background:

In collaboration with the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), the National Forest Foundation (NFF) is seeking a contractor to conduct service work, including forest thinning and mastication operations, across 186 acres of private land in Chaffee County, Colorado, to reduce dense forest fuels that have accumulated due to a century of fire suppression and human development in fire-dependent ecosystems. CSFS (Implementation Lead) identified and developed this project and will operate as the primary point of contact for the selected contractor during implementation. The Base of Princeton Forest Restoration Project (Phase 2) will reduce the risk of severe wildfire through targeted treatments.

Statement of Work:

This Request for Proposals (RFP) includes 186 acres of forest treatments in ponderosa pine stands (interspersed with Douglas fir and Rocky Mountain juniper). All work is to be completed with a (minimum) large wheeled or tracked masticator with either a vertical or horizontal mulching head.

Timeline:

A mandatory pre-bid tour will be hosted by NFF and CSFS on Friday, October 2, 2026. Interested parties must RSVP to the pre-bid tour by contacting Shannon Smith (928.951.1167, ssmith@nationalforests.org) by September 30 to receive logistical details.

This Request for Proposals will close and all proposals will be due at 5:00 PM on October 9, 2026. The NFF anticipates being able to enter a contract with any selected

bidder(s) by or before October 30, 2026, with a projected contract start date as soon as possible after contract signature. Changes in the closing date for this Request for Proposals will be updated on the NFF website at <https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp> under the link for this project's Request for Proposals. All contract related dates are estimates and subject to change at the NFF's sole discretion.

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Project Overview

1. Description of Work – This Request for Proposals is for forest stand improvement services related to the Base of Princeton project, located on 3 private properties adjacent to San Isabel National Forest. Work on this project will include thinning, mastication, removal of merchantable volume, and on-site slash disposal via mastication. The selected contractor(s) will be responsible for performing the following deliverables:
 - a) 186 acres of forest stand improvements in accordance with the detailed scope of work in Appendix B.
2. Specifications – Project work shall be accomplished in accordance with the following:
 - a) All specifications detailed in Appendix B.
 - b) All roads used for hauling must be left in the same or better condition than at the start of the project.
 - c) Contractor is responsible for tracking and reporting total volume removed from the site.
3. Project Location –
 - a) Project Location: Management units are located on Latchaw Mine Road, off County Road 327. They are west of US Highway 285 and southwest of Buena Vista, Chaffee County, Colorado on three different private properties.
 - b) Site Conditions: No camping is permitted on site, as the project takes place on private property.
 - c) Utilities/Facilities: Contractor is responsible for providing their own facilities for the duration of the project.
4. Work Schedule – Work is to begin as soon as possible after contract signature and must conclude by or before July 31, 2027. Work is limited to daylight hours, not to commence before 0800 each day as a courtesy to the residential area.

B. Other Requirements

1. Minimum Insurance. In accordance with the terms of the Services Agreement, prior to the start of any work, the successful Bidder (the “Contractor”) will be required to maintain, and ensure that its subcontractors performing work described in the proposal (Subcontractors) maintain, the minimum coverages and comply with the insurance requirements indicated below.
 - a) Coverage Requirements
 - i. Commercial General Liability Insurance (“CGL”). Commercial general liability insurance, including bodily injury, property damage, personal injury, advertising injury, products and completed operations and contractual liability in the amount no less than:
 - \$1,000,000 each occurrence;

- \$1,000,000 products/completed operations limit;
 - \$1,000,000 advertising injury and personal injury limit; and
 - \$2,000,000 general aggregate.
- ii. Business Automobile Liability Insurance. If using motor vehicles (owned, hired, or borrowed) to deliver or perform the work described in the proposal, business automobile liability insurance with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000 combined single limit each accident for bodily injury and property damage for all owned, rented leased or hired vehicles used in conjunction with the performance of the services.
 - iii. Workers' Compensation Insurance. Statutory workers' compensation insurance in accordance with all state and local requirements of the state(s) in which services will be performed.
 - iv. Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions Insurance. Professional or errors and omissions liability insurance with combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 aggregate, per year, covering the performance of the successful bidder and any of its Subcontractors under the Services Agreement.
- b) Waiver of Subrogation. All insurance policies shall include a waiver of any and all rights of subrogation or recovery of the insurers thereunder against, inter alia, the NFF, and its assigns, successors, undertakings and their subsidiaries, affiliates, employees, insurers and underwriters, and of any right of the insurers to any set-off or counterclaim or any other deduction, whether by attachment or otherwise, in respect of any liability of any such person insured under any such policy or in any way connected with any loss, liability or obligation covered by such policies of insurance.
 - c) Primary and non-contributory. With the exception of Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability insurance (if applicable), all insurance required to be maintained by Contractor shall be primary with respect to all claims arising out of Contractor's performance and/or activities under this Agreement, and any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the NFF shall be excess only and not be required to contribute with it.
 - d) "Claims Made" Coverage. Any liability insurance purchased on a "claims made" basis must be continuously maintained for a period equal to the applicable statute of repose, but in any case, not less than 3 years, following final performance or termination of Services, either through the continued purchase of insurance or the purchase of an extended reporting period. The retroactive date applicable to such "claims made" insurance, if any, must precede the first date on which Services are to be performed.
 - e) Verification of Coverage. Contractor will have furnished to the NFF original certificates of insurance and amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required herein prior to or at the time of execution of the Agreement, and shall further provide evidence that the foregoing is in place and will not be cancelled or reduced during the term of the agreement. Contractor's and any Subcontractors' certificates of insurance will list "The National Forest Foundation" as an Additional Insured on its or their commercial general liability policy and business automobile

liability policy (as applicable). Contractor will submit updated certificates of insurance upon expiration of the required policies.

2. Additional Insurance Requirements. In addition to the minimum insurances set-forth above, the NFF reserves the right to request additional coverage as reasonably necessary based on the scope, nature, and risks associated with the services to be performed, including, but not limited to:
 - a) Commercial/Contractor's Pollution Liability Insurance covering clean-up costs, legal fees, and third-party damages from environmental contamination.
 - b) Loggers Broad Form Endorsement restoring liability protection for specific property damage and operational risk inherent to forestry operations to Contractor's CGL policy.
 - c) Umbrella/Excess Liability Insurance raising the limit on existing primary policies if the primary insurance limits are reasonably considered insufficient.
3. Payment/Performance Security. If selected, Bidder(s) shall be required to provide security in the form of 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. The security will be used to ensure completion of the work required under any subsequent agreement and payment of all amounts lawfully due to all persons. All persons shall include, but not be limited to, those supplying or furnishing to the Bidder or Bidder's Subcontractors with labor, laborers, materials, rental machinery, tools or equipment used or to perform the work. Bidders may incorporate required associated costs into mobilization costs or other approved expenses. Payment or Performance Security will be required in the following amounts, as applicable:
 - a) For 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 the Agreement. For the purposes of this Request for Proposal, 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."
 - b) If Contractor is subcontracting 15% or more 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.
 - 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.

The NFF will not provide blanket waivers of payment/performance security requirements, though reserves the right to negotiate payment and performance security terms and conditions with a selected Bidder based upon legal requirements and organizational needs and policies.

4. Prohibited Telecommunications Services and Equipment. If selected, Bidder(s) are responsible for compliance with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment identified in 2 CFR 200.216.
5. Flowdown Provisions. NFF funding for projects may vary but will frequently include public funds. As such, any Agreement associated with this RFP may be subject to flowdown requirements under associated federal or state funding agreements, which are included and made part of by this reference. Flowdown requirements are not negotiable and will not be removed or edited. While flowdown provisions may change depending on funding, the NFF has identified the following flowdown provisions as currently being required for any Work performed under this RFP and any resulting contract:
 - Appendix A: 1596031 Flowdowns

II. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Technical Proposal

1. Minimum Requirements. Bidders shall submit a technical proposal for the work described in this RFP. Bidders shall consider all relevant factors when submitting proposals for this work. Bidders shall identify in their proposals what they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work as described. Proposals should account for the need of the selected contractor to make its own arrangements for temporary utilities and facilities, if required. Proposals shall be sufficient to guarantee that the selected contractor shall be able to perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner and in accordance with all industry standards. At a minimum, each proposal must include the following:
 - a) An overview and description of the services, materials, supplies, labor, equipment, utilities, and facilities provided by the Bidder that align with the requests in this RFP.
 - b) A description of the project management or administration approach that will be followed by the Bidder to ensure that the identified work is completed on time and within budget.
 - c) A project work plan and schedule that lists in detail the stages of work expected to be completed in this project, all identifiable deliverables, and the dates on which the Bidder would anticipate being able to complete delivery of the work.
 - d) Any change or risk management approaches utilized by the Bidder when completing projects of the type described in this RFP.
 - e) A project personnel overview identifying key personnel to be utilized if selected to perform the work described in this RFP and any relevant or required credentials or certifications held by the key personnel.

B. Bidder Qualifications.

Bidders shall submit a statement of their qualifications for the work described in this RFP. The statement should include the following items in narrative format:

1. Experience.
 - a) Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies, noting specifically any work performed on National Forests or Grasslands.
 - b) Please provide a listing of relevant projects of similar size, scope, and total value performed by the Bidder within the past 5 years.
2. References.
 - a) Please provide three professional references, identifying as applicable any government or conservation nonprofit references.
 - b) Provide the name, email address, and telephone number for each reference, as well as the dates of the projects during which the Bidder worked with each reference.

3. Federal Exclusion Verification. Bidder(s) 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.

C. Failed Projects or Legal Actions. Bidders shall identify any past failed projects and the reasoning behind the failure or incompleteness. Bidders shall also identify any and all current or pending legal matters in which the Bidder or any of its principals is involved.

D. Pricing Schedule. Bidders shall price work according to the schedule below. If Bidders believe that an alternative method of pricing is more applicable, they may also provide an alternative pricing schedule in addition to the format requested below.

The NFF, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to utilize any alternative pricing schedule proposed by any Bidders.

All quantities and measurements identified in this RFP are based upon the best knowledge available to the NFF and are subject to change.

Due to the dynamic and changing nature of NFF funding, the NFF reserves the right to negotiate an increased cost with the selected Bidder in the event that prevailing wages become required for the work described in this RFP.

If the opportunity to add additional funding to the work described in this RFP arises, the NFF may increase the quantities of work to be performed as part of this project, as agreed upon by the NFF and the selected Bidder.

	Task/Item	Units (acres)	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
(a)	Forest thinning & mastication	186		
			Total Bid	

E. Payment Schedule. Bidders shall submit a proposed payment schedule consistent with their proposed pricing structure. Lump sum proposals should identify invoicing milestones tied to deliverables or project phases, while time-and-materials proposals should identify the anticipated invoicing frequency, cost of materials/supplies, and the applicable rates for invoicing. Proposed payment schedules are for evaluation purposes only. The final payment structure and invoicing terms will be negotiated with the selected Bidder and incorporated into the executed agreement.

Invoice Number	Work Tasks/Items Performed	Corresponding Cost
1.		

2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
	Agreement Total	

F. Insurance Information. Bidders must identify the insurance coverage currently in place. If available, please attach sample certificates of insurance.

III. SUBMISSION, EVALUATION, AND CONTACTS

A. Bidder Selection Process

1. Bid Submission. Bidders shall submit proposals containing all of the required information described above via email at the address specified below by the stated deadline:

Submission Address: ssmith@nationalforests.org

Submission Deadline: 5:00 PM on October 9, 2026

Proposals submitted after this RFP closes will not be considered unless approved by the NFF. The NFF will review all proposals determined to be responsive using the evaluation factors listed below. Proposals may be deemed non-responsive for failure to submit any required information or for failure to comply with any terms of this RFP. Non-responsive proposals may be disqualified from evaluation in the sole discretion of the NFF.

2. Notification. If a proposal is selected by the NFF to advance to the contracting stage, the NFF will notify the successful Bidder via email. Once the selected Bidder has been notified, the NFF project representative will coordinate the drafting and negotiation of an NFF agreement outlining the terms and conditions of the work to be performed.

Unsuccessful Bidders will be notified via email as soon as possible after the closing date of this RFP. Please Note: The NFF **will not** share any information about the organizations submitting proposals nor any information regarding the proposals submitted by other organizations. If a Bidder has questions about its proposal, the Bidder may ask the NFF Point of Contact identified below. If an answer can be provided, the NFF will respond via email as soon as it is able to do so.

3. Request for Proposals Only. This is a request for proposals only and bids furnished do not bind the NFF in any way. Selection of a bid will result in the opportunity to contract with the NFF but will not guarantee a resulting contract or any amount of work. The NFF reserves the right to disqualify any incomplete or improper proposal submitted as non-responsive. The NFF may also decide not to select any proposals submitted to this RFP for advancement to contract negotiations. This request does not commit the National Forest Foundation to pay any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of the proposal or to contract for supplies or services.

B. Evaluation Factors and Scoring

The following factors will be used to evaluate any responsive submitted proposals. The factors, as listed, are ordered from highest priority (Level 3) to lowest priority (Level 1). Each factor can receive a score from 1 point to 3 points. The number of points awarded will be multiplied by the priority level to determine the total score for each factor.

(Example: If Price/Cost (level 3) is awarded 2 points, the total score for price would be 6 points.)

Level 3 Criteria

- Price / cost
- Equipment and contractor capability
- Timing of when contractor can begin and/or finish the project
- Past performance, references, and USFS feedback

Level 2 Criteria

- Technical proposal / proposed approach to project
- Overall strategic benefits to meeting NFF goals and grant needs, requirements, and timelines

Level 1 Criteria

- Benefits to the local community
- Relationship to local community

C. Point of Contact

Any questions about this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing to the NFF contact identified below. Questions determined to be of importance to all potential Bidders will be posted as an attachment to an updated version of this RFP at <https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp>.

Shannon Smith
National Forest Foundation Central CO Program Coordinator
ssmith@nationalforests.org

D. Bid Submission

Submit bids via email to ssmith@nationalforests.org by October 9, 2026.

E. 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.

Appendix A Federal Flowdowns

NFF Funding Code: 1596031

NFF Funding Name: PPA NRCS-RCPP UAFF

Funder Agreement ID: PPA2617-A-0464

Flowdown Provisions

I. APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

- A. The regulations in 7 CFR Part 1464 and are incorporated by reference. In the event of a conflict between these regulations and the terms of this attachment, the provisions of the regulations will prevail.
- B. Allowable project costs will be determined in accordance with the authorizing statute and regulation the purpose(s) of the RCPP project which this supplemental agreement supports, the purposes of this supplemental agreement award
- C. As a condition of this award, the recipient assures and certifies that it has and/or will comply and require subrecipients to comply with the requirements contained in the following statutes and regulations, as applicable.
 - (1) 2 CFR Part 25, "Universal Identifier and System of Award Management"
 - (2) 2 CFR Part 170, "Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information"
 - (3) 2 CFR Part 175, "Award Term for Trafficking in Persons"
 - (4) 2 CFR Part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies On Governmentwide Debarment And Suspension (Nonprocurement)"
 - (5) 2 CFR Part 182, "Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)" ("
 - (6) 2 CFR Part 400, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, And Audit Requirements for Federal Awards"
 - (7) 2 CFR Part 417, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension"
 - (8) 2 CFR Part 418, "New Restrictions on Lobbying"
 - (9) 2 CFR Part 421, "Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)"
 - (10) 2 CFR Part 422, "Research Institutions Conducting USDA-Funded Extramural Research; Research Misconduct"
 - (11) 48 CFR Part 31, "Contract Cost Principles and Procedures" c. For corporate recipients, by accepting this award the recipient acknowledges:
 - (1) that it does not have a Federal tax delinquency, meaning that it is not subject to any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, and
 - (2) that it has not been convicted of a felony criminal violation under any

Federal law within 24 months preceding the award, unless a suspending and debarring official of the USDA has considered suspension or debarment of the recipient corporation based on these convictions and/or tax delinquencies and determined that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government. If the recipient fails to comply with these provisions, the agency will annul this agreement and may recover any funds the recipient has expended in violation of the above cited statutory provisions.

- (12) If work performed under this agreement relates to the alteration, or repair (including painting and decorating) of public buildings or public works (e.g. financial assistance related to the RCPP Watershed funding tied to such purposes), Partner responsible for full compliance with the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts.

IV. AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

The recipient is responsible for complying with audit requirements consistent with 2 CFR 200, Subpart F. A recipient entity that expends \$750,000 or more during the recipient's fiscal year in Federal awards must have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year.

V. SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The recipient assures and certifies that it will comply with the minimum-wage and maximum-hour provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

Employees of the NRCS will participate in efforts under this agreement solely as representatives of the United States. They may not participate as directors, officers, employees, or otherwise serve or hold themselves out as representatives of the recipient. They also may not assist the recipient with efforts to lobby Congress or to raise money through fundraising efforts. Further, NRCS employees must report to their immediate supervisor any negotiations with the recipient concerning future employment and must refrain from participation in projects or agreements with such recipients.

Employees of the recipient will not be considered Federal employees or agents of the United States for any purposes under this agreement.

Recipients who engage or assist in scientific related activities on behalf of USDA must uphold the principles of scientific integrity established by Departmental Regulations 1074-001, Scientific Integrity. Covered activities include engaging in, supervising, managing, and reporting scientific work; analyzing and publicly communicating information resulting from scientific work; and utilizing information derived from scientific work in policy and decision making.

Recipients of awards under covered programs (as defined in Executive Order 13858, January 31, 2019) are hereby notified that they are encouraged to use, to the greatest extent practicable, iron and aluminum as well as steel, cement, and other manufactured products produced in the United States in every contract, subcontract, purchase order, or subaward that is chargeable under the award. "Covered program" means a program that provides financial assistance for the alteration, construction, conversion, demolition, extension, improvement, maintenance, construction, rehabilitation, or repair of an infrastructure project in the United States. However, it

does not include programs for which a domestic preference is inconsistent with law or programs providing financial assistance that are subject to comparable domestic preferences.

The recipient and its employees are prohibited from promoting, recommending, or discussing the availability of specific commercial products or services with NRCS clients in the course of carrying out activities under this agreement, including any products or services offered by the recipient, except as may be specifically allowed in the agreement.

PATENTS, INVENTIONS, COPYRIGHTS, AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUPPORT AND DISCLAIMER

Allocation of rights of patents, inventions, and copyrights must be in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.315. This regulation provides that small businesses normally may retain the principal worldwide patent rights to any invention developed with USDA support.

In accordance with 37 CFR Section 401.14, each subject invention must be disclosed to the Federal agency within 2 months after the inventor discloses it in writing to contractor personnel responsible for patent matters. Invention disclosure statements pursuant to 37 CFR Section 401.14(c) must be made in writing to the NRCS contact(s) identified in the RCPP portal.

USDA receives a royalty-free license for Federal Government use, reserves the right to require the patentee to license others in certain circumstances, and requires that anyone exclusively licensed to sell the invention in the United States must manufacture it domestically.

The following acknowledgment of USDA support must appear in the publication of any material, whether copyrighted or not, and any products in electronic formats (World Wide Web pages, computer programs, etc.) that is substantially based upon or developed under this award:

“This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under Regional Conservation Partnership Program Supplemental Agreement number [recipient should enter the applicable award number here].”

In addition, all publications and other materials, except scientific articles or papers published in scientific journals, must include the following statement:

“Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In addition, any reference to specific brands or types of products or services does not constitute or imply an endorsement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for those products or services.

All publications printed with Federal Government funds will include the most current USDA nondiscrimination statement, available from the Public Affairs Division, Civil Rights Division, or on the USDA home page. If the material is too small to permit the full nondiscrimination statement to be included, the material must, at a minimum, include the statement:

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

The recipient is responsible for ensuring that an acknowledgment of USDA is made during news media interviews, including popular media such as radio, television, and news magazines, that discuss work funded by this award in a substantial way.

VIII. LIMIT OF FEDERAL LIABILITY

The maximum financial obligation of NRCS to the recipient is the amount of funds indicated in the award as obligated by NRCS. However, if an erroneous amount is stated on the approved budget, or any supporting document relating to the award, NRCS will have the unilateral right to make the correction and to make an appropriate adjustment in the NRCS share of the award to align with the Federal amount authorized.

IX. MISREPRESENTATION AND SCHEME OR DEVICE

A participant who is determined to have erroneously represented any fact affecting a determination with respect to this contract and the regulations applicable to this contract, adopted any scheme or device which tends to defeat the purposes of this contract, or made any fraudulent representation with respect to this contract, will not be entitled to payments or any other benefits made under this contract. The participant must refund to NRCS all payments received plus interest. In addition, NRCS may terminate the participant's interest in all agreements. The provisions of this paragraph of the attachment shall be applicable in addition to any other criminal and civil fraud statutes.

X. APPEAL RIGHTS

Lead partners and nonlead partners under partnership or supplemental agreements.

(1) A lead partner or nonlead partner may obtain a review of any administrative determination concerning eligibility as a partner under the program or eligibility for financial assistance payments under an agreement that obligated financial assistance funds utilizing the administrative appeal regulations provided in 7 CFR parts 11 and 614.

(2) NRCS provision of technical assistance funds under a partnership agreement or supplemental agreement are not subject to administrative review as the provision of such funds are to assist NRCS with its implementation of the program consistent with 16 U.S.C. 3842 and are not program payments or benefits to a lead partner or nonlead partner.

XI. 2 CFR 200 EXCEPTION

Consistent with authorities included in the Supplemental Agreement or herein, as well as provisions of 2 CFR 200.102, Exceptions, this supplemental agreement is subject to audit provisions of 2 CFR 200 and those provisions of 2 CFR 200 referenced herein. Where supplemental agreement language conflicts with 2 CFR 200, the terms of this agreement and the RCPP program authorities shall prevail.

Appendix B

Base of Princeton (Phase 2) Landscape Level Restoration Project Scope of Work

Project Description and Location

The Base of Princeton project (henceforth referred to as BoP) will deliver 186 acres of forest stand improvement and fuels reduction to the community in Phase 2 of a two-part project. The BoP units are located on Latchaw Mine Road, off County Road 327. They are west of US Highway 285 and southwest of Buena Vista, Colorado on three different private properties. The goals of the project are to improve forest health by reducing the prevalence of dwarf mistletoe, lowering wildfire risk, enhancing forest structural diversity and improving wildlife habitat.

The forest composition within the treatment units consists largely of ponderosa pine with some scattered Douglas-fir, Rocky Mountain juniper, piñon pine, among others. Most of the units are heavily infected with dwarf mistletoe, although there are a couple units (7 and 8) that have a very low rate of infection. The work will include harvest of ponderosa pine and mastication of understory vegetation and slash (new as well as pre-existing piles).

Project Administration

CSFS Forester Kellie Solis will serve as the primary Project Administrator. Additional project administration will be conducted by other CSFS Salida FO staff. Contact information is listed below:

Kellie Solis
7980 W. HWY 50
Salida, CO. 81201
719-839-5748 (cell)
kellie.solis@colostate.edu

The Project Administrator reserves the right to suspend operations at any time and to require specific on-the-spot work on a case-by-case basis that may override the prescription listed below. For example, **the Project Administrator may require the removal of specific trees (i.e. beetle hit trees) that fall outside of the "Prescription for Treatment" listed below.** The **CONTRACTOR** shall notify the Project Administrator when they are within **two days** of completing each unit. The Project Administrator will notify the **CONTRACTOR** of a date and time for a final inspection. Payment to the **CONTRACTOR** will be processed upon successful completion of the project after the final inspection. **The operator must be present at the time of final inspection.**

The **CONTRACTOR** will be given an opportunity to walk the property solo during the showcase and is responsible for assessing delineated areas not included in the group walkthrough during this time to determine their bid and plan of operations.

Unit Descriptions

Phase 2 of the BoP project includes **nine management units** with trees to be removed marked with **blue** paint. All trees are marked except for regeneration <2" DBH, which will be cut at the **CONTRACTOR'S** discretion and by following the prescription below. The entire project boundary is flagged in pink, but individual units are not marked between unit boundaries. Unit 8 has two exclusion zones (**no cutting or mastication**) that are flagged in pink. A powerline cuts through units 6, 8 and 9.

MU 1: (26.3 acres) is a dense unit with many small diameter ponderosa pine. There are small areas of larger ponderosa as well. There is some piñon pine, Rocky Mountain juniper, lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, white fir and blue spruce throughout. All juniper and piñon will be **removed** from this unit, but the other outlier species will be **retained**. The unit is relatively flat and free of rocks. There is a fence to the north, east and west of the unit.

MU 2: (23.7 acres) consists of small diameter ponderosa pine with a lot of dwarf mistletoe. There are small pockets of larger diameter ponderosa pine throughout. There are scattered piñon pine, Rocky Mountain juniper, Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine. All juniper and piñon will be **removed** from this unit while the other outlier species will be **retained**. Slopes are minimal with a shallow drainage to the northwest. The unit is bounded by fences to the east and west and the road to the south. A fence cuts through the middle of the unit (east to west) and there is a small, gated ATV trail on the eastern side.

MU 3: (15.7 acres) skirts the buildings on the western side of the unit. The ponderosa pine has a large amount of dwarf mistletoe and the unit consists of mostly small diameter trees. All piñon pine will be **removed** from the unit. The density varies on the southern portion and is more consistently dense to the north. Slopes are very minimal across the unit, with a shallow drainage in the northern portion. There is a fence on the western boundary and the driveway on the eastern boundary. There are several existing slash piles that will need to be masticated.

MU 4: (30.4 acres) is comprised of ponderosa pine that has been severely affected by dwarf mistletoe. There are a few scattered piñon pine, juniper and Douglas-fir as well that will be **retained**. The slopes are very gentle, under 10%. A fence lines the western boundary of the unit. There are numerous existing slash piles that will need to be masticated.

MU-5: (7.1 acres) consists of ponderosa pine with a few scattered Douglas-fir, which will be **retained**. The unit has a few small, shallow drainages and is one of the rockier units. There is a fence along the western property line. Dwarf mistletoe has severely impacted this unit, and the density varies between overly dense and small openings. There are numerous existing slash piles that will need to be masticated.

MU-6: (6.4 acres) cuts off at the aspen grove to the south. Steep drainages go through both the north and south unit boundaries but is otherwise relatively flat. Ponderosa pine is small diameter and heavily infected with dwarf mistletoe to the west and less infected and larger further east. Aspen in the unit will be **retained**, with exception to those that need to be cut to reach blue marked trees. A powerline cuts through the western side of the unit (see the attached map). There is a fence along the eastern property line. This unit is rocky around the northern drainage. There are numerous existing slash piles that will need to be masticated.

MU-7: (5.8 acres) contains large, mature ponderosa pine and has a short, steep drainage near the

northern unit boundary. Aspen and cottonwood will be **retained**, although aspen may be removed if needed to reach blue marked trees. The unit has been marked to create canopy spacing. There is very little dwarf mistletoe present in the unit, with most of it being on the northern end. There are fences along the western and southern boundaries of the unit with exception to the southwestern corner exempt from the unit. There are numerous existing slash piles that will need to be masticated, **including one pile that is slightly outside of the eastern unit boundary.**

MU 8: (33.3 acres) is a mix of large diameter, relatively open ponderosa and patches of poorly formed small diameter ponderosa. Dwarf mistletoe is largely absent from the unit, with exception to along the western boundary. There is scattered piñon pine that will be **removed**. The unit is relatively flat and is not rocky. A powerline cuts through the middle of the unit. The home is located within one of the exclusion zones, which is marked with pink flagging. The other exclusion zone that contains a historical artifact is located on the western edge of the unit and is also marked with pink flagging. There is a fence marking the east and west boundaries and the road marks the boundary to the south. **The north boundary is flagged along the old fence line, most of which is hazardous on the ground.** It is marked heavily with pink flagging.

MU 9: (37.3 acres) consists of a variety of overly dense, small diameter ponderosa pine with an abundance of dwarf mistletoe, and open areas with larger trees and shrubs. Some piñon pine and Rocky Mountain juniper are present and will be **retained**. The unit is relatively flat with a couple of narrow drainages in the southern portion. This unit is rocky, especially to the south by the drainages. A powerline cuts through the western side of the unit. The eastern boundary is marked by a fence. There are some existing slash piles that will need to be masticated.

Prescription for Treatment

Tree removals:

- Remove all trees marked with **blue** paint
- All standing dead will be removed within cutting units, unless marked in **red** paint as wildlife snags
- Cutting aspen (MU 6 and 7) is encouraged if necessary to remove conifers
- Species other than ponderosa pine:

MU	Remove	Retain
1-3	Piñon, juniper	All other species (i.e. Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, limber pine, white fir)
4-5	N/A	Piñon, juniper, all other species (i.e. Douglas-fir)
6-7	Piñon, juniper	Aspen, cottonwood
8	Piñon, juniper	N/A
9	N/A	Piñon, juniper

- Seedlings/saplings (<2" DBH) are NOT marked for removal
 - Maintain or create 8-12' spacing between retained single seedlings/saplings and groups of 2-10 trees
 - Masticate seedlings/saplings displaying signs of poor health. Examples of characteristics to be masticated include:
 - Any visible presence of dwarf mistletoe (i.e. exceedingly bushy, shoots or witches' brooms)
 - Dead, forked or broken tops
 - Live crown ratio <30%

- Suppression by larger diameter classes
- Underneath or within 20' of the dripline of larger trees

Tree Utilization and Slash Disposal:

- All trees $\geq 8''$ DBH will be removed from the project site for utilization purposes
- Stump height will be no more than 6'' on up-hill side (unless disallowed by terrain)
- Slash will be masticated and left onsite
 - Chip depth throughout each unit must average $< 4''$ and cover $\leq 70\%$ of the treatment area
 - Chip size must not exceed 5'' in diameter and 24'' in length
 - Resulting chips **must not** accumulate in drainages
- Masticate residual downed debris and trees
 - Retain downed trees $\geq 12''$ DBH at a rate of 1-3 per acre
 - Rotting stems or trees where the bark has/is sloughing off may be left
 - All other material (tops, branches, etc) must be masticated and left $\leq 6''$ in height from the ground

Additional Notes:

- **There are numerous pre-existing slash piles that will need to be masticated along with the new slash that is created from the project (in units 3-7, 9)**
- 1% of the project area may remain untreated due to terrain (i.e. too rocky, steep drainages)
 - Must be discussed with the Project Administrator first
- Barbed wire that was found on the ground or in trees inside the units has been marked with pink flagging, but it is possible that more was missed
- Power lines run through units 6, 8 and 9 (see the attached map for details)
- Please limit the amount of times the driveway is crossed with equipment. The driveway must be left in the same condition as prior to treatment.
- All decking locations must be approved by the Project Administrator before they are set.

Equipment Requirement

The minimum requirement for this project is a large wheeled or tracked masticator with either a vertical or horizontal mulching head. The equipment to be utilized must be able to achieve the prescription outlined above. The equipment and operator must be capable of operating on slopes greater than 20%.

In the bid packet, list equipment types with model numbers that will be utilized on this project.

- Skid-steer based mastication equipment will not be sufficient for this project
- The CSFS publication *Best Management Practices Guide and Mastication Operational Guidelines* must be followed to prevent resource degradation
 - Copies of these publications will be provided at the time of contract finalization

Contracting Period and Operational Period

- Start Date: ASAP
- End Date: July 31st, 2027
- Daily Operational Period: Daylight hours
 - Due to proximity to residential communities, machinery will not be started prior to 8:00 am unless discussed first with the Project Administrator

Plan of Operation

The **CONTRACTOR** will submit a Plan of Operation to the Project Administrator within 30 days of contract execution. The **CONTRACTOR** will not begin any work until the Project Administrator has reviewed and approved the plan. The Plan of Operation is to be considered a dynamic document and will be updated as conditions change.

The Plan of Operation will include the projected start and end date for the project, proposed area to begin work, equipment used and crew.

The project operation may begin **on the date of contract execution until July 31st, 2027**; however, CSFS will take into consideration those who can complete the project as soon as possible and demonstrate the capacity, resources, equipment, and expertise necessary to ensure successful completion of this project.

Environmental and Other Concerns

- Known Hazard: The CSFS is informing the **CONTRACTOR** that the following physical hazards are located within the project area and may not be obvious:
 - Various barbed wire fences in and along borders of treatment units.
 - Power lines through units 6, 8 and 9.
- Mastication activity will only be allowed within the boundaries identified on the maps. Cutting outside of the boundary is prohibited, and if it occurs, must be reported to the Project Administrator immediately.
- The undercarriage and tires of all trucks and equipment must be washed offsite before entering the project area to reduce the spread of noxious weeds from other projects. A CSFS representative must be present to inspect the vehicles and machinery before they are brought onto the project site.
- Any soil contaminated by loss of fuel, oil, grease, hydraulic fluid, coolant or other fluids shall be removed and placed in covered drums or other acceptable containers for proper disposal by the **CONTRACTOR**.
- The **CONTRACTOR** is required to comply with all Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other relevant state and federal species protection laws or regulations.
 - At this time, CSFS personnel have not identified any species, flora or fauna, included in the ESA within the project area.
 - If the **CONTRACTOR** finds evidence of threatened or endangered species, immediately notify the Project Administrator.
- Archaeological or Cultural Discoveries
 - If in connection with operations under this contract, the **CONTRACTOR**, his/her subcontractors, or the employees of any of them, discovers, encounters, or becomes aware of any objects or sites of cultural value on the contract area such as historical or prehistorical ruins, human remains, graves or grave markers, fossils, or artifacts, the **CONTRACTOR** shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural value and shall notify the Project Administrator of the findings. Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the Project Administrator.
- Surface Conditions: Wheeled/tracked motorized equipment shall not be operated when conditions are muddy or the soil moisture is high enough for the vehicles to leave ruts over 4.0 inches in depth for 10 ft. or longer. When/if such conditions are encountered, the

CONTRACTOR shall stop work and immediately notify the Project Administrator.

- Neither trash nor litter will be left by the **CONTRACTOR** anywhere on the property, access route, or vicinity. Daily hauling of any trash generated by the **CONTRACTOR** is the **CONTRACTOR'S** responsibility.
- All access roads will be kept passable at all times. Any significant accumulations of mulch on the access roads and trails will be removed by the **CONTRACTOR** at the end of the project.
- Under no circumstance will new roads/routes/access points be created by the **CONTRACTOR**. All travel will occur on current and existing roads, or through travel points established by Project Administrator. If a need for alternative travel route/road/access point arises, it must be mapped and approved by the Project Administrator in writing prior to its creation.
- All gates shall be left closed at all times.
- Smoking will only be allowed in vehicles. Each vehicle must have a properly serviced Class A, 10 pound fire extinguisher and a minimum of one fire tool per cutting crew member. All vehicles and motorized equipment must utilize effective manufacturer-certified spark arresters and muffler systems.
- Boundary fences needing alterations for operation must be repaired by the **CONTRACTOR** and excessive mastication debris must not be propelled onto the adjoining private land. No woody material may be left on or piled up against boundary fences. Work may need to be completed by hand near property boundaries in order to meet this standard.
- The **CONTRACTOR** shall maintain a drug and alcohol free work environment on the subject property.
- The **CONTRACTOR** shall abide by Colorado State University's non-discrimination policy (<https://oeo.colostate.edu/non-discrimination-statement/>).

BoP Phase 2 Management Unit Map

0 240 480 720 960
 Feet

MU-1: 26.3 acres	MU-8: 33.3 acres
MU-2: 23.7 acres	MU-9: 35.5 acres
MU-3: 15.7 acres	Boundaries
MU-4: 30.4 acres	boundary
MU-5: 7.1 acres	boundary
MU-6: 6.4 acres	Local_Electric_Line
MU-7: 5.8 acres	



Prepared by:
 Colorado State
 Forest Service
 Salida Field Office
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