REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR CONTRACTED SERVICES TO THE AMADOR FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break (MMFB) 2020 Phase 3

REVISED September 8th 2020

RELEASE DATE: September 1st 2020

SITE VISIT/PREBID TOUR: It is highly encouraged the contractors attend the pre-bid tour.
The pre-bid tour will take place September 16th 2020
Contact Ed Struffenegger to RSVP for the pre-bid tour; (209) 304-2045, email: edstruff@volcano.net
Information regarding exact meeting time and location will be provided to those who RSVP.

CLOSING DATE: Proposals must be submitted electronically – via email - to:
Amanda Watson, Amador Fire Safe Council
Email Address: amadorfiresafe@gmail.com

Proposals must be received no later than September 23rd 2020

Project Contractor will be selected no later than September 28th 2020

PROJECT TITLE: “Mitchell Mine Fuel Break (MMFB) 2020 Phase 3”.

CONTACT PERSON: Amador Fire Safe Council – Coordinator

Amanda Watson
(916) 612-5163
amadorfiresafe@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION:

The Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC) has received funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) to develop the Mitchell Mine Fuel Break. The project will be bid in sections over a period of 2 years.

The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to solicit bids to hire a Fuels Reduction Contractor in order to complete the herein described project. Phase 3 of the groundwork is entirely on private property there are a total of 3 sections of the fuel break that make up the Phase 3 project.

There is an estimated total of 85.4 acres in Phase 3 within these 3 sections.
PROJECT LOCATION:
Fuel Break Section 1: Cottonwood Lane Section
The project is located in a rural residential area at the end of Cottonwood Lane (off Gayla Drive) and Hwy 88, Amador County. The project is on 4 rural residential properties.

Fuel Break Section 2: Payton Lane Section
The project is located in a rural residential area off Payton Lane (off Pine Grove/Volcano Road), Amador County. The project is on 7 rural residential properties.

Fuel Break Section 3: Jones/Hale Section
The project is located in a rural residential area the north and east boundaries of Indian Grinding Rock State Park, Pine Grove, Amador County.
The project is on 4 rural residential properties.

SCOPE OF WORK:
Proposed Action: Vegetation in the project area includes a scattered conifer overstory with a dense hardwood stand with live oak, black oak, and a brush component of manzanita, toyon, and chemise. Elderberry bushes and pre-designated vegetation will be flagged for retention. The objective of the treatment is to reduce surface and ladder fuels and develop a shaded fuel break.

Signed permission granting right of entry agreements have been obtained from each participating landowner for this work to be performed. This Project will NOT include any work for fire safe clearance work required by Public Resources Code 4291 of Government Code 51182 which is the full responsibility of each private property owner. This includes all areas within 100 feet of any habitable structure. The general project areas have been delineated on the attached map.

PROJECT AREA & PRESCRIPTION FOR TREATMENT:

Fuel Break Section 1- Cottonwood Lane: 17.7 Treatment Acres
_Acreage was determined via GIS mapping of project area._
Section 1 has been flagged with Pink Glow flagging. The flagging has been hung along the CENTERLINE of the treatment area, with an additional flag line along the west fence line of the unit. The project will include treating all designated vegetation up to 200 feet on each side of the centerline flagging, down to the existing fence line on the west end. Where terrain or other obstacles will prevent clearing out 200 feet from the flagging, this width will be reduced as necessary. This reduction in width will be agreed upon between the Contractor and the AFSC forester.

Fuel Break Section 2- Payton Lane: 12.7 Treatment Acres
_Acreage was determined via GIS mapping of project area._
Section 2 has been flagged with Pink Glow flagging. For this entire section of the project, the flagging was hung along the CENTERLINE of the treatment area. The project will include treating all designated vegetation for 200 feet on each side of this flagging. Where terrain or other obstacles will prevent clearing out 200 feet from the flagging, this width will be reduced as necessary. With a high number of homes in many areas of this section, it is highly doubtful that the target width of 400 feet will be obtained in many areas. This reduction in width will be agreed upon between the Contractor and the AFSC forester. If additional ROE is obtained prior to operations, the project may be expanded to include additional acres not currently included in this Section.

Fuel Break Section 3 – Jones/Hale: 55 Treatment Acres
Section 4 has been flagged with Pink Glow flagging. For this entire section of the project, the flagging was hung along the CENTERLINE of the treatment area. The project will include treating all designated vegetation for 200 feet on each side of this flagging. In areas where there has been previous mastication work (indicated on the map), the TOTAL width of the fuel break will be 300 feet. The fence-line along the Indian Grinding Rocks State Park will be the edge of the clearing limit. Where terrain or other obstacles will prevent clearing out 200 feet from the flagging, this width will be reduced as necessary. This reduction in width will be agreed upon between the Contractor and the AFSC forester.

Treatment for all sections will include the establishment of a shaded fuel break within the project area via mechanical or manual mastication. It is the Contractor’s sole responsibility to assure safety during operations.

The following specifications are recommended for fuels treatment within the 400-foot-wide shaded fuel break.

- Fuels to be treated include removal of brush and small trees (up to 14” dbh for hardwood species and up to 12” dbh for conifer species) and pruning of ladder fuels (along the bole, at least 10’ from ground level). Annuals such as grasses should not be targeted for treatment.
- The target for both hardwoods and conifers is approximately 30-foot by 30-foot spacing.
- All material must be masticated, except the larger stems/boles of trees larger than 10”. Large stems should be masticated, chipped, or disposed of.
- Trees within the treatment area shall be cut flush at the ground level and fuels shredded (chipped) and blown back as evenly as possible onto the treatment site.
- All dead and dying trees of any species and any size must be felled and treated.
- Limbs of remaining trees shall be pruned along the bole vertically at least 10 feet from the ground level. Limbs overhanging the road shall be treated (removed/chipped). These pruned limbs shall be cut flush with the tree bole. All pruned material will be chipped or masticated.
- Some work is conducted along roadways: traffic control will be required to warn vehicles of active fuels treatment operations; all traffic control and signs will be the responsibility of the Contractor and shall conform to Amador County requirements.
- All debris on public roads or on any private driveway needs to be removed. All paved roads, which includes public roads and private driveways, must be swept or blown at the end of each workday.
- Hazards with the project area include barbed wire fences, dogs, poison oak, power lines and vehicles.
- Masticated material cannot enter watercourses. The AFSC forester may additionally establish equipment exclusion zones around watercourses.
- Landscape vegetation and buffer areas between the properties may be retained depending on landowner preferences. Such retention designation will be noted with the use of plastic flagging.
- In areas where previous brushing activities have resulted in brush piles or brush windrows, these piles and windrows will be masticated with all other material.
- Avoid disturbing any refuse or debris that may be piled by landowners.
- No prevailing wage requirements on this job
- Contractor will not be required to cut and treat live, green trees larger than 14” dbh (hardwoods) and 12” dbh (conifers)
- Bear clover will not be treated
- Blackberries need to be treated
- Mastication requirements:
  - Seventy-five per cent (75%) of the vegetation treated by mechanical mastication shall be ground into shreds <36” in length and spread as evenly as possible to suppress the regrowth of brush.
  - The maximum allowable mulch depth is 6”. Mulch shall not be placed against residual trees, in watercourses, or in road drainage structures.
  - Remaining stumps shall be <4” in height on the uphill side.
• Dangerous punji sticks are not allowed.
• Treatment in regards to steeper slopes will depend on contractor’s ability to treat steep slopes, this should be addressed in the bid.
• There is possibility for work to start at 6am but this on a case-by-case basis and after information landowners.
• Fences dropped by contractor must be put back up.
• Priority list for saving trees:
  ▪ Ponderosa Pine
  ▪ Sugar Pine, Douglas fir
  ▪ Black oak
  ▪ Others including madrone, live oaks
• Small trees under the canopy of larger trees will generally be always removed
• Handwork as needed in stream zones and within cultural sites must be done by contractor. Contractor should include provisions for handwork in their proposal.
• Startup of operations: Preferably after the end of declared fire season. If not, contractors must address fire prevention by:
  1. Meeting the minimum fire tool requirements of the Public Resources Code
  2. Patrol the jobsite after the end of work, as required by the Forest Practice Rules (this is required
  3. only during the declared fire season)
  4. Make provisions for a water tank or water truck with fire pump. This should be addressed in the contractor’s proposal.
• No Traffic Control Plan is required, but contractor must address traffic control when working next to public roads.
• Payments will be made on actual acres treated. Invoices can be submitted as needed but no more frequently than every 2 weeks
• Additional specifications for the “Jones” parcel on Section #3 is listed in the lower portion of the accompanying map.

Identification of Protected Species or Other Critical Resources  With all environmentally sensitive areas, identification and avoidance during project implementation is important. If any sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided until consultation with the appropriate agencies can review the situation. Known areas to be avoided/not treated will be designated prior to operations

BID PRESENTATION:  Bids shall reflect costs for the project based on a “per acre” basis per section. Bids can be submitted for Section 1 and/or Section 2 and/or Section 3 (or any combination).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 1: Cottonwood Lane</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Area</td>
<td>Bid Price Per Acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cottonwood Section of MM Fuel Break:</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL: 17.7 Acres</td>
<td>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section 2: Payton Lane</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Area</td>
<td>Bid Price Per Acre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payton Section of MM Fuel Break:</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL: 12.7 Acres</td>
<td>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</td>
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<tr>
<th>Section 3: Jones/Hale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Area</td>
<td>Bid Price Per Acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones/Hale Section of MM Fuel Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL: 55 Acres</td>
<td>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Contractor Responsibilities include:

- Contractor will work cooperatively with the Project Coordinator, Landowners, Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC), and PG&E Representatives to insure compliance with the guidelines, conditions and criteria of the grant.
- Contractor will include enough layout time and supervision time in bid to assure public safety and compliance with AFSC requirements.
- Contractors will include full time hours worked and number of crew members engaged in project work on each invoice.
- Contractor will retain area/vegetation designated for retention or protection.
- Contractor will be responsible for crew’s safety and sanitation needs.
- Contractor will be responsible for ensuring protection of structures, property improvements, power lines and other utilities.
- Residual trees will be protected from skin ups and damage while Contractor determines and implements the treatment of trees and brush within the project area.
- All traffic control and signs will be the responsibility of the Contractor.
- Contractor must abide by all fire prevention rules. This includes all provisions listed in Public Resources Code 4427-4442, which establishes minimum standards for fire tools to be on-site. Contractor will be prohibited from working during extreme fire hazard periods, which include “Red Flag Warning” days established by the National Weather Service and CalFire, and/or other days determined by AFSC to be high fire hazard days.

PROPOSAL FORMAT: A qualifying proposal must address all of the following items:

1. **Cover Sheet** with the following contact information:
   a. Title of Proposal, Name and Address of Firm, Contact person, Phone Numbers (landline and cellular), Email Address and Fax Number, as applicable.
2. **Understanding of the Project:** The Contractor shall provide a brief response that demonstrates an understanding of the fuels treatment within the project area that clearly describes his or her ability to reduce hazardous fuel loads in the project locations. This should include a statement of how the proposal will perform the necessary services for each section that is being bid on.
3. **Equipment and Objectives:** The Contractor will also provide a description of equipment to be used in accomplishing the contract and describe how the equipment will achieve treatment objectives.
4. **Qualifications of Key Personnel:** The Contractor shall provide the names of the key people who will be working on this project, their role in the project, and a synopsis of their experience relevant to these roles. Expertise in prior fuels reduction work is highly desirable.
5. **References:** The Contractor shall provide a minimum of three (3) references from similar or related projects, including an appropriate contact name, telephone number and email address (if available) and location and address of previous projects.
6. **Cost Proposal:** The Contractor shall provide a **total project cost as well as a per acre cost** that covers all work and responsibilities described in the Project Description and Scope of Work. **The Contractor may submit a bid for Section 1, 2, and/or 3 or any combination of them.**
7. **Driving Record and Insurance:** Contractor must maintain a valid driver’s license. The successful applicant must provide proof of current auto, liability, and workman’s compensation insurance upon award are contract.
   - Automobile Liability Insurance of not less than $500,000 is required in the event motor vehicles are used by the Contractor. One million dollars ($1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury and property damage combined single limit.
Workers Compensation coverage: Contractor shall maintain workers’ compensation insurance for all of its employees during the life of the project.

Commercial General Liability Insurance of not less than Two Million dollars ($2,000,000) combined single limit per occurrence for personal injury liability, bodily injury and property damage. Two million dollars ($2,000,000) aggregate.

**PROJECT TIMELINE:**

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<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
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<tr>
<td>Release request for proposal</td>
<td>September 1st 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-bid Tour</td>
<td>September 16th 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>(contact AFSC to RSVP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proposals Due</td>
<td>September 23rd 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review and Selection of Contractor</td>
<td>No later than September 28th 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agreement Signed</td>
<td>October 1st 2020</td>
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<td>Work Begins</td>
<td>ASAP or when conditions allow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Ends</td>
<td>All work must be completed February 28th 2021</td>
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**CONTRACTORS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:**

Bid package shall be received by AFSC no later than September 23rd 2020. Address any questions to Amanda Watson at (916) 612-5163 or amadorfiresafe@gmail.com.

**PAYMENT:**

The AFSC shall make payment to the Contractor within 90 days of the AFSC receipt of an acceptable invoice. Payment will be based on actual/measured treated acreage. In order to receive reimbursement under the described Project, the Contractor shall provide an “Invoice for Services” detailing services performed by task and actual costs.

All Invoices and Correspondence pertaining to this contract shall contain “Mitchell Mine Fuel Break (MMFB) 2020 Phase 3” in the heading.

- **Rates:** In consideration of Contractors fulfillment of the promised work, the AFSC shall pay Contractors at a Per Acre Rate accepted and authorized by the AFSC.
- **Documentation:** Contractors will include full time hours worked and number of crew members engaged in project work on each invoice.
- **Expenses:** No travel or other expenses will be reimbursed by AFSC.
- **Budget Contingency Clause:** If funding is reduced or deleted for purposes of this program or if project area is decrease due to not receiving Rights of Entry, the AFSC shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the AFSC or the AFSC, or offer an agreement amendment to Contractor to reflect the reduced amount.

**NONDISCRIMINATION:**

The activities conducted under this agreement will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public
Law 100-259); and other nondiscrimination statutes: namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the American's with Disabilities Act of 1990. They will also be in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7CFR-15, Subparts A & B), which provide that no person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, marital or family status, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any agency thereof.

The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the California Fire Safe Council or the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government.

MAPS:
The Project Areas are displayed on the below maps.

- **Map 1: All Sections**
- **Map 2: Cottonwood Lane Section**
- **Map 3: Payton Lane Section**
- **Map 4: Jones/Hale Section**
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break - Phase 3 All Projects 9/1/2020
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break, Phase 3
Section #1: Cottonwood Lane Unit
Length = 2,100 feet
Area = 17.7 acres

- Start of Payton Lane Unit (separate unit)
- Area previously masticated (Homestead Unit, Phase 1)
- Access to unit via Gayla Drive To Cottonwood Lane
- Ends at cleared area
- Class III Watercourse (can cross to east)
- Fence
Amador Fire Safe Council

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Mitcell Mine Fuel Break (MMFB) 2020

Phase 3

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Section #2: Payton Lane Unit

Mitchell Mine Fuel Break, Phase 3

Length = 2,200 feet
Area = 12.7 acres

Parcels currently not participating

Warner Road East (north access point)

Thick manzanita

Most property lines are fenced

Payton Lane (south access point at gate)

Grassy, open area (north) Wide riparian area (south)
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break, Phase 3
Section #3: Jones/Hale Unit
Length = 8,300 feet
Area = 55 acres

Jones' Parcels (crosshatched area)
300 foot width
Masticate all missed areas, along all fence lines
Use current 12”/ 14” dbh standards
Thin young Ponderosa pine plantations to 20’x 20’
Masticate all downed material and brush piles
Prune any trees not currently pruned
Re-masticate all re-sprouting brush