

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR CONTRACTED SERVICES TO THE AMADOR FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

November 2022

RELEASE DATE: November 7th, 2022

SITE VISIT/PRE-PROPOSAL TOUR: It is highly encouraged the contractors attend the pre-proposal tour. The pre-proposal tour will take place November 15th. Contact Ed Struffenegger to RSVP for the pre-proposal 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 **November 21st, 2022**

Project Contractor will be selected and announced no later than **December 1st, 2022**

PROJECT TITLE: “2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project”.

CONTACT PERSON: Amador Fire Safe Council – Coordinator

Amanda Watson
(209) 217-1090
amadorfiresafe@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION:

The Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC) has received a grant from Calfire to establish a community fuel break titled the River Pines Fuel Break. Work on this project much be completed no later than **May 15th, 2023 or the start of CalFire designated fire season.**

The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to solicit proposals to hire a Fuels Reduction Contractor in order to complete the herein described project.

SCOPE OF WORK:

Proposed Action: Vegetation in the project area includes a scattered conifer and hardwood overstory with an understory of live oak and a brush component of manzanita, toyon, and chemise. The objective of the treatment is to reduce surface and ladder fuels in the establishment of a fuel reduction on 171 acres of land to protect private

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

property from a wildfire conflagration. The general project areas have been delineated on the attached map. The project is within Amador County, California and located surrounding the community of River Pines.

PROJECT AREA & PRESCRIPTION FOR TREATMENT:

Acreage was determined via GPS routing through field visit. The total acreage is 171 acres.

The following specifications are recommended for fuels treatment within the entire project area.

- Fuels to be treated include removal of all ground fuels, 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 conifers is approximately 30-foot by 30-foot spacing in those locations where conifers are abundant, preference will be given to retention of Ponderosa pine. In all areas where conifers are not present, all healthy and vigorous conifers will be retained. All live oaks less than 14” will be masticated, regardless of all spacing guidelines. Only widely scattered black, white and valley oaks less than 14” be retained
- Groups of live oaks will be either totally removed or totally retained. If the majority of stems within the group of live oaks is 14” or less, the entire group will be removed. If the majority of stems within the group is over 14” or greater, the entire group will be retained.
- All material must be masticated. 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. Some dead trees (snags) will be left for wildlife, and those will be designated prior to operations. Some downed logs will likewise be left on the ground, and those will also be designated prior to operations. The others should be masticated, chipped, or disposed of.
- Limbs of remaining trees shall be pruned along the bole vertically at least 10 feet from the ground level. All pruned material will be chipped or masticated.
- 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. Native-surfaced roads on the project area should have larger concentrations of masticated materials spread or removed to facilitate safe travel. All roads used by contractor must be left in an acceptable condition after operations are completed.
- Hazards with the project area include barbed wire fences, dogs, poison oak, power lines and vehicles. Hazard areas identified during site inspections have been flagged with double red flagging. The project area has historically had mining operations, extreme caution should be taken while conducting work. Deep, incised placer mining areas exist in the area.
- Masticated material cannot enter watercourses. The AFSC forester may additionally establish equipment exclusion zones around watercourses, which may include a 50-foot buffer on the larger watercourses.
- 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.
- 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

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

<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 regard to steeper slopes will depend on contractor’s ability to treat steep slopes, this should be addressed in the bid. Generally, project area slopes are less than 40%.
- There is possibility for work to start at 6am but this on a case-by-case basis generally in areas that are not next to inhabited parcels.
- Fences dropped by contractor must be put back up.
- All equipment entering the work area be washed and cleaned to reduce the potential for spreading invasive weeds. The equipment will be inspected by the AFSC Forester prior to the beginning of operations.
- 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/or in incised mining ravines and within cultural sites must be done by contractor. Contractor should include provisions for handwork in their proposal or discuss their capabilities for “reach-in” mastication of vegetation in these areas.
- Startup of operations: As soon as possible. Operations should take fire prevention measures; these shall be outlined in the proposal.
- No Traffic Control Plan is required.
- Payments will be made on actual acres treated. Invoices can be submitted as needed but no more frequently than every 2 weeks.
- Contractors will include full time hours worked and number of crew members engaged in project work on each invoice.

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.

PROPOSAL PRESENTATION: Proposals shall reflect costs for the project based on a “*per acre*” basis per project.

River Pines Fuel Break	
	Proposal Price Per Acre
River Pines Fuel Break	
TOTAL: 171 Treatment Acres	TOTAL PROJECT COST:

Contractor Responsibilities include:

- Contractor will work with cooperatively with the Project Coordinator, Landowners, Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC), to ensure compliance with the guidelines, conditions and criteria of the grant.

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

- Contractor will include enough layout time and supervision time in proposal 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.
- Contractor will be responsible for implementation fire risk mitigations measures. 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.
- All traffic control and signs will be the responsibility of the Contractor.

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

Proposal shall be submitted as a single work document, emailed to Amanda Watson AmadorFireSafe@gmail.com

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.
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.

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Milestone	Timeline
Release request for proposal	November 7 th , 2022
Pre-proposal Tour (Contact AFSC to RSVP)	November 15 th 2022
Proposals Due	November 21 st 2022
Review and Selection of Contractor(s)	No later than December 1 st 2022
Announcement of Selected Contractor(s)	December 1 st 2022
Agreement Signed	December 1 st 2022
Work Begins	ASAP
Contract Ends	May 15th, 2023, or the start of CalFire designated fire season.

CONTRACTORS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

Proposal package shall be received by AFSC no later than November 21st, 2022. Address any questions to Amanda Watson at (209) 217-1090 or amadorfiresafe@gmail.com.

PAYMENT:

The AFSC shall make payment to the Contractor within 30 days of the AFSC receipt of an acceptable invoice. Payment will be based on actual/measured treated acreage. 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 **2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project** 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

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

& 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:

Project Area Map on page 7.

Amador Fire Safe Council – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
2022 AFSC- River Pines Fuel Break Project

River Pines Fuel Break

