



Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road, Suite A • Placerville, CA 95667 • Phone (530) 295-0120

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS #03-2019
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER (Consulting)- TO THE
GEORGETOWN DIVIDE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

RELEASE DATE: March 18, 2019

CLOSING DATE: Proposals must be received by April 5, 2019 by 4:00 p.m.

PROJECT TITLE: **“FIRE ADAPTED 50 PHII - EL DORADO COOPERATIVE WILDLAND
FIRE PREVENTION STRATEGY”**

CONTACT PERSONS:

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INTRODUCTION

The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District (RCD) is soliciting proposals from qualified registered professional foresters to provide the services described in this Request for Proposal (RFP). Established in 1953, the RCD is a local, independent, non-enforcement, non-regulatory, self-governed special district organized under Division 9 of the Public Resources Code. It is a local public agency, governed by a five-member, elected board of directors with 2 employees. The RCD advises and assists landowners and public agencies in planning and implementation of conservation practices for the protection, restoration, or development of land, water, and other natural resources.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The El Dorado County Cooperative Wildfire Prevention Strategy (Project) is an innovative all-lands hazardous fuel reduction project aimed to create fire resilient forest ecosystems and fire-adapted human communities. The strategy is exemplified by its inclusion in Fire Adapted 50 (FA50) and the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy (SOFAR). The landscape encompassed by these efforts is representative of the current state of the Sierra Nevada as evidenced by the devastating effects of recent fires (including the 2014 King Fire), drought and insect associated tree mortality and the susceptibility of human communities, ecosystems and watersheds to such catastrophic events. The values to be protected in this watershed are critical to the local and regional economy and to ecosystem health.

The proposed Project is an integral component of FA50 that addresses the risk of wildfire and would directly reduce wildfire potential to forests and adjacent communities within the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI). The Project location is the Camino/Pollock Pines Shaded Fuel Break that goes from Slab Creek Dam to Pony Express Trail along the South Fork American River Canyon. The fuel break is positioned to utilize an existing fire mitigation line developed during the King Fire and will tie into other existing Iowa Hill and Independence fuel breaks.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The overall objectives of this project are to return forests and wildlands to a more natural, fire resilient condition and to ensure that the community’s risk has been reduced. This fuel modification treatment strategy has identified Sly Park as a WUI defense zone where the focus is on protecting life and property. The strategic fuel management project should help to contain wildfires and facilitate long-term stewardship through practices such as continued mechanical and hand treatment and prescribed fire.

Specific objectives include:

- 1) Support an all-lands approach to create fire resilient and fire-adapted communities along the Highway 50 corridor,
- 2) Use existing fuel breaks and forest treatments to create large, more fire resilient fuel breaks,
- 3) Protect communities, infrastructure, and forest resources within the WUI,
- 4) Conduct vegetation prescriptions to reduce fire hazard, improve tree growth, and increase forest resiliency;
- 5) Conduct vegetation prescriptions to reduce the rate of spread, duration and intensity, and fuel ignition of crowns;
- 6) Retain or enhance ecosystem processes compatible with the fuel hazard reduction prescription;
- 7) Assess carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas reduction benefits by reducing the likelihood of wildfire emissions, improving the health and growth rates of trees and exploring various biomass utilization opportunities;
- 8) Identify measures that may be required to protect watershed values and water quality in watersheds that are important sources of domestic water supply;
- 9) Retain post-treatment landscape condition under long-term stewardship agreements.

The project will be completed in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations and consistent with the environmental conditions including seasonal avoidance and on-site biological and cultural surveys. Entry agreements with all private landowners will be obtained and CEQA compliance will be achieved. The project will be completed within scope, budget and time line.

RESPONSIBILITIES / SCOPE OF WORK

The RCD will enter into a Professional Services Agreement with selected Contractor to provide the following activities:

- Complete pre-construction Biological surveys and produce a report associated with each survey to be reviewed and approved by RCD/ CALFIRE.
- Complete pre-construction Archeological surveys and produce a report associated with each survey to be reviewed and approved by RCD/ CALFIRE.
- Contractor will ensure project compliance with all Federal, State, local regulations.
- Contractor will review and approve, in coordination with RCD/ CALFIRE, the final specifications for fuel load reduction activities.
- Contractor will work with the RCD/CALFIRE to strategically layout (flag) project area for fuel load reduction activities.
- Contractor will be present and provide assistance at the “Pre-Bid” Construction Meeting.
- Contractor will be present and provide assistance at the “Pre-Construction” Meeting.
- Contractor will provide oversight and guidance to the on-site construction contractor during the entire phase of the project to ensure treatments are consistent with Project goals and will be the liaison between the construction contractor and RCD.
- Provide summary reports to the RCD on the status of the project.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Proponents must meet the following qualifications:

1. Experience in fuel load reduction and vegetation management operations.
2. Proof of general liability insurance (minimum coverage \$1 million).
3. Proof of Registered Professional Forester License.
4. Proof of Archeological Training Certification.

PROPOSAL FORMAT:

A qualifying proposal must address all of the following items:

1. Name and address of the contractor.
2. Contact person with phone number and email address.
3. All items listed under “Selection Process” (see below).

PROJECT MILESTONES:

Release of RFP	March 18, 2019
Proposals due	April 5, 2019
Review and Selection	April 15, 2019
Agreement Signed	April 15, 2019
Work Begins After	April 16, 2019
Contract Ends	March 15, 2022

AWARD OF CONTRACT

The RCD may reject any and all proposals and may waive any immaterial defect in a proposal. Selection of the contract will be made within forty-five (45) working days after the proposal due date to the proposal that meets the required qualifications, scope of work and selection criteria. The Contractor shall furnish a certificate of insurance along with the executed Agreement. The certificate of insurance shall state a limit of liability of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage liability combined.

PAYMENT

The RCD shall make payment of the Contractor’s invoice within 45 days of the RCD receipt of the invoice. 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. The invoice shall be received by the RCD no later than the 1st of each month, following the period being billed. The Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any additional expenses incurred beyond this maximum amount available.

- (a) Rates. In consideration of Contractors fulfillment of the promised work, the RCD shall pay Contractors at a **Per Hour Rate** authorized by the RCD.
- (b) Expenses. No travel or other expenses will be reimbursed by RCD.
- (c) Maximum Amount. The maximum payments under this Agreement shall be a total of **\$150,000.00** for professional services, provided, however, that such amounts shall not be construed as guaranteed sums, and compensation shall be based upon services actually rendered and expenses actually incurred.
- (d) Budget Contingency Clause. If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the State for purposes of this program, the RCD shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the RCD or offer an agreement amendment to Contractor to reflect the reduced amount.

METHOD OF PAYMENT.

Invoices. All payments for compensation and reimbursement for expenses shall be made only upon presentation by Contractor to RCD of an itemized billing invoice in a form acceptable to the RCD which indicates, at a minimum, Contractor’s name, address, Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number, a description of the tasks completed during the billing period, and the approved task rate.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

The maximum funding available for contracting services in this grant is \$150,000.00. Contractor must acknowledge and affirmatively indicate that they can provide such services within this amount.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

One original and two copies of proposal must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. by April 5, 2019 at the RCD office at 100 Forni Road, Suite A. Placerville, CA 95667. E-mailed will be accepted. Late proposals will be accepted

SELECTION PROCESS:

Representatives of RCD will review the proposals. The selected contractor will be required to execute a professional services agreement with RCD. In reviewing the proposals, the selection criteria will include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. History and background.
2. Capacity of the contractor to conduct the Scope of Work.
3. Hourly rate.
4. List of references and former clients.
5. Any appropriate affirmative action information.
6. Proof of general liability (minimum coverage \$1 million).
7. Proof of Registered Professional Forester License.
8. Proof of Archeological Training Certification.

NONDISCRIMINATION:

The program or 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 American's With Disabilities Act of 1990.