

Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)  
40 Cherokee Avenue  
PO Box 726  
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719-748-0033 (office)



**Contract Administrator:**  
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**Project Administrator:**  
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40 Cherokee Avenue  
PO Box 726  
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719-838-9619 cell

**Project:**

Tree thinning and fire mitigation on a private property near Florissant, CO. Most work will be done with machinery but some hand work may be necessary.

**Property Location:**

Colorado Outdoor Education Center  
2000 Old Stage Road, Florissant, CO 80816  
<https://goo.gl/maps/ghDVW AiNtQz3TCoM9>

**Contents:**

Project Overview, Objectives and Timeline  
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## **Project Overview:**

15 acres of thinning, chipping, and handwork will take place on moderate slopes. Boles 10" and larger will be decked on-site. Chips will be piled on-site at designated points.

## **Project Objectives:**

Improve forest health  
Reduce hazardous fuels  
Enhance wildlife habitat  
Mitigate insects and disease  
Enhance aesthetics

*Detailed descriptions for these objectives are listed in the Appendix 2.*

## **Project Timeline:**

RFP Released: Monday, November 15th, 2021

Show-Me-Tour: Tuesday, November 23rd @ 10:00 am meet at site. RSVP to [ravage@cusps.ws](mailto:ravage@cusps.ws)

Bids Due: Tuesday, November 30th, 2021 at 5:00pm

Project Start: ASAP

## **Bid Approach:**

The contractor will bid based on their determination of the most effective and cost-efficient strategy for implementing the prescription on a cost/per acre basis.

## **Property Description:**

The Colorado Outdoors Education Center is located approximately 4 miles southwest of Florissant, CO at the Sanborn Camps. The area is predominately a Ponderosa pine forest with very little Douglas-fir, and aspen. Most stands are impacted by dwarf Mistletoe infestations.

## **Scope of Work:**

**Total Acreage:** 1600 **Treatable Acres:** 75 (15 this project)

**Access:** Access through private drives. Many existing paths interior to property.

### **Current Conditions:**

Trees Per Acre: 90- 200 Basal Area: ~87 Slope: 10%- 27% Canopy Cover: 65%  
This property was mitigated at some point in the past. The entire area needs the removal of regen as well as mistletoe infected trees. Approximately 10 ac exist near cabins/common areas. The stands are ponderosa pine 99%, Douglas fir, and others 1%.

### **Desired Outcome:**

Trees Per Acre: 50-70 Basal Area: 59-40 Canopy Cover: 40%-50%

Removal of mistletoe and regen will create an open Ponderosa Savana. Selective removal of trees in the 4"- 12" DbH will accomplish this goal while maintaining a high carbon sequestration capacity by preserving the larger, older trees. It is understood that this treatment will not eliminate mistletoe from this property, but it will slow the progression of the disease.

**Prescription:**

PxD. Understory removal from below. All “take” trees are marked for removal with orange dots. The unit boundary is marked with pink flagging. Designated leave trees are marked with green flagging. All Control Point trees are marked with green flagging as well, and should be protected from damage. There will be no removals of Douglas fir or aspen.

Decking of commercial sized (10”-12” No removals above 12” DbH) trees boles, as designated by the camp staff, is required. Felling may be by any method feasible. Slash and smaller boles will be chipped on site. The site(s) for chip pile(s) will be designated by agreement between all parties. Due to the ecological programs at the camp, no material will need to be removed from the site.

Any ground disruptions due to operations will be smoothed as necessary. It is understood that this prescription will not eliminate dwarf mistletoe.

**Project Purpose:**

This forest thinning will reduce forest density and increase forest resilience to disturbances, particularly fire. Thinning will increase tree vigor, understory production, wildlife habitat and make tree stands more resilient to the effects of drought and insect and disease outbreaks. The desire is to restore the forest to a more natural trajectory where diversity of stand density, species, age, and size class trees are represented across the larger landscape while increasing the survivability of the homes on these properties.

**Contractor Task Summary:**

The specific tasks for which we are seeking services are summarized below. A detailed explanation of prescriptions and additional pertinent information may be found in the Appendices.

1. Treat approximately 15 acres using machine and handwork.
2. Boles  $\geq 10$ " are to be hauled to a decking site and cut into manageable lengths.
3. Slash and smaller tree will be chipped and deposited in piles as designated by Project Manager.
4. All ground disruptions due to operations will be smoothed, and where necessary, erosion control measures will need to be taken.
5. Boundary areas will be marked with pink flagging, double flagged trees representing corners, and will be identified by CUSP Project Manager. Any specific "leave" trees will be marked with green survey flagging.

**Bid Submittal Requirements:**

1. Contractor Contact information.
  - a. Name
  - b. Phone
  - c. Email
  - d. Address
  - e. Website

2. Proposal Summary- Narrative discussing points mentioned below in the Selection Procedure and Criteria
  - a. Familiarity with project area and scope
  - b. Work experience - pictures and highlights if possible
  - c. Track record - might include recommendations from clients
  - d. Client contact names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses.
3. Budget -Cost Per Acre
4. Equipment which will be used to complete the project
5. Insurance Declaration meeting the minimum coverages.
6. Timeline for completion

Complete and timely submittal of all required proposal documents is required for the proposal to be considered.

### **Selection Procedure and Criteria:**

Bids for the project described herein will be evaluated on the following basis:

1. Contractor's familiarity with the project area, project scope and work experience.
2. Track record of delivering successful projects which are similar in scope (references)
3. CUSP's confidence in the contractor's ability to implement the proposed work effectively and with high quality outcomes (combination of experience and references)
4. Price.
5. Equipment suitability

Bids will be weighed against these criteria, as opposed to simply accepting the lowest bid. Budget is only one factor that will be considered in awarding the contract for this project. In the event that all proposals exceed our project budget, we will use other criteria in selecting a contractor who is willing to downscale the project scope to fit our budget. CUSP retains all rights to refuse any and all bids for any reason.

### **Contractor Expectations:**

1. Carry liability insurance as required in Appendix 1
2. Work with CUSP to finalize project implementation plan and schedule.
3. Implement according to plan by completing work within the allotted time frame and budget
4. Contractor will follow BMP's established by the Colorado State Forest Service found at <https://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/ForestryBMP-CO-2010.pdf>

### **BIDS MUST BE EMAILED OR HAND DELIVERED TO:**

#### **1. EMAIL**

[ravage@cusp.ws](mailto:ravage@cusp.ws) copy [cusp@cusp.ws](mailto:cusp@cusp.ws)

(Preferred)

## **2. OFFICE LOCATION (please call before coming out)**

40 Cherokee Ave, Lake George, CO 80827

719- 748-0033

### **Pre-Bid Site Visit**

It is highly recommended that you attend the Show-Me tour. Please RSVP to Jeff Ravage at: [ravage@cusp.ws](mailto:ravage@cusp.ws)

## **Appendices**

### **Appendix 1**

#### **Liability Insurance Requirements**

During the entire term of Project, the CONTRACTOR shall maintain, at its own expense, insurance in at least the following minimum amounts and classifications:

##### Workers' Compensation/ Employer's Liability

Not less than that required by statute

##### Comprehensive General Liability (including blanket contractual liability insurance):

Bodily Injury               \$ 500,000 each person; \$1,000,000 each occurrence

Property damage \$ 600,000

General aggregate       \$ 2,000,000

##### Comprehensive Automobile Liability

Bodily Injury               \$ 500,000 each person; \$1,000,000 each occurrence

Property damage \$ 600,000

The CONTRACTOR shall furnish certificates of such insurance to CUSP representative prior to performance of this Agreement. CUSP shall be named as an additional insured on all policies of liability insurance.

CONTRACTOR understands that no such insurance will be provided by CUSP.

### **Appendix 2**

#### **Specific Objectives for this Project**

Objectives of forest restoration guidelines:

- **IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH**

Encourage resilience to disturbances such as fire, insects, and disease by creating

spatially heterogeneous groups and a balance of age classes in distinct and randomly separated groups, resulting in a continuous network of openings and meadows.

- **REDUCE HAZARDOUS FUELS**

Reduce total stems per acre by creating a network of openings and aggregating residual stems into a mosaic of groups, and thus segregate fuels to single groups not allowing for horizontal and vertical continuity through the treatment area.

- **ENHANCE WILDLIFE HABITAT**

Promote an uneven-aged and variable-size tree structure. It is important to maintain a balance of age classes that are variable in distance and proximity to one another resulting in randomly distributed, variably shaped groups of trees, while creating continual and connected openings between aggregates. Each tree group should be between 0.5 and 1.5 of the tallest tree length to the next group. Within groups of trees it is critical that crowns are either interlocking or close (within 5 feet) to be interlocking.

- **MITIGATE INSECTS AND DISEASE**

The mosaic pattern grouping with adequate distances between groups and the random distribution of age classes results in a forest more resilient to disease and/or insects.

- **ENHANCE RECREATION AND AESTHETICS**

The approach is to address general forest health concerns, while addressing the need to remove hazardous fuels and prevent insects and disease from spreading, while improving wildlife habitat, in turn creating new ways for the land to be enjoyed. The end result will not have a "jail bar" look with evenly spaced trees of similar age. Instead, the end result should have heterogeneous groups of trees.

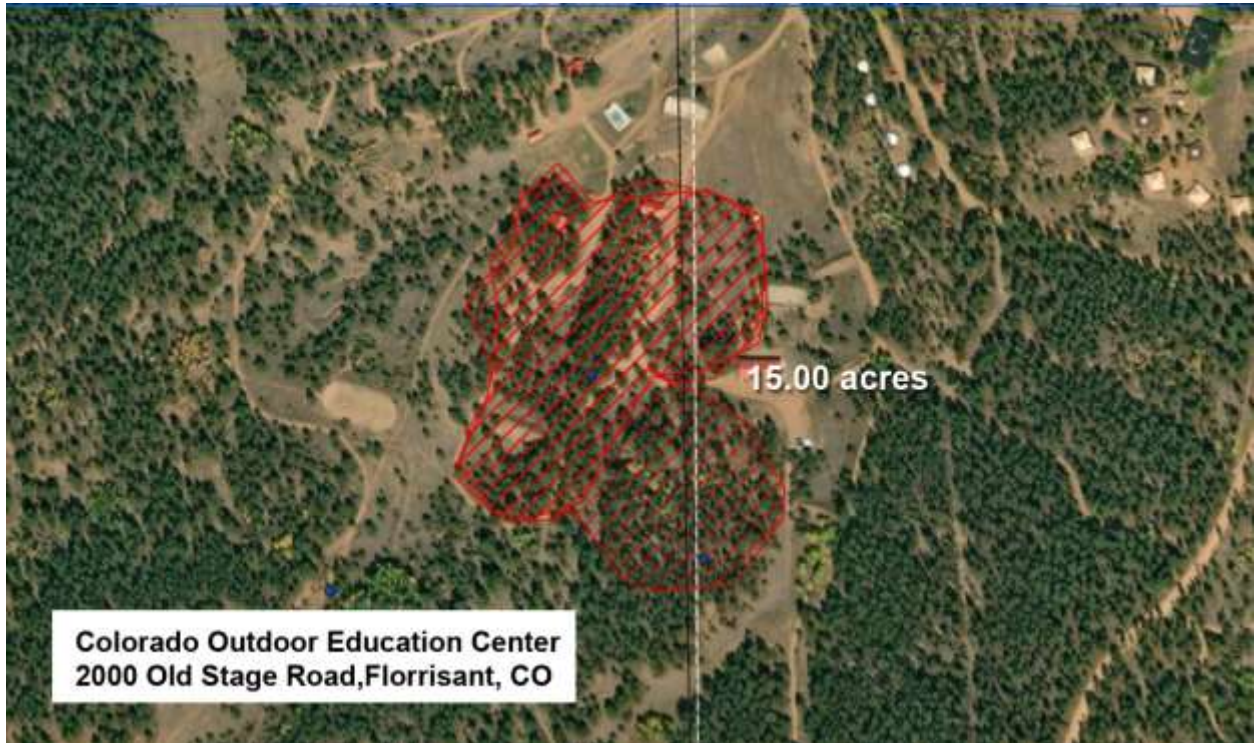
## **Appendix 3**

### **Indemnification Statement**

CONTRACTOR agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless CUSP, its divisions, boards, Colorado Lions Camp and each of their officers, officials, employees, representatives, agents, successors and assigns against any and all losses, penalties, injuries, claims, fines, legal actions, damages, settlements, costs, charges, professional fees, attorney's fees or other expenses or liabilities of every kind and character incurred by said listed parties and/or arising out of or relating to any and all claims, liens, demands, obligations, actions, proceedings, or causes of action of every kind and character, in connection with, or arising directly or indirectly out of CONTRACTOR's negligence, intentional act, professional error, mistake, omission, performance or failure to perform and/or default or breach under the terms of this Agreement, or fault of CONTRACTOR during the performance of this Agreement. Without limiting the generality of this Section, in any and all such claims or actions relating to personal injury, or of any other tangible or intangible personal or property right, or actual or alleged violation of any applicable statute, ordinance, administrative order or directive, order, rule or regulation, CONTRACTOR shall respond to and defend any such claims or actions at its sole expense with counsel approved

by CUSP and agrees to bear all other costs and expense related thereto, and attorney's fees, even if such claim is groundless, false or fraudulent.

**Appendix 4**  
Project Maps



**Appendix 5**  
CUSP Equipment Cleaning Standards

# CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT CLEANING STANDARDS

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

COALITION FOR THE  
UPPER SOUTHERN PLATTE  
PO BOX 726  
LAKE GEORGE, CO 80827  
719-748-0033  
CUSP@CUSPEWS



### CLEANING EQUIPMENT

A seemingly unavoidable consequence of restoration and construction activities is the disruption of established soils, slopes, and native plants and the unnecessary spread of invasives. However, cleaning your equipment can greatly reduce the chance of invasive spread. If your equipment does not meet the standards, it will not be allowed to enter a project site until properly cleaned.



### WHAT TO EXPECT PRIOR TO WORKING WITH CUSP

Before any equipment will be allowed on site, CUSP and/or CUSP partners will inspect all equipment intended to be used on a project. If equipment does not meet the standards as described within this guidance document, equipment may need to be cleaned further before work will commence.



### PREVENTING INVASIVE SPECIES SPREAD

- All equipment and trucks shall be washed with a high-pressure, steam-cleaning device prior to entering the project area to reduce the spread of noxious weeds and/or invasive waterborne organisms from other projects and areas. There should be no remaining mud or dirt caked on the equipment. Make sure mud and debris is cleaned from tracks, turrets, buckets, drums, etc. CUSP crew will inspect equipment prior to use. Cleaning shall be repeated if moving from one area to another.
- Cleaning sites need to be approved by the CUSP project manager, but must be established so as to minimize the introduction of invasive species.
- If equipment will be working in ice water, additional cleaning is required to reduce the movement of waterborne invaders such as the New Zealand mud snail. Once cleaned of mud and debris, equipment shall either 1) be sprayed/soaked with a 1:15 solution of Starquest disinfectant cleaner and water. Keep equipment moist for ten minutes. OR 2) be sprayed/soaked with water greater than 140° F for at least ten minutes. When working in and around water, clothing, hoses, tools and other items used in and around the water shall also be cleaned in hot water (>104 degrees) or soaked for 20 minutes in 100% vinegar.
- Machine operators must avoid driving through any excessively weedy areas and will notify CUSP program staff of such locations if they have not already been mapped and marked by CUSP staff.
- All seed mixes, plants, straw, and hay materials used in revegetation must meet Colorado Weed-Free specifications.



# Construction Equipment Cleaning Standards

## MAKE SURE TO CLEAN YOUR EQUIPMENT FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES

- Loosening caked-on mud and debris with hand tools such as a wire brush and point may be required
- Remove mud, dirt and plant debris before mobilizing equipment
- Clean equipment with high pressure washer
- Clean all tracks or tires
- Clean top interior of all skid plates and belly plates
- Clean any pivot points where dirt or debris could be lodged
- Ensure that excessive grease is removed
- Clean the interior cab of any dirt and debris
- Clean all cutter wheels or teeth
- Trailers used for transporting equipment will also be inspected before entering work sites
- Call CUSP if you have any questions!



# Construction Equipment Cleaning Standards

MAKE SURE TO CLEAN YOUR EQUIPMENT  
FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES

- ☑ Clean wheels and rollers front and back
- ☑ Clean all inside and outside ledges, overhangs and crevices
- ☑ Clean bucket

