

Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)
40 Cherokee Avenue
PO Box 726
Lake George, CO 80827
719-748-0033 (office)



Contract Administrator:
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40 Cherokee Avenue
PO Box 726
Lake George, CO 80827
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719-748-0033 office

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Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)
40 Cherokee Avenue
PO Box 726
Lake George, CO 80827
ravage@cusp.ws
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 will be necessary.

Property Location:

555 Castle Mountain Drive, Florissant, CO 80816
<https://goo.gl/maps/Y5Xo2Fi7bqeteXW7A>

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Project Overview:

Mastication and hand work will take place on moderate slopes. Boles will be cut into 6-8' lengths and stacked on-site.

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: Friday, November 12, 2021

Show-Me-Tour: Friday, November 19th. RSVP to ravage@cusps.ws

Bids Due: Friday, November 26th, 2021 at 5:00pm

Project Start: Immediately

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 Williams property is located approximately 10 miles southwest of Florrisant, CO. The area is predominately a dry mixed conifer forest with Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, Engelmann spruce and aspen. Tree stands are heavily impacted by spruce budworm infestations in 2020.

Scope of Work:

Total Acreage: 80 ac **Treatable Acres:** 41+ (5ac this project)

Access: Access through the private drive. One existing path to the interior of the property.

Current Conditions:

Trees Per Acre: 90- 200 Basal Area: ~90 Slope: 10%- 27% Canopy Cover: 55%
This property experienced a significant spruce budworm attack. Within the treatment area, high mortality of understory trees occurred. Most overstory trees seem to have survived. Moderate to high levels of ground fuels exist within the treatment area.

Desired Outcome:

Trees Per Acre: 50-70 Basal Area: 59-40 Canopy Cover: 40%-45%
Removal of dead trees over 10" DbH, as well as grinding of the smaller understory trees, will produce the desired reduction in density and canopy cover. This action will also reveal the natural mosaic of mortality, leaving clumps and independent groups of trees behind.

Prescription:

All dead trees over 10" DbH will be felled and the boles removed from the unit. The hillside will be masticated to remove smaller dead trees and smaller ground fuels. Dead downed trees, greater than 12" in diameter and in contact with the ground will be left as undisturbed as

possible for insect/fungi habitats. In addition, 2-3 standing dead trees greater than 14" in diameter should be left intact as well for wildlife.

This project calls for mastication, various equipment types will suffice, but the material must be ground in place. Harvested bole wood will be cut in 8' lengths and decked outside of the unit boundary for use by homeowners as firewood.

Slash will be masticated to <6" material length and < 3" material depth. Chipped material should not exceed 40-60% cover of the forest floor. Heavier application of material will be allowed over skid trails upon abandonment.

Any ground disruptions due to operations will be smoothed as necessary.

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 5 acres using machine and hand-work.
2. Masticated material will be moderately ground to material length no greater than 18 inches, with 2-3 inch chips predominating. The ground material is to be distributed evenly to a depth not to exceed 2-3" on average. Material shall not exceed 40-60% cover of the forest floor. Slash to be ground on site.
3. Boles >10" are to be hauled to a decking site and cut to 6'-8' lengths
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 copy cusp@cusp.ws

2. OFFICE LOCATION (please call before coming out)

40 Cherokee Ave, Lake George, CO 80827

719- 748-0033

Pre-Bid Site Visit

If you are interested in seeing the project site before submitting a bid, please schedule a tour with Adrian Knight. Send requests to adrian@culp.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 SOUTH PLATTE
PO Box 726
LAKE GEORGE, CO 80827
719-748-0033
CUSP@CUSEWS



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 invasive weeds and/or invasive nonindigenous 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, tires, buckets, drags, teeth, 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 live 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 1:1.5 solution of Spangol institutional 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, boots, tools and other items used in and around the water shall also be cleaned in hot water (150 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 vice break and pick 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

