

Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP)

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719-748-0033 (office)

**Contract Administrator:**

Chris Fuller, Deputy Director

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Project Administrator:

Jeff Ravage, North Fork Watershed Coordinator

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719-838-9619 cell

Project:

21+ acre forest health improvement and fire mitigation on private properties in the South Baird Road area in Conifer, Colorado. Machines can be used in most areas although hand work may be required in some areas due to steep slopes.

Property Location:

South Baird Road is attached to Richmond Hill Road, off of Hwy 285 in Conifer, Colorado. Work will take place on 3 properties.

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Project Overview:

Work will take place on three private properties. one property will be 8.8 acres and includes both hand and machine work units. The other two constitute 12.4 acres and are all machine accessible. Slopes range from 25% to 35%. Both properties will allow for the use of machinery. When large piles of dead and down material are encountered, they are to be masticated or chipped. All work is scheduled to occur in 2023.

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: 7/24/23

Show-Me-Tour (MANDATORY TO BID): Monday 8/7/23 at 10:00am. Meet at Elk Creek Fire Station #1, 11993 Blackfoot Road, Conifer, CO

RSVP and questions send to ravage@cusp.ws.

Bids Due: Tuesday 8/18/23

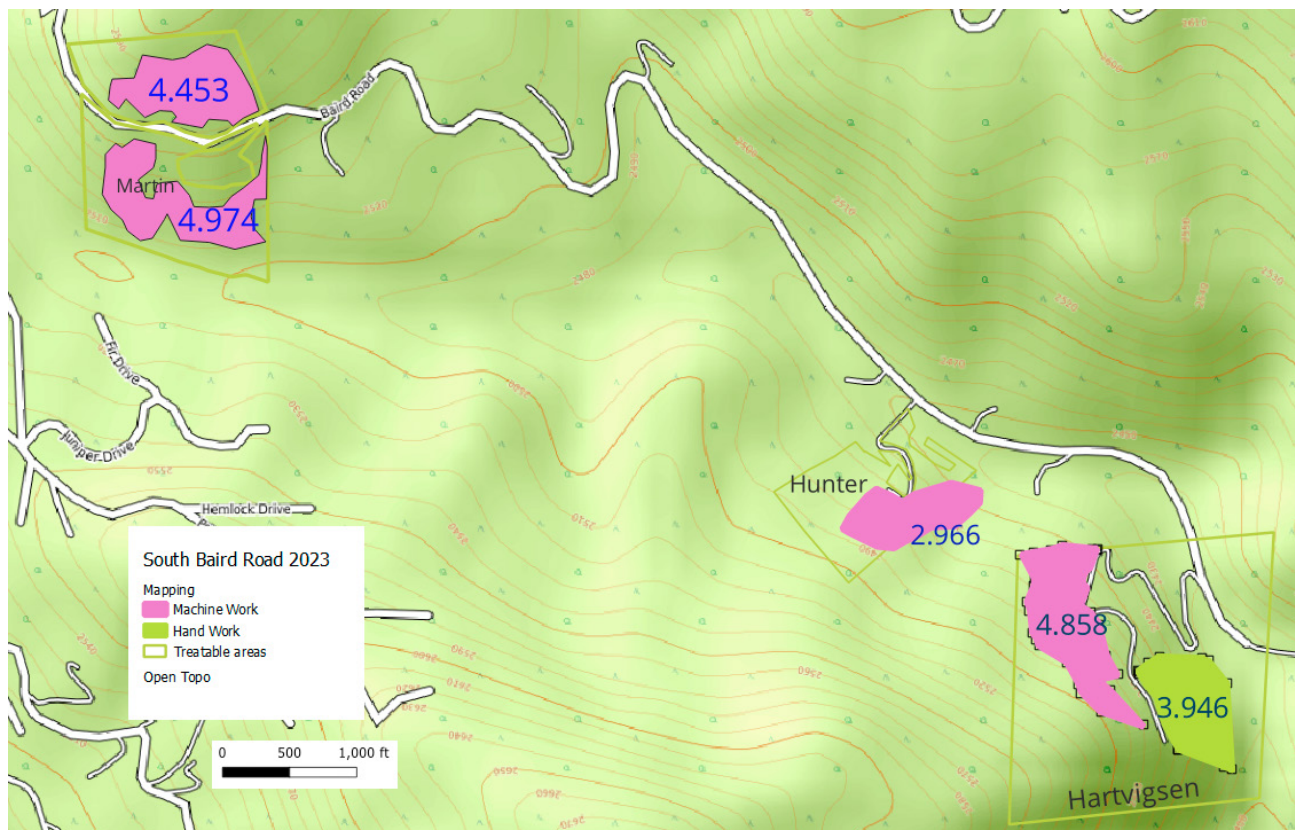
Project Start: Immediately

Bid Approach:

The contractor will bid based on their determination of the most effective and cost-efficient strategy for implementing the attached prescriptions (Appendix 2) on a cost/per acre basis.

Property Description:

Work will take place on private properties with slope ranging from flat to steep. The area is predominately a dry mixed conifer forest with Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, Engelmann spruce and aspen. Tree stands are overstocked with declining, small diameter understory interspersed with standing dead and robust, larger diameter overstory. Continuous canopy characterizes this region's forested areas and these project areas.



Prescription:

The proposed treatments will remove the dense understory and convert the declining forest conditions to a more robust forest overall with open crown conditions indicative of the various slopes encountered. Canopy openings will also be created through tree removal. The resultant forest will be more resilient and less prone to extreme fire behavior, will provide a more open habitat for wildlife, and will help return the landscape to a more natural trajectory. Canopy cover will be reduced 50% or more through this prescription.

D-space within 100 feet of structures will require isolated clumps of 2-5 trees with spacing >30' between retained clumps and retained trees will be limbed within this 100' zone.

Where possible, slash will be masticated, or chipped, to <12" material length on average and < 2.5" material depth or chipped to < 3" chip size and < 2.5" chip depth. Chipped material will not exceed 40-60% cover of the forest floor. Slash will be lopped and scattered when it is not feasible to chip or masticate. Lop and Scatter will not exceed 12" in depth and 36" in length.

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 Appendix.

1. Treat approximately 21 acres on 3 properties using machine and hand work.
2. Masticated material will be ground to uneven material lengths and distributed evenly to a depth not to exceed 2-3" on average. Material shall not exceed 40-60% cover of forest floor. If chipped, material will be broadcast on site. Chip size will be no greater than 3 inches on average and chip depth will not exceed 2-3" on average.
3. Lop and scatter shall not exceed 12 inches in depth and 36 inches in length and shall not exceed 30% cover of forest floor.
4. Any boles over 10" will be removed. They may be taken to Biochar now if no other local use can be found.
5. All ground disruptions due to operations will be smoothed, and where necessary, erosion control measures will need to be taken.
6. Boundary areas will be marked with green flagging, double flagged trees represent corners.

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 BMPs established by the Colorado State Forest Service found at <https://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/ForestryBMP-CO-2010.pdf>
5. Contractor will follow BMPs established by CUSP for weed control (see Invasive BMP listed on the CUSP Bids Page)

BIDS MUST BE EMAILED OR TURNED IN TO THE CUSP OFFICE:

1. EMAIL

ravage@cusp.ws copy: cusp@cusp.ws

2. PHYSICAL LOCATION: CUSP Office, 40 Cherokee AVE, Lake George, CO

Pre-Bid Site Visit

Due to the nature of this a site visit will be necessary before a bid can be prepared. Access to the property for a “show me” tour has been scheduled for **8/7/23**.

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



Scope of Work Martin

Date: 7/7/23

Project: FRWRM Northern Watershed 2023

Property Owner: Robert Martin

Address: 13355 S. Baird Road, Conifer, CO 80433

Total Acreage: ~20 Treatable Acres: 9.4

This scope is for a component of the South Baird Road area restoration project.

Access: Access from South Baird Road via driveway and overland crossing into neighbor's property. Potential access from below. Upper unit is accessed off of South Baird Road.

Current Conditions:

Trees Per Acre: ~150 Basal Area: 100-70 Slope: 15% - 25% Canopy Cover: 50- 65%

This property contains 2 units. One area is machine accessible, the southern-most unit is hand work. See map for unit delineation.

Desired Outcome:

Trees Per Acre: 50-60 Basal Area: 50-60 Canopy Cover: 40%-60%

Treatment will focus on Rocky Mountain Juniper and lodgepole removal. As well as mistletoe culling. The creation of openings and mastication/chipping of ground fuels will also be a priority. The southern unit is primarily Ponderosa and juniper. In these units take trees will be marked with Orange paint. Preferential removal of juniper trees will substantially meet the goal of this treatment. It is understood that this treatment will not eliminate mistletoe from this property, but it will slow the progression of the disease.

Prescription:

This project will primarily be a thin from below, leaving the larger trees intact with a more open structure. Groups and clumps should be developed, with overall canopy opening increased to 40% or more. Creating interlocking breaks via mass juniper removal and the removal of standing dead Ponderosa will substantially meet the goals of this treatment. Take trees may be of any species except aspen. The unit boundary is marked with green flagging. Designated leave trees will be marked with orange flagging. Designated take trees will be marked with orange paint spots. A Control Point tree is marked with pink or red flagging and should be protected from damage.

Slash may be chipped or masticated. Mastication or chip mulch will be no greater than 5" in drifts and on average 2"- 3" with ground visible in the interstices.

Removal of commercial sized trees boles will be required where feasible. It may be decked for firewood per landowner. CUSP will help in vending excess boles to BioCharNow, if required. It should be expected that any gate fees for this wood will be equal to the cost of collection and transportation. Slash and smaller boles may be chipped or masticated on site.

In case of Emergency, or Fire

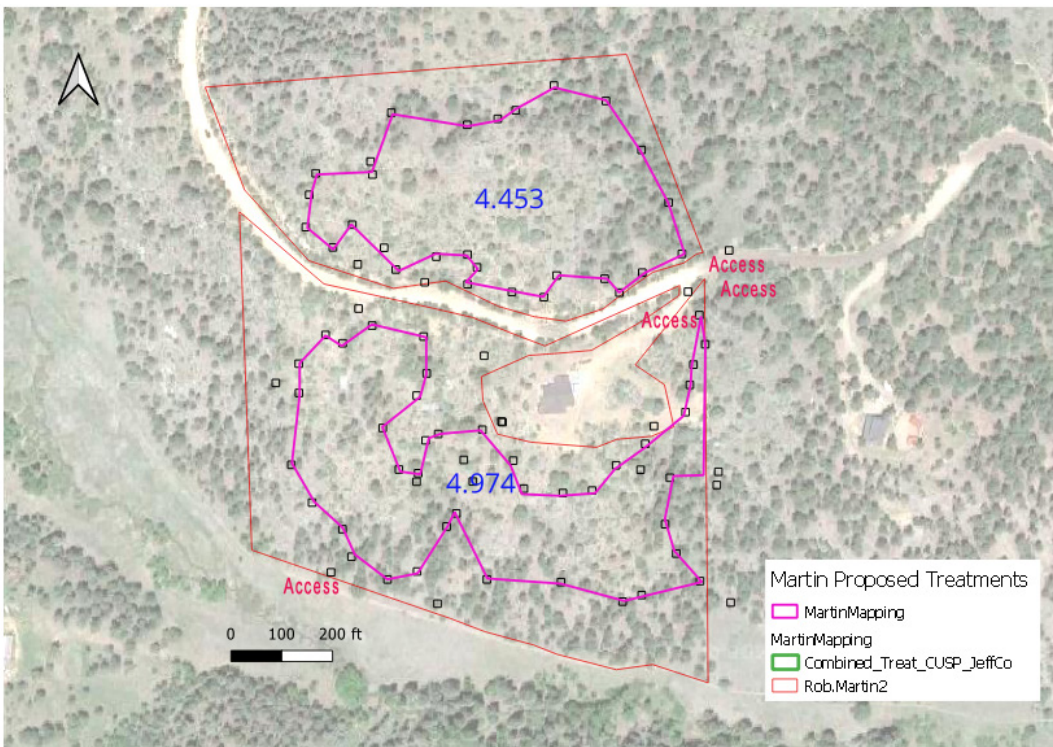
1) The Contractor will immediately call local emergency services dispatch center (911);

2) To the Local Fire at: Elk Creek Fire: (303) 816-9385

3) Project Manager, Jeff Ravage at: (719) 838-9619

4) CUSP at (719)-748-0033

Map of Treatment Areas





Scope of Work Hartvigsen

Date: 7/7/23

Project: FRWRM Northern Watershed 2023

Property Owner: Greg Hartvigsen

Address: 13664 S. Baird Road, Conifer, CO 80433

Total Acreage: ~20 **Treatable Acres:** 8.8

This scope is for a component of the South Baird Road area restoration project.

Access: Access from South Baird Road. Existing paths within the upper treatment unit.

Current Conditions:

Trees Per Acre: 110 -190 Basal Area: 103-60 Slope: 25% - 35% Canopy Cover: 65%

This property contains 2 units. One area is machine accessible, the southern-most unit is hand work. See map for unit delineation.

Desired Outcome:

Trees Per Acre: 50-60 Basal Area: 50-60 Canopy Cover: 40%-60%

Treatment will focus on lodgepole removal and mistletoe culling. The creation of openings and mastication/chipping of ground fuels will also be a priority. The southern unit, and areas near the creek, include Doug Fir, Spruce and include some beech and maple.

In these units take trees will be marked with Orange paint. Preferential removal of trees between 4-10 inches will meet the goal and keep large, older trees for carbon sequestration. It is understood that this treatment will not eliminate mistletoe from this property, but it will slow the progression of the disease.

Prescription:

This project will primarily be a thin from below, leaving the larger trees intact with a more open structure. Groups and clumps should be developed, with overall canopy opening increased to 40% or more. Creating interlocking breaks via mass lodgepole removal and aspen release on the northern facing slope is a priority. Take trees may be of any species except aspen. There are many firs killed by the Spruce budworm and they should be taken preferentially. The unit boundary is marked with green flagging. Designated leave trees will be marked with orange flagging. Designated take trees will be marked with orange paint spots. A Control Point tree is marked with pink or red flagging and should be protected from damage.

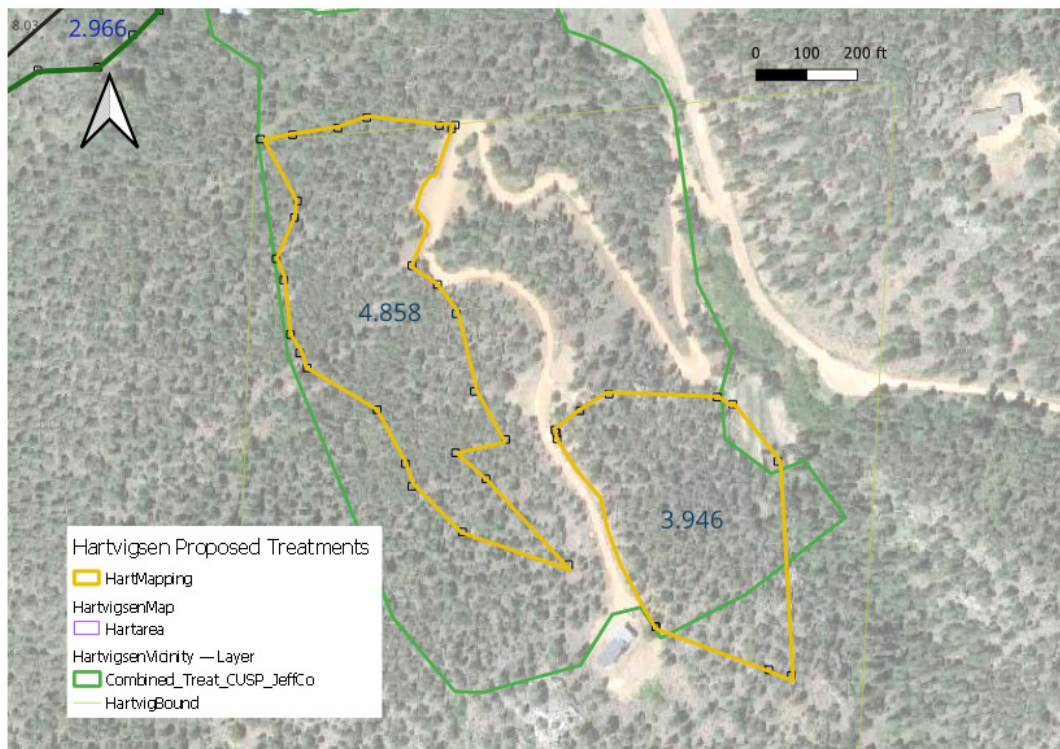
Slash may be chipped or masticated. Mastication or chip mulch will be no greater than 5" in drifts and on average 2"- 3" with ground visible in the interstices.

Removal of commercial sized trees boles will be required where feasible. It may be decked for firewood per landowner. CUSP will help in vending excess boles to BioCharNow, if required. It should be expected that any gate fees for this wood will be equal to the cost of collection and transportation. Slash and smaller boles may be chipped or masticated on site.

In case of Emergency, or Fire

- 1) The Contractor will immediately call local emergency services dispatch center (911);**
- 2) To the Local Fire at: Elk Creek Fire: (303) 816-9385**
- 3) Project Manager, Jeff Ravage at: (719) 838-9619**
- 4) CUSP at (719)-748-0033**

Map of Treatment Areas



Scope of Work Hunter

Date: 7/7/23

Project: FRWRM Northern Watershed 2023
Property Owner: Katie Hunter
Address: 13555 S. Baird Rd, Conifer, CO 80433

Total Acreage: ~8 **Treatable Acres:** ~3

This scope is for a component of the South Baird Road area restoration project.

Access: Access from South Baird Road via driveway.

Current Conditions:

Trees Per Acre: ~150 Basal Area: 100-70 Slope: 25% - 35% Canopy Cover: 50- 65%

This stand contains many mature Ponderosa intermixed with lodgepole. Doug fir and aspen below.

Desired Outcome:

Trees Per Acre: 50-60 Basal Area: 50-60 Canopy Cover: 40%-60%

Treatment will focus on lodgepole removal, as well as mistletoe culling. The creation of openings and mastication/chipping of ground fuels will be a priority. It is understood that this

treatment will not eliminate mistletoe from this property, but it will slow the progression of the disease. All areas should be machine accessible, but areas of steeper slope exist.

Prescription:

This project will primarily be a thin from below, leaving the larger trees intact with a more open structure. Groups and clumps should be developed, with overall canopy opening increased to 40% or more. The unit boundary is marked with green flagging. Designated leave trees will be marked with orange flagging. Designated take trees will be marked with orange paint spots. A Control Point tree is marked with pink or red flagging and should be protected from damage. Slash may be chipped or masticated. Mastication or chip mulch will be no greater than 5" in drifts and on average 2" - 3" with ground visible in the interstices.

Removal of commercial sized trees boles will be required where feasible. It may be decked for firewood per landowner. CUSP will help in vending excess boles to BioCharNow, if required. It should be expected that any gate fees for this wood will be equal to the cost of collection and transportation. Slash and smaller boles may be chipped or masticated on site.

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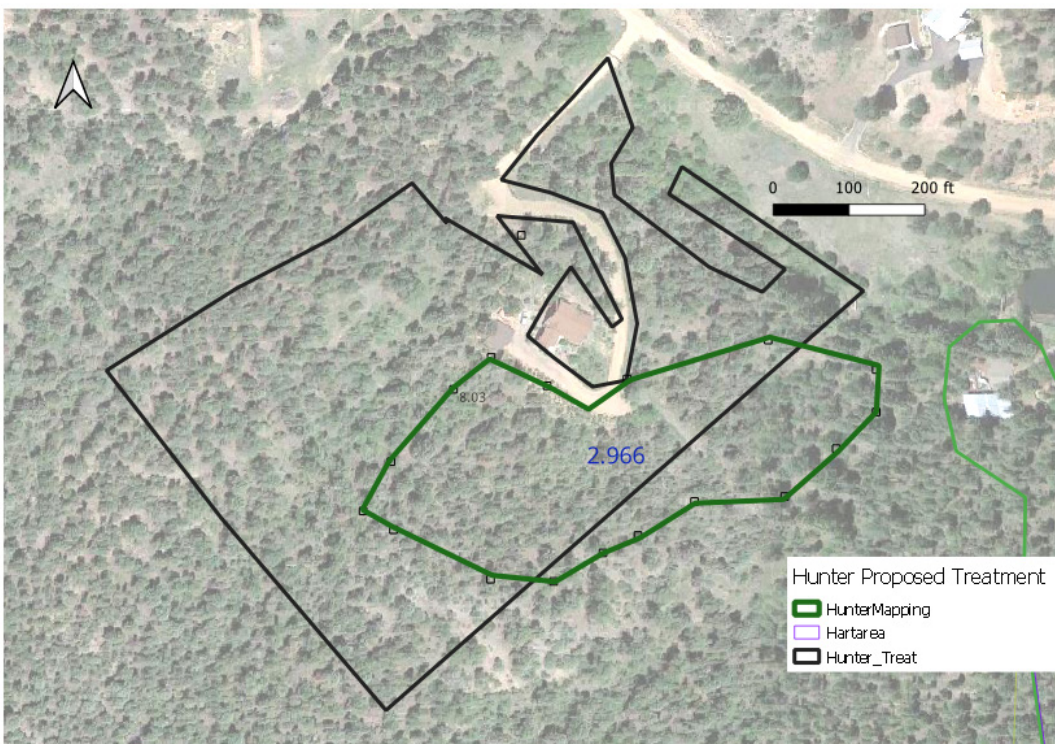
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4) CUSP at (719)-748-0033

Map of Treatment Areas



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.