



Amador Resource Conservation District  
12200 B Airport Road, Jackson CA 95642

**Amador Resource Conservation District– REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
2023 ARCD- Mitchell Mine Fuel Break Maintenance Project

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**FOR CONTRACTED SERVICES TO THE AMADOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**MITCHELL MINE FUELBREAK MAINTENANCE PROJECT**

**September, 2023**

**RELEASE DATE:** September 29, 2023

Milestone	Timeline
Release Request for Proposal	September 29, 2023
Pre-proposal Tour (Contact ARCD to RSVP)	October 5, 2023
Proposals Due	October 13, 2023
Review and Selection of Contractor(s)	No later than October 17, 2023
Announcement of Selected Contractor(s)	October 20, 2023
Agreement Signed/Executed	No later than October 27, 2023
Work Begins	November 7, 2023 (weather, fire season dependent)

**SITE VISIT/PRE-PROPOSAL TOUR:** It is highly encouraged the contractors attend the pre-proposal tour. The pre-proposal tour will take place October 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Gordon Long to RSVP for the pre-proposal tour; (209) 213-2016, email: [gordon@amadorrcd.org](mailto:gordon@amadorrcd.org) Information regarding exact meeting time and location will be provided to those who RSVP.

**CLOSING DATE: 5:00 pm October 13, 2023**

Proposals must be submitted electronically by this deadline- –via email - to:

Gordon Long, Amador Resource Conservation District  
Email Address: [gordon@amadorrcd.org](mailto:gordon@amadorrcd.org)  
No paper submissions will be accepted



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**PROJECT TITLE:** “2023 ARCD- Mitchell Mine Fuel Break Maintenance Project”.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Gordon Long- Amador RCD – Forestry Projects Manager Coordinator

Gordon Long  
(209) 213-2016  
gordon@amadorrccd.org

**INTRODUCTION:**

The Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) has received a grant from CALFIRE to accomplish work to maintain the integrity of a prior masticated fuel break in Amador County. This re-treatment by mastication and/or hand work on the existing fuel break needs to be completed by March 1, 2024.

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 other resprouting tree and brush species. The objective of the treatment is to reduce surface and ladder fuels in the maintenance of an existing fuel break near the town of Pine Grove. The RFP is requesting a bid to treat up to 67.7 acres with mechanical means and some select hand work. The general project areas have been delineated on the attached map. The project is wholly within Amador County, California. This maintenance project will treat only strategic portions of the original Mitchell Mine fuel Break (see the attached map showing the acreage to be re-treated under this RFP).

**PROJECT AREA & PRESCRIPTION FOR TREATMENT:**

Acreage was determined via GPS routing through field visit. The total acreage is 67.7 acres. Be aware that these acres are spread out in five different units, in the sizes of 10.3 acres, 9.3 acres, 19.8 acres, 14.8 acres, and 13.5 acres, respectively. Transport of heavy machinery will have to be accomplished to move between these units.

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

- Fuels to be treated include mastication of all ground fuels, resprouts of brush and small trees species (no trees over 6” diameter will be treated other than dead and dying trees, in which all such dead stems, regardless of size will be masticated and resultant chips be spread on the ground) and pruning of ladder fuels (along the bole, at least 10’ from ground level). Annual herbaceous vegetation such as grasses and forbs should not be targeted for treatment.
- The target prescription is to knock back all ground fuels that have either resprouted since the original fuel break was established, or to masticate new seedling/saplings of all brush and tree species present (>2” basal stem).
- All material must be masticated. Large stems should be masticated, chipped, or disposed of. Treated stems within the treatment area shall be cut flush at the ground level and fuels shredded (chipped) and



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blown back as evenly as possible onto the treatment site. Dead, in-ground stumps remaining from previous fuels reduction work will not be treated. If stumps have resprouts, they need to be treated.

- Most, if not 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 will 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 masticated. 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, but not limited to, barbed wire fences, dogs, rattlesnakes, poison oak, power lines, underground infrastructure, 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 ARCD 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 6” dbh, though pruning of remnant trees is required
- Bear clover will not be treated
- Blackberries will be treated
- Mastication requirements:
  - Seventy-five per cent (75%) of the vegetation treated by mechanical mastication shall be ground into shreds <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 <3” in height on the uphill side.
- Hazardous, small diameter stobs are not allowed, all stems need to be cut to within 3” of surface.
- 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 the 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 in good, useable shape.
- All equipment entering the work area be washed and cleaned to reduce the potential for spreading invasive



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weeds. The equipment will be inspected by the ARCD 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
- All small trees under the canopy of larger trees will be treated
- 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 after contract is executed. 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. Transport cost to move between units should be included in the overall price per acre bid. Bids must include all four units addressed here.

<b>Mitchell Mine Fuel Break Maintenance</b>	
	<b>Proposal Price Per Acre</b>
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break Maintenance	
Mastication Unit 1- 10.3 Acres	
Mastication Unit 2- 9.3 Acres	
Mastication Unit 3- 19.8 Acres	
Mastication Unit 4- 14.8 Acres	
Mastication Unit 5- 13.5 Acres	



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<b>TOTAL:</b> <b>Up to 67.7 Treatment Acres in 5 separate units. All Units to be treated under this singular bid process.</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST:</b>
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Contractor Responsibilities include:

- Contractor will work cooperatively with the Project Manager, Registered Professional Forester, Landowners, Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD), to ensure compliance with the guidelines, conditions and criteria of the grant.
- Contractor will include enough layout time and supervision time in proposal to assure public safety and compliance with ARCD requirements.
- Contractors will include full-time hours worked and number of crew members engaged in project work on each invoice.
- Contractor will avoid 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 ARCD to be high fire hazard days.
- All traffic control and signs (if needed) 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 → [amanda@amadorrcd.org](mailto:amanda@amadorrcd.org)

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 fulfilling 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.



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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.
8. Start Date of Work: Clearly state in the bid when you can start work on this project. The earliest date to start is November 7, 2023. If work does not commence within 30 days of this date, the ARCD has the discretion to terminate the contract. Accommodations may be made if description of late start is explained in bid, and approved by ARCD prior to execution of the contract.
9. If you wish to keep proprietary information from being released publicly ( i.e. understanding of project, techniques and approaches) please mark those sections “Confidential”. As a California Public Agency, there are certain things that we must provide if there is a legitimate Public Information request.
  - 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.

**CONTRACTORS PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:**

Proposal package shall be received by ARCD no later than 5:00 pm October 13th, 2023. Send to Amanda Watson – [amanda@amadorrcd.org](mailto:amanda@amadorrcd.org). Address any questions to Gordon Long- [gordon@amadorred.org](mailto:gordon@amadorred.org) (209)213-2016, or Ed Struffenegger- (209)304-2045.

**PAYMENT:**

The ARCD shall make payment to the Contractor within 30 days of the ARCD 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 **2023 ARCD- Mitchell Mine Fuel Break Maintenance Project** in the heading.

- Rates: In consideration of Contractors fulfillment of the promised work, the ARCD shall pay Contractors at a Per Acre Rate accepted and authorized by the ARCD.
- Documentation: Contractors will include full time hours worked and number of crew members engaged in project work on each invoice.



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- Expenses: No travel or other expenses will be reimbursed by ARCD.
- 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 ARCD shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the ARCD or the ARCD 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 & 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.

**MAP:**

Project Area Map on last page of this RFP. The attached map is merely a general overview map of the whole project. Detailed georeferenced maps of each Unit will be published on Amador RCD website (amadorrcd.org) on the Week of October 2-6, 2023



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**Grant 2CA05282 Amador RCD - Sept 2023**