



**Feather River Resource Conservation District
North Quincy Wildfire Resiliency Project**

**Request for Proposals: Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Sites (SEPES), and
Engineering Road Analysis Survey and Report**

Release Date: September 23, 2022

Closing Date: October 14, 2022

1. INTRODUCTION

The Feather River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD) is a Special District headquartered in Quincy, California with a district boundary encompassing nearly the entirety of Plumas County. FRRCD hereby gives notice of solicitation of proposals for surveying and reporting of Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Sites.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this Request for Proposals is to solicit potential contractors' interest in providing a Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Sites (SEPES) report within the North Quincy Wildfire Resiliency Project, located on Plumas National Forest (PNF). The surveys and associated reporting must be conducted such that it will meet the requirements of both California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and all other relevant Federal, State, and Local laws and regulations.

The goal of the North Quincy Wildfire Resiliency Project is to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire and threats to communities, improve and restore forest health, control non-native invasive species, and improve watershed conditions. Vegetation treatments would rely on mechanized treatment methods on approximately 9,000 acres. Hand thinning would be conducted in sensitive or difficult to access areas. Prescribed fire treatments would be utilized to reduce and remove fuel loads, to alter the vertical fuel profile throughout the project area, and to reintroduce fire to the project landscape. A more detailed description ("North Quincy Project Initiation Letter") can be found in the Bid Packet, Attachment C. The SEPES analysis will help the Forest Service complete the North Quincy EA and enroll the project under the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board's (CVWQCB) timber general order and assist coming up with a plan for the needed transportation system to complete the project. .

The Feather River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD) is serving as the contract administrator for this project and will be the contractor's point of contact for day-to-day issues and for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) components of the project. For some of the more technical issues, contractor will be communicating with representatives of the USDA Forest Service which is the entity that sets final standards for surveying and report writing.

3. SCOPE OF WORK



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Summary: The contractor will provide SEPES surveys to identify possible erosion sites occurring on roads, landings and trails within the project area. Additionally, the contractor will identify design features that will mitigate potential environmental effects to soils and water within the North Quincy Wildfire Resiliency Project. An assessment of the transportation network to assess haul potential is also included within this RFP. The surveys and associated reporting must be conducted such that they will meet the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and all other relevant Federal, State, and Local laws and regulations. Deliverables are as stated below:

1. Complete Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Sites (SEPES) surveys and associated report
 - a. Collect field data on the road and trail system accessing and within project units including potential water drafting locations; the resulting data will be used to create a table and map of SEPES (Significant Existing or Potential Erosion Sites) This will be supplied to PNF watershed personnel, and the contractor will meet with PNF and Central Valley Waterboard personnel to discuss potential fixes to erosion sites. Fixes for erosion sites will then be added to contractor's report and included in the Proposed Action.
 - b. 31.5 miles of system- and non-system roads and 38.7 miles of trails in treatment units have been mapped and considered for SEPES etc.
2. Provide an assessment of the transportation network in terms of road condition and haul potential, in coordination with a Plumas National Forest engineering rep.

After initial (existing condition) analyses and the Proposed Actions for the project are finalized, a meeting will be scheduled with contractor, FRRCD staff, and PNF watershed and engineering personnel to finalize design features (e.g., equipment exclusion zones, transportation system changes, strategy for permanent fuel breaks, etc.).

4. QUALIFICATIONS

Contractor must include on its team a lead consultant with the following qualifications:

- A graduate degree in geoscience, biology, hydrology, soils, or closely related field
- At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in hydrology/geology/soils research, administration, or management
- At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in hydrology/geology
- Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion.

As part of their proposals, prospective bidders should describe experiences with SEPES surveys and reporting, specifically those completed on National Forest System projects. List up to 3 specific projects which demonstrate experience. Provide a minimum of three references for similar projects, with name and phone number.

If you have completed projects with FRRCD before, please list the most recent project or proposal. Include a resume of each key person to be assigned to the project. If subcontractors are to be used, provide the name and qualifications of the subcontractor.



5. PROJECT LOCATION

The Feather River Resource Conservation District and USDA Forest Service, Mt Hough Ranger District propose to complete forest restoration and fuels reduction treatments on approximately 9,000 acres around the community of Quincy in Plumas County, California. Proposed activities would occur on National Forest System (NFS) Land. The project will also incorporate approximately 300 acres of private industrial and non-industrial forests that are adjacent to proposed treatments on NFS lands.

The North Quincy Wildfire Resilience Project is located near populated areas north of American Valley. The project spans from Snake Lake to the west and aligns with Chandler Road towards the east, ending at the junction of CA Highway 70 and Chandler Road. To the north, the project spans the east and west side of Highway 70, culminating at the community of Keddie.

The legal location of the project is: T 24N R 08E S 1,2; T 24N R09E S 1 – 12; T 24N R 10E S 4-6, 8, 9, 15, 16; T 25N R 09E S 22, 25-27, 34-36; T 25N R 10E S 31. Mt Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM). A more detailed project description ("North Quincy PIL") can be found in Attachment C of this document.

6. PRE-BID TOUR

Attendance in a pre-bid tour is not a requirement of this RFP. Georeferenced PDF maps of the project area will be made available to prospective bidders. It is expected that potential bidders familiarize themselves with the project area through preliminary research and if necessary, a self guided site visit.

7. ESTIMATED CONTRACT START AND TIMING OF WORK

This contract is anticipated to commence in October 2022.

Timeline: Tentative deadlines are as follows:

Date	Task Completed
November 31, 2022	• Field Survey of SEPES
January 13, 2023	• Complete SEPES report
December 30, 2022	• Road Analysis Assessment
January 13, 2023	• Road Analysis Report

7. BID PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please keep bid proposals to less than 7 pages if possible, not including references. Prospective bidders are to include the following within their bid:

1. Bid Template for price per unit and price per Contract Item Number – See corresponding bid sheet.
2. Response to Evaluation Factors – All sections completed. See EXHIBIT B



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Bid Contract Items:

Bids shall provide cost estimate for the item listed below.

1. Complete SEPES surveys and associated report
2. Transportation network assessment

Bid item descriptions are described in “3. Scope of Work” above.

Bid Date:

The contractor shall provide a bid for the bid item no later than October 8, 2022.

Bids shall be received:

at Feather River Resource Conservation District, PO Box 3562, Quincy, CA

96971, or emailed to mhall@frrcd.org.

8. PAYMENT

1. Invoices

Contractor shall submit an invoice to the Feather River Resource Conservation District for compensation and reimbursable expenses incurred. Invoices will be submitted no more frequently than every 30 days, and no less frequently than every 90 days. Each invoice shall be broken down by contract/work items, and included for each item shall be the following information:

- Work item descriptions
- Number of units (i.e. acres/ miles) completed per work item this period
- Cost per completed unit by work item this period
- Total cost to each work item this period
- Total invoice amount this period
- Total cost incurred to date

Final invoice shall be marked Final.

2. Invoice Submittal

The Contractor shall send invoices for each payment when due to:

Feather River Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 3562
Quincy, CA 95971

3. Payment

As full consideration for performance of the Scope of Work, the District will pay Contractor at an established rate per Contract Line Item basis, in accordance with scope of work and deliverables outlined in this contract. This contract amount shall be inclusive of all taxes incurred. The District will pay the contractor for fully acceptable work at the prices bid in the bid template, less deductions for other items as identified in the contract.



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Expenses.

No travel or other expenses will be reimbursed by FRRCD other than amounts included in the final agreement.

Maximum Amount

The maximum payments under this agreement shall not exceed the agreed upon amount specified in the contract]. Such amounts shall not be construed as guaranteed sums, compensation will be based on services actually rendered and expenses incurred.

Budget Contingency Clause

If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted for purposes of this program, FRRCD shall have the option to either cancel this agreement with no liability occurring to FRRCD or offer an amendment to RPF to reflect the reduced amount

Contract Release.

Before final payment will be made, the Contractor shall sign a release of all claims against the District arising by virtue of this contract, other than claims, in stated amounts, that the Contractor has specifically excepted from the operation of the release.

4. Terms of Payment

Payment will be by itemized invoice. All payments will be made to Contractor, subject to District approval, within 90 days. The District shall make checks payable to the (contractor business name) and mail to:

(contractor business name and address)

9. AMENDMENTS

1. Change in Work

The District reserves the right to make such changes in scope of work as may be necessary or desirable, and any difference in scope of work and/or contract price resulting from such changes shall be agreed upon in writing by Contractor.

2. Additional Work

Before proceeding with any work involving possible claims for extra compensation not specified in the Contract, Contractor shall submit in writing to the District with a detailed breakdown and estimated cost of anticipated contract work including extensions and change orders as follows:

- Description of work to be performed including detailed breakdown by identifiable work items.
- Estimated cost of each work item by unit.
- Expected date of completion of each work item.



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Contractor shall not proceed with any such additional work prior to receiving written authorization of Change Order by the District.

3. Authorization

No modification or change to this Agreement that is beyond the Scope of Work described herein shall be binding or effective unless expressly set forth in writing and signed by the District's Executive Officer. The staff of either party to this Contract are not authorized to make modifications or changes to this Contract that are beyond the Scope of Work agreed upon. The modification or change is not effective until the District provides written approval. Contractor agrees that all costs for any such modification or change that is performed without prior written approval shall be at Contractor's sole risk and expense.

10. CONTRACTOR INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Contractor must hold insurance that meets the following Insurance Requirements:

Prior to rendering services, the contractor and his/her subcontractors shall acquire, and maintain during the term of this Agreement, at Contractor's sole expense: (1) Workers' Compensation Insurance conforming to the statutory requirements of the state in which operations under this agreement are performed; (2) comprehensive general and automobile bodily injury liability insurance written on an "occurrence" basis subject to minimum limits of \$1,000,000.00 each person and \$1,000,000.00 each occurrence; and (3) general property damage insurance subject to a minimum of \$1,000,000.00 with not more than a \$10,000.00 deductible each loss; and All liability insurance coverage shall provide that subcontractors working for the contractor are covered under the terms of contractor's policies. All insurance shall meet the approval of the District and all policies evidencing said insurance shall provide for thirty days' prior written notice to the District before cancellation or material change in the policy. A certificate of Insurance showing evidence of insurance coverage as specified herein shall be furnished to the District prior to commencement of Contractor's operations.

11. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Price, Technical Approach, Availability, Past Performance, and Community Benefit will be considered for the "Best Value" evaluation

12. AWARD OF CONTRACT

The District has evaluated proposals and awarded the contract resulting from this solicitation to that offeror: (1) whose proposal is technically acceptable and (2) whose technical/price relationship is the most advantageous to the District. Award may not necessarily be made for technical capabilities that would appear to exceed those needed for the successful performance of the work. The District reserves the right to make price/technical trade-offs that are in the best interest and to the advantage of the District. The District may reject any or all offers if such action is determined to be in the best interest of the District. FRRCD reserves the right to select different contractors for the different tasks.



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13. CONTRACT OFFICER

Name: Michael Hall

Telephone Number: (530) 927-5299

Email: mhall@frrcd.org

14. ATTACHMENTS

- ATTACHMENT A: GENERAL CONDITIONS
- ATTACHMENT B: RESPONSE THE EVALUATION CRITERIA
- ATTACHMENT C: PROJECT DESCRITPION (NORTH QUINCY PIL)



ATTACHMENT A: GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Worker's Compensation Clause

Contractor agrees to comply with provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code which requires every employer to be insured against liability for workers' compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that Code, before commencing the performance of the work under this Contract. Contractor will make its subcontractors aware of this provision and determine that they have complied with it before commencing work on the project. Volunteer laborers are exempt from the workers' compensation provision of the California Labor Code.

2. National Labor Relations Board Clause

In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 10296, Contractor declares under penalty of perjury that no more than one final, unappealable finding of contempt of court by a federal court has been issued against the Contractor within the immediately preceding two-year period because of Contractor's failure to comply with an order of a federal court which orders Contractor to comply with an order of the National Labor Relations Board.

3. Nondiscrimination Clause

During the performance of this Contract, Contractor, its contractors, and subcontractors shall not deny the Contract's benefit to any person on the basis of religion, color, ethnic group identification, sex, age, physical or mental disability, nor shall they discriminate unlawfully against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age (over 40), or sex. Contractor shall insure that the evaluation and treatment of employees and applicants for employment are free of such discrimination. Contractor, its contractor, and subcontractor shall comply with the provisions of the Fair Employment and Housing Act (Government Code Section 12900 et seq.) and the regulations promulgated thereunder (California Administrative Code, Title 2 Sections 7285.0 et seq.), the provisions of Article 9.5, Chapter 1, Part 1, Division 3, Title 2 of the Government Code (Government Code Section 11135-11139.5), and the regulations or standards adopted by the awarding State agency to implement such article.

Contractor, its contractors, and subcontractors shall give written notice of their obligations under this clause to labor organizations with which they have a collective bargaining or other agreement.

Contractor shall include the nondiscrimination and compliance provision of this clause in all subcontracts to perform work under the Contract.

Contractor, its contractors, and subcontractors shall permit access by representatives of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and the awarding State agency, upon reasonable notice, at any time during the normal business hours, but in no case less than 24-hours' notice, to such of its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as said Department or Agency shall require to ascertain compliance with this clause. The Contractor's signature on this contract shall constitute a certification under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the Contractor has,



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unless exempted, complied with the nondiscrimination program requirements of Government Code Section 12990 and Title 2, California Code of Regulations Section 8103.

4. Hold Harmless

Contractor agrees to mutually hold harmless the District, their agents or employees and to hold the same free and harmless from any and all claims, demands, damages, losses, costs, expenses or liability due or incident to, either in whole or in part, and whether directly or indirectly, related to the project resulting from any and all contractors, subcontractors, materialmen, laborers and any other person, firm or corporation furnishing or supplying work, services, materials or supplies in connection with the performance of this contract, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person, firm or corporation who may be injured or damaged by the District in the performance of this contract, except all claims due to willful negligence or fraud.

5. Compliance With Laws, Regulations, Permit Requirements

Contractor shall at all times comply with, and require its contractors and subcontractors to comply with, all applicable federal and State laws, rules and regulations, permit and all applicable local ordinances, specifically including but not limited to environmental, procurement and safety laws, rules, regulations, permits and ordinances.

6. Successors and Assigns

This Contract and all of its provisions shall apply to and bind the successors and assigns of the parties hereto. No assignment or transfer of this Contract or any part hereof, rights hereunder or interest herein by the Contractor shall be valid unless and until it is approved by FRRCD and made subject to such reasonable terms and conditions as the FRRCD may impose.

7. Audit Requirement

Pursuant to Government Code Section 10532, the contracting parties shall be subject to the examination and audit of the State and the State Auditor General for a period of three years after final payment under this Contract with respect to all matters connected with the performance of this Contract, including but not limited to the cost of administering this Contract. All records of the Contractor shall be preserved for this purpose for at least three years after completion of the project.

8. Remedies Not Exclusive

The use by either party of any remedy specified herein for the enforcement of this Contract is not exclusive and shall not deprive the party using such remedy of, or limit the application of, any other remedy provided by law.

9. Amendments

This Contract may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the parties, except insofar as any proposed amendments are in any way contrary to applicable law. Requests for amendments must be in writing stating the amendment request and the reason for the request. Amendment agreements will be in writing, signed by the authorized representative of each party, and become an Exhibit of the contract.

10. Waiver of Rights



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It is the intention of the parties hereto that from time to time either party may waive any of its rights under this Contract unless contrary to law. Any waiver by either party hereto of rights arising in connection with this Contract shall not be deemed to be a waiver with respect to any other rights or matters.

11. Warranty/Standard of Professionalism

Contractor warrants to the District that the work under this Contract shall be performed with the degree of skill and care that is required by current, good, and sound professional procedures and practices and in conformance with generally accepted professional standards prevailing at the time the work is performed so as to ensure that the services performed are correct and appropriate for the purposes contemplated in this Contract and related specifications.

12. Delivery and Retention of Records

To the extent that the District does not otherwise specifically request delivery of records or results, Contractor agrees to retain all records and results of work performed under this Contract for a period of not less than two years from the date the final invoice is accepted by the District. At the District's request, Contractor will deliver a copy of any or all original notes, investigative notes, tests, photographs, records, calculations, summaries, reports, and records produced and collected in the course of the work performed under this Contract.

13. Cancellation

The District may cancel this Contract, in part or in whole, for the District's convenience upon 30 days written notice. In the event of cancellation, the District will pay Contractor for services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of cancellation. Any reports, drawings, or other documents prepared for the District prior to the effective date of such cancellation shall be delivered to the District by Contractor. The Contractor may cancel this Contract for any reason upon 30 days written notice. Contractor shall not enter into any agreements, commitments, or subcontracts which would incur significant cancellation costs without prior written approval of the District. Such written approval is a condition precedent to the payment of any cancellation charges by the District.

14. Suspension of Work

The Contracting Officer may order the Contractor, in writing, to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of the work of this contract for the period of time that the Contracting Officer determines appropriate for the convenience of the District.

If the performance of all or any part of the work is, for an unreasonable period of time, suspended, delayed, or interrupted (1) by an act of the Contracting Officer in the administration of this contract, or (2) by the Contracting Officer's failure to act within the time specified in this contract (or within a reasonable time if not specified), an adjustment shall be made for any increase in the cost of performance of this contract (excluding profit) necessarily caused by the unreasonable suspension, delay, or interruption, and the contract modified in writing accordingly. However, no adjustment shall be made under this clause for any suspension, delay, or interruption to the extent that performance would have been so suspended, delayed, or interrupted by any other cause, including the fault or negligence of the Contractor, or for which an equitable adjustment is provided for or excluded under any other term or condition of this contract.



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A claim under this clause shall not be allowed (1) for any costs incurred more than 20 days before the Contractor shall have notified the Contracting Officer in writing of the act or failure to act involved (but this requirement shall not apply as to a claim resulting from a suspension order), and (2) unless the claim, in an amount stated, is asserted in writing as soon as practicable after the termination of the suspension, delay, or interruption, but not later than the date of final payment under the contract.

15. Availability of Information

The District's duly authorized representatives shall have, during the term of the contract and for three (3) years thereafter, access at all reasonable times to all of Contractor's and its subcontractors' personnel, accounts and records of all description, including but not limited to digital and hard-copy files, pertaining to the Contract to verify or review the quantity, quality, work program and progress of the work, reimbursable costs, amounts claimed by Contractor, estimates of cost for fixed rates including those applicable to proposed changes, and for any other reasonable purposes.

This provision shall apply to all contracts except those performed solely on a lump-sum basis. However, where lump-sum and time and materials work (unit price, reimbursable cost, fixed rates, etc.) are performed together, either as a part of this Contract or as separate contracts, then the above audit privilege shall also extend to the District access to all Contractor's records pertaining to all contracts including the lump-sum for assurance that the portions of the work performed on a time and materials basis are not being charged with time, material or other units or cost which are intended to be covered by lump-sum or fixed rates, etc. provided herein, supplement hereto or in such other agreements.

Contractor's and its subcontractors' accounts shall be kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the particular industry and shall be kept in such a manner and in sufficient detail to clearly disclose the nature and amounts of the different items of service and cost pertaining to the Contract and the basis for charges or allocations to the Contract.

Contractor agrees to maintain records for possible audit for a minimum of three (3) years after final payment, unless a longer period of records retention is stipulated. Contractor agrees to allow auditor(s) access to such records during normal business hours and to allow interviews of any employees who might reasonably have information related to such records. Per requirements of the state grant funding for this project, Contractor agrees to allow the District, or their designated representative, the right to review and to copy any records and supporting documentation pertaining to the performance of this contract. Further, Contractor shall allow the State to audit records and interview staff related to performance of this Agreement. (Gov. Code §8546.7, Pub. Contract Code, CCR Title 2, Section 1896).

16. Compliance with Tax Reform Act of 1986

Contractor represents and warrants that it will withhold all taxes, if any, which are required to be withheld under applicable law with respect to payments to persons hired by Contractor who perform services for the District. Contractor shall indemnify and hold the District harmless, on an after-tax basis, for any liability incurred by the District as a result of Contractor's failure to institute any such required withholding.

17. Choice of Laws



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This Contract shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California excluding any choice of law rules which may direct the application of the laws of another jurisdiction.

18. Nonwaiver

The waiver by either party of any breach of any term, covenant, or condition contained in this Contract or any default in the performance of any obligations under this Contract shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other breach or default of the same or any other term, covenant, condition, or obligation. Nor shall any waiver of any incident of breach or default constitute a continuing waiver of same.

19. Enforceability

In the event that any of the provisions or the application of any of the provisions of this Contract are held to be illegal or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, District and Contractor shall negotiate an equitable adjustment in the provisions of this Contract with a view toward effectuating the purpose of this Contract. The illegality or invalidity of any of the provisions or the application of any of the provisions of this Contract shall not affect the legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions of the Contract.

20. Incidental and Consequential Damages

The District shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages including, but not limited to, loss of profits, commitments to subcontractors, rental or lease agreement(s), and personal services contracts unless expressly authorized in writing by the District.

21. Prior Work

Services performed by Contractor pursuant to the District's authorization, but before the execution of this Contract, shall be considered as having been performed subject to the provisions of this Contract.

22. Force Majeure

Neither the District nor Contractor shall be considered in default in the performance of its obligations under this Contract, except obligations to make payments hereunder, for work previously performed to the extent that the performance of any such obligation is prevented or delayed by any cause, existing or future, which is beyond the reasonable control of the affected party. In the event either party claims that performance of its obligations was prevented or delayed by any such cause, that party shall promptly notify the other parties of that fact and of the circumstances preventing or delaying performance. Such party so claiming a cause-delayed performance shall endeavor, to the extent reasonable, to remove the obstacles which preclude performance.

23. Integration

This Contract contains the entire agreement and understanding between the parties as to the subject matter of the Contract. It merges and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous agreements, commitments, representations, writings, and discussions between District and Contractor, whether oral or written, and has been induced by no representations, statements, or agreements other than those



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expressed herein. Neither party shall be bound by any prior or contemporaneous obligations, conditions, warranties, or representations with respect to the subject matter of this Contract.

ATTACHMENT B: RESPONSE TO EVALUATION CRITERIA

Name of the firm:

Business address:

Name of person completing form:

Experience of the Firm

What contracts has your firm performed which are similar in scope, magnitude, and complexity to this project? (You need not list more than 3.)

Name of Project	Type of Project	Scope/magnitude	Work performed for	Completion Date

What other contracts has your firm performed in the past three years that would show your firm's capability to undertake this project?

Name of Project	Type of Project	Scope/magnitude	Work performed for	Completion Date



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Provide qualifications of the individual or individuals that will be assigned to this contract.

If yours is a new firm or has no directly relevant experience, how do you propose to acquire the expertise to perform the contract? (*e.g., subcontracting arrangements [list subcontractors and their experience], hiring experts [list key personnel and their experience]*)

Past Performance Information

Whom may we contact concerning your performance on the projects listed above? (If reference is for a subcontractor or key person, identify which subcontractor/key person is referenced.)

Name	Address	Phone	e-mail	Project(s)

Understanding of the Work

a) How extensive was your site visit for this project? (*e.g., 'didn't visit;' 'drove by some areas;' 'walked each acre.'*)



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b) What did the site visit reveal about the comparative difficulty of the project—e.g., the problems that are likely to be encountered during performance?

e) What is your plan for safety at the job site(s)? Identify the hazards specific to the site(s) and the types of work being performed and how you plan to mitigate the risks—to your workers, District, FS inspectors, and the public. In a statement about your safety record, training, and plan for this project, please address, among other details, a communications plan, egress of injured workers, a traffic control plan for roads, and protection of the public, District, and Government personnel.

f) What average production rate do you expect to achieve over the course of this project? (This rate should be reflected in your price breakdown as well.)

g) What sequence of work are you planning to ensure timely completion of the project? (*i.e., what areas or work processes will be done first? next? last?*)



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h) What contracts do you currently have scheduled to which you will need to commit resources during the period for the performance of this project?

Name of Project	Type of Project	Scope/magnitude	Work performed for	Phone	Completion Date

g) How do you plan to address quality control (meeting all contract specification requirements), and ensuring no work is completed outside the unit or within control areas.



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ATTACHMENT C: PROJECT DESCRIPTION (North Quincy PIL)

Project Name	North Quincy Fire Resiliency Project
Initial determination of type of analysis	EA
Responsible Official	District Ranger

General Project Information

Location

The North Quincy Fire Resiliency Project encompasses approximately 9,000 acres extending from the town of Quincy on the south to Snake Lake on the northwest and Spanish Creek on the north and northeast. Please see attached map.

History of the Project

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy, a California State Agency, administers the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) with the goal of creating fire adapted communities and landscapes. Under the current phase of the RFFCP, the Conservancy is providing grants to support partner capacity and implementation of demonstration projects.

In January 2022, the Feather River Resource Conservation District (FRRCD) applied for a grant from the RFFCP to conduct environmental compliance (NEPA/CEQA) on a fire-resiliency project on an area of 7,456 acres administered by the Plumas National Forest just north of Quincy. The Forest Service agreed to provide matching funds.

The project, which has now been funded, is called the North Quincy Fire Resiliency Project. This project will not only achieve land management goals within the project area, it will also provide an opportunity for the FRRCD to develop capacity in environmental planning. With this project, the FRRCD will gain the skills it needs to develop, plan, and implement larger and more complex projects in the future that meet the needs of the upper Feather River watershed, its communities, and the USDA Forest Service.



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Since the grant was awarded, additional discussions were held between the FRRCD, the Forest Service, other local cooperators, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, resulting in additional changes to the proposed project area. Specifically, the project has been expanded to include private lands adjacent to the original 7,456 acres as well as some additional National Forest System lands identified by the Forest Service.

For this project, the Forest Service will be the lead NEPA agency and the FRRCD will be the lead CEQA agency. However, both NEPA and CEQA documentation will be prepared primarily by the FRRCD. The Forest Service will review the documentation and analysis; identify necessary changes; and, when the changes have been adequately addressed, provide authorizations as appropriate.

Proposed Action

This project will consist primarily of fuel reduction and forest resiliency treatments in unburned stands. The following is a list of activities that should be analyzed to meet this goal.

- Green Tree Thinning utilizing partial-tree and whole-tree logging
- Establishment and maintenance of permanent fire control lines
- Mastication / Chipping
- Lop and scatter
- Hand and machine piling
- Herbicide use
- Prescribed fire, including broadcast burning, jackpot burning, and pile burning
- Connected actions such as those described in the “Decision Framework” section below.

The project should also consider continued maintenance of the treatment areas to ensure that the benefits of fire and forest resiliency do not automatically decline over time.

Purpose and Need:

The overarching purpose of this project is to improve the project area’s long-term resiliency to high severity wildfire, prolonged drought, climate change, and pathogens such as insects and disease. If additions or adjustments to this purpose and need are identified, they should be made before the scoping period commences.



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Project Design

Forest Plan Consistency and Possible Amendments

The entire project area is located within Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) as described by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (Sierra Nevada Framework). Within the WUI, land can be designated “defense zone” or “threat zone.” Both the outer edge of the entire WUI as well as the boundary between the defense zone and threat zone can be adjusted based on new knowledge of where communities need protection as well as input from local fire safe councils. These adjustments will need to be made early in the planning process. Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs) are another land allocation found within the project area that overlies the WUI. Activities within RCAs will need to be consistent with RCA objectives which will require additional design features to protect soils and aquatic habitat and reduce erosion.

This project will be consistent with the Plumas National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) as amended by the 2004 Record of Decision for the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment. It is not anticipated that a forest plan amendment will be necessary.

Known or anticipated issues:

A portion of this project intersects the Mt Hough State Game Refuge. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife will need to engage with this project.

Implementation may be limited by lack of road coverage. As a result, changes in the road system (such as construction of temporary roads) may be proposed. Conversely, decommissioning of roads and user-created trails to reduce watershed effects may be proposed to mitigate the effects of project treatments. Whenever changes to the road or trail system are proposed, the public is likely to raise issues related to those actions.

Some of the issues which have been raised by members of the public on recent, similar projects are as follows:

- Impacts to Scenery
- WUI Designation
- Removal of trees over 24 inches DBH
- Changes to Carbon Stocks



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- Significance of impacts (request to prepare an EIS)
- Effect of forest management on fire behavior
- Carbon Emissions
- Cumulative effects, including the effects of the Dixie Fire
- Effects on wildlife refugia
- Change in forest structure due to proposed forest management

Potential Alternatives

The Feather River RCD will analyze public scoping comments and Plumas NF internal concerns to develop an action alternative that meets the purpose and need while keeping effects less than significant. Additional alternatives may be developed if there are unresolvable conflicts identified through the scoping process and initial analysis. However, a single action alternative and a no-action alternative may also be sufficient.

Decision Framework:

To meet tight timelines, the project will need to be designed so that a determination of no significant effect can be made with a minimum of field data collection. The majority of field data collection will then occur after the signing of the decision document (post-decisional surveys) and will identify sensitive areas on the landscape where treatments need to be modified. Implementation contracts (timber sales, stewardship contracts, service contracts) will then apply predetermined resource protection measures and mitigations identified in the NEPA/CEQA document to portions of the landscape where post-decisional surveys have identified sensitive areas.

As this project is being planned by a California special district and funded primarily with state funds, there are some differences between this project and other similar projects. First, the project will authorize activities on private lands. Second, CEQA analysis will be prepared along with NEPA analysis—some of the style and terminology may be different from standard Plumas NF NEPA—but as long as the documentation is correct and does not violate laws, regulations, or written policy, I expect that changes suggested by the review team will be kept to a minimum. Third, the purpose of this project is to improve forest resiliency to wildfire; it is not within the scope of this project to address all the restoration needs and public desires that may exist within the project area.

Some connected actions that may be part of the project design include:

- Road improvements for access such as repair, reconstruction, or construction of temporary roads



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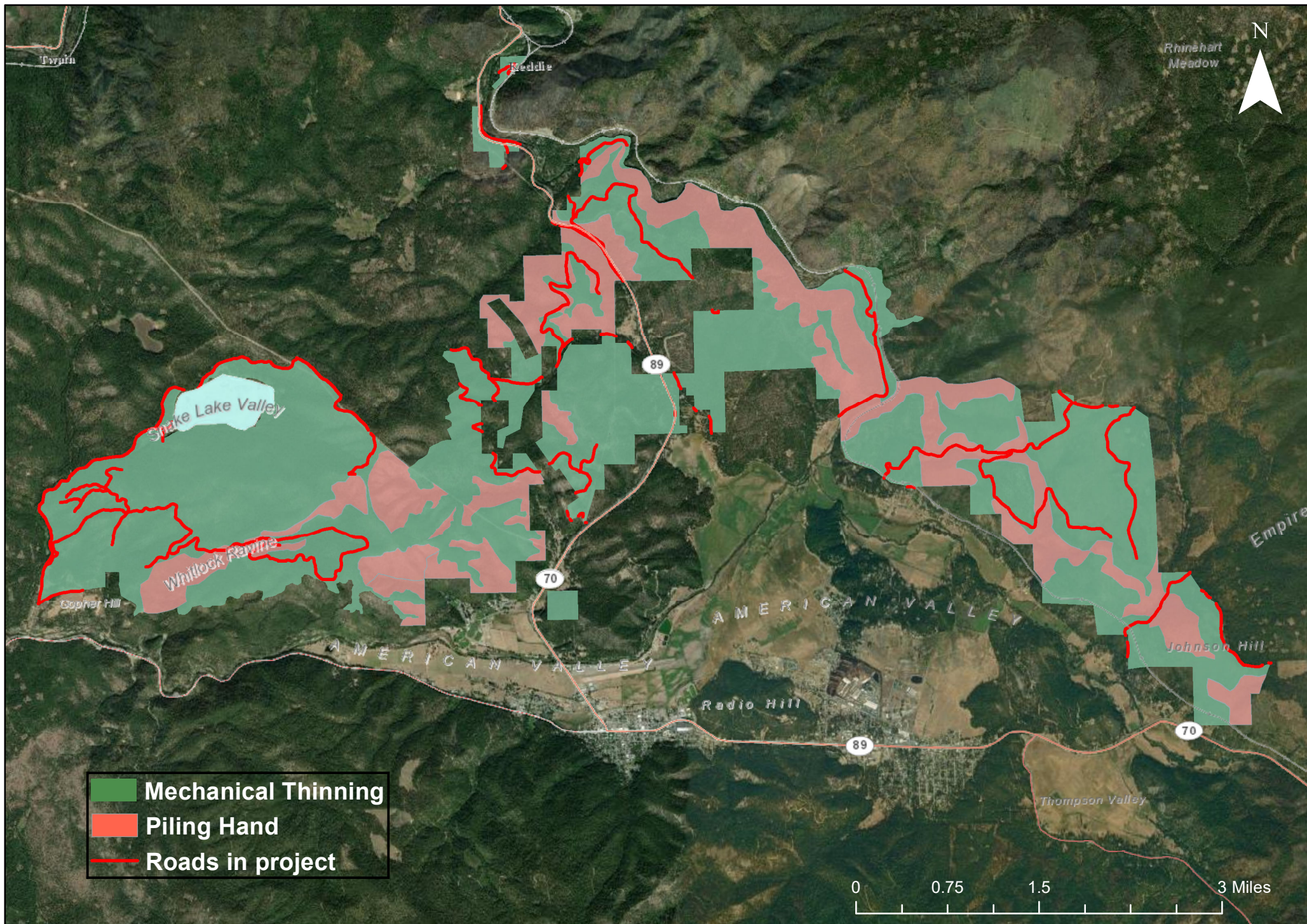
- Road restoration to mitigate project effects to soils and hydrology such as road realignment, decommissioning, or other treatment of SEPES (significant existing or potential erosion sites)
- Repair and obliteration of dozer lines and other activities related to fire suppression to mitigate project effects to soils and hydrology

Activities such as recreation improvements, general watershed restoration, or habitat restoration are outside of the scope of this project.

It is not anticipated that this will be a Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project authorized under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) but will instead rely on standard NEPA regulations. If FRRCD and the review team desire to apply HFRA rules, that decision should be made before the initial scoping period begins.

There are no known landscape designations that would require additional reports or briefings. This project is being planned under the assumption that there will not be an Emergency Situation Determination (ESD). However, the project scoping notice will include language that the Forest may pursue an ESD or Emergency Area Determination prior to NEPA decision. If an ESD is desired, the District/ Forest will need to take the lead on reporting and briefings. A state game refuge is located at the northeastern edge of the project area, but concerns should be minimal and are expected to be resolvable during public/interagency involvement process. It is unlikely but possible that a small area of inventoried roadless area (IRA) intersects the project area. If so, the IRA should either be carved out of the project area or treated and analyzed in a way that is consistent with the roadless rule.

System Roads and Vegetation Treatment in North Quincy Project Area



Trails, Roads, Dozer Lines and Powerlines within North Quincy Project

