

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ADDENDUM #1**

RELEASE DATE: May 25, 2021

PROJECT TITLE: “East Garberville Shaded Fuel Break Mastication”

The purpose of this Addendum is to modify the Contract Documents for the subject project. This Addendum shall become part of said Contract Documents.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM REFERS TO THE PROJECT SUMMARY:

Item 1. REVISION: Replace the Project Summary on pages 2 and 3 of the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Project will reduce fire hazard through removal of excess vegetation on approximately 5.0 acres of the wildland – urban interface adjacent to Garberville, California to achieve a shaded fuel break. The objectives of this Project are to:

1. Significantly reduce live and dead surface fuels including brush and small trees to slow the spread rate and intensity of wildfire and improve accessibility and visibility should firefighters be deployed within treatment units.
2. Reduce ladder fuels; trees whose crowns are beneath the general level of the main canopy with lower limbs that are dense enough to pass fire from the surface into the main canopy.
3. Retain tree cover to maintain sufficient shade to slow the regrowth of vegetation in the understory.

Vegetation along existing roads will be treated using a masticator affixed to appropriate equipment. Heavy equipment will be confined to the existing road prism or landings. In areas where the existing canopy is too open to suppress re-growth of shrubs, established seedlings and saplings of tree species will be retained. Seedlings and saplings will be selected based on species and vigor and located where openings in the canopy exist.

No commercial harvest activities would occur under the proposed project.

The Project is designed to avoid or minimize impacts to cultural sites, sensitive plant and wildlife species, and special habitats, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be implemented to avoid any erosion during project activities.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM REFERS TO THE SCOPE OF WORK:

Item 2. REVISION: Replace the Scope of Work on pages 3 and 4 of the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

SCOPE OF WORK

Vegetation along roads within the defined Project Area may be treated using a masticator head affixed to appropriate equipment. The RCD has identified a masticator treatment unit along the length of a 3,836 ft logging/fire road. The masticator unit is located in the general area identified in **Project Area Map (Exhibit**

B). The total acreage of mastication, assuming a 30' maximum reach from the center of the road, is 5.0+/- acres. Mastication is to occur on both sides of the road, other than along a designated 320 ft section of road near the residence where mastication will only occur on the east side of the road. Approximately, 1,830 linear feet of the road is accessible and mostly clear of vegetation; whereas the remaining of 2,005 linear ft of the roadway is overgrown with vegetation and requires vegetation removal within the road prism.

Mastication Treatment

CONTRACTOR equipment may include the use of a masticator head affixed to appropriate equipment. CONTRACTOR shall furnish fuel and all supplies for equipment maintenance. Equipment shall be cleaned before entering the Project Area to prevent spread of noxious weeds and pathogens. Equipment should be free of leaks in good operating condition, and have spark arresting equipment or a supercharger. Equipment should have one serviceable round point shovel with an overall length of not less than forty-six (46) inches and one backpack pump water-type fire extinguisher fully equipped and ready for use at the immediate area during the operations.

Performance measures for mastication are:

Trees:

- a. Mastication of trees generally not exceeding 4" dbh, and mastication of all trees exceeding 4" dbh that are flagged with orange flagging. All masticated stumps should be cut to within 4" of the ground. Masticated vegetation should be cut or broken into small pieces, generally no greater than 18" in length. A certain amount of secondary processing may be necessary to eliminate larger pieces of fuel.
- b. Trunks of felled trees do not need to be masticated and may remain whole if the remaining trunk is greater than 2" in diameter and is resting flat on ground, with full ground contact, except in the instances when the trunks are resting on the roadway and are required to be removed.
- c. Trees that comprise the main canopy are not to be cut except where necessary to clear the road or to make room for passage of the equipment.
- d. Down trees crossing the road will be limbed and bucked to lengths that allow for good ground contact and removed from roadway or shredded. Shredded material may be left on the road surface to protect against soil erosion. It has been noted that a 34" diameter Douglas-fir log, partially rotted and lying across the roadway must be ground with the masticator or moved out of the way.
- e. All trees not removed will be pruned to a height of no less than 6' above the ground retaining 33% minimum crown. Pruning of individual tree limbs should be done using the masticator to within 6" of the main bole, but damage to the main bole must be avoided. Trees tall enough to accommodate higher limbing (given the 33% minimum crown threshold) shall be treated as such, to the extent of available reach of the masticator.

Shrubs/brush

- a. Shrubs and understory less than 15' tall will be removed and shredded, unless marked for retention with yellow flagging.
- b. Brush cover should be reduced to the extent possible while avoiding damage to trees to be retained. Brush that is retained should be cut to the maximum of 4" in height. No individual pieces of cut material should be longer than 18" in length.

Road Prism:

- a. Any vegetation growing in the roadway is to be masticated within 4" of ground.

- b. No masticated vegetation is to remain in roadway other than shredded material, which may be left on the road surface to protect against soil erosion.

Dead/Downed Material:

- a. Dead and downed material smaller than 2" diameter should be masticated and be cut or broken into small pieces, generally no greater than 18" in length and debris should average no more than 4" in depth.
- b. Dead and downed material greater than 2" in diameter and resting flat on ground, with full ground contact, except in the instances when the debris is resting on the roadway, do not need to be masticated.

General:

- a. All masticated stumps should be cut to within 4" of the ground and should be left blunt rather than pointed to allow hand crews to safely traverse the area on foot and/or allow vehicle access along roadway.
- b. No debris should average more than 4" in depth over the entire project area.
- c. Masticated vegetation should cut or broken into small pieces, generally no greater than 18" in length.
- d. CONTRACTOR should anticipate flagging to indicate special cases for removal and retention, as described above.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM REFERS TO THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES):

Item 3. REVISION: Replace Fire Prevention on page 6 of the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

Fire Prevention:

- RCD will coordinate with the CONTRACTOR to stop or reduce work hours during periods of increased predicted fire risk based on local fuel and weather data. CONTRACTOR should anticipate work stoppage to occur during Red Flag Warnings or days with Adjective Ratings of Very High or Above

THE FOLLOWING ITEM REFERS TO THE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Item 4. REVISION: Replace the Cost Proposal on page 9 of the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

Cost Proposal: The Cost Proposal will be submitted based on the Schedule of Items. Estimated quantities are based upon the best available information at the time of advertisement of the RFP. The acreages for mastication are estimated based on the width of the road prism and assuming a 30' maximum reach from the center of the road. The actual acreages for mastication may vary based on the CONTRACTOR's equipment and reach; the unit prices and actual acres masticated will be the basis of payment. The unit prices will remain firm and will not be negotiated. In case of discrepancy between unit prices and totals, unit prices will prevail.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM REFERS TO EXHIBIT B – PROPOSAL TEMPLATE & SCHEDULE OF ITEMS *An updated EXHIBIT B will be posted online:

Item 5. REVISION: Replace the Cost Proposal from EXHIBIT B – Proposal Template & Schedule of Items from the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

Cost Proposal: Submit a unit price and total price for the work outlined in the **Schedule of Items**, below. The Cost Proposal will be submitted based on the Schedule of Items. Estimated quantities are based upon the best available information at the time of advertisement of the RFP. The acreages for mastication are estimated based on the width of the road prism and assuming a 30’ maximum reach from the center of the road. The actual acreages for mastication may vary based on the CONTRACTOR’s equipment and reach; the unit prices and actual acres masticated will be the basis of payment. The unit prices will remain firm and will not be negotiated. In case of discrepancy between unit prices and totals, unit prices will prevail.

Item 6. REVISION: Replace the Schedule of Items from EXHIBIT B – Proposal Template & Schedule of Items from the Request For Proposals dated May 13, 2021 with the following:

Schedule of Items

ITEM NO.	TREATMENT	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	Mastication	5.0	Acres		
2	Optional Tree Felling – 22” DBH Douglas Fir	1	Lump Sum		
3	Optional Tree Felling – 14” DBH Douglas Fir	1	Lump Sum		
4	Optional Tree Felling – 26” DBH Douglas Fir	1	Lump Sum		
Total Cost					

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE INTENDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES:

Item 7. BIDDERS’ QUESTIONS:

- 1. The project area assumes a 30 ft reach of the masticator from the edge of the road. If the excavator can only reach 24ft, is there an option to have hand crews work the remaining 6ft.**

The language in the RFP has been revised as detailed above to clarify that the project area is calculated at 30’ from the center of the road. The RCD assumes that the road is 12’ wide on average. The RCD acknowledges that the road may be narrower than 12’ in some locations, and therefore equipment may not be able to achieve 30’ of mastication from the center of the road in those instances.

For the purpose of this RFP, no hand work is being solicited.

- 2. Can bidders propose using several different pieces of equipment to complete the job?**

Yes, bidders can describe means and method in their proposal documents (Exhibit B) and attach additional pages as needed.

3. Will an RCD representative be present during the work?

CONTRACTOR should anticipate that an RCD Inspector will be present for the first several days of work to assist contractor to implement the treatment and interpret flagging protocol. CONTRACTOR should expect RCD Inspector to conduct daily site visits thereafter. The inspection does not relieve the CONTRACTOR of the responsibility for maintaining quality control.

4. Will trees need to be pruned with masticator?

Yes, please see specifications and performance measures for trees on pages 3 and 4 of the RFP and revision detailed above.

5. Is there a specified spacing between remaining leave trees?

No, please see specifications and performance measures for trees on pages 3 and 4 of the RFP and revision detailed above.

6. Is the 4" minimum diameter trees to be left a firm parameter for every tree, or can some be taken if needed to reach the 30' limit of cleared ground?

Some trees > 4" dbh are anticipated to be removed as indicating by flagging. Please see specifications and performance measures for trees on pages 3 and 4 of the RFP and revision detailed above.

7. Please flag fences and other hazards to equipment.

The RCD will develop a flagging protocol for fences and other hazards to equipment.

8. Clarify "road prism" vs "road surface"?

The road prism includes the road and the cut and fill slopes.

9. What is that anticipated time for completion of the work?

The RCD is requesting that CONTRACTOR provides estimated start and end date on their proposal documents (Exhibit B).

10. Is there an engineer's estimate or a budget for the is project?

No, there is no engineer's estimate or budget available for this project.

11. Does CALFIRE need access to be 14' high and 14' wide?

No, this regulation does not apply to this project.

12. CalFire requires a fire watch in the form of a tour of the worksite at least one hour after last equipment operation. Should the proposal be revised to include this?

No, this regulation does not apply to this project.

13. Is this project subject to prevailing wage?

No, fuel reduction work is neither alteration nor demolition and therefore does not constitute construction under Labor Code 1720.

14. Would you be willing to put in writing, a clause to the effect that, if we find a place needing a minor amount of earthwork to facilitate safe passage and operation of equipment, that is acceptable?

Ground disturbance is to be minimal. Equipment shall remain on the road. The RCD intends to coordinate with CONTRACTOR to ensure safe passage of equipment.

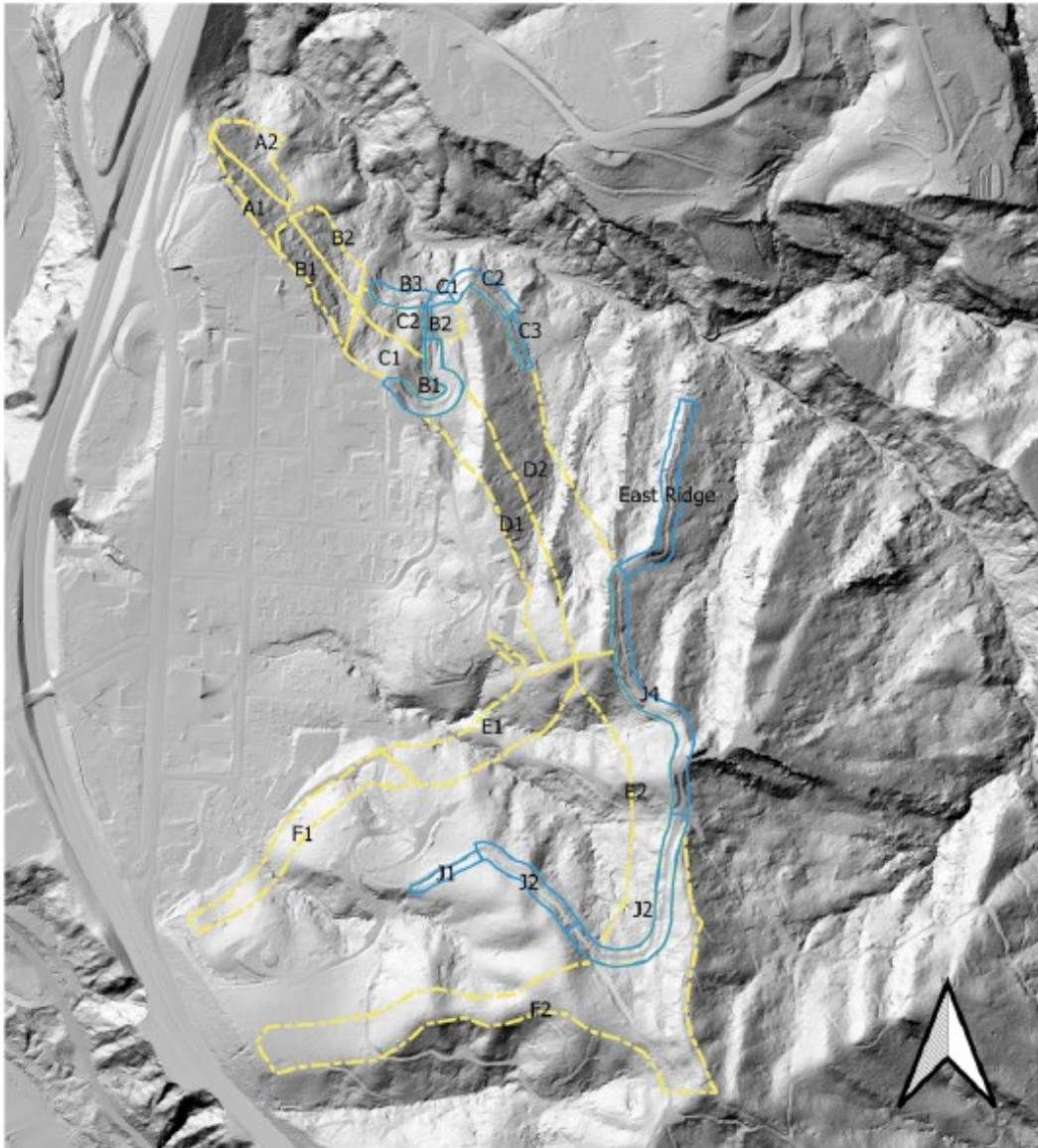
15. The RFP calls for certain limited hours of operation for benefit of homeowner neighbor. But if there are red flag days, one is told by noon to shut down by immediately. That can take up to 5 hours off a work day, and potentially more. Would it be possible to start at 6:00 am, in order to lose far fewer hours on red flag days?

CONTRACTOR may request the RCD to approve alternative work hours. The RCD anticipates that work will not be authorized to begin before 7 a.m.

16. How was the project identified and how does the mastication work fit into the larger project?

The project was initially conceptualized by the Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council and CAL FIRE. The mastication work described here is part of a larger 40 acre fuel break along the east side of the town of Garberville, CA. A map of the treatments is provided on the next page (please note, masticator units B1/B2/B3 and C1/C2/C3 are not part of this RFP). For more information about this and other Humboldt County fire prevention projects, please visit the 2019 Humboldt County Community Wildfire Protection Plan at <https://humboldt.gov/2431/CWPP-2019>.

East Garberville Shaded Fuel Break - Treatment Units



Legend

- Manual Treatment Units
- Masticator Units

