



**Upper Mokelumne River
Watershed Authority**

RFP 23-02
RESPONSE TO
QUESTIONS

FOREST PROJECTS PLAN (FPP) PHASE 1
July 21, 2023

To: All Potential Proposers

THESE ARE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED AT THE PRE-BID MEETING REQUIRING FURTHER RESPONSE, AND VIA EMAIL.

The proposal due date and time is UNCHANGED and remains as follows:

Due Date: July 26, 2023

Due Time: 12:00 PM Local Time

Question 1: Is the use of tethered mastication equipment allowed? What is the maximum slope allowed for all mastication equipment?

Answer 1: The maximum slope for mastication equipment is 40%. Tethered systems on steeper slopes may be agreed to in select areas where soil erosion can be minimized subject to the approval of the U. S. Forest Service Soil Scientist.

Question 2: Page 5, Mastication Specification “i” of the RFP states: “No individual piece of slash or vegetative debris shall be greater than 3 feet in length.” This statement allows no flexibility for varying circumstances. Can the wording “To the extent practicable” be added to the beginning of the phrase? (making it similar to item m):

Answer 2: Yes, the wording will be added to the specification in the final contract.

Question 3: Do we need a CalTrans Permit to conduct work in the ROW for Highway 88? Our experience indicates CalTrans will want a vegetation buffer, especially considering Highway 88 is a Designated Scenic Highway.

Answer 3: The Highway 88 right-of-way is 66 feet from centerline, each side. The Forest Service retains all rights to issue authorizations for uses not inconsistent or incompatible with highway use. The Forest Service shall consult with CalTrans on any stipulations required to protect the roadway. If a buffer is deemed necessary by the Forest Service in consultation with CalTrans, then UMRWA shall establish a no-treatment buffer accordingly.

Question 4: Will Traffic Control Measures be required on Highway 88?

Answer 4: The intent is to avoid activities that require traffic control on Highway 88. Mastication Specification "s" states that mastication adjacent to Highway 88 must be conducted in a safe manner that does not result in debris onto the highway right-of-way. If a determination is made by UMRWA and Contractor that achieving this specification is not feasible, then hand treatments shall be substituted. If hand treatments cannot be accomplished without risk of debris entering the highway, then the treatment may be modified or deleted.

Question 5: Will our crews be able to camp on National Forest lands for an extended period during work?

Answer 5: Yes, provided Contractor obtains a camping permit from the U.S. Forest Service, Amador Ranger District. Camping locations shall be by agreement.

Question 6: Can we remove firewood?

Answer 6: Yes, provided Contractor obtains firewood removal authorization from the U.S. Forest Service, Amador Ranger District.

Question 7: Can we operate on weekends or at night?

Answer 7: Yes, operations are permitted on weekends or nights, provided no nuisance is created.

Question 8: Can UMRWA provide a line item for the hand treatment or can the contractor submit a proposal with an additional line item for the hand work? It is very difficult to estimate the amount of handwork acres that are going to need work.

Answer 8: No, it is UMRWA's intent to receive one bid price per acre for the overall fuel treatment, including both mastication and hand treatment.