

Sierra RCD Kaiser East Fuels Reduction and Restoration Project Phase 1

Pre-Bid Questions, Comments, and Responses

	Question / Comment	Answer	RFP Reference
Contracting, Bidding, and Compliance			
1	Will the project be awarded to one contractor or multiple contractors?	Intent is one contractor; multiple awards remain possible.	N/A
2	Is a California contractor's license required for eligibility?	Yes	RFP Part 1
3	Are contractors and subcontractors required to register with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR)?	Yes	RFP Part 2; Appendix I
4	Are third party trucking operations, including log truck drivers, subject to prevailing wage requirements?	Yes	N/A
5	What payment terms will apply to the contract?	Negotiated with selected contractor.	Appendix I
6	Can contractors receive payments for partially completed treatment units?	Partial-unit payment may be negotiated.	Appendix I
7	Are payment and performance bonds required for the entire contract amount?	A performance bond is not required for this project.	N/A
8	What is the official deadline for submitting additional questions?	No deadline for questions. Answers to questions are not guaranteed after Oct 9 th . Proposals are due October 20 th 11:59 PST	N/A
9	What responsibility does the contractor have for fire-suppression costs?	Fire suppression costs are set at \$50,100 for an operations fire. All costs of damages and suppression for a negligent fire.	Appendix B: B7.0
Timber Cruise, Volume, and Material Accounting			
10	Are trees removed by Southern California Edison (SCE) included in the timber cruise?	Yes, SCE trees in project units were included.	N/A
11	Is an estimate available for the volume of timber SCE will fell?	No volume estimate provided.	N/A
12	How will timber and biomass loads be measured and documented?	Certified weight required at delivery location. Alternative proposal is 20 tons for full log truck load of cull logs/biomass and 25 tons for full saw logs truck load.	Appendix B: C6.817 and A.7
13	Who is responsible for timber yield taxes?	Contractor pays yield tax	RFP Bid Sheet Section A
14	Who will provide the required load-ticket books?	Sierra RCD to distribute ticket books from Sierra National Forest.	Appendix B: B6.84
15	Are there additional markets for lodgepole	BioFiltro has interest in lodgepole	N/A

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	pine, including BioFiltro?	pine as biomass gtagle@biofiltro.com	
16	Is the timber cruise available for prospective bidders?	Yes. Posted at sierrarc.com/kaiser .	Project Website: Timber Cruise
Biomass Removal and Utilization			
17	Must the required 2,000 tons of biomass come from all treatment units, or can it come from selected units?	Ideally across units; selected units may be proposed with coordination with Sierra RCD.	Appendix A
18	Once the required 2,000 tons of biomass have been delivered to Big Sandy Rancheria, can additional biomass be delivered elsewhere?	Yes, additional biomass can go elsewhere. Additional biomass is subject to agreement between contractor and Sierra RCD.	Appendix A Item #9; Appendix B C2.11
19	Must biomass from optional treatment units also be delivered to Big Sandy Rancheria?	No, this is not required.	N/A
20	How will biomass deliveries to Big Sandy Rancheria be measured and documented?	Deck at Big Sandy airstrip; full log truck counted as 20 tons; no on-site log scale. Contractor must unload their own trucks at Big Sandy Rancheria. Documentation via load tickets.	Appendix A Item #5
21	What biomass treatment is required within archaeological or cultural-resource sites?	Treatments within cultural resource sites should be treated to the greatest extent possible, while following protection measures in the cultural resource section of appendix E.	Appendix E
Schedule, Access, and Project Implementation			
22	When is the anticipated project start date?	Preferred November 1–15, 2026.	RFP Work Schedule
23	How much work must be completed during fall 2026?	50 acres in fall 2026, weather permitting.	RFP Work Schedule
24	Will Sierra National Forest gates remain open longer to accommodate contractor operations?	Yes, accessible to contractors.	N/A
25	Must the contractor coordinate mobilization and operations with SCE?	Sierra RCD will be responsible for coordination; coordination is encouraged.	N/A
26	Will stand cards be provided for individual treatment units?	No stand cards prepared.	N/A
27	How should contractors address campers, trailers, or other unauthorized occupants within designated landings?	Notify Sierra RCD to coordinate with Sierra National Forest law enforcement as needed.	N/A
28	Where are the existing landings?	Known existing landings added to updated Project map.	Appendix C
29	Which units are mandatory and which are optional?	Updated Appendix A table. Unit 12 is now considered an optional unit.	Appendix A, RFP

	Question / Comment	Answer	RFP Reference
30	What restrictions apply to operations in Unit 4 near Rancheria Campground and other recreation sites?	Portions of Unit 4 that are west of State road 168 shall only be operated on after the seasonal closure of Rancheria campground. Operations in this section of Unit 4 must be started and completed in the same year. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, project activities within and directly adjacent to Lakeshore, Rancheria, Midge Creek, Badger Flat, Kokanee Campground and other designated recreation sites will be restricted to weekdays only.	RFP Part 3
31	Where are the existing recreation trails?	Known existing trails have been added to the Project Map	Appendix C
32	May temporary roads be constructed or extended in Units 14, 16, and 18?	Yes, by agreement, subject to Appendix E protections; total temporary roads limited to 2.5 miles and must be decommissioned after use.	Appendix B B5.1; E
Archaeological and Environmental Restrictions			
33	What requirements govern tree felling and timber removal within archaeological sites?	Treatments within cultural resource sites should be treated to the greatest extent possible, while following protection measures in the cultural resource section of appendix E.	Appendix E
34	Will archaeological monitors be available during operations within archaeological sites?	Archaeological monitors are not expected to be required on this project when following all of Appendix E provisions. Sierra RCD will coordinate with Sierra National Forest staff as needed.	Appendix E
35	Are historic railroad grades, roads, or other cultural features present within the project area?	No railroad grades reported; there are multiple cultural features present in this project. Details provided upon award of contract.	N/A
36	Can slash be masticated instead of piled?	No; Yosemite toad requirements call for piling.	Appendix A
37	How will Yosemite toad (YOTO) restrictions be identified and communicated to contractors?	Sierra RCD will walk areas in advance and coordinate with contracting foreman.	Appendix E, Appendix C
38	Who is responsible for answering questions regarding Yosemite toad protection requirements during operations?	Sierra RCD Kirby Molen, certified toad monitor.	Appendix E
39	Must slash piles within stream-site protection	No hand piling is required by this	Appendix E

	Question / Comment	Answer	RFP Reference
	zones be hand piled?	RFP and no piling in equipment exclusion zones.	
Hazard Trees, Silvicultural Prescriptions, and Stump Treatment			
40	What qualifies as a hazard tree, and how will hazard trees be identified and marked?	Dead or structurally unsound trees that meet Region 5 hazard tree guidelines. Hazard trees with remaining green needles will be marked by Sierra RCD with blue paint. Dead hazard trees within 200 feet of the road shall be identified and felled by the contractor.	Appendix A, Appendix D
41	Can contractors independently identify and mark additional hazard trees?	Contractor may identify a hazard tree, marking must be made by Sierra RCD.	Appendix A, Appendix B C2.35
42	Which stumps require treatment, and what treatment materials and application methods are required?	Borate with visible dye for applicable hazard-tree stumps, for live hazard trees greater than 3 inch within 300 foot roadside treatment zones, in compliance with California State laws and regulations.	Appendix B C6.41
43	How should hazard trees within striking distance of power lines be handled?	Coordinate with Sierra RCD to notify Southern Cal Edison on a case-by-case basis.	N/A
44	Why was the fuel-break prescription not extended through Unit 8?	Updated project map extends fuel-break prescription through Unit 8.	Appendix C
45	What change was made to the stump-treatment language?	Appendix B language “from green trees and recent (<18 months) mortality” was removed.	Appendix B
Southern California Edison (SCE) Operations and Utility Corridors			
46	What is SCE’s anticipated sequence of operations within the project units?	SCE expects to begin in Units 4, 8, 9, 10, with flexibility.	N/A
47	How far from power lines will SCE remove trees?	30 feet each side, extending to 45 feet in some areas, and additional hazard trees as needed.	N/A
48	How much of the project area is affected by power-line corridors?	Approximately 5% or less of the project area	N/A
49	How are tree-removal and treatment responsibilities divided between SCE and the selected contractor?	SCE handles designated corridor trees; contractor handles remaining work subject to safety limits.	N/A
50	Can contractors fell trees within striking distance of power lines?	Yes. Avoid trees likely to strike lines; coordinate with Sierra RCD.	N/A
51	Can contractors skid logs or operate equipment underneath power lines?	Skidding is allowed; no equipment within 10 feet of powerlines.	N/A
52	What equipment will SCE use during its operations?	Primarily hand crews, arborists and rigging; skid steer possible.	N/A
53	What staffing and monitoring personnel will	SCE monitoring and multiple work	N/A

	Question / Comment	Answer	RFP Reference
	SCE provide during operations?	crews; final staffing not confirmed.	
54	How will SCE-felled trees be handled, moved, and staged for subsequent contractor treatment?	SCE will work to provide directional felling away from powerlines, streams, and under-line hazards. Trees will be cut to merchantable lengths as safety allows.	N/A
55	Can contractors cut trees bearing SCE identification tags?	Yes; retain tag and report to Sierra RCD and SCE.	N/A
56	What reporting procedures apply if contractor equipment or felled material contacts electrical or communications lines?	Report immediately to SCE and Sierra RCD	N/A
57	Will SCE conduct pole replacements or other infrastructure improvements during the project?	Yes, pole and box replacements anticipated.	N/A
58	Are underground utilities or other infrastructure present within the project area that could affect contractor operations?	Overhead SCE lines are noted in the project and no underground infrastructure is known.	N/A
59	What are the slash-pile setbacks around SCE power lines?	75 feet uphill and 100 feet downhill of the lines; see Appendix B.	Appendix B C6.7
Mapping and Additional Project Information			
60	Why wasn't the fuel break prescription extended through Unit 8?	See updated map for extension of fuel break prescription.	Appendix C
61	Why did the total and unit acreages adjust?	Acreage was reduced in Unit 6 for a meadow and roadside acreages were adjusted in units 8,15, and 16. Unit 12 was moved to an optional unit because of current road conditions.	RFP Bid Sheet
62	Will project maps identify all archaeological sites, Yosemite toad areas, utility corridors, and other operational restrictions?	Yes. Except that Archeological/historic/cultural resources will be on a separate map to the awarded contractor.	Appendix C, Appendix E
63	Will contractors receive detailed SCE tree inventory and location data?	No.	N/A
64	What is the treatment type breakdown by acres?	Acres are approximate. Thinning 284.8 acres, Fuels Breaks 255.2, Fuel Break with CSO restrictions 329.2, Thinning with CSO restrictions 312.9	N/A