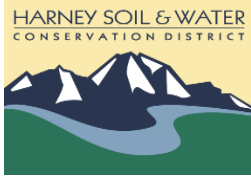


BID PACKET
HC78 JUNIPER PROJECT
September 2021





HC78 JUNIPER PROJECT

September 2021

The HC78 juniper removal project is located approximately 46 miles from Burns, Oregon, in NE Harney County. It consists mainly of phase I and II juniper. It borders previous juniper cuts, and will expand sage-grouse habitat, reduce fragmentation and remove predatory bird perches. A healthy riparian community is present, and by cutting the juniper it will allow further recruitment of desirable species and increase the instream flows. The entirety of the cut is located within an existing riparian project area. The project area requires no ground disturbing activities within the fenced boundary, and all work must be completed between July 16 – March 1. Unit 1 was cut in 2009 and has had a large increase in phase I juniper encroachment. No piling is required in this unit. Unit 2 has not been treated and consists of mostly phase 2 juniper encroachment. Portions of this unit will need to be hand-piled due to the abundance of ground cover from lop & scatter.

The project will include 2 cutting units:

- Unit 1- 84 acres of phase 1 juniper. Medium and small trees. This unit will be cut and lop & scattered.
- Unit 2- 58 acres of phase 1 and phase 2 juniper. Large, medium, and small trees. This unit will be a combination of cut, lop & scatter, and hand piling.

Contractors and each individual employee will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement, as the name and location of the property is protected under HB 4093.

A **mandatory bid tour** is scheduled for **Friday September 10th at 8:30am**.

Expect at least a 4-hour bid tour, meeting at the HSWCD office at **8:15am**.

ALL SEALED BIDS (MAILED OR HAND DELIVERED), ARE DUE TO THE HARNEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION OFFICE BY: **12:00 Noon, On Friday September 17th, 2021**.

Contents of bid packet must be returned with the bid sheet.

Estimated Start Work Date: **October 15, 2021**

Contract Completion Time: **All Units to be complete by March 1, 2021**



**Harney SWCD
P.O Box 848
530 Highway 20 South
Hines, Oregon 97738
Phone 541-573-5010**

REQUEST FOR BID

***** This is not an order*****

Return sealed bid to:

Harney Soil and Water Conservation District office by:

Friday, September 17th, 2021 @ 12:00 Noon

THIS PROJECT FALLS UNDER THE CANDIDATE CONSERVATION AGREEMENT WITH ASSURANCES. ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE WILLING TO SIGN A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT.

Description: (attached)

Please attach Vendor bid to the Harney SWCD "Request for Quote" and sign the front page.

Requested Date of Completion is March 1st, 2022

Contact:

Danielle Reynolds @ 541-550-8575

Jason Kesling @ 541-573-5010

Vendor Name: _____ Fed ID#: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Fax: _____

Signature of vendor Contract: _____

BID SHEET
HC78 Juniper Project
2021
SCHEDULE OF ITEMS

Description	Item no.	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total Amount
UNIT 1 Lop & Scatter	1	84	Acres	\$_____	\$_____
UNIT 2 Cut, lop & scatter, and hand piling	2	58	Acres	\$_____	\$_____
Total Quote All or None		142	Acres		\$_____

			SIGNATURE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN	DATE OF QUOTATION
CONTRACTOR NAME				
STREET ADDRESS			SIGNER NAME (Type or print)	TELEPHONE
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	TITLE (Type or print)	EMAIL

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH SEALED BID

- **Staffing Plan**- A list of employees that will be working at the proposed project site.
- **Past Performance Statement**- Provide (2) past performance references on your most recent comparable jobs. If one of those jobs listed was with the SWCD, please make notation as to size and scope of each project.
- **Progress Payment Request** – Please specify if you wish to submit invoices for payment prior to final completion date.

ALL SEALED BIDS (MAILED OR HAND DELIVERED), ARE DUE TO THE HARNEY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION OFFICE BY: 12:00 Noon, On Friday September 17th, 2021. Contents of bid packet must be returned with the bid sheet.

Estimated Start Work Date: **October 15th, 2021**

Contract Completion Time: All Units to be complete by **March 1, 2022**

Attachment A
DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT

1. SCOPE OF CONTRACT

The purpose of these specifications is to secure a complete set of services to accomplish the mechanical cutting, scattering, and hand piling of 142 acres of juniper.

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, supervision, equipment, materials, transportation, supplies and incidentals to accomplish the above work.

2. PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The project work is in the Drewsey area and is protected under the Sage Grouse CCAA agreement and House Bill 4093 (HB4093) which prevents the disclosure of information related to the ownership and tasks associated with this contract. Breach of this contract privacy and violation of HB4093 is taken seriously by the SWCD board. The Contractor and all employees will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

3. ACCESSIBILITY

General work areas can be reached by standard four-wheel drive pickup during normal operating seasons. Coordinating travel to the area with the landowner will be required.

When roads are recently thawed, very wet or saturated due to runoff or unseasonable weather conditions, road conditions may dictate the need to delay use of some road segments in order to ensure no damage to the road, drainage structures or the adjacent environment.

Access to sensitive wildlife habitats may be limited to specific dates and will be determined by the CO.

4. BOUNDARIES OF PROJECT AREAS

Exterior boundaries will be marked with fluorescent orange plastic flagging by the contractor and/or COR. Contractor shall not cut trees on which flagging has been tied. Extra care shall be taken around section corners to protect bearing trees and blazed line trees along property boundaries. All units were mapped using ArcGIS and acreages computed on a horizontal basis. Units will be surveyed on the ground by the contractor using the Global Positioning System (GPS). Flagging and acreages will be verified and approved by the CO or COR, before commencement of juniper cutting.

5. DESIGNATION OF CONTRACTING OFFICER'S REPRESENTATIVE

The Contracting Officer (CO) designates the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR). The COR is responsible for administering the performance of work under this contract. On all matters that pertain to the contract terms, the Contractor must communicate with the Contracting Officer or COR. The landowner must also communicate to the COR any changes or modifications pertaining to the contract that he desires be made. Any agreements between the landowner and Contractor will be outside the scope of this contract.

SPECIFIC TASKS

JUNIPER CUTTING

All Units

1. All dead and live junipers, including saplings & seedlings, that are not providing cavity-nesting habitat or showing old growth characteristics will be cut.
2. Leave all trees exhibiting visible wildlife nesting or cavity use or old growth characteristics. Old growth characteristics are defined as: asymmetrical and rounded tops, spreading and sparse canopies, dead limbs and/or spiked tops, deeply furrowed reddish bark, and the presence of bright green arboreal lichens on the stem and branches. Trunk diameter does not necessarily indicate tree age.
3. All juniper trees shall be completely severed from the stump(s) unless otherwise specified herein. No live limbs will be left on the stump of cut trees. Stump height shall not exceed 8 inches measured on the uphill side.
4. Cut trees lodged in leave trees shall be dislodged or removed.
5. No cut trees shall be left across secondary roads longer than 1 day.
6. Cut trees falling across property lines between landowner and adjacent property owners, shall be moved completely into the project area.
7. The Contractor shall protect from injury all bearing trees, corner posts and monuments within or adjacent to the project areas.
8. All fences shall be kept free of cut trees. Leave all trees to which a fence is attached. Any damage to fences resulting from this project shall be fixed by the Contractor, at the Contractor's expense, on the same day that damage occurred.
9. All other conifer within the unit (including pine and fir trees) less than 8" DBH shall also be completely severed from the stump(s). No live limbs will be left on the stump of cut trees. Stump height shall not exceed 8" measured on the uphill side.
10. Live mountain mahogany, serviceberry, chokecherry, and aspen shall not be cut.
11. Machine piling: For the purpose of this contract, machine piling and the use of heavy equipment is not permitted within the CREP boundary.
12. Lop & Scatter: Lop & scatter all slash so as no part of the tree extends higher than 4 feet from the ground level. This is to reduce avian perch sites that are detrimental to sage grouse. The Contractor shall lop the branches from three sides of all felled trees over eight feet in length. Lop branches up to a 6-inch top and then cut the top from the trunk of the tree. Ensure trees have a stump height of 8 inches or less. Limb large trees to 5 feet high from the ground line before falling. Treatment should ensure all limbs are removed below the lowest branch and node to

prevent sprouting. Hand shear all young juniper and seedlings in the treated area to reduce juniper re-invasion potential. The lop and scatter method should be used in Phase 1 “low density” juniper when machine piling, hand piling, and subsequent pile burning are not options due to significant slopes, other landscape characteristics or juniper density is such as to make machine piling unfeasible. This method also applies to sensitive areas where machine piling is not allowed or will violate the terms of an already standing contract.

HAND PILING

The following specifications are designed to accomplish the reduction of fire hazard in the project area by the hand piling of slash. Hand piling should only be done in areas too steep and rocky to machine pile or areas too densely covered with juniper to lop & scatter.

Hand pile location

1. No pile shall be made within 10 feet of stumps or large down logs.
2. No piles shall be made in roads, drainage ditches, meadows, or within channel bottoms without prior written approval of the COR.
3. Piles must be at least 10 feet apart and evenly dispersed throughout the unit.
4. No piles are to be made within 15 feet of any wildlife tree or any tree 18 inches DBH or greater.
5. All piles shall be placed at least 10 feet from the boles of any live tree. If conditions make it impractical to locate piles so that damage to the live trees cannot be avoided, a space will be cleared and all material placed in a pile in the cleared area. All piles shall be piled so material will not roll downhill during burning.

Hand pile Construction

1. Pile size shall be a MINIMUM OF 5 FEET IN HEIGHT ON THE UPHILL SIDE and 6 feet in diameter. Piles less than 5 feet in height will not be accepted. All piles shall be compact. Compaction of the piles shall be done by aligning the material as much as possible and placing heavier material on top.
2. Hand piles shall have a core of kindling which shall consist of not less than two cubic feet of fine material not larger than 3/4-inch in diameter. The kindling shall be placed on the downhill side. All material placed in the piles shall be aligned so it does not roll downhill when burned.
3. Any slash from 1-inch in diameter up to 12 inches in diameter and exceeding 2 feet in length shall be piled. All slash within 6 feet of any pile must be removed and piled.
4. Any slash 12 inches diameter or greater on the small end that is not piled shall be completely limbed and the limbs piled.
5. All material placed in the pile shall be contained within the general contour of the pile. Trimming of the piles will be required if material extends more than 18 inches beyond the general perimeter of the pile. The material that is trimmed off will be placed back onto the pile.

INSPECTION

1. Inspection of juniper cutting

- a. The SWCD COR will inspect thinning to determine compliance with performance standards. Inspections may include observations of operations, quality control procedures, and examination of individual cut and leave trees on sample inspection plots. Items will be inspected separately and inspection results on one item will not be averaged with those of the other item. The Contractor is encouraged to observe inspections and will receive inspection results upon request to the COR.
- b. If high stumps or uncut trees are the primary reason for unsatisfactory work, the Contractor shall rework areas designated by the Inspector until satisfactory work quality is obtained. Particular attention should be paid to seedlings 1 ft. + in height.
- c. Excess juniper trees will not be allowed to be left uncut in a unit. If a visual inspection reveals any uncut juniper trees not protected under the Juniper Cutting Task, the unit will be reworked until all excess juniper trees have been eliminated. Ten percent of the total stems that are living (missed or live limbs) after cutting is completed will be considered excess Juniper.

2. Inspection of juniper piling

Any pile not meeting the above specifications will be re-piled by the Contractor at the Contractor's expense. Hand Pile Units will consist of cutting, limbing, bucking, and hand piling all conifer within the designated cut and hand pile units (including all boles less than 12 inches).

3. Remeasurement of units

The Contractor may, at any time during the course of the contract, request re-measurement of any unit he/she feels that the acreage stated in the contract is incorrect. If re-measurement indicates that a variance of 5 percent or less exists, the Contractor will pay for the actual cost of the re-measurement. Under this condition, payment for the unit will be made on the acreage stated in the contract. If re-measurement indicates the actual variance is greater than 5 percent, payment for the unit will be based on the re-measured acreage. Acreages are measured on the horizontal plane.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Access

- a. The Contractor shall leave all gates as found after passing through them.
- b. The Contractor shall ensure livestock and wildlife access to water troughs and springs is maintained and trails are not obstructed by felled trees at the end of each work day.

2. Safety - the Contractor shall comply with all applicable **OSHA** requirements. The Contractor shall provide or assure that personal protective equipment for all persons working is being used, including chaps, goggles, hearing protection, hard hats, gloves, and boots.
3. Award - After award of contract, the Soil and Water Conservation District will issue the Contractor a written notice to proceed. Issuance of the notice may be delayed for a reasonable time if adverse soil, vegetative, or climatologically conditions exist, or if all permits have not been obtained.
4. Fire Protection -The Landowner and Contractor shall meet all fire regulations and permit requirements as required by the Oregon Department of Forestry as outlined in Oregon Forest Law (ORS) chapter 477. State law requires a permit to operate power driven machinery. Permits must be obtained from the State Forestry office prior to the operation of power-driven equipment and will be obtained by the landowner. **This requirement applies to chain saws.**
5. Licenses and Insurance -The Contractor may: a) provide a Construction Contractors Board (CCB) license in good standing with the State of Oregon or b) sign a liability waiver releasing liability for this “non-construction” related activity. Farm Forest Labor licenses are not required for this activity under **OAR 839-015-0130 exemptions.**

DEFINITIONS

Brush – Vegetation consisting of shrub species with single or multi-stems origination at or near ground level not normally reaching 20 feet in height. Examples include Mountain Mahogany, Chokecherry, and Serviceberry.

Competitive Trees – All juniper seedlings, saplings, and trees and live coniferous trees over 1-foot tall, not selected as leave trees; or stumps with live limbs.

Conifer – An evergreen or cone bearing tree such as Douglas-fir, western larch, ponderosa pine, grand fir, white fir, and juniper.

Cut Leave Tree – A tree noted during inspection of the area as a tree that should not have been cut.

Damaged Leave Tree – A leave tree damaged through felling of other trees or brush or contact with cutting or piling tools or equipment.

DBH – Diameter of the tree at breast height, measured at a point 4 ½ feet above ground level from the uphill side of the tree.

Hardwood – a broad-leaved tree which usually has a single well-defined trunk and attains a height of greater than 20 feet. Includes, but is not limited to, species such as aspen, cottonwood, and willow.

Leave trees

- a. All aspen trees, hardwoods, and shrubs.
- b. Any tree having survey/monument signs or survey marks on it.
- c. All trees along fence lines that have fence wire attached to them.
- d. Trees with cultural significance or obvious wildlife occupation, i.e., cavities or raptor nests.
- e. NOTE: All *leave trees* are not marked. It is the Contractor's responsibility to identify them.

Lodged Trees – Cut trees leaning into, supported by or covering a leave tree.

Lopping – Cutting branches or limbs on three sides to a 6-inch top, and severing the top from the trunk of the tree.

Old growth juniper – A juniper tree possessing **any combination** of these characteristics: asymmetrical and rounded top, no new growth at the tips of branches, spreading and sparse canopies, dead limbs and/or spiked tops, deeply furrowed reddish bark, and the presence of bright green arboreal lichens on the stem and branches. Trunk diameter does not necessarily indicate tree age.

Shrub - Vegetation consisting of shrub species with single or multi-stems originating at or near ground level not normally reaching 20 feet in height. Examples include, but are not limited to, mountain mahogany, chokecherry, and serviceberry.

Slash- Any downed woody material within the project area. Slash includes cull logs, uprooted stumps, wood chunks, broken tops, limbs, branches, and rotten wood, dead or damaged mountain mahogany, damaged brush, damaged or destroyed young trees, felled snags, and surplus trees.

**HC78 JUNIPER PROJECT
2021
SCHEDULE OF ITEMS**

Description	Item no.	Qty.	Unit	Unit Price	Total Amount
UNIT 1 – Juniper cut and pile	1	84	Acres	\$_____	\$_____
UNIT 2 – Juniper cut and pile	2	58	Acres	\$_____	\$_____
Total Quote All or None		142			\$_____

Estimated Start Work Date: **October 15th, 2021**

Contract Completion Time: **All Units to be complete by March 1st, 2022.**

Contractor Acceptance & Verification of Unit Price listed above:

Date: _____