



TO: Governance Committee (GC)
FROM: Executive Director's Office (EDO)
SUBJECT: Sole-Source Justification – Recycling Top-Killed Trees from 2009 Wildfire on Tract 2015001
DATE: November 20, 2015

Recommendation

The EDO recommends the GC approve a \$44,000 sole-source contract with O'Neil Wood Resources (OWR) to provide crew and equipment to take down large, top-killed cottonwood trees (approximately 110 individual trees), consolidate tree piles (approximately 78 tree piles), and grind material into mulch using a diesel powered horizontal grinder and load into semi-trucks for transport to Grand Island. It is anticipated that 95% or 900-1,000 tons of wood will be recycled from this project. If approved, 2015 funding for this work would be covered by Program line item LP-2 Adaptive Management Species Habitat Actions.

Background

Tract 2015001, also known as the Speidell Tract, is comprised of 800 acres located east of Kearney between the North Channel and south (main) channel of the river. It is predominately grassland with woody riparian areas on the west and northwest portions of the tract. In the spring of 2009, a large wildfire started on the southwest portion of the tract and burned north and east onto neighboring properties. By the time it was contained, the fire had damaged private lands north of the North Channel, east of the hike/bike trail and consumed a wooden railroad bridge on the trail. As a result of the damage, neighboring landowners are very sensitive to the use of fire in this area.

Much of the damage on Tract 2015001 was from the heat top-killing the large trees at the northeast corner of the tract. Those standing dead trees are now a safety concern. The Program has worked with the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD) to successfully obtain burn permits for prescribed fires on several tracts within the Fort Kearny Complex. However, KVFD's policy of tree pile burning requires that all tree pile fires be extinguished and be buried before sunset daily and that no burning can occur with sustained winds at 15 mph or greater. These limitations will make it very difficult to burn and bury the large amount of dead wood in a timely fashion.

Due to the constraints associated with burning and burying as well as neighboring landowner concerns about fire, the Program contacted OWR to develop an exploratory cost estimate for mulching and removing the wood. The OWR cost estimate is comparable with typical costs for burning. Additional benefits include recycling of the material, avoidance of fire, and significantly less disturbance to grassland areas. The OWR cost proposal, scope of work and a project design overview are attached.



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

PROJECT: (P15-014) 2015 FT KEARNY COMPLEX HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

LOCATION: PRRIF Property 2015001

NEAR: Kearney, Nebraska

CONTACT: Tim Tunnell, Land Manager, tunnellt@headwaterscorp.com, 402-219-3883

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following plans and specifications:

1 (X) Sheet 1 - Cover

2 (X) Sheet 2 – Site Layout

3 (X) Sheet 3 – Individual Tree & Tree Pile Removal

The Contractor is required to submit quotes for all work Items below.

Item No.	Description	Unit	Estimated Quantity	Bid Unit Price	Bid Price
001	Mobilization and Demobilization	LS	1	\$ <u>2,000.00</u>	\$ <u>2,000.00</u>
002	Individual Tree Removal	EA	110	\$ <u>150.00</u>	\$ <u>16,500.00</u>
003	Tree Pile Removal	EA	78	\$ _____	\$ <u>25,000.00</u>

TOTAL QUOTE PRICE Forty-Four Thousand Dollars

_____ dollars (\$ 44,000.00)

WORK COMPLETION DATE: February 2016

Submitted by: O'Neill Wood Resources

(Company)

Patrick C O'Neill

(Individual – Print)

Pat O'Neill

10/27/15

(Sign/Date)

The scope of work includes:

- Removing fire damaged trees, primarily large cottonwood trees.
- Holes will be filled using adjacent soil while minimizing damage to native vegetation
- Tree removal price will include removal and hauling to the landing where the wood grinder will be situated
- Grinding of existing piles will include consolidating existing smaller piles into approximately 5 larger landing located on firm ground
- Piles will be consolidated similar to what is shown on the revised drawing.
- Material cannot be separated by species so no cedar can be ground separately
- All recoverable ground material will be hauled back to our Grand Island facility and used to make natural hardwood mulch, dyed mulch, or cattle bedding
- We anticipate approximately 45 semi-loads of material from this project excluding the large stumps that will have to be burned and buried. This will be approximately 900-1000 tons of wood being recycled.
- Work is expected to take four to five weeks depending on the weather.

NOTES:

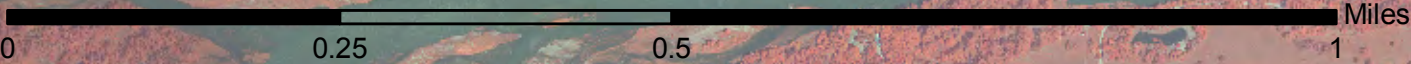
- 1) Individual trees removed must be relocated to existing tree piles to be burned or buried or otherwise removed from the property. Any merchantable timber may be harvested and removed at the contractors expense. Remaining waste material must be burned and buried, or relocated off site for disposal or recycling.
- 2) It is the contractor's responsibility to obtain burn permit for any burning of tree piles or debris. The property is located with the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department Jurisdiction and can be contacted at 308-233-3226.

Legend

- ▲ INDIVIDUAL TREES
- TREE PILES

Remove individual trees. (Approx 110 trees)

Remove or burn & bury tree piles.(Aprrox 78 piles)



PROJECT NO. 15-014

2015 FT KEARNY COMPLEX
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT
**INDIVIDUAL TREE &
TREE PILE REMOVAL**

SHEET NO: 3 of 3	DATE: 08/20/15	DRAWN BY: TRT
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