



**CALAVERAS COUNTY
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
(CCRCD)**

Issued: May 7th, 2026

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

For the San Andreas East Fuelbreak (5GG23221)

Deadline for Submission of Proposals:

May 29th, 2026 at 5:00 PM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
FOR FUELS REDUCTION SERVICES
CONTRACTED SERVICES TO
CALAVERAS COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (CCRCD) TO
ACCOMPLISH TASKS OF THE
Project Name: San Andreas East Fuel Break
Grant: 5GG23221

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT	Kaylee Dillashaw, Project Manager kdillashaw@calaverasrcd.org , proposals@calaverasrcd.org (209)768-1603
RFP RELEASE DATE	May 7 th , 2026
PRE-BID TOUR	The pre-bid tour will be held on May 19th, 2026 at 9:00am and is mandatory. Meeting location is the CCRCD office 423 East St. Charles Street, San Andreas, CA 95249. Contact Erin Livernois elivernois@calaverasrcd.org or Kaylee Dillashaw kdillashaw@calaverasrcd.org to RSVP for the tour. Questions received by the Project Manager before May 21st, will be answered and distributed to all proposers by email after May 22nd.
RFP CLOSING DATE	Proposals must be received electronically to the dedicated CCRCD email address proposals@calaverasrcd.org by 5:00 PM on May 29th.
CONTRACTOR SELECTION	Project contractor will be selected no later than June 12 th , 2026. All proposers will be notified by email of award/non award.
PROJECT COMMENCEMENT DATE	Immediately upon execution of contract.
PROJECT COMPLETION DATE	June 30 th , 2027

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The San Andreas East Fuel Break will establish a shaded fuel break located directly north of San Andreas in Calaveras County traversing ~2.2 miles of densely vegetated private land from the intersection of Gold Strike Road and Leonard Road to Mills Ave near Mountain Ranch Road. The project is designed to enhance protection along the southwest boundary of the 2015 Butte Fire footprint, a critical location for preventing wildfire from spreading south into the town of San Andreas. The goal of this Project is to reduce the risk or slow the spread of catastrophic wildfire by establishing a permanent ~200'-400' wide shaded fuel break which will force active wildfire to "lay down" for control purposes and provide space for fire attack crews to anchor suppression resources.

CEQA was completed on the entire project area and will be filed and approved before work begins. Proposers should provide a description of services for mechanical mastication and/or chipping on up to 100 acres in response to this RFP. Handwork will not be considered as a treatment option under this RFP.

ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINE

Activity	Date
Release of RFP	May 7 th , 2026
Pre-Bid Tour	May 19 th , 2026
Deadline for RFP responses	May 29 th , 2026 at 5pm
Review Committee evaluates proposals	June 1 st - June 5 th , 2026
Contract Award by Committee	June 11 th , 2026
Notice of contract award	June 12 th , 2026
Contract executed	June 19 th , 2026
Project start date	After contract execution and the completion of CEQA public noticing

II. GRANT BACKGROUND & RESPONSIBILITIES

GRANTOR: CAL FIRE

The project is funded by CALFIRE's Wildfire Prevention Program, who may conduct inspections of the project area periodically upon invoice submittals. Invoice submittals and expected payments to contractor are dependent upon Grantor guidelines and procedures. Lag time between invoice submittal and payment is dependent upon grantor.

Please note, pre-treatment acreages are estimated based on GIS; final determination of treated acres will be made by Grantor based on actual on-the-ground measurement during certification inspections. Payments will only be made on actual acres treated. Invoices can be submitted as needed, but no more frequently than every two weeks. Contractor's invoices will be paid upon the CCRCD's receipt of the funds from Grantor. CCRCD will not be responsible for delays in receiving funds from Grantor.

GRANTEE: CCRCD

The CCRCD was awarded this grant by CAL FIRE and as the grantee, is responsible for financial management and reporting requirements as specified in the executed contract with the grantor. CCRCD is the only entity authorized to enter into or terminate this contract, modify any term or condition of this contract, waive any requirement of this contract, or accept nonconforming work. CCRCD has assigned Kaylee Dillashaw as Project Manager and Erin Livernois as Project Technician. Additional staff/contractors may be assigned for on-site technical monitoring of the Contractor's performance and deliverables if needed. CCRCD will execute an agreement with the selected Contractor and will submit Contractor invoices to Grantor for payment and in turn process payment to the Contractor.

PROJECT MANAGER. The Project Manager is an employee of the CCRCD and will serve as the lead contact for the Project, including relations with the contractor(s), Registered Professional Forester (RPF), landowners, the CCRCD, CAL FIRE, and additional staff. Project Manager will conduct inspections of treatment area, measure acreage in preparation for CAL FIRE inspection, and serve as liaison for all parties involved.

III. PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The primary goals of this Project include:

- Establish a 200-400' wide shaded fuel break
- Reduce potential for ignition within the fuel break footprint
- Provide strategic location for fire suppression resources to intercept wildfire moving from the north
- Minimize or prevent devastation to land, habitat, water infrastructure, wildlife, and the town of San Andreas

The primary objectives of this Project include:

- Removal of understory brush and overloaded surface and ladder fuels
- Provide direct protection to homes within and adjacent to the project area in the event of potential wildfire
- Produce an openly spaced stand of trees targeting up to 40' x 40' spacing for fire personnel to stage during a potential wildfire

IV. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA

Project Area (Acres): up to 100 acres

Slope/Aspect: varies throughout project area

Elevation Range: 900-1400 feet

Vegetation Types: Mixed Chaparral, Annual Grasslands, Mixed Foothill Oak Woodlands, Blue Oak Foothill Pine

Infrastructure Present: Homes, sheds, paved and unpaved roads, overhead power lines, gates, fences, rock formations, and landowner debris scattered throughout the project area.

Hydrology: There are no Class I Watercourses within the project area. Class II and Class II watercourses exist within the project area, but not all are designated to be protected.

Avoidance Areas:

Watercourses/ Riparian Zones – The project site contains numerous draws, drainages, swales, and intermittent and ephemeral stream channels which transport stormwater through the project site. Some do not support physical features of stream channels and are not protected from equipment impacts during operations. Those that are will be flagged and mapped. If any sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided, pending consultation with the RPF.

Botanical Resources - Botanical resources identified within the project area to be to be flagged and/or mapped include elderberry. Wildflower blooms should be protected during the bloom period late spring to early summer. If any additional sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided, pending consultation with the RPF

Biological Resources - Trees with active nests will be avoided/retained. Approximately 5 snags per acre have been flagged for retention. Approximately 42 wood-rat nests have been flagged for protection during operation. If any additional sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided, pending consultation with the RPF.

Cultural Resources - Cultural sites within the project area have been identified, mapped, and flagged. The contractor will be informed of these sites, and protection measures must be followed.

Human Habitation/ Infrastructure - 100ft buffer around any homes or habitable structures need to be identified virtually by geo-referenced maps. Roads must be left in the same or better condition.

Project Access: Various points of access exist throughout the project area and can primarily be made on Gold Strike Road, Mills Ave, Murray Creek Road and Andreas Vista Road. Many landowners have roads throughout property to provide access as well. Many fences between parcels have gates that operator may be able to move through depending on equipment size. Gate codes will be provided to selected contractor.

Existing conditions to be considered:

- The intent of this project is to treat as much steep ground as possible. Contractors should address their ability to work on steep ground in their proposal.
- There are a handful of landowners that graze cattle or other livestock. It is critical that contractors communicate with landowners and CCRCD staff when moving between parcels to ensure grazing operations are not disturbed. Contractors should address their ability to do so in their proposal.
- At least one parcel has unmapped waterlines left over from previous growing operations. The current landowner has attempted to identify these but there are likely waterlines we do not know about. Contractor should take extra precautions in this parcel and should address this in their proposal.

V. PRESCRIPTION

Mastication Prescription

- ☞ All ground fuels will be masticated including slash, logs, and other vegetative debris currently on the ground. Certain snags have been designated for retention.
- ☞ All dead and dying trees—except for those specifically flagged for retention—will be felled and masticated, chipped, or otherwise disposed of.
- ☞ All brush will be masticated, except for what is specifically flagged for retention. It is anticipated that within large brush fields, some small pockets of brush will be retained for wildlife habitat and/or to meet the target spacing.
- ☞ Small trees of any species, including conifers and hardwoods, 14" DBH or less will be masticated to achieve an average target spacing for the residual trees of approximately 40'x40'.

- ☞ 75% of the mastication shreds shall be <36" in length. Shreds shall be spread evenly into a layer of mulch to suppress brush regeneration, minimize erosion, and conserve soil moisture. Mulch depth shall be <12 inches. Stumps shall be ground to surface level. Dangerous punji sticks are not allowed.
- ☞ Trees will be retained according to the following priority: Ponderosa pine, gray pine, black oaks, interior live oaks, then other species, including canyon live oak.
- ☞ Clumps or groups of Live Oaks will either be totally treated or totally retained. If the group is generally comprised of stems 14" or less in diameter, the entire group will be removed and treated, if consistent with the spacing guidelines. If the group is generally comprised of stems over 14" diameter, the entire group will be left. Project Manager may designate which clumps to remove and which clumps to retain.
- ☞ In large brush fields, where there are only isolated, scattered residual trees, these residual trees will be retained, regardless of size and/or species. If more than one species is present in groups, the above priority will be followed. Generally, conifers take precedent over hardwoods. Black oaks take precedent over live oaks.
- ☞ Residual trees will be pruned flush to the bole at a height of 10 feet or half the tree on trees less than 10' tall. Prunings must be masticated.

Equipment Capability/Limitations

- ☞ The intent of this project is to treat as much steep ground as possible. Contractors should address their ability to work on steep ground in their proposal.
- ☞ The diameter for targeted vegetation is 14" dbh and less. Contractors should address their ability to treat this vegetation size in their proposal. Chipping is an acceptable alternative for mastication. The potential use of chippers must be discussed by the contractors in their proposal.
- ☞ Equipment must not operate under saturated soil conditions when compaction or rutting is likely, and traction is compromised. Any ruts >6" deep running downslope will not be allowed to remain.
- ☞ The project area must be left in a relatively smooth condition. Deeper accumulations of masticated material or deeper equipment ruts must be smoothed out.

Identification of Protected Species or Other Critical Resources

- ☞ With all environmentally sensitive areas, identification and avoidance during project implementation is important. Trees with active nests will be avoided/retained. If any sensitive resources are located during project implementation, the area shall be avoided pending consultation with the RPF.
- ☞ Cultural areas will be flagged prior to operations. Cultural sites have been identified, mapped, and flagged. The contractor will be informed of these sites, and protection measures must be followed.
- ☞ Any snags determined to be of significance to wildlife will be identified, flagged, and must be saved.
- ☞ Wood-rat nests to be saved will be flagged and protected during operations.

VI. PROJECT PROVISIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- ☞ Geo-referenced maps will be provided to the contractor. These maps identify the outside perimeter of the project area and the CEQA boundary. The contractor will be responsible for working within this mapped perimeter.
- ☞ Some work is conducted along private or public roadways: traffic control will be required

to warn vehicles of active fuels treatment operations when necessary: all traffic control and signs will be the responsibility of the Contractor and shall conform to Calaveras County requirements.

- ☞ All debris on public or private roads or on any private driveway needs to be removed. All paved roads, which includes public roads and private driveways, must be swept or blown at the end of each workday.
- ☞ Landscape vegetation and buffer areas between the properties may be retained depending on landowner preferences. Such retention designation will be noted with the use of plastic flagging.
- ☞ Avoid disturbing any refuse or debris that may be piled by landowners. In some areas, there are abandoned vehicles or trailers, cargo containers, or other items scattered in the woods. These must not be damaged.
- ☞ Grasses and other low annuals will not be treated.
- ☞ Any blackberries need to be treated.
- ☞ Hazards within the project area include barbed wire fences, dogs, poison oak, power lines, waterlines, vehicles, and other non-vegetative debris.
- ☞ All cut and masticated vegetation will be kept within the unit boundaries. Any cut vegetation falling into ditches, roads, road banks, trails, or adjacent properties should immediately be removed. All cut vegetation within the project area must be masticated or chipped.
- ☞ 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 arrestors or turbochargers to prevent fires.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- ☞ Treatment on steeper slopes will depend on contractor's ability to treat steep slopes and should be addressed in the proposal.
- ☞ The possibility for work to start at 6:00 am may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- ☞ Fences dropped by contractor must be put back up.
- ☞ All damage to public or private property or facilities caused by the contractor will be repaired by the contractor at their own expense.
- ☞ No prevailing wage requirements on this job
- ☞ Startup of operations: within 60 days of final signing of contract, which includes submission of current

FIRE PRECAUTIONS:

Describe the ability to meet the provided CCRCD Fire Plan requirements.

FLAGGING COLORS

Pink Glow: Project Area

Orange Glow: Snags to retain (wrapped around trunk)

Orange Glow and/or O/W Striped STZ Flag: Cultural sites to protect

Orange Glow with O/W Striped STZ Flag: Protect woodrats nest

Blue with B/W Striped flag: Class III centerline (see map for specific delineation)

VII. PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA & SCORING

The contract award will be issued to the Contractor based on best value, not necessarily based on the lowest cost per acre. One award will be made to the qualified proposer whose proposal will be the most advantageous to the CCRCD, with price and all other factors considered. The proposer is cautioned that it is the proposer's sole responsibility to submit information related to the evaluation categories and the CCRCD is under no obligation to solicit such information if it is not included with the proposal. Failure of the individual or firm to submit such information may cause an adverse impact on the evaluation of the proposal. A Selection Committee shall be responsible for performing the evaluations of each proposal based on the following criteria:

1	Completeness of Proposal	Pass/Fail
2	Required Insurance/Licenses	Pass/Fail
3	Attendance to Pre-bid Tour	Pass/Fail
4	Qualifications & Experience & Workability	30 points
5	Approach/Strategy	30 points
6	Cost	30 points
7	Local Benefit	10 points
	Total	100 points

Pass/Fail Line Items: Items in rows 1 - 3 above must receive a "pass" score to be considered for contract award.

Completeness of Proposal: Proposal must adequately describe all items listed in rows 4-7 above.

Insurance:

1. **Workers Compensation Coverage** – Worker's Compensation Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance for employees in accordance with the laws of the State of California (including requiring any authorized subcontractor to obtain such insurance for its employees).
2. **General Liability Coverage** – Commercial general liability insurance with a minimum liability limit not less than \$2,000,000 for personal injury and property damages per occurrence)
3. **Automobile Liability Insurance** – with a minimum limit of liability per occurrence of \$1,000,000 for bodily injury and \$100,000 for property damage. This insurance shall cover all vehicles including hired cars, owned and non-owned vehicles
4. Contractors are encouraged to purchase 'Broad Form B' insurance.

Selected Contractor(s) shall add CCRCD to said insurance policies named as "additionally insured" and provide CCRCD with proof of insurance certificates for all insurance policies prior to implementation of the contract and throughout the full duration of the Agreement.

Qualifications & Experience:

Please Provide:

- Contractor name
- Proof of current California Contractor License (CA C61/D49/C49) or Licensed Timber Operator (LTO-A)

- Insurance Policies: See Section Above
- A short description of each piece of machinery including fire suppression equipment, that will be dedicated to this project (don't describe machinery that won't be working this project).
- The names/years of experience of each operator.
- Include the name and experience of the Contractor's representative who will be on-site managing the project daily.
- Provide a minimum of three references with at least one being within the last 18 months.

Fire Plan: Describe ability to meet the provided CCRCD Fire Plan requirements.

Approach:

- Describe the strategy and sequence of operations for treatment units.
- Treatment on steep slopes (over 40% grade) will depend on contractor's ability to treat and maintain safety standards. How these steep slopes are to be treated needs to be addressed in the proposal.
- Focus on the use of equipment and operator expertise in all areas of fuels reduction (i.e.: masticating, chipping, and erosion control).
- Finally, describe your most recent jobs that included mastication/chipping of trees and brush, including the date that each contract was executed, the date the contract was closed, and the acreage treated.

Cost: Provide your cost per acre in your proposal. If you provide total cost, assume the most amount of acres can be treated.

Local Benefit: In the interest of supporting local business, 10 points will be given to contractors based in Calaveras, Tuolumne, Amador and Alpine Counties.

AWARD PROCESS

Proposers will receive emailed Award/Non-Award notification(s) which will include the name of the proposer to be awarded this contract.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Public Records Access: Proposers should be aware that submitted proposals are subject to the California Public Records Act and may be disclosed to members of the public upon request. It is the responsibility of the proposers to clearly identify information in their proposals that they consider to be confidential under the California Public Records Act. To the extent that the CCRCD agrees with that designation, such information will be held in confidence whenever possible. All other information will be considered public.

Non-Discrimination: The Contractor selected through this RFP shall provide services without discrimination based on race, creed, color, ethnic or linguistic identification, gender or sexual preference, disability or handicap or any other basis prohibited by law.

All information regarding the proposals will be held as confidential until such time as the Review Committee has completed its evaluation and, or if, contract negotiations are completed.

PROTEST/APPEAL PROCESS

The following procedure is provided in the event a proposer wishes to protest the CCRCD evaluation and selection process or appeal the recommendation to award a contract for this contract award once the Notices of Award/No-Award have been issued.

- Any protest must be submitted in writing to:
CCRCD, Attention:
Project Manager
PO Box 1041
San Andreas, CA 95249
- The protest must be submitted or postmarked before 6:00 p.m. on the 10th calendar day following the date of the Notice of Award.
- The protest must contain a complete statement of the basis for the protest. The protest must include the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the person representing the protesting party.
- The procedure and time limits are mandatory and are the proposer's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of a proposal protest.

Proposer's failure to comply with these procedures shall constitute a waiver of any right to further pursue the protest, including filing a claim or legal proceedings.

Informal Response: Within ten (10) calendar days of receiving a timely written protest/appeal, the CCRCD will contact the protesting party and provide an opportunity to settle the protest/appeal by mutual agreement.

Formal Response: Within ten (10) calendar days following contact with the protesting party for informal resolution, the CCRCD will provide a written response to the protesting party. This written response shall be considered the final decision of the CCRCD.