

Exhibit A

APG PROJECT SERVICES CONTRACT STATEMENT OF WORK for Arcadia Ranch (LM.03) Fuels Reduction Project

Purpose

Project objectives are:

- Reduce wildfire hazards within the project area and to adjacent communities.
- Remove dead and dying trees infected by the mountain pine beetle and dwarf mistletoe.
- Help provide for a healthy residual stand that will be less susceptible to insects and disease.
- Create or retain local jobs.

General Description of Work

Contract crews will thin the overstory to reduce crown continuity, thin the understory to reduce ladder fuels and reduce overall surface fuel loadings. Both units have been marked, with leave trees flagged. Slash treatment will take place within the treatment unit. See **Section 5** below for specific slash requirements. Tree boles/trunks will be utilized by local markets. See **Section 4** for utilization requirements. All work will be monitored and approved by the Contract Administrator.

Unit Description

- **Location and Description:** The Arcadia Ranch fuels reduction project is located southwest of Estes Park, CO (see attached location map). The Project area is located on private land, divided between two landowners. The project area is divided into two units, both of which are flagged in pink flagging. The total size of the project area is 12 acres.
- **Legal Description:** Parcel Numbers – 3403300004, 3410000007, 3403300010, 3403300011, 3403300013, 3404400015 and 3410105001.
Township 04N, 73W, Section(s) 3, 4 and 10.
- **Access:** Access for this project is off of Highway 66 southwest of Estes Park. The eastern unit is accessed by taking Wind River Trail to Bighorn Trail. The western unit is accessed directly off of Wind River Trail and/or through YMCA property off of Summit Drive. Where needed, landings (size and location) will be approved by the Contract Administrator. Where applicable, log loading off adjacent roads will be utilized only if approved by the Contract Administrator. All roads are subject to specifications outlined in the **Road Construction/Rehabilitation Standards Section**.

Prescription

1. **Harvest Units:**

All trees within the harvest units that have not been flagged will be cut. All trees that are flagged will be retained. All dead aspen will be cut; all live aspen will be retained. All created slash will be treated on-site.

2. **Silvicultural Prescription:**

Uneven-aged, intermediate treatment. Mixed conifer; Target BA: 40 – 70 ft²/acre.

- 3. Leave Trees:** ALL flagged trees, including boundary trees, will be retained.
- Boundary trees have been flagged in pink flagging.
 - No trees will be cut outside of the flagged perimeter.
 - Leave trees within both units have been flagged in yellow or lime-green flagging.
 - All live aspen will be preserved and damage avoided to.
 - All trees under 3 feet in height will be retained, except in cases where they are within 3 feet of the dripline of another larger tree.

4. Utilization Specifications and Standards:

Utilization of merchantable material will be carried out whenever quality of material, access, terrain and other factors allow for product or biomass utilization. Specifications and standards outlined below must be followed if utilization is to be carried out.

- a. ___ All material is to be left on-site for use by landowner. Material will be cut into four foot lengths and piled. Firewood piles should not be located within drainages and at least 10 feet away from main roads and 30 feet away from homes and structures. Piles will be no greater than 10' x 10' x 8' (L x W x H) in size. Attempt to locate piles in clearings, at a minimum distance of 5' x 5' from the nearest tree.
- b. ___ All material 4" in diameter or greater and 8 feet in length or greater is to be removed from site for utilization in local markets.
 - i. ___ Decked by CONTRACTOR for later hauling.
 - 1. Deck locations must be approved by the Contract Administrator.
 - 2. Material in decks must meet minimum market specifications as outlined in **Appendix D**.
 - 3. Other decking specifications/requirements include:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - ii. ___ Removed by CONTRACTOR as part of Project Services Agreement.
- c. Combination of a and b above. Details to be discussed between all three parties (LANDOWNER, CONTRACTOR and CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR) and described below.

5. Slash Treatment: All created slash and non-utilized trees will be handled as follows:

- a. ___ Chipped on-site.
 - Chips will be broadcast to depths no greater than 2”.
 - Chips will be projected away from buildings.
 - No chips will be allowed outside of the treatment area.
 - An effort will be made by the contractor to spread chips out as broadly as possible.

- b. ___ Subject to lop-and-scatter.
 - Lop-and-scatter will only be utilized in areas 100 feet away from homes and 15 feet away from roads.
 - Drainages and steep, difficult-to-access sites will be the preferred areas for all lop-and scatter usage.
 - Lop-and-scatter slash to depths no greater than 18” in all areas.
 - Material ½ inch to 3 inches in diameter is the target fuel to meet the 18” depth criteria.
 - Keep all slash at least 3’ away from all residual trees.

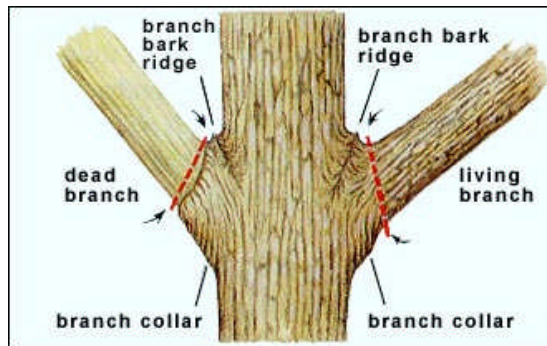
- c. ___ Piled for future burning.
 - Piles will be built to facilitate efficient burning. Specifications/requirements for pile burning will be explained to CONTRACTOR on-site if this method is used.
 - Pile Size – Tightly packed, locate in existing openings and/or on top of common juniper to promote consumption. Minimum size of 6’ x 6’ x 6’ and a maximum size of 10’ x 10’ x 8’ (L x W x H).

- d. ___ Hauled from site.

- e. ___ Combination of one or more above. Describe below.

6. Limbing of Trees: Where desired, retained trees greater than 4” DBH will be limbed.

- Limb all retained trees within both project units.
- Limb lower branches to 1/3 of the height of the tree for small trees, and up to eight feet for larger trees, whichever is less.
- Attempt to locate the limbing cut beyond the branch bark ridge and branch root collar (see diagram below).



7. Cutting Methods:

- Stump height of cut trees shall be no higher than 3 inches above ground as measured on the uphill side.
- Trees shall be completely severed from the stump.
- No trees shall be left suspended in, or leaning against, leave trees within or directly outside the unit boundary.

- 8. Protection of Retained Trees:** Contractor shall use low-quality trees or trees scheduled for removal as bumper trees. Contractors shall not fell trees into those that are to be preserved. Contractors shall avoid damage to the roots, trunks, or branches of trees to be preserved. The Contract Administrator shall be notified immediately in the event that preserved trees are damaged and/or removed.

Road Construction/Rehabilitation:

Existing roads will be used whenever possible. Additional roads, skid trails, and landings that are required will be located, constructed, and rehabilitated as determined by the Contract Administrator and will follow the “Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality”. Where necessary, all roads and skid trails will be rehabilitated by the Contractor following the **Road Construction/Rehabilitation Standards** outlined below. Prior to unit closeout all roads and skid trails must be inspected by the Contract Administrator.

Road Construction/Rehabilitation Standards: (Where Applicable)

Reclaim roads and other disturbed sites will use ends to prevent resource damage. Following completion of use, temporary roads and closed roads should be reclaimed by:

1. Pulling culverts and restoring stream crossings to natural grade.
2. Reestablishing natural drainage patterns with permanent rolling dips.
3. Ripping along the entire disturbed length to a depth of at least 4 inches, except where vegetation has already been established.
4. Seeding or planting along the ripped or re-contoured sections with a native vegetation mix approved by the Contract Administrator.
5. Establishing water control measures where deemed necessary by the Contract Administrator.

Additional Performance Standards:

- The Contract Administrator may suspend or limit operations if excess damage is occurring due to mud, snow, extreme fire danger, etc. or due to the following situation(s): failure to meet contract specifications.
- Where road/trail closures are necessary the Contractor must work with the Contract Administrator to ensure all the following steps have been taken. “Road/Trail Closed” signs will be provided and posted by Contractor at both ends of the trail and in any other necessary locations as determined by the Contract Administrator; and any other precautions as determined by the Contract Administrator.
- Contractor must provide and locate signs to inform the general public of logging operations in the area prior to commencement of any work. These signs must meet the DOT requirements and/or be approved by the Contract Administrator.
- Contractor must submit a detailed work plan with the Contract Administrator and complete a detailed site walk through with Contract Administrator before work may commence. Work plan must include dates of when work will start, order in which units will be completed, estimated time to complete each unit, traffic control plan and spill prevention plan.

- All hazardous materials stored on site must be approved by the Contract Administrator. Any hazardous materials must be identified in the spill prevention plan.
- Skidding will not be allowed across active or inactive ditches unless approved by Contract Administrator.
- Fences exist through the contract units; where necessary the fences can be temporary removed, but must be restored prior to close out of units.

Inherent Dangers:

The following physical hazards are located on or near the property and may not be obvious: Dead trees, steep slopes, barbed wire fencing, stream crossings, vehicle traffic, blind curves, pedestrians, homes and outbuildings, onlookers, overhead power lines, etc.

Subcontracting:

This agreement or any interest therein, may not be assigned without prior, written consent of the Contract Administrator.

Damage Penalty:

The **CONTRACTOR** shall conduct all operations in a timely manner and shall take all necessary precautions to protect the remaining forest stand. Excessive damage to the remaining forest stand or the removal of undesignated products will be paid for at the **current market rate**. Damages incurred to the site will be charged at actual repair costs, plus appropriate administrative time.