

Memorandum

Date: January 10, 2020
To: Board of Directors
From: Kellyx Nelson
Re: Recommendation of Qualified Contractors to Support the RCD's Forest Health and Fire Resiliency Program

RCD staff recommends four qualified contractors to support the RCD's Forest Health and Fire Resiliency (FHFR) program which conducts forest management and fuel reduction projects throughout San Mateo County, and the adjacent Santa Cruz Mountain range when the projects are part of the Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network in which the San Mateo RCD participates. The services will be rendered through December 31, 2020. Current funding for this work is \$150,000, with additional funding likely.

One or more of the qualified contractors will work with RCD staff and collaborating agencies (such as CAL FIRE and SFPUC) to support activities related to:

- Project planning and development of management plans (e.g. Timber Harvest Plans, Notice of Emergency Timber Operations for Fuel Hazard Reduction, revegetation plans, Vegetation Management Plans, invasive species removal plans, pest/diseased tree removal plans, etc.)
- Permitting (e.g. California Environmental Quality Act, Coastal Development Permits, County of San Mateo Significant Tree Removal Permit, avoidance and minimization measures, biological assessments, etc.)
- Support for overseeing project implementation for fuel reduction, tree removal, revegetation, etc.
- Participation in development of outreach materials and outreach efforts with stakeholders

On December 24, 2019 San Mateo RCD distributed a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) via email to seven firms and registered professional foresters. Four responded by the deadline (January 9, 2020) and all four submissions were complete. RCD staff has reviewed the qualifications of each contractor that responded to the RFQ and recommends them as a portfolio of potential contractors based on their specialized training and experience related to permitting for forest health and fuel load reduction projects in the region, and positive previous experiences working with RCD collaborators and stakeholders. The recommended contractors are:

1. Steve Auten, Auten Resource Consulting
2. Nadia Hamey, Hamey Woods
3. Tad Mason, TSS Consultants
4. Scott Eckardt, Dudek