

Memorandum

Date: March 16, 2023
To: Board of Directors
From: Kellyx Nelson
Re: Recommendation to contract with Mountain F. Enterprises, Inc. for the Butano State Park Forest Health Project

RCD staff recommends the Board of Directors approve contracting with Mountain F. Enterprises, Inc.¹ for implementation of the Butano State Park Forest Health Project. The scope of work is to treat 408 acres of understory treatment (392 acres of mechanical mastication, 16 acres of hand thinning) and 53 acres of thinning moderate range diameter trees (16 – 36” diameter at breast height). In some areas treatments will overlap, totaling 415 estimated acres of vegetation treatment.

These treatments will reduce the density and continuity of dead, dying, diseased, and overly dense vegetation, and promote ecosystems dominated by healthy, disturbance-tolerant native vegetation represented by a mosaic of species, sizes, and age-classes. The purpose of this project is to improve the health of the forest for biodiversity while additionally reducing the risk of high intensity fire, i.e. the type of fire most likely to have ecosystem impacts that include loss of trees and biodiversity.

A Request for Bids was distributed to approximately 40 vegetation management firms, and shared publicly via the RCD’s website, Half Moon Bay Review, and four trade journals. Seventeen firms attended a mandatory pre-bid site tour. Five of the seventeen firms submitted bids, all by the deadline of March 1, 2023. Bids were opened during a public bid opening held on March 2, 2023 with the following results:

- Brush Hog Tree Care (\$773,890.00)
- Mountain F. Enterprises, Inc. (\$1,821,537.50)
- Atlas Tree Surgery, Inc. (\$1,965,562.70)
- Community Tree Service, Inc. (\$2,571,625.00)
- The Professional Tree Care Co. (\$4,814,200.00)

RCD and State Parks staff and the consulting forester for the project reviewed the bid documents and determined that Mountain F. Enterprises, Inc. is the lowest cost responsible bidder for the project. Brush Hog Tree Care’s bid, while lower, did not include the quantity or type of equipment needed to complete the project on time. [Brush Hog Tree Care has

¹ <https://mtfent.com/>

successfully completed previous work with San Mateo RCD, including hazard tree assessments and the chipping program, and is an anticipated contractor for this year's chipping program.] Mountain F. Enterprises, Inc. has experience working with local RCDs, CALFIRE, and on public lands. Additionally, the RCD partnered with the firm to successfully complete the Huddart and Wunderlich Forest Health and Fuel Reduction Project (396 acres of mastication) in 2021 and 2022.

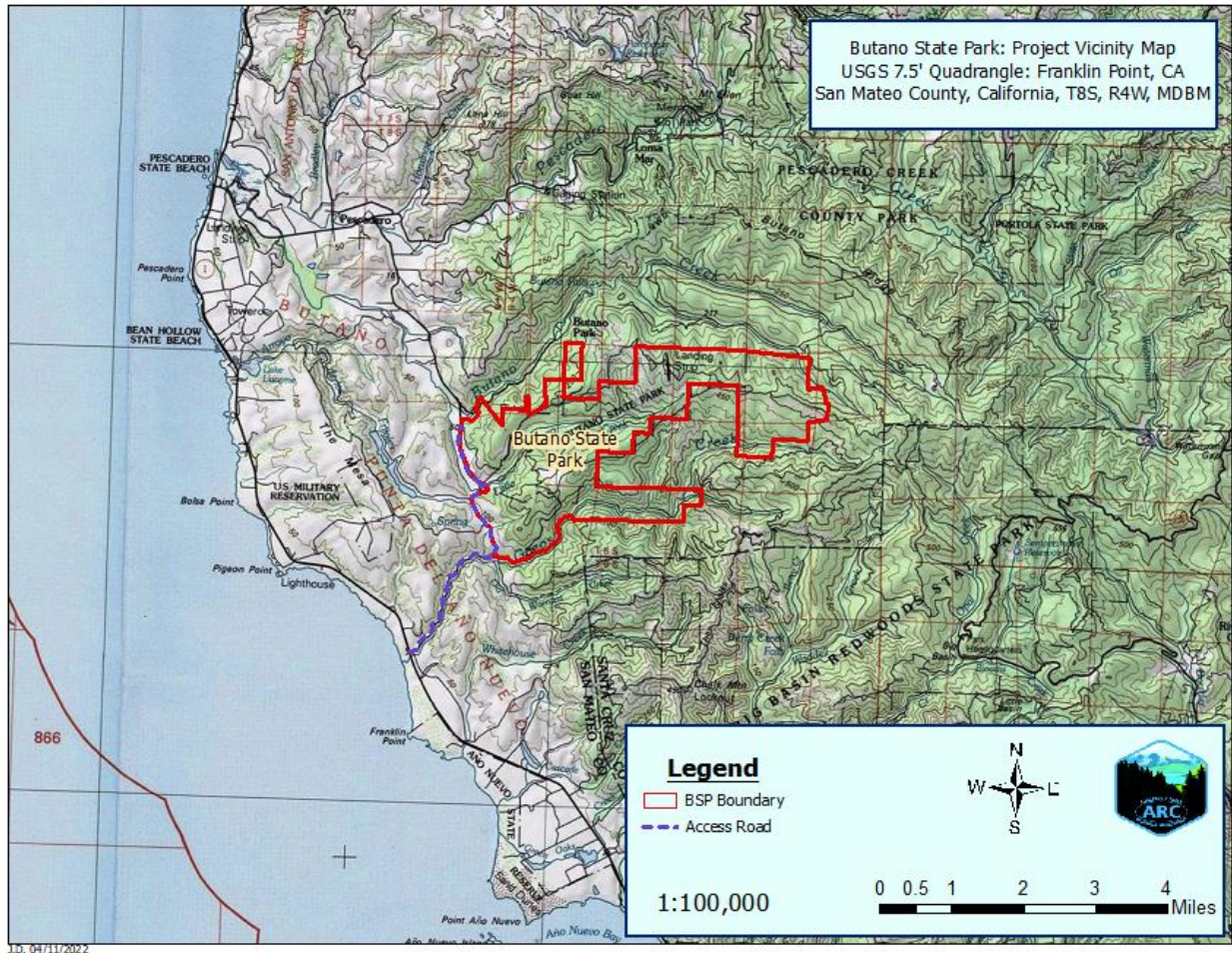


Figure 1. Project Location Map