Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District
2101 S Broadway, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
(575) 894-2212

Request for Proposals
Cookes Peak Thinning Phase I - ADDENDUM 3

Overview – The Sierra SWCD is seeking a Contractor with the experience and equipment to follow a hand-thinning/piling prescription provided by the Bureau of Land Management on private and state land in Luna County, New Mexico. Insurance and proper licensing are required for this project. Potential contractor and staff must be able to distinguish and identify native woody species in the area.

Deliverables – Potential contractor will follow the prescription provided in this RFP to hand thin and pile specific woody species within the project area.

Scope – Contractors shall use equipment with adequate power and design to efficiently perform all tasks associated with each jobsite. Specifications for each type of thinning activity are listed below. Please submit the specifications for the equipment that you intend to use on this project in your proposal, such as capacity, output, etc. All equipment must meet current EPA and OSHA requirements.

Thinning Prescription

Cut and pile all species following these prescriptions.

1) Cut all pinon trees smaller than 8" Diameter at Root Collar (DRC) [measured at mineral soil on the uphill side of the tree].
2) Cut all **single stem** juniper trees using the following guidelines at Diameter at Root Collar (DRC)
    a. One-seed juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*): 8" DRC
    b. Alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*): 8" DRC
3) Cut all **multiple stem** juniper trees using the following guidelines at Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) [typically measured at 4.5ft off the ground]
    a. One-seed juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*): DBH if no single stem is larger than 8"
    b. Alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*): DHB if no single stem is larger than 8"
4) **Leave all Arizona Cypress** *(Hesperocyparis arizonica)* **within treatment area.**

Stump Height

All trees other than leave trees (Arizona Cypress) shall be cut below the lowest live limb, except when prevented by natural obstacles. All live limbs below the cutting point shall be removed. Trees shall be completely severed from the stump. Stump height shall not exceed eight inches above ground level or four inches above natural obstacles.

Piling Specifications

Pile all slash (twigs, branches, bolls, etc.) at least 20 feet away from live Arizona Cypress trees. Piles should be no taller than 6ft tall within diameters so greater than 8ft. 50ft downslope from ridge top slash material may be scattered and no longer piled.

Miscellaneous Specifications

Cultural Resources, Safety, Emergency Fire Precautions, Fire Toolbox, Equipment Requirements, Violations, etc. can be found in the full Thinning Prescription attached as **Appendix A**.

Schedule – Work shall be completed no later than June 1, 2026. We anticipate that this schedule will allow enough time for Contractor to complete project.

There will be a **required** project site visit for interested offerers on **January 28th 2026, reach out to Taylor Roberts for time and location (naturalresource@sierraswcd.com)**.

Management – Sierra SWCD or the BLM will inspect Contractor's equipment at the start of project. Sierra SWCD or BLM staff will be on site throughout project to ensure any issues are solved as efficiently and quickly as possible. Once a project is completed, an inspection of the work will occur. If project is certified completed to standards, the Contractor may then issue an invoice to the Sierra SWCD. The Sierra SWCD will issue payment by check within sixty days of receipt of the invoice.

Insurance – The Sierra SWCD will require the Contractor to have the following insurance in place prior to start of the contract. Letter to Proceed will NOT be issued until these insurances are in place and proof has been delivered to the Sierra SWCD.

A. Workers Compensation (including accident and disease coverage) at the statutory limit. Employer's liability: $100,000.
B. Comprehensive General Liability (including endorsements providing broad form property damage, personal injury coverage and contractual assumption of liability for all liability the Contractor has assumed under this Agreement). Limits shall not be less than the following:
    1) Bodily injury: $1,000,000 per person/$1,000,000 per occurrence
    2) Property damage or combined single limit coverage: $1,000,000.
    3) Automobile liability (including non-owned automobile coverage): $1,000,000.
    4) Umbrella: $1,000,000.
C. Contractor shall maintain the above insurance for the term of the agreement and name the State of New Mexico, Sierra SWCD or other party to this agreement as an additional insured and provide 30 days cancellation notice on any Certificate of Insurance form furnished by Contractor. Such certificate shall also specifically state the coverage provided under the policy is primary over any other valid and collectible insurance and provide a waiver of subrogation.

Taxes – Contractor shall be solely responsible for and shall pay all applicable State of New Mexico taxes including excise taxes, and gross receipts taxes in connection with this agreement and the operations conducted there under.

Mandatory Forms That Must Be Submitted with Proposal:

- Proposal Quote Form
- Proof of Insurance

Proposal Delivery:

- **By email**: naturalresource@sierraswcd.com
- **By mail or in person**: 2101 S Broadway, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901. Send by USPS or UPS.
- Pictures of equipment should be attached/submitted with proposal. They do not have to be incorporated into text of quote.
- **Proposals must be received by 12:00 PM MST on February 4th, 2026.**

Contact Person

Taylor Roberts
naturalresource@sierraswcd.com
(575) 528-8491

Proposal Evaluation Criteria: Contract will be awarded to the contractor with appropriate equipment and who is the most advantageous to Sierra SWCD.

Evaluation:

The Sierra SWCD will review proposals on **February 4th, 2026** and selected contractor will be notified the following day.

The Sierra SWCD reserves the right to accept all or a portion of an entity's proposal; to reject any or all proposals received as a result of this request and may negotiate in any manner necessary to serve the best interests of the State of New Mexico. The Sierra SWCD reserves the right to make an award without further discussion or negotiation of proposals.

Attachments to this RFQ:

Appendix A – Full Thinning Prescription
Appendix B – Project Area Map
Appendix C – Brush Inventory completed by BLM staff
Appendix D – Proposal Quote Form (to be turned in with your plan)

Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District
2101 S Broadway, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
(575) 894-2212

Appendix A

Cookes Peak Thinning Prescription
Bureau of Land Management
Las Cruces District Office

Thinning Prescription

Cut and pile all species following these prescriptions.

• Cut all piñon trees smaller than 8” Diameter at Root Collar- measured at mineral soil on the uphill side of the tree (DRC)

• Cut all single stem juniper trees using the following guidelines at Diameter Root Caller (DRC) - measured at the base of the tree just above mineral soil. One- seed Junipers – 8“ DRC and Alligator Juniper – 8 inches DRC

• Cut all multiple stem juniper trees using the following guidelines at Diameter Breast Height (DBH). One- seed Junipers – if no single stem is larger than 8 “ DBH and Alligator Juniper if no stem is larger than 8” DBH.

• Leave all Arizona Cypress within treatment area.

Stump Height

All trees other than leave trees shall be cut below the lowest live limb, except when prevented by natural obstacles. All live limbs below the cutting point shall be removed. Trees shall be completely severed from the stump. Stump height shall not exceed eight inches above ground level or four inches above natural obstacles.

Piling Specifications

• Pile all slash (twigs, branches, bolls, etc.) at least 20 feet away from live Arizona Cypress. Piles should be no taller than 6’ tall with diameters no greater than 8’.
• 50ft downslope from ridgetop slash material may be scattered and no longer piled.

Cultural Resources

a) Contractor shall avoid and shall protect all known and identified historic or prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties related to American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture against destruction, obliteration, removal, or damage during Contractor’s operations.

b) Contractor shall immediately notify the Project Manager if any sites are discovered during project implementation and immediately halt operations in the vicinity of the site until BLM authorizes the Contractor to proceed.

c) Contractor shall immediately notify the Project Manager if any disturbance occurs to any known site and shall immediately halt operations in the vicinity of the site until Project Manager authorizes the Contractor to proceed.

d) Contractor shall not operate wheeled equipment within such areas.

Safety

When Contractor's operations are in progress adjacent to or on roads and trails open to public travel, Contractor shall furnish, install and maintain all temporary traffic controls if needed, to provide the public with adequate warning of, hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions associated with Contractor's operations. Devices shall be appropriate to current conditions and shall be covered or removed when not needed.

Emergency Fire Precautions

EMERGENCY FIRE PRECAUTION SCHEDULE	
FIRE RESTRICTION/CLOSURE "STAGE"	
"STAGED" RESTRICTION LEVELS	INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION PLAN
NO RESTRICTIONS	A
STAGE I	B
STAGE II	C or D
PARTIAL/ FOREST CLOSURE **	D
RED FLAG WARNING (Issued by National Weather Service)	D

Partial Forest Closure: PTP areas which are outside the boundaries of the partial forest closure may continue to operate under Industrial Fire Precaution Plan "C" operating criteria as agreed upon between the Project Manager and Contractor in writing. PTP areas within the boundaries of the proclaimed partial forest closure area are to operate under Industrial Fire Precaution Plan "D".

Staged restrictions levels are determined by the BLM Line Officer in conjunction with other land management jurisdictions. The process is a mix of quantitative and subjective measures which allows BLM Line Officers a broad level of discretion considering local conditions and issues when deciding to implement fire restrictions or area closures.

INDUSTRIAL FIRE PRECAUTION PLAN – DESCRIPTIONS

A - Normal Fire Precautions. No Fire Guard required, except for welding operations.

B - Normal Fire Precautions, except designated areas for smoking and warming or cooking fires require a written permit. Contractor will provide Fire Guard.

C - All power saws and mechanical fellers except for mechanical fellers equipped with hydraulic shears will shut down from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (10 a.m. to 9 p.m. MDT), except chainsaws may be used from 9: a.m. until 2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (10 a.m. to 3: p.m. MDT), for liming on landings cleared to mineral soil. Loading is authorized to continue from noon until 2 p.m., Mountain Standard Time (1 p.m. to 3 p.m. MDT), on landings cleared to mineral soil. Log hauling trucks must be out of the area covered by this PTP and to a surfaced road by 2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (3 p.m. MDT). Shutdown from noon until 8 p.m. Mountain Standard Time (1 p.m. to 9 p.m. MDT); all

machine treatment of slash; mechanical equipment used for shearing, bunching, or de-liming; skidding; cable yarding; blasting; welding; metal cutting; and clearing. Operations on mineral soil involving road excavation, watering, grading, surfacing, rock crushing, or other equipment maintenance may continue. No smoking, warming or cooking fires are permitted at any time. Contractor will provide Fire Guard.

D - Shutdown all operations; except operations on mineral soil involving road excavation, watering, grading, gravel surfacing, and rock crushing may continue with special USFS permit. Welding is prohibited. Contractor will provide Fire Guard.

XVI. BLM Escaped Fire Plan – Applicable upon declaration of Fire Season

The Contractor shall be responsible for the cost of suppressing all fires caused by his operation, and for all damage to any property of the BLM or third parties. The BLM reserves the right to participate in extinguishing any fires caused by the Contractor's operations and the Contractor shall reimburse the BLM for the cost of all suppression, activities ordered or directed by the BLM.

1. Fire Prevention - During periods of PTP performance, fire requirements shall be met by the Contractor.

2. Compliance Inspection

• Inspection by the BLM shall be made to ensure compliance with the fire requirements.

• Should any deficiencies appear during the inspection, the Contractor and project manager will be informed and the deficiencies shall be corrected within 24 hours. Activities with the potential to start fires shall be halted until the deficiencies are corrected and the corrections approved by the Project Manager.

• The Contractor's fire plan representative shall make daily inspections to ensure that the terms of the fire requirements are met at all times.

Fire Tool Box

During PTP performance, the Contractor shall furnish and maintain, at the Contractor's expense, one fire toolbox at the campsite or some central location, as long as it is within one-quarter mile of the location where the Contractor is currently performing work.

• The fire toolbox is to be maintained with tools in good condition in the following quantities for each five people in the Contractor's work force. The equipment is for the sole purpose of firefighting. Four shovels, two axes, one Pulaski, and five one-gallon canteens. Where needed, brush hooks and McLeod tools may be substituted for shovels or axes.

• The fire toolbox shall be replenished by the Contractor after each incidence of fire use.

• Work Hours - The Contractor shall restrict operations in accordance with the emergency fire precaution schedule unless the project inspector waives the

requirement in writing. Each day of operation when there is a predicted change in the fire precaution plan, the project managwe will inform the Contractor between 3 and 6 p.m. MST (4 and 7 p.m. MDT). Notification will be made of the fire precaution plan to be followed the next day within the local operating area. No later than 9 a.m. MST (10 a.m. MDT) the following day, the BLM will inform the Contractor of any change in the fire precaution schedule.

• Welding - An area commensurate with the amount of welding to be accomplished shall be cleared before welding operations are started. Written permission must be obtained from the Project Manager during fire precaution plan B, C and D. As a minimum, a three-to-five gallon backpack pump filled with water is to be available in addition to the vehicle fire extinguisher. The area in the immediate vicinity of the operation shall be wet down before and after operations. The area adjacent to the welding operations shall be thoroughly checked for fires for one hour after welding.

• Fire Guard - The Contractor shall designate at least one representative to train and supervise each work crew in fire prevention, detection, and suppression.

To prevent, detect, and suppress fires, the Contractor shall provide a trained fire guard for projects involving internal combustion engines. The fireguard shall perform guard duties during operating hours. The fireguard may perform work plan work in conjunction with fireguard duties.

Each fireguard shall report all fires and take suppression action on any fire that starts on the project area. Each fire guard shall be equipped with a vehicle and a fire tool cache consisting of a fire cache box, two shovels, two Pulaski's, two McLeod tools, and two 4 to 5 gallon back pack pumps filled with water. All equipment and tools shall be maintained in serviceable condition.

5. Fire Suppression

• The Contractor shall take independent action on the suppression of all fires in the work area or vicinity. Vicinity is defined as a 1/4 mile extension from the operations area boundary.

• All forest fires shall be reported to the Project Manager as soon as possible. Even though the fire has been suppressed by the Contractor's crew, this report is required. The office and telephone number to which fires shall be reported will be furnished to the Contractor by the Project Manager prior to start of the project.

Equipment Requirements

• All gasoline and diesel equipment (except turbocharged) used on the project shall be equipped with spark arresters approved in the Spark Arrester Guide, USDA Forest Service, June 1983.

• All internal combustion engines must be inspected before use on the job and periodically thereafter by the Project Manager. Equipment not passing inspection cannot be used until repairs are made.

• Serviceable baffled mufflers with standard exhaust tailpipes are considered adequate on trucks, pickups, and sedans.

• Equipment service areas and gas and oil storage areas shall be cleared of brush, litter, debris, and grass for a radius of at least 50 feet.

• Each piece of motorized equipment shall be equipped with a round-pointed shovel and fire extinguisher.

• Fuel trucks, service trucks, and the primary job site shall be equipped with a shovel, DB axe, and class ABC pressurized chemical fire extinguisher of not less than 15 pounds capacity by weight.

The shovels and fire extinguishers are in addition to those required for the Toolbox. These shall be furnished and maintained at the thinning Contractor’s expense.

• Power saws shall be kept in a safe, serviceable condition at all times. Each power saw shall be equipped with an approved spark arrester/muffler system meeting the SAE J-335b standard.

• The refueling of power saws shall be done on mineral soil and the saw shall be moved at least 10 feet from the point of refueling to another barren spot before being started.

• Power saws with warm or hot spark arresters/mufflers (running or not) shall not be placed or rested on sawdust piles, litter duff, stumps or spots that are easily ignited.

• Each power saw shall be accompanied by one round pointed shovel in good condition and a metal fuel-safety can. One chemical pressurized fire extinguisher, 8 ounces or larger, is to be kept with the power saw operator at all times while working on the project. The shovel is to be kept with the fuel supply.

Smoking and Fires

• Smoking

• No smoking shall be allowed while traveling, except on surfaced roads. A surfaced road is any road that is oiled, graveled or otherwise paved.

• Smoking is not permitted while working. Smoking is only permitted on breaks in areas having a clearing of at least 3 feet in diameter to bare soil.

• Fires - No warming, burning of debris, or cooking fires shall be permitted during periods of high or above fire danger except in designated places or by written permission.

Violations

• Violations of the smoking regulations (36 CFR 261.52(a)(c)(d) and fire requirement will result in criminal action against the violator. The Contractor shall advise all employees of this regulation.

• Violation or deficiencies of fire requirements shall result in immediate suspension of operations until the deficiency or violation is corrected. Repetitive violations will be grounds for default termination.

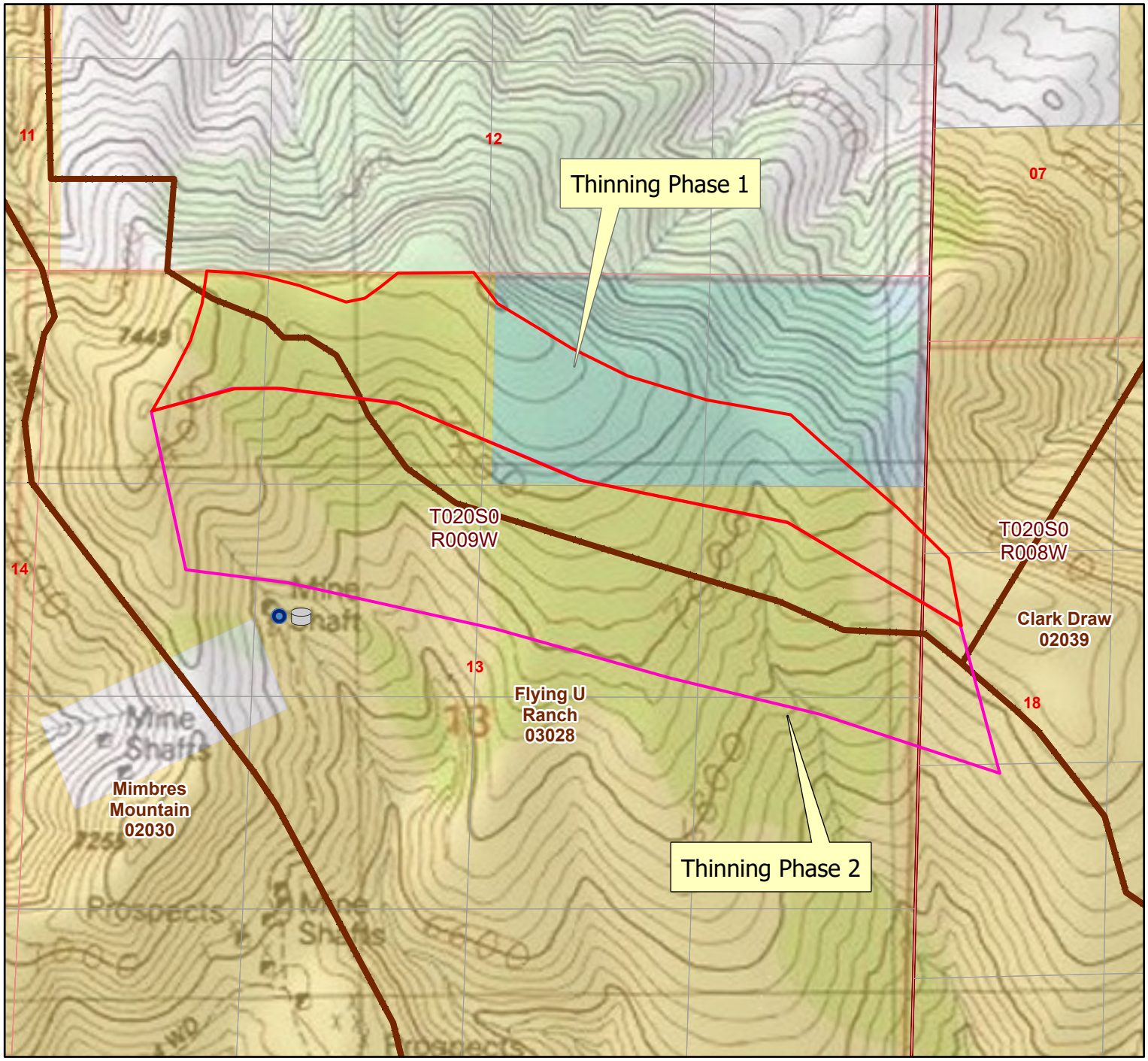
Appendix B

Project Area Map

Cooke's Peak Thinning RX

Bureau of Land Management- Las Cruces District Office

Luna County



Grazing Allotments

Improvement Type

Well with Storage

IMP CAT, IMP TYPE

Fenceline

NM Counties

Sections

QQ Sections

Townships

Transportation

Interstate Highway

US Highway

State Highway

Other

Surface Ownership

BLM

Private

State

Cooke's Peak RX Phase 2

Cooke's Peak RX Phase 2

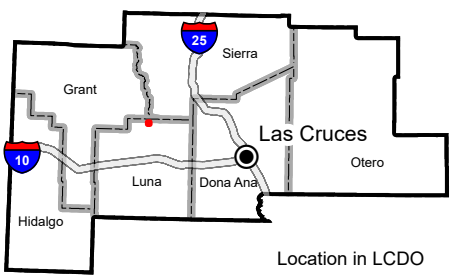
Cooke's Peak RX Phase 1

0 0.15 0.3 Miles

Map Produced by: BLM Las Cruces District Office
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 13N
File: LCDO_Basemap
1:10,731
Scale: 1:0
Date: 7/30/2025

N

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data, or for purposes not intended by the BLM. Spatial information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This information is subject to change without notification.



Location in LCDO

Appendix C

Brush Inventory

Inventory Data Sheet Brush Management JP, DM, LP, MW, JV, JB on 6/26/24

Plot #	Species	#	Species	#	10th/ac/#	Location/UTM	Total acre #
	AZ Cypress						
P-1	HEAR22	20			20	32.5755, -107.72769	200
P-2	HEAR22	14			14	32.57597, -107.72637	140
P-3	HEAR22	14			14	32.57541, -107.72561	140
P-4	HEAR22	5			5	32.57479, -107.7247	50
P-5	HEAR22	8			8	32.57576, -107.72914	80
P-6	HEAR22	3			3	32.5753, -107.73001	30
P-7	HEAR22	0			0	32.57501, -107.72975	0
P-8	HEAR22	3			3	32.57555, -107.72835	30
P-9	HEAR22	8			8	32.57536, -107.72678	80
P-10	HEAR22	0			0	32.57453, -107.72526	0
						Total	750
						Average/acre	75

Notes: The majority of the healthy trees are over the edge of the rim and on steep slopes. Observed many seedlings emerging from the center or arund bases of mature dead cypress. Also observed cypress with 50% living biomass on the bottom half of the trees as the top half was dead. Other biomass observed was pinion juniper, alligator juniper, Gambels Oak, annual & perrenial grasses, and other srhubs and forbs.

Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District
2101 S Broadway, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
(575) 894-2212

Appendix D

Proposal Quote Form

Cookes Peak Thinning Phase I

Proposal Quote Form

Contracting Company: _____

Address: _____

Company Contact for Project: _____

Phone Number: _____

Quote for thinning (per acre): _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Date:_____

For Sierra Soil & Water Conservation District:

Date/Time of Quote Submitted: _____

Quote received by: _____

Signature of Sierra SWCD Staff: _____