

PS 2024-001 Addendum #1

Proponent Questions & Answers

Proponent questions in bold.

Does the project entail harvesting the timber, as well as disposing of all the slash, or is it more so a cleanup project for after the primary company completes the harvest?

The 2024-26 Bow Valley Fireguard Debris Disposal Request for Proposal does NOT involve harvesting. This Request for Proposals is for the disposal of post-harvest debris piles piled by the harvest contractor to the specifications listed in Section 7 – Project Specifications.

If the former, will the haul roads be active prior to project commencement? Who would be responsible for putting them in?

The harvest contractor is responsible for haul road construction.

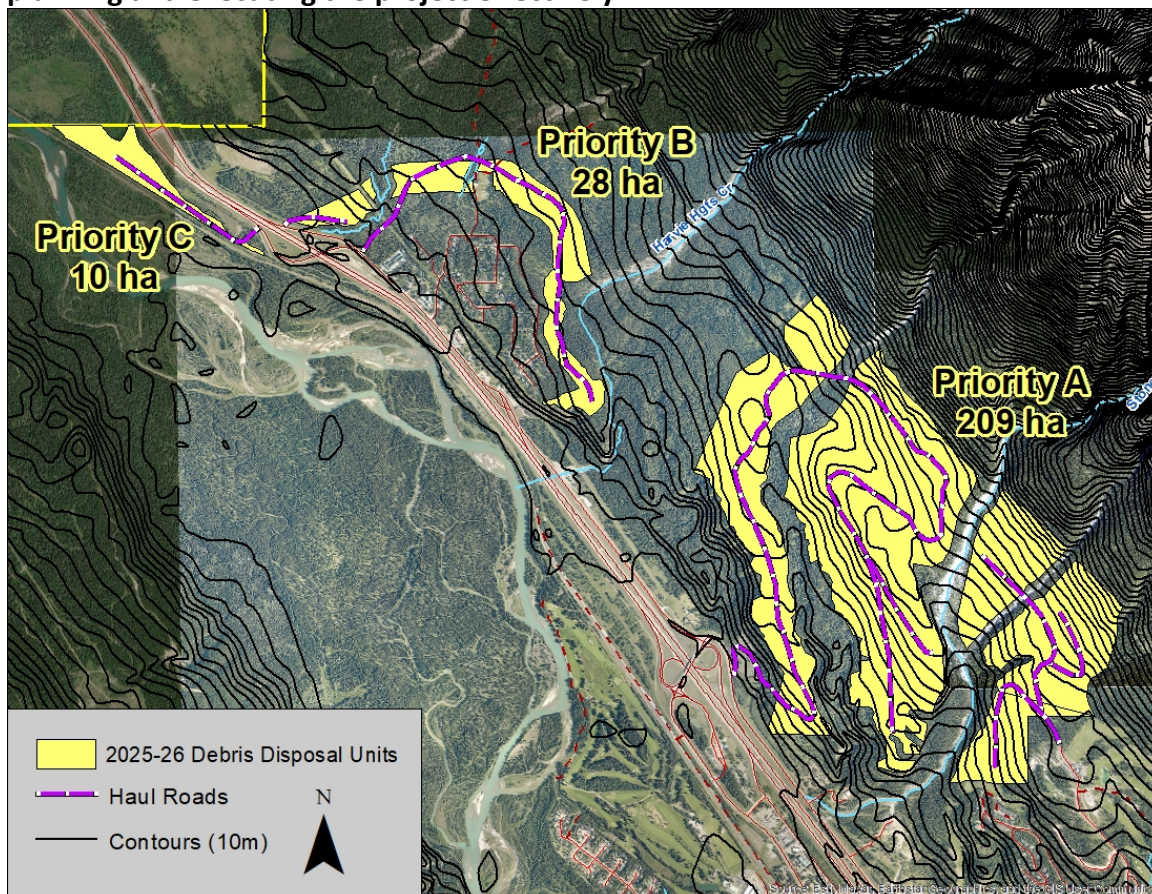
Who is the forester in charge of the project?

This is not relevant to proposal submissions.

Will the areas be entirely clear-cut, or will some selective logging still be left in some areas?

The majority of areas will be fully harvested with patch retention. Some areas will be mechanically selective harvested.

Could we possibly obtain a topographic map from the logging contractors? This would greatly assist us in planning and executing the project effectively.



Can we burn the piles on the existing ground, or do we need to use burning tubs?

Proposals will be evaluated based on Project Plan and Price. Please provide your proposed burning method(s) and the related price(s) in your proposal.

If we are to use burn tubs, which type(s) of tub(s) is/are permissible?

Please provide your proposed burning methods and equipment details in your proposal.

Would it be possible to have a copy of the CFA regulations specific to this project and this matter?

Please see Attachment 1 of this document.

Will the trees limbs & tops be cut at the stumps and the logs hauled to the landing, or will the trees be skidded to the landing and processed there?

Logs will be processed at roadside BUT there will be harvest debris piles scattered throughout the block as well.

Are we allowed to make temporary trails to the piles if they are too far away from the log haul access roads or roadsides?

That is not preferred – provide your rationale and de-activation process if you wish to do so

Rough volume of piles to be burnt?

Pile volumes are not available. If debris volumes are important to a proponent's submission they should determine their own estimates and ensure they consider this in their pricing proposal.

Is there an operational plan for the harvesting operations that we can access?

Estimated harvest commencement timelines are:

- Stoneworks Creek East – November 18/24
- Stoneworks Creek West – December 9/24
- Harvie Heights – February 18/25
- East Park Gates – March 4/25

Are there other fire permits that Canmore issues? And is there a cost associated with these?

Canmore would issue fire permits within the Town boundary and the cost is \$138 and the Town would waive this cost

What other burning restrictions may be imposed based on conditions, and where can we find a clear delineation of what conditions will result in what restrictions?

Service Provider to commence debris pile disposal in December/2024-January/2025, based on conditions, until March/2026 or until wildfire hazard conditions result in unsafe burning conditions subject to the following conditions:

- Town of Canmore and Alberta Forestry and Parks are the fire authorities and reserve the right to set any burning conditions they feel are appropriate and to discontinue burning at any time due to hazardous or poor smoke venting conditions - Service Provider is responsible for:
 - Obtaining a Fire Permit from the fire authority and following all conditions on the permit
 - Provision of adequate fire equipment as necessary
 - Piles must be tended at all times while burning
 - Complete extinguishment of piles (if applicable) daily prior to leaving site - this condition may be reduced if snow and weather conditions permit
 - Thermal-image scanning of all ash piles or burn piles prior to abandonment
 - Debris piles may be burned during favorable conditions as determined by the fire authority

Is this determined by the fire chief?

They are determined by Canmore Fire Rescue Fire Chief or Alberta Forestry and Parks depending on jurisdiction

What metrics are there in place to determine sufficient venting to burn on any given day?

Currently there are no metrics in place

Are there days where burning isn't permitted (ie: xc ski races, movie filming, x-mas holidays)?

This depends on the type of burning that the service provider is conducting, the amount of smoke generated, and the current and forecasted weather. Currently scheduled events that may impact burning windows occur on:

- Silvertip Golf Course Events – Dates unknown
- Canmore Nordic Centre - December 13-15/24
- Christmas Holidays – December 24-26/24 and January 1/2025 inclusive
- Canmore Nordic Centre - January 17-19/25
- Canmore Nordic Centre - March 17-23/25

To confirm, this only involves the burning of the debris piles (to complete extinguishment), and not the collection/ piling of any harvest debris that is not piled by the harvesting crew. Correct?

Correct

Does this require a person to be physically onsite during any times while burning operations are ongoing (until the thermal scanning has been completed)?

Service Provider must provide an onsite supervisor at all times during operations

And if burning is occurring in different units at the same time, will each of those units need their own person in attendance?

Service Provider must provide an onsite supervisor at all times during operations

Is this area within the Canmore township lands?

- Stoneworks Creek – Town of Canmore
- Harvie Heights – MD of Bighorn No.8
- East Park Gates – MD of Bighorn No.8

And if so, does the restriction on Sunday work apply?

Work must adhere to Town of Canmore Community Standards Bylaw 2022-16 and Municipal District of Bighorn No.8 Bylaw No. 07/09, depending on the jurisdiction where the work is being completed.

What are the maximum and minimum pile sizes?

There are no maximum and minimum pile sizes - Section 7–Project Specifications of the RFP states:

- Harvest debris will be mechanically-piled at roadside AND within the Units by the harvesting company as per the following standards:
 - Pile all harvest debris (limbs/tops/unmerch), leaning, and dead & down trees and bolts ≥ 7.5 cm diameter at smallest end
 - All debris to be piled clean and tight for future burning:
 - Pieces shall not exceed 3 metres in length and tops and butts shall be alternated throughout the pile to improve burning success
 - All debris piles to be a minimum of 25 metres from residual clusters

Is this the expectation of canmore to meet the conditions "complete extinguishment of fires daily prior to leaving site"?

Section 7 – Project Specifications states “Complete extinguishment of piles (if applicable) daily prior to leaving site - this condition may be reduced if snow and weather conditions permit”

What specific metrics/thresholds are to be present to result in a relaxation of these conditions? (What specific level of snow depth, snow area % coverage, air min/max temps, wind speeds, etc would result in not being required to extinguish the piles daily).

These thresholds will be evaluated and determined throughout the project based on current snow conditions and forecasted weather

Are the work areas within regions where bylaws limit the hours a machine may operate (are we able to operate equipment on these sites 24 hours per day?)

Town of Canmore and MD of Bighorn No.8 allow operations between 07:00 – 22:00 hours

If a permit or variance is required, is there a cost for those?

Town of Canmore – yes, per the Community Standards Bylaw 2022-16 a permit is required. No fee associated.
Municipal District of Bighorn No. 8 – yes, per Bylaw No. 07/09, CAO permission required.

We just wanted to clarify that the proposal is for the burning of piles made by the harvesting company only.

The RFP is for the disposal of all harvest debris piles created by the harvesting company

We wanted to confirm if there is leftover brush and debris after harvesting would this clean up be the responsibility of the debris disposal contractor?

Leftover brush and debris from harvesting is NOT the responsibility of the debris disposal Service Provider

Would there be any requirements to clean up the smaller regen trees or would this be handled by the harvesting company as part of their contract?

Section 7 – Project Specifications does NOT require the debris disposal Service Provider to clean up the smaller regen trees

Calgary Forest Area Conditions – Bow Valley Fireguard Debris Disposal

October 29, 2024

Wildfire season in Alberta is March 1st to October 31st of each year, unless otherwise specified through Ministerial Order. Outside of the specified dates and in the absence of a Ministerial Order, fire permits are not required. The contractor is responsible for being aware of and compliant with all applicable legislation including, but not limited to the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act*, the Forest and Prairie Protection (Ministerial) Regulation, and the Forest and Prairie Protection Regulation. Adherence to conditions listed below is required for burning operations within the Forest Protection Area.

1. The contractor must follow the 'Schedule' in the Forest and Prairie Protection (Ministerial) Regulation, which describes minimum equipment requirements while conducting activities in the Forest Protection Area.
2. Fire permits in the Forest Protection Area are required March 1 – October 31 of each year unless otherwise specified through Ministerial Order.
3. The contractor shall communicate daily with the Calgary Forest Area Duty Officer when burning operations are being conducted. Schedules/methods for communication can be agreed upon during the first contact between the contractor and Duty Officer (403) 297-8822 / wf.do-clgy.i@gov.ab.ca
4. Calgary Forest Area may request additional firefighting equipment and resources at any time during the project based on current or projected fire hazard. All costs incurred will be at the expense of the Contractor.
5. Digital signage is required along Highway 1 when burning operations are being conducted; notification to Alberta Transportation may also be required.

6. Thermal scanning results must be submitted to the Forestry Division by the contractor for verification of extinguishment through the Calgary Duty Officer (for areas inside the Forest Protection Area).
7. The Contractor is required to submit weekly written status reports to the Calgary Forest Area Duty Officer outlining:
 - a. Overall summarization of the Project progress;
 - b. Services provided;
 - c. Remaining deliverables, progress, and expected delivery on each; and
 - d. Issues and concerns affecting specific deliverables and the Project schedule or any other aspect of the Project.
8. All stakeholder, resident and other agency contacts must be notified prior to any debris disposal commencing.
 - a. Smoke management in the Bow Valley is a critical component to debris disposal, communication to stakeholders, residents and appropriate agencies is critical. High-wind events, temperature inversions, and above-seasonal temperatures with lower relative humidity are examples of weather conditions which may necessitate changes to burning practices. The contractor is responsible to remain aware of current and expected weather and adjust debris disposal accordingly.
9. Additional recommendations and information related to debris disposal can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/safe-burning>
10. Alberta Forestry and Parks – Calgary Forest Area, reserves the right to set any additional burning conditions and/or to discontinue burning at any time due to unsafe conditions or poor smoke venting conditions.

Kevin Topolnicki – Wildfire Prevention Officer, Calgary Forest Area