

<b>AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT</b>				1. CONTRACT ID CODE		PAGE OF PAGES <b>1</b> <b>10</b>	
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. <b>ONE (1)</b>		3. EFFECTIVE DATE <b>July 13, 2011</b>		4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY <b>USDA Forest Service, R3 RO – AQM Attn: Rufus Cole 333 Broadway Blvd. S.E. Albuquerque, NM 87102</b>		CODE		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) <b>SAME AS BLOCK 6</b>		CODE	
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State, and ZIP Code)				(X)		9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. <b>AG-8371-S-11-0031</b>	
				X		9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) <b>June 15, 2011</b>	
						10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.	
						10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)	
CODE		FACILITY CODE					

**11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS**

X The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in item 14. **The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers X is not extended.** Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 0 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted;

or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

**13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.**

(X)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

**E. IMPORTANT:** Contractor is not, X is required to sign this document and return 1 copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.

- Solicitation issue date is June 15, 2011.
- See attached Comments given at the Preproposal/Site Conference.
- Paragraph iii on page 58 is to be replaced in total with the attached paragraph iii.
- Vendor questions are attached.
- Provision WO-K-C.3.5.5# in Appendix B is hereby deleted.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) <b>Gilbert Massiatt, Contracting Officer</b>	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR  (Signature of person authorized to sign)	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  <b>Gilbert Massiatt</b> (Signature of Contracting Officer)	16C. DATE SIGNED <b>July 13, 2011</b>

## 2. Comments from the Preproposal Conference:

*"All proposal packages must be received by the Contracting Officer not later than 2:30 PM Mountain Time, August 12, 2011! Proposal can be early, but cannot be late! Late proposals will be rejected! It is the responsibility of the contractors to get the proposals to the Contracting Officer on time! What is an acceptable proposal package? The package must contain your Technical Proposal, including your Performance Work Statement (PWS); your vision of how to reach the contract object, which is spelled out in the RFP and in Appendix A, Statement Of Objectives (SSO). Appendix A contains a sample of a PWS. Your Technical Proposal will also contain your Quality Control Plan, your past performance information, as detailed in the RFP, Section L and your key personal information. Also included in your proposal will be information explaining how and what benefits you would bring to the local community. Your certifications and representations, RFP Section K, also is part of your proposal. Also included would be your Business Plan, which describes your financial stability. Your Business Plan is not your price proposal! See the RFP Section L for more details. You must include your Price Proposal. Your Price Proposal, which are your prices for all the items listed in the RFP, Section B, Schedule of Items, both Mandatory and Optional. You must price all Working Circles. What format to submit the proposals? In any format you want as long as follows the requirements in the RFP, Section L. You are to provide one (1) Hard copy of the completed, signed proposal package, including certifications, representations and technical and business/cost proposal and five (5) electronic copies e.g., CD's, data drives, etc. Make your proposal long to include all the necessary facts, but not so long that the reviewer gets lost and forgets what the points are.*

*The Working Circles are defined in the RFP, Section C, SCHEDULE OF ITEMS. This will be a Requirements Contract. It may be a split award by working circles or be awarded to one contractor. This means that the award can be made to one contract or to three contractors, one contractor per working circle. The government will determine the number of awards based on what is considered to be in its best interest.*

*The government will award a contract(s) resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer(s) conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the government, price and other factors considered. Proposals will be evaluated using the stated evaluation criteria and the tradeoff process (best value). All technical factors, when combined, are significantly less important than cost or price. What does the preceding sentence mean? Price is the most important thing, but it is not the only thing! A good price with an unacceptable technical proposal will not win! A good technical proposal with an unacceptable price will not win! An excellent technical proposal with good price versus an excellent price with a good technical proposal; the excellent price wins! Excellent price with an excellent technical proposal versus an excellent price with an excellent technical proposal; the winner is the proposal that is in the best interest of the government. Teaming between large and small business is authorized and highly encouraged. This request for proposals does not commit the government to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the submission of proposals. Submit all question the Contract Officer in writing, all the answers will be posted."* - **Gilbert Massiatt, Contracting Officer**

## 3. From page 58 paragraph (iii) of the solicitation replace that paragraph with this paragraph:

- (iii) **BENEFITS TO LOCAL COMMUNITY** - LOCAL COMMUNITY FOR THE APACHE-SITGREAVES, COCONINO, KAIBAB, AND TONTO NATIONAL FORESTS IS DEFINED AS COUNTIES CONTAINING AT LEAST ONE ACRE OF LAND FROM ANY OF THE FOUR PROCLAIMED NATIONAL FORESTS PLUS ALL ADJACENT COUNTIES IN ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO. AS A MINIMUM, EXPLAIN HOW YOU WILL RECRUIT AND UTILIZE LABOR AND SUBCONTRACTORS FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, TRAIN AND DEVELOP A LOCAL WORKFORCE, OR UTILIZE EXISTING CONTRACTORS, AS AVAILABLE SKILLS ALLOW, AND GENERATE TAX REVENUES IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

## 4. Vendor Questions:

- 1) Question: P. 17, Period of Contract. Will the last tree have to be cut at the end of year 10, or will the last Task Order be issued then with additional time to finish treatments?

**Answer: The ten year term of the contract is for the issuance of task orders. Execution of the task orders will not be bound by the end date of the contract.**

- 2) Question: Is the timber on the Tusayan Unit really comparable in volume per acre and size class with the 5 cruised sales? Could we see some data or estimates on it?  
**Answer: In our opinion, timber on Tusayan RD is generally poorer on average compared to the 5-cruise summary. Little if any data is available. Proponents are encouraged to visit the District.**
- 3) Question: For item M.2, Page 61, please explain the “first program year” issue further.  
**Answer: If there is a change to the government requirement that only the first program year is needed then only that year will be evaluated. However, since the evaluation criteria is the same for all years then this is a moot point.**
- 4) Question: Is item 1.3, p. 5, really mandatory? The direction for 1.4 and 1.5 indicate it may be.  
**Answer: Item 1.3 is not mandatory, but we request your input!**
- 5) Question: In Item 1.5, is a positive number considered a payment from the Government to the Contractor?  
**Answer: Yes. All numbers whether they are for product or services will be positive numbers.**
- 6) Question: *Purchaser marking. Appendix B states: K.3.5.5# – DESIGNATION BY PRESCRIPTION. (9/04) Within Subdivision(s) or cutting unit(s) \_\_\_\_\_, as shown on Contract Area Map, the following criteria shall be used by Contractor to designate trees and other products for cutting and removal. Contractor shall Mark leave trees with Contractor's non-tracer 2/\_\_\_\_\_ paint. Forest Service shall inspect and approve Marking prior to cutting.*  
 (a) 1/\_\_\_\_\_.  
 (b) Additional trees to be cut, if any, are Marked by Forest Service with 2/\_\_\_\_\_ tracer paint.  
 (c) Cutting unit boundaries and other trees that shall be left uncut are Marked by Forest Service with 2/\_\_\_\_\_ tracer paint.  
 There may be a better way to do this. The Contractor incurs a cost in marking trees, which must be passed on to the Government through the bid price. The Government still has a cost in inspecting the mark, very possibly making the total cost to the Government higher than if they marked in the first place. Additional cost is incurred when discrepancies are found during inspection. The Contractor must adjust, and then the FS has to inspect again. Based on past experience with marking this could happen often enough to be a significant cost. Is there a legal way for the Contractor to deposit money in an account so that Government tree markers could charge to it and avoid the extra cost of marking and inspection? Or is there any other way? While we understand the need to keep Government costs down, minimizing the total cost to get the work done should also be important.  
**Answer: When the FS will use Designation by Prescription, we will NOT require the Contractor to mark leave trees or cut trees as per page 13 of RFP. Any use of marking paint will be by Forest Service crews. K 3.5.5# will be removed.**
- 7) Question: The RFP wants us to show the economic benefits of our proposal **on “Local community for the Apache-Sitgreaves, Coconino, Kaibab, and Tonto National Forests is defined as counties containing at least one acre of land from any of the four proclaimed National Forests plus all adjacent counties in Arizona and New Mexico.”** With the Tonto National Forest spread across much of the valley and the Kaibab reaching past the Grand Canyon, this will bring in most of Arizona and a couple counties in Western New Mexico. Benefits become somewhat watered down over that large

area which includes metro Phoenix. However, the really significant impact will be to Coconino and Navajo counties and maybe a couple others near-by. Wouldn't it show more significance to local, rural communities, to narrow the list of counties a bit?

**Answer: *The intent is to describe the area of potential economic impact, and it is a broad area. We will not assume that any one proposal can offer equal attention across such a large geographic area.***

- 8) Question: IRSC Page 4. Volumes at the bottom for residue are shown. If we take this figure times your 3.5 tons per CCF, we get 35 tons per acre of residue. Is the residue figure really in tons? If it is CCF, it would indicate far more tons than usually come from such projects.

**Answer: *The intent of this table is not for proponents to estimate volume or green tons. It is used for evaluation by the FS. The only information we have concerning biomass and weights is from the White Mountain Contract. See the table of breakdowns of materials treated in all Task Orders of White Mt. Stewardship @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri>.***

- 9) Question: Scaling. Is the Contractor responsible for providing scales? How will the split from product to residue be handled?

**Answer: *The Contractor must provide scales. We will try to accommodate any business proposal brought to us. That includes being able to mix service and product woody fiber into a "unified rate".***

10. Question: On RFP page 13 it says "All leave tree marking will be done by the Forest Service." Will there actually be a mix beyond the first 2 years?

**Answer: *Yes. There will be a mix of D X P and marked.***

11. Question: When will the timeframe for the 10-year stewardship contract begin?

**Answer: *The contract timeframe will begin upon award of the contract.***

12. Question: Is there a minimum/maximum acreage of treatment guaranteed for each year of the contract?

**Answer: *The contract does not include a guarantee of acreage to be treated each year as implementation will depend on the budget available for the project. The government will negotiate with the winning contractor/s as to an agreeable minimum guaranteed.***

13. Question: How long should the Performance Work Statement (PWS) be?

**Answer: *There is no set limit for the length of a PWS. The PWS should be as concise as possible but include all of the relevant information needed to fairly and accurately determine how the bidder proposes to complete the work according to the specifications and desired conditions in the contract. Where excessively brief PWSs may leave out important information, excessively long PWSs may make it difficult to clearly identify the specifics of how the bidder is proposing to complete the project. A list of required elements in the with a sample PWS are listed in Appendix A.***

14. Question: How will the FS fairly evaluate the bids and ensure that low bidders are held accountable for their bid? (e.g. How will the FS avoid awarding the contract to a low bidder only to end-up having to adjust contract requirements/costs later and thereby putting a reasonable bidder at a disadvantage?)

**Answer: *The proposals will be evaluated based on the stated criteria found in Section M of the solicitation. The winning contractor/s must have a good price, but must also have acceptable technical proposal that spell out how he/she will reach the contract objective. The winning contractor will be bond to follow their own PWS. If they cannot comply with their own PWS they will be in default of the contract!***

**15. Question:** How will the task orders be issued to ensure a reasonable balance of cost and revenue (i.e. good and bad acres) for the contractor?

**Answer:** *Using appropriate appraisals of the work to be performed in each task order and the available budget to accomplish that work, the FS will collaborate with the contractor to schedule an effective and efficient balance of work. Also, see Section C.3 of the solicitation for further information.*

**16. Question:** How will the contract address the fluctuation in gasoline prices over a 10-year contract?

**Answer:** *Due to the volatility of gasoline and diesel fuel prices and the change in wage rates over the contract period, an adjustment to the base price to treat slash will be taken into account. Adjustments for fuel will be made in accordance with the Economic Price Adjustment Clause, located in Section I of this solicitation. The Consumer Price Index used for fuel will be based upon the calendar quarter that the contract is awarded. In addition, the Service Contract Act will be addressed as wages increase. Adjustments will be made as appropriate through the task orders.*

*Offerors will provide cost data in establishing their cost of removal of a Green Ton (GT) of material during harvest operations. Fuel prices will be shown in order to establish fuel price fluctuations impact on harvest activities.*

**NOTE:** *Changes in fuel prices will only affect those task orders issued after the fuel price change is accepted by the Contracting Officer through a contract modification.*

**17. Question:** What are the specifics on using sub-contractors during the course of the contract?

**Answer:** *All subcontractors must be approved by the Contracting Officer prior to being used to perform work on the contract. If sub-contractors are known prior to submission of the proposal, this information should be included. Section I.17 (Clause 52.236-1) of the solicitation further requires that :*

*The Contractor shall perform on the site, and with its own organization, work equivalent to at least \_12% percent of the total amount of work to be performed under the contract. This percentage may be reduced by a supplemental agreement to this contract if, during performing the work, the Contractor requests a reduction and the Contracting Officer determines that the reduction would be to the advantage of the Government.*

*Also if you are a Large contractor you must include the percent of subcontracts that will be reserved for small business! If you are a small business you are relieved from this requirement.*

**18. Question:** Can there be confidential discussions between potential bidders and the FS prior to the August 12 deadline for proposals?

**Answer:** *No, to ensure an equal opportunity for all potential bidders, all information resulting from offeror/FS discussions will be made available for public review via the Fed Biz Ops website.*

**19. Question:** How will snags be handled in the contract?

**Answer:** *Dead trees posing a hazard to project operations may be felled and will be treated as existing slash (see "Slash Treatments in Appendix A). The contract does not require the creation of additional snags.*

**20. Question:** How is oak treated in the contract?

**Answer:** *Oak is not an included species and will therefore not be identified for removal under the contract. Many of the prescriptions will call for the release of larger oaks by thinning conifers within a specified distance. In general, oak trees should be protected from damage during operations, however, site specific conditions may require the loss of some small oaks (or clumps); this should be coordinated on-the-ground with Contracting Officer (or C.O. Representative).*

**21. Question:** How is Juniper treated in the contract?

**Answer:** *Juniper may be identified for removal in some of the prescriptions included in the contract (up to*

*12" DBH). Depending on the bidder's proposal, Juniper can either be treated as slash or removed as included product.*

22. Question: Some cutting units are located adjacent to Private land and roads which may offer more desirable haul routes, can these routes be used?

*Answer: On non-FS lands and roads where the FS has not been granted use for purposes of implementing the contract (via right-of-ways or easements) it will be the contractor's responsibility to obtain permission for use if desired. Agreements between contractor and other parties will be separate from the contract and will not make the government responsible and/or liable.*

23. Question: The solicitation includes the use of Designation-by-Prescription. What is the difference between Designation-by-Prescription and Designation-by-Description and when will the FS use each of these in the contract?

*Answer: Designation-by-Description (DxD) is generally a more simplified cutting guide (e.g. trees designated for cutting purely by species, spacing and/or diameter) that leaves no question as to the successful implementation of the prescription. Designation-by-Prescription (DxP) is used when more complex silvicultural objectives are being applied and may include combinations of spacing, structural, sanitation, and residual stocking guidelines (as well as others). DxP requires the interpretation of a silvicultural prescription to reach the desired conditions on-the-ground and contractors will be given specifications that resemble marking guidelines as part of the task orders in these areas.*

*It is anticipated that DxP will be used for a good portion of the areas that are currently being analyzed under the 4FRI analysis (that is, areas outside current shelf-stock). The FS will evaluate the complexity of the existing condition and prescription and assign DxP units where appropriate (likely in areas of more uniform or simplified condition and prescription.)*

24. Question: How will the FS ensure continuity in the management and administration of the contract that will cover different Forests and Districts and involve a number of different contract personnel?

*Answer: The FS recognizes that continuity in contract management and administration will be a critical in the successful implementation of this contract. To that end, inspection and acceptance protocol as well as contract management procedures will be detailed in the contract and part of each task order. Additionally, the FS will be concentrating training efforts for all contract administration personnel to ensure consistent interpretations of the contract, desired conditions and acceptance of work. Ultimately, the Contracting Officer will be responsible for ensuring a consistent approach to managing the contract.*

25. Question: What are the available markets for wood products in the Tusayan area?

*Answer: At this time, markets are scarce in the Tusayan area. Currently, the vast majority of thinning projects on this district are achieved using non-commercial means; with thinning products usually being identified for firewood gathering. However, there is a rail-line on the west side of town that runs south to Williams that may offer transportation options. Additionally, there have been discussions of using forest biomass at the Drake cement plant (located approx 20 miles south of Ash Fork AZ), though exact details of when this may come on-line are not available. One additional small market for products coming off of the Tusayan District is Southwestern Tradition Log Homes based out of Cameron AZ.*

26. Question: Is the operating season in Tusayan similar to that of Williams and/or the Flagstaff area?

*Answer: Generally, the Tusayan R.D. receives less precipitation (both rain and snow) than Williams and Flagstaff and therefore can offer a longer operating season than those areas.*

27. Question: What happens if available markets decline or dissolve after award of the contract?

*Answer: The contractor(s) is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the work required by the issued task orders is executed in a manner satisfactory to the contract specifications and terms and conditions.*

**28. Question:** Are there any projects in Grand Canyon National Park that could be tied-in with 4FRI efforts on the Tusayan District?

*Answer: At this time there are no projects occurring in the park that offer commercial products.*

**29. Question:** What are the housing options available for work crews in Tusayan?

*Answer: Tusayan has limited housing available for crews; options include hotel rooms or camping on the National Forest (a permit would be granted for contractor crews to camp for extended periods). Outside Tusayan, rental housing may be available in Valle AZ (approx. 25 miles south) and Williams (approx. 50 miles south).*

**30. QUESTION:** Do the Grassland restoration treatments offer the best volume?

*ANSWER: Volume coming from grassland restoration projects varies from area to area. Some areas identified for these treatments are currently (or will be) more open than others.*

**31. Question:** When is the expected decision for the 4FRI Environmental Impact Statement?

*Answer: The Record of Decision is expected for Spring of 2012.*

**32. Question:** What percentage of the work each year will be performed on each forest?

*Answer: This will depend upon the needs of the government and on funding.*

**33. Question:** How many acres will be treated in the first two years of the contract?

*Answer: Again, this will be dependent upon the needs of the government and on the individual proposal considering the business model used and the price given (as well as available budgets(funding)).*

**34. Question:** How much does the timeframe given in the proposal effect the evaluation of that proposal?

*Answer: None. The only evaluation criteria that will be used are given in Section M of the solicitation.*

**35. Question:** What are the requirements for stump heights in rocky areas?

*Answer: This may be negotiated with the CO to meet on-the-ground conditions while meeting desired conditions and other considerations (such as visual quality impacts).*

**36. Question:** How much snowfall can be expected in the area in a typical winter?

*Answer: On average, the Flagstaff area (including Williams) receives approx. 90 inches of snow. However, this is variable.*

**37. Question:** Is it possible to leave slash on-the-stump or in the woods?

*Answer: Slash treatments will be fitted to meet the desired conditions of each treatment (generally only 3-7 tons per acre following treatment). See Appendix A for a description of slash treatment options.*

**38. Question:** Where are the existing markets?

*Answer : We are aware of the following markets - 1) Pallet maker in Phoenix; 2) firewood in Camp Verde and Winslow; 3) White Mountain Stewardship related markets . There may be more.*

**39. Question:** Is this area a restoration Prescription, or is it a fuels reduction prescription? (This question related to the City Project, Stop #1).

*Answer : The prescription is a group selection and the intent is restoration.*

40. Question: What are the piling specs on this site and can you crush instead of piling? (This question related to the City Project, Stop #1).

**Answer:** *At this site, there is a 150 foot setback on the existing County Road. The rest of the Kaibab will be piled next to roads with no setback, unless it is specified within the appropriate NEPA document that there is a need for a setback. The type of brush treatment will be specified within each task order and tied to clause G7 in the contract. In order for crushing to be allowed, the site-specific NEPA document where the task order is to occur will have to consider the effects of the action proposed, and the treatment will have to meet the desired conditions for the site specified within the pertinent site-specific NEPA document.*

41. Question: Are all harvest units spread out and small sized?

**Answer :** *Areas that are in the proposed shelf stock sites (Project Description, page 12 of RFP AG-8371-S-11-0031) are generally more spread out across the landscape than what is in the draft Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) EIS. Maps of the shelfstock sites are in the solicitation in Appendix E and are available for review on the web @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri>. Maps of the draft EIS treatment areas are also available on the same website. To find the data, please go to the spotlights section at the bottom of the page and click on the "4FRI request for proposals" link.*

42. Question: Are the slopes that have been reviewed on stops # 1-3 representative of the average slopes for the project area?

**Answer:** *Yes, the project area will propose mechanized activities on slopes less than 40% and a majority of the slopes are less than 20%.*

42. Question: Area aspen treatments (fencing/protection) currently in the solicitation? (this question was specific to the aspen stand that was adjacent to stop #3).

**Answer:** *Aspen treatments that propose fencing or protection measures are not currently within the solicitation. Harvest of ponderosa pine trees around aspen to release and regenerate aspen are being proposed within site-specific NEPA.*

43. Question: Are old contracts that were offered and not sold keeping old contract clauses? (this question was specific to stop #3 where the Dogtown shelf stock area was previously offered and there was no bidder.)

**Answer:** *Areas that were offered previously and not sold and are included as shelf stock acres will not be offered under the old contract. These areas will be offered using the contract clauses that are included within this contract in a task order under this awarded contract.*

44. Question: What are the optional items in the contract?

**Answer:** *Roads are the only optional item in the contract that are required to be priced and is specific to the individual working circles outlined within the solicitation.*

45. Question: Is pinyon-pine going to be proposed for cutting on any sites within the RFP? (this question is specific to the Tusayan Ranger District, stop #6 on June 27)

**Answer:** *Yes, there are sites on the Tusayan District that are proposed to have pinyon-juniper harvested on approximately 250 acres. In addition, there are sites where alligator juniper will be removed along with ponderosa pine on the Williams Ranger District, as well as on the 2,000 acres that are shelf-stock acres within the Tonto National Forest to meet desired conditions.*

46. Question: Are suppressed yellow pines going to be harvested?

**Answer:** *This will depend on the site-specific NEPA. In the 4FRI EIS area, no old trees (yellow pines) are proposed for harvest unless for health and human safety reasons.*

**June 28—Coconino National Forest.**



47. Question: How is the Forest Service going to ensure consistency between harvest inspectors/COR's across the project area?

**Answer:** *The Forest Service is planning training for HI/COR's this fall for an overview of the 4FRI project and the Regional Office contracting office is planning quarterly meetings with HI's and COR's and Contractor(s) in order to ensure consistency across the entire project area.*

48. Question: What are the average diameters that were harvested in the Mountaineer Sale?

**Answer :** *The cruise data for Mountaineer will be added to the 4FRI website @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri>.*

49. Question: Can the draft treatment maps for the initial 4FRI EIS be posted on the web?

**Answer:** *Yes, the maps in .pdf format will be added to the 4FRI website @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri>.*

50. Question: How many acres of restricted habitat treatments are being proposed under the 4FRI EIS and are there maps available of these treatment types (this question is in reference to stop #4 at the Mexican spotted owl (MSO) restricted habitat treatment type in the 4FRI EIS that will leave a higher average stand condition than straight restoration treatments)?

**Answer :** *Currently approximately 64,400 acres of MSO restricted habitat areas are proposed for treatment within the draft EIS that will have higher average leave desired conditions than a straight restoration prescription. In addition to MSO restricted habitat, there are an additional 8,300 acres of MSO target threshold and threshold treatments that will retain a higher basal area than restricted habitat and straight restoration treatments. The draft proposed treatment maps that will be posted the maps in .pdf format to the 4FRI website @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri> will display the location of the areas where these treatments will occur.*

51. Question: Are there borrow pits in the area to accomplish road work and will there be the ability to get local borrow sources adjacent to roads away from the borrow pits?

**Answer:** *There is currently a NEPA project that is analyzing the development of up to 39 rock pits affecting a total of 434 acres on the Coconino and Kaibab national forests to provide materials for surfacing roads to maintain safe and sustainable road conditions and is available for review and comment on the web at the following address: [http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/nepa/nepa\\_project.shtml?project=34858](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/nepa/nepa_project.shtml?project=34858).*

*The use of roadside borrow sources for spot surfacing is not covered within that NEPA project and would need to be analyzed in NEPA before this option is available.*

52. Question: Could the cruise data for the Stoneman and Clear Creek Timber Sales be made available?

**Answer:** *The cruise data for two sales will be added to the 4FRI website @ <http://fs.usda.gov/4fri>.*

53. Question: Can the juniper that is to be removed on the Tonto NF be crushed?

**Answer:** *The type of brush treatment will be specified within each task order and tied to clause G7 in the contract. In order for crushing to be allowed, the site-specific NEPA document where the task order is to occur will have to consider the effects of the action proposed, and the treatment will have to meet the desired conditions for the site specified within the pertinent site-specific NEPA document.*