

PROJECT #003

WILDLIFE TREATMENTS –HEMLOCK RUN STEWARDSHIP RE-AD

FRUIT TREE PRUNE AND RELEASE AND FENCE REMOVAL

SECTION B – SUPPLIES OR SERVICES AND PRICES/COSTS

SCHEDULE OF ITEMS

Total Of All Items

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Fruit Trees	580	Each	\$	\$
Release Fruit Trees	358	Each	\$	\$
Prune Dogwood Shrubs	9	Each	\$	\$
Remove Tree Guards	128	Each	\$	\$
Fence - Remove Individual Fences	244	Each	\$	\$
Fence - Remove Crib Fences	94	Each	\$	\$
Release Within Crib Fences	46	Each	\$	\$
Construct Fence (75' x 220')	1	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Bidders Notes:

1. Show-me Trip – A field trip to representative sites will be conducted, date to be determined.
2. Multiple project activities may occur in each site. See the attached, Hemlock Run Stewardship Re-Ad Summary Document – Wildlife and NNIPS, for a list of activities by site.
3. PA 1-Call - Contractor is responsible for calling PA 1-Call (1-800-242-1776) and adhering to those procedures before work begins at a site

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Item 245-29 (FR 535)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	70	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Tree Guards	70	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	23	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	17	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 257-35 (FR 114)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	19	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	2	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	20	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	26	Each	\$	\$
Release Within Crib Fences	26	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 258-20 (FR 114A)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	38	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	20	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	9	Each	\$	\$
Release Within Crib Fences	9			
			Item Total:	

Item 272-34 (FR 254)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	3	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	3	Each	\$	\$
Remove Tree Guards	3	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	2	Each	\$	\$

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Remove Crib Fences	5	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

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Item 272-35 (FR 254)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	43	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Tree Guards	30	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	18	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	12	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 442-40 (Kinzua Heights)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	7	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	7	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	10	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 443-56 (FR 627)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	9	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	9	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	10	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 446-33 (Kinzua Heights)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	12	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	12	Each	\$	\$
Prune Dogwood Shrubs	9	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	19	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	2	Each	\$	\$
Build Fence (75' x 220')	1	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

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FRUIT TREE PRUNE AND RELEASE AND FENCE REMOVAL

Item 451-28 (FR 267A)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	3	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 452-42 (FR 177)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	13	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	13	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	15	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 453-30 (Along SR 321 and Non-systemRoads)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	58	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	58	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 454-11 (Streamside Savannah Off Of FR 260)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	51	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	51	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	21	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

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Item 454-58 (Off Of SR321)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	15	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	15	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 455-13 (Along FR 268)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	5	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	5	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 455-41 (Off Of FR 268)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	48	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	20	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	11	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 456-18 (Off Of SR 321)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	20	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	20	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

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Item 457-34 (FR 142C)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	26	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	21	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	3	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 457-38 (Old Pit Off Of FR 142)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	6	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	6	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	3	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 458-38 (FR 142)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	25	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	25	Each	\$	\$
Remove Tree Guards	25			
Remove Individual Fences	26	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	3	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 459-34 (Timberdoodle Flats)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	50	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	50	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	7	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

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Item 461-20 (Along FR's 455B, 455 and 188)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	25	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	25	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	8	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 462-11 (FR 504, Big Bend)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	10	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	10	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 487-23 (FR 259)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	27	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	27	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	10	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	3	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Item 494-48 (FR 110A)

Description	Quantity	Unit	Price/Unit	Total
Prune Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Release Trees	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Individual Fences	0	Each	\$	\$
Remove Crib Fences	11	Each	\$	\$
Release Within Cribs	11	Each	\$	\$
			Item Total:	

Total Bid Price (all 24 items): \$ _____

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FRUIT TREE PRUNE AND RELEASE AND FENCE REMOVAL

SECTION C - SPECIFICATIONS

DIVISION 100 – GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

100. Scope of Contract

The intent of this contract is to:

1. Prune and release fruit trees (apple, crabapple, hawthorn). Fruit trees may be sapling size or older mature trees. Release may include removing sapling size trees, larger diameter trees, shrubs, tree limbs, grapevine or non-native invasive species.
2. Fruit tree pruning will occur from November – April; late winter is best.
3. Release treatments will occur outside the nesting season of April 1 – June 30.
4. Dismantle, remove and dispose of woven wire fences surrounding these fruit trees.
5. Construct an approximately 75' x 220' woven wire fence to surround existing large dogwood shrubs.
6. Item 494-48: work in this wildlife opening is limited to the time period of August 1- January 14. No work will occur in this site outside of these dates.
7. The contractor shall furnish all labor, equipment, supervision, transportation, supplies (except those designated as Government-furnished) and incidentals, to perform all work necessary to complete this contract.

See Contract Area Map(s).

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FRUIT TREE PRUNE AND RELEASE AND FENCE REMOVAL

110. Location and Description

All sites are located on the Bradford Ranger District on the Allegheny National Forest.

Item 245-29

This wildlife opening is located along both sides of Forest Road (FR) 535, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 70

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of tree guards to remove: 70

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 23

No. of Cribs to remove: 17

Item 257-35

This wildlife opening is located along both sides of FR 114, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 19

No. of trees to release: 2

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 20

No. of Cribs to remove: 26

No. of Cribs to release: 26

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Item 258-29

This wildlife opening is located along both sides of FR 114A, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 38

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 20

No. of Cribs to remove: 9

No. of Cribs to release: 9

Item 272-34

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 254, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 3

No. of trees to release: 3

No. of tree guards to remove: 3

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 2

No. of cribs to remove: 5

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Item 272-35

This wildlife opening is located along FR 254, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work. Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 43

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of tree guards to remove: 30

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 18 (with 3 posts per crib)

No. of Cribs to remove: 12

Item 442-40

This wildlife opening is located off of an oil and gas (OGM) road, approximately 2 miles from the Kinzua Heights road. It was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 7

No. of trees to release: 7

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 10

Item 443-56

This wildlife opening is located along an OGM road, approximately 0.5 miles from FR 627. It was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. These younger fruit trees will require minimal pruning and release work.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 9

No. of trees to release: 9

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 10

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

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Item 446-33

This wildlife opening is located off of the Kinzua Heights road, and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 30 years. In addition to pruning fruit trees, this item has nine large dogwood shrubs that require pruning.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

This site requires the construction of a fence, approximately 75' x 220', to surround the existing dogwood shrubs. **COR or Inspector is required to be on the ground at time of construction.** See Technical Specification – 240.

No. of trees to prune: 12

No. of trees to release: 12

No. of dogwood shrubs to prune: 9

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 19

No. of Cribs to remove: 22

Construction of 75' x 220' fence: 1

Item 451-28

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 267A and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years.

Cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV.

No. of trees to prune: 0

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 3

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Item 452-42

This wildlife opening is located along FR 177. It was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 35 years.

Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 9

No. of trees to release: 9

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 10

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 453-30 – Open Areas With Fruit Trees Along SR 321S And A Non-system Road.

This item contains fruit trees growing along SR 321S and along two non-system (OGM) roads on the east and west sides of SR 321S (see map). There are approximately 46 fruit trees on both sides of SR 321S, two old apple trees along the road which crosses the North Fork Chappel bridge and 10 fruit trees along the OGM road to the east of SR 321S. These trees vary from older trees requiring substantial pruning and release to younger trees requiring minimal pruning and release. Some of the trees are adjacent to the roads and some are located within 200' of the roads.

No. of trees to prune: 58

No. of trees to release: 58

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 454-11

This site is a streamside savannah located off of FR 260. Access is by an old woods road blocked with dirt mounds and that contains drainage ditches. The savannah is divided into five sections by densely vegetated drainages. Fruit trees are found in each section, along the access road and in an open area southwest of the road. Forty-eight (48) of the trees are old, requiring extensive pruning, and 3 of the trees are less than 20 years of age, requiring minimal pruning.

The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and ferns. Surface water and small streams are found throughout all sections. Access to the opening is by ATV.

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COR or Designated Inspector should walk the site with the contractor before implementation.

No. of trees to prune: 51

No. of trees to release: 51

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 21

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 454-58

This site is located off of SR 321S. Fruit trees are located in an open area on both sides of North Fork Chappel Creek; four trees will require crossing of the creek to access. The fruit trees are older and will require extensive pruning.

The terrain is rough and uneven, with large rocks and stumps scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses, fern and blackberry, making walking difficult.

Access to the opening is by an ATV trail (old road) that passes by the edge of the opening. From SR's 321/59, travel south on SR 321 for approximately 2.2 miles, turning right on an OGM road.

Follow this OGM road, taking the first left, then park at the well site. The ATV trail is before the well. Follow the ATV trail for approximately 300' to the site.

No. of trees to prune: 15

No. of trees to release: 15

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 455-13

This site is located along FR 268, within the first 200' from the intersection of SR 59 and FR 269.

The fruit trees are located in the wooded along FR 268. The fruit trees vary from older trees requiring extensive pruning, to younger trees requiring minimal pruning.

The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. Access is by pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 5

No. of trees to release: 5

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

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Item 455-41

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 228 and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years. Fruit trees vary in age.

Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven, though the site is mowed annually. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 48

No. of trees to release: 20

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 11

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 456-18

This site is an old pit located off of SR 321S. Fruit trees vary from older trees requiring extensive pruning to younger trees requiring minimal pruning.

The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and fern. Access to the opening is by ATV.

No. of trees to prune: 20

No. of trees to release: 20

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 457-34

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 142C and was constructed and planted with fruit trees and shrubs in the last 20 years.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV or pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 26

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 21

No. of Cribs to remove: 3

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Item 457-38

This wildlife opening is an old pit located off of FR 142 and was planted with fruit trees in the last 15 years.

Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. Access to the opening is by ATV.

No. of trees to prune: 6

No. of trees to release: 6

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 3

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 455-38

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 142 and was planted with fruit trees and in the last 30 years.

Fences and cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV.

No. of trees to prune: 25

No. of trees to release: 25

No. of tree guards to remove: 25

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 26

No. of Cribs to remove: 3

Item 459-34

This site is the wildlife interpretive area known as Timberdoodle Flats. It is located along SR 59, near the Bradford Ranger District office. The fruit trees are located along the interpretive paths.

These trees vary from older trees requiring extensive pruning to younger trees requiring minimal pruning.

Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. Access to the trees is by ATV.

COR or Designated Inspector should walk the site with the contractor before implementation.

No. of trees to prune: 50

No. of trees to release: 50

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 7

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

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Item 461-20

This site is located in open areas along FR’s 455B and the intersection of FR’s 455 and 188. The majority of the fruit trees are older trees requiring extensive pruning; less than five of the fruit trees will require minimal pruning.

Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The sites have a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by pick-up truck.

No. of trees to prune: 25

No. of trees to release: 25

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 8

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

Item 462-11

This site is located off of and along FR 504. The apple trees are old and will require extensive pruning. These trees are found along FR 504, as well as along an OGM leading off the main road.

The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the site is by pick-up.

No. of trees to prune: 10

No. of trees to release: 10

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 0

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Item 487-23

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 259. Fruit trees were planted in the 1980's. Fences to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck. The access road travels off of FR 259, along a dispersed campsite, through the woods, less than 0.5 miles.

No. of trees to prune: 27

No. of trees to release: 27

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 10

No. of Cribs to remove: 3

Item 494-48

This wildlife opening is located off of FR 110A and was planted with shrubs in the last 20 years. Cribs to be removed will be designated with pink and black flagging. The terrain is uneven with surface rock scattered throughout. The site has a heavy cover of grasses and legumes. Access to the opening is by ATV.

Work in this wildlife opening is limited to the time period of August 1 through January 14. No work will occur in this site outside of these dates.

No. of trees to prune: 0

No. of trees to release: 0

No. of Individual Fences to remove: 0

No. of Cribs to remove: 11

No. of Cribs to release: 11

120. Meetings

The successful vendor will be contacted prior to individual projects to discuss details of work, location, priorities, etc. The Contracting Officer (CO) and Contracting Officer Representative (COR) are authorized to give verbal orders to the contractor authorizing work to be accomplished.

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130. Notification

The Contractor is required to keep the CO/COR or designated Inspector informed of their work schedule and physical location of their work force to permit ready location and timely inspection of accomplished work. The Contractor shall also notify the CO at least monthly of the progress being attained on this project. This notification can be either oral or written.

140. Safety

It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that the work environment is safe for themselves as well as their employees. If the Contractor feels that a requirement of this contract would place them or their employees in an unsafe environment, then work should stop on that area of work and the contractor should contact the CO/COR immediately. Work on other areas of the contract that the Contractor does not view as unsafe should continue.

Contractor is required to follow all applicable OSHA standards (CFR 29), while working on the job site. In addition, it is recommended the successful contractor utilize appropriate personal protective safety equipment, which includes, but is not limited to, hard hats, ear protection, eye protection, and hand protection while working on project items. Contractor must keep the Government representative posted as to current site work, and must be especially alert to vehicular traffic during field operations.

All sites occur within active oil and gas leases.

The contractor shall **report all accidents** or incidents associated with this contract to the Forest Service representative within 24 hours.

150. Maintenance for Traffic

Existing roads shall be kept open to all traffic by the contractor while work is progressing. Appropriate warning signs to the public will be displayed.

160. Vehicle Operation

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) may be operated to travel to the work sites. ATV's may not be driven on roads open to the public. The operator is subject to fines if found using ATV's in manners other than for the purpose of transporting equipment and operator to the sites. If at any time Forest Service inspections indicate that soil damage is occurring due to the use of ATV's, such use will be suspended and the damage repaired by the contractor. State ATV/OHV permit requirements also apply.

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FRUIT TREE PRUNE AND RELEASE AND FENCE REMOVAL

In addition, it is recommended that the Contractor utilize appropriate personal protective safety equipment/clothing, which may include, but is not limited to, a hard hat, leg protection, eye protection, ear protection, and hand protection, and a DOT approved ATV helmet (if using ATV's or UTV's) while working on this contract.

The Forest Service may, during the administration of this contract, direct the Contractor to temporarily halt treatment when: vehicles and/or equipment is causing excessive soil damage such as rutting/soil erosion on roads and/r other work areas until ground condition improve.

170. Access

Sites may be reached by Forest Roads that are accessible by standard pickup truck during the normal working season or by ATV. .

The Government assumes no obligation to plow snow or do special maintenance to keep roads open. An actual visit to the sites prior to bidding is encouraged to view the access to the project areas. The Contractor is responsible for any damage caused by their operations. Some project areas may be on a gated road. A Forest Service key will be provided as necessary to the successful bidder for access.

180. Progression of Work

181. The Contractor is required to inform the COR or Contract Inspector of where and when work will commence.

182. To avoid damaging sensitive or valuable resources the Contractor is required to halt operations and contact the COR or Contract Inspector and have the issue resolved on site if: the site appears inconsistent with instructions or maps, boundaries are questionable, requirements or restrictions are unreasonable, unreported water courses or wetlands are found on site, or should soils become too wet or rocky to complete the site safely and without damaging the resource(s).

190. Amount of Work

The amount of work may vary to a large degree from tree to tree and within sites. Only by on-the-ground examination can prospective Contractors determine the work entailed in pruning and releasing the fruit trees.

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DIVISION 200 – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

200. Pruning Procedure

Fruit trees vary in size from sapling to large, mature stock. Approximately 60% of the trees are less than 30 years of age. Trees to be pruned that are not within a fence will be designated on the ground at the time of implementation. See Exhibit A for a pruning diagram.

201. Tree pruning will occur from November – April; late winter is best.

202. Remove all dead, dying, damaged and diseased wood. Pruning should “open” a tree up while retaining its basic shape.

203. Retain limbs or portions of limbs which are not heavy enough to threaten the tree structurally if they have holes suitable for nesting cavities.

204. Remove all root sucker shoots and stem sprouts. Vigorous sprouts that have emerged just below the dead portion of a branch should be retained to replace the dead limb.

205. Remove the weaker limb from forks 3” or greater in diameter. Where both branches of a fork appear healthy, favor the remove of limbs:

- Rubbing against another limb
- Running parallel to a nearby limb
- Heavily shaded by the branches above
- Growing through or toward the center of the tree through many other branches, or,
- Growing downward toward the ground, and thus shaded by more horizontal limbs.

206. Remove the majority of branches from the interior of the tree, particularly the long, strictly vegetative shoots. The interior of the tree should be open.

207. Do not remove more than 30% of the live branches during pruning.

208. Pruning cut – the base of most limbs will have a slight swelling (collar) at the attachment point. Do not remove this collar with the cut. Cut at a slight diagonal, flush to the collar.

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209. All pruned limbs should be removed from the tree and piled beyond the drip line of the tree, by a minimum of 20' where possible.

210. Release

Release may involve removing an adjacent tree growing within the fence, small trees and shrubs near the fruit tree, large trees (8" diameter), limbs of large trees, grapevine, etc, that impede growth of or sunlight to the targeted tree.

211. Fell all trees, limbs, shrubs or grapevine within 20' of the crown of the apple tree to prevent interference.

212. Avoid damage to fruit trees using directional felling techniques.

213. Felled material should be piled beyond the drip line of the tree, by a minimum of 20' where possible. Brush piles should be created with felled material to provide habitat for wildlife.

214. Release treatments will occur outside the nesting season of April 1 – June 30.

220. Fence Removal

Fence removal consists of taking down, removing from site and National Forest property, and disposing of individual fences and crib fences.

Individual Fences - the majority of the individual fences are comprised of four 8' studded "T" fence posts, with 20-22' of 6-foot Rabbit and Poultry fence. These fences are generally square, with five feet of fence per side.

Crib fences are 10-feet by 40-feet in size, and are comprised of eight 8' studded "T" fence posts, with 40-45' of 6'foot Rabbit and Poultry fence.

221. Fence Material – all fence wire and other wire must be removed from the site and National Forest land, and disposed of properly.

222. Steel and Wooden Posts – all steel, wooden or rebar posts must be pulled and removed from the site and National Forest land, and disposed of properly

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223. Fasteners – all nails, fence staples and fasteners must be removed from the site and National Forest land and disposed of properly.

230. Crib Fence Construction – Contractor Furnished Property

Fence construction is required for Item 446-33.

231. Contractor will furnish fencing material and posts, specifications below, to construct and install an approximately 75 feet x 220 feet fence:

1. 6' high RL 2672-6-14 ½ Poultry and Rabbit fence
2. 8' studded "T" fence posts.
3. Wire fence ties – 16 gauge, galvanized wire ties, 12"

232. Fence Construction - Posts will be placed every 10' (unless otherwise agreed to by the COR or Designated Inspector at time of implementation). Posts will be vertically pounded at least 18" by no more than 24" into the ground.

233. Fence Construction – The fence material will be stretched so that the wire is pulled against the outside of the post. The fencing material will be applied so it is taut and flush with the ground and will be secured to each post by a minimum of four wire ties, spaced evenly along the post.

240. Protection of Existing Structures

The contractor shall be required to protect existing improvements such as roads (including system, OGM woods or skid trails), pipelines, fences, gates, buildings, water bars, plantings, nesting structures, oil/gas equipment, etc., which are located in the project area. The contractor shall be required to repair or replace such improvements if damaged as a result of their operations. This includes replacing and re-seeding water bars and earthen barricades, roadside ditches, culverts and signs if disturbed as a result of this contract. Any rocks or slash removed for access must be replaced.

There are active oil leases surrounding these sites.

Cultural Resource Surveys have been conducted and there are no known cultural sites within these areas. If during the execution of this contract the operator unearths a site, work must cease in the general area and the Contract Inspector or COR notified immediately.

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250. Project Area Materials Staging

Staging areas large enough for gathering, sorting, piling, etc. of removed materials prior to removal from Forest Service land are permitted in each project area. It is the Contractor's responsibility to notify the Forest Service in writing as to the desired location for each staging area. Locations will be mutually agreed upon prior to the start of operations.

260. Work Area and Equipment Clean Up

261 - The contractor shall clean up the work area in and around each contract item prior to the Government accepting the item as complete. This cleanup includes removal of all excess and discarded materials associated with the project, as well as other activities of the contractor.

262 – Contractor shall ensure that prior to moving any equipment to a work site, between work sites, and from the Allegheny National Forest, all planting equipment such as but not limited to: augers, shovels, and planting bars are free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter or other debris that could contain or hold seeds. Off-road equipment used for transport of materials such as ATV's and trailers shall also be free of soil, seeds, vegetative matter or other debris that could contain or hold seeds. Equipment shall be considered free of soil, seed and other such debris when a visual inspection does not disclose such material. Disassembly of equipment components or specialized inspection tools is not required. Cleaning of equipment may entail brushing or hosing off. The use of detergents or other cleaning agents are not to be used unless they are used at a car wash or other facility equipped for water catchment and treatment. Equipment is not to be cleaned in streams, ditches or other waterways. If the contractor desires to clean the equipment on National Forest land, the contractor and Forest Service shall agree on locations for the cleaning.

270. Time of Performance

271. Release treatments will occur outside the nesting season of April 1 – June 30.

272. Fruit tree pruning will occur from November – April; late winter is best.

273. Item 494-48: work in this wildlife opening is limited to the time period of August 1 through January 14. No work will occur at this site outside of these dates.