

PROJECT #008

WILDLIFE TREATMENTS –HEMLOCK RUN STEWARDSHIP RE-AD RE-AD

WILDLIFE OPENING RESTORATION

SECTION B – SUPPLIES OR SERVICES AND PRICES/COSTS

SCHEDULE OF ITEMS

Item Number	Description	Quantity	Unit	Total Price
442-40	Opening Restoration	2	Acres	
443-56	Opening Restoration	2	Acres	
446-33	Opening Restoration	3	Acres	
452-42	Opening Restoration	3	Acres	
455-41	Opening Restoration	3	Acres	
457-34	Opening Restoration	2	Acres	
487-23	Opening Restoration	2	Acres	
487-34	Opening Restoration	2	Acres	
494-48	Opening Restoration	3	Acres	
		Item Total:		

Bidders Notes:

1. Show Me Trip – A field trip to representative sites will be conducted, date to be determined.
2. 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.
3. Multiple project activities may occur in each site. See the attached, Hemlock Run Stewardship Re-Ad Re-Ad Summary Document – Wildlife and NNIPS, for a list of activities by site.

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SECTION C – DESCRIPTION / SPECIFICATION / WORK STATEMENT

DIVISION 100 - GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

100. Scope of Contract

This contract calls for:

1. Plowing or modified (plow or double) disking, regular disking, seeding, liming, using a cultipacker or pulvi-mulcher and mulching 22 acres (9 acres of wildflowers, 13 acres of cool season grasses) on nine existing wildlife openings.
2. The completed sites will be expected to grow a dense cover of grasses, legumes and wildflowers that can be easily mowed using standard equipment.
3. Sites to receive opening restoration work are to be first herbicided under Project #010. Herbicide treatments must be completed and target vegetation dead before opening restoration work may begin.
4. Work in Site 494-48 must occur during August 1 – January 14. No work may occur in this opening outside of these dates.
5. 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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110. Location and Description of Areas

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

Item 442-40

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of an oil and gas (OGM) road, approximately two miles from the Kinzua Heights Road. The opening was constructed in 1998 and is maintained by yearly mowing. Fruit tree and shrub plantings are found throughout the opening and should be avoided. Common milkweed is located between the crib fences (shrub groupings) and should also be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on one acre and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

Item 443-56

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of an OGM road, approximately 0.5 miles from FR 627. The opening was constructed in 1998. Fruit tree and shrub plantings are found throughout the opening and should be avoided. Patches of common milkweed, blueberry and bee balm are scattered through the opening and should also be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on one acre and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

Item 446-33

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of the Kinzua Heights Road. The opening was constructed in the 1980's and is maintained by yearly mowing. Fruit trees, shrub plantings, nesting boxes and patches of Common milkweed are found throughout the opening and should be avoided. A wet area is located along the eastern edge of the opening and should also be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on two acres and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

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Item 452-42

This is an existing wildlife opening, located along FR 177. It was constructed in the 1980's and is maintained by yearly mowing. Fruit trees are found throughout the opening and should be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on two acres and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

Item 455-41

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 268. It was constructed in the 1980's and is maintained by yearly mowing. Fruit trees, shrub plantings and nesting boxes are found throughout the opening and should be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on two acres and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

Item 457-34

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 142C. It was constructed in the 1980's with sections maintained by yearly mowing. Fruit trees, shrub plantings, nesting boxes and patches of Common milkweed are found throughout the opening and should be avoided. Several wet areas are located along the in the opening and should also be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on one acre and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

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Item 487-23

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 259. It was constructed in the 1980's, with sections maintained by yearly mowing.

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.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on one acre and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implement

Item 487-34

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 492. It was constructed in the 1980's with sections maintained by yearly mowing.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock. Access is by pick-up truck.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on one acre and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

Item 494-48 – Seasonal Restrictions, can work from Aug 1 – Jan 14

This is an existing wildlife opening, located off of FR 110A. It was constructed in the 1980's, with sections maintained by yearly mowing. Shrub plantings and nesting boxes are found throughout the opening and should be avoided.

The slope is gentle, ranging from 0-20 percent. The terrain is uneven, with scattered surface rock.

A cool season grass mixture will be planted on two acres and a wildflower seed mixture will be planted on one acre, locations to be designated at the time of implementation.

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-TerrainVehicles (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.

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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. State ATV/OHV permit requirements also apply.

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. Equipment furnished by the Contractor

191 - The contractor will provide required lime, fertilizer, seed and mulch (See Clause 260). The contractor will be required to retain and submit all weight tickets, bills of sale for seed mixtures and mulch, and empty lime and seed bags.

DIVISION 200 – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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200. Plowing and Disking

201. Except for a limited number of residual trees, these sites have been previously cleared of standing trees. Avoid and protect any hemlock, fruit trees, shrubs or residual live or dead trees that occur within the boundary of each opening, unless discussed with the COR or Designated Inspector.

202. Rocks and any debris must be removed so the site can be plowed and disked for seedbed preparation. All debris must be moved to the perimeter of the opening, unless specified otherwise. Rocks will be removed within the reasonable capabilities of the contractor's equipment. Surface stone, debris, roots and sod will be removed or tilled under to expose mineral soil over the entire site.

210. Grading and Leveling

Sites will be graded and leveled to a standard that will allow a 2-wheel drive vehicle to traverse the site without difficulty, under normal moisture conditions.

220. Seedbed Preparation

221. All sites will be plowed or modified (plow or double) disked to a depth of 6 to 7 inches to turn over existing grass/sod and expose mineral soil. Each site will be disked a minimum of three times. Allowances in plow/disk depth are anticipated in rocky areas with shallow soils. After diskings, the lime/fertilizer will be applied and the site will be disked again. Seed will be applied, a cultipacker/pulvi-mulcher will be used on the entire site and the mulch will be spread.

222. Any water bars or dirt mounds removed for access must be rebuilt and reseeded.

223. Questionable areas will be resolved on the ground between the Contractor Officer Representative (COR) and the Contractor.

230. Seeding

Site must be seeded, mulched and a cultipacker/pulvi-mulcher used within 3 to 5 days after diskings is completed. To delay this work due to weather or other factors, prior agreement with the COR or Contract Inspector is required. The following seed and soil amendments are to be applied:

Seeding Pattern – Wildflower seed will be planted in groups in designated sections in the openings. The cover crop will be evenly distributed throughout the site. Lay-out will occur with the COR or Designated Inspector and Contractor at time of implementation.

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Clover Mix

Lime For - 6000 lbs/ acre of agricultural or grey lime

Straw Mulch – 1 ton/ acre or 57/35-lb. bales of straw which will equate to a **minimum depth of 1 inch and a maximum depth of 2 inches of straw mulch.**

Fertilizer – 300 lbs/ acre of 10-20-20

Cover crop

Oats (clean and tested) (*Avena sativa*) 2 bushels (approx. 64 lbs/acre)

Legume

Partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*) 3 oz./ acre

Alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*) 6 lbs/acre

White dutch clover (*Trifolium repens*) 6 lbs/acre

Ladino clover (*Trifolium repens*) 6 lbs/acre

Wildflower Seed mix: sole source justification-

Straw Mulch – 1 ton/ acre or 57/35-lb. bales of straw which will equate to a **minimum depth of 1 inch and a maximum depth of 2 inches of straw mulch.**

Seeding Rate 10 pounds per acre with 2 bushels (approx. 64 lbs/acre) per acre oats cover crop.

Note: do not lime or fertilize wildflower planting areas.

In order to meet the intent of Allegheny National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (2007) design criteria for 2070 Biological Diversity Guidelines -

“After site assessment, consider the following when selecting the composition of seed mixes: use Native species with local genotypes first” Ernst seed company was chosen as the supplier of wildflower seed mixes. After much searching they are the only company known at this time that can meet PA Ecotypes (genotypes). If other suppliers/companies are found that can also meet this requirement the contracting officer should be contacted if contractor desires to use another company for approval prior to purchase.

Only PA ecotypes will be accepted, if they are not available another PA ecotype species may substituted and/or the percent of another species increased to equal 100% with contracting officer approval.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Percent
Canada Wildrye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	20
Virginia Wildrye	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	20
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	15
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	5
Zigzag Aster	<i>Aster prenanthoides (Symphyotrichum p.)</i>	5
Flat Topped White Aster	<i>Aster umbellatus (Doellingeria umbellata),</i>	5
Bottlebrush Grass	<i>Elymus hystrix (Hystrix patula)</i>	5
Marsh (Dense) Blazing Star (Spiked Gayfeather)	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	5
Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	5
Blackeyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	5
Early Goldenrod	<i>Solidago juncea</i>	5
Tall White Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	3
Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	2

240. Cultural Resource Avoidance

Cultural Resource Surveys have been conducted for these project areas. There are no known 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.

250. Special Requirements

Sites will not be operated during wet weather conditions. Access to sites will be established by Contract COR or Inspector.

Seed samples and weigh slips for each site will be supplied by the contractor.

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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260. Protection of Existing Structures

The contractor shall be required to protect existing improvements such as pipelines, fences, gates, 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. Any rocks or slash removed for access must be replaced. Any water bars or dirt mounds removed for access must be rebuilt and reseeded.

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.

270. 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.

280. Work Area and Equipment Clean Up

281. 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.

282. 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.

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283. Contractor is responsible for calling PA-1 Call (1-800-242-1776) and adhering to those procedures before auger planting or fence building begins at a site. Contractor needs to give his or her own phone number as the call-back number when submitting information to PA-1 Call. Detailed directions to each site will be provided to the contractor prior to the start of work.

290. Time of Performance

291. In order to have the best chance of establishing adequate ground cover, the contractor shall complete field operations on all sites between May 1 and June 1, after target vegetation has died from herbicide treatments under Project #010.

292. Work in Site 494-48 must occur during August 1 – January 14. No work may occur in this opening outside of these dates.