

**EXHIBIT A**  
**Work Plan, Schedule and Budget**  
**For Fiscal Years 2019-2020 through 2021-2022**

**PROJECT NAME: Forest Fuel Hazard Reduction and Utilization/Oak Woodland Restoration**

**SUBGRANTEE NAME: Humboldt Redwood Company, LLC**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This demonstration project was selected to help the North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) realize the goals of the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program. Under the RFFC Program, the NCRP will develop a North Coast Regional Priority Plan (RPP). The RPP will include a comprehensive and integrated set of strategies, actions and projects to support forest and community health and long-term resilience to wildfire. The purpose of the demonstration projects selected by the NCRP is to model processes and on-the-ground projects designed to test concepts, methods, and innovative techniques to identify effective management practices for fuel load reduction and forest health that can be quantified and scaled up in the region and elsewhere. Data, performance measures, and project outcomes/lessons learned from this demonstration project will be documented and integrated into the RPP to ensure adaptive learning and information sharing throughout the region.

This demonstration project will treat extreme fire hazard forest conditions and improve forest health by thinning overstocked stands using a mechanized harvesting system and removing encroaching conifers from adjacent oak woodlands. The specific stands targeted by the proposed project are the result of clearcut management or regenerated high-intensity fires, which occurred under previous landownership approximately 25-35 years ago. These stands currently exhibit hazardous horizontal and vertical fuel loading with intermingling crowns and mortality of out-competed trees. Existing technology and resources available to Humboldt Redwood Company (HRC) make treatment of this stand type cost prohibitive. This project aims to demonstrate the cost and feasibility of mechanized cut-to-length or equivalent technology for managing these marginally commercial stands.

Approximately 50 to 75 percent of the stems will be removed from the overstocked stands while retaining the healthiest trees in a free-to-grow stand condition. Removal of conifers from true oak woodlands will enable the safe reintroduction of prescribed fire, further reducing wildfire hazard while improving forage and herbaceous groundcover. Treatment byproducts, which are typically burned or chipped, will be put to commercial uses thereby supporting local jobs and infrastructure. The public will be invited to view active operations and learn about the project objectives and the techniques employed to accomplish them.

In addition to the direct benefits to forest health and productivity within the treatment area, this project will deliver data describing the costs of the treatment and merchantable wood product recovery. These data will be made available for broad distribution and review—benefiting public agencies, public lands, tribal lands, and industrial and non-industrial private timberlands.

Areas served include HRC properties as well as adjacent properties, and public lands. Following the model set by this project, the outcomes may be replicated elsewhere in the region by private industrial/non-industrial, tribal, and public land managers and scaled up or down depending on management objectives, ownership size, and available funding.

## **Task 10.1 Project Management**

General project management, including compliance with subgrantee requirements, project planning and oversight, necessary meetings, as well as invoicing and reporting.

### Task 10.1.A Demonstration Project Detailed Work Plan and Budget Development

Work with the NCRP staff team to develop a detailed work plan and budget based on the successful project concept proposal. This will include at least one strategic planning meeting with NCRP staff and may involve additional meetings with NCRP staff and consultants as well as other demonstration project sponsors.

#### **Deliverable:**

- Detailed work plan and budget

### Task 10.1.B Sub-grantee Agreement Execution and Management

Execute a sub-grantee agreement with COUNTY for work to be completed on this project. Manage the sub-grantee agreement including compliance with grant requirements, and preparation and submission of supporting grant documents.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Fully Executed Sub-Grantee Agreement

### Task 10.1.C Invoicing

Compile invoices including relevant supporting documentation. Submit invoices to COUNTY according to the Subgrantee schedule presented in Table 3 below for review and inclusion in the master invoice packet.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Invoices, provided in a format approved by, and including backup documentation as specified by COUNTY

### Task 10.1.D Progress Reporting

Prepare progress reports detailing work completed during reporting period. Submit reports to COUNTY according to the Subgrantee schedule presented in Table 3 below for review and inclusion in the master progress report

#### **Deliverables:**

- Quarterly Project Progress Reports, using the format required by COUNTY

### Task 10.1.E Environmental Compliance Documentation and Permitting

CAL FIRE harvest exemption for the selected sites will be designed and attained by a registered professional forester (RPF) in consultation with CAL FIRE. The details of the relevant exemptions will be documented in the Environmental Compliance Checklist and will be submitted with applicable documentation. Obtain or confirm acquisition of all necessary federal, state, and local permits, if necessary.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Environmental Compliance Checklist, using the form provided by COUNTY
- Copy of applicable environmental documentation
- Copy of all required permits

### Task 10.1.F Labor Compliance Program

Take all measures necessary to ensure compliance with applicable California Labor Code requirements, including, preparation and implementation of a labor compliance program or including any payments to the Department of Industrial Relations under Labor Code Section 1771.3.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Proof of labor compliance as applicable, upon request

### Task 10.1.G Contractor Acquisition and Management

As applicable and based on subgrantee purchasing policies, secure contractors and award contracts.

A competitive bid process will be developed to secure the services of a logging contractor to implement the activities described in Task 10.3.A.

The need for a contracted hand crew will be determined based on site selection. Contracts will developed accordingly.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Bid/RFP documents or sole source justification, if required by purchasing policy
- Proof of advertisement
- Award of contract
- Documentation of subcontractor insurance, upon request

## **Task 10.2 Integration with NCRP Regional Priority Planning Process**

This task will ensure that the project is well integrated into the RPP and NCRP planning processes for information sharing to other parts of the region. This will include at least one kickoff planning meeting with NCRP staff and subsequent meetings as needed to ensure integration of the demonstration project results.

### Task 10.2.A Project Reporting

Develop a section for inclusion in the RPP that describes the project, outcomes and project applicability to the North Coast region. Provide outline, annotated outline and drafts to NCRP staff for review and input. NCRP staff may wish to interview HRC staff about the project to gather additional information for the RPP.

In addition, collect pre- and post-treatment stand data including basal area, stems per acre, timber volume (MBF), and estimates of non-merchantable woody material fuel hazard reduction/green tons (i.e. chips, slash). Compare these data with existing data from similar stand types to develop a cost-revenue assessment.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Applicable data, maps, photos, documents, and reports on lessons learned to be integrated into the RPP: review outline, draft and final
- Project purpose, methods, findings, data summary and cost revenue assessment

## **Task 10.3 Project Activities**

Demonstrate the use of cut-to-length or equivalent logging technology for improving forest health and fuel hazard conditions on industrial timberlands, and/or reducing encroachment of firs within oak woodlands. Consult with CAL FIRE, UC Cooperative Extension, CA State Parks, Humboldt State University, and the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council as applicable to plan and develop the treatment. Invite public observation of active operations to increase awareness of preventative and restorative forestry practices and the technology available to implement them.

When planning for meetings described below, COVID guidelines will need to be considered. Remote virtual meetings may be an alternative to holding them in person.

### Task 10.3.A Demonstration Treatment

HRC will identify 1-2 treatment areas in coordination with CAL FIRE and other planning partners. Treat approximately 80 cumulative acres using mechanized cut to length or equivalent logging technology:

Harvest small diameter (<18" dbh) commercial logs and deliver to local milling facilities. Pile and burn, lop and scatter, or chip/grind non-merchantable trees and slash selected for removal to reduce fire hazard and improve forest health. Reintroduce chips to the forest floor for long term soil development, sell as soil amendment, or transport to local co-generation plants for energy production.

HRC may use a hand crew to eliminate any remaining vertical or horizontal fuel loading that could not be addressed by mechanized operations and any remaining small diameter Douglas-fir encroaching upon true oak woodlands.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Maps, documentation, and photos of cut-to-length implementation within fir forest and oak woodland
- Maps, documentation, and photos of manual fuels reduction within fir forest and oak woodland

### Task 10.3.B Public Outreach and Education

Schedule, advertise, and lead at least one open-to-the-public fieldtrip to allow observation of active operations demonstrating use of cut-to-length technology. Invite private forest landowners, public and tribal land managers, and other interested resource specialists to attend along with general interested public. Provide fieldtrip date and details to NCRP for inclusion in outreach and NCRP calendar. If budget allows, the NCRP may wish to document the project via video or other mechanism to illustrate key elements of the RPP.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Fieldtrip sign-in sheet(s) or participant list(s)
- Copy of outreach and educational materials shared or developed

### **Task 10.4 Project Closeout**

Compile a Project Closeout Packet including, but not limited to California Climate Investments (CCI) reporting metrics; a summary of contributions to NCRP goals and objectives; a section for the RPP that describes the project, outcomes and project applicability to the North Coast region; photographic documentation; final project location map, as applicable; and an RFFC Program feedback survey. Submit the packet to COUNTY according to the schedule presented in Table 3 below.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Project Closeout Packet, using the format required by COUNTY