

## **Independence Fuels Thinning and Forest Health Restoration Project**

### **INSPECTIONS AND ACCEPTANCE**

Inspections of contractor work are for the purpose of determining that the work tasks and services are acceptable and meet the standards specified in the scope of work. Inspections do not relieve the Contractor of the responsibility for maintaining quality control.

The Contracting Officer's Representative or designated inspector will conduct all inspections. The Contractor (or designated representative) is encouraged to be present to observe inspections. Summary results will be made available on request.

Compliance Inspections. Visual compliance inspections will be made on a periodic basis. Such inspections are not final and do not constitute acceptance by the Contracting Officer or their designated representatives.

Final Inspections. Final (formal) inspections for payment will be made on completed sub-items only. Contractor shall request final inspections in writing and give TRWC and Forest Service Project Managers at least two working days advanced notice. Inspections will be completed within four working days after the notice is received. If the work is not ready for inspection at the time specified by the Contractor, the cost associated with the inspection attempt may be charged to the Contractor.

Disputed Inspection. The Contractor may request re-inspection without rework if the results are unacceptable. Re-inspection must be requested in writing within 48 hours after receiving written notice of the inspection results. Re-inspection will be accomplished within five working days after receipt of the contractor's written request.

The same sampling and inspection procedures will be used, but new samples will be taken. The inspection pattern will be shifted so that new samples will not overlap previously inspected samples. Results will be rounded to the nearest whole percent.

If re-inspection results are within five percentage points of the first inspection, the original inspection result will be used in determining acceptability and payment. If re-inspection results are greater than five percentage points above or below the first inspection, the re-inspection results will be used.

If the re-inspection results are within five percentage points of the first inspection, the Contractor shall pay the actual costs of the re-inspection.

Re-inspection after Rework. Where rework after a failed inspection may improve the inspection results, the Contractor may rework the area and request (in writing) a second inspection. Contractor may be charged for the cost of this additional inspection. Re-inspection will be accomplished within five working days after the notice is received. The results of the second inspection will be final, and no further rework will be permitted. Areas not ready for re-inspection at the time specified by the Contractor will not be re-inspected, and the results of the first inspection will be final.

## Specific Inspection Procedures

### Sampling

Plots. At least one percent of each treatment area will be sampled by a random series of plots distributed over the entire area. Plot size will be:

- 1/250 acre
- 1/100 acre
- 1/50 acre (16.7 ft. radius)
- 1/10 acre (37.5 ft. radius)
- other (specify)

### Method

The Contracting Officer or their Representative will make visual inspections while work is in progress for compliance with terms of the contract.

Specific Inspection Procedures

#### Each unit will be inspected for the following:

Thinning of Conifers & Brush:

1. Selection of residual/leave trees (species, characteristics, etc.)
2. Residual/leave tree spacing
3. Diameter limit
4. Stump height and cut
5. Percentage of brush vegetation treated

Piling of Thinned Slash, Brush & Surface Fuels:

1. Pile incorporation of thinned and other target material
2. Pile size
3. Pile composition and structure
4. Pile placement
5. Berm dispersal.

### Determination of Acceptability

Work on this contract will be deemed acceptable when the visual inspections by the Contracting Officer or their designated representatives show acceptable performance and sample plot data indicate a work quality of 90% or higher.

Plots must meet the following standards:

Thinning of Conifers & Brush:

1. Residual/crop tree: Two trees not meeting residual/crop tree criteria will be acceptable per plot.
2. Spacing: Residual/crop tree spacing is within 25 % of the desired spacing.
3. Diameter limit: Maximum of 5 non-residual/leave trees per plot
4. Maximum of 10 stumps over 6 inches in height or inappropriate cut surface per plot.
5. Brush vegetation treated: Maximum of 10% of target brush vegetation untreated

Piling of Thinned Slash, Brush & Surface Fuels:

1. Slash/material incorporation: Maximum of 5 pieces of required material not incorporated into piles per plot.
2. Pile size: may vary by 25% only on the large side.
3. Pile composition and structure: Only one pile per plot that does not meet standards/specifications would be acceptable.
4. Pile placement: No piles within 30 feet of stream channel or riparian vegetation. No piles on LWD. No piles within 20 feet of unit boundaries or avoidance areas. No more than 2 other undesirable pile placement occurrences will be acceptable per plot.
5. Berm dispersal where exceeding 8" in height of soil (not litter/duff).

Percent Quality

Transects and 1/10th acre plots will be added together to come up with total plots taken. Percent quality will be calculated by taking the number of acceptable plots divided by the total number of transect and 1/10th acres plots. Percent quality will be calculated as follows:

$$\% \text{ quality} = \frac{\# \text{ of acceptable plots}(1/10\text{th ac plots})}{\text{total \# of plots}(1/10\text{th ac plots})}$$