

### ***Response to comments: Pole Creek Watershed Restoration – Project Design***

- Q. The RFP identifies and notes the importance of the first task (field meetings) to get the landowner's eyes on the project and current conditions. If the landowner and client modify (i.e. increase) the length of road treatments from the initial RFP is a budget augmentation available?
- A. *We will work with both TNF staff and the selected consultant team to fully identify the priority areas and extent of the work proposed for design development. Minor adjustments to the established contract may be negotiable, however note that based on the initial field survey, work tasks and extent could also be reduced, resulting in a lesser amount than established in original contract documents.*
- Q. Is there any flexibility on the number of design plan submittals? (currently 4). Specifically we would like to know if three iterations of design documents (ie 30%, 65%, 100%) would be sufficient for permitting and implementation.
- A. *Consultants have the flexibility to propose alternate approaches to the current scope of work in the proposal solicitation package. If you feel a lesser amount of design phases is warranted, please outline the reasoning and justification for this as a consideration in your proposal submittal, and we will take this into consideration when reviewing proposed scope of work and cost.*
- Q. You mentioned that it is unlikely that the Five Creeks project will be implemented before or in concert with the Pole Creek work. Will road treatments under this work have to meet any special or unique specifications to be used for implementation of the Five Creek Plan?
- A. *Proposed road treatments will need to conform to the authorized actions under the Five Creeks NEPA documentation (ie if road is not slated for decommission under NEPA, the selected consultant team should explore alternative actions to improve drainage or habitat other than full road decommissioning). It is expected that current design development in 2026 will help to inform the scope of work for the Five Creeks implementation contractor, specifically related to roads maintenance, reconstruction and erosion control and may realize cost efficiencies.*

Q. Do the plans need to go out to public bid or is it possible to use a design build contract method?

A. *We are not currently considering a design/build contract due to many factors including unknown cost for implementation, TRWC contracting policy standards and timing/sequencing with the Five Creeks project. This proposal solicitation is for design development only.*

Q. Will the plans be subject to both USFS and County review and requirements? (Note that the Boca plans have had to meet Nevada County road design criteria and review).

A. *While Placer County is a stakeholder, all proposed project components are on federal USFS lands. We anticipate that design plans and elements will be reviewed by TRWC and USFS-TNF staff as the primary project managers and landowners.*