

**Missouri River Watershed Coalition
Center for Invasive Plant Management
Montana State University**

Conservation Innovation Grant Project

**Statement of Work
Invasive Plant Treatment/Management Services
USDA-ARS Livestock and Range Research Laboratory
Miles City, Montana**

**Site #3
Cottonwood Flats Project Area
Russian Olive Management
1-6-2012**

SCOPE OF WORK

- 1. Summary:** The requirement for the project is for Russian olive vegetation treatment/control, manipulation, and inventory. The project work will be conducted on a site location within USDA–ARS Livestock and Range Research Laboratory lands – Miles City, Montana. The project activities will begin at the time the contract is awarded and continue through the end date of the contracts. All areas treated shall have GPS coordinates, maps, and electronic file for locations according to specifications and guidelines as set forth within this Statement of Work.

The contractor shall furnish all tools, equipment, materials, supplies, personnel, labor, and supervision necessary to complete the contract work requirements.

- 2. Project Location(s)/Descriptions/Maps:** The project treatment activities on USDA-ARS Livestock and Range Research Laboratory (Fort Keogh) lands will be conducted on a location hereby referred to as the: **Cottonwood Flats Project Area**. Site specific maps are included in the project Statement of Work (See attachments – Miles City – Ft. Keogh area map – page 4; Cottonwood Flats Project Area- page 5).

The Cottonwood Flats Project Area is located along the riparian buffer area of the Yellowstone River, within Fort Keogh property. The project site has an existing access road, and the existing road will be used to access the project work areas. Off-road travel is restricted to the actual treatment areas.

- 3. Target Species for Vegetation Control:** Plant species targeted for control include: Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*).
- 4. Work Requirements/Specifications:** The contract requires “cut-stump” treatment of, and the slash piling of the Russian olive within the designated project area. The mechanical cutting of the target species shall be made as close to the ground surface as possible. The previously-treated saltcedar plants will be mechanically cut and slash piled simultaneously, with the performance of the Russian olive “cut-stump” activities. The slash piling of the cut plant material and debris shall be piled in a consistent and orderly manner. Specific pile locations may be requested or identified by the Project Leader (or designee).

The contractor’s equipment shall meet or exceed all current federal, state, and local safety requirements. The contractor and employees shall be required to wear all appropriate personal protective equipment while conducting project treatment activities. Extreme care shall be exercised at all times by the contractor to protect desirable (non-targeted) species from damages by the required chemical and/or mechanical cutting treatments. The equipment may be stored on-site while the contract work is being performed.

The treatment /removal work shall be conducted between: October 30, 2012 – December 30, 2012; with uncontrollable weather and/or unfavorable site conditions considered. The Cottonwood Flats project area Russian olive mechanical cutting/ herbicide treatment work being offered for this contract will consist of a total area of **fourteen (14) acres**. The treatment area is defined on the treatment area map on page 5 of this document.

- 5. Pesticides:** The products (pesticides/oils/adjuvants) used will be provided by the contractor and will need to be included in the bid estimate.

Only EPA registered chemicals approved for use in the State of Montana shall be applied. Chemicals shall be mixed and applied at rates consistent with their perspective labels and manufacturers recommendations. Manufacturer's label directions and warnings relative to temperature, wind, or other weather conditions shall be strictly adhered to.

The specific chemicals, methods, and rates to be used on the Fort Keogh project areas are as follows:

Russian olive (cut-stump) – a 33% triclopyr ester / 67% basal oil (v/v) mixture applied to cover the entire exposed stump within one hour of the mechanical cutting.

- 6. Record Keeping (pesticides):** The contractor shall be required to complete a daily accurate Pesticide Application Record(PAR) form. The contractor shall submit the completed application records to the Project Leader (or designee) on a weekly basis for inspection of the treatment areas.
- 7. GPS:** The contractor will provide and use a GPS data logger that will support ArcGIS 9.2 software, and be able to export to Arcview/Map shapefiles. The contractor will furnish the Project Leader with treatment inventory data CDs containing all collected data files by project name.
- 8. Weather Conditions:** The contractor shall provide a continuous operation from day to day; weather permitting, until completion of the work required within the allotted contract time frame. Modification of the project work schedule due to weather or site conditions must be approved by the Project Leader (or designee).



Fort Keogh (Miles City, MT)

