



# OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD REPORT



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**SUBJECT:** Feather River Forestry Professional Services Agreement – OV-5 Implementation

**EXHIBIT:** F-8, 6 Pages

**AUTHOR:** Jessica Asher, Program Manager

**MEETING DATE:** March 31, 2026

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Feather River Forestry and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement.

**DISCUSSION:** The OV-5 project is one of five hazardous fuel reduction projects identified in the 2022 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The project will reduce wildfire risk by creating a 100-acre shaded fuel break along the south ridge of Olympic Valley. The project will be completed with mechanical thinning and commercial timber operations under a Forest Fire Prevention Exemption with CAL FIRE. The area contains native forest land with a high degree of vertical and horizontal fuel continuity, posing a significant wildfire risk to the community.

On March 25, 2026 the Truckee Tahoe Airport District (TTAD) Board of Directors approved grant funding for OV-5 project implementation, including forestry services.

Feather River Forestry's proposed scope will provide project oversight, administration, and technical services to ensure an efficient and effective project that meets the grant objectives and fully complies with all state and local regulations. If approved, RPF Danielle Bradfield will prepare bid documents for the OV-5 project, with plans to advertise the project in May and award the project prior to July 1, 2026. Staff recommends contracting with RPF Danielle Bradfield with Feather River Forestry. Since 2021, the District has partnered with Feather River Forestry, and that relationship has proven to be efficient, productive, and collaborative. Ms. Bradfield has successfully completed similar projects under comparable grant programs in the area.

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS:** Feather River Forestry's proposal's not-to-exceed cost of \$10,437, is reimbursable under the terms of the TTAD grant awarded for the project.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

**Focus Area:** Stewardship | **Goal:** Grow Investment in Wildfire Prevention and Resilience

**ATTACHMENTS:** Feather River Forestry Proposal (3 Pages); OV-5 Project Overview (2 Pages)

**DATE PREPARED:** March 26, 2026



Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief  
Olympic Valley Public Services District  
P.O. Box 2026  
Olympic Valley, CA 96146

March 23, 2026

RE: Professional Forestry Services – OV-5 Project

Mr. Chisholm,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Olympic Valley Public Services District (District) with professional forestry services related to the OV-5 project. Anticipated services under this contract include but are not limited to:

- i. Complete Cal Fire Forest Resilience Exemption for the 100-acre OV-5 project area, including the following required subtasks:
  - a. Field reconnaissance of project area to determine treatment area boundary, treatment prescriptions, and resource protection zones.
  - b. Reconnaissance-level timber cruise to inform harvest document and silvicultural prescriptions.
  - c. A minimum 10% sample timber mark (no less than 10 acres of tree marking for trees 12" DBH+).
  - d. Archaeological surveying and Confidential Archaeological Reporting
  - e. Develop technical specifications for the OV-5 bid document, lead the associated bid tour, and provide technical advice to OVPSD related to bid review.
  - f. Provide operational oversight during timber operations to ensure compliance with the California Forest Practice Rules.
- ii. Assist the District with public outreach publications and efforts, including public meeting(s).
- iii. Assist OVPSD in completion of grant reporting.

Services will be performed on a time and materials basis in accordance with Feather River Forestry's 2026 Fee Schedule, attached. It is mutually agreed upon that the value of this contract shall not exceed a total of \$35,000.00 with the tasks i(a-e) being completed upon snowmelt and in time for June 30, 2026 bid award.

Should you have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact me directly as (530)927-7095.

Respectfully,



Danielle E. Bradfield  
Registered Professional Forester #2808  
Feather River Forestry LLC



## **Feather River Forestry LLC**

### **2026 Fee Schedule**

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Professional services will be billed on a time and materials basis in accordance with the following billing rates:

- Registered Professional Forester:\$110.00/hour
- Senior Staff Forester: \$100.00/hour
- Staff Forester: \$85.00/hour
- Field Vehicle Standard Mileage Rate at time of service, currently \$0.70/mi



# OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



## OLYMPIC VALLEY SOUTH RIDGE ("OV-5") FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT

### **Project Description:**

The proposed project, "OV-5", is one of five fuel breaks identified as priority projects in the Olympic Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Cumulatively, the fuel breaks will total approximately 400 acres located upon ridgelines immediately north and south of the community, along the Wa She Shu Creek corridor and adjacent to the community's residential areas.

The OV-5 project is a 100-acre fuel reduction project located along the south ridge of the community of Olympic Valley (between Olympic Valley and Alpine Meadows). It is located fully on private property and wholly within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

This fuel break will be implemented utilizing mechanical and hand thinning methods with mastication of surface and ladder fuels, where needed, such that flame length, intensity, rate of spread, and potential duration of wildfire will be significantly reduced. This project provides protection for the approximately 900 habitable structures in Olympic Valley, structures in Alpine Meadows, as well as improved safety along the major evacuation routes of Olympic Valley Road, Alpine Meadows Road, and State Route 89. OV-5 also connects to the US Forest Service's "Alpine Meadows Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project", a 700-acre project located along the southern edge of OV-5. Further, the proposed project will also complement Placer County's 144-acre Cabin Creek Fuels Reduction and Community Safety Project, and the over 6,000-acre USFS Five Creeks Project, both located north of OV-5.

### **Project Objectives:**

Project objectives include 1) Creation of the OV-5 fuel break upon 100 acres adjacent to the community of Olympic Valley located along the ridgeline to the immediate south of community, and adjacent to the arterial evacuation route for the community and region, 2) reduce wildfire's risk to human health and safety, and 3) reduce the risk of adverse wildfire effects and potential fire behavior (flame length, intensity, rate of spread, duration) through reduction of fuel loading and arrangement within the Defense Zone of the Olympic Valley Wildland Urban Interface.

The fuel break pretreatment areas are dominated by Sierra Mixed Conifer stand type of excessive stand density ranging from 180-220 square feet basal area per acre. Species composition is approximately 60% White Fir, 30% Jeffrey Pine, 6% Sugar Pine, and 4% Red Fir, with an average of 240 trees per acre over 8 inches DBH. The average stand diameter at breast height (DBH) of White Fir is 12.0", Jeffrey Pine is 14.3", Sugar Pine is 18.0", and Red Fir is 22.4". Cumulative pretreatment quadratic mean diameter is 13 inches DBH. Openings in the conifer overstory are dominated by native shrub species including manzanita and whitethorn and young growth White Fir regeneration under 3" DBH.

Following fuel break implementation utilizing mechanical thinning and mechanical mastication, stand conditions in each fuel break will exhibit reduced horizontal and vertical continuity of fuels such that wildfire intensity, including potential flame length, rate of spread, and duration of wildfire will be significantly reduced. This reduction in potential fire behavior provides for increased safety of residents and emergency personnel in a wildfire situation through reduced fire behavior.

Post-treatment stand conditions will exhibit reduced stand density of 75-100 square feet basal area per acre, depending on slope position, as a means to achieve these goals. The stand quadratic mean diameter will be increased approximately 5 inches DBH as trees retained will generally be larger, more fire tolerant trees. The residual stand will contain a species composition that provides for increased stand vigor and resilience to future disturbance such as fire, insects, disease, and drought. To this end, the relative site occupancy of White Fir will be reduced in favor of the more drought and fire tolerant native pine species. The residual stand will also exhibit lower crown bulk density and an increase in crown base height as a means to reduce fuel continuity and the probability of crown ignition and/or sustaining a running crown fire. Surface and ladder fuels will largely be removed through a combination of mechanical and hand thinning, and mechanical mastication.

Improved public safety through fuel reduction along arterial forest roads is another expected outcome of the project. This improved access will also provide for firefighter safety during ingress in the event of wildfire. Access roads leading from the Olympic Valley community to the ridgelines to the south and into the community of Alpine Meadows will be improved as part of forest product extraction involved with fuel break implementation. This improvement will likewise support ingress and egress of emergency personnel during a wildfire event.

**Project Location:**

