

**IERCD Request for Proposals - Goldspotted Oak Borer Tree Removals**

**Questions & Clarifications - 4/13/2026**

#	Question	Clarification
1	Will all removal trees be chipped and can chips be spread onsite?	<p>In order to compare bids equitably with a standardized scope, we are asking all contractors to bid assuming removal and chipping for all trees except tree numbers 9688, 9664, 9669 at the Cienega Property which will be dropped, cut into 3-foot or smaller rounds and tarped with wire mesh for GSOB management.</p> <p>We understand chipping may not be the best option or the most cost effective for all trees and we will work with the awarded contractor to determine the best approach for more technical trees and sites. To assist with developing bids, we have created maps for each property showing where the trees are located and where chipping would occur. See the maps provided along with these responses and at <a href="https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures">https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures</a>.</p>
2	How did you determine the trees that will be removed?	The trees that have been identified for removal have an active or previous high infestation of Goldspotted Oak Borer. Some trees may no longer have an active infestation but pose a public safety hazard.
3	Is the 2-month deadline for removals fixed or flexible? That might be a short turnaround for the # and complexity of trees identified.	We will be flexible with removal timelines, however the ability to meet the established timelines will be a consideration in comparing bids. Management for Goldspotted Oak Borer requires a timely removal process before the insect begins its flight season so timeliness of removals will be a consideration for this project.
4	If trees are de-barked by contractor, can contractor take hardwood offsite for their own use?	For this project, the selected contractor cannot take hardwood offsite for their own use.
5	Will public access be an issue at The Wildlands Conservancy property?	The Wildlands Conservancy will close public access to areas where the contractor is working. The contractor will work with IERCD and The Wildlands Conservancy to schedule work and closures will be coordinated.
6	Should proposal include a lump sum for full contract or broken down by property or another way?	As stated in the RFP, contractors may propose costs using their preferred method as long as there is sufficient detail for IERCD to understand how those costs were determined. This could be by property, cost for individual trees, daily rate with number of work days, etc. Each bid should also include a final fixed cost for the whole project.
7	If large logs were to be debarked, where they are felled, will the [Wildlands Conservancy/Oak Glen Preserve] allow them to remain there, covered in plastic? It seems like that practice may not be appropriate for that location.	No, all trees on The Wildlands Conservancy property will need to be chipped. Please also see the updated list of trees to be removed, provided along with these responses and at <a href="https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures">https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures</a> . Note that 3 trees were taken off of the list of trees to be removed at The Wildlands Conservancy property.
8	Will we have permission to access the private properties all the way back to trees 9866 and 9867?	Yes, the selected contractor will have access through the private property adjacent to The Wildlands Conservancy along Raspberry Ln.
9	I'm considering using a chainsaw debarker for any debarking that may need to be done. It creates shavings and chunks 3" minus in size. Examples of the tool being used can be found on YouTube if you search chainsaw debarker. Can the material it creates remain on site as long as it's an appropriate location, i.e. the forest floor or a processing location?	Yes, use of a chainsaw debarker is acceptable. Chips can remain on site at the approved locations referenced in question #1.

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10	The ability to chip as much material as possible, versus debarking, is a huge time saver, and, therefore, a cost saver. James Law would like to keep everything down to 6"-8" in diameter. That is a lot of debarking. Is that going to be mandatory?	Refer to answer to question 1.
11	I have a question following the pre-bid tour regarding the removal of trees that have been dead for over a year. Based on the discussion during the site visit, since the bark does not need to be removed from these specific trees, is it required that they be chipped, or can they simply be removed?	Refer to answer to question 1.
12	I was able to find the 3 trees at the Cienega Canyon. Just some notes and a question about those 3 trees. One question is that access is obviously very limited. And hand hauling logs is obviously out of the question so there is it okay to leave more logs and then cover is wire mess? I'm also assuming thy would not like any equipment driving through the wet wash area which is the only access to the area. So everything will have to be hand hauled out? Just making sure I bid it correctly.	The trees at the Cienega Canyon Preserve can be covered in the mesh wire and left in place. For the contractors capable of hauling the wood, the Cienega Canyon Preserve has a designated area near the entrance for chipping, see the map provided along with these responses and at <a href="https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures">https://www.iercd.org/publications-and-disclosures</a> .
13	It would be helpful to have an official word if we are allowed access to the private drive above the wildlands property. The public road stops way short of the first tree so without access pulling up is unrealistic so that means everything will have to be drug downhill instead of up. So having that info would be great for the final cost of the work.	The selected contractor will have access through the private property adjacent to The Wildlands Conservancy along Raspberry Ln.
14	For the trees at the Cienega Canyon Preserve, will the preserve allow equipment to chip the tree on site?	Refer to answer to question 1. Due to access, the trees at the Cienega Canyon property will be tarped and will not require chipping.