



Bureau of Indian Affairs
Southern Paiute Agency
Cedar Ridge Fuels Project Plan

PREPARED BY:

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

REVIEW BY: Kaibab Indian Tribe Chairwomen

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPROVED BY:

Name – Agency Administrator (print): _____

Signature – Agency Administrator: _____ Date: _____

A. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION

The Cedar Ridge Fuels Project is located within the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation under the Southern Paiute Agency. The Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation comprises 120,840 acres in one contiguous parcel (minus one inholding at Moccasin, AZ) in Mohave and Coconino Counties, Arizona. The northern boundary of the Reservation lies along the Utah-Arizona border with most of the Reservation located in the Arizona Strip. The eastern boundary of the Reservation is located one mile west of Kanab, Utah and two miles west Fredonia, Arizona. The Reservation encompasses portions of the Shinarump Cliffs and Moccasin Mountains along the northern boundary. The eastern edge straddles the Kanab Creek, which flows south from the Kanab Plateau. The Reservation is traversed by Arizona Highway 389 as well as by paved County roads into Moccasin, Kaibab, and Pipe Springs National Monument and into the Steamboat Village housing development. Vegetation varies from Colorado Plateau Pinyon Juniper Shrubland and Colorado Plateau Pinyon Juniper Woodland with elevation in this project area range from 4,600 to 5,000 ft.

1. Location: State: Arizona, County, Coconino
Latitude: 36° 52' 50.5"
Longitude: 112° 44' 22.8"

Legal Description: T41N, R4W, Sec.10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26

Treatment Unit: Same as above

Size: Treatment Unit 2,000 acres

Project unit: See Appendix A - Maps

2. **Topography:** Most of the Tribe's woodlands occur in the northwest portion of the Reservation. The southern and eastern portions of the Kaibab Reservation lie upon gentle lower (4,400 ft. elevation) slopes within the Kanab River Watershed. The major streams draining these areas are Sandy Canyon Wash, Kanab Creek and Sand Wash. To the southwest, northwest and extreme northern portions of the Reservation slopes are steeper, occasionally vertical in the Vermillion cliffs, Moccasin Canyon and Ed Lamb Point areas. As the slopes increase in steepness they are cut by numerous small canyons and washes, eventually rising to an escarpment comprised of steep to precipitous slopes and rocky bluffs. At the top of the escarpment the land slopes gradually to the east on moderately steep slopes of 30-50% in the Moccasin Mountains area with elevations of 5,400 - 6,000 feet. The lower portion of this area contains rolling hills, and numerous small flats and washes that mostly drain into Moccasin Canyon and Moccasin Wash. Colorado Plateau Pinyon-Juniper forestland stands occur on gentle to moderately steep slopes on all aspects.

- 3. Description of Boundaries:** The project is approximately 5 miles northeast of Kaibab. West and North boundary is surrounded by the Vermilion Cliffs. The intersection of BIA route 30 and 50 is the southwest corner of the project. Southern boundary follows BIA route 50 to Aulson Springs. East boundary follows the cliff line to Sandy wash and crosses Sandy wash follows fence line to Red Cliff Springs Road. Northern boundary follows the sage flats and crosses a small drainage to Sandy wash and ties into BIA route 30 on the western boundary. (see Appendix A)
- 4. Vegetation and Fuels:** The project area is an old chaining that was completed in the 1960's. The project area is critical winter mule deer/wildlife habitat. Shrubs, forbs, and grasses will start to decline with the project area do to increase of junipers trees in project area. The vegetation outside the project area is characterized by an open to moderately dense tree canopy (10-60% cover) dominated by single leaf pinyon and Utah juniper with sagebrush, shrubs and grasses are intermixed. Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) outside the project area is predominately FRCC 3 which is where fire regimes have been extensively altered and risk of losing key ecosystem components from fire is high.
- 5. Desired Condition**

Treatment identified within this project plan (bullhog mulching/Chain saw lop and scatter) would help reduce hazardous fuel loads, create fuel breaks, and reduce the overall threat of wildfire which could impact critical winter mule deer and wildlife habitat. Removing the juniper trees in would help shrubs, forbs and perennial grasses persist long-term. The treatment proposed would help the effectively return the area to more resilient landscape by placing the fire regime closer to the historical range (FRCC 1).
- 6. Management Requirements:** In accordance with the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Woodland Management Plan Overall Goal – manage woodlands to provide for quality of life, natural resources, wildlife habitat, water quality, and environmental protection.

The Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians and the BIA adopt the following goals for the forested/woodland portions of the property:

1. Identify management scenarios that maintain and/or add value to the resources of the property.
2. Develop forest management strategies for the forested portions of the Reservation.
3. Manage forest products harvesting (e.g. firewood) in order to maintain and improve the health of the forest and woodlands.
4. Reserve recreational uses of tribal woodlands for tribal members.
5. Improve the health of the forest and woodlands through management.
6. Maintain or reduce potential wildland fire behavior through active management.
7. Reduce impacts to the health of the forest/woodlands from pests and diseases
8. Reduce impacts to the health of the forest/woodlands from invasive species.

7. Objectives:

- Reduce Juniper trees up to 100%
- Maintain or improve vegetation
- Decrease fire hazards by removing Juniper trees
- Hand cut areas for fire wood

8. Organization and Budget

The project has been funded for \$125,000.

Item	Description	2020
Rental	Mechanical Mulching 1 month @ \$12,800 x 2 months	\$ 25,600
BIA personal/	Duration of project 90 days	\$ 58,000
Misc. expenses	Diesel fuel/Transport Fees/repairs	\$ 16,400
Monitoring	Tribal Personal	\$ 25,000
	Total	\$ 125,000

Proposed Schedule

The project will be implemented starting March, 2020. Southern Paiute Agency personal will implement and complete project by end of fiscal year September 2020.

9. Pre-Project Considerations

A. On-site

- The project will be GPS and boundary will be flagged where needed
- A Project Map with boundaries will be prepared under the direction of the agency staff prior to the project implementation, which includes structures and infrastructure.
- Archeological map will be provided to necessary staff for adequate protection.
- If warranted Road signs/or road guards will be used when Bullhog is within 150' of roads

B. Off-site

- Provide maps to: Kaibab Tribal Office,
- Rental of track hoe with mulcher head (Bullhog) will be by BIA Agency
- Notify Kaibab Tribal Departments (Natural Resources, Cultural, and Wildlife) prior to project implementation preferable 1 month.
- Obtain the locations of all cultural sites identified from the cultural surveys. Ensure these sites will be protected (if necessary) during project operations.

10. Project Implementation

Project will be implemented GPS, maps and flagging of unit boundary is completed. Keep Tribal administration informed of progress and if project work is meeting Tribal expectations.

Specific Task:

Work limits: Only areas shown on the Project Map will be treated. The project areas may be flagged and/or described verbally. A GIS/GPS shape file/PDF map will provided prior to work beginning. Untreated areas within these boundaries shall be identified with flagging and/or verbally.

Mulching:

1. Up to 100% of Juniper trees within the designated treatment area are to be removed.
2. Only the Juniper tress shall be chipped, shredded, or mulched.
3. No live limbs shall be left on the stump of cut trees and stump heights shall not exceed 6 inches measured on the uphill side.
4. All main branches or stems shall be cut from the trunk of the tree.
5. Any Juniper tree or sapling that cannot be removed by bullhog machinery must be removed by a hand crew utilizing chainsaws.
6. Mulched chips depth shall not exceed six (6) inches. If mulch exceeds six inches in depth crews shall spread the mulch either mechanically or by hand.

Tribal fire wood cut areas:

1. Cut trees 12 inch DBH within the designated treatment area.
2. Cut into 18 inch lengths for fire wood. (do not stack)
3. Limbs and excess debris pile.

11. Monitoring

Southern Paiute personal will planning and coordination with Western Regional Office Fuels Specialist and Fire Ecologist with monitoring plans will be conducted throughout the duration of the project. Photo points will established through-out the project for Pre and post treatment.

12. Personal and Public Safety

Southern Paiute Agency personal will notify Kaibab Tribal office when project will be implemented. Public notification flyer will be posted at the administration building and wherever Tribal personal deems necessary.

Bullhog operations: Operator and spotter will keep all personal clear of the work area at least 300 FEET from machine. Maintain the safe working distance from all personnel and other equipment. Have a spotter on the site to inform public that may stop to view the work the safe distance required to view machine and to define hazards on the job site. If warranted Road signs will be posted along the BIA route 30, 50 and any two track roads.

Chain saw operations: All personal will wear required Personal Protective Equipment (leather boots, gloves, eye and ear protection, hard hat and chaps when operating chain saws.

Job Hazard Analysis: Has been complete for Bullhog and chain saw operations. (See Appendix B)

Project Plan Appendices

Appendix A: Maps: Vicinity and project boundary

Appendix B: Job Hazard Analysis

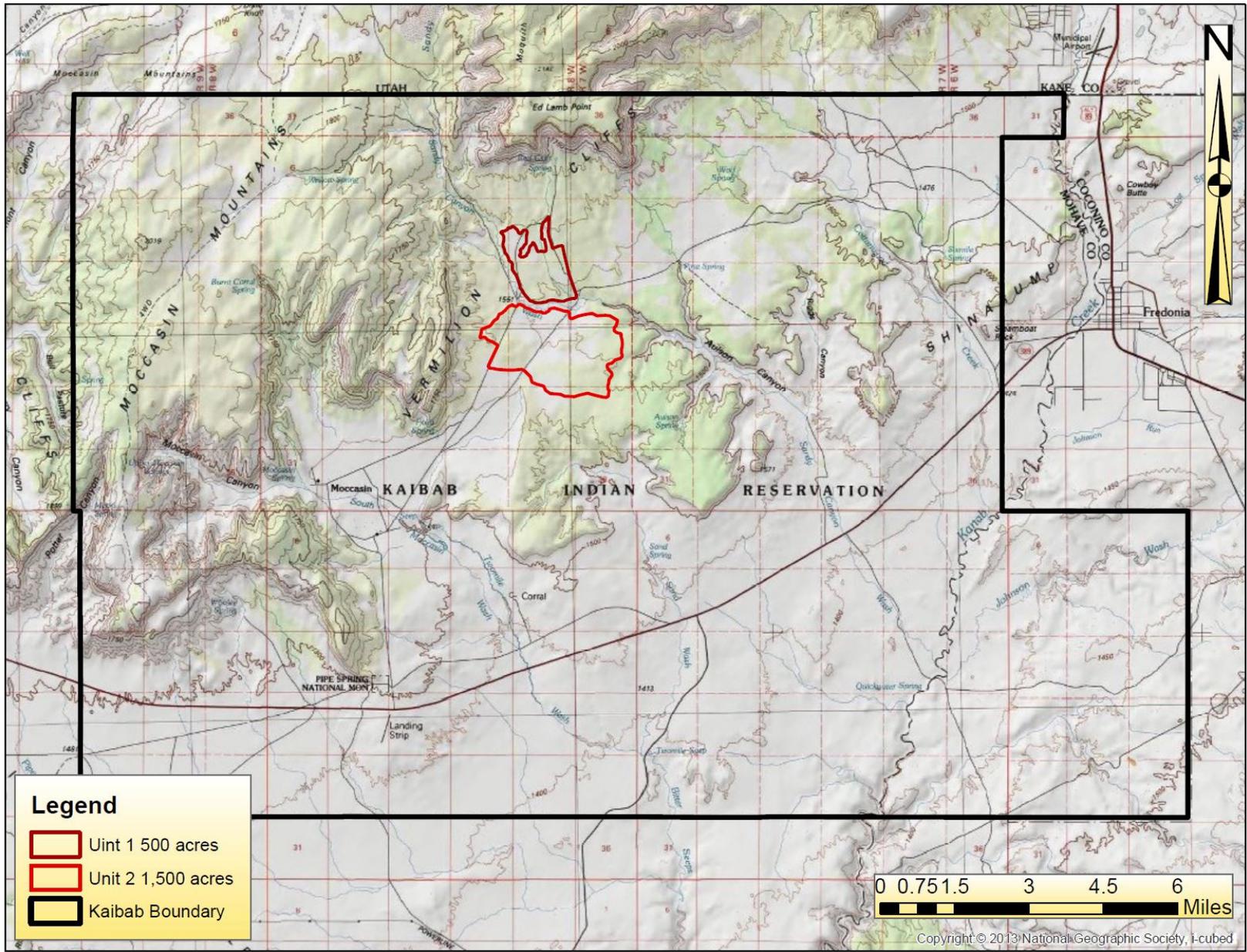
Appendix C: Kaibab Tribal Resolution

Appendix F: Public Notice

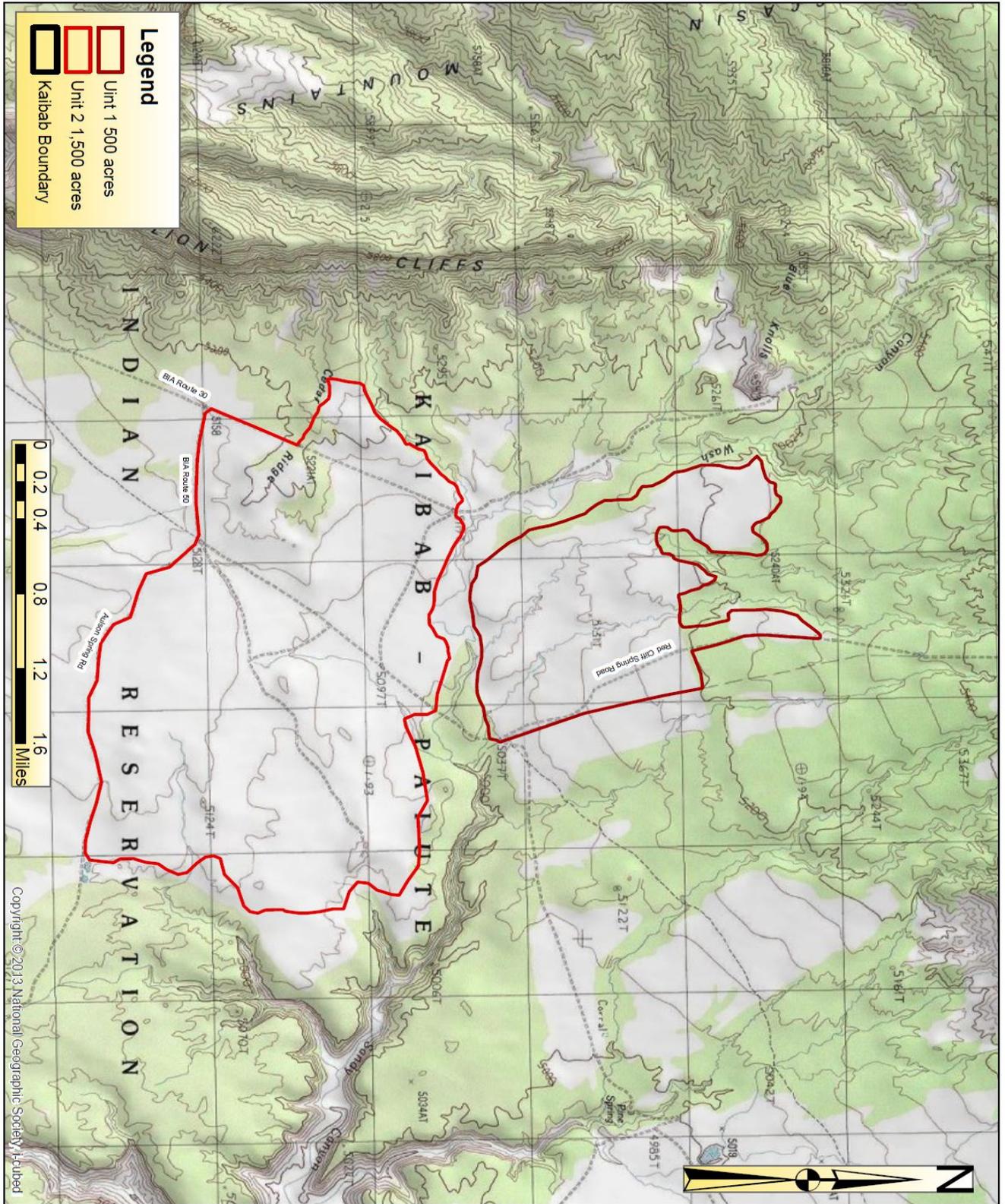
Appendix A: Maps

Vicinity Map





Project Boundary map



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET

1. Organization and Location Southern Paiute / Truxton Canon Agency			2. Page _____ of _____		
3. Operation / Task Equipment OPERATION W/ FECON CUTTER/MULCHER "BULLHOG"		4. Beginning Date: 02/01/2018	5. Ending Date:	6. Date Prepared 01/09/2018	

7. Prepared by (Name / Duty Position) Chris Henrie / Fuels Specialist

8. Identified Hazards	9. Assess the Hazards: Initial Risk				10. Control Measures Developed for Identified Hazards: (Specific measures taken to reduce the probability of a hazard)	11. Assess the Hazard's Residual Risk:				12. How to Implement the Controls: (Include SOP's ,references, etc.)	13. Supervisors and Evaluation by: (Continuous Leader Checks, Buddy System, etc.)
(Be Specific)	L	M	H	E	(Be Specific)	L	M	H	E	(Be Specific)	(Be Specific)
Bullhog operator limitations			X		Supervisor will ascertain whether operator is capable of operating the Equipment safely. Operators should be familiar with equipment operation, and trained to operate the equipment controls, as well as trained to maneuver the machine safely. Operators will follow the appropriate check in/check out procedures with their respective office to account for employees operating in the field.	X				Refer to equipment operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained equipment operator.	Supervisor/trainer will initially determine if a new operator is capable of operating the equipment safely. Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs and are recommended to have coworker on site during all equipment operation.

14. Remaining Risk Level After Control Measures Are Implemented: (CIRCLE HIGHEST REMAINING RISK LEVEL)

LOW
(Line Supervisor)

MEDIUM
(Branch Chief)

HIGH
(District Manager)

EXTREMELY HIGH
(Must be State Director/Associate)

15. RISK DECISION AUTHORITY: **(Approval/Authority Signature Block)** (If Initial Risk Level is Medium, High or Extremely High, Brief Risk Decision Authority at that level on Controls and Control Measures used to reduce risks) (Note: if the person preparing the form signs this block, the signature indicates only that the appropriate risk decision authority was notified of the initial risk level, control measures taken and appropriate resources requested; and that the risk was accepted by the decision authority.)

(Signature)

CONTINUED

8. Identified Hazards	9. Assess the Hazards: Initial Risk				10. Control Measures Developed for Identified Hazards: (<i>Specific measures taken to reduce the probability of a hazard</i>)	11. Assess the Hazard's Residual Risk:				12. How to Implement the Controls: (<i>Include SOP's, references, etc.</i>)	13. Supervisors and Evaluation by: (<i>Continuous Leader Checks, Buddy System, etc.</i>)
(Be Specific)	L	M	H	E	(Be Specific)	L	M	H	E	(Be Specific)	(Be Specific)
Bullhog operator safety/injury prevention			X		Operators shall operate the loader from the operator's compartment-never from the outside. Stay seated when operating the controls. Work with seat belt fastened. Keep arms, legs, and head inside the cab during operation. Never bypass safety devices. Complete a safety and maintenance check each day before operating. Check safety equipment defined in the operating manual. Make sure the engine is operating correctly and test controls before operating. Never repair the machine while it is running.	X				Refer to Bullhog operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator.	Supervisor will spot check for performance. Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Bullhog Stability			X		For maximum stability, travel and turn with the cutting attachment in the lowest position possible. Never exceed the recommended load capacity for the machine. Maximum operation on side or across slope will be no more than 15% grade. Maximum slope when operating up or down slope will not exceed 25% grade. Operate on stable surfaces; avoid slash, stumps, and rocks. When possible, travel up or down slopes with the heavy end of the machine pointed uphill.	X				Refer to operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator.	Supervisor will spot check for performance. Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Entering and exiting the Bullhog.	X				Enter only when the cutting attachment is on the ground. When entering the loader, face the seat and use the handholds and steps provided in the machine. Never use controls for steps or handholds. Before leaving operator's seat, lower the cutting attachment to the ground, set the parking brake, and turn off the engine.	X				Refer to operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator.	Supervisor will spot check for performance. Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Work area safety			X		Keep ALL personnel clear of the work area: AT LEAST 300 FEET FROM THE MACHINE. Warn personnel before		X			Refer to operator's guide and on-site instruction administered	Supervisor will spot check for performance. Operators will operate in the

				staring work. Maintain the safe working distance from all personnel and other equipment. Use radios to communicate with other operators or ground crews. Have a spotter on the site to inform persons that may stop to view the work the safe distance required to view machine and to define hazards on the job site. Post signs for public or other workers as required buffer zones as needed. Operators are to stay alert and aware of surroundings continuously. Always look around before you back the machine or operate an attachment.				by a previously trained operator. Operators/spotters shall be aware/communicate safety concerns in the work area.	buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Fecon cutter/mulcher attachment: Operation		X		Operator is responsible to check the perimeter of the work area for hazards, such as people, other equipment, utilities, and terrain features (slopes, washes, rocks, slash, ect.) Do not operate within 50 feet of terrain hazards, 100 feet from utilities and other equipment, and 300 feet from people. Keep all shields installed on the Bullhog and Fecon cutter, as material can be thrown up to 300 feet. Report/replace damaged shields and safety devices. Any personnel on the project should wear eye, hearing protection and head protection while machine is running. Only those authorized and required to be near a running machine will be allowed on sight and should be kept to a minimum. Operator is to shut down machine while any personnel are within the 300 feet radius.		X		Refer to operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator. Operators/spotters shall be aware/communicate safety concerns in the work area. Refer to Fecon safety manuals.	Supervisor will spot check for performance Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Fecon cutter/mulcher attachment: Moving parts			X	Never wear loose-fitting clothing when servicing the machine, or working around any moving parts of the machine. Wear eye protection, head protection and hearing protection when near running equipment. PPE may be removed while inside cab unless noise levels are above an 8hr TWA of 85 dBA and then hearing	X			Refer to operator's guide and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator. Refer to Fecon safety manuals.	Supervisor will spot check for performance Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.

				protection will be required. (Note: keep all personnel 300 feet away while cutting attachment is operating). Keep hands, feet, and objects away from the rotating drum when the engine is running. Stop engine before leaving the equipment and before servicing. Do not give rides. When cutter is engaged stay back 300 feet.						
Fecon cutter/mulcher attachment: Falling Trees		X		Trees should be cut at a downward and away angle to ensure that the tree falls away from the machine. Cut only trees 30 feet in height or less. Do not operate on slopes greater than 25%.	X				Refer to operator's guide, safety video, and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator. Operators/spotters shall be aware/communicate safety concerns in the work area. Refer to Fecon safety manuals.	Supervisor will spot check for performance Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Fire Hazards		X		During warm up and mid-day checks, clean any debris around the muffler or engine area. Clean radiator/oil cooler when necessary. Carry a fire extinguisher on site and in the bobcat if possible. Never fuel near an open flame.	X				Refer to operator's guide, safety video, and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator.	Supervisor will spot check for performance Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.
Servicing the Machine and Fecon Head	X			Fueling/Greasing: Don't over fill the tank in the truck. Make sure fuel cap is secure. Clean any spills that occur around the fuel tank. Clean up any spots that may have become slippery. Watch footing and use handholds when stepping on the machine. Turn off the machine before servicing. Do not over fill the machine. Use care with hands when greasing, as those points tend to be in tight areas. Changing Teeth/Adjusting mount brackets: Use eye protection and gloves. Use cheater bar to get more leverage to loosen tight bolts. If the head is lifted for access to teeth be sure	X				Refer to operator's guide, safety video, and on-site instruction administered by a previously trained operator.	Supervisor will spot check for performance Operators will operate in the buddy system for the first 100 hrs.

				that lift arm supports are in place. Parking brake shall be set.						
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Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
KAIBAB BAND OF PAIUTE INDIANS



K-48-19

2019 CEDAR RIDGE FUELS MAINTANCE PROJECT

- WHEREAS,** the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians is an Indian Tribe as defined under the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 as amended and operates and functions in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Kaibab Ordinances and Resolutions; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council is the recognized governing body responsible and authorized by the Constitution to exercise all of the powers possessed by the Band; and
- WHEREAS,** the Woodlands Management Plan of the Kaibab Tribe provides direction for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Paiute Agency Fire/Fuels Management in its trust responsibility for the Forest and Woodland protection under two major programs 1.) Wildland Fire Prevention and control and 2.) Prescribed fire; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Hazardous Fuel Reduction Program provides funding for the planning and implementation of Mechanical Treatments projects as directed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fuels Management Program.
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the Kaibab Tribe is advised that there are 2000 acres of existing hazardous fuels on Cedar Ridge Sandy Wash a part of a previous Chaining project completed in the 1960's. The BIA has suggested to do maintenance to the previous chaining project by a Mulching technique removing the new growth of trees and vegetation natural fuels that pose a threat of wildland fire; and
- WHEREAS,** the BIA, Southern Paiute Agency Fire/Fuels Management, has developed and planned the project area through the National Environment Protection Act (NEPA) process and will survey using the Categorical Exclusion (Cat-X) method and projected plan, and the Categorical Exclusion will be implemented starting September 19, 2019, through September 30, 2020. The BIA Southern Paiute Agency will transfer funds to the Kaibab Tribe in the amount of \$8,750.00 to compensate for the Kaibab Paiute Monitors.

Tribal Affairs

HC 65 Box 2
Fredonia, Arizona 86022

Phone (928) 643-7245
Fax (888) 939-3777

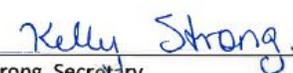
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council of the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians approves the 2019 Cedar Ridge Fuels Maintenance Project to be administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs branch of Fuels Management. The NEPA process will be completed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs branch of Fuels Management coordinating and using the Kaibab Paiute Tribal Monitors.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Tribal Chairperson and or Vice Chairperson is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly adopted by the Kaibab Paiute Tribal Council on **September 19, 2019** at a rescheduled regular meeting at which a quorum was present with **(5) IN FAVOR, (1) ABSENT**, pursuant to the authority vested in the Kaibab Paiute Tribal Council by Section 1 (a) of Article VI of the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws ratified by the tribe on June 20, 1987 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on July 14, 1987, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934.


Ona Segundo, Chairwoman
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians

Attest: 

Kelly Strong, Secretary
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians





PUBLIC NOTICE

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS SOUTHERN PAIUTE AGENCY FUELS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Paiute Agency will be conducting Cedar Ridge Fuels Project on the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation. The project is approximately 2,000 acres located 5 miles northeast of Kaibab.

The purpose of the fuels treatment: The project area is an old chaining that was completed in the 1960's. The project area is critical winter range for mule deer/wildlife habitat. Shrubs, forbs, and grasses will start to decline with the increase of juniper trees in project area. The main objective is to remove up to 100% of juniper trees of new growth in the old chaining's area. Removing the juniper trees in would help shrubs, forbs and perennial grasses persist long-term for the critical winter range for mule deer/wildlife habitat.

The Southern Paiute BIA agency personal will be operating track hoe (Bullhog) to mulch the juniper trees and chain saw to lop/scatter.

In the interest of public safety, when the mechanical machinery (Bullhog) is working next to the BIA route 30, 50, and any two track in project area **DO NOT STOP** keep driving and use caution. All public personal stay **AT LEAST 300 FEET FROM THE MACHINE**. The machine (Bullhog) will throw debris that can cause serious bodily harm.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Henrie, Fuels Management Specialist or Jeramie Ybright, Fire Management Officer at (435) 674-9714.