AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

AgendaTitle:
Access Permit Application; Montrose Forest Products, LLC

Action Requested: Other Board Approval for Public Works Director signature

Parties to the Agreement: Gunnison County and Montrose Forest Products, LLC.

Term Begins: May 6, 2014 **Term Ends:** 10/30/2014 **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:
Montrose Forest Products, LLC is requesting permission to haul 2 million board feet of timber from Floresta, through Crested Butte to Highway 135. A permit with conditions and a bond will be required.

Fiscal Impact: Cost of permit.

Submitted by: Marlene D. Crosby **Submitter's Email Address:** mcrosby@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: (●) Required ( ) Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: (●) Required ( ) Not Required

Comments:

Once the BOCC determines bonding or other requirements, we will want these memorialized in a formal writing. db 4/29/14

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\dBaumgarten Discharge Date: 4/29/2014 Certificate of Insurance Required Yes ( ) No (●)

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 4/30/2014

( ) Consent Agenda (●) Regular Agenda ( ) Worksession Time Allotted: 15

Agenda Date: 5/6/2014 Follow Up Agenda Date:

Revised April 2013

Montrose Forest Products, LLC
P.O. Box 1149, Montrose, CO 81402 T: (970) 249-0812

April 15, 2014

Marlene D. Crosby, Public Works Director
Gunnison County Public Works Department
195 Basin Park Drive
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dear Marlene,

Please allow this letter to start our application for an Access Permit from the Gunnison County Public Works Department to haul approximately 2.0 million board feet of logs from the property owned by Floresta Partners, LLC in the area commonly known as Floresta. We respectfully request that, if necessary, our request be presented to the Board of County Commissioners at their next regular Board meeting on May 6, 2014. We would like to commence operations in June 2014 as weather and ground conditions allow.

After consulting with you yesterday we concur that the safest and best haul route would not be over Kebler Pass to McClure but rather via Gunnison County Road 12 east to Crested Butte and thence south to Gunnison and US 50 via Colorado Highway 135.

We respectfully provide the following answers to all questions posed in your letter of April 11, 2014:

Q: What days of the week will you be hauling?
A: Mondays through Fridays only. No hauling will be done on weekends. We expect approximately 6 loads of logs to be hauled per day.

Q: What times of day do you anticipate trucks will be on Kebler Pass?
A: We believe that your recommended route of hauling east from Floresta via County Road 12 is a safer option than hauling over Kebler Pass. Log trucks will be utilizing County Road 12 in the mostly daylight hours between 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Q: How will you accommodate County maintenance activities and special events?
A: On days of special events involving significantly heavier traffic, such as bicycle tours, we will suspend hauling for the entire day or portion of the day as is necessary to promote good will and safety. We would ask for the opportunity to best coordinate with you, in advance, our activities during scheduled Gunnison County road maintenance.

Q: Will you have any equipment available to minimize impacts such as a water truck, if needed?
A: We do not have a water truck. We would hope that our proposed change of haul route through Gunnison instead of McClure and only hauling approximately 6 loads per day during the work week would eliminate the need and significant cost of a water truck.

Q: How do you plan to improve the intersection of Kebler Pass and Ohio Creek?
A: The existing configuration of the intersection of Kebler Pass and Ohio Creek presently accommodates a right turn for loaded trucks and will not require improvement. In-bound empty trucks with "piggy-back" log trailers will also not pose a problem at this intersection. The sharper turning radius of this intersection when making a left hand turn to go over Kebler Pass to McClure may have required some improvement. Our proposed change of haul route should eliminate this concern.

Q: Are you planning to have traffic control or a pilot car to address the safety concern, especially in areas where the curves are tight?
A: County Road 12 provides a "straight shot" to Crested Butte. We do not believe a pilot car will be necessary.

Q: How will you control truck speed?
A: Log trucks hauling into Montrose Forest Products are required by written contract to obey the law including adherence to posted and safe speed limits. Offending drivers may be disciplined and/or lose their contracts to haul logs into the Montrose sawmill. A meeting will be held with all drivers prior to commencement of this haul.

Q: What other alternative haul routes were considered?
A: We have concluded, pursuant to your recommendation, that the alternate haul route east to Crested Butte via Gunnison County Road 12 and then south to US 50 at Gunnison via Colorado Highway 135 is superior and safer to our original proposal to haul to McClure.

Q: Why did you choose Kebler Pass to McClure Pass?
A: We mistakenly believed it to be a safer route.

Q: What protocol will be in place to address hauling if weather conditions create safety concerns on the Pass?
A: We are no longer proposing to haul over Kebler Pass. We do not propose winter operations on the Floresta property. If an early fall snow occurs we will either temporarily suspend hauling until conditions improve or all logs trucks are equipped with tire chains and will use them as required for traction and safety. Log truck drivers hauling into Montrose Forest Products are some of the most experienced and skilled individuals in the county to deal with adverse road and weather conditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Normand Birtcher
Resource Forester