



# STAFF REPORT

---

**Meeting Type:** Board of Directors  
**Title:** Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2018 with Biswell Forestry LLC  
**From:** Shaun Horne, Director of Watershed Resources  
**Through:** Alex Anaya for Ben Horenstein, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** July 07, 2026

---

**TYPE OF ITEM:**        X        Action                    Information

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2018 (CN-2018) with Biswell Forestry LLC to extend the contract term by one year and add approximately \$281,875 for Wildland Fire Services, increasing the total contract amount from \$825,000 to a new not to exceed contract amount of \$1,106,875, and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment

**SUMMARY:** Staff is requesting that the Board of Directors approve and authorize Amendment No. 1 to CN-2018 with Biswell Forestry LLC to extend the contract term by one year and add approximately \$281,875 for continued Wildland Fire Services. This amendment would increase the total contract amount from \$825,000 to a new not to exceed contract amount of \$1,106,875.

The Board approved CN-2018 on March 12, 2024, for a three-year term ending March 12, 2026 for Wildland Fire Services contract in the amount of \$825,000, with an option to extend services in one-year increments for up to two additional years. This amendment exercises the first one-year extension option extending the contract end date to March 12, 2027 and allows the District to continue utilizing certified wildland fire contractor crews to support implementation of the Biodiversity, Fire and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP).

**DISCUSSION:** The District is currently implementing the Biodiversity, Fire and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP), which includes ongoing vegetation management, pile burning, prescribed fire support, and related wildfire resilience activities throughout the watershed. These activities generate a continued need for qualified wildland fire crews and specialized equipment to assist with pile burning operations, prescribed burn preparation, and post-fire mop up activities.



Biswell Forestry LLC has successfully provided Wildland Fire Services under CN-2018 since 2024. Extending the contract will provide continuity of services and allow the District to continue implementing BFFIP vegetation management activities without interruption.

The proposed amendment includes a 2.5% increase in contract unit rates and extends the agreement for one additional year, consistent with the extension provisions included in the original contract.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:** The District, as Lead Agency, prepared a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to CEQA for the Biodiversity, Fire and Fuels Integrated Plan (BFFIP), which was adopted in 2019. The work performed under CN-2018 is covered by the BFFIP PEIR.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The estimated cost for the one-year contract extension is approximately \$281,875, increasing the total contract amount to approximately \$1,106,875. Funds for this contract are included in the District's approved Capital Improvement Program budget for BFFIP implementation activities and may be supplemented by grant funding as available.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Watershed		
	<b>Shaun Horne</b> <b>Watershed Resources</b> <b>Director</b>	<b>Alex Anaya for</b> <b>Ben Horenstein</b> <b>General Manager</b>