

In your own words, tell why you feel this is an outstanding logger/contractor. (Consider such things as protection of residual stand, stump height, slash disposal, erosion control and ground disturbance, utilization, etc. Consider attitude, cooperation, amount of supervision required and innovative logging methods. Also, safety training received)

I feel that Dove Creek (Ben Franken and crew) is an outstanding logger/contractor/forestry contractor in the State of Colorado not just in the Franktown District. When I measure their work against other local and statewide contractors that I have used, Dove Creek meets and exceeds my expectations on a regular basis. The majority of our work is on private lands that require the contractor and his crew to work in sensitive situations and with many different landowners and personalities while meeting the Scope of Work and my expectations. Dove Creek regularly goes above and beyond to reach the Scope of Work, work with each landowner, develop a great relationship with the landowner and work and develop an excellent relationship with myself as the project administrator. Dove Creek is always trying to learn and understand the forestry end of the projects and incorporates the standards and science behind the practices. This has helped them to speak knowledgeably and confidently when working with landowners. I have worked with Dove Creek for the last six years and as we change the way we do forestry and try to incorporate wood utilization, Dove Creek has been able to adjust and be willing to incorporate harvesting and wood utilization practices and not just stay with doing solely mastication work. Dove Creek meets the Scope of Work standards on every project (residual stand and tree spacing, slash removal, stump height, erosion control and ground disturbance and of course helping with utilization of the wood we harvest-not an easy or small task to do and has jumped right in without me having to ask). Excellent contractors that can work on private lands, help with wood utilization, reach and exceed the Scope of Work while maintaining all standards are extremely a rare gem in the forestry world in Colorado. Dove Creek deserves and should be recognized for their excellence .

Nominator - Meg Halford Assistant District Forester/CSFS/Franktown District

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