Tree Thinning Contractor List for the Middle Niobrara Valley

The following contractors have requested to be included on this list for forest thinning and fuels reduction projects in six counties in the Middle Niobrara River watershed:

### Berghorst Land Clearing
Harlan Berghorst  
1020 E South E  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
308-870-0915 cell; hpberghorst@hotmail.com  
**Availability:** Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay  
**Liability Insurance:** Yes  
**Equipment:** Two 321 Hydro-Axe forestry head, three S-770 Bobcat with sweeps & mulcher; chainsaws  
**Notes:** 8-man crew

### Big Toys Hire & Rentals, LLC
Jordan and Ryan Ross  
PO Box 672  
Valentine, NE 69201  
bigtovyzs@gmail.com  
402-760-1145 Jordan cell; 402-760-1146 Ryan cell  
**Availability:** Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay  
**Liability Insurance:** Yes  
**Equipment:** Skid steers with numerous attachments, acquire attachments as needed; D5 Cat dozer with 6-way blade; winch for slopes; chainsaws.  
**Notes:** We have 18+ years’ experience in tree removal from selective cutting to clear cutting with extensive experience on canyon ground. We are skilled where minimum impact is required. We have prescribed fire experience and many years’ experience burning slash piles. We also do dirt work, repair roads, dams, put in culverts, etc. Our areas of expertise include respect for the environment we work in, attention to detail and high efficiency, tailored to our customers’ needs.

### Big Valley Tree Clearing
Derek Frahm  
211 N. Hickory St.  
Smithland, IA 51056  
712-899-8555 cell  
bigvalleytreeclearing@yahoo.com  
**Availability:** Boyd, Brown, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay  
**Liability Insurance:** Yes  
**Equipment:** Terex PT 110 track, Kubota SVL-90 track, M&M Shears, Denis Cimaf grinders, brush cat.  
**Notes:** We have the ability to go on steep slopes and have a certified Sawyer. No job too big. All jobs done in a timely fashion. Operators are trained and safety is first.  
**References available.**

### Bruha, LLC
Ernest Bruha  
46387 815th Rd.  
Burwell, NE 68823  
308-730-2282 cell  
bruherbruha@gmail.com  
**Availability:** Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
Steep terrain okay; no chainsaw work  
**Liability Insurance:** Yes  
**Equipment:** Skidloader with shear and grapple  
**Notes:** 21+ years of tree cutting.  
**References available**

### Central Nebraska Skidsteers, LLC
John Sutton and Conard Sutton  
81724 W. Union Rd.  
Sargent, NE 68874  
Cell: 308-215-0124 John; 308-215-0120 Conard; 308-527-3642 home  
john_ryan_sutton@hotmail.com & csutton@nctc.net  
**Availability:** Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay  
**Liability Insurance:** Yes  
**Equipment:** 2 Terex PT-110s with forestry package, 2 Marshall tree saws that run on high flow and have upgraded cylinders for higher torque and faster cycle time, 2 grapple forks, SS Eco Mulcher, Stihl chainsaws, Polaris Ranger 900XP side-by-side when using chainsaw and/or spraying tree stumps.  
**Notes:** Conard started this business in 1998 and has 17 years’ experience. John joined the operation in 2006 and has 9+ years’ experience. We have done many local and government-assisted jobs. We have acquired a skill of cutting and handling trees with our skid steers on a wide range of difficult terrain. We have always believed in doing a good, clean job and making sure that the customer is satisfied. We enjoy restoring the land back to its original state.  
**References available.**
Comstock Logging, LLC
Rolland W. Stefka
80691 Oak Grove Rd.
Comstock, NE 68828
www.rolliestefka@gmail.com
308-628-4212 home; 308-215-0209 cell
Availability: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties
Steep terrain okay; no chainsaw work
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: Ponsee Cobra tree processor; ASV PT 100 forestry package skidsteer on tracks; Lofiness timber axe mulcher for front of skidsteer; pallet forks, tree grapple, bucket for skidsteer; White 8510 135 hp front wheel assist tractor with loader and grapple fork; 1994 Peterbilt semi-truck with 50' dropdeck trailer with loading ramps; Norwood Mx36 portable sawmill set up permanently in my shop; Stihl chainsaws.
Notes: With the tree processor I can cut trees at nearly ground level, then remove branches, leaving a loggable log to remove and take to my sawmill. It is an 8-wheel drive with tracks to go over 2 axles and a set of chains to go over a third axle. The skidsteer with mulcher head will shred small trees up to 6” in diameter as well as small branches into a mulch to cover the ground with 6” or less mulch pieces. The skid steer has rubber tracks to minimize damage to the forest floor. The tractor can haul logs to the truck to be moved off site.
References available

Gross Seed Co., Inc.
John Gross
41616 US Hwy. 20; Johnstown, NE 69214
402-722-4215 (Office); 402-340-0578 cell
Availability: Brown, Cherry, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties
No chainsaw work or steep terrain
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: John Deere skid steer 323D

Holmberg Tree Shearing
Eugene Holmberg
90748 N. Randall Rd.; Bristow, NE 68719
402-583-0035 work; 402-640-0537 cell
holmberfamily@hotmail.com
Availability: Keya Paha, Rock, Boyd, & Holt Co
No steep terrain or chainsaw work
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: Skidsteers: 2 Bobcat S770, Bobcat S650, & JBC T320; 2 brush mowers; 3 tree shears; 2 grapples; tree puller; stump grinder
Notes: Have been doing tree removal for 15 years.
References available

Hoefs Skidloader Works, LLC
Dustin Hoefs
90870 396th Ave,
Valentine, NE 69201
308-520-0091 cell; 402-389-0888 home
duster851@gmail.com
Availability: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties (and beyond)
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: 2 Kubota SVL 90 and 2 Kubota SVL 95 skidloaders with rubber tracks; Kubota SSV75 wheel skidloader, Kubota KX080 excavator with rubber tracks, forestry head, & shear; Hyundai 160LC excavator with 38” RDM forestry head; shear & grapples; 2 Eco-forestry heads; Fecon forestry head; Lofness forestry head; Vortex tree & brush mulcher; Rhino 72” brush hog; John Deere 450G dozer & John Deere 450C dozer; 2 dump trucks and dump trailer, semi with belly dump trailer; 2 International paddle scrapers, Ashland ground force scraper; 3 sprayers for fire suppression, chainsaws
Notes: We are very diversified with a large fleet of equipment to handle all land clearing applications including forestry, excavation and dirtwork. We specialize in working extreme terrain and have the capabilities and the work force to complete large-scale projects. We also do burn prep and have three sprayers for fire suppression which are available on the site during the project. We carry specific land clearing insurance, specific for forestry fuel reduction and management. All operators are covered by workman’s compensation and the general liability.
References available

Jay Bowers Construction
Sterling or Jay Bowers
PO Box 308,
Farwell, TX 79325
806-481-9610 office; 402-382-5435 (Sterling); 806-438-5800 (Jay); sterlingbowers@gmail.com or jbequipment@msn.com
Availability: Keya Paha County
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: Kubota SVL 90-ZHFC trackloader with dirt bucket

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**Jim Buer Hauling and Excavating, Inc.**
Jim Buer  
PO Box 403  
Valentine, NE 69201  
402-322-0314 cell  
jbexc@yahoo.com  

*Availability*: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
*Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Kubota SVL 95, Deere 200DLC excavator, Deere 700H LGP, shears, shredders/mulchers, grapples, chainsaws  

*Notes*: We are a 3 man crew with a strong work ethic. We are not afraid to tackle the tough jobs. Our biggest advantage is our experience in tree clearing and earthwork. Our wide variety of equipment makes us confident to take on any size job. We are committed to provide our customers with the highest quality of work and to treat their land with utmost respect.  
*References available*

**KJ’s Cedar Cutting, LLC**
Kenny Eggars  
87846 – 433rd Ave.  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
402-760-0462 cell, 402-387-1645 home  
eggens@threeriver.net  

*Availability*: Brown, Keya Paha, & Rock Counties  
*Steep terrain okay; no chainsaw work*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Tracked skidsteer, tree saw, grapple fork.  

*Notes*: Can cut at or below ground level.  
*References available*

**Kraft Stump Grinding & Tree Removal, Inc.**
Mike Kraft  
PO Box 162  
Bassett, NE 68714  
701-351-0485 cell  
mikekraft42@yahoo.com  

*Availability*: Brown, Keya Paha, & Rock Counties  
*Chainsaw work & steep terrain okay*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Stump grinder, boom truck 50’ reach, dump truck, PT 100G Terex, M&M shear, Pintle trailers (25’ & 35’), chainsaws  

*Notes*: Tree removal, stump grinding, heavy equipment operator/instructor, combat vet  
*References available*

**McCaslin, LLC**
Randy Carroll and Thomas McCaslin  
1740 North D St.  
Broken Bow, NE 68822  
308-870-4670 Randy cell  
Thomas: 308-870-4670 work & 308-870-1899 cell  
thomas_mccaslin@yahoo.com  

*Availability*: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
*Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Skidsteers, excavator, mulching heads, tree shear, grapple buckets, hydraulic saw, chainsaw  

*Notes*: We have been a contractor for 9 years. We operate modern equipment under warranty so we have minimal down time.  
*References available*

**MK Logging**
Michael Klabenes  
49550 Hwy. 20  
O’Neill, NE 68763  
402-336-7098; kklab@live.com  

*Availability*: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties  
*Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Bandit 3680 grinder, Timberjack 1270A tree harvester/ processor; Valmet 890 forwarder, John Deere 290D forwarder, Mustang 2109 skidsteer with attachments (tree saw, root grapple, brush rake), Kenworth W900L semi, Freightliner FLD 120 semi, Detach lowboy trailer, log trailer (30 ton log capacity), step deck trailer with loading ramps, gooseneck tool trailer with welder.torch, chainsaws.  

*Notes*: Harvester and forwarder enable efficient utilization of marketable trees. Slash piles are greatly reduced in size, as trees down to 4” diameter are utilized and branches are packed tightly together.  
*References available*

**M R Range Solutions**
Mark A. Silhan  
2948 Oxbow Rd.  
Longford, KS 67458  
785-822-4435 cell; 785-388-2084 home/work  
solomonriverbason@gmail.com  

*Availability*: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, & Rock Counties  
*Steep terrain okay; chainsaw work available*  
*Liability Insurance*: Yes  
*Equipment*: Case skidsteer SV250 2014; Robocut tree saw with rotating option for side lashing; Robo 84” grapple; Robo Jawz tree puller (up to 4”); Robo axe mower, Eco mulcher  

*Notes*: Fully licensed and insured. Fully licensed and insured. Worked in forestry industry for 6+ years. No job is too big or too small. Willing to travel.  
*References available*

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Mark’s Tree Cutting Service
Mark Stec
87124 442nd Ave.
Long Pine, NE 69217-5203
402-760-1247 cell; 402-273-4346 home
Availability: Brown, Keya Paha, Rock, & Boyd Counties
Chainsaw work okay; no steep terrain
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: ASV posi-trak skidsteer, Turbo-saw, brush cutter/mulcher, grapple bucket, chainsaw
References available

Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District
Zac Peterson or Mike Murphy
303 E. Hwy. 20, Valentine, NE 69201
402-376-3241
Availability: Brown, Cherry, Keya Paha, & Rock Counties
Chainsaw work okay; no steep terrain
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: Terex PT-110 skid steer with rubber tracks, shear head attachment, grapple attachment, Vermeer 1800XL chipper, M929 AM General dump truck, Fecon forestry head
Notes: Specialize in chipping trees and woody biomass application.
References available

Prescription Pyro, LLC
Bob Harrold
79756 Drive 443, Broken Bow, NE 68822
E.I.N. # 45-528153; D.U.N.S. # 078524508
308-872-2096 cell
prescriptionpyro@gmail.com
Availability: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties
Liability Insurance: No
Equipment: I have a 4-man crew with chainsaws. Can handle thinning and hard-to-reach areas. Have equipment to provide prescribed burns and burn tree piles. Four trucks with 500 gallon skid tanks. One 3,500 gallon tanker. Two ATVs with 30 gallon tanks. One ATV drip torch.
Notes: Offer contract labor and can serve up to an 18 person crew when needed. Offer labor to run skid steers on thinning projects. We write burn plans, work with all agencies to provide proper paperwork. 6 red card-certified firefighters. Have access to two type 6 engines and 6 more red card-certified guys. Have access to bid federal prescribed burns and crews. Have access to red card-certified burn crew and overhead. Compliance with all NWCG standards. Willing to travel wherever needed.
References available

Swim, Rick
90129 424th Ave., Springview, NE 68778-9616
402-497-3888
Availability: Brown, Cherry, Keya Paha, & Rock Counties
Chainsaw work & steep terrain okay
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: Grapple skidder, skid steers, chainsaws, mulchers
Notes: Larger trees, chainsaw work. Will not work within felling distance of buildings or utilities.
References available

Swim, Chad
89742 423rd Ave.
Springview, NE 68778
402-322-3137 cell; 402-497-3847 home
Swim.chad@yahoo.com
Availability: Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties
Steep terrain and chainsaw work okay
Liability Insurance: Yes
Equipment: 2 Terex PT-110s with SS eco-mulching head; John Deere 328 skidsteer; tree shear; Robo grapple; John Deere 648 D log skidder with winch and 100’ mainline; self-loading log truck and pup trailer; chainsaws, Timberking B20 portable sawmill.
Notes: Able to do steep terrain and willing to do a lot of saw work.
References available

Sawmills:
Abbott, William
The Sawle Mill, Inc.
89748 US Hwy. 183
Springview, NE 68778
Columbus - office 402-563-2663
William Abbott - cell 402-910-0500
bill@coppercare.us
Serving Keya Paha, Brown, Cherry, & Rock Counties and beyond.

Burning Contractors:
Lite Em Up Custom Burning, Inc.
Bob Viger; 402-643-5263
liteemupcustom@yahoo.com
My business has two type 6 engines, 1 UTV with 70 gal of water, 1 four wheeler with 30 gal of water. I can provide custom burning for CRP fields and pasture fields, tree pile burning. My company is insured, bonded and have a certified crew. My crew has been trained to fight wildland fires and all carry certifications.

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