

**State and Private Forestry
FY 2014 Western Competitive
Resource Allocation
Single-State Project Proposal**

Filename			
State:	Idaho	Keyword:	NELakeCDA
Administration Information			
Funds Requested:		\$ 300,000.00	
Match:		\$ 300,000.00	

Applicant Information					
1	State Forestry Agency:	Idaho Department of Lands			
	Contact Person:	Mary Fritz			
	Address:	3284 West Industrial Loop			
	City:	Coeur d'Alene	State:	Idaho	Zipcode: 83815
	Phone:	(208) 666-8667	Email:	mfritz@idl.idaho.gov	

Project Information			
2	Descriptive Title of Project:	Lake Coeur d'Alene NE Tributaries Watershed Action Plan Phase 1	
	Partnering Agencies / Organizations:	Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD); Kootenai County(KC); Idaho Department of Water Quality (DEQ); Idaho Water Stewards volunteers (IdaH2O); Coeur d'Alene Watershed Advisory Group (WAG); Coeur d'Alene Tribe (CDA Tribe); Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS); University of Idaho Forestry Extension (UI); Idaho Department of Lands (IDL); Panhandle National Forest (FS); Fernan Lake Conservation and Recreation Association (FLCRA); non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners (LO)	
	Project Duration:	<input type="checkbox"/> One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Two Years

National Relevance			
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Conserve Working Forest Landscapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests

Project Overview	
4	<p>5 Points. 1,000 Characters Including Spaces – Provide a comprehensive but succinct overview of the proposed project that includes basic details of who is doing what, where, and why. This should give reviewers the “Big Picture.”</p> <p>Since 2000, the 65,000-acre North East Lake Coeur d'Alene Watershed (CDAW) has experienced significant adverse changes, primarily from development and recreation pressures. Past management, fire suppression, invasive species and increasing human settlement threaten the beauty, forest ecology, and water resources in CDAW. The Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP) identifies water quality, wildfire, conversion of forests and forest health as critical concerns. Building upon work by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the local Watershed Advisory Group (WAG), this project takes a holistic approach to identify and mitigate the highest priority resource issues throughout the watershed. To achieve landscape level goals, the Kootenai Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will lead development of a Watershed Action Plan (WAP), then prioritize and coordinate treatments to mitigate threats.</p>

Project Budget							
	Grant	Leverage ¹			Source	TOTAL	
		Match	Non-Match				
	Funds requested	Applicant	Non-federal contributors	Applicant, non-federal, and/or federal	3 rd Party Contributor/s	Total project cost	
5	Personnel / Labor:	\$ 22,909		\$ 202,600	SWCD,UI, DEQ,USFS, IDL, KC,	\$ 225,509	
	Fringe Benefits:	\$ 9,818			cont. CDA Tribe, WAG, IdaH2O	\$ 9,818	
	Travel:				cont. FLCRA	\$ 0	
	Equipment:					\$ 0	
	Supplies:			\$ 4,000	DEQ	\$ 4,000	
	Contractual:	\$ 240,000		\$ 1,260,500	NRCS,USFS,KC,LO	\$ 1,500,500	
	Construction:					\$ 0	
	Consolidated²:		\$ 300,000			\$ 300,000	
	Other:					\$ 0	
	Indirect Costs³:	\$ 27,273				\$ 27,273	
	TOTAL:	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 0	\$ 1,467,100		\$ 2,067,100

¹ Funds qualifying as “match” must meet the same program requirements as grant funds (e.g., program authorities, non-federal sources). Other “non-match” leveraged funds do not need to meet the same standards (e.g., may include funds for construction, funds from other federal partners). Partnership with other USFS programs outside of State & Private Forestry, as well as other federal and state programs is encouraged. See FAQ online for more information.

² If any part of your match requirement is being covered through a consolidated payment grant (i.e. state spending of non-federal funds on activities that meet S&PF program authorities but are not tied to this proposal), please place it here.

³ Indirect costs must be tied to an established rate. Waived indirect costs are an acceptable source of match.

Context, Goals, and Objectives

15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What resource issue/s, threats, and/or opportunities does the project address? What is the desired vision or end state? What are the project goals (long-term) and objectives (short-term), and what impacts do you hope to achieve?

ISSUES/THREATS:

- Past management and development has decreased forest resilience, while increasing fire danger to the City of Coeur d'Alene. Those activities also degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem function by increasing channel instability and nutrient levels in Lake CDA.
- Historic mining created a toxic layer of lake-bed heavy metals. High volumes of phosphorus laden sediments from CDAW streams flow into Lake CDA causing eutrophication, release and mixing of heavy metals that are otherwise trapped in the lake bottom.

OPPORTUNITY:

DEQ created the WAG to address water quality issues and the USFS has begun restoration on 3,000 acres of federal lands in the upper watershed. This project works with and leverages these efforts, extending opportunity onto private lands to realize landscape-scale benefits.

VISION:

Within the CDAW, forests are healthy and resilient to insect, disease, wildfire and development pressures and streams and lake are fully functioning

GOALS:

1. Forest structure, function and ecologic processes that promote aquatic health restored and maintained
 2. Rural communities and private lands protected from uncharacteristic wildfire
 3. Lake CDA water quality protected and improved by limiting sediment/phosphorus inputs from streams
 4. Knowledgeable private landowners actively restore and maintain forests and riparian areas
- Objectives
1. Develop a comprehensive all lands WAP and individual Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs)
 2. Identify and treat highest chronic sediment producing forestlands to improve CDAW aquatic habitat and stabilize lake-bed heavy metals
 3. Educate landowners on creating healthy resilient forests and watersheds
 4. Provide technical and cost share assistance to LOs to improve forest health and reduce fuels

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Proposed Activities

20 Points. 2,500 Characters Including Spaces – What specific activities will be completed using which grant funds and/or which leveraged resources in the Project Budget? Who will do the work over what timeframe? How do the activities contribute to achieving stated project goals and objectives?

- Year 1: Assess 65,000-ac CDAW (20,000-ac NIPF in lower reach & 45,000-ac USFS in upper reach) for forest health, wildfire hazard and water quality impacts. Using the GIS and field inventory tools, SWCD identifies forest stocking and composition, insect and disease vulnerability, wildfire risk, invasive weeds, road issues, sediment sources, riparian and stream conditions, and develops a 5-year strategic WAP on the NIPF lands. KC updates the County Wildfire Protection Plan on 20,000-ac. UI hosts a workshop and community meetings to gather community input on the assessment and utilizes CommunityViz software tools to create and display WAP management options. • Years 2 & 3: WAP implementation begins. Forest Stewardship Plans are developed, treatments conducted and demonstration sites developed in the highest priority areas. UI and partners develop and distribute education materials (brochure/handouts & web information) and conduct field trips to showcase treatments focused on water quality/riparian areas, invasive weeds, forest stewardship & fuel mitigation. UI trains Water Stewards (IdaH2O) to work with DEQ to develop and implement a water quality-monitoring plan.

GF=Grant Funds

- 1) Assessment & WAP (GF=\$137,000; KC=\$30,000; SWCD=\$13,000; IDL=\$5,000; DEQ=\$7,500; KWC=\$4,000; USFS=\$113,000)
- 2) 1 CommunityViz workshop and 3 community meetings (GF= \$6,500, CDA Tribe \$2,100; WAG \$3,000; UI Ext \$1,500)
- 3) Develop 8 FSP on 420 ac. (GF= \$5,000; NRCS EQIP/LOs =\$12,500)
- 4) NIPF treats 414 ac. HFT/thin & biomass utilization; 8,100 ft riparian fence/plant; 100 ac. invasive weeds. (GF=\$68,500; NRCS EQIP/LOs=\$236,000; KWC= \$2,000; KC=\$70,000). USFS treats 929 ac. thin/HFT/under burn and reduces sediment on 21 miles road (USFS=\$940,000)
- 5) Three field trips (GF=\$3,000 UI=\$2,000, CDA Tribe=\$500; WAG=\$1,500)
- 6) Develop/distribute brochures, web information; conduct on-site visits on watershed restoration efforts/value (GF=\$3,200; UI Extension=\$3,000; Master Forest Stewards/IdaH2O Stewards=\$1,500; FLCRA=\$3,000; DEQ Lake*A*Syst=\$1,000; CDA Tribe=\$1,000; WAG=\$2,000)
- 7) 1 IdaH2O workshop, train 10 IdaH2O Stewards, provide 6 monitoring kits (GF=\$4,800; DEQ=\$3,000; FLCRA=\$3,000; IdaH2O=\$3,000)
- 8) Project administration by SWCD (GF=\$12,000; SWCD=\$3,000)
- 9) IDL project management & administration GF=\$32,727. Match is through consolidation. FS approved indirect GF=\$27,273

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Deliverables, Outputs, and Outcomes

15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What are the project deliverables, outputs, and outcomes? What metrics or indicators will be used to measure and monitor progress? Outcomes and outputs should relate directly to proposed activities, goals, and objectives.

OUTPUTS & DELIVERABLES

- 5-year Strategic Watershed Action Plan on 20,000 NIPF acres identifying needs, prioritizing actions
- 1 CommunityViz workshop & 3 community meetings for stakeholders/LOs/public
- 3 field trips for the LOs/public to showcase project work; numerous LO assists
- FSPs completed for at least 8 LOs/420ac.
 - Stand improvement on 326 NIPF ac.
- Hazard fuels reduced on 88 NIPF/926 FS ac.
 - Weed treated on 100 ac. NIPF, noxious weeds & new invaders controlled
- Riparian habitat restored on 8,100 ft of NIPF stream
 - Reduced sediment from 21 miles of FS road
- 10 new IdaH2O Stewards
 - Water quality monitored

OUTCOMES:

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- Comprehensive watershed assessment and WAP guides forest and watershed improvement work across ownerships
- Actively involved residents and LOs within this watershed understand the WAP and use it to implement effective treatments on their property and contribute to forest restoration
- New partnerships & active community groups formed to continue work
- A prioritized action plan to justify future targeted funding of projects in this watershed
- Desirable tree species at appropriate densities tolerate impacts from insect, disease, or wildfire.
- Reduced risk of loss of residences, infrastructure & critical wildlife habitat from wildfire
- Forests support healthy stream conditions
- Protection of riparian habitat & elimination of chronic sediment delivery to CDAW streams
- Lower phosphorous loads on streams & Lake CDA. Lake-bed heavy metals stabilized.

MEASURES:

- # of LOs participating in educational workshops/meetings & implementing treatments
- # of LOs with FSPs completed
- # of ac. thinned, treated for weeds & hazardous fuels per WAP & FSPs
- # of feet of riparian habitat restored & miles of road treated to reduce sediments
- Measures derived from monitoring

Collaboration

15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – Describe the contributions and commitments that each partner has made toward the proposed project. What is the nature of their contributions (project planning, implementation, financial resources, etc.)? How does the project integrate S&PF and/or other programs in a meaningful and complementary way that goes beyond “business as usual”?

Idaho DEQ leads the Lake CDA Tributary WAG, which includes NIPFs, forest industry, ID Fish & Game, CDA Tribe, Kootenai Environmental Alliance, North Idaho Fly Casters, SWCD, IDL, USFS, NRCS, and KC. CDAW is the WAGs highest priority.

The WAG, UI, KC WUI Task Force, and FLCRA identified needs and jointly designed this project. Partners identified the immediate threats to water quality and flooding in strategic areas of the CDAW. FS provided technical hydrological expertise to planning and implementation.

PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

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- FS -Blue Alder Collaborative Project in the upper portions of the watershed treats 929-ac and 21 miles of roads to improve forest and watershed health. The FS provides WAP data.
 - DEQ provides technical guidance, monitoring, planning and implementation. DEQ’s CDA Lake Management provides Lake*Assist* outreach materials and potential future mitigation funding
 - NRCS provides financial assistance for 8 FSPs, 326-ac thin & HFT, 8,100 ft. riparian enhancement and biomass utilization in NIPF lands
 - FLCRA includes homeowners, landowners, recreation users (rowing & Audubon clubs), and trained IdaH2O Stewards. They will assist with water quality monitoring and peer education.
 - SWCD leads the project and coordinates partners
 - KC provides GIS mapping, updates the watershed CWPP and All Hazard Mitigation Plans, utilizes WAP outputs, conducts 88-ac NIPF HFT
 - KWC treats weeds on 100 NIPF acres
 - UI coordinates outreach, education and monitoring, 1 CommunityViz Workshop, 3 community meetings, 3 field trips
 - CDA Tribe coordinates the CDA Lake Management Plan
 - 2011 National Tree Farmer of the Year, located in this watershed, hosts multiple peer learning events and demonstration sites
- The Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council, the joint advisory group for all State and Private Forestry programs, assisted in early project development.

Forest Action Plan Integration	
10	<p>10 points. 1,250 Characters Including Spaces – How does the project align with stated priority issues, areas, and/or activities in the State Forest Action Plan?</p> <p>This project is within the Coeur d’Alene Basin Priority Landscape Area (PLA) –one of 12 PLAs identified in Idaho to focus efforts. This project will address forest health (pine beetle, blister rust and root disease), wildfire, water quality, and partnership development and implements the following PLA strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the landscape for sustainability and resilience. Coordinate multiple LOs, organizations and public interests. Develop a WAP to identify landscape and site-specific management needs, implementation, funding and monitoring. • Implement treatments to increase vegetation diversity and forest resilience on a landscape scale. • Engage collaborative groups and partnerships for landscape scale forest health improvement , restoration and stewardship • Provide education for targeted audiences leading to the understanding and support of forest health and resilience.

Meaningful Scale	
11	<p>10 Points. 1, 250 Characters Including Spaces – What is the scale of the project? Why/How will the scale of the project facilitate achievement of the stated goals, objectives, and outcomes?</p> <p>The CDAW (45,000 Federal/ 20,000 private acres) is high priority due wildfire threats and its impact on water quality in Lake CDA. The FS has begun to restore federal forestlands in the upper watershed with funds from the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA).</p> <p>Complementing the HFRA work, this project assesses stand condition, fire risk, sediment sources, and riparian health in the lower elevation private lands, and, prioritizes and implements forest health treatments in areas with greatest impact to the Lake. It supports the CDA Lake Management Plan by stabilizing lake-bed heavy metals through sediment flow reduction in the NE portion of Lake CDA. NIPF HFT work is adjacent to FS land, further leveraging the fire risk mitigation benefits of the HFRA project.</p> <p>Education with CommunityViz will help LOs manage their woodlands in common ways to achieve landscape-level goals. Providing forest stewardship, fire, wildlife, weed and forest health information to the private landowners advances their ability to make sound management decisions. Cumulatively, these actions across ownerships help mitigate threats in the watershed and further the goals of the WAG.</p>

Sustainability of Outcomes	
12	<p>10 Points. 1, 250 Characters Including Spaces – What skills and capabilities will result from and extend beyond the life of the project; how? Can the project be replicated in other areas; how? What plans are in place or being developed to replicate or expand the project, to build on skills, capabilities, and lessons learned?</p> <p>The WAG, Idaho Panhandle Nat’l Forest, IDL, and the SWCD are committed to using the assessment and WAP to increase restoration capacity into the future. WAP is a forward-looking approach designed to balance landowner and recreational user’s values, and protect forest resources and water quality in the CDAW. CommunityViz tools help LOs visualize the future value of various treatment scenarios.</p> <p>With the larger FS project, project expenditures will create and maintain jobs, support an infrastructure for utilizing woody material created on private lands, and incentivize future treatments. Forest health and soil stabilization treatments will also provide long-term improvement to CDAW and Lake CDA water quality.</p> <p>Education for LOs increases knowledge necessary to manage for healthy forests. FLCRA, new IdaH2O Stewards and the National Tree Farmer of the Year will use peer to peer mentoring to motivate action by NIPF LOs.</p> <p>The SWCD and the WAG will use the WAP model in other CDA basin watersheds, applying lessons learned from coordinating private land work with the work of other agencies and partners to improve outcomes.</p>