

FY 2023 State Fire Assistance WUI Grant

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
State Submitting Project:	Idaho
State Priority Number:	
Dollar Amount Requested:	\$ 300,000
Matching Share:	\$ 24,000.00

This document is for proposal development only. Applications must be submitted to the appropriate state/island forestry entity and entered into the online submission system.

Hover over each active field for additional guidance and instructions.

Proposal Cooperator	
1	Cooperator Organization:
	Contact Person:
	Address:
	City/State/Zip Code:
	Phone (Work/Cell):
	Email:
Applicant Information	
1	Applicant: Idaho Department of Lands
	Contact Person: Tyre Holfeltz
	Address: 3284 W Industrial Loop
	City/Zip Code: Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
	Phone (Work/Cell): 208-666-8653 (o) / 208-819-9340 (c)
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	Fax: 208-669-1524
	Federal Tax ID/DUNS #: 82-6000952 / 878072685

Project Information		
2	Name of Project: WSFM Tubbs Hill HFR	
	Community Name(s): Coeur d'Alene	
	County(ies): Kootenai County	
	Congressional District: District 1	
	GIS Coordinates (choose one)	
	Reference Point Name: Tubbs Hill	
	Lat/Long: 47.668062, -116.776327	
	Description: Approximate project area center	
	Area Name:	
	Boundary Lat/Longs:	
Description:		

Applicant Budget				
	Grant Funds Requested	Match		Total Project Cost
		Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	
3	Personnel/Labor:	\$ 30,000		\$ 30,000
	Fringe Benefits:			\$ 0
	Travel:	\$ 7,727		\$ 7,727
	Equipment:			\$ 0
	Supplies:			\$ 0
	Contractual:	\$ 240,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 264,000
	Other:			\$ 0
	Indirect Costs:	\$ 22,273		\$ 22,273
	TOTAL:	\$ 300,000	\$ 0	\$ 324,000

Budget Narrative (1700 characters including spaces)	
4	<p>- Personnel/Labor - \$30k for Idaho Dept of Lands staff to manage and administer sub-grant with Kootenai County.</p> <p>- Travel - \$7,727 for IDL staff to travel to and from project(s) at established State Fleet Motor Pool rates.</p> <p>- Contractual - \$240k is sub-granted to Kootenai County. The County will contract services associated with the hazardous fuels removal project to include project management/administration and implementation. The Project Manager create prescriptions within the project area. Kootenai County will procure contractors to perform hazard fuels reduction treatments as per the Project Manager's prescriptions. The hazard fuel reduction activities will be performed on a minimum of 54-acres through thinning, pruning, mastication, burning slash piles, controlled burning, and/or chipping activities.</p> <p>- Indirect - \$22,273 is for negotiated rate between USFS and IDL. Kootenai County has an approved deminimis rate of 10%. Kootenai County's indirect cost rate will be applied to this project.</p>

Project Area Description and Challenges (1700 characters including spaces)

Tubbs Hill is a 160-acre forested natural area located in downtown Coeur d'Alene next to Lake Coeur d'Alene where hiking trails host roughly 150,000 visitors per year.

5 Dry ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir habitat types support thick sapling clumps and dense brush, including flammable shrubs like oceanspray, ninebark, and snowberry. Furthermore, widespread mortality from insects, diseases, and recent windstorms has contributed to a dramatic buildup of surface fuels. As a result, vegetation deviates widely from historic fire regimes, i.e. fuels have accumulated to levels that present a very high risk of catastrophic fire.

Risk of human ignition is also a major concern. The area averages 15 fires/year. Fortunately most have been kept small but there have been some close calls and a wildfire could easily overwhelm local resources, threatening lives and infrastructure in densely populated areas adjacent to the park.

Project Type. Vegetation treatments to reduce surface and ladder fuels. Public education, prevention measures, and future planning.

Project Challenges. Some work has been done by the City and volunteers but the high cost of dealing with such dense fuels on rugged terrain with limited access has proven to be an obstacle to badly needed comprehensive work. Special considerations necessary to work within a public natural area also present challenges, such as public perceptions, education needs, public information during operations, minimizing site disturbance, and promoting native vegetation.

Relation to Forest Action Plan and CWPP (2500 characters including spaces)

Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP): The project area is in Panhandle Priority Landscape Area and the Northern Idaho Priority Landscape Shared Stewardship zone.

6 Kootenai County CWPP: Tubbs Hill is specifically identified as a Priority Project. Upon completion, the project work will have addressed the identified FAP/CWPP goals/objectives through:

1) Vegetation treatments that will reduce human-caused hazards (i.e. fire).

2) Support from collaborative relationships within the community will be essential to the successful completion of the proposed projects. For example, City of Coeur d Alene representatives, local fire officials, and community members and organizations, like the Tubbs Hill Foundation and Friends of Tubbs Hill.

3) This project will implement actions (vegetation control and education and prevention efforts) that will save lives and reduce adverse impacts to property, the environment, and the economy.

Proposed Activities (3800 characters including spaces)

To address the challenges presented in Box 5, the following activities will be necessary.

7 1) Fuels treatment. Tubbs Hills contains a wide diversity of vegetation types with varying needs. The initial treatment will reduce fuel concentrations in the highest priority area, focusing on rugged land that extends from McEuen Park and the Museum of North Idaho to the summit of Tubbs Hill. The work will take care of some of the heaviest fuels on the hill while also creating a fuel break along the main ridge and fire access road, an area of about 54 acres.

If funds remain after this initial treatment, other areas will be identified, prioritized, and treated until grant funds are expended.

The County will select a qualified project manager who will work with the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks Department, local fire officials, and the Tubbs Hill Foundation to develop specific project prescriptions. The treatment prescriptions will insure fuels are modified sufficiently to effect fire behavior by removing ladder fuels, reducing ground fuels, thinning overcrowded stands of small trees and treating the resulting debris using a combination of chipping, where access allows, and pile and burn. Where slash concentrations warrant, lop and scatter will be used sparingly. The work will be carried out by experienced contractors using a fair and competitive selection process, overseen by Kootenai County and their project manager to assure specifications are met.

2) Education and Prevention. Kootenai County and their project manager will work on public outreach with the City of Coeur d'Alene Parks Department and its collaborators, including such items as developing and distributing informational brochures, conducting public workshops/meetings, and informational signage during implementation.

3) Planning.

Match Activities: The City of Coeur d'Alene Parks Department and the Tubbs Hill Foundation have pledge to work together to meet the required match of \$24,000.

Landscape Impacts (1700 characters including spaces)

8 Kootenai County, the City of Coeur d'Alene, and the USFS are making a concerted effort to address fire protection in and around Coeur d'Alene and the adjacent City of Hayden. The proposed Tubbs Hill work will dovetail nicely with the USFS Forest Service's Kootenai Fuel Reduction Project on nearby Canfield Mountain by filling in badly needed fuel treatments within city limits. It will also provide similar protections to those of recent work in the city's Fernan Lake Natural Area.

This project will also have a profound impact on community protection and education. Numerous entities use this park for outdoor education, including school groups, community led walks, etc. Tubbs Hill is also visited by thousands of people from all over the country and world. The fuel reduction work itself, combined with the educational component, will inspire and influence the actions of many people.

Project Collaboration (1700 characters including spaces)	
9	<p>- Idaho Dept of Lands (\$XXXk match) - in the form of consolidated payments associated with Forestry and Fire Assistance in support of private landowners. IDL will also provide technical assistance.</p> <p>Principal Collaborators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kootenai County: Grant administration, project management, outreach assistance, etc. 2. City of Coeur d'Alene Parks and Recreation Department: 50% of the required match, plus project guidance, public outreach, educational material, monitoring, continued maintenance, etc., 3. Tubbs Hill Foundation: 50% of the required match, plus guidance with prescription, community outreach, education, volunteer assistance with maintenance, etc., 4. City of Coeur d'Alene Fire Department: outreach, education, technical expertise, etc.,

Project Timeline (1700 characters including spaces)	
10	<p>As soon as the grant award is finalized, educational/outreach measures to raise community awareness of Firewise practices and forest health concerns on Tubbs Hill will begin and citizen engagement will be encouraged. Outreach measure will include newsletter articles, public meetings, press releases, etc.</p> <p>Next, stake holders/collaborators will work together with the project manager to prioritized treatment areas and develop site specific prescriptions, including field reviews and site evaluations.</p> <p>Next, a competitive bid process will be initiated to select a contractor and work will begin on the initial 54 acres, as weather permits. If grant money allows, prescriptions will be developed for other priority areas and they will be treated until grant funds are expended.</p> <p>Once contract work begins, the job will be continually monitored for compliance. Community outreach will continue, including frequent updates for all stakeholders and information on site specific actions, like trail closures.</p> <p>Lastly, final work inspections/reports will be prepared and the project area will enter into the monitoring and maintenance phase.</p> <p>Kootenai County, in cooperation with its collaborators, will develop a detailed timeline so that all activities are conducted within the period allocated by the grant. The IDL will be informed as soon as possible if any unforeseen circumstances arise that may delay progress.</p>

Project Sustainability (1700 characters including spaces)	
11	<p>The project location consists primarily of dry site brush and conifer tree species. Regrowth after treatment will vary but generally all sites will require continued maintenance every five years through removal of brush re-sprout and conifer regeneration, by spraying, mowing, trimming, pruning, and/or grazing.</p> <p>Commitment: The City of Coeur d' Alene annually allocates staff time to maintain city parks/natural areas. Commitment to this fiscal obligation has been made into the foreseeable future through hiring of permanent staff (non-grant funded) for park management activities/natural area monitoring/maintenance. The City of Coeur d' Alene will maintain the project areas for the required ten (10) years. This is a well-loved park and organizations such as the Tubbs Hill Foundation and Friends of Tubbs Hill have experienced volunteers available to assist the city with its maintenance commitment.</p> <p>Education: The City of Coeur d'Alene Fire Department, Urban Forester, Parks Department, Foundation and Friends of Tubbx Hill, and Project Manager will conduct educational ZOOM meetings at key points throughout the project.</p> <p>Monitoring: City of Coeur d' Alene staff will monitor the project area annually.</p>