

FY 2023 State Fire Assistance WUI Grant

| FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY | |
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| 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 | |
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| 1 | Cooperator Organization: Nez Perce County |
| | Contact Person: Doug Nelson Fuels Mitigation Coordinator |
| | Address: P.O. Box 896 |
| | City/State/Zip Code: Lewiston, ID 83501 |
| | Phone (Work/Cell): 208 451-5089 |
| | Email: dougnelsonforester@gmail.com |
| | |
| 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) |
| | Email: tholfeltz@IDL.idaho.gov |
| | Fax: 208-669-1524 |
| Federal Tax ID\DUNS #: 82-6000952 / 878072685 | |

| Project Information | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 2 | Name of Project: FY23 LENORE FUEL REDUCTION |
| | Community Name(s): LENORE |
| | County(ies): NEZ PERCE |
| | Congressional District: 6 |
| | |
| GIS Coordinates (choose one) | |
| 2 | Reference Point Name: Lenore |
| | Lat/Long: 46.50855, -116.55036 |
| | Description: Approximate project area center |
| | |
| | Area Name: Lenore Fuel Reduction |
| | Boundary Lat/Longs: 46.50757, -116.55150, 46.49019, -116.45186, 46.62906, -116.4590, 46.63019, -116.60986 |
| | Description: Nez Perce County area north of State Highway 12, Arrow Junction east to Clearwater county line |

| 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 | \$ 24,000 | \$ 324,000 |

| Budget Narrative (1700 characters including spaces) | |
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| 4 | <p>- Personnel/Labor - \$30k for Idaho Dept of Lands staff to manage and administer sub-grant with Nez Perce 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 Nez Perce County who will expend funds through staff and contracted services to administer and manage contracted activities on 140 acres and perform community fire education. Grant monies will be spent on landowner education, performing site fire evaluations, project planning, project layout, contract thinning operations, contract chemical treatment operations, contract administration and inspections, reimbursement administration and reporting.</p> <p>- Indirect - \$22,273 is for negotiated rate between USFS and IDL.</p> |

| | Project Area Description and Challenges (1700 characters including spaces) | |
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| 5 | <p>Treatment areas will be located north of State Highway 12 between State Highway 3 east to the Nez Perce/Clearwater County line all in Nez Perce County. The area is located on steep south facing slopes on the north side of the Clearwater river. The steep south facing slopes are dominated by heavy clumps of blackberry, rose and other brush in the draws with grass and star thistle dominated open areas with pockets of ponderosa pine timber clumps with brush and grass. Many of the flat benches have been developed for home sites overlooking the Clearwater river. Many of these home sites have dangerous fuel concentrations on the steep slopes below them that could contribute to loss of life and property from future fires.</p> <p>This project will be a fuels reduction project focusing on reducing hazardous fuel loadings underneath and adjacent to home sites, and roads, that could be used as escape routes for local residents.</p> <p>Challenges: The challenges are the recent severe fire occurrence and fuel levels on the steep slopes adjacent to home sites and escape routes. There have been recent wild fires in the summers of 2020 (Whitetail Loop/Ahsahka Fires) and 2021 (Lenore/ Leland Complex) inside and adjacent to the project area where homes and other structures have been lost. There are dangerous fuel concentrations on the steep slopes downhill and adjacent to home sites and escape routes. Property ownership is a mix of private and tribal that in some cases makes it difficult for individual owners to abate dangerous conditions adjacent to their home sites due to the change of ownerships.</p> | |

| | Relation to Forest Action Plan and CWPP (2500 characters including spaces) | |
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| 6 | <p>Idaho Forest Action Plan (FAP): The project is found in the Hells Gate priority landscape area. The FAP rated the project area as in high risk of wildfire. The area was also rated high for wildfire risk to relative threats to forests. The project area had the highest rating on the scale of 505 as it's final priority map rating.</p> <p>Nez Perce All Hazard Mitigation Plan (CWPP): In the Nez Perce County AHMP updated 2020, the project is named Lenore Townsite Fire Mitigation on page 62.</p> <p>The completion of project work will address the identified FAP/CWPP goals/objectives through Educating the public about ways they can increase and maintain fire resiliency on the lands surrounding their home sites and communities. Treatments will mitigate potential adverse impacts before wildfire occurs by reducing hazardous fuel loadings that could cause catastrophic loss of life property and forest ecosystems.</p> | |

| Proposed Activities (3800 characters including spaces) | |
|---|--|
| 7 | <p>The Lenore Fuels Reduction project will be a three tiered project. The goals of the project will be to educate the community members about fire behavior and general practices and maintenance procedures that can be beneficial to increasing the fire resiliency of their surroundings and their community. The project will provide opportunity to further educate and evaluate current status of properties and home sites in regards to fire resiliency. Finally the project will provide for planning, layout, and treatment of areas identified as being hazardous and dangerous if a wildfire was to occur.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reach a minimum of 100 community members by holding at least one community meeting at the Lenore Community Center for area residents to educate on fire behavior, firewise principals for property planning and maintenance to maximize fire resiliency. 2) Schedule and perform 50 home site evaluations with community members in order to develop 30 agreements for hazardous fuel reduction treatment activities. 3) Thin and abate 140 acres of identified hazardous fuel areas adjacent to home sites and escape routes. 4) Spray 140 acres following thinning treatments to kill blackberry, rose, star thistle, and other brush to maintain and minimize the regrowth of brush into treated areas. <p>Match Activities: \$10,000 County administration match, \$9,000 (360 hours @\$25/hr) landowner treatment match, \$5000 (\$50 hrs) Sunnyside Fire district equipment staging time during burning activities.</p> |

| Landscape Impacts (1700 characters including spaces) | |
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| 8 | <p>The main landscape focus is to focus on treating areas that did not burn in 2021 in the Leland complex/ Lenore fire. There were three homes lost and several outbuildings that were lost during that fire. The developed areas on the upriver and down river areas that did not burn need assessed for fuel concentrations and perform abatement activities before those areas burn in the future. There have been severe fires in the area in 2020 and 2021 that have resulted in great losses of property and forest ecosystems. The Nez Perce tribe has been actively reducing fuels on some of their ownerships in close proximity to the Lenore Fuel Reduction project area. Also there have been multiple fuel reduction projects on the south side of the river along the Big Canyon Road and areas surrounding the townsite of Peck for a total treatment area of 190+ acres from FY2017 and FY2019 fuel reduction projects. There were fires just east of the proposed treatment area in 2020 (Whitetail Loop/ Ahsahka fires) on the Clearwater County side that consumed two homes and multiple structures.</p> |

| Project Collaboration (1700 characters including spaces) | |
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| 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>\$10,000- Nez Perce County Soft match from administration costs from accounting and payments as well as GIS and Mapping during planning, contracting, and documentation of activities.</p> <p>\$9,000- Community Members performance match. Performance match will include community and agreement partners performing an additional 360 hours additional abatement work to fortify and improve defensible space in close proximity to home sites.</p> <p>\$5000- Sunnyside Fire District agreed to provide support equipment (50hours) while burning operations are being performed to abate fuels developed by thinning operations.</p> <p>Nez Perce Tribe and IDL will participate in the public education events with time and expertise during presentations 10 hours.</p> <p>Nez Perce tribe has also offered to perform home site fire resiliency evaluations if needed.</p> |

| Project Timeline (1700 characters including spaces) | |
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| 10 | <p>- Fall '23 - Establish MOU between IDL and Nez Perce County.</p> <p>- Winter '23 - Engage Lenore residents and hold a community outreach and education seminar to reach a minimum of 100 community members and develop a signup to perform 50 home site inspections for fire resilience.</p> <p>-Spring '24- perform 50 home site evaluations to identify and prioritize 30 ownerships for treatment.</p> <p>-Summer '24 - Complete 30 homeowner agreements and develop prescriptions and layout 140 acres of treatment area.</p> <p>- Fall '24 Contract thinning operations on 140 acres.</p> <p>-Winter '24 - Spring '25- Adminstrate thinning operations on 140 acres.</p> <p>-Spring '25 - Contract chemical treatment of 140 acres of thinned acres.</p> <p>-Fall '25 Burn any hand piles generated by thinning operations.</p> <p>-Winter '25 - Perform final inspection reports. Enter into Monitoring phase.</p> |

| Project Sustainability (1700 characters including spaces) | |
|--|--|
| 11 | <p>Environmental Factors: The Ponderosa Pine clumps on these south facing slopes are slow to regenerate and will require minimal maintenance of treatment activities until 7-10 years after treatment. Very aggressive understory brush species in the area such as Blackberry, wild rose, Ninebark and Ocean Spray will be sprayed to kill the rapid regrowth to extend the integrity of the fuel reduction areas and decrease the required maintenance in the first 5 years after treatment.</p> <p>Commitment: Private property owners who participate are required to sign a contract obligating them to maintain the work for a period of 10 years or until the property changes hands.</p> <p>Education: Education outreach will be provided to private landowners prior at sign up and at project completion by the Nez Perce Fuel mitigation Coordinator, IDL, and Nez Perce Tribe using Idaho Firewise materials (handouts/pamphlets), and Univ. of Idaho Extension publications.</p> <p>Monitoring: IDL is monitoring compliance through a sampling of past projects and current endeavors. Compliance will continue to be monitored via annual inspections completed by Nez Perce County and IDL and if problems arise, landowners will be reminded by the county of their obligations through written or verbal communication.</p> |