



Application :: ID / Heatherlands

Submitted on Oct 4, 2016

Applications

Grant Sections	Reviews						Average
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	
4. Budget Narrative	4	5	5	5	5	5	4.83
5. Project Area Description	5	4	4	4	4	4	4.17
6. Action Plan	5	4	5	3	4	4	4.17
7. Activities	10	10	7	9	6	8	8.33
8. Landscape	5	5	5	4	3	4	4.33
9. Collaboration	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00
10. Timeline	5	5	5	4	5	5	4.83
11. Sustainability	5	5	5	5	4	5	4.83
Review Total Score:	44	43	41	39	36	40	40.50
Review Rank:	2	3	3	5	9	3	4.17

FY 2017 State Fire Assistance WUI Grant Application	File Name			
	State: ID	Keyword:	Heatherlands	
	Region:	Priority:		Id:
	Administration Information			
	Funds Requested:		\$300,000	
	Match:		\$300,000	
	Score: 40.50	Ranking:	Project Funding: \$600,000	

Proposal Cooperator [ID]				
1	Cooperator Organization:	Mid-Snake RC&D		
	Contact Person:	Lorraine Simonson		
	Address:	PO Box 5156		
	City:	Twin Falls	State: ID	ZIP Code: 83301
	Phone:	(208) 316-1010	Email:	garmendia04@msn.com

Applicant Information [ID]				
1	Applicant:	Idaho Dept of Lands		
	Contact Person:	Tyre Holfeltz		
	Address:	3284 West Industrial Loop		
	City:	Coeur d' Alene	State: ID	ZIP Code: 83815
	Phone (work/cell):	(208) 666-8653	Fax:	(208) 619-1524
	Email:	tholfeltz@idl.idaho.gov		
	Federal Tax ID:	82-6000952	DUNS#:	878072685

Project Information				
2	Name of the Project:	Heatherlands		
	Community Name(s):	Heatherlands and Starweather		
	Counties:	Blaine		
	Congressional District:	2		
	Latitude start:	0.0000	end:	0.0000
	Longitude start:	0.0000	end:	0.0000

Applicant Budget [ID]						
	Grant	Leverage ¹			Source	TOTAL
		Match	Non-Match	Non-Match		
	Funds Requested	Applicant	Non-Federal Contributors	Applicant, Non-Federal, and/or Federal	3 rd Party Contributor/s	Total Project Cost
3	Personnel / Labor:	\$25,000		\$27,000		\$52,000
	Fringe Benefits:					
	Travel:	\$5,000				\$5,000
	Equipment:			\$3,000		\$3,000
	Supplies:					
	Contractual:	\$240,000				\$240,000
	Construction:					
	Other:		\$270,000			\$270,000
	Indirect Costs³:	\$30,000				\$30,000
	TOTAL:	\$300,000	\$270,000	\$30,000		

¹ Leverage includes all three categories: match, non-match, and source. 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.

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.

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Budget Narrative

- Personnel/Labor - (\$25K) for Idaho Dept. of Lands (IDL) staff to manage and administer sub-granting with Mid-Snake RC&D.
- Travel - (\$5K) for IDL staff to travel to and from project at established State Fleet Motor Pool Rates.
- 4 -Contractual - (\$240K)The contractual amount is to the Mid-Snake RC&D to administer, contract and pay for work on contracts on private lands for fuels reduction. Specifically, administrative portion will cover landowner contracting, project layout, contractor management, travel to sites, photo documentation and reporting. Contracted work will include vegetation mitigation on private ownerships to create fuel breaks for the completion of 150 acres.
- Indirect - \$30,000 Negotiated rate between USFS and Idaho.

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Project Area Description and Challenges

Heatherlands and Starweather are located in the south central portion of Idaho (Blaine county). Home to the world famous Sun Valley Ski Resort which brings in 10,000s of thousands of visitors during the summer and winter months to recreate in the

5 towering mountain peaks and wide open sagebrush valleys. Vegetation in the project area ranges from alpine fir dominated stands to mixed conifer to sage and grass. The area has an extensive fire history that includes the Point Well fire ('13, 4749 acres), Preacher fire ('14, 13,578 acres), Beaver Creek fire ('13, 93,232 acres) and Castle Creek fire ('07, 48,000 acres). WUI development parcels (447 acres) contain homes constructed of a wide variety of flammable and non-flammable materials and has continued to expand even during the slow economy moving from the valley bottoms to mountain sides. This growth has created a significant need to establish fuelbreaks in order to impede wildfire expansion from wildlands to the clustered urban developments and vice versa. The Heatherlands and Starweather communities have been working for several years to better prepare themselves for wildfire by working with local and federal partners to establish fuel breaks around their communities. These grant dollars will help to connect and complete these efforts, and by doing so create a fuelbreak that provides an area of tactical defensibility/engagement while increasing the probability of structure survivability during a wildfire event.

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Relation to Forest Action Plan | CWPP

6 The project is located in the Wood River Priority Landscape Area (PLA) within Idaho's Forest Action plan. Uncharacteristic wildfire is identified across substantial areas of the PLA as high and moderate-high. The Forest Action Plan points specifically to the completion of hazardous fuels reduction and the creation of fuelbreaks within the PLA. The treatment for hazardous fuel reduction on private lands in the proposal area is complimentary to reducing wildfire threat to area communities. It also will make the area more resilient to human activities as identified in the FAP. Treatment will help make this area more resilient and establish a benchmark within the PLA and community for landscapes to become more diverse and resilient to climatic changes and other natural and unique stresses while insuring that the area with the highest benefits are identified, protected and enhanced. Additionally, the Heatherlands fuelbreak is listed as a high priority within the Blaine County CWPP (as updated in early 2016 by local, state and federal partners) to complete the previously initiated work which was not funded at a level sufficient to finish the project.

10 points. 3800 characters including spaces.

Proposed Activities

7 The project area is covered with decadent Big Basin Sage with encroachment of juniper and interspaces filled with non-native grasses (primarily cheatgrass). The topography of the project location moves from flat valley bottom to side slopes in excess of 30%. Treatments will focus on removing encroaching juniper, reducing/eliminating decadent big basin sage (i.e. from 300/acre to 50/acre), planting a combination of native and horticultural varieties of grasses to create a green strip and provide competition to non-native grasses. The completion of the Heatherlands/Starweather fuel break will stretch from Highway 75 to Ohio Gulch Road (150 acres) on the eastern side of the community where it is bordered by the BLM and will tie together previously completed work establishing a continuous fuelbreak around the communities. Project treatment actions will be done through contract services obtained through a competitive bid process as outline by Mid-Snake Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D) policy. Services sought will include hand thinning, piling, chipping and off site hauling of vegetation, mastication, mowing and seeding. Additionally, Mid-Snake RC&D will be providing the administrative services required of grant management including: landowner engagement and agreements, treatment delineation, contract management, project review and approval against scopes of work, fiscal payment processing, grant progress tracking and required reporting. The landowners covered by this project have already engaged in activities to reduce the flammability of their structures by removing vegetation and other flammables away from their homes and are working as a community to maintain their Firewise recognition through planned community education and work activities. By completing this project it will not only help to protect the 121 lots (342 residents) of the Heatherlands but also the adjoining community of Starweather that is home to 170 people (54 lots).

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Landscape

8 The Heatherlands project is located along the Idaho Highway 75 corridor which is the main travel route for community residents within the county. Highway 75 also provides the primary access to visitors -which doubles the local population during peak times- who come to recreate in the stunning landscapes of the area. The adjacency of this project to this major thoroughfare will serve as an ambassadorial project to the other communities and visitors because of its very noticeable visual difference from the surrounding landscape, prompting others to engage in like wildfire preparations. Furthermore, by completing this project the Heatherlands and Starweather communities will complete a continues fuelbreak around their communities which will impact fire behavior trying to enter from the adjoining public lands, as has been the historical case. In addition the BLM and USFS have both identified this area as their next priority to complete NEPA, which when done will be used guide mitigation actions to enhance the efforts by the communities by completing like treatments on their adjacent management. Thus, creating an onion effect of natural breaks to protect Heatherlands, Starweather and other large adjacent communities (Hailey 8,014 residents; Bellevue 2,286 residents and Ketchum 2,706 residents).

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Project Collaboration

9 -Heatherlands Community (\$15K) - completing task/events to maintain firewise status to include d-space around structures, planning, meeting attendance, educational training and maintenance of previous project work (mowing, spraying, cutting).
-Ketchum Rural F.D. & Wood River Fire and Rescue (\$10K) - homeowner/landowner education using Idaho and national Firewise program materials covering mitigation actions, home hardening and provide onsite services (engine and tender) because of conditions during project implementation.
-Blaine County (\$5K) - GIS services, project coordination, planning, technical resource
-Idaho Dept of Lands will contribute match funds (\$270K) in the form of consolidated payments associated with Forestry and Fire

Assistance in support of private landowners.

-BLM - technical resource, facilitator, landowner education, planning, coordination of adjoining project work

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Project Timeline

Aug-Sept '17 complete 10 landowner agreements and solicit for contract services. Oct '17 being hand and mechanical operations on 20 acres. Nov-Dec '17 seed treated acres. Dec '17-April '18 winter shut down. May-June '18 complete 35

- 1** landowner agreements, treatments laid out. June-Oct '18 complete 70 acres. Nov-Dec '18 seed treated acres. Winter shut down
0 Dec-April '19. May-June '19 complete 30 landowner agreements, treatments laid out. June-Oct '19 60 acres treated. Nov-Dec '19 seed treatments, enter monitoring phase of project, complete final report and submit.

5 points. 1700 characters including spaces.

Project Sustainability

Because this is a high desert vegetation type the removal of the woody vegetation will be effective as regrowth is very slow and recruitment of brush is very low in these range types. For the grasses not in the green strip annual maintenance will be required in order to maintain the integrity of the project. Maintenance actions will be done by private property owners who participate in the project who sign a contract obligating maintenance work for a period of 10 years or until the property changes hands.

- 1** Education outreach has and continues to be provided by the RC&D, FDs, County and BLM and at project completion education will be provided again as to maintenance requirements within the fuel type by the same group using Idaho and National Firewise literature. Idaho Department of Lands is monitoring compliance through a sampling of past projects and current endeavors. Compliance will continue to be monitored locally by Blaine County, FDs and the RC&D and if problems arise landowners will be reminded by the county of their obligations through written and/or verbal communication.