

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000
PUBLIC LAW 106-393
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE

Name of Resource Advisory Committee: Lewis and Clark County

Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):

Funding Fiscal Year(s):

2. Project Name: Helena Open Lands Pine Bark Beetle Project	3a. State: Montana 3b. County(s): Lewis & Clark
4. Project Submitted By: Randy Lilje, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Helena, Montana	5. Date: August 15, 2007
6. Contact Phone Number: 406-447-8462	7. Contact E-mail: rlilje@ci.helena.mt.us

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): Helena	b. Forest Service District: Helena
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) 1. T10N, R4W, Sections 25 & 36 2. T10N, R3W, Section 31	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: Control of Pine Beetle spread in Helena's open space system in Helena's south hills, as well as, continuing fire fuel reduction.

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: (*in one sentence*) This project proposes to perform measures that would help control the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle and Western Pine Beetle by means of tree thinning and application of Pheromone tabs to trees in the affected areas.

b. Detailed: When brown Ponderosa pine trees started showing up on Mount Helena in Helena's open lands system we suspected that the Pine Beetle had begun to infest the forest on the mountain. A forester was sent up to the areas to confirm the beetles' existence on the mountain. This was confirmed and there were other trees that had not yet turned brown that show the infestation of the beetle. Before the beetle has a chance to do much more damage the City is proposing to take necessary measures to try to get this under control.

These measures will include thinning of the forest to a density that will inhibit the spread of the beetle and the installation of Pheromone tabs in the coming spring.

There are 2 areas in the open lands system being focused on at this time. The first priority is the east facing slope of Mount Helena just below the summit of the mountain covering approximately 50 acres. The second priority is a 20 acre area on the Mount Ascension in a drainage just above the

parking lot at the top of Beattie Street. Both areas are densely cover with young trees with older larger trees intersperse. Both areas would also serve to mitigate wildfire potential in the wildland urban interface.

The prescription for tree thinning would be done by a certified forester and the thinning work would be contracted. The slash would be removed either thorough chipping or 20 minute burn piles. Because the areas are part of Helena’s open lands system which is within the parks system, no motorized equipment would be allowed.

After the thinning the areas disturbed would be reseeded with a native grass mix and treated for noxious weeds in compliance with the Helena Open Lands Management Plan.

The installation of Pheromone tabs would be organized and supervised by city staff and installed by volunteers as an educational and public out reach effort.

City staff with help the USFS staff would monitor the effectiveness of the project. Future control measures may be required.

11. Types of Lands Involved?

State/Private/Other lands involved? Yes No

Land Status:

If Yes, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.

Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.

Restores and improves land health.

Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

Road Maintenance

Trail Maintenance

Road Decommission/Obliteration

Trail Obliteration

Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):

Soil Productivity Improvement

Forest Health Improvement

Watershed Restoration & Maintenance

Wildlife Habitat Restoration

Fish Habitat Restoration

Control of Noxious Weeds

Reestablish Native Species

Fuels Management/Fire Prevention

<input type="checkbox"/> Community Economic Benefit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify):
b. Primary Purpose (select only 1):	

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish
Miles of road maintained:
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:
Number of structures maintained/improved:
Acres of soil productivity improved:
Miles of stream/river restored/improved:
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:
Acres of native species reestablished:
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trail obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction): 70
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved:
Acres of noxious weeds controlled: Will monitor and treat any affected areas within the project area.
Timber volume generated:
Number of jobs generated: Approximately 2,100 labor hours
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention): 50 minimum
Direct economic activity benefit:
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 10/15/2007	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 10/15/2008
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17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved? List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities. The fuel reduction projects accomplished so far have demonstrated to individuals and groups of varying management philosophies that fuel reduction, and now pine beetle control, can be done in a manner that achieves the goal of fire potential reduction, but also enhances the aesthetics of public lands, improves habitat, allows restoration of native plant species. The result up to this point has been very little opposition to the projects. More support should be realized as the public observes the result of pine beetle infestation and knows that we are trying to address it.

18. How is this project in the best interest of the community? Identify benefits to communities.
 Accomplishes some of the critical objectives of the Tri-County Fire Fuel Reduction Plan, as well as, those of the Helena Open Lands Management Plan, and is complementary to the management objectives to the Helena National Forest in terms of fuel reduction and forest health.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?
 The project is adjacent to the Helena National Forest and should help to mitigate fire potential.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement with Tri-County Fire Safe Working Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input type="checkbox"/> CCC Crews
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): City workforce	

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? Yes No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: \$36,400
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding: City of Helena; Tri-County Fire Safe working Group.

24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above. City of Helena personnel along with the help of Helena National forest staff and a volunteer forester from HOLMAC will monitor the effectiveness of the Pine Beetle control measures. The City staff will also monitor and take necessary action in the disturbed areas to see that noxious weeds do not get started in the project areas.
- b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring: City Staff primarily with help from Helena National Forest personnel and private forester working with the City.
- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k): See attached.

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.

Other, please explain:

Project Recommended By: The Helena Open Lands Management Advisory Committee
and Randy Lilje, Director of Parks & Recreation

Project Approved By: Tim Burton, City Manager

Chairperson

Lewis and Clark Resource Advisory Committee

Helena District Ranger

Helena National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering		\$ 2,925	\$ 1,575	\$ 4,500
f. Contract/Grant Preparation				
g. Contract/Grant Administration		\$ 975	\$ 525	\$ 1,500
h. Contract/Grant Cost		\$29,575	\$15,925	\$45,500
i. Salaries				
j. Materials & Supplies (Pheromone tabs)		\$ 1,625	\$ 875	\$ 2,500
k. Monitoring		\$ 650	\$ 350	\$ 1,000
l. Other (Weed Control)		\$ 650	\$ 350	\$ 1,000
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. Indirect Costs				
o. Total Cost Estimate		\$36,400	\$19,600	\$56,000

NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Contracting/Grant Officer costs, if needed, are included as part of Indirect Costs.