

**Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests,
and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications**

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon
www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

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Public Invited To Submit Forest Service Project Proposals

BEND--Applications are now available to propose natural resource projects that will benefit the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests. A workshop to help prepare the applications is scheduled for April 25.

The process allows citizens, community organizations and local governments to propose projects to improve the health of forests and watersheds. Projects might include restoring fish and wildlife habitat, removing noxious weeds, improving soil productivity, reducing hazardous fuels, reestablishing native species, and obliterating or maintaining roads and trails.

The Deschutes-Ochoco Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will later recommend to Forest Service managers how to invest about \$1 million to enhance local forests this year, under Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, also known as the Payments to Counties Program. The committee of Central Oregon residents will make recommendations from a pool of projects submitted in response to this call for proposals.

A workshop to answer questions and provide tips on completing the application will be held April 25 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) office at 2363 Glacier Place, Redmond. Telephone (541) 548-9544 for directions to the workshop.

Project applications will be accepted until May 12 and are available at:
www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/partnership/rac-index.shtml

Applications are also available at the Ochoco National Forest Headquarters, 3160 N.E. Third St., Prineville; Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District, 1230 N.E. Third St., Bend; Crescent Ranger District, 136471 Highway 97 N., Crescent; Sisters Ranger District, Pine Street and Highway 20, Sisters; Crooked River National Grassland, 813 S.W. Highway 97, Madras; COIC, 2363 Glacier Place, Redmond and at other COIC offices.

Resource Advisory Committee managers prefer applications be submitted electronically to: kelzner@coic.org and also mailed or delivered to: Kelly Elzner, RAC Application, COIC, 2363 S.W. Glacier Place, Redmond, OR 97756.

For additional information, contact Laurel Skelton, Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, at (541) 416-6530 or Kelly Elzner, COIC, at (541) 548-9544.

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