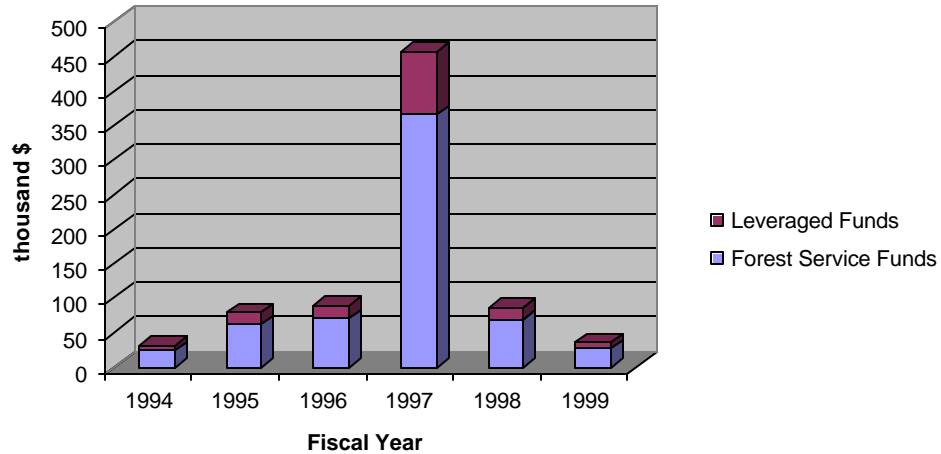
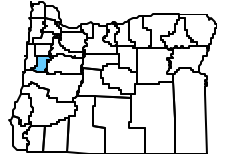




Economic Action Programs

Benton County, Oregon

Benton County is a nonmetropolitan county just west of Interstate 5 in the Willamette Valley, bordered on the east by the Willamette River. The western part of the county is dominated by forests of the Coast Range. Two major industries, Oregon State University and Hewlett-Packard, have provided economic stability to the county, which has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state. Just over 40% of the county's land area is non-federal timberland; about 17% is administered by the BLM or the Forest Service; and about 27% is in farmland.



Recipient	Project Name	Federal ID	Funds		
			USFS	Leveraged	Total
Planning and Technical Assistance					
Benton County	Recreation Facility Study	ORNW-95-030	\$13,087	\$3,515	\$16,602
Benton County	Planning/Implementation Proj.	ORNW-96-025	\$9,984	\$3,500	\$13,484
Benton County	Alesa Multi-Tenant Feasibility	ORNW-96-029	\$60,000	\$16,350	\$76,350
Benton County	Kings Valley Strategic Plan	ORNW-97-009	\$15,600	\$3,900	\$19,500
Benton County	Fort Hoskins Arch/Eng Plan	ORNW-97-037	\$25,000	\$6,250	\$31,250
City of Monroe	Community Action Plan	OREC-94-035	\$14,000	\$3,500	\$17,500
City of Monroe	Revitalization Master Plan	ORNW-98-010	\$25,000	\$6,464	\$31,464
City of Philomath	Industrial Wetlands Strategy	ORNW-97-003	\$50,000	\$12,500	\$62,500
City of Philomath	Interp. Facility Feasibility	ORNW-98-014	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
Facility Construction/Environmental Improvement					
Benton County	Fort Hoskins Water System	ORNW-97-062	\$75,000	\$18,750	\$93,750
City of Monroe	Revitalization Implementation	ORNW-99-026	\$27,600	\$7,747	\$35,347
City of Philomath	Downtown Visitor Enhancements	ORNW-97-004	\$200,000	\$50,000	\$250,000
Oregon Cascades West C.O.G.	Harlan Vault Toilets	ORNW-95-025	\$2,101	\$1,702	\$3,803





Economic Action Programs

One success story from Benton County, Oregon



Philomath Downtown Visitor Enhancements

The town of Philomath probably has more of a natural resource base than many communities in Oregon. Having lost some of their identity as a mill and logging town due to decreases in federal timber harvest levels, the community is looking for ways to take advantage of their strategic location between the Willamette Valley and two main highway routes to the Oregon Coast. Enticing travelers to stop and spend time in Philomath seemed to be an obvious goal. So the community organized a Retail Beautification Action Team (RBAT).

The RBAT put together a project to develop a streetscape plan, design business facades, develop a business improvement program, and implement all three. Completion of an initial two-block area along Main Street (Highway 20) will include wider sidewalks and planters, landscaping, trees, flowers, garbage cans, and streetlights.

Also, key to this project, storefronts will be improved following professional designs developed specifically for Philomath's downtown.

According to City Manager Randy Kugler, "The downtown revitalization project has given business owners an opportunity to see possibilities for the community. We believe travelers will be more likely to stop in our town."

Applicant: City of Philomath

Grant No: ORNW-97-004

USDA Forest Service Funding: \$200,000

Total Project Cost: \$250,000

