

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000
Public Law 106-393
Title II Project Submission Form
**Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory
Committee**

1. Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official): **UN-WAW05-603**

2. Project Name: Noxious Weed Treatment on La Grande Ranger District	3. County: Union
4. Project Sponsor: Arlene Blumton	5. Date: December 2003
6. Sponsor's Phone Number: 541-962-8522	
7. Sponsors E-mail: ablumton@fs.fed.us	

8. Project Location	
a. 4 th Field Watershed Name and HUC #: Upper Grande Ronde River 17060104	
b. 5 th Field Watershed Name and HUC # (if known): Indian/Clark Ck 1706010411, Catherine Ck 1706010412, Upper Grande Ronde 1706010485, Grande Ronde River/Hilgard 1706010487, Beaver Rock Ck 1706010416, Meadow Ck 1706010486	
c. Location: Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____ <u>Treatments are located throughout watersheds on La Grande Ranger District and include road systems, dispersed recreation sites, and other ground disturbed areas.</u>	
Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____	
Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____	
Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____	
Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____	
d. BLM District	e. BLM Resource Area
f. National Forest Wallowa-Whitman	g. Forest Service District La Grande Ranger District
h. State / Private / Other lands involved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

9. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives:
The purpose of the Noxious Weed project is to contain and reduce the spread of noxious weeds on National Forest land within the La Grande Ranger District (Union County). Noxious weed invasion results in degraded recreation areas, reduced forage for large grazing animals, degraded wildlife habitat and decreased native plant diversity. This project is part of a multi-agency and multi-phase effort to contain the spread of noxious weeds; RAC supported this project since 2002. The Noxious Weed project addresses the need to implement a long-term strategy and emphasizes cooperation with private landowners, public land users, and government agencies.

10. Project Description:

The Noxious Weed project proposes to conduct noxious weed inventories, treat new sites, re-treat sites identified in previous years, and continue to monitor treatment effectiveness. Funding allocated to the treatment of knapweeds, yellow starthistle, Canada thistle, and whitetop will help control infestations and restore degraded ecosystems across several land ownerships. Project strategies include: 1) inventory disturbed sites on approximately 300 acres, 1) treat weeds with chemicals, manual methods and biological controls over 500 gross acres, 2) seed competitive perennial grasses on approximately 10 acres; 3) monitor the sites throughout the year to document reoccurring noxious weeds; 4) increase education and awareness and prevention practices by working with partners; and 5) develop a follow-up treatment plan for Spring 2006.

This project complies with the constraints and conditions of the Vegetation Management Final Environmental Impact Statement, its Record of Decision, and Mediated Agreement and is consistent with the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Management Plan. These management plans specify the monitoring and prevention requirements; Noxious Weed Treatment Environmental Assessments and Site Inventory forms are available on La Grande Ranger District

Project work completed

2002-2003

- **Monitored** 300 noxious weed sites annually.
- **Treated** sites by manual, mechanical or chemical methods.
- **Inventoried** 15 new sites.
- Coordinated with County, other agency personnel, and private landowners to treat weeds on shared boundaries.
- Grass seeded approximately 10 acres with native and competitive grass species.
- Knapweeds are contained and only small, scattered sites have been discovered.
- Yellow starthistle sites still confined to Cove and Copper Butte areas. No new sites have been discovered and the current infestations were treated with biological controls.
- Canada thistle and sulfur cinquefoil are showing significant population increases.
- Implemented prevention methods by requiring equipment to be cleaned, monitoring potential sites for invasive weeds and using education opportunities at local fairs and community events.
- Developed and awarded a contract to treat noxious weeds.

2004-2006

- Continue to implement the above work.
- Increase grass seeding and monitoring in disturbed areas such as obliterated roads.
- Continue to work with County and contract with local community to implement herbicide applications.

11. Coordination of this project with other related project(s) on adjacent lands?

Yes **No** **If yes, then describe** (max. 10 lines)

The Noxious Weed project is coordinated with private landowners, County, State and Federal agencies.

12. How does proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? [Sec. 203(b)(1)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure. [Sec. 2(b)]
X Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems. [Sec. 2(b)]
X Restores and improves land health. [Sec. 2(b)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Restores water quality. [Sec. 2(b)]

13. Project Type (check one) [Sec. 203(b)(1)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(B)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(C)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Mntc. [Sec. 2(b)(2)(D)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]	X Control of Noxious Weeds [Sec. 2(b)(2)(F)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species [Sec. 2(b)(2)(G)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify) [Sec. 2(b)(2)]:	

14. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes [Sec. 203(b)(5)]	
a. Total Acres: inventory 300 acres Treating 500 acres (gross)	b. Total Miles:
c. No. Structures:	d. Est. People Reached
e. No. Laborer Days: 300 days	(for environmental education projects):
f. Other (specify):	

15. Estimated Completion Date: [Sec. 203(b)(2)]
September 2005

16. Target Species Benefited:
Big game species (Rocky Mt.elk, mule deer), upland game birds and other ground nesting species and species associated with riparian areas.

17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved? [Sec. 2(b)(3)]
This project will facilitate communication with partners that include private landowners and other public agencies. This project will foster positive attitudes towards land management activities.

18. How is this project in the best public interest? [Sec. 203(b)(7)] **Identify benefits to communities.**

This project benefits adjacent landowners economic investments by reducing noxious weed spread. Benefits to communities include increased involvement with restoring public lands, providing local employment opportunities, and ongoing partnerships.

19. How does project benefit federal lands/resources?

Noxious weed treatments on federal lands are enhanced by improving ecological diversity and forest health. Restoration actions contribute to improving soil conditions, native plant species, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and riparian conditions.

20. Status of Project Planning			
a. NEPA Complete:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If no, give est. date of completion:			
c. NMFS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
d. USFWS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
e. Survey & Manage Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	X Not Applicable
f. DSL/ODFW* Permits for In-stream Work Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	X Not Applicable
g. DSL/COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	X Not Applicable
h. SHPO* Concurrence Received:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
i. Project Design(s) Completed:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Dept.of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer			

21. Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment <i>(check those that apply)</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
Other (specify):	

22. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? [Sec. 204(e)(3)]

Yes **No**

23. Anticipated Project Costs [Sec. 203(b)(3)]	
a. Total County Title II Funds Requested: \$14,000	
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, then display by fiscal year
c. FY02 Request: \$13,500	f. FY05 Request: \$15,120
d. FY03 Request: \$16,700 (received)	g. FY06 Request: \$14,000 (estimate)
e. FY04 Request: \$16,200 (received)	

Table 1. Project Cost Analysis

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column B Requested County Title II Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column C Other Contributions [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column D Total Available Funds
24. Field Work & Site Surveys	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$14,000
25. NEPA & Sec. 7 ESA Consultation				
26. Permit Acquisition				
27. Project Design & Engineering				
28. Contract Preparation				
29. Contract Administration	\$5,000	\$2,000		\$5,000
30. Contract Cost		\$8,000*	\$4,000	\$12,000
31. Workforce Cost	\$6,000		\$5,000	\$10,000
32. Materials & Supplies	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$4,000
33. Monitoring	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
34. Other -				
35. Project Sub-Total	\$19,000	\$14,000	\$19,000	\$49,000
36. Indirect Costs (Overhead @ 8%) (per year for multi-year projects)		\$ 1,120		
37. Total Cost Estimate	\$19,000	\$15,120	\$19,000	\$53,120

***This is an indefinite quantities contract, therefore, if full funding is unavailable a reduction in noxious weed inventory and treatment acres would be made.**

38. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding for Project Identified Above [Sec. 203(b)(4)])

Partners include Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, Oregon Department of Agriculture, County Weed Agency, Blue Mt. Elk Initiative and Forest Service appropriated funds.

39. Monitoring Plan [Sec. 203(b)(6)]

- a. What measures or evaluations will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired ecological conditions? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] (max. 7 lines)**

Who is responsible for this monitoring item?: _____

The US Forest Service in cooperation with PNW Research Lab, Union County, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Agriculture and private landowners will monitor project success. Monitoring techniques include: 1) photo points that are monitored twice a year and 2) noxious weed observation records updated for at least 5 years.

- b. How will the project be evaluated to determine how well the proposed project contributes towards local employment and/or training opportunities, including summer youth jobs**

programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] (max. 7 lines)

Who is responsible for this monitoring item?: _____

The workforce includes local college students, local contractors, and other individuals within the community who have noxious weed experience. Supplies and materials are purchased locally. The US Forest Service is responsible for hiring local workforce, developing contracts and purchasing materials.

- c. **What methods and measures of evaluation will be established to determine how well the proposed project improves the use of, or added value to, any products removed from National Forest System lands consistent with the purposes of this Act?** [Sec. 203(b)(6) and Sec. 204(e)(3)] (max. 7 lines)

Who is responsible for this monitoring item?: _____

Noxious weed populations will be monitored and measured for rate of spread. The US Forest Service is responsible for monitoring.

- d. **Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Table 1, Item 33)**
(max. 7 lines)

Amount \$4,000_ (\$1,000 County Title II funds)

Project Name: Noxious Weed Treatment on La Grande Ranger District

County Commissioner Concurrence

(Majority Required per charter)

A majority of the county commissioners of Union County have reviewed this proposed Public Law 106-393 project for the Blue Mt. Resource Advisory Council and agree with the proposal as submitted, except for the comments noted below:

Attested by Commissioner

Date

Priority Rating:

High Medium Low

Comments/Rational: