



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Eugene District Office
3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite E
Springfield, OR 97477
www.blm.gov/or/districts/eugene

DEC 9 2013

Dear Reader:

On October 2, 2013, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 was reauthorized through Public Law 113-40. This legislation provides Federal funds to counties that traditionally have been supported by timber payments. These payments make up for the loss in timber payments caused by the dramatic decline in timber harvest on Federal lands that occurred in the 1990s. Title I of the Act makes the majority of the funds (approximately 85 percent) available to counties to support schools and infrastructure. Titles II and III make funds available for a variety of activities that benefit Federal lands and resources in the benefiting county. Title III funds are managed by county governments and are available to organizations for a variety of activities including search and rescue on Federal lands and wildfire prevention planning. For more information on Title III funds, contact the Lane and/or Linn County Commissioners' Office.

Title II funds are managed by Federal agencies. However, a Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), made up of local citizens, recommends how the funds will be spent. The Act defines a wide variety of activities that can be accomplished with Title II funds. In addition, it does not limit project applicants to federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Any individual or organization can submit an application. However, the project must benefit Federal lands or resources.

The RAC will review and recommend approximately \$450,000 worth of Title II projects to be funded in Fiscal Year 2014. (A federal fiscal year is October 1st through September 30th).

Full proposals must be submitted to the Eugene District Office by close of business on **January 31, 2014**. Proposal and budget forms are attached, as well as an instruction page. In the near future these forms will also be available at our web site at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/eugene/rac/index.php>

I strongly encourage you to visit this web site for more information on this funding authority. The full project proposals should be complete and mailed to the BLM Eugene District Office or emailed to Patricia Johnston, the Eugene District Resource Advisory Committee Coordinator at pjohnsto@blm.gov

Once we receive the proposals, we will evaluate them to ensure that they comply with requirements of the Act. Projects must meet one or more of the resource objectives identified in the Act, such as:

- Road, trail, and infrastructure improvement, maintenance or obliteration;
- Soil productivity improvement;
- Improvements in forest ecosystem health;
- Watershed restoration and maintenance;
- Restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;
- Control of noxious and exotic weeds; and
- Reestablishment of native species.

Project funds may only be used on BLM-administered land and on non-BLM administered land where projects can be demonstrated to provide benefit to the resources on BLM-administered lands.

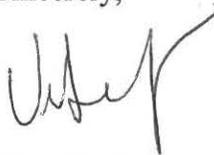
Those project proposals that meet the criteria established in the legislation will be presented to the RAC for their funding recommendation to the Eugene District Manager.

Although projects will be recommended and approved this fiscal year, it is not clear if the funds will be available prior to fall 2014. Please take this into account when you make your application.

If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Johnston at (541) 683-6181.

Thank you for your continued commitment to forest health and watershed restoration.

Sincerely,



Virginia Grilley
District RAC Designated Federal Official

Enclosures (3)