

**Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000  
Public Law 106-393**

**Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee**

<b>1. Project Name:</b> NBHMA Oak Woodland Restoration and Outreach Education	<b>2. County:</b> Douglas
<b>3. Sponsoring Organization:</b> Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District	<b>4. Date:</b> August 3, 2007
<b>5. Sponsor's Phone Number:</b> (541) 957-5061	
<b>6. Sponsor's E-mail:</b> jim.lee@oacd.org	

<b>7. Project Location</b> (attach project area map)	
a. Description of Location: <b>North Bank Habitat Management Area</b> (See attached map for more details)	
b. Sub Basin Name (4 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed; e.g. North Umpqua): <b>North Umpqua</b>	
c. Watershed Name (5 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed; e.g. Little River): <b>Lower North Umpqua</b>	
d. Legal Location: Township <b>26 S</b> Range <b>5W</b> Section(s) <b>11</b>	
e. BLM District: <b>Roseburg</b>	e. BLM Resource Area <b>Swiftwater</b>
f. State / Private / Other lands involved? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

<p><b>8. Project Goals and Objectives:</b> (Describe the goals and objectives of the project. If applicable list species that will benefit from the project)</p> <p>The primary goal of this project is to improve habitat for the Columbia white-tailed deer and other Special Status Species in the North Bank Habitat Management Area. The secondary goal is to provide students with an outdoor educational opportunity to learn about oak woodland ecosystems, data collection and organization and to participate and observe treatments necessary to restore oak woodland ecosystem health. The long-term objective of this project is to identify and implement suitable treatments necessary to restore ecosystem function to oak woodlands. Additionally, to educate the public regarding the importance of oak ecosystems and how they support a wide variety of plant and animal species. Oak forests and associated habitats in the Pacific Northwest are among the most threatened forest types in North America according to a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) publication, "Restoring and Managing Oregon White Oak Habitats." Oak habitats were the dominant cover type throughout much of the interior valleys of western Washington and Oregon prior to European settlement. Many of these forests have been cleared for livestock, agricultural crops or residential development. Some oak woodland forests are in decline from stand replacing conifer succession particularly in the absence of periodic fire. Still other forests are suffering from the invasion of non-native trees and shrubs, reducing their effective habitat qualities and overall function. Several land management agencies and conservation groups have prioritized the oak savanna and oak woodland as having the</p>
--

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

highest priority for conservation and restoration. At least 200 wildlife species use oak habitats, many exclusively, including 99 species that are listed as "At-Risk" by state and federal agencies and the Oregon Natural Heritage Foundation.

With active management including the thinning of oaks and conifers, brush removal using both mechanical and chemical means and the reintroduction of fire, many of these oak woodlands can be restored. Markets, including hardwood and softwood mills, do exist locally for some of the products that could be produced from the restoration of these woodlands. Improved forage, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and watershed function will occur with restoration of these oak habitats.

**9. Project Description:** (Describe how the project will be conducted and how its goals and objectives will be met.)

DSWCD is proposing to restore 100 acres oak woodland and oak savanna habitats using proven best management practices to improve fish and wildlife habitat, water quality and overall watershed health and function. DSWCD will design and implement the project's restoration in consultation with United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Bureau of Land Management. Oak woodland Restoration - This project will restore oak woodlands, oak savannas and riparian forests by the removal of the following invasive species: English hawthorn, Himalayan blackberry and Scotchbroom. The method of treatment will include utilizing a Cat skid steer to mechanically cut the invasive shrub species followed by a ground application of herbicide to the cut stems on relatively flat ground. On slopes greater than 30% and in the riparian area, handcutting with chainsaws or other power equipment will occur and be followed by hand application of herbicide to the treated stumps. A second growing season spot spray will also be applied to any resprouting stems. This technique will provide a high degree of control with minimal herbicide use while preventing resprouting, typical of all three species.

The project will also include thinning in the understory of Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine and Incense cedar trees that are less than 10 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH), unless they are within 20 feet of a creek or stream. These trees will be allowed to mature and provide stream shade and streambank stability but may be cut at a later time for in-stream recruitment or formal habitat structure. Snag creation will be implemented to some of the larger (10-24" DBH) conifers especially when removal of the trees will likely cause damage to the residual heritage oaks. These snags will serve

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

as wildlife trees for cavity nesting birds and bats and will likely be used as perches for the many raptor bird species in the area.

Oregon white oak and California black oak have formed dense stands that will require variable thinning for a natural mosaic pattern. In general, spacing will occur from any large mature oaks of good form to clear any species under the oak's canopy or drip line. Oak savannas typically have a tree density of 10-13 trees per acre and approximately 5-30 percent tree cover. Oak woodlands usually have 50-75 trees per acre and 30-60 percent tree cover. These stocking densities will serve as guides with the goal of retaining the largest, full crowned trees. Thinning in the dense oak woodlands will be based on tree size, form, health (presence of obvious defect or mistletoe), proximity to a creek or stream and spacing. Larger diameter oaks (16" DBH) will be left regardless of spacing or density. Oak trees less than 8" DBH will be thinned to an approximate but variable distance of 20 feet apart.

Multi-stem trees whose main branches fork below four feet will be considered as leave trees or removed entirely - no single stem will be cut unless the whole tree is cut. Trees with substantial defect will be removed as will trees with a relatively high percentage of its crown with mistletoe. Native deciduous trees will not be cut within 20 feet of a creek or stream regardless of size, spacing, form or health. The spacing will be variable with a minimum distance between trees less than 8" DBH of 10 feet but will not be uniform and thus avoid a plantation or orchard appearance of the stand. In oak savannas, all trees of all species shall be cut that are under a heritage oak's canopy or drip line unless they are greater than 8" DBH. Additionally, no snags shall be cut of any species that are larger than 8" DBH to preserve cavity sites for multiple wildlife species.

Slash will be managed by piling with the Cat skid steers and/or by hand piling of the tops and limbs for future pile burning in coordination with Douglas Forest Protective Association and consultation with Bureau of Land Management fire personnel. Crews with the Northwest Youth Corps (NWYC), USFS Job Corps and the Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) have assisted with hand piling in the past as have local natural resource school classes. Some slash will be left scattered and some piles will be not be burned so they may be used as wildlife habitat, especially for song birds, quail, reptiles and amphibians. The boles of trees will be bucked at approximately 20 foot lengths and left on the ground for natural decomposition or they may be utilized for firewood by participating school's activity groups for fundraising purposes. Trees that fall into a creek or stream may be left entire. Revegetation will occur through the hand planting of trees and shrubs and by direct broadcast of native grass and forb seed at

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

a rate of 5 to 20 lbs per acre. Grass and forb species to be seeded will include the following species: Blue wildrye, California brome, Tufted hairgrass, Streamside lupine, Spanish clover, Bluebunch wheatgrass, Slender wheatgrass, Meadow barley, Roemer's fescue and California oatgrass. The native tree and shrub species to be planted will include: Trees - Oregon ash, white alder, big-leaf maple, black cottonwood, Pacific dogwood, Oregon white oak, California black oak, Pacific madrone and Oregon myrtlewood: Shrubs - Willow sp., douglas spirea, mock orange, Indian plum, red flowering currant, cascara, Pacific ninebark, snowberry, elderberry, serviceberry, vine maple and Oregon grape. Most of the tree and shrub planting will occur in the oak forest at a density of 150-350 trees and shrubs per acre depending on the existing vegetation. The grass and forb seeding will occur in oak woodlands and savannas. The DSWCD will also assist with prescribed broadcast burns on the property where appropriate, for site preparation, fuels reduction, noxious weed control and to enhance wildlife habitat. Planting and reseeding of the work unit will be coordinated to ensure optimal conditions for the native species. Successful habitat restoration will occur when there is 3-25 percent native tree overstory in the oak savannas, 30-60 percent native tree cover in the oak woodlands, 60 percent or greater native herbaceous cover in the understory and no more that 10 percent non-native invasive shrub cover. The botanical restoration of the sensitive and listed species will occur with the assistance of the BLM botanists, the local USFWS office and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). The Redroot yampah, Shaggy horkelia, Hitchcock's blue-eyed grass, Wayside aster and Rough popcorn flower are either on the property or on neighboring properties and are within the North Umpqua Recovery Unit.

**10. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved?**

The NBHMA has been receiving increased recreational use since its purchase. It is accessible by the public by foot, horse or mountain bike use. Hikers, bikers, bird watchers, hunters and equestrian users have been observed enjoying the expansive 6,581 acre site. This project would provide benefits to all the users groups and serve to educate the public of the importance of oak woodland habitats and the species that depend upon them.

**11. How is this project in the best public interest and how will it benefit communities?**

The ranch was acquired to provide secure habitat for the Columbia white-tailed deer. This project will facilitate the improvement of the oak woodland habitat critical to the deer and many other woodland dependent species. The project will

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000  
Public Law 106-393

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

also benefit the community through educating its youth on the importance of functioning ecosystems and to inform the public on how to make improvements to their own properties that will benefit plant and wildlife species.

**12. Who will accomplish the project?**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): DSWCD staff	

**13. Is this project coordinated with other related project(s) on adjacent lands?**

a.  Yes  No (If yes, then describe) Oak woodland restoration projects are being conducted on both private and county properties that border or are near the NBHMA.

b. Are you seeking funds from other Resource Advisory Committees?  Yes  No (If yes, then describe)

**14. If the project is on private land how does it benefit federal lands or resources?**

N/A

**15. Measure of Project Accomplishments**

a. Total Acres: 100	b. Total Miles:
c. Number of Structures:	d. Estimated Number of People Reached (for environmental education and workforce training projects): 150 high school students and staff; 25 youth crew personnel
e. Number of Laborer Days: 50	
f. Other (specify): A power point presentation will be made of the project including the student's data collection, field crew work and agency and contractor restoration activities that can be given to community groups and to schools that may be interested in similar projects in their local areas. An informational kiosk will also be constructed and installed at the main entrance of the NBHMA describing the restoration and education activities to the recreation users and the general public. Two newsletter articles will also be written highlighting the education and restoration occurring at the NBHMA reaching over 5,000 Douglas county residents.	
g. Describe how long will the benefits of the project last: The restoration activities should allow the oak habitats to function properly for 25 years or more with minimal maintenance required thereafter.	

**16. Will the project generate merchantable materials?**

Yes  No If yes, describe: The thinning of the oak forests could produce posts, poles and rails from conifers for use on the ranch. The oaks that are thinned may be utilized as firewood for fund raising activities by the participating high schools

**17. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the legislation? (Check at least one)**

**Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000  
Public Law 106-393**

**Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee**

<input type="checkbox"/> Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restores and improves land health.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restores water quality.

<b>18. Project Type</b> (Check at least one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify):	

<b>19. Project Initiation and Estimated Completion Dates:</b> (Describe the timing of the major phases of the project) Fall 2007 to begin introduction with students and data collection; plan formation during winter 2008; treatment(s) spring-fall 2008; post treatment data collection and plan summary fall 2008
--

<b>20. Status of Project Planning</b>			
a. NEPA process complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
b. Consultation complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
c. DSL/ODFW* permits for in-stream work obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
d. DSL/COE* 404 fill/removal permit obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
e. SHPO* concurrence received:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
f. Project design(s) completed:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
g. If you answered yes to any of the questions above, please describe who will accomplish the work and when it will be complete:			
* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer			

**Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000  
Public Law 106-393**

**Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee**

<b>21. Anticipated Project Costs</b>
a. Total Title II funds requested: <b>\$123,189</b>

**Table 1. Project Cost Analysis** (Includes all expenditures for the life of the project)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution</b>	<b>Requested County Title II Contribution</b>	<b>Other Contributions</b>	<b>Total Available Funds</b>
Planning and Permits	3,000	4,000	2,000	12,000
Design & Engineering	2,000	3,000	1,000	8,000
Project/Contract Administration		25,600		25,600
Project/Contract Implementation <sup>1</sup>	11,000	66,290	2,000	79,290
Materials & Supplies <sup>2</sup>	1,000	11,500	1,000	13,500
Post-Project Monitoring	1,000	1,600	2,000	4,600
Other		11,199		11,199
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>123,189</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>154,189</b>

<sup>1</sup>This could be either the cost of the labor for project implementation or the cost of a contract.

<sup>2</sup>If the project is implemented by contract, materials and supplies are likely included in the cost of the contract.

<b>22. Provide a budget narrative, including a description of other source(s) of funding for the project identified above and/or a clarification of any other aspects of the budget:</b>
DSWCD will be a partner with the BLM to continue to provide and seek funding for restoration and education opportunities at the NBHMA. Wildlife Safari and the participating local school districts will also be pursuing grant funding and in-kind support.

<b>23. Monitoring Plan</b>
a. What measures or evaluations will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired ecological conditions? Who will be responsible for this monitoring item? Permanent plots will be installed with the data collected to be stored on an interactive web site for school and agency access. Wildlife safari and BLM district personnel will maintain the site with the pre- and post-treatment data. DSWCD will oversee data collection and will coordinate with the BLM staff on data collection protocol.

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

- b. How will the project be evaluated to determine how well it contributes to local employment and/or training opportunities, including summer youth jobs programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps? Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?

This project will reach out to over 100 students interacting with Safari, DSWCD, and BLM staff. The students will be collecting data and may assist with some aspects of the restoration including the seeding of native grasses and forbs. Oregon Youth Conservation Corps and the USFS Wolf Creek Job Corps have worked at the NBHMA and will likely participate in restoration activities as well.

- c. What methods will be established to determine how well the proposed project improves the use of, or added value to, any products removed from federal lands consistent with the purposes of this Act? Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?

Permanent data plots will be installed and maintained on a website supported by Wildlife Safari with assistance from agency and school district staff. The oak woodlands ecological function will be greatly improved resulting in a reduction of non-native, invasive species while improving habitat for many plant and animal species, including the Columbia white-tailed deer. DSWCD will coordinate with Wildlife Safari and the BLM for monitoring the project.

**24. What are the analyses, plans, legislation, or other supporting documents that support and guide this application?** (E.g. the Northwest Forest Plan, a watershed analysis, a late successional reserve assessment, or the Oregon Plan for Salmon.)

For the overall project, the North Bank Habitat Management Area/ACEC Record of Decision Habitat Management Plan and Monitoring Plan was consulted. The Overview of the Record of Decision specifically states, "The NBHMA will be managed as secure habitat for the Columbia white-tailed deer. The area will be managed under the concepts of multiple use. Other resource values have a large role in the management of the area. Protection and expansion of habitat for listed plant species are important aspects of the plan. Perhaps some of the least publicized opportunities presented by the NBHMA include the availability of an area for research. We also think there are untapped opportunities for environmental education programs on the area that can be developed cooperatively with local school systems."

Literature supporting the oak woodland restoration activities of this proposal include the BLM publication, "A Landowner's Guide for Restoring and Managing Oregon White Oak Habitats," "A Practical Guide to Oak Release" PNW-GTR 666, February 2006," "Restoring Rare Native Habitats in the Willamette Valley" Bruce Campbell, ODFW 2004 and "Restoring the Pacific Northwest- The Art and Science of Ecological Restoration in Cascadia," 2006.

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000  
Public Law 106-393

Title II Project Application for 2007 Funds (Round #7)  
Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee

**25. Who are the key people responsible for this project?** (List their names and titles)

*Jim Lee, DSWCD; Craig Tozer, Wildlife Safari; Jake Winn, BLM*

**26. Attach a map and photograph(s) of the project.** (At a minimum, the map should show the project location, roads, and streams, and private versus BLM ownership. The photograph should show the project site or a representative portion of it. **More than one photograph can be submitted, but they must all fit on one page. A digital photograph incorporated into this application is preferred; hard copies will be copied in black and white.**)