

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): WA-WAW06-001

<b>2. Project Name:</b> Upper Joseph Implementation	<b>3. County:</b> Wallowa
<b>4. Project Sponsors:</b> Bruce Dunn, WC Natural Resource Advisory Council Chair, Barbara Walker, Forest Service District Ranger	<b>5. Date:</b> 12/15/04
<b>6. Sponsor's Phone Number:</b> Bruce Dunn- 426-6019; Barbara Walker- 426-5581	
<b>7. Sponsors E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:bdunn@eoni.com">bdunn@eoni.com</a> ; bcwalker@fs.fed.us	

<b>8. Project Location</b> (attach project area map)	
a. 4 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Name and HUC #: Lower Grande Ronde	
b. 5 <sup>th</sup> Field Watershed Name and HUC # (if known): Upper Joseph Creek	
c. Location: Township <u>2N</u> Range <u>46E</u> Section(s) <u>ALL</u> Township <u>2N</u> Range <u>47E</u> Section(s) <u>ALL</u> Township <u>3N</u> Range <u>46E</u> Section(s) <u>ALL</u> Township <u>3N</u> Range <u>47E</u> Section(s) <u>ALL</u> Township <u>3N</u> Range <u>48E</u> Section(s) <u>6,7,8,17,18,19,20,30,31</u> Township <u>4N</u> Range <u>46E</u> Section(s) <u>ALL</u> Township <u>4N</u> Range <u>47E</u> Sections(s) <u>7, and 19-36</u> Township <u>5N</u> Range <u>46E</u> Section(s) <u>13-36</u>	
d. BLM District	e. BLM Resource Area
f. National Forest Wallowa-Whitman	g. Forest Service Unit: Wallowa Mountain Zone
h. State / Private / Other lands involved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

<b>9. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives:</b> (max. 7 lines) The Upper Joseph Watershed Assessment was completed in draft form in 2004. The assessment identified the highest watershed management, and monitoring priorities in the next 5-7 years for upland and aquatic restoration, forest/rangeland health and roads/recreation management within the Upper Joseph watershed. Implementation of identified projects begins in 2005, and will continue for the next 5-7 years. The goal for 2006 is to continue implementation of identified projects.
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<b>10. Project Description:</b> (max. 30 lines.) 2006 implementation will include: 1) Closing or decommissioning of forest roads not necessary for administrative or public use. Road densities currently exceed Forest Plan standards in the Upper Chesnimnus and Devils Run subwatersheds. The closures and decommissionings would reduce open road densities in these two subwatersheds to below 2.5 miles per square mile.
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2) Modification of approximately 100 instream structures in Chesnimnus Creek, and 47 structures in Peavine Creek. This will be a continuation of instream structure modifications begun in 2005. Instream structures (log wiers) were installed in Chesnimnus, Devils Run, Peavine, Elk, and Swamp Creeks within the Upper Joseph Watershed in the 1980s using the best current technology. However, they have not achieved the desired effect. In many cases the structures have resulted in downstream bank scour. Many of the structures are now passage barriers to migration of juvenile fish (including listed Snake River steelhead) at low flows. The instream structure modification will remove all geotextile material and wire (used in gabion basket construction as part of the wier installation). Existing logs would be reconfigured, sometimes in conjunction with additional whole trees, to provide fish passage and habitat complexity currently lacking in the system. Individual prescriptions have been developed for each of the Chesnimnus and Swamp Creek structures, and will be developed for the remaining structures in 2005.

3) Riparian planting of 1500 deciduous plants. Beginning in 2005, 1500 deciduous plants will be planted each year through at least 2007 within the Upper Joseph Watershed. Planting will take place in areas where previous management has resulted in the loss in diversity of riparian shrub species and age classes. Planting will be done with native plants appropriate to the site. Seeds and cuttings are collected from the watershed and propagated at a nursery, where new plants are potted. All planted stock will be protected from browse by livestock and wildlife with caging, and will be mulched and shaded. Planting will be done primarily along Chesnimnus, Devils Run, Elk, Swamp, and Crow Creeks, TNT Gulch, and Vance Draw.

4) Upland water source development. Having sufficient, functioning sources of water for livestock away from fish-bearing streams is imperative for protection of riparian resources, especially when grazing occurs in the hotter months. This project will insure the availability of upland water sources by repairing, modifying, or rebuilding existing water sources (spring developments and ponds), and developing new springs as necessary. An inventory of upland water sources was begun in Upper Joseph Watershed in 2003. Numerous existing water sources were identified as needing repair/rebuilding. In 2005 the repair/rebuilding work will take place in the Upper Chesnimnus and Devils Run subwatersheds. The 2006 work will continue moving into the other 11 subwatersheds in the Upper Joseph Watershed. Work on ponds will involve re-excavation and improvement of dams. Spring development work will include one or more of the following: installation of a (new) spring box; placement of an aluminum trough away from the riparian area; burying 2" plastic a pipe from spring box to trough; burying a 2" inch plastic overflow pipe from trough back to spring-fed stream; protection fence constructed around spring and adjacent riparian area; some wood placement to direct livestock away from sensitive areas; and some seeding or planting of native vegetation.

This project has several partners who have contributed funds for on-going inventory and assessment work within the watershed on both public and private lands. This request seeks funds to complete the watershed assessment, conduct community meetings and peer/science reviews, and issue a report this winter that will identify the specific project priorities for management. Several of these projects will then be evaluated under the NEPA process if they occur on public lands. Private land projects will be proposed by landowners and implemented as sources of funding are identified. Title II funds will support these activities (Phase I) and some of the participation of cooperating agencies in the NEPA process, who will supply analysis (Phase II). Wallowa County has expressed interest in being a cooperating agency to the USFS lead agency. Additional cooperating agencies may include the State of Oregon, Tribes and other federal agencies such as NMFS and FWS.

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

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

The Upper Joseph assessment is an entire watershed assessment approach and includes both private

and public lands. Much of the headwaters of this watershed are private land, making this watershed somewhat unique in the landscape. It is important that the restorative and management treatments proposed consider the interconnecting systems within the entire watershed.

<b>12. How does proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation?</b> [Sec. 203(b)(1)]
X 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)]
X Restores water quality. [Sec. 2(b)]

<b>13. Project Type</b> (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)]
X Road Decommission/Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
X Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)] Existing water developments will be improved	
X Soil Productivity Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(B)]	X Forest Health Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(C)]
X Watershed Restoration & Mntc. [Sec. 2(b)(2)(D)]	X Wildlife Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]
X Fish Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]	X Control of Noxious Weeds [Sec. 2(b)(2)(F)]
X Reestablish Native Species [Sec. 2(b)(2)(G)]	
X Other Project Type (specify) [Sec. 2(b)(2)]: <b>Supports community-based planning process and consensus building that will continue to identify future projects which will improve ecosystem health throughout the Upper Joseph Watershed.</b>	

<b>14. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes</b> [Sec. 203(b)(5)]	
a. Total Acres: 170,000 assessed	b. Total Miles: approximately 46 miles of road closed or decommissioned
c. No. Structures: 147 instream structures, xxx springs, xxx ponds	d. Est. People Reached (for environmental education projects):
e. No. Laborer Days:	
f. Other (specify): 1500 deciduous plants planted	

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

**Phase I Activities (Watershed Assessment/ Report)-** January 2003  
**Phase II Activities (NEPA, Project Design)-** Implementation of projects begins, all NEPA projects completed by April 2005  
**Phase III Activities (Implementation)-** On-going (see Upper Joseph Instream proposal) 2004-2009  
 Note- Various phases run concurrently and overlap.

**16. Target Species Benefited:** ESA listed Snake River steelhead, and a variety of fish and wildlife species who depend on healthy riparian systems.

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

[Sec. 2(b)(3)] (max. 12 lines)

By cooperatively identifying restoration principles with other agencies, environmental groups, citizens, non-profits and private land owners and practicing these principles by working together to identify and implement projects on federal lands. Cooperating agencies will assist the federal land managers in evaluating and disclosing the effects under the NEPA process. Cooperators will help implement and monitor the success of projects implemented. By taking a watershed approach environmental interactions between public and private lands will be better understood and managed.

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

(max. 12 lines)

This project is designed to build on the existing level of community capacity in Wallowa County to work together to identify and solve natural resource problems by implementing projects that are in the broad national public interest; generating clean water, healthy forests and rangelands and recreation access on public lands. In addition this effort will encourage and assist private land owners wishing to do the same. The assessment has made use of local contractors, facilitators and leaders and natural resource based skills within the community. The implementation of projects identified in the assessment will involve local contractors and natural resources technicians and managers within the community. The support of Title II funds will continue to build on this success.

**19. How does project benefit federal lands/resources? (max. 12 lines)**

The implementation of projects identified in the assessment will improve roads and watershed, range/grassland and forest health. Projects will be implemented in a coordinated fashion which will take advantage of a variety of funding sources. Once projects are implemented, many will have direct benefits to public lands including projects implemented on private lands at the head of the watershed (e.g. better coordinated weed control, riparian restoration and other projects that cross ownership boundaries). Community based monitoring will provide feedback to the agency and the cooperators within the watershed itself. Wallowa County, cooperators and Forest Service hope to repeat this learning process in other watersheds.

<b>20. Status of Project Planning</b>			
a. NEPA Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	April, 2005
If no, give est. date of completion: By April 2004			
c. NMFS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	April, 2005
d. USFWS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	April, 2005
e. Survey & Manage Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
f. DSL/ODFW* Permits for In-stream Work Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
g. DSL/COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
h. SHPO* Concurrence Received:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	April, 2005
i. Project Design(s) Completed:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	September. 2005
* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Dept.of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer			

<b>21. Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment</b> <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
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):	

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

Yes       No

Within the Upper Joseph Creek Assessment area there are currently two Forest Service vegetation projects expected to generate merchantable materials. The Fire Ridge Fuels Project will generate merchantable materials in 2005. The Arroz Vegetation Project is expected to generate merchantable materials in 2006-2007.

<b>23. Anticipated Project Costs</b> [Sec. 203(b)(3)]	
a. Total County Title II Funds Requested: \$49,770 in FY 06	
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:	f. FY05 Request: \$40,000 (Phase III)
d. FY03 Request: \$40,000 (Phase I, Begin Phase II)	g. FY06 Request: \$49,770 (Phase III)
e. FY04 Request: \$40,000 (Phase II, Begin Phase III)	<b>Note: Each year Wallowa County will submit a report on progress and more specific proposal for that year's expenditures.</b>

**Table 1. Project Cost Analysis**

<b>2006 REQUEST Item</b>	<i>Column A</i> <b>Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution</b> [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	<i>Column B</i> <b>Requested County Title II Contribution</b> [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	<i>Column C</i> <b>Other Contributions</b> [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	<i>Column D</i> <b>Total Available Funds</b>
24. Field Work & Site Surveys			\$1,000	\$1,000
25. NEPA & Sec. 7 ESA Consultation				
26. Permit Acquisition				
27. Project Design & Engineering				
28. Contract Preparation	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$6,000
29. Contract Administration	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$10,000
30. Contract Cost			\$50,000	\$50,000
31. Workforce Cost	\$6,000	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$36,000
32. Materials & Supplies		\$1,788	\$10,000	\$11,788
33. Monitoring	2,000		\$2,000	\$4,000
34. Other: writing editing, community meetings, evaluation panels		\$20,000	\$2,000	\$22,000
35. Project Sub-Total	\$15,000	\$45,788	\$80,000	\$140,788
36. Indirect Costs (Overhead @ 8%) (per year for multi-year projects)	\$1,200	\$3,982		\$5,182
<b>37. Total Cost Estimate</b>	\$16,200	\$51,270	\$80,000	\$147,470

**38. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding for Project Identified Above** [Sec. 203(b)(4)] (max. 7 lines)

- Wallowa Resources- \$20,000
- USFS Grant to Wallowa County (Adminstered by Wallowa Resources)- \$129,000 for vegetation inventory and assessment
- The Nature Conservancy- \$100,000 for satelight imagery and field verification of grassland plots
- Grande Model Watershed- \$40,000 (not yet secured)

**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 Grande Ronde Model Watershed and USFS are helping identify direct indicators or surrogate indicators of success for future restoration efforts (particularly watershed health). Other indicators of community health and sustainability will be tied to local efforts to help identify these nationally (LUCID, NEOCAW) by Wallowa Resources and the County. The Upper Joseph watershed is a unique opportunity to test the utility of the hierarchy of indicators.

- 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?:**

Specific contracts, employment opportunities and project accomplishments for the Upper Joseph planning, implementation and monitoring process will be tracked by the Local Natural Resource Advisory Committee with assistance from the US Forest Service and Wallowa Resources.

- 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?:**

Wallowa Resources and the Forest Service will work together to determine measures of evaluation and monitor how well proposed projects utilize or add value to any products removed from National Forest Lands in Phase III (Implementation).

- d. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Table 1, Item 33)**  
(max. 7 lines)  
**Amount \$4,000**

**County Commissioner Concurrence**

(Majority Required per charter)

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

(See attached letter from County Commissioners)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attested by Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Priority Rating: **Wallowa County Rank #1 Project**

X High     Medium     Low

Comments/Rational: