



Forest
Service

Pacific
Southwest
Research
Station

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Route To:

Date: October 17, 2008

Subject: Green Microgrants: 2008 Awardees

To: All PSW Employees

On July 28, 2008, Acting Station Director, Beth Pendleton sent out correspondence requesting proposals to fund both *Fleet-Focused* and *General* Green Microgrants at PSW. Fleet-focused microgrants were offered to help units offset the cost of replacing a vehicle with a more fuel-efficient model. General microgrants were offered to continue to stimulate grassroots sustainable operations activities that emphasize one or more of the following areas: 1) Energy conservation/efficiency; 2) Fleet/transportation; 3) Water conservation; 4) Green purchasing; 5) Waste prevention and recycling; 6) Sustainable leadership.

We received a number of high-quality proposals that demonstrate that sustainable operations is a priority across the Station. After review of all submitted proposals, the Station has decided to fund the following microgrants:

1) *Fleet-Focused* Microgrants:

The Station received proposals from two units that wished to take advantage of fleet-focused microgrant funding.

- *Unit:* Redwood Sciences Laboratory, Arcata
 - Authors: Ted Weller, Diane Sutherland, Clara Wheeler
- *Unit:* Institute of Forest Genetics
 - Authors: Jessica Wright and Andrew Groover

Both units submitted proposals to replace a vehicle with a Ford Escape Hybrid. Both proposals will be funded.

2) *General* Microgrants:

Though the Station had originally planned to fund only 5 general microgrants, money was available to fund additional general proposals because fewer units than expected submitted fleet-focused proposals. As a result, the following seven projects have been selected for general microgrant funding:

- Title: Commuter Bicycles to Promote Fossil-Fuel-Free Commuting and Employee Fitness
 - *Proposal written by:* Christian Giardina, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry (IPIF)
 - *Synopsis:* To reduce emissions and conserve fuel, IPIF will purchase two commuter bicycles for employee use. These bicycles will be used to ride to



meetings on the University of Hawaii, Hilo campus as well as to adjacent government offices.

- Title: Lab Refrigerator Replacement: Have Your Ice Cream and Be Green Too
 - *Proposal written by:* Carol Shestak and Celeste Abbott (Redding Silviculture Lab)
 - *Synopsis:* The Redding unit uses ten outdated refrigerators to store samples and chemicals critical to research. The unit will replace three or more refrigerators with ENERGY STAR models.
- Title: Battery-Powered Lawn Trimmer/ Edger for use at the San Joaquin Experimental Range (SJER)
 - *Proposal written by:* Renee Denton (SJER)
 - *Synopsis:* To examine the effects of grazing on natural resources, experimental plots at SJER have been mowed using gasoline powered trimmers or a mower. Funds will be used to purchase a cordless, battery powered weed eater that will replace the gasoline-powered tools.
- Title: Kings River Fisher Project Remote Camera Rechargeable Batteries
 - *Proposal written by:* Jim Garner, Sierra Nevada Research Center (SNRC)
 - *Synopsis:* 40-50 battery-powered remote cameras are being used in the Kings River Project Area to monitor carnivore activity. Funds will allow for the purchase of rechargeable batteries/chargers to power cameras so as to reduce the project's battery waste.
- Title: Public Information Kiosks Constructed of Recycled Plastic For Use at SJER
 - *Proposal written by:* Renee Denton (SJER) and Doug Drynan (SNRC)
 - *Synopsis:* Public information kiosks are due to be installed at both the SJER entrance and headquarters office. Funds will be used to purchase kiosks that are made of 100% recycled plastic lumber.
- Title: Efficient Fluorescent Light Pilot Project for Fresno Forestry Sciences Laboratory
 - *Proposal written by:* Carolyn Hunsaker and Ashley Cortez (SNRC, Fresno)
 - *Synopsis:* All of the original offices and labs at the Fresno Laboratory have energy-inefficient fluorescent light fixtures. Funds will be used to replace existing ballasts and bulbs with new high-output fluorescents to reduce energy use and improve the office environment for employees.
- Title: Solar Light Retrofit and Solar Shield Radiant Barrier at IFG
 - *Proposal written by:* Annie Delfino-Mix and Joe F Brown
 - *Synopsis:* Funds will be used to purchase and install 3 solar entry-light kits and 6 solar sensor security-light kits at IFG. Additional funds will be used to purchase and install 11,000 square feet of solar shield radiant barrier in the IFG greenhouse so as to reduce energy consumption.

Authors of the projects listed above should e-mail Larry Rabin and Jackie Rountree (lrabin@fs.fed.us, jroundtree@fs.fed.us) with your RWU and proposal title to ensure that funds are available for purchases. FY09 funds will be allocated to your unit's Research job code in the coming days (see enclosure for dollar amounts). However, please keep in mind that we are operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) with very limited funds. During the CR, units will receive microgrant funds based on limits set by the CR. Full allocation of microgrant funds will occur only after a Forest Service budget is passed.

By March 31, 2008, please submit a briefing paper using the attached template that describes your completed project and its outcome. Please submit your paper to Larry Rabin (lrabin@fs.fed.us, 530-759-1722).

For those projects not funded, Larry Rabin will be calling you soon to discuss your proposal should you wish to submit it again when another round of green microgrants are funded.

I am very impressed with the progress that PSW is making in implementing sustainable operations activities. I am committed to growing these efforts as I begin my position as PSW Station Director.

/s/ DEANNA J. STOUDER
DEANNA J. STOUDER
Station Director

cc: Larry A Rabin
Imogene Holmes
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