



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salem District Office
1717 Fabry Road S.E.
Salem, Oregon 97306
<http://www.or.blm.gov/salem/>



In Reply Refer To:
1784 (OR-080)

Dear Partner in Forest Health and Watershed Restoration:

As you may be aware, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Schools Self-Determination Act of 2000 was reauthorized via Public Law (PL) 110-343 through Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 by Congress and was approved by the President. According to Section 203 of the Act, "Not later than...and each September 30 thereafter for each succeeding fiscal year...each resource advisory committee shall submit to the Secretary concerned a description of any projects that the resource advisory committee proposes the Secretary undertake using any project funds reserved by eligible counties.....". In order to meet the deadline to have projects approved by the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), I am sending out this notice to solicit full project proposals to be funded under this authority.

The bill retroactively funded Titles I, II and III of the Act for FY 2008 in addition to funding FY 2009. Consequently the Salem District Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will most likely review and recommend funding for projects for both fiscal years (A federal fiscal year is October 1 through September 30th). The Salem District RAC could be voting on projects for a combined total of up to \$3 million. We will be developing an ambitious schedule to solicit projects, review them for compliance with the resource objectives of the Act, and have the RAC vote on projects and recommend them for funding to the Salem District Manager.

To accomplish this, we are requesting that full proposals be submitted to the Salem District Office by **February 13, 2009**. A proposal form is attached. The form can also be downloaded from our web site at www.blm.gov/or/districts/salem/rac/index.php. The full project proposals should be complete with no omissions. The completed proposals should be mailed or emailed to OR_Salem_Mail@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 Section 2(C)(i-vii) of the Act which may include such projects 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 be used on BLM-administered land and on non-BLM administered land, where projects would benefit the resources on BLM-administered lands (Sec. 202).

Those proposals that meet the criteria established in the legislation will be forwarded to the Salem Resource Advisory Committee for making the final determination on which projects should be approved. The **February 13, 2009** due date for full applications and other dates in the project review process are shown on the attached schedule.

Although projects will be recommended and approved this fiscal year, there will be no guarantee that all of the dollars will be obligated during FY 2009, because of the potential increased contracting workload. Please take this into account when you make your application.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (503)375-5682 or Trish Hogervorst at (503)375-5657.

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

Sincerely,



Randy Gould
Salem District RAC
Designated Federal Official

3 Enclosures

- 1 – Project Proposal Form (5 pps)
- 2 – Project Funding Information (1 pp)
- 3 – DRAFT 2009 Schedule (1 pp)

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