



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

Contact: Aaron Voos, (307) 745-2323

USFS Accepting Natural Resource Project Proposals for Title II Funds

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) April 4, 2016 –Proposals seeking funds for local natural resource projects through the Medicine Bow-Routt Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) are due May 6, 2016.

Counties obtain finances through Title II funds of the Secure Rural Schools Act, which was reauthorized by Congress in April, 2015 for two years. This round of available funds will be the second of the two years, the first group of projects being recommended for funding at a Nov. 20, 2015 RAC meeting.

Projects will be considered for funding that enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality. This includes lands on the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forests and other near-by lands in Albany and Carbon counties in Wyoming, as well as Jackson, Rio Blanco and Routt counties in Colorado.

2015-16 Title II funds available for new projects are:
(Forest Service Fiscal Year 2015, distributed in 2016)

Albany Co., Wyo.	\$26,902
Carbon Co., Wyo.	\$43,578
Jackson Co., Colo.	\$21,857
Rio Blanco Co., Colo.	\$45,003
Routt Co., Colo.	\$29,263

Additional remaining, unallocated 2014-15 Title II funds available for new projects are:
(Forest Service Fiscal Year 2014, distributed in 2015)

Carbon Co., Wyo.	\$12,524
Jackson Co., Colo.	\$10,401

The RAC works closely with the U.S. Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit Forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources; maintain roads, trails, and other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds.

The Forest Service is accepting applications on behalf of the RAC. Please call (307) 745-2323, or email RAC Coordinator Aaron Voos at atvoos@fs.fed.us with questions or to have project proposal forms sent to you. An application form is also being included as an attachment to this press release.

Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements or by open-bid contracting with individuals and corporations. Project proposals not approved previously may be resubmitted.

The RAC will be reviewing projects for possible funding during a meeting in late May, 2016. The public is welcome to attend the RAC meetings.

The committee was established in 2009 to serve Jackson and Routt counties in Colorado, as well as Albany and Carbon counties in Wyoming. In 2011, the RAC volunteered to assist Rio Blanco County (White River National Forest) to solicit and select projects so that a separate RAC did not need to be formed.

Since inception, this RAC has approved nearly \$1,200,000 worth of funding towards various projects in the five counties.

Additional information about the Secure Rural Schools Act Title II funds and Resource Advisory Committees may be found on these websites, www.fs.usda.gov/pts/ or www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mbrtb/RAC.

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Projects recommended for funding by the RAC on Nov. 20, 2015 are as follows:

Albany Co., Wyo.

- Middle Crow Watershed Restoration – **\$6,717**
- Buford Road Decommission – **\$4,000**
- Pelton Creek Watershed Restoration– **\$5,000**
- Squirrel Creek Cheatgrass Treatment– **\$7,000**

Carbon Co., Wyo.

- East Fork of Encampment River Trail Maintenance – **\$14,500**
- FS Road 103 Maintenance – **\$18,500**

Jackson Co., Colo.

- Camp Creek Headcut Repair – **\$5,000**

Rio Blanco Co., Colo.

- Flag Creek Road Upgrade – **\$42,255**

Routt Co., Colo.

- Fish Creek Trail Maintenance – **\$2,076**
- West Rabbit Ears Wetland Restoration – **\$31,837**