



News Release

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

Contact: Aaron Voos, (307) 745-2323

USFS Now Accepting Natural Resource Project Proposals for Title II Funds

(LARAMIE, Wyo.) April 21, 2014 –Proposals seeking funds for local natural resource projects through the Medicine Bow-Routt Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) are due May 9.

The funding is provided for counties through Title II funds of the Secure Rural Schools Act, reauthorized by Congress in October 2013.

Funding is available for projects that will 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.

2013-14 Title II funds available for new projects are:

Albany Co., Wyo.	\$13,036
Carbon Co., Wyo.	\$35,072
Jackson Co., Colo.	\$4,494
Rio Blanco Co., Colo.	\$45,670
Routt Co., Colo.	\$10,369

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 Walden, Colo., in late spring or early summer. The public is welcome to attend the RAC meetings.

The following dollar amounts will be used from 2013-14 county payments in order to fund previously-approved projects, which had funds pulled back due to sequestration.

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Previously-Approved Title II Funds</u>
Watershed Health/ORV Management	Albany Co., Wyo.	\$12,959
Watershed Health/ORV Management	Carbon Co., Wyo.	\$17,058

Ellis Trail Reroute	Jackson Co., Colo.	\$12,300
Buffalo Pass Road Improvements	Routt Co., Colo.	\$30,264

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 over \$1,009,000 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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