

**2008 - 2011 Secure Rural Schools
Public Law 110-343
Title II Project Submission Form
USDA Forest Service**

San Juan National Forest Resource Advisory Committee

Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
Funding Fiscal Year(s):

2. Project Name: Upper Pine River Fire Protection District Fuels Crew

4. Project Submitted By: Chief Rich Graeber

6. Contact Phone Number: 970-884-9508

3a. State: Colorado

3b. County(s): La Plata

5. Date: June 29, 2011

**7. Contact E-mail:
rgraeber@upperpinefpd.org**

8. Project Location:

a. National Forest(s): San Juan

b. Forest Service District: Columbine

c. Location (Township-Range-Section) Upper Pine River Fire Protection District which is located in eastern La Plata County and includes the eastern end of Florida Road to Lemon Reservoir across to Vallecito Reservoir, south to Bayfield and from Bayfield east to the La Plata/Archuleta County line.

9. Project Goals and Objectives: Mitigate 500 plus acres within the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District.

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: To add 10 additional weeks funding to support our fuels crew for hazardous fuels mitigation work.

b. Detailed: We would like to supplement our existing fuels crew by adding additional crewmembers to support the overwhelming response to our mitigation efforts. The additional crewmembers, equipped with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and appropriate tools, will enhance our ability to mitigate over 500 acres we have scheduled for treatment in and around 7 high-risk subdivisions within the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District. Included are subdivisions from Florida Road to Bayfield and also east of Bayfield, all but one adjoin public lands. Due to the volume of requests for mitigation, UPFPD added 3 additional personnel, combined the one additional crewmember funded by our original request for one additional crew member we have some impressive results. In Forest Lakes subdivision we have requests to mitigate approximately 50 acres and to date we have completed 24 acres. In the Deer Valley subdivision we have requests to mitigate 40 acres and have completed 15. We have also mitigated 13 acres in the Heartwood subdivision. We continue to receive many requests for local mitigation and our crews are working hard to respond to the large volume of requests. In addition to our local mitigation efforts our crews have responded to wild land fires when requested throughout the Southwest and beyond.

Many of the local properties contain stands of dense vegetation that will benefit greatly from some thinning, and also beetle-killed trees. This project has already made a positive impact on resident and

firefighter safety, the protection of subdivision infrastructure, and has reduced the likelihood of a devastating wildfire, as well as improved overall forest health. In addition, all crew members will be red-carded certified and available to respond to wildfires within the area.

11. Types of Lands Involved? Private forested lands in and around subdivisions located within the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District.

State/Private/Other lands involved? Yes No

Land Status: Private

If Yes, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.

Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.

Restores and improves land health.

Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

Road Maintenance

Trail Maintenance

Road Decommission/Obliteration

Trail Obliteration

Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): Project will help protect roads, water sources, and telecommunications and other infrastructure within the subdivisions.

Soil Productivity Improvement

Forest Health Improvement

Watershed Restoration & Maintenance

Wildlife Habitat Restoration

Fish Habitat Restoration

Control of Noxious Weeds

Reestablish Native Species

Fuels Management/Fire Prevention

Implement CWPP Project

Other Project Type (specify):

b. Primary Purpose (select only 1):

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish

Miles of road maintained:

Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:

Number of structures maintained/improved: **600-900 within 7 subdivisions**

Acres of soil productivity improved:

Miles of stream/river restored/improved:

Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:

Acres of native species reestablished:
Acres of hazardous fuel treatment: approximately 500 acres
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trail obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction): approximately 500 acres
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved:
Acres of noxious weeds controlled:
Timber volume generated (mbf):
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty hour weeks: .23
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention): approx. 2000-2500
Direct economic activity benefit:
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date:

The existing crew will start work in April 2011; the additional crew member would start when funding becomes available.

16. Estimated Project Completion Date: Fall 2011

17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities. The Colorado State Forest Service and San Juan Public Lands Center are providing technical support and expertise in the form of home assessments and fire behavior information as needed, and FireWise of Southwest Colorado is providing educational information and support as well as a signage program for demonstration sites within subdivisions.

18. Identify benefits to communities. Communities are becoming more aware of their wildfire risk and what can be done to mitigate that risk. They are also becoming better acquainted with their local fire department and the needs of firefighters (i.e. adequate turnarounds for trucks, need for better visibility along roads for large trucks, etc.). Investments in existing infrastructure will be protected through the mitigation work. Mitigation work also increases the value of homes and property. Upper Pine River FPD and its partners are working hard to get residents to understand their personal responsibility for reducing wildfire risk when they live within the wildland-urban interface.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources? The 7 subdivisions that have signed on as participants to date all but one adjoin San Juan National Forest Lands, BLM or State lands. Proper mitigation of the private lands will reduce the chances of a structure or other unwanted fire spreading to the adjoining public lands. It will also make it safer for firefighters who might be dealing with a wildfire on public lands if the fire were to spread towards the private lands.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input type="checkbox"/> YCC/CCC Crews
<input type="checkbox"/> Job Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Merchantable Timber Pilot	X <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): Upper Pine River Fire Protection District personnel

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber? Yes X No

22. Anticipated Project Costs

a. Title II Funds Requested: \$6,000

b. Is this a multi-year funding request? X Yes No The FPD will continue to seek funds to support the fuels crew until mitigation is completed in and around at-risk subdivisions within the fire district.

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding: The Upper Pine River FPD received a Community Assistance grant from the BLM for \$50,000 in Aug. 2010 to fund the 6-person fuels crew. Homeowners are being asked to provide a 25-50% cost-share on the proposed mitigation work.

24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.
- b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:
- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

X Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.

Other, please explain:

Project Recommended By:

/s/ (INSERT Signature)

Chairperson

Resource Advisory Committee

Project Approved By:

/s/ (INSERT Signature)

Forest Supervisor

National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal in consultation with Forest Service staff

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation				
g. Contract/Grant Administration				
h. Contract/Grant Cost				
i. Salaries		\$6,000		
j. Materials & Supplies				
k. Monitoring				
l. Other				
1.				
2, Partner Indirect Cost				
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
Total Cost Estimate		\$6,000		

NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.

Monitoring Plan

Upper Pine River Fire Protection District Fuels Crew

Note: This monitoring plan describes monitoring that will be done for the overall fuels-reduction effort that the Upper Pine River FPD is conducting. There is no specific monitoring for the addition of one crew member.

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.

The project manager for the fuels crew will track information about each property treated, including the year of treatment, treatment method, and acreage. This information will be entered into Upper Pine's Red Zone database. In addition, HOAs or homeowners will be given a proposed maintenance schedule that will include suggestions for yearly maintenance and anticipated retreatment schedule.

Records will also be kept showing how many fires the crew assisted on and how many/which homeowners agreed to have "This Home has Defensible Space" or "Mitigation Demonstration Site" signs posted in their yards.

Upper Pine will also work with local media to get articles published about the work the fuels crew is doing, the benefits of that work, and how subdivisions/homeowners can participate in the program. The fire department, FireWise Council, and other partners will also provide tours to the mitigated areas to help with education efforts as often as possible.

- b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:

Upper Pine River Fire Chief Rich Graeber and Fuels Specialist and Crew Leader Travis Wright will conduct the monitoring.

CSFS District Forester Kent Grant will conduct periodic inspections of the work to make sure it is meeting State Forest Service guidelines, as outlined in CSFS Publication 6.302.

Monitoring of the sign program will be conducted by the Colorado State Forest Service and FireWise of Southwest Colorado.

- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

We are not requesting funding for monitoring for this portion of the project which is just the addition of one additional crew member.