

NEWS RELEASE



SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTHWEST RAC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: **February 3, 2014**

MEDIA CONTACT: **Brian Harris**
PHONE: **208-634-0784**

Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee to Accept Proposals for 2014

The Southwest Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will be accepting proposals for review and consideration for funding for Fiscal Year 2014. The proposal deadline is March 14, 2014.

“The RAC will be very busy over the next few months because they have about \$600,000 to award for 2014,” said Payette National Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom. “RAC participation enables local county residents to have a meaningful role in deciding how federal funds are spent on public lands.” A series of meetings and proposal deadlines have been established by the RAC. The funds are available through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act, which was reauthorized by Congress for one year.

RAC-funded projects must be located on National Forest System Lands in Adams, Boise, Elmore, Gem, Valley, and Washington counties, or on nearby lands if the project will benefit resources on the National Forests. Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements, or by open-bid contracting with individuals and corporations. The RAC works closely with the Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources; maintains roads, trails and other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds.

The Southwest Idaho RAC covers the Payette and Boise National Forests and the Fairfield Ranger District on the Sawtooth National Forest, and the Middle Fork District on the Salmon-Challis National Forest.

Applications for RAC proposals can be obtained at <http://www.idahorac.org/category/southwestidaho/>, or from the Designated Federal Official (DFO) Kim Pierson at New Meadows Ranger District, P.O. Box J, New Meadows, ID 83654. Pierson can also be reached via e-mail at kpierson@fs.fed.us, or phone at 208 -347-0301.

Potential project sponsors should contact local Forest Service offices to obtain information that may be needed for a proposal, including a Forest Service contact, and to ensure proper agreements and paperwork are completed that will enable the project sponsor to obtain funding if approved by the RAC. Projects must include a letter of support from the County Commissioners in those counties

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where the project is proposed. Selected project sponsors may be asked to make a 20 minute presentation to the Southwest Idaho RAC on April 17th. Times and locations will be assigned by the DFO.

RAC meetings are scheduled as follows. Meetings will be held at the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center, 3188 Sunset Peak Road, Boise, Idaho on April 4, 2014 and the Idaho Water Center, Classroom 156, 322 E. Front Street, Boise, Idaho on April 17, 2014. Meetings are always open to the public.

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>WHAT IS DUE?</u>	<u>RAC MEETINGS AND TOPICS</u>
March 14, 2014	2014 Proposals	
April 4, 2014	<i>Proposal Clarifications if requested</i>	RAC Meeting - Proposal review and initial approval.
April 17, 2014	<i>Presentation if requested</i>	Proposal Presentations to the RAC, Final approval of recommendations.

Completed applications must be received in hardcopy form on or before the March 14, 2014 deadline. Mail completed proposals to Kim Pierson, New Meadows Ranger District, P. O. Box J, New Meadows, Idaho, 83654.

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