

Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act
Reauthorized by Public Law 115-141
Title II Project Submission Form
USDA Forest Service

Prince William Sound

Resource Advisory Committee

Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):

Funding Fiscal Year(s): 2022-2023

2. Project Name: Heney Ridge Trail Deferred Maintenance Project	3a. State: Alaska 3b. County(s): Valdez/Cordova
4. Project Submitted By: David Zastrow	5. Date: 09/22/2021
6. Contact Phone Number: 907-419-8264	7. Contact E-mail: david.zastrow@usda.gov

8. Project Location: Heney Ridge Trail, beginning at mile 5 of Whitshed Road	
a. National Forest(s): Chugach National Forest	b. Forest Service District: Cordova Ranger District
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) T16S R4W Sections 1 & 12; T16S R3W Sections 6 & 7	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: Complete deferred* maintenance on Heney Ridge Trail through the removal of corduroy structures (logs placed perpendicular to the direction of trail), replacement of stair structures, and addition of drainage structures to meet Forest Service National Quality Standards. Reduce erosion into streams used for pink (humpy) salmon spawning along the route by improving the function of trail structures. Reduce public safety hazards by replacing structures that have exceeded their life span and improve the quality of trail to reduce annual maintenance costs. Additionally, create temporary jobs and build the technical skills of a temporary workforce composed of local residents and young adults through agreements with Student Conservation Association (SCA) and other local organizations. Title II funding leverages Great American Outdoors Act funds and declining appropriations to meet deferred maintenance and restoration targets that otherwise could not be met.

** Definition of deferred trail maintenance: trail maintenance beyond annually scheduled basic maintenance. Deferred maintenance includes trail tread and structure repair, replacement, and decommissioning.*

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: (*in one sentence*)
Remove and replace degrading structures and reconstruct trail tread to improve trail condition.

b. Detailed:
This project will significantly reduce a backlog of deferred maintenance on Heney Ridge Trail and bring it up to Forest Service National Quality Standards. There are 40 corduroy structures and 76 stair structures along this trail which are over two decades old. Many of these structures have reached the end of their life span. Prescribed deferred maintenance includes disassembling corduroy and replacing

with low-maintenance and long-lasting step-and-run boardwalk; replacing 41 stair structures, completing deferred maintenance on 10 stair structures and removing 9 stair structures; replacing 18 drainage features with longer-lasting rock features, completing deferred maintenance on 20 drainage structures and installing at least 16 drainage structures where needed. The prescribed tasks will restore trail to original specifications by reducing hazards, significantly reducing susceptibility to erosion, and lowering annual maintenance needs. Additionally, improved trail tread will facilitate hikers to stay on the designated trail and reduce the number of user-created trails which compact the forest floor and increase the likeliness of erosion.

This project will be completed over the course of two years, allowing major deferred maintenance repairs to take place coincidentally with annual maintenance needs across the Cordova Ranger District trail system:

- Year 1: mile 0.3-2.3 comprised of a significant number of deteriorating stairs and corduroy with primary work to be completed on steps and staircases
- Year 2: mile 2.3-4.2 (end of trail) including the construction of boardwalk and drainage

11. Types of Lands Involved?

State/Private/Other lands involved? Yes No

Land Status:

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)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): Corduroy, stair, and drainage structures replacement/repair. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Fuels Management/Fire Prevention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Implement CWPP Project | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify): |

b. Primary Purpose (select only 1 from above): **Trail Deferred Maintenance**

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish
Miles of road maintained:
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:
Number of structures maintained/improved: 154 corduroy, stair, and drainage structures.
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
Miles of trail maintained: 3.9 miles
Miles of trail obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction):
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: 0.7 FTE
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention):
Direct economic activity benefit: Benefits Cordova community financially from improved visitor experience recreating on NF while staying in hotels, purchasing food/supplies. Additionally, provides job creation directly tied to the execution of the project through contractors, local unemployed workers, and young adult employment.
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 5/1/2022	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 9/30/2023
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17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

We will be working with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) and Chugach Children’s Forest (CCF). The collaborative opportunity in working with youth conservation programs is to provide educational and service opportunities for a future work force. These intern opportunities focus on youth development and natural resource management education.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will address public safety while providing recreation opportunities for hiking and backcountry access for the community of Cordova. Additionally, this project will provide job opportunities for local unemployed workers including the use of seasonal and youth employment

programs that offer a positive growth experience for college-age adults and local community youth that ultimately carries over into their daily lives and their attitudes about public lands. This opportunity will teach job skills to younger community residents and expose them to a wider spectrum of career possibilities.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?

This project directly helps the Cordova Ranger District maintain recreation travel routes in a safe condition. In addition, well-maintained recreation trails without an excessive backlog of deferred maintenance tasks reduces susceptibility to erosion and impact to resources.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input checked="" 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): SCA Corps Crew and Interns

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber? Yes No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: \$71,000.00
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:

The Cordova Ranger District received partial funding for this project through the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA). GAOA funds will be used to leverage Secure Rural Schools Title 2 funds to complete the deferred maintenance work required to bring the Heney Ridge Trail back to national quality standards.

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.

Deferred maintenance task progress and accomplishments will be tracked and monitored through a national trail condition survey and accomplishment reporting system (TRACS). A pre-project trail survey was performed to determine the deferred maintenance needs. Once the project begins, work crews will report biweekly on their progress to the Trails Program Coordinator and Developed Recreation Program Coordinator verbally and using a daily diary format. The Trail Coordinator will be overseeing and directing all on-site work as well as monitoring. A post-project accomplishment survey will be conducted upon completion of the project and recorded in the USDA Forest Service database NRM/I-Web. This database is used to track and monitor annual maintenance, deferred maintenance and other information for all National Forest System Trails. The use of youth organizations is monitored and tracked through both the NRM/I-Web and other databases. These databases are used to administer agreements, track funding and report accomplishments. The district Developed Recreation Program Coordinator is the data steward and will keep all information updated. The Trails Coordinator

will be the contact person for SCA interns and will establish agreements, organize the work projects, and schedule training/education opportunities.

b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:

The Cordova Ranger District Developed Recreation Program Coordinator and Trails Coordinator

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:

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

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriate d Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys	1000			
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation	500			
g. Contract/Grant Administration	500			
h. Contract/Grant Cost				
i. Salaries	1000	49000		
j. Materials & Supplies		22000		
k. Monitoring	500			
l. Other: Partner Indirect Cost			7000	
l. Other: Great American Outdoors Act			48000	
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
Total Cost Estimate	3500	71000	55000	129500

NOTES :

Col. A: FS costs incurred as part of proposal implementation. Coordinate with FS to identify any FS cost for items in Col. A.

Col. B: Title II funding requested to implement the proposal.

Col. C: Matching funds being contributed by proponent or third parties. Proposals funded with a Participating Agreement will require a minimum 20% match.

Col. D: Sum of columns A, B, and C for each individual row.

Row A: Costs associated with project planning, not project implementation, such as assessment of miles of trail needing maintenance. Assessments and planning needed to develop a specific proposal. For Col. B: proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission.

Rows B, C, D, and E: cost associated with environmental compliance and project design. Proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission.

Row G: Costs associated with preparation of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal. Contracts used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row G: Costs associated with administration of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal.

Row H: Estimated value of any contracts/agreements used to implement proposal. Contracts/agreements used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row I: Cost of salaries to implement project

Row L: Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.

Row K: Costs associated with performing monitoring described in Items 24a, 24b, and 24c. Amounts should be similar between Item 24 and Row K.


Row N: Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.

Trail Information:


The first section of trail follows the contour of Hartney Bay and offers excellent birdwatching and wildlife spotting opportunities. Spawning salmon may also be viewed from mid-July to August. The next two miles climb moderately through spruce-hemlock forest and muskeg areas scattered with wildflowers.

Once on the ridge hikers are treated to spectacular views of the Copper River Delta, Prince William Sound and Kayak Island (on clear days). Many unique wooden structures assist hikers with traversing the varied terrain. The trail is muddy and wet in places, especially after heavy rain. The last mile of Heney Ridge Trail is a steep climb following rock cairns above the treeline. Spectacular views can be seen from many locations along the trail.

Motorized vehicles are prohibited year-round on Heney Ridge Trail to prevent excessive soil erosion and provide a safer, more desirable foot trail for hikers.



HENEY RIDGE TRAIL



Cordova Ranger District

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Length (one-way): 3.7 miles

Trip Time (one-way): 2.5 hours

Elevation Gain: 1800 feet


Recommended Season of Use:
Summer, Fall

Public Use: Medium

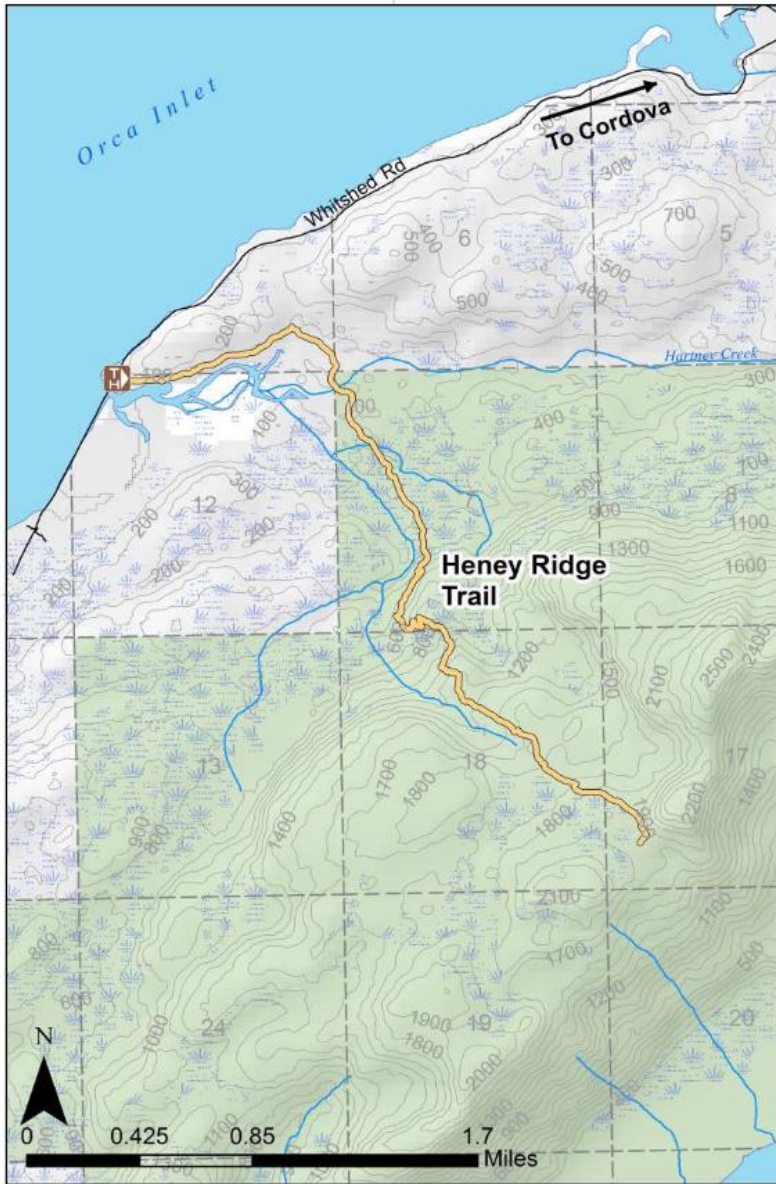
Condition: Good

Accessibility:
Via Whitshed Road at mile 5.1.
Trailhead is on east side of road near Hartney Bay.

USGS Map: Cordova B5 & C5




Users: 

Revised 3/2018



0 0.425 0.85 1.7 Miles

Legend

-  Trailhead
-  Forest Service Trail
-  Road

