

**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):

2. Project Name: Shrode Lake Trail Restoration	3a. State: Alaska 3b. County(s):
4. Project Submitted By: Prince William Sound Stewardship Foundation	5. Date: 9/30/21
6. Contact Phone Number: 310-663-6679	7. Contact E-mail: info@princewilliamsound.org

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): Chugach NF	b. Forest Service District: Glacier Ranger District
c. Location (Township-Range-Section)	

<p>9. Project Goals and Objectives:</p> <p>Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restore the existing Shrode Lake Trail over a three-year period using citizen volunteer participation. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restore and enhance recreational access to the Shrode Lake basin. ○ Provide and enhance recreational opportunity in areas away from PWS shorelines that can possibly be affected by Barry Arm or other landslide/tsunami risks. Shrode Lake and other areas away from shorelines can attract visitors who may be staying away from the western Sound due to uncertainty surrounding Barry Arm landslide risks. ○ Take pressure off of other lands where avoidance of Barry Arm/NW PWS has led to increased visitation and resource damage, such as areas in Port Nellie Juan. ○ Support public use opportunities, including recreation, subsistence, hunting, fishing, hiking, solitude, and camping. ○ Support the PWS recreation/tourism economy. ○ Perform work that helps restore conditions in the Nellie Juan-College Fiord Wilderness Study Area, which remains an Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council injured resource. ○ Enhance opportunities for the Chugach National Forest to showcase public use opportunities in the spectacular Shrode Lake basin.

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: (*in one sentence*)

PWS Stewardship Foundation will work in partnership with the Chugach National Forest to restore the Shrode Lake Trail and associated spurs over a three-year period, improving safe access to a popular national forest recreation area.

b. Detailed:

The Shrode Lake Trail is among the most popular national forest system trails in the Wilderness Study Area of western Prince William Sound. It stretches approximately three miles from Three Finger Cove (Cochrane Bay) to Long Bay (Culross Passage), providing a rare connector route between two distinct PWS waterways. It provides access to Shrode Lake, Shrode Creek, and the Forest Service's Shrode Lake public use cabin. Within only 400 feet of elevation gain, the trail passes through ancient spruce-hemlock rainforest, open bogs, and subalpine meadows full of wildflowers. It offers exceptional solitude, scenery, hiking, camping, packrafting, and fishing for salmon and dolly varden. It is also among the most popular areas in western PWS for both cross-country and alpine skiing, making the trail an all-season recreation opportunity that creates both summer and off-season revenue for businesses in gateway communities such as Whittier. In short, the Shrode Trail is a jewel of the national forest trail system in PWS.

In recent years, overgrown brush, fallen trees, erosion, and damage to boardwalk and bridges have degraded the Shrode Lake Trail. The trailhead sign at Long Bay has rotted and fallen over, and thick overgrowth consisting of salmonberry, blueberry, ferns, and alder have made the trail wet and impassable in areas. By midsummer each year, the overgrowth presents a deterrent to travel, from both comfort and safety standpoints. Safety issues include loss of identifiable tread and limited visibility in an area near a salmon stream frequented by black bears. Additionally, the damage to boardwalks and bridges lead to streamside erosion and impacts to sensitive wetland vegetation. Combined, the conditions have adversely affected recreational access and enjoyment, which may also curtail economic benefit for water taxis and others.

Chugach National Forest trail managers have been unable to keep up with maintenance on the Shrode Lake Trail in the face of demands from other work nearer to the Glacier District road system. PWS weather and the cost of water taxi transportation have created additional barriers to maintenance.

The PWS Stewardship Foundation proposes to use its volunteer resources, in partnership with Chugach NF trail managers, to restore and enhance the Shrode Lake Trail over a three-year period. The work will entail:

- Removing/uprooting brush from the trail corridor (2022)
- Clearing fallen trees (2022)
- Replacing Shrode Lake Trail sign in Long Bay (2022)
- Restoring tread where it has disappeared or eroded over an aggregate of approximately 1 mile (2022-2023)
- Repairing bridges (2023-2024)
- Replacing boardwalk (2023-2024)

The PWS Stewardship Foundation is well positioned to accomplish this work. In recent years the Foundation has worked with the Chugach National Forest to re-open sections of the trail by annually brushing vegetation along limited areas. This has been done with volunteer labor and coordination by the Foundation's executive

committee, at very little cost to the Forest Service. But while the work has temporarily improved conditions, it has not restored the trail to Class I standard or reopened the entire route. The tread, boardwalk, and bridges remain in poor condition across broad areas. With RAC investment, the Foundation would be able to commit the time, recruitment, materials, and expertise from additional partners to restore the entire trail to Class I standard.

Among the Chugach National Forest’s other in-kind contributions, the Forest Service will make the Shrode Lake Cabin available to volunteer crews during each summer’s restoration project.

11. Types of Lands Involved?
State/Private/Other lands involved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Land Status: State of Alaska has jurisdiction on navigable waterways, including Shrode Lake.
If Yes, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restores and improves land health.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration
<input checked="" 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 Maintenance	

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish
Miles of road maintained:
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:

Number of structures maintained/improved: 9 sections of boardwalk and bridges will be restored/improved
Acres of soil productivity improved: 1
Miles of stream/river restored/improved: <1
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved: <1
Acres of native species reestablished:
Acres of hazardous fuel treatment
Miles of trail maintained: 3
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:
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention):
Direct economic activity benefit: Overgrowth, downed trees, and damaged boardwalk, signs, and bridges adversely impact safe and enjoyable use of the trail, fishing opportunities, and reservations at the public use cabin. Restoration of the trail has the direct benefit of attracting increased public awareness and use, which brings economic benefit to water taxis, outfitters, and others in gateway communities such as Whittier.
Other:

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 7/15/2022	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 7/15/2024
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17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

PWS Stewardship Foundation has partnered with the Chugach National Forest in the area. Other partnership opportunities include outreach to Alaska Trails, Alaska Geographic, Student Conservation Association, and Alaska Native communities/other interests in the PWS region.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

When trails or other infrastructure fall into disrepair, PWS residents and visitors alike lose opportunities to enjoy national forest public lands. This also decreases the number of locations that residents and visitors request transport to by local water taxis. As a result, outfitters and other ancillary businesses lose revenue opportunities. Restoring the Shrode Lake Trail improves public access,

encourages use and enjoyment of national forest lands, and fuels economic activity for water taxi and ancillary services in gateway communities and beyond.

Additionally, in recent years uncertainty about a possible Barry Arm landslide has created trepidation about visitation to some areas of PWS. Restoring the Shrode Lake Trail offers a renewed opportunity in an area far from landslide/tsunami risks and may attract visitors wishing to capitalize on recreation sites away from ocean waters.

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

Accomplishing this work would improve recreational experience, improve access to the Forest Service public use cabin, support water taxis and other local businesses, and provide opportunities for the Chugach National Forest to outreach to the public about the area’s recreational opportunities. It would also benefit wildlife by creating more visibility for hikers in bear habitat and improve the condition of soils, streams, and vegetation currently affected by erosion.

Additionally, in recent years uncertainty about a possible Barry Arm landslide has created trepidation about visitation to some areas in PWS and has concentrated public use in areas away from the Harriman Fiord area. Chugach National Forest staff observe increased use in other areas, sometimes to the point of degrading solitude and other experiences. Restoring the Shrode Lake Trail offers a renewed opportunity for public use and enjoyment in an area that is far removed from Barry Arm, which can help spread out use as the public continues to react to possible landslide impacts.

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 checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber? Yes No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: \$24,108.00 to be spent over three years
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:

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:

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

Budget Description

Row A Field Surveys

- PWSSF requesting \$1,800.00 for 3 days/year of program coordinator for trail assessment field trips.
- Chugach National Forest provides in-kind contribution of \$4,200.00 for 3 days annually each for GS 9 recreation planner and GS 7 WSA/trails specialist for pre- and post-season visits to assess conditions and annual needs.

Row E Project Design

- Chugach National Forest provides in-kind contribution of \$6,000.00 for GS 9 recreation planner project design.

Row I Salaries

- PWSSF requesting \$9,000.00 for 15 days/year of program coordinator for volunteer recruitment, partnership development, and project implementation.
- Chugach National Forest provides \$15,000.00 for 10 days/year of GS-7 and 5 days of GS-9 for project implementation

Row J Materials and Supplies

PWSSF requesting:

- \$6,000.00 for water taxi to transport volunteer crews to/from Shrode Lake Trail from Whittier.
- \$2,250.00 for tools and camping supplies
- \$1,875.00 for field per diem (5 volunteers for 5 days each year)

Chugach National Forest provides in-kind materials and supplies support through:

- \$3,000.00 vessel and fuel costs for site visits and field work.
- \$6,000.00 costs for boardwalk, signs, hardware, other trail supplies
- \$2,400.00 for field per diem for FS staff field work and site visits
- \$1,050.00 in-kind contribution of Shrode Lake Cabin reservation costs to make cabin available to crews.

Row K Monitoring

- PWSSF requesting \$600.00 for 1 day/year for monitoring
- Chugach National Forest provides in-kind contribution of \$2,400.00 for monitoring.

Row L Indirect Costs

- 12% indirect cost rate = \$2,583.00 for tunnel fees, overhead, transportation and equipment rental

Worksheet Shrode Lake Trail

Item	<i>Column A</i> Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	<i>Column B</i> Requested Title II Contribution	<i>Column C</i> Other Contributions	<i>Column D</i> Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys	\$4,200.00	\$1,800.00		\$6,000.00
b. NEPA/CEQA				
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering	\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00
f. Contract/Grant Preparation				
g. Contract/Grant Administration				
h. Contract/Grant Cost				
i. Salaries	\$15,000.00	\$9,000.00		\$24,000.00
j. Materials & Supplies	\$12,450.00	\$10,125.00		\$22,575.00
k. Monitoring	\$2,400.00	\$600.00		\$3,000.00
l. Other ex. Partner Indirect Cost		\$2,583.00		\$2,583.00
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
Total Cost Estimate	\$40,050.00	\$24,108.00		\$64,158

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet 1

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

NOTES :

Version: October 2019

FS Agreement No. 22-CS-11100400-030

Modification 002

Exhibit: D

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.