

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: Sand Trail Deferred Maintenance Project | 3a. State: Alaska 3b. County(s): Valdez/Cordova |
| 4. Project Submitted By: David Zastrow | 5. Date: 09/28/2021 |
| 6. Contact Phone Number: 907-419-8264 | 7. Contact E-mail: david.zastrow@usda.gov |

| | |
|--|---|
| 8. Project Location: Sand Trail begins at mile 9.5 of the Copper River Highway east of Cordova, Alaska. | |
| a. National Forest(s): Chugach National Forest | b. Forest Service District: Cordova Ranger District |
| c. Location (Township-Range-Section) T16S R2W Section 2 | |

9. Project Goals and Objectives: Complete deferred* maintenance on Sand Trail through constructing turnpike, improving fords and minor bridges, repair rock barriers to prevent damage to streambanks and vegetation in critical fish habitat, and addition of drainage structures to meet Forest Service National Quality Standards. This project will reduce erosion into streams used for Silver (Coho) salmon rearing and spawning along the route by improving the function of trail structures. This project will also 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, the project will 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), other local organizations, and local contractors. 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:
Sand Trail begins at mile 9.5 of the Copper River Highway and follows parts of the Scott River and Ibeck Creek North to the face of Scott Glacier. This trail provides public access to public lands in the

Scott Glacier/Ibeck Creek drainage. Ibeck drainage supports one of the largest Coho salmon runs on the Copper River Delta. This large and diverse drainage also supports a variety of multiple use activities for the rural fishing community of Cordova as well as visitors to the area. These uses include heavy sport and subsistence fishing, subsistence moose hunting in fall, brown and black bear hunting in spring, trapping, ice-skating, cross country skiing, snowmobile use providing access to the glaciers of the Chugach Mountain range, and recreation and subsistence OHV use.

Deferred maintenance work will be completed along the entire 12-mile Sand Trail, which is the only managed OHV route on Cordova Ranger District and meanders through scenic Scott Glacier Valley, an important area for a recreational and subsistence uses. See attached map for detailed project locations and associated Trail Management Objectives. Project work will be completed in partnership with a Student Conservation Association (SCA) Corps Team under an existing Master Agreement under the guidance of Forest Service employees. All deferred maintenance will occur within the existing trail corridor. Deferred maintenance tasks along this route include:

- Reestablish sight lines by clearing trail corridor.
- Construct turnpike and improve trail tread through the addition of aggregate.
- Improve fords and minor bridges.
- Replace route markers and signage.
- Repair rock barriers to prevent damage to streambanks and vegetation in critical fish habitat.
- Complete annual trail maintenance tasks such as brushing and improving trail 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): Repair and replace existing trail bridges and stream Fords | |
| <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 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 Deferred Maintenance | |

| |
|---|
| 14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish |
| Miles of road maintained: |
| Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated: |
| Number of structures maintained/improved: See attachment |
| 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: 12 |
| 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: 05/01/2022 | 16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 09/30/2023 |
|--|---|

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 and subsistence opportunities for OHV 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 and subsistence travel route in a safe condition. In addition, well-maintained public 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce | <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): |

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber? Yes No

| |
|--|
| 22. Anticipated Project Costs |
| a. Title II Funds Requested: \$80,000.00 |
| 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 Sand 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 | 55000 | | |
| j. Materials & Supplies | | 25000 | | |
| k. Monitoring | 500 | | | |
| l. Other: Partner Indirect Cost (SCA) | | | 34290 | |
| l. Other: Great American Outdoors Act | | | 65000 | |
| m. Project Sub-Total | | | | |
| n. FS Indirect Costs | | | | |
| Total Cost Estimate | 3500 | 80000 | 99290 | 182790 |

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.

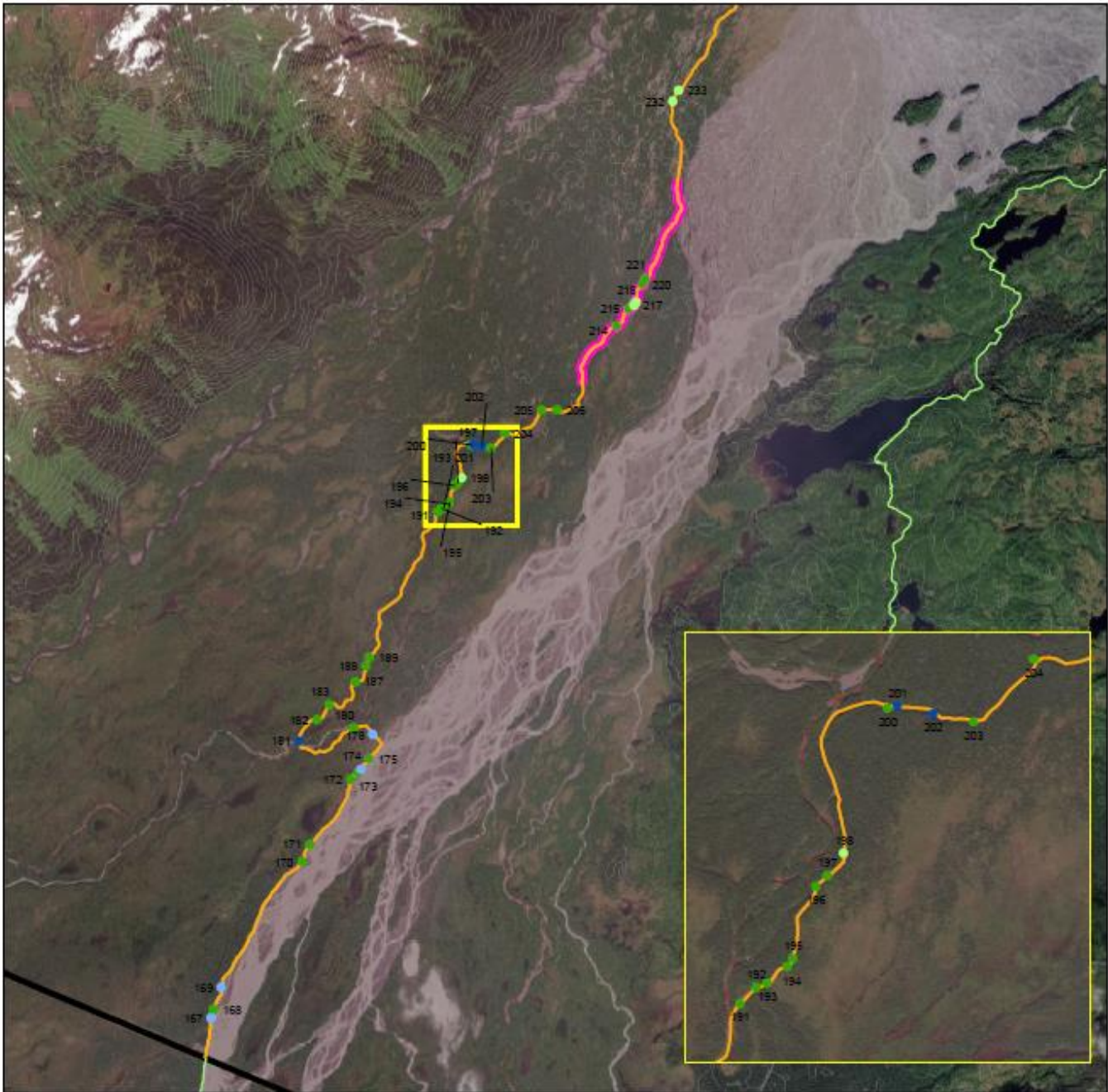
Row K: Costs associated with performing monitoring described in Items 24a, 24b, and 24c. Amounts should be similar between Item 24 and Row K.

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



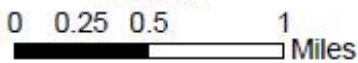
Sand Trail Resurfacing

Exhibit 2 Gravel Waypoints



Authorization Information

Project Purpose: Gravel Waypoints
 Exhibit Number: Exhibit 2
 Ranger District: Cordova Ranger District
 Township/Range: T14-16S, R1-2W
 Meridian: Copper River Meridian
 Scale: 1:40,000



Disclaimer

The USDA Forest Service makes no warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the data displayed on this map, and reserves the right to correct, update, modify, or replace this information without notification.

Legend

- Sand Trail
- Other Trails
- Side Roads
- Copper River Highway
- Work Needed**
- Bridge
- Fill
- Improve Ford
- Turnpike
- █ Grading Area

Chugach National Forest Boundary



Map Author: Brandon Boxier, Map Creation Date: 10/20/2020