AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

AgendaTitle:

Action Requested: County Manager Signature

Parties to the Agreement: CO Department of Agriculture & Gunnison County Weed Management Program

Term Begins: May 1, 2015 **Term Ends:** 10/1/2015 **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:
This is a grant request for $3300 to help the Quartz Creek Property Owners Association with re-vegetation and noxious weed control.

Fiscal Impact: $3300 grant request

Submitted by: Jon Mugglestone **Submitter's Email Address:** jmugglestone@hotmail.com

Finance Review: (●) Required ( ) Not Required

Comments:

If awarded, will add to the 2015 budget

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\lNienhueser Discharge Date: 1/7/2015

County Attorney Review: ( ) Required (●) Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required Yes ( ) No ( )

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 1/7/2015

(●) Consent Agenda ( ) Regular Agenda ( ) Worksession Time Allotted:

Agenda Date: 1/13/2015 Follow Up Agenda Date:

Revised April 2013

STATE OF COLORADO

Department of Agriculture
Noxious Weed Management Program
305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021
Tel: (303)869-9030 Fax: (303) 466-2860
www.colorado.gov/ag/weeds

OFFICE USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Reviewed by _____ Date _____

U.S. Forest Service State & Private Forestry Grant Application

Important: Before completing this application form, please read the instructions in the RFP.
Form Must Be Opened In Adobe Reader or Pro In Order To Save Responses

Project Name	Quartz Creek Properties Reclamation and Noxious Weed Control Project				
Project Manager/ Contact	Jon Mugglestone				
Organization	Gunnison County Weed Management Program				
Address	PO Box 915				
City	Gunnison	State	CO	Zip Code	81230
Phone Number	9706414393	Fax Number	9706418563		
Email	jmugglestone@gunnisoncounty.org				

Project Overview

Proposed Start Date (*click in box to use drop down calendar*)	May 1, 2015	Proposed End Date (*click in box to use drop down calendar*)	Oct 1, 2015	Grant Request Amount (*no $ or, e.g. 12345*)	**$3,300**

Brief Description of Project
(one paragraph synopsis of the abstract)

The Quartz Creek Properties is a 4000 acre subdivision comprised of 399 privately owned mining claims bordering National Forest just outside of the town of Pitkin, Colorado. Property access within the subdivision is provided by 52 miles of narrow and, at times, rough gravel roads which are best navigated by 4 wheel drive vehicles and, in winter, snowmobiles. In response to Pitkin and Gunnison Emergency Services' reports of difficulty accessing properties within the neighborhood, the Quartz Creek Property Owners Association is undertaking a road-widening and improvement project during 2014 and 2015 to ensure residents have timely access to fire and ambulance services. This project will entail widening and grading of roads within the subdivision. While the presence of state-listed noxious weeds is currently minimal within the subdivision and on adjacent National Forest lands, noxious weed problems adjacent to the subdivision are relatively severe, with numerous small to large infestations List B species (oxeye daisy, houndstongue, yellow toadflax, scentless chamomile, wild caraway, Dalmatian toadflax and Canada thistle and spotted knapweed) occurring within one quarter to five miles of the subdivision. Since the subdivision roads are heavily-traveled, both by residents and recreational users accessing the adjacent National Forest, we are aware that there exists a potential for the introduction of these and other noxious weeds. While the Gunnison County Weed Management Program and Quartz Creek POA monitor the subdivision regularly to ensure noxious weeds are controlled, we believe the large-scale soil disturbance associated with road widening significantly increases the possibility that noxious weeds may be introduced to the subdivision and adjacent National Forest lands. Successful reclamation of soil disturbances associated with road-widening with a USFS-approved seed mix, followed by diligent monitoring and rapid treatment of noxious weeds within the Quartz Creek subdivision will ensure that the spread of noxious weeds is prevented. We are requesting $3300 for professional reclamation of 5 acres of soil disturbances associated with widening 2 miles of roadways within the subdivision during the 2015 growing season. For 5 years following the reclamation work, the Quartz Creek Property Owners Association, with assistance from the Gunnison County Weed Management Program, will implement and fund a rigorous noxious weed monitoring and treatment program to ensure that colonization and spread of noxious weeds is prevented within the subdivision and adjacent National

Forest lands. Total project cost is estimated to be $4000. We are requesting $3300 in grant funds to partially cover the cost of contracted re-seeding, with Quartz Creek Property Owners Association covering the remaining $700 in cash expenses. The Gunnison County Weed Management Program will provide $2600 in in-kind services, including staff time and equipment use for follow-up noxious weed monitoring and treatments.

In the table below, please enter the species and total acres proposed for treatment in this grant. Don't worry about density, gross acres is fine. You can add as many rows as you need.

Species *(common name)*	List	Private Land	Local Gov't	State (CPW)	State (SLB)	National Forest	BLM	NPS	Other Federal	Tribal
Please see project background description below	List B eradicate									
	ACRE TOTALS									

Project Evaluation Criteria

The fields below will expand to fit the amount of text entered. However you must tab (or click) out of the box for it to expand and fully display the text entered.

Describe the background of the project, including the history of the infestation/s. This history may include: when found, treatment/s to date, state weed funds used thus far, other funds used (private, local, other state, federal).

We view this project as one that will prevent the spread noxious weed infestations, as opposed to eliminating current weed problems. Noxious weeds within the proposed project site are currently minimal, and grant funds requested would be used for reclamation and re-vegetation, not for treatment of noxious weeds. A 5-year plan for follow-up noxious weed monitoring and treatment will be implemented and funded by the Quartz Creek POA with assistance from the Gunnison County Weed Management Program in order to ensure that reclamation is successful and noxious weed infestations do not spread into the project site. Taking steps to prevent the spread of noxious weeds within the subdivision is particularly important at this site because adjacent and nearby noxious weed infestations, coupled with the project's large-scale soil disturbance and relatively heavy vehicle and recreational use, make the project site particularly susceptible to noxious weed invasion. For decades, the upper Quartz Creek Valley has been popular destination for backcountry recreational activities such as ATV-ing, 4 wheel driving, fishing, hunting, skiing, snowmobiling, camping, hiking, mountain biking, etc., and most of the noxious weed infestations in the area are found in travel corridors where these activities occur, road rights-of-way, and private properties in and around the Town of Pitkin. For example, within 1/4 mile of the subdivision, road-rights-of- way contain infestations of oxeye daisy, houndstongue and Canada thistle. The Town of Pitkin, which is approximately 3/4 mile from the Quartz Creek Subdivision and is the hub of recreational, commercial and residential use in the area, has infestations of Canada thistle, houndstongue, scentless chamomile, oxeye daisy, wild caraway and yellow toadflax. Within 4-5 miles of the proposed project site, infestations of spotted knapweed, Canada thistle, oxeye daisy and Dalmatian toadflax also occur in road-rights of-way and on public and private lands. Recreational corridors and road rights-of-way throughout the Quartz Creek Valley are widely- and regularly-used, and we believe there is potential for any and all of these weed species to find their way from their current points of infestation to the soil disturbances along roads in the Quartz Creek subdivision. All of the noxious weed infestations mentioned are being regulatory monitored and treated as part of an integrated weed management program by partners that include the Gunnison County Weed Management Program, the US Forest Service, the Town of Pitkin and private landowners in the area.

Describe the current capacity of the applicant organization and describe the Forest Service partnership employed through this project. This includes number and expertise of key personnel, available equipment, and base [non-grant] funding for both the applicant and F.S. partner).

Through contracts for noxious weed treatments, state noxious weed law enforcement, and educational outreach, the Gunnison County Weed Management Program is sharing its capacity to address existing noxious weed infestations with numerous partners in the Quartz Creek Valley who are concerned with and affected by noxious weed issues, including the US Forest Service, Town of Pitkin and private landowners. However, the Gunnison County Weed Management Program does not currently have the staff or equipment to complete large-scale re-seeding projects as part of this integrated and cooperative weed management program. Through this funding request, we hope to engage the services of a professional reclamation company to complete re-seeding of 5 acres of soil disturbance along roadways in the Quartz Creek subdivision. We hope that the completion of a successful reclamation project, coupled with the continuance of existing weed management efforts and partnerships will prevent the spread of noxious weeds into the Quartz Creek subdivision and the National Forest lands that surround it. The Quartz Creek POA has limited funds and capacity for reclamation following road widening, and has requested the Gunnison County Weed Management Program's assistance in securing funding and providing technical expertise for

reclamation associated with the road improvement project and folllow-up noxious weed monitoring and management efforts. Recognizing the severity of noxious weed issues in the Quartz Creek Valley and the importance of stopping their spread to National Forest lands, the US Forest Service has not only funded noxious weed treatments carried out by the Gunnison County Weed Management Program in the area in recent years, but has also been active in carrying out its own weed management activities throughout the Quartz Creek Valley. Noxious weed management staff at the Gunnison Field office of the USFS have recognized the importance of this proposed reclamation project, and have agreed to support this funding request.

Identify and describe the project's key management goals for each of the List A and List B subject to eradication species that will be treated. Please be as specific as you can with each goal, including short- and long-term monitoring, and how success for each will be measured. Please refer to directions in the RFP.

Describe management goals for List A species in this project. Please include your plan and timeline for eradication. *(If not-applicable type N/A.)*

To our best knowledge, there are no List A species in the area.

Describe management goals for List B species subject to eradication in the county/counties affected by this project. Please include your plan and timeline for eradication. *(If not-applicable type N/A.)*

Through completion of a successful reclamation project following road improvement, we hope to establish competitive vegetative cover on 5 acres of soil disturbance in order to prevent the spread of numerous List B noxious weed species that currently occur in the vicinity of the project site, including oxeye daisy, houndstongue, yellow toadflax, scentless chamomile, wild caraway, Dalmatian toadflax and Canada thistle and spotted knapweed. Reclamation and re-seeding work will be completed during the 2015 growing season. Follow-up monitoring and treatment of noxious weeds will be funded and implemented over a 5-year period by the Quartz Creek POA with assistance from the Gunnison County Weed Management Program.

Describe management goals for other List B species. (If not-applicable type N/A.)

N/A

If your project has a prevention or education function or component, please describe what it entails, and what outcomes you expect to achieve. *(If not-applicable type N/A.)*

Successful completion of reclamation following road improvement, coupled with follow-up monitoring for and management of noxious weeds, will prevent the spread of noxious weeds within the Quartz Creek subdivision and onto adjacent National Forest land. Following this project, the Gunnison County Weed Management Program will continue to provide technical and educational assistance to the Quartz Creek POA concerning noxious weed management.

If your project has a restoration and/or revegetation component, please describe how it fits into the overall project plan and what outcomes you expect to achieve. *(If not-applicable, type N/A.)*

The primary component of this funding request is re-vegetation. This is a critical first step in preventing the spread of noxious weeds, which is the long-term goal of the Gunnison County Weed Management Program and the Quartz Creek POA.

Describe any partnership/s that exist for this project (other than the required Forest Service partnership), and include the responsibilities and contributions of each partner.

With the support of the US Forest Service, the Gunnison County Weed Management Program and the Quartz Creek Property Owners' Association are the primary project partners. Funding provided by the nearby Town of Pitkin for weed control will also ultimately benefit this project by limiting potential for the spread of noxious weeds from within town borders.

Does your project include an integrated weed management strategy? If so, please describe the various management tools that you will use and how you decided that this strategy will be the most effective. (*If you are not using an IWM strategy type N/A.*)

Yes. We hope to integrate cultural, mechanical and chemical noxious weed management practices through re-vegetation efforts as well as follow-up pulling and spraying of any noxious weeds that may ultimately occur at the project site. The Gunnison County Weed Management Program also has adopted an IWM Plan that is being implemented in the Quartz Creek Valley and throughout the Upper Gunnison River Basin on an ongoing basis.

Is this the first time you've applied for USFS State & Private Forestry funds as an organization, or for your county or jurisdiction? Please describe your start-up goals and funding needs (short-term, including this grant application, and longer-term needs as well). (*If this is an established program or partnership type N/A.)*

The Gunnison County Weed Management Program received USFS State and Private Forestry funds for the Absinth Wormwood Project in the Ohio Creek Valley north of Gunnison, which was completed in 2011. Though the Gunnison County Weed Management Program's current funding request is for the short-term goal of completing the reclamation project in the Quatrz Creek subdivision, longer term noxious weed management goals are being funded primarily by Gunnison County, as well as 12 other federal, state, county and municipal partners who comprise the Gunnison Basin Weed Commission.

Do you have assurances from project participants that they are committed, formally or informally, to sustaining noxious weed monitoring and control efforts on the lands they own or manage? This includes cost-share recipients and/or local, state or federal land managers. Please describe the types of agreements, if any, that are in place (including informal "handshakes" to MOUs, MOAs, to contracts). *(If you have no formal or informal agreements type N/A.)*

Following the completion of reclamation work within its subdivision, the Quartz Creek POA has agreed to implement and fund an ongoing noxious weed monitoring and management program within the subdivision for a minimum of 5 years. The Gunnison County Weed Management Program will be available to assist the Quartz Creek POA with technical assistance and any necessary future funding requests as it implements this noxious weed management program.

Finally, please describe the importance of the project in terms of National Forest lands, along with its local, regional, and statewide impact, and state why it should be considered a high priority for funding.

Properties within the Quartz Creek subdivision are surrounded by National Forest Lands. The large-scale soil disturbance associated with road improvement, coupled with nearby noxious weed infestations and relatively heavy vehicular and recreational use within and through the subdivision make the subdivision and adjacent National Forest lands particularly susceptible to invasion by and spread of state listed noxious weeds. The subdivision's location near the headwaters of the Quartz Creek Valley which makes this a particularly important area in which to aggressively manage noxious weeds in order to prevent future impacts downstream. As the Gunnison County Weed Management Program continues to work on a watershed-scale to manage noxious weeds, we recognize the importance of this location for strategically managing noxious weeds not only within the Quartz Creek subdivision and Quartz Creek Valley, but also areas downstream, including the Tomichi Creek Valley, the Upper Gunnison River Valley, the Curecanti National Recreation area and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.

Please include any other information you wish us to consider in reviewing your grant application. (*optional*)

ATTESTATION

ALL APPLICANTS PLEASE SIGN:
Your electronic signature below indicates your agreement with the following statements.

By typing my name in the following box I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements and data in this application are complete, true, and correct. In addition, I have thoroughly read the instructions and guidelines described in the RFP.

Printed Name and position title	Jon Mugglestone, Coordinator, Gunnison County Weed Management Program
Signature (*type /s/ your name*)	
Date	

By typing my name in the following box I certify that I, as this project's Forest Service representative, fully approve of this project and will contribute to its completion.

USFS representative name	Ed Mauch
USFS representative title	Rangeland Management Specialist
Signature (*type /s/ your name*)	
Date	
Ranger District and Forest/ Grassland Name	Grand Mesa Uncompaghre and Gunnison National Forests, Gunnison Ranger District
Mailing Address	216 N. Colorado St.
City	Gunnison State CO Zip Code 81230
email	emauch@fs.fed.us

☐ By clicking this check box, the project manager indicates that he/she has electronically signed above for the Forest Service representative with their full knowledge and consent.

Deadline for receipt of applications is January 9th, 2015 @ 5 p.m.

Please email all forms to:

patty.york@state.co.us

2015 BUDGET FORM FOR SPF PROPOSALS

PROJECT NAME: Quartz Creek Properties Reclamation and Noxious Weed Control Project

The most common expenses and in-kind match items have been listed for you. You are welcome to change or add additional items if needed. Grey-out cells cannot be edited. When you are through filling out the form, save a copy for your records, and submit your budget form in pdf format via e-mail. Thank you!

DESCRIPTION	SPF FUNDS REQUESTED	MATCHING FUNDS						MATCH TOTAL
		APPLICANT CASH	APPLICANT IN-KIND	PARTNER CASH	PARTNER IN-KIND	OTHER CASH	OTHER IN-KIND	
CASH EXPENSES								
Contracted Services	$3,300			$700				$700
Seasonal labor (people x hrs x $ /hr)								$0
Equipment - GPS units, software, seasonal cell phone								$0
Equipment - herbicide, adjuvants, sprayers, gloves, etc.								$0
Educational - doorhangers, brochures, weed books								$0
Mileage								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
IN-KIND ITEMIZATION								
Full time staff salary (people x hrs x $ /hr)			$2,200					$2,200
Volunteer labor (people x hrs x $ /hr)								$0
Equipment use			$400					$400
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
TOTALS (BY COLUMN)	**$3,300**	**$0**	**$2,600**	**$700**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$3,300**

These cells will fill automatically:

AMOUNT OF SPF GRANT REQUEST:	**$3,300**
REQUIRED MINIMUM MATCH:	**$3,300**
PROPOSED MATCH:	**$3,300**

2015 BUDGET FORM FOR SPF PROPOSALS

PROJECT NAME: Quartz Creek Properties Reclamation and Noxious Weed Control Project

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DESCRIPTION	SPF FUNDS REQUESTED	MATCHING FUNDS						MATCH TOTAL
		APPLICANT CASH	APPLICANT IN-KIND	PARTNER CASH	PARTNER IN-KIND	OTHER CASH	OTHER IN-KIND	
CASH EXPENSES								
Contracted Services	$3,300			$700				$700
Seasonal labor (people x hrs x $ /hr)								$0
Equipment - GPS units, software, seasonal cell phone								$0
Equipment - herbicide, adjuvants, sprayers, gloves, etc.								$0
Educational - doorhangers, brochures, weed books								$0
Mileage								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
IN-KIND ITEMIZATION								
Full time staff salary (people x hrs x $ /hr)			$2,200					$2,200
Volunteer labor (people x hrs x $ /hr)								$0
Equipment use			$400					$400
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
								$0
TOTALS (BY COLUMN)	**$3,300**	**$0**	**$2,600**	**$700**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$3,300**

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AMOUNT OF SPF GRANT REQUEST:	**$3,300**
REQUIRED MINIMUM MATCH:	**$3,300**
PROPOSED MATCH:	**$3,300**