

Gary Springer

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Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 3:05 PM
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Subject: FW: Strategic Investments Application Process
Attachments: Strategic Investments Proposal Form - Final.doc

Good Afternoon:

I am pleased to announce the "Strategic Investments" Grant Program is now underway. The attached application form walks you through the full application process in detail. In Summary:

- All applications are due into Salem Protection by the end of September 2015.
- Applications from the three Areas will be prioritized by the Areas before submittal to the Division.
- Areas and the Division will prioritize all projects in October, then present prioritized projects at the Fall 2015 - Headquarter Services Committee meeting (*Date TBD*).
- Proposals will be presented to EFCC for final consideration at their January 2016 meeting.

Feel free to call me directly if you have any questions.

FYI: I have cc'd all members of the Strategic Investments Committee, EFCC and HQSC.

Doug Grafe, Deputy Chief Fire Protection
Oregon Department of Forestry
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Many thanks to the Strategic Investments Committee Members who helped to design this grant program:

"Strategic Investments" Committee Members:

Doug Grafe, (Chair) Deputy Chief – Fire Protection Division
Travis Medema, (Vice-Chair) Eastern Oregon Area Director
Steve Cafferata, (Vice- Chair) - EFCC
Tim Keith, EFCC Administrator

Gary Springer, BOF Liaison
Joe Justice, EOA Landowner Rep – Hancock
Dennis Perilli, EOA Agency Rep – Unit Forester
Phil Adams, SOA Landowner Rep – Roseburg
Mike Robison, SOA Agency Rep – Association District Manager
Randy Silbernagel , NWOA Landowner Rep – Freres Lumber
Ted Erdmann, NWOA Agency Rep – Assistant District Forester
Mike Dykzeul - OFIC
Rex Storm - OSWA/AOL

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

“STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS”

SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The Strategic Investments Program was established in 2014, following the passage of the Wildfire Protection Act (WPA). The WPA enabled the Emergency Fire Cost Committee to allocate Oregon Forest Land Protection Funds toward “strategic investments” as detailed in ORS 291.238 (2) sub (e).

“(2) Notwithstanding ORS 291.238, the moneys in the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund are continuously appropriated to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee for the purposes of:”

“(e) Paying for nonroutine purchases of supplemental fire prevention, detection or suppression resources that will enhance the ability of the forester to perform fire protection responsibilities within a forest protection district.”

WHAT IS A STRATEGIC INVESTMENT?

“Strategic investments” is defined broadly in law, as shown above: supporting fire prevention, detection or suppression activities that will enhance Oregon’s fire protection system. The following EFCC guidelines are intended to provide further clarification on what is within the definition of strategic investment and what is outside the definition:

Strategic Investments:

- Are initial, one-time investments of OFLPF funds in measures that enhance fire prevention, detection or suppression activities within one or more Forest Protection Districts. These investments are intended to reduce overall cost and loss from wildfire.
- Once made, the resulting enhancement becomes part of the base level of protection supported by annual fiscal budgets.
- Can be District-specific projects, multiple districts, or State-wide in nature.
- Can include cost-sharing from other funding sources or be stand-alone OFLPF dollars.

Strategic Investments cannot:

- Be used to off-set base level of protection requirements as defined in the annual fiscal budgeting process for “adequate level of protection”.
- Add permanent or seasonal staff capacity to ODF or Associations. Personnel costs associated with implementing a strategic investment project are a legitimate part of the project cost.
- Be used to make improvement to privately owned real property unless such improvements benefit a larger area of landowners, not just a single landowner, and can be backed up by an easement or agreement to ensure long-term benefit to the protection system.
- Be a loan to ODF or an Association. This is an investment program.
- Be retained by ODF or an Association if there is an unspent balance, but must be reimbursed to the OFLPF.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PROPOSE A STRATEGIC INVESTMENT?

Proposals will only be considered that are submitted through ODF or the three operating Fire Protection Associations to the EFCC. Other individuals or organizations that want to propose investments must do so through one of those organizations.

PROCESS AND TIMELINE

When considering project proposals, please weigh carefully whether they should be funded by other means, such as your district's budget, SFA dollars or other grant options. **Project proposals from the Districts will be coordinated with local Protective Associations and submitted to the appropriate Area. Each Area is responsible for prioritizing their respective project proposals and submitting them to the Deputy Division Chief by 5:00 P.M. on September 30th. Project Proposals from Division Staff will also be submitted to the Deputy Chief of the Protection Division by 5 P.M on September 30th. Please use the following electronic form only, for all project proposals.** Area and State Office prioritized proposals will be evaluated by an internal ODF review committee consisting of Salem and Area staff representatives. This review committee will develop a ranking system and the prioritized list of proposals will be presented for consideration before the Headquarter Services Committee at their Fall meeting. If proposals are selected, they will be prioritized and submitted to the EFCC for consideration at the January meeting. The EFCC will award projects at their discretion and will reserve the right to call-back funding in events such as un-utilized funding or early fire seasons that interrupt available funding.

Questions regarding the program and process may be directed to the Deputy Division Chief.

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY/EMERGENCY FIRE COST COMMITTEE
STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROPOSAL FORM**

PROJECT NAME:		DATE:	
NAME OF PROJECT COORDINATOR:		PHONE:	
		EMAIL:	
		DISTRICT/UNIT:	
		AREA:	
AMOUNT REQUESTED:		PROPOSED PROJECT DURATION:	
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$		
OFLPF FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$		

PROJECT NARRATIVE: In a two-page limit, describe the investment proposal, including the following; a) how the investment will enhance prevention, detection or suppression activities; b) the scope of the benefits (district specific versus broader impact); c) how the investment will reduce risks or costs for the OFLPP, or reduce resource loss or environmental damage; d) how the district or program will provide for long-term maintenance and support; e) the extent to which the investment involves applying new technologies; f) the likelihood of success in implementing the project based on measurable outcomes such as “key performance measures”, and; g) how you propose to measure the success/performance in meeting the intended outcomes across the lifespan of the project. Describe whether, and the extent to which the project is scalable (how will the project be impacted if it is only partially funded?)

Total Project Expense					
Budget Detail (Provide additional information in Budget Narrative Block)	\$ Amount Requested from OFLPF	Matching Funds			TOTAL
		Source	Dollars	In-Kind	
Personnel / Labor:					\$ 0.00
Travel:					\$ 0.00
Equipment:					\$ 0.00
Supplies:					\$ 0.00
Contractual:					\$ 0.00
Construction:					\$ 0.00
Other:					\$ 0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Budget Narrative (max 1 page):