

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Approving Title III Projects)	
for FFY 2013 under the Secure Rural Schools)	
and Community Self-Determination Act of)	ORDER NO. 51 - 2012
2000 as Amended and Re-authorized by)	
Public Law 110-343 and Public Law 112-141)	
_____)	

WHEREAS, Columbia County has received "safety-net" revenues under the "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000", P. L. 106-393, as amended and re-authorized in 2008 by P. L. 110-343 and in 2012 by P.L. 112-141; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires each county to expend 15 to 20 percent of its safety-net payments on various kinds of projects pursuant to Title II and III of the Act or, alternatively, to return that portion of its safety-net payment to the U.S. Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners elected to allocate 15 percent of its safety-net payments for projects under Title II and III; and

WHEREAS, approximately seven percent of the payments were allocated to Title III projects for the Federal Fiscal Year 2013, which runs from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County currently has available funding for Title III projects in the amount of \$51,018; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 110-343 and P.L. 112-141 set three categories for the type of projects that may be funded under Title III, those categories being:

- 1) **FIREWISE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM:**
"[T]o carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program to provide to homeowners in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires* * *";
- 2) **SEARCH, RESCUE AND OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES:**
"[T]o reimburse the participating county for search and rescue and other emergency services, including firefighting, that are — (A) performed on Federal land after the date on which the use was approved under subsection (b); (B) paid for by the participating county * * *";
- 3) **COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS:**
"[T]o develop community wildfire protection plans in coordination with the

appropriate Secretary concerned”;

and

WHEREAS, the following two proposed projects for Title III funding were submitted to Columbia County, and were preliminarily approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 27, 2012:

- 1) Columbia County’s Forest, Parks and Recreation Department submitted a project proposal under the criteria for Search, Rescue, Firefighting or Other Emergency Services to place a bridge over Hawkins Creek along the C-Z Trail/logging road in an estimated amount of \$76,650. The C-Z trail/logging road is the only access to federal timberlands and the only means of ingress/egress for citizens living in that area should Scappoose-Vernonia Road be closed by landslide or otherwise;
- 2) The Oregon Department of Forestry submitted a project proposal under the criteria of the Firewise Community Program to provide additional funding to support the current Community Wildfire Protection Plan / Firewise Forester, who works at implementing the County’s Community Wildfire Protection Plan priorities, Firewise Community outreach efforts and administration of federal cost share dollars. The DOF requests Title III funding of \$75,000 to extend this grant-funded position for an additional 15 months;

WHEREAS, copies of the Project Submission forms are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B, respectively, and by this reference incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to P. L. 110-343 and P.L. 112-141, Columbia County opened a forty-five (45) day public comment period to anyone wishing to make written comments on the proposed projects by publishing a Public Notice in local area newspapers describing the projects and directing that written comments must be received on or before 5:00 pm on November 24, 2012; and

WHEREAS, no public comments were received at the end of the 45-day comment period; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Project Submission forms were forwarded to the Salem Rural Advisory Committee for comment;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

- 1) The projects outlined in the Project Submission forms attached hereto as Exhibits A and B are approved for funding under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 as amended and re-authorized in 2008 by P. L. 110-343 and in 2012 by P.L. 112-141.
- 2) The Columbia County Forest, Parks & Recreation Department’s project shall be funded in the amount of \$41,018, and the project shall be certified as meeting the criteria of Search, Rescue and Other Emergency Services as required under P.L. 110-343 and P.L. 112-141.
- 3) The Oregon Department of Forestry’s project shall be funded in the amount of \$10,000, and the project shall be certified as meeting the criteria of the Firewise Communities Program and the Community Wildlife Protection Plan as required under P.L. 110-343 and P.L. 112-141.

Dated this 5th day of December, 2012, at St. Helens, Oregon.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: 

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: 

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: 
Office of County Counsel

EXHIBIT A

PL 110-343 TITLE III PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

**EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008
TITLE VI - OTHER PROVISIONS, SEC. 601
"Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program"**

Name of Project: Crown-Zellerbach Roadway - Hawkins Creek Crossing

Date Project Submission Form to be returned to the Columbia County Board of Commissioners: September 17, 2012

Date Project Submitted: September 17, 2012

Project Sponsor: Columbia County

Sponsor's Address: 230 Strand St., Room 318, St. Helens, OR 97051

Contact Person: Cynthia Zemaitis

Phone: (503) 387-3839 **Fax:** (503) 366-3925 **E-Mail:** cynthia.zemaitis@co.columbia.or.us

Project Is Authorized Under The Following Category: [see Sec. 302(a)]

- ☐ Activities Under the Firewise Community Program
- ☒ Reimbursement for Search, Rescue, Firefighting or Other Emergency Services on Federal land
- ☐ Develop Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Project Location: Crown-Zellerbach logging road in T4N R3W Sec 8 Columbia County, OR

Other Identifiers: (geographic location, road name or number, stream name)

Crown-Zellerbach roadway where it crosses Hawkins Creek. Approximately 5 miles SE on Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy. from intersection with Highway 47.

Project Description: include work windows or other limitations / restrictions / public or private land)
The proposed project is the placement of a 60' x 12' railcar bridge structure at the location where Hawkins Creek cuts through the Crown-Zellerbach roadway. The previous owner of the roadway removed a culvert that allowed passage over the creek. The roadway is currently impassable at this location. Minimizing project costs will be achieved by using standard specifications created for a similar structure recently completed for a crossing at Alder Creek.

Project Goals and Objectives:

The existing Crown-Zellerbach Road has been declared by Columbia County, in its Community Wildfire Protection Plan, as a secondary emergency response access roadway into Federal, State of Oregon, and privately managed timberland. This area encompasses a significant geographical portion of the County. The only other transportation route into the timberlands and surrounding areas is the Scappoose-Vernonia Road, which is subject to landslides. Establishing a

crossing at the Hawkins Creek location will re-establish the alternate emergency response access route into this area and open up approximately 15 miles of continuous roadway through the area. The Crown-Zellerbach road also serves as an alternate emergency exiting route for residents living in the upper-Nehalem Valley and Scappoose Creek watershed areas. Severe weather events during the past couple of Winters has created extreme difficulty for these residents when the primary exiting route, Scappoose-Vernonia Road, became impassable with debris blocking the roadway for days. It is critical that the Crown-Zellerbach road be re-established as a usable emergency response alternate route so emergency responders have another option for accessing timberlands and populated areas to the West and East of the Hawkins Creek location.

Is there an opportunity to tie to an associated Title II project? Explain:

Yes, stream habitat enhancement along Hawkins Creek and the confluence with Elk Creek.

Proposed Method Of Accomplishment:

☐ Contract ☐ Volunteers ☐ Agency (FS/BLM) Employees ☒ County
☐ County Corrections (adult / juvenile) ☐ Non-Profit ☐ Other _____

Current Status of Project Preparation: Preliminary survey of the project area has been completed. Construction drawings and specifications created for a previous bridge construction project will be used for this project. Existing railcar bridge section in Columbia County Road Department inventory will be used for this project.

Contact Person(s) for Project-Specific Documentation:

Glen Crinklaw
Contact's Phone No. (503) 366-6940 Contact's e-mail: glen.crinklaw@co.columbia.or.us

How Does The Project Benefit The Community? Re-establishment of Crown-Zellerbach Road as an emergency response alternate route will enhance the ability of area emergency responders to access a significant portion of the County's timberland in the event of wildfire or search and rescue operations.

Duration Of The Project: November 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013

Anticipated Cost of Project (itemize):

Review And Consultation Costs: _____

Contract Preparation And Administration Costs: _____ \$1,000

Materials And Supplies: Bridge structure and installation \$65,000

Monitoring: _____ \$2,000

Other Costs: In-house labor (engineering) \$5,000

Indirect Costs (overhead): 5 % \$3,650

Total Cost Estimate: \$ 76,650

Estimated Start Date Of Project: 11/01/2012 **Estimated Completion Date:** 03/31/2013

Is This A Multi-Year Funding Request? ☐ Yes ☒ No (if yes, display by fiscal year)

FFY12 Request: _____ FFY13 Request: _____

FFY14 Request: _____ FFY15 Request: _____

Identify Source(s) Of Other Funding For Project: _____

Project Accomplishments / Expected Outcomes: 1) Improved access to 23 sections of timberland,
2) opens approximately 27 miles of emergency response alternate access route,
3) Improves the public access to the BLM managed lands for recreation purposes, 4) Preservation
of a historically significant piece of Oregon's timber industry.

How Is Project in the Public Interest? Improves emergency response to timberland fire and
search and rescue.

Will Project Create a Product or Benefit to the Federal Resource? The Crown-Zellerbach
Road is a relatively direct access route into the BLM managed timberland concentrated in the
south-central portion of the County. Improved access to these timberland tracts will increase the
capacity of emergency responders to get resources to wildfires that may occur in these areas in
the future.

Monitoring and Reporting Plan to Measure Outcome (what measure or evaluation will be made to
determine how well the proposed project meets the desired objectives): Traffic counters will be
installed to record traffic use before and after project implementation. Also, roadway maintenance

records will be maintained detailing type of activities required to keep roadway open.

Other Comments: The Oregon Department of Forestry strongly supports this project.

Submitted to Columbia County By: Columbia County Forest, Parks & Recreation

Glen Crinklaw, Assistant Public Works Director

Post Office Box 366, 1054 Oregon Street, St. Helens, OR 97051 503.397.5090

E-mail: glen.crinklaw@co.columbia.or.us

Date: September 17, 2012

TITLE III PROJECT CERTIFICATION REPORT

Date notice of proposed Project was published: _____

Date Project description was mailed to RACs with area jurisdiction: _____

Date 45-day public comment period closed: _____

Date Project approved by county: _____

Amount spent on Project during the calendar year:

2009 \$ _____ 2010 \$ _____ 2011 \$ _____

2012 \$ _____ 2013 \$ _____ 2014 \$ _____

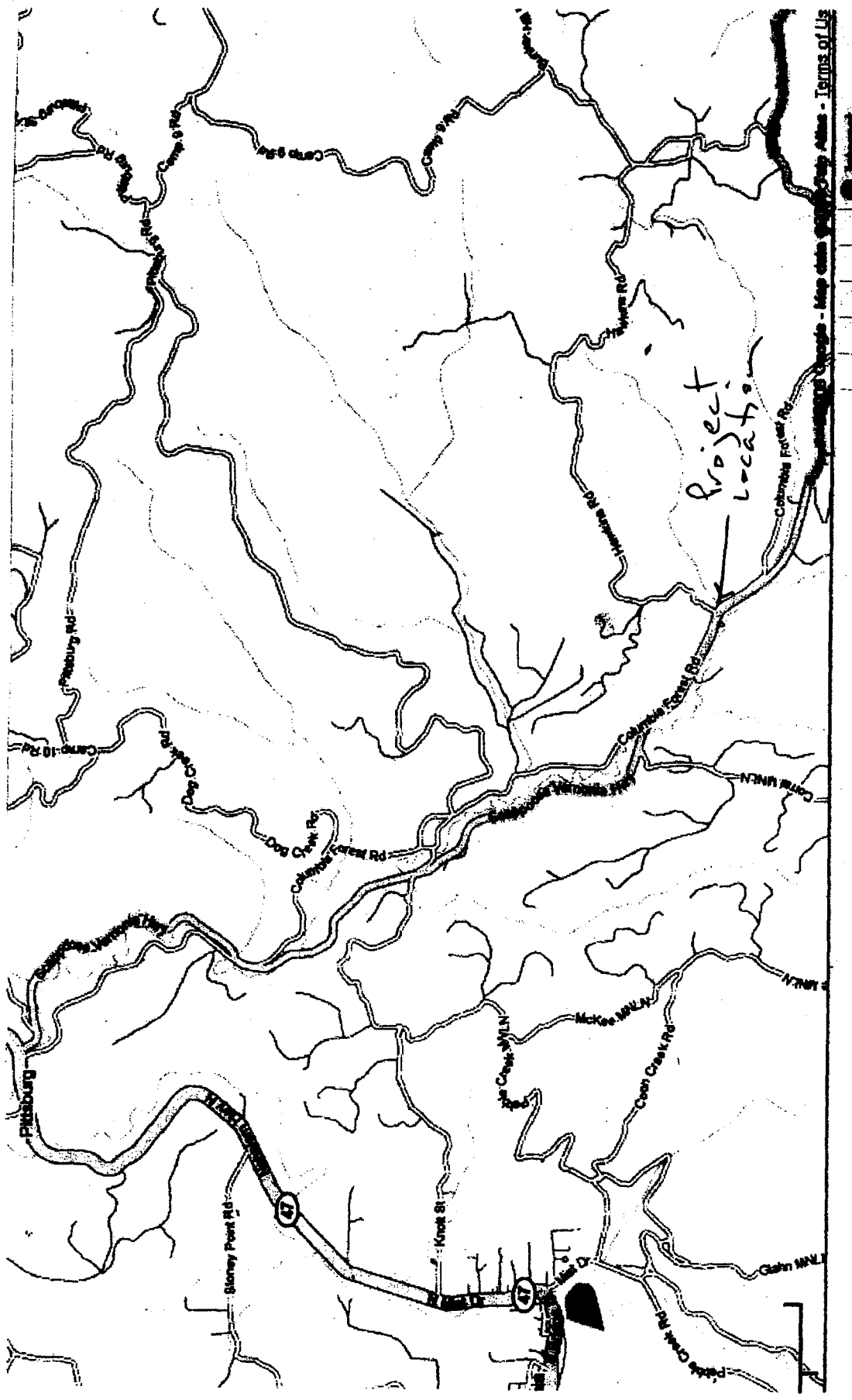
Dated this _____ day of _____, 2012.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY

CHAIR: _____

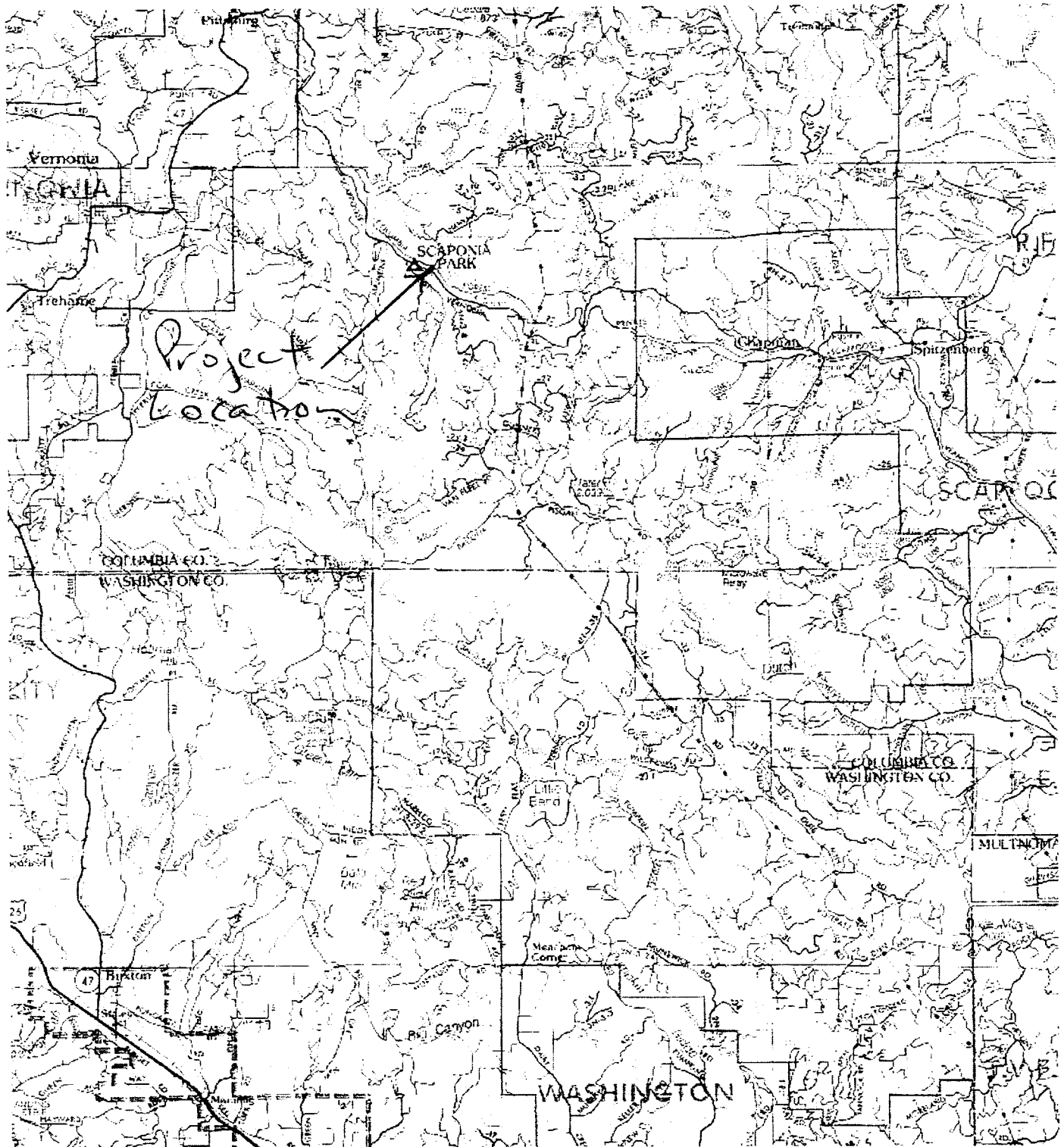
Commissioner: _____

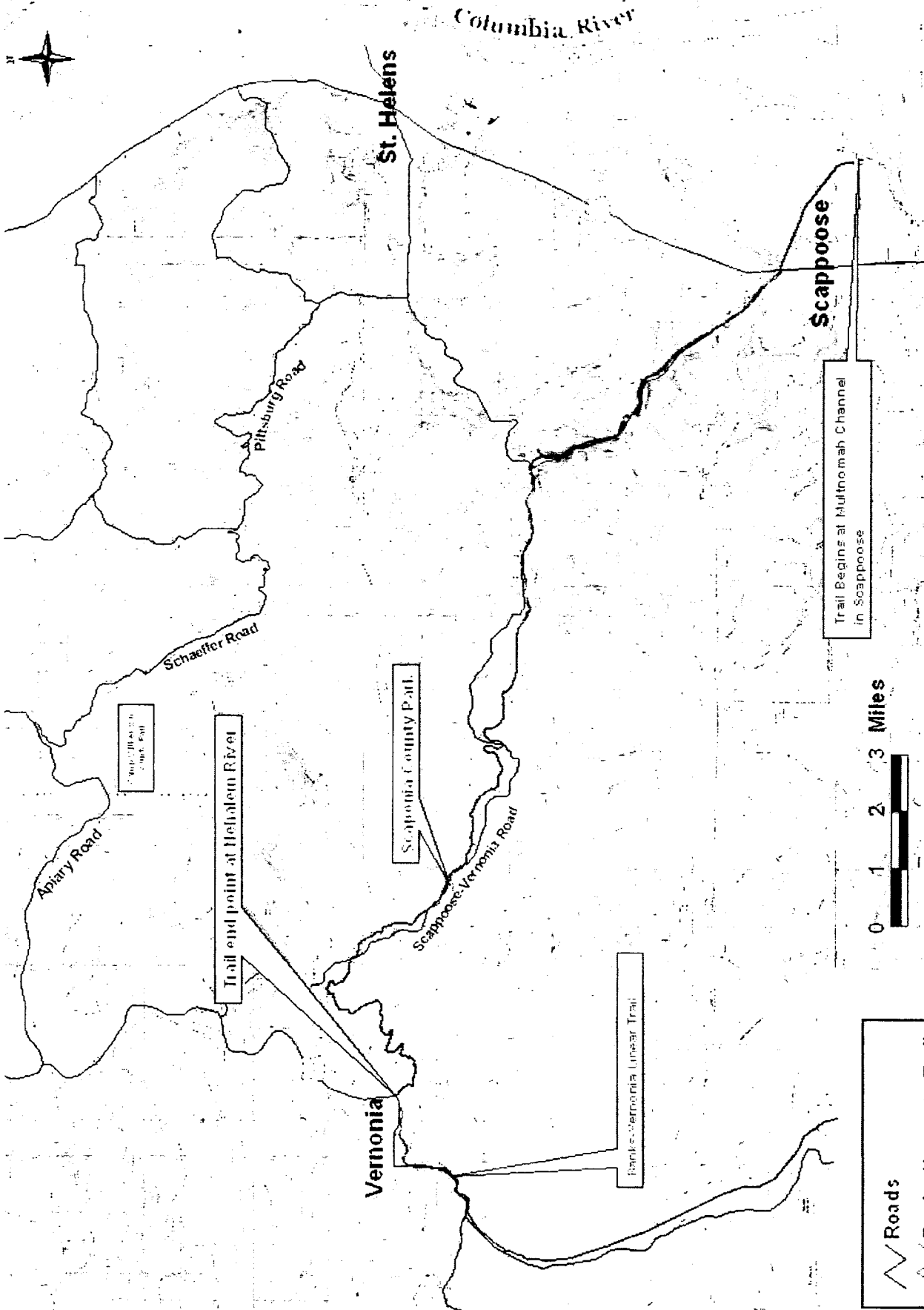
Commissioner: _____



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BLM Lands





Map Created By
 Michael Hoffmann
 Columbia County Public Works
 December, 2003

Crown Zellerbach Recreation Trail

- Roads
- Banks-Vernonia Trail
- Crown Z Trail

September 14, 2012

Oregon

Cynthia Zemaitis
Office of Columbia County Counsel
230 Strand Street Room 318
St. Helens, Oregon 97051

DEPARTMENT OF
FORESTRY

Ms. Zemaitis:

Columbia Unit

Please find enclosed the Title III Project Submission Form dated September 14, 2012. The Oregon Department of Forestry appreciates the opportunity to submit a proposal again this year for your consideration.



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

We are submitting a request for overhead support to extend our CWPP-Firewise Forester position for 15 months. Also included is additional support for services and supplies. Both of these will facilitate Firewise Communities USA program development and support.

Our program is now into its third year and we've made significant progress with outreach and education for all citizens and communities within Columbia County. This was a result of a Western States WUI grant of \$300,000 awarded to ODF in October of 2009. As part of this program we were able to move the Fishhawk Lake community into the nationally recognized Firewise Community USA program. We have paid out or have committed about \$110,000 in grant money for fuels reduction projects for homeowners within Columbia County. All these projects required a firewise forester assessment of the property, providing recommendations and entering into rebate or cost share agreements. Some money remains for project support, supplies and landowner rebate and cost share project assistance.

The significance of Title III support is to continue the leadership and overall momentum of the Firewise program established in Columbia County. Without Title III support this leadership position will end within the next few months. We consider ODF and its cooperators to be highly effective in service delivery of firewise concepts and our efforts to move toward nationally recognized Firewise Communities. We understand that new guidance has limited Title III funds to support existing recognized Firewise Communities USA or support for their development. Moving a community toward this recognition is not easy, it takes a commitment and recognized skills to bring a community of homeowners together. Our firewise forester, Teresa Alcock, has made great progress in targeting priority communities and is currently engaging the St. Helens Grey Cliffs community and we anticipate movement toward a Firewise Community. This would be the second nationally recognized Firewise Community in the county. She is currently targeting the greater Chapman area and other priority areas with direct postcard mailings inviting participation in the program.

Both Teresa and I would be available to the Board to highlight our achievements, provide updates on future plans and answer any questions.

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for Title III monies and respectfully request the Board of Commissioner's consideration for funding this project proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Simek
Unit Forest Manager
503-397-2636

COLUMBIA COUNTY
SEP 12 2012
COUNTY COUNSEL



405 E Street
Columbia City, OR 97018
(503) 397-2636
FAX (503) 397-6361

PL 110-343 TITLE III PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

EMERGENCY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT OF 2008 TITLE VI - OTHER PROVISIONS, SEC. 601 "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program"

Name of Project: Developing and Supporting Firewise Communities in Columbia County

Date Project Submission Form to be returned to Columbia County: September 17, 2012

Date Project Submitted: September 14, 2012

Project Sponsor: Oregon Department of Forestry

Sponsor's Address: 405 E St. Columbia City, OR 97018

Contact Person/Title: Michael Simek, Unit Forest Manager

Phone: (503) 397-2636

Fax: (503) 397-6361

E-Mail: msimek@odf.state.or.us

Project Is Authorized Under the Following Category: [see Sec. 302(a)]. **Attach a detailed statement on how this project meets the criteria of the Act.**

- ☒ Activities Under the Firewise Community Program
- ☐ Reimbursement for Search, Rescue, Firefighting or Other Emergency Services on Federal land
- ☐ Develop Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Project Location: Columbia County, with a focus on communities already designated as Firewise Community USA, and as identified as having potential to become a Firewise Community USA. Priority areas have been defined in the CWPP; community delineation analysis and outreach is already underway for some of these areas (for example Chapman, Grey Cliffs, Hillcrest).

Other Identifiers: (geographic location, road name or number, stream name):

Project Description: Continuation of a well-established and effective "Firewise" outreach, education and fuels reduction program currently administered by Oregon Department of Forestry and its cooperators within Columbia County. The program's focus is on educating property owners about firewise principles of structural ignitability and firewise landscaping to create defensible/ survivable space within the home ignition zone.

This funding request provides salary support to enable the continuation of this program and its recognized local leadership role, which is critical for fostering the establishment of Firewise Communities USA. This request also provides funds to support outreach and educational activities and materials for Firewise Community USA education, development, and cohesion toward self-sustainability.

Project Goals and Objectives: Continue outreach, education and fuel reduction mitigation actions creating defensible/survivable space and through the process of assessments and homeowner contacts and encourage and facilitate Firewise Communities USA participation. Provide technical assistance and contracted fuel reduction support for existing Fishhawk Lake Firewise Community USA. Assist priority area communities with fire assessments, planning, recognition of hazards and appropriate mitigation efforts. Support efforts with available funds. Target the highest priorities within CWPP by direct postcard mailings with invitation for free firewise assessment of property by a Firewise Forester. Provide opportunities through rebates and cost share dollars to provide incentives for action and accomplishments in support for Firewise Communities. Target communities of greater Chapman area (BLM adjacency), Grey Cliffs, Hillcrest and other communities and encourage Firewise Community USA participation/status.

Is there an opportunity to tie to an associated Title II project? n/a

Proposed Method Of Accomplishment:

☐ Contract ☐ Volunteers ☐ Agency (FS/BLM) Employees ☐ County

☐ County Corrections (adult / juvenile) ☐ Non-Profit

☒ Other: ODF Employee(s)/Cooperators/Contractors

Current Status of Project Preparation: Ready to implement as current program has extensive interest and campaigns to encourage participation and landowner actions which increases opportunities to work with communities and establish recognized Firewise Communities USA. Leadership position or "champion" is critical to ensure effective administration and development into Firewise Community status.

Contact Person(s) for Project-Specific Documentation: Michael Simek and Teresa Alcock

Contact's Phone No. (503) 397-2636

Contact's e-mail: msimek@odf.state.or.us

How Does The Project Benefit The Community? Yes. A firewise educated community of citizens engages in appropriate mitigation efforts to prevent fires, to maintain properties in defensible/survivable status therefore mitigating potential losses to resources and property.

Duration Of The Project: 15 months through 12-31-13, i.e., Oct 2012 thru Dec. 31, 2013

Anticipated Cost of Project (itemize):

> Review and Consultation Costs:

> Contract Preparation and Administration Costs: Provided by ODF

> Materials And Supplies: \$20,000.00 + other provided by ODF's 2009 WSFM WUI Grant

(chippers-contractors/fuel reduction efforts/landowner incentive payments)

>Monitoring:

> Other Costs: Landowner rebates and cost share...provided by ODF's existing WSFM grant dollars

> Indirect Costs (overhead): \$75,000.00 (Personnel Cost for Firewise Forester, 15 mo.)

> **Total Cost Estimate: \$95,000.00**

Estimated Start Date Of Project: 10/1/2012

Estimated Completion Date: 9/30/13

Is This A Multi-Year Funding Request? ☒ Yes ☐ No (if yes, display by fiscal year)

FFY12 Request:

FFY14 Request: **15,000.00**

FFY13 Request: **\$80,000.00**

FFY15 Request:

Identify Source(s) Of Other Funding For Project: Currently leveraging 2009 Western States Wildland Urban Interface grant from USFS. Originally\$ 300,000, this grant was approved for extension to 12-31-13 and still has money available for supplies, landowner Incentives in the form of rebates and cost share for projects within the home ignition zone.

Project Accomplishments / Expected Outcomes: Continue administration of very active and established Firewise program within Columbia County. Education and outreach with emphasis on developing potential recognized Firewise Communities and support efforts of these communities. Currently working on Grey Cliff community and we have interest in Firewise Community status. Outcome = educated and engaged citizens taking action in localized communities to address wildland/natural cover threats – protection of property/life.

How Is Project in the Public Interest? We are educating our citizen about firewise principles, initiating interest in developing communities that address mitigation of local fire risks and the protection of property/life.

Will Project Create a Product or Benefit to the Federal Resource? Yes, BLM lands in south county are adjacent to the greater Chapman Community. Homeowners in the area are engaged in firewise activities that reduce fire risks spreading to federal lands. Homeowner applying firewise principles within the home ignition zone have reduced threat from wildfire from adjacent BLM lands.


Monitoring and Reporting Plan to Measure Outcome (what measure or evaluation will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired objectives): The number of Firewise Communities within Columbia County. The number of citizens "signing-up" or engaging in firewise assessments and taking action through incentive programs. The number of treatments acres and homes with treatments for reduced structural ignitability and firewise landscapes (defensible/survivable space). Number of citizens reached through outreach efforts (knowledge creates action).

Other Comments: Developing Firewise Communities requires technical knowledge and leadership. Providing continued funding for our Firewise Forester and established, recognized program will allow continued full commitment and engagement at the landowner and community level. These efforts just don't happen; they need a champion to move the projects forward. Respectfully request your consideration for funding this proposal and keeping firewise activities alive in Columbia County.

Submitted to Columbia County By

By: Michael Simek

[Project Sponsor]



[Signature of authorized representative]

Address: 405 E. St
Columbia City, Or 97018

Telephone: (503) 397-2636

E-mail: msimek@odf.state.or.us

Date 9/14/2012

TITLE III PROJECT CERTIFICATION REPORT

Date notice of proposed Project was published: _____

Date Project description was mailed to RACs with area jurisdiction: _____

Date 45-day public comment period closed: _____

Date Project approved by county: _____

Amount spent on Project during the calendar year:

2012 \$ _____

20 _____ \$ _____

2013 \$ _____

20 _____ \$ _____

2014 \$ _____

20 _____ \$ _____

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY OREGON

By: _____
Chair