NDRC Project Information Sheet

Submission Deadline; July 10, 2015, Project Information can be submitted on line at CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov or mailed to Tuolumne County Administrator's Office (2 South Green Street, Sonora, CA 95370)

1. Agency/Organization Project Sponsor:

USDA Stanislaus National Forest

2. Project Contact (Name, Email, Phone #):

Margaret Willits, mwillits@fs.fed.us, 209-586-3234 x 624

3. Scope of Proposed Project- Include Project Goals and Objectives, Timeline and Tasks (Please submit as an attachment, **1 page max)**

4. List all Agency/Organizations involved in Project and their Role:

Forest Service, Stanislaus National Forest would prepare and administer contract for weed treatments. Multiple stake holders and interested public have been involved in the environmental analysis process to develop the proposed action and alternatives.

5. List Measure(s) of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes:

Up to 5000 acres of initial treatments that are designed to eradicate noxious weeds. Efforts will be concentrated on noxious weeds that can be eradicated in 2 years. Competition between native species and invasive species will be reduced. Soil stabilization will be improved.

6. How does this Project meet the resilient recovery objectives outlined in the NDRC grant application?:

Expansion of noxious weed populations have led to forest and watershed environmental degradation. Some of the largest infestations are along fire lines. A consistent forest weed eradication program leads to an increase capacity in the local work force. Improvement of range condition assist in the economic recovery of cattle permittees directly impacted by the Rim Fire. A decrease in noxious weeds has a variety of benefits including maintaining diversity and ecological health of the system, and creating a more desirable recreation experience, which can indirectly increase local business through greater use of the adjacent National Forest.

7. What is the target area for the project (i.e., where is it located, who are beneficiaries, etc)?:

The target area is the Rim Reforestation units including a large area for deer restoration. Beneficiaries include those who enjoy the use of National Forest System lands including recreational users, those who collect forest products either commercially or for personal use, permitees, contractors, landowners with private inholdings, as well as local businesses in the impacted area that indirectly benefit from increased use of the adjacent National Forest. Entry level temporary Forest Service employees or to assist in the project will gain knowledge and experience in noxious weed treatment and contract inspecting for other projects of this type or in other areas or future disaster areas where noxious weeds are an issue.

8. Has this project undergone environmental review? If yes, what stage is it in?

The majority of this project is in the process of being analyzed as a part of an EIS. A proposed action has been developed and completion of the Final EIS is expected in summer 2016. A minor amount of acreage is covered under previous analysis and a decision document has been signed.

9. NDRC Application Budget Request (please attach a detailed project budget):

Amount requested: $2,250,560

10. What guarantees are in place to insure the success of implementing this project?

The Forest Service has over 50 years experience in noxious weed management and preparing and administering mitigation efforts.

11. How will this project be sustainable after implementation?

Weed treatments within the fire footprint will continue to be a forest priority as part of the Forest Plan and is a Forest Service Regional and National Priority.

NDRC Committee Use Only:

EVALUATION CRITERIA: □ Meets National Objective □ Eligible Activity □ Meets Overall Benefit Requirement
□ Within Target Area □ Ties Back to Disaster □ Incorporates Resilience
□ Meets Cost Benefit Analysis Objectives

WORKING GROUP: □ Forest □ Infrastructure □ Public Facilities/Public Services

Scope of Proposed Project (Item 3)

Goals and Objectives

1) Eradicate or greatly reduce noxious weed populations to mitigate the potential ecological and economic impact from invasive plant species whose introduction and/or spread was facilitated by the Rim Fire suppression, post-fire activities and the post-fire landscape.

Timeline

6/2016-2/2017 – Contract preparation and advertisement
3/2017-5/2017 – Award contract and start project implementation
7/2015-9/2017 – Effectiveness monitoring, follow-up

Tasks related to project but outside the grant timeline

3/2018-7/2018 – project implementation of second year treatment, monitoring and reporting
3/2018-7/2019 – project implementation of third year treatment, monitoring and reporting

Tasks

1) Contract preparation, review and award – Forest Service
    - Evaluation criteria would include utilization of local work force, past performance, and price.
2) Contract administration (including inspection)
    - Forest service personnel would inspect work and administer the contract. Entry level and semi- skilled temporary employees or student interns would be employees to fill short term work load.
3) Contract implementation
    - Actual implementation of herbicide spray treatment would be done by private contractor.
4) Herbicide use tracking and reporting
5) Monitoring and reporting effectiveness of treatment

Tasks related to project but outside the grant timeline

6) Second year treatment (scope of treatment contingent on additional funding available from other sources. May be included in original contract or a separate contract.)
7) Second year monitoring and reporting (contingent on additional funding available from other sources).
8) Third year treatment – spot herbicide treatment and hand pulling (scope of treatment contingent on additional funding available from other sources.
9) Monitoring and reporting

NDRC Application Budget Request (Item 9)

Rim Reforestation Weed treatment				
Item	**unit cost**	**unit**	**total units**	**Total item cost**
Contract	$ 400.00	acre	5000	$ 2,000,000.00
FS- Pesticide Coordinator GS-12	$ 400.00	day	5	$2,000.00
Botanist, GS-9 (2)	$ 325.00	day	50	$16,250.00
COR/inspector GS-7 (4)	$ 200.00	day	350	$70,000.00
COR/inspector GS-5 (4)	$ 175.00	day	350	$61,250.00
vehicles	$ 0.50	mile	25000	$12,500.00
supplies (PPE: coveralls, gloves, eyewear)	$ 200.00	person	10	$2,000.00
USFS Regional Office and Forest admin support	0.04	percent		$86,560
Total				$2,250,560.00