



SUMMIT COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

970.668.3595 ph | 970.668.2983 f 0037 Peak One Dr. | PO Box 5660
www.SummitCountyCO.gov Frisco, CO 80443

Date: 7/3/2019
To: Summit County Board of County Commissioners
From: Summit County Wildfire Council (SCWC)
Dan Schroder, CSU Extension Director
Jim Curnutte, Community Development Director
RE: 2019 SCWC Grant Program Consent Calendar item for July 9, 2019

Background

On June 20, 2019, SCWC met to provide recommendations for funding projects under the Hazardous Fuels Reduction and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Implementation Grant programs. This year 17 applications were submitted for funding. This represents the most requests we have received since the 2008 1A funding measure passed.

On July 2, 2019, staff met with The Board at their work session to review the SCWC funding recommendations. Of the 17 applications submitted, one was not supported and a modified funding allocation was determined as the best approach for five (5) applications. All of the five (5) funding modifications were generally supported at a lesser than requested level. The following narrative and cost spreadsheet reflect general support from The Board, during the work session, for 16 wildfire fuel reduction and community protection funding requests.

Recommendation

This staff report is provided to recommend the Board support ten (10) out of the eleven (11) Hazardous Fuel Reduction projects totaling \$214,422.50 and six (6) Community Wildfire Protection Plan Implementation grants totaling \$212,055.50. Additionally, we recommend The Board fund The total recommendation for funding is \$426,478.00.

The allocation identified in the table below reflects a negative balance if these projects are solely funded by the 2010 Fund. Staff request the Board consider a supplement to the Wildfire Prevention Grant Program to fund the balance of the proposed grant requests.

Application Details

The Woods at Breckenridge HOA

35 trees adjacent to the townhomes are proposed to be removed. The grant request is \$5,750.

The Woods at Breckenridge Open Space

The scope of the project will consist of removing 700 dead Aspen trees, 100 standing pine trees, and a considerable amount of dead fall on a steep 5.5 acre hillside. The majority of the work will be conducted by crane. The grant request is \$32,500.

Gold King Placer

One parcel the received funding in 2018 is proposed. SCWC and staff are not supportive of this request as presented. We do not recommend funding the \$19,800 grant request.

Ruby Ranch

They propose the removal of down and dead trees and slash from Tract W to create a fuel break on the northwest corner of Ruby Ranch, with all materials cut and removed from the area. The grant request is \$9,000.

Shadow Creek Ranch

100 acres of privately owned land by Shadow Creek Ranch and is Deeded to Summit County Open space as a Conservation Easement and is proposed for fuel reduction. They requested \$60,000. At the work session The Board conversation resulted in support of a modified allocation of \$36,000.

Summit Guest Ranch

1.5 acres is proposed to receive fuel reduction work. The grant request is \$2,500.

Airport Road / Downen

5.89 acres is proposed to receive fuel reduction work. The grant request is \$29,250.

Pebble Creek Ranch

10.5 acres is proposed to receive fuel reduction work. The project located on PCRf common property in 5 areas. All areas have emphasis on felling standing dead and removing blowdown clusters. All areas will include thinning of aspen saplings to allow movement of wildlife, increase canopy spacing, deter overgrowth, decrease incidence of disease, and increase tree health. The grant request is \$10,345.

Grandview at Breckenridge Condos

This applicant has request funding to support a four-phase approach. Phase 1: removal of 51 trees that are a potential fire hazard. Phase 2: thin the potential fuel on the property by limbing, pruning, and clearing flammable vegetation in Zone 1. Phase 3: building hardening - rock the drip edge around the buildings to address defensible space in the "Immediate Zone" around the buildings. Phase 4: weed control throughout all of the common areas, including the areas where the trees and other potential fuels were removed.

SCWC and staff do not support funding Phase 3. Based on forestry bids obtained from the applicant, staff believe the entire tree removal portion of the project, referred to as Phase 1, will cost \$12,000. At the work session The Board conversation resulted in support of a modified allocation of \$6,000.

Town of Blue River BKTG

18 homes covering approximately 13 acres are proposed in 2019. The proposal is to remove trees, ladder fuels, and thin to create proper crown spacing throughout Zone 1. Advising home owners about home hardening: 1/8 metal screening on all open vents, clearing under decks, and keeping clean roof and gutters. The grant request is \$27,747.50.

Town of Blue River Cisterns

3 cisterns are proposed to be installed in 2 subdivisions. Each system holds 5,200 gallons. ToBR owns the locations and has provided easements for the cisterns. The grant request is \$50,000. This represents a 50/50 cost share.

Ruby Ranch Cistern

One, 20,000 gallon cement cistern buried on Tract T with a standard hydrant is proposed. The grant request is \$153,000. This cost represents an \$8.50 per gallon cost which is substantially higher than the six (6) previously funded cistern projects. At the work session The Board conversation resulted in support of a modified allocation of \$85,000. This reduces the request from a 90/10 to a 50/50 cost share.

FHTF Educational Videos

FHTF is requesting funding for a video series titled, "Are We Ever Really Prepared for Wildfire?" focusing on personal and neighborhood responsibility, which supports the overarching goal to increase public awareness of the inherent hazards associated with living in a forest and the CWPP goal of education. The grant request is \$14,581. This represents a 68/32 cost share.

BMMD defensible space

The District proposed to deploy an education effort to create more d-space. They will offer up to \$1,000 of defensible space pass-through grant money with a 50% property owner cash matching share requirement. Assistance will be available on a first come first serve basis until the requested \$30,000 has been **expended**. At the work session The Board conversation resulted in support of a modified allocation of \$25,000. This represents a 56/44 cost share.

Town of Breckenridge Indiana Creek Bottomless Culvert

This pre-disaster mitigation road stabilization project will support future forestry projects in the Indiana Creek watershed. There are currently NEPA approved projects ready to deploy. Partnerships with the White River National Forest, Town of Breckenridge, the National Forest Foundation and the Friends of Dillon Ranger District have created a collective effort

for the long-term sustainability of Indiana Creek. The grant request is \$30,000. Town of Breckenridge will contribute \$10,000 and NFF will contribute \$80,000. This represents a 40/60 cost share.

Bill's Ranch Signs

They request 100 home signs and 18 street signs with posts and installation. The grant request is \$7,474.50. This represents a 90/10 cost share.

2019 Grant Summary			
2019 Total Funds Available	\$500,000		
Emergency Fire Fund	(\$27,754)		
Extension Staff	(\$64,745)		
Education & Outreach	(\$20,000)		
Weed Mitigation	(\$10,000)		
Chipping Program (Max)	(\$127,500)		
Chipping Days (4 Max)			
Total Available for Grant Program	\$250,001		
HFR Grants (proposed)			
Project Name	Grant Request	Proposed Match	Project Total
Woods at Breckenridge HOA	\$5,750.00	\$5,750.00	\$11,500.00
Woods at Breckenridge Open Space	\$32,500.00	\$32,500.00	\$65,000.00
Ruby Ranch 2019	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$18,000.00
Shadow Creek Ranch	\$36,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$120,000.00
Summit Guest Ranch	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Airport Rd. / Downen	\$29,250.00	\$29,250.00	\$58,500.00
Pebble Creek Ranch 2019	\$10,345.00	\$10,345.00	\$20,690.00
Grandview at Breck Condos	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00
Town of Blue River	\$27,747.50	\$27,747.50	\$55,495.00
Breckenridge HFR	\$55,330.00	\$55,330.00	\$110,660.00
Totals for HFR Grant Awards	\$214,422.50	\$262,422.50	\$476,845.00
CWPP Grants (proposed)			
Project Name	Grant Request	Proposed Match	Project Total
Town of Blue River 2019 CWPP	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00
Ruby Ranch 2019 CWPP - Cistern	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$170,000.00
Forest Health Task Force CWPP	\$14,581.00	\$30,395.00	\$44,976.00
Buffalo Mountain Metro District D-Space	\$25,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$36,000.00
TOB - Indiana Creek Aquatic Organism Passage	\$30,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$120,000.00

Bill's Ranch Signs	\$7,474.50	\$830.50	\$8,305.00
Totals for CWPP Grant Awards	\$212,055.50	\$267,225.50	\$479,281.00
Total Grant Requests	\$426,478.00	\$529,648.00	\$956,126.00
Remaining Unencumbered Balance	-\$176,477.00		