

Montana DNRC Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant Program

- Request for Proposals -

Rev. 06.2022

Proposals accepted on an on-going basis and reviewed quarterly by a designated panel when funding is available. Check with DNRC grant manager about funding status.

SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO GRANT MANAGER

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant focuses on reducing the risk of wildland fire and catastrophic losses to resources and property in high-priority areas; which may result from a wildland fire encroaching from adjacent National Forest System (NFS) lands. Landowners are encouraged to be proactive to address hazardous fuel conditions on their property, reduce the ignition potential within their home ignition zone, and employ wildfire resilient principles to sustain a fire adapted home, property, and community.

Project funding* is intended for work on non-federal lands to protect communities when hazardous fuels reduction activities (prescribed fire) are planned on adjacent NFS lands. This is accomplished by reducing the volume of hazardous fuels within a defined project area; through thinning, pruning, slash disposal, pile burning, and other conventionally accepted methods of fuels reduction. Public education and outreach about risks and responsibilities of living in the wildland urban interface (WUI) may be carried out in support of the primary goal of reducing hazardous fuels.

CRITERIA

Projects funded under this program must meet the following intent:

- Projects shall protect communities within the WUI when prescribed fire is planned on NFS lands that have the potential to place such communities at risk. Projects shall be located within an average fire weather single-day burn window of NFS treatments units. Generally interpreted to be 3-5 miles in western and central Montana and 10 miles in eastern Montana, subject to forest conditions.
- Projects shall be identified within a specific geographic boundary, aligning treatments across neighboring properties to maximize benefits of project activities.
- Projects should maximize benefits across landscapes, leverage resources, and achieve objectives at the best value possible.
- Project initiation must be in advance and within three years of planned hazardous fuels reduction activities on adjacent NFS lands.

Accomplishing the intent of this program may require working with landowners, communities, local organizations, and the National Forests. Awarded projects will be selected on how well they meet the criteria and align with DNRC priorities.

GRANT AMOUNT

Project budget requests should be \$50,000 or less; exceptions may be considered. Multi-phased projects with independent budgets are acceptable as individual project applications. Award amounts may vary due to funding availability and the number and priority of applications received.

MATCH

These funds require a 25% match, calculated as a percentage of total grant funds requested. Generally, match should be met by the landowners through cash or in-kind contributions towards the completion of the hazardous fuels reduction project. Exceptions may be considered.

TIMELINE

Projects should have a completion timeline of less than 18 months. If a project has a proposed completion timeline exceeding 18 months, please provide an explanation of the reason(s) why. The 'Project Initiation Date' may be a retroactive date to capture project *pre-planning activities only*. General project activities occurring before a grant is awarded are not eligible for reimbursement.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Organization			Date	
Contact Person & Title				
Phone & Email				
Address w/ 9-digit zip				
Federal Tax ID			UEI #	
The applicant is a	Local Government Fire Protection District		Non-Profit Organization Other	HOA
Has organization managed similar grant funding before?	Yes		No	

APPLICANT PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name				Project Initiation Date	
Proposed acres treated		# of landowners		# of structures protected	
Community & County					
Location description / reference point					

ADJACENT USFS PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name					
Forest and District					
Prescribed fire activities planned within three years of applicant's project initiation date?	Yes		No (contact DNRC grant manager)		
Distance from USFS treatment units to project area	mile(s)				

PROJECT COLLABORATION

Please identify individuals you have contacted regarding the planning, intent, and outcome of your project

Montana DNRC					
US Forest Service					
Fire Protection District					
Local Government					
Project Area Landowner/Ambassador					
Other					

Is this project identified as a high-priority area in the MT Forest Action Plan or a CWPP ?	Yes		No (contact DNRC grant manager)		
Is this project adjacent to a DNRC/USFS Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) project?	Yes		No		

As part of the project, a comprehensive structure risk assessment shall be completed in Situation Analyst Montana (an online geospatial database) for all properties receiving grant funds where a home and/or structure is present. Please contact the DNRC grant manager for any assistance, or with any questions.

Have you already completed structure risk assessments for the project area?	Yes (please incl. w/ project map) No (in the project timeline, describe how this will be accomplished)				
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PROJECT BUDGET

	FUNDS REQUESTED	MATCH	TOTAL	
Personnel/Labor				
Operating Expenses				
Payments to Landowners				
Contractual				
Indirect Costs				
TOTAL				
Does match total amount to at least 25% of the total funds requested?			YES	No

Please briefly describe the details of how the grant funds will be spent for each budget category 1,200 character limit

PROJECT TIMELINE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Please include beginning/end dates and accomplishments at intervals appropriate to the scope/scale of the project. Accomplishments may include: acres treated, structures protected, homeowners educated, volume of slash removed, etc. Additionally, please describe your method for engaging landowners to participate in the project. Address structure risk assessment plans if not already completed. 2,000 character limit

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please describe the project area and fuel conditions, and why this project is a priority. Using measurable accounts please identify the fuels reduction prescription(s), extent of education activities, methods of fuels reduction and slash treatment, and a long-term maintenance plan to sustain effectiveness. 4,500 character limit

PROJECT MAP

Please include a detailed project area map with your application. Whether it's a digital masterpiece or hand drawn from a plat map, it should include: property boundaries, proposed treatment areas, any previous treatments, and structure risk assessment ratings (if completed prior to submitting this application).