

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000
Public Law 106-393
Title II Project Application
Medford District Resource Advisory Committee

1. Project Number (Assigned by federal unit): OR 118-03-13

2. Project Name: London Peak Trail Interpretive Trail Project - Phase 3

3. County: Josephine

4. Project Sponsor: Katie Wetzel - Outdoor Recreation Planner
Glendale RA, Medford District BLM

5. Date: May 10, 2002

6. Sponsors Phone # : 541-944-8337

7. Sponsor's E-mail: kwetzel@or.blm.gov

8. Project Location (attach project area map)

a. 4th Field Watershed Name and HUC #(if known): Rogue River 17100310

b. 5th Field Watershed Name and HUC #(if known): Grave Creek 1710031003

c. Legal Location:

Township 33S Range 6W Section(s) _____

d. BLM District Medford

e. BLM Resource Area Glendale

f. National Forest _____

g. Forest Service District _____

h. State / Private / Other lands involved? Yes No

9. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives:

* To create a hands-on, forest-related, interpretive learning experiences for people of all ages.

* To implement natural resource steward-ship projects and programs within K-12th grade schools.

* To promote innovative cooperative partnerships with people who use and care for federal lands.

* To create increased knowledge and appreciation of forest eco-systems.

10. Project Description:

Project Phases:

Phase 1: (Previously Funded): The first phase of the London Peak Interpretive Trail, which consisted of the construction of a “Barrier-free” trail and an “Over-look”, was completed and dedicated in 1998.

Phase 2: (Currently Funded - FY 2002 funds): The second phase of this project was to assist the Wolf Creek Elementary School students in the creation of interpretive artwork which will be placed along the trail. To accomplish this, Title III funds were sought and received from the Josephine County Commission for Children and Families. These funds are being used to hire a part-time Certified Art Teacher, as well as Teachers Aides, to teach students about natural resources and aide the students with the creation of artwork relating to natural resources. These funds are also being used for the purchase of art related materials, art supplies, and to provide the students with transportation to the school during the summer months.

Phase 3: (Proposed for FY 2003 funding): The third phase of this project is to enhance an existing trail system (the lower London Peak Trail) which leaves from the Wolf Creek Park and meets with the upper London Peak Barrier-Free Trail and Overlook. This lower London Peak Trail will be developed to provide the ultimate in forest interpretation including the interpretation of biological, geological, wildlife, fisheries, flora and fauna typical to southwestern Oregon. This phase also includes contracting a professional graphic art company to render the children’s artwork from Phase Two into interpretive display formats, and constructing a small outdoor amphitheater (log benches in a forest clearing) along the trail. Additionally this phase includes the purchasing of interpretive panels which will display the children’s artwork as well as the on-site installation costs for these interpretive panels.

These interpretive panels will be placed along the lower and upper London Peak Trail providing forest-related educational opportunities for all to enjoy. Throughout the trails of this Forest the plant life will be identified as will the special homes of forest wildlife. Bird and bat nesting boxes will be constructed by K-12th grade students and placed on the site by these students. Students from nearby schools will travel to this interpretive trail as part of their annual natural science learning curriculum. Youth will learn names of forest species, why the species exist, how it lives and how it interacts with the rest of the planet. Students will gain an understanding of their role on the planet and how they can assist in the positive management of the natural resources surrounding their communities.

11. Coordination of this project with other related project(s) on adjacent lands?

Yes No If yes, then describe.

Community partners included in this project are the Wolf Creek School-Three Rivers School District, the Oregon Parent Center in Wolf Creek, the Boys and Girls Club, and the Sunny Wolf Community Response Team. Public lands partners will include the Oregon State Department of Forestry and the Josephine County Parks Department.

12. How does proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? [Sec. 203(b)(1)]

Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure. [Sec. 2(b)]

- Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems. [Sec. 2(b)]**
- Restores and improves land health. [Sec. 2(b)]
- Restores water quality. [Sec. 2(b)]

13. Project Type (check one) [Sec. 203(b)(1)]

- Road Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
- Trail Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
- Road Decommission/Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
- Trail Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
- Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): _ [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
- Soil Productivity Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(B)]
- Forest Health Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(C)]
- Watershed Restoration & Mntc. [Sec. 2(b)(2)(D)]
- Wildlife Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]
- Fish Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]
- Control of Noxious Weeds [Sec. 2(b)(2)(F)]
- _ Reestablish Native Species [Sec. 2(b)(2)(G)]

Other Project Type (specify) [Sec. 2(b)(2)]: ** To improve cooperative relationships among the people that use and care for Federal lands and the agencies that manage these lands. To provide natural resource education opportunities for K-12th grade youth.

14. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes [Sec. 203(b)(5)]

- a. Total Acres: _____
- b. Total Miles: 2 miles
- c. No. Structures: 1
- d. **Estimated People Reached: (see "f" below)**
- e. No. of Laborer Days: 65

f. Other (specify): Informational and interpretive signs to describe site-specific forest flora and fauna, unique geology, and fisheries will be created. Hundreds of youth from all over Josephine and Douglas Counties will, through their schools, tour the site annually as a part of their science and natural resource classes.

15. Duration of Project and Estimated Completion Date [Sec. 203(b)(2)]: Two years - 6/2004

16. Target Species Benefitted: (if applicable) N/A

17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved? [Sec. 2(b)(3)]

The small rural communities which are situated in northern Josephine County are surrounded by public lands. The children raised in these communities consider these forests their back yards and frequent them in play and study. We believe that in educating youth in natural resource management through encouraging them to create the signs which will be used in the "London Peak Interpretive Trail" will be mutually beneficial. The youth will automatically realize a pride and ownership over the project area due to their contributions and hopefully extend this sense of ownership to the general forest surrounding their homes. We anticipate, due to the contributions of the children's forest-related art work, that this project will encourage schools, families, businesses and community service organizations to join in the stewardship of the forests surrounding their communities.

18. How is this project in the best public interest? [Sec. 203(b)(7)] Identify benefits to communities?

- ** Economic benefits to the local communities include increased visitor numbers.
- ** Public schools will have a outdoor environment for natural science studies and students will increase their awareness of natural resource management.
- ** Communities will gain a stewardship attitude towards forests surrounding their homes.
- ** Rural communities will benefit from improved recreational opportunities.
- ** The community and county will benefit from increased student involvement in after school activities.

19. How does project benefit federal lands/resources?

Recreation uses of the public lands surrounding the rural community of Wolf Creek will increase due to the expanded interpretive opportunities located within the London Peak Trail. This notable new proposed resource will be a special place for families to visit which will provide natural resource education through a unique child’s perspective. The visiting public, and youth touring the site, will learn about their environments which we believe will foster a new stewardship awareness for the natural resources surrounding their communities.

20. Status of Project Planning

a. NEPA Complete:	Yes	X No (Possible CE only)	
b. If No, give est. date of completion: <u>09/01/03</u>			
c. NMFS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	X Not Applicable
d. USFWS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	X Not Applicable
e. Survey & Manage Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	X No	Not Applicable
f. DSL/ODFW* Permits Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	X Not Applicable
g. DLS/COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	X Not Applicable
h. SHPO* Concurrence Received:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	X No	Not Applicable
i. Project Design(s) Completed:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	(Partially)

* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer

21. Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): | |

1) Purchase supplies and materials for natural resource education and artwork for the Wolf Creek School.

2) Hire a graphic art company to professionally format the children’s artwork into graphics for the interpretive panels.

3) Purchase and install the interpretive panels.

22. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? (Sec. 204(e)(3))

- Yes **No**

The Project will provide recreational and educational opportunities.

23. Anticipated Project Costs [Sec. 203(b)(3)]

- a. Total County Title II Funds Requested: **\$ 11,000**
- b. Is this a multi-year funding request? **Yes** **No** If yes, then display by fiscal year
- c. FY02 Request: \$ _____ f. FY05 Request: \$ _____
- d. FY03 Request: \$ 11,000. g. FY06 Request: \$ _____
- e. FY04 Request: \$ _____

Item	Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Requested County Title II Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Other Contributions [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Total Available Funds
24. Field Work & Site Surveys				
25. NEPA & Sec.7 ESA Consultation		\$ 1,000.		\$1,000.
26. Permit Acquisition				
27. Project Design & Engineering	\$2,500.	\$ 2,000.		\$4,500.
28. Contract Preparation	\$ 500.			\$ 500.
29. Contract Administration	\$1,000.			\$1,000.
30. Contract Cost				
31. Workforce Cost				
32. Materials & Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 7,000.		\$ 8,000.
33. Monitoring				
34. Other:			\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
35. Project Subtotal	\$ 5,000.	\$ 10,000.		\$45,000.
36. Indirect Costs (Overhead)		\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000
37. Total Cost Estimate	\$ 5,000.	\$ 11,000.	\$30,000	\$ 46,000.

38. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding in Column C. Above [Sec. 203(b)(4)] None

Value of lands that the trail is located on under use agreements with Josephine County and Oregon

39. Monitoring Plan (Sec.203(b)(6))

- a. What measures or evaluations will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired ecological conditions? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

The Project will be measured by working with the Josephine County Parks Department Campground Host at Wolf Creek Park to ascertain how many visitors are using the trail system annually. It will also be measured by partnering with the K-12 schools to determine how many teachers are incorporating the interpretive trail into their classroom curriculum and taking their students on field trips to the new trail. The Recreation Planner of the Glendale RA of the Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management will be responsible for evaluating the Project assuring desired ecological conditions are met.

- b. How will the project be evaluated to determine how well the proposed project contributes towards local employment and/or training opportunities, including summer youth jobs programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps? [Sec. 203(b)(6)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

This project proposal is directly tied in with a Title III proposal which has been awarded for the purpose of hiring a Certified Art Teacher, and Teachers' Aides, who will all be community members which will contribute to the local employment statistics. All professional graphic design work, as well as the purchase of the interpretive panels, will be contracted to local businesses if possible. The Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management will encourage the use of natural resource employment and training opportunities as it relates to this project through hiring, if possible, youth enrolled in The Job Council and YCC programs for the installation of the new interpretive panels.

- c. What methods and measures of evaluation will be established to determine how well the proposed project improves the use of, or added value to, any products removed from National Forest System lands consistent with the purposes of this Act? [Sec. 203(b)(6) and Sec. 204(e)(3)] Who will be responsible for this monitoring item?**

It is our intention, through this natural resource hands-on education project, that students gain a better understanding of their environment and general forest management practices. This understanding, coupled with their new stewardship attitudes towards the forest surrounding their communities, will enhance their knowledge of the future roles they may have in the management of natural resources.

- d. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Table 1, Item 33)**

Amount: N/A



Children taking a lunch break after an educational hike through the forest.



Youth learning how to tell the age of a tree through using a “boring tool” then counting the rings of core sample taken from the tree.