

Nineteen projects approved for Secure Rural Schools funding, Resource Advisory Committee seeks more proposals

Cody, Wyo. (May 11, 2011) – Shoshone forest supervisor Joe Alexander has approved 19 projects recommended by the Shoshone Resource Advisory Committee (RAC).

Beginning in March 2011, the RAC sorted through 26 project proposals and applied criteria developed last fall. The RAC sent 19 projects to Alexander for consideration.

The approved projects will benefit forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds, and other resources; maintain roads and trails; and control noxious weeds. The projects represent approximately \$550,000 of Title II funding. With partner contributions, the total value of the projects is \$1.6 million.

- Bear box and pole installation
- Bonneville Road improvement
- Aspen regeneration in the Clarks Fork Ranger District
- East Fork Trailhead toilet
- Firewood for seniors
- Franc's Fork fish screen
- North Fork Shoshone irrigation canal fish screen
- Timber Creek fish passage
- Upper Sunshine Diversion fish ladder
- Holmes Ditch fish screen
- Horse Creek Diversion improvement
- Inventory and control of noxious weeds
- Jones Creek Pass Trail reconstruction
- Middle Creek Nordic ski bridge
- Purdy and Cartridge Creek II tree planting
- Ramshorn Trail reconstruction
- Red Canyon Ranch coordinated resource management
- Sinks Canyon climber's toilet
- Spring Mountain winter closure gate installation

RAC members began meeting in September 2010 to develop a plan to solicit project proposals for the estimated \$600,000 in Secure Rural Schools Act (SRS) Title II funds available in Park and Fremont counties. Last winter, Committee members worked to get the word out to communities

surrounding the Shoshone National Forest about available funds for projects and the types of projects allowed.

The Committee will have up to \$75,000 for additional projects. Proposals must be submitted by June 15, 2011, to the SRS website at

https://fsplaces.fs.fed.us/fsfiles/unit/wo/secure_rural_schools.nsf/RAC/Shoshone+?OpenDocument.

Projects must be located on National Forest System lands in Park County or on other nearby lands if the project will benefit the resources of the national forest.

The Shoshone RAC was approved by the Secretary of Agriculture in 2010 and consists of citizens representing diverse interests across the Shoshone National Forest.

Details about the selected projects are available on the SRS Title II web site, accessible through the Shoshone National Forest web site at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/shoshone/>. Additional information about the SRS, Title II funds, and resource advisory committees is available from the Forest Service web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/srs>.

For more information about the selected projects, how to submit proposals, or the Shoshone RAC, contact Olga Troxel at 307.578.5164 or otroxel@fs.fed.us.

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