

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION (IDPR)
GRANT APPLICATION

READ instructions carefully before completing this application.
*****Use the space provided on this form only.*****

IDPR Use Only
Rec'd by:
Date:

Applicant Agency: Boise National Forest, North Zone (Lowman/Emmett/Cascade Ranger Districts)

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Address: 7359 Highway 21 Lowman 83637
City Zip

Contact Person: Zach Poff Recreation Specialist
Name Title

Address: Same As Above

Daytime Phone: (208) 259-3361 Cell Phone: 208-867-1922 Fax

E-Mail: zpoff@fs.fed.us [X] Check if you would like an email confirmation IDPR received application

County (where project is located): Boise, Valley, and Gem Counties

Common name of project: North Zone BNF Heavy Trail Maintenance, Rotation 1 (Please See Appendix A)

Project Location (state highway, area or body of water nearest to the site location and proximity to the nearest town or physical address): This project would encompass trails located in the Lowman, and Garden Valley area in and around Hwy 21, Silver Creek, Cascade, Stolle Meadows, and the Johnson Creek area.

IDPR Program from which you are applying for funds:

(Check one box only)

- [] Waterways Improvement Fund (WIF)
[] Recreational Vehicle Account (RV)
[X] Off-Road Motor Vehicle Fund (ORMV)
[] Motorbike Recreation Account (MBR)
[] Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
[] Recreational Road & Bridge Fund (RRBF)
[] Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
[] Other

Grant Amount Requested: \$46,800.00 Match Amount Committed: \$66,994,335.00

Briefly describe the overall grant project (In one sentence): The intent of this project is to maintain a large amount (rotation 1 approximately 300 miles) of the 502 miles of motorized trail located on the North Zone of the Boise National Forest in an attempt to mitigate resource damage and address safety concerns providing enhancement of current trail opportunities.

It is hereby mutually agreed and understood that the use of these funds will be for the purposes stated in this document only and are subject to the terms of the current Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's Grant Agreement for this project, as signed by the authorized individuals. It is also understood that the applicant will comply with the appropriate Recreation Program rules as they now exist. Applicants that receive grants involving federal funds must comply with requirements as outlined in the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. PLEASE SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMPLES OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURES.
Signature of Authorized Representative Title
Typed or Printed Name Date

FOR WATERWAYS IMPROVEMENT GRANTS ONLY

The County Waterways Committee agrees and understands that this application meets the county's waterways improvement planning requirements.

County Waterways Committee Chair Please Print Name Here Date

1) PROGRAM PURPOSE - How does this project address the stated purpose of the program?
(Please refer to the Program Description section of this manual for explanation of the program purpose.)

The Motorbike Recreation Account states that funds from this account shall be used "for the securing, maintenance, construction or development of trails and other recreational facilities for off-highway vehicle use on state and federal lands".

The North Zone of the Boise National Forest has over 770 miles of trail. These trails are diverse ranging from wilderness trails in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness to highly used ATV trails. Of these trails 502 miles are motorized, there is an ongoing need for maintenance on the majority of these trail systems. As population increases and more people take to the forest for recreational opportunities our responsibilities as land managers also increase. The 2013 Report to Congressional Requesters by the Government Accountability Office states "the Forest Service has more miles of trail than it has been able to maintain, resulting in a persistent maintenance backlog with a range of negative effects." The Boise National Forest has made a tremendous effort in the last 3 years with the help of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) to meet and exceed trail maintenance goals. Continuing on the progress the forest has made we expect to maintain 300+ miles of trail for 2013 and 2014, along with the support of various volunteer groups and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Trail Rangers. The heavy maintenance of our trail system is imperative to reduce the backlog of deferred maintenance and ensure the safety and longevity of the trail system as a whole.

2) PROJECT URGENCY –

- a) Describe the urgency of this project due to potential resource damage, or other impacts that may cause an opportunity to be lost if no action is taken. **If this project is not funded, what affects will it have?**

1994-2011

The Boise National Forest has adopted a "Zone" concept on the northern half of the Forest (Lowman, Cascade, and Emmett Ranger Districts). In the past there were three separate districts with small (1-5 person) trail crews, currently there is one large (8-10 person) trail crew with a full time coordinator overseeing all aspects of the work. The North Zone of the BNF utilizes a tremendous amount of assistance from the IDPR Trail Rangers/Trail Cat program as well as volunteer groups, who in 2013 donated over 1000hrs of labor on our trail systems. The last three field seasons have seen tremendous trail crew work and outside assistance reducing the backlog of deferred trail maintenance, however, there is still a backlog of deferred trail maintenance. Unfortunately, deferred trail maintenance leads to trail degradation, safety concerns and in severe instances trail closures. Regular trail maintenance is necessary to prevent resource damage, ensure user safety, and reduce costly large scale projects in the future. Currently the Boise North Zone Trail Crew is one of the largest trail crews in the region, without supplemental funding the zone trail program labor force and production will be greatly reduced or become non-existent.

- b) **How does the project address public health and safety issues? (See examples in the application instructions.)**

Trails maintained to the Forest Service Standards in accordance with the National Quality Standards for Trails* provide a higher level of public safety and health for trail users. Crews work to mitigate public health and safety issues that users may encounter by removing obstacles, brush and addressing resource damage among other things. "The Forest Service has faced new trail maintenance challenges, including widespread wild land fires, extensive tree dies-offs due to insect and disease outbreaks, and more recreational use of its trails, all of which can require more maintenance to keep trails safe and passable"(GAO Report, 2). This statement is very indicative to the Boise National Forest, as a result there is the potential for high use trails needing clearing, erosion control and hazard tree removal more than which can be provided by our volunteer partners. It is the goal of the Forest Service to provide "heavy maintenance" that previously mentioned partners cannot accomplish. Potential measures will include but are not limited to: routine brushing, removal of hazard trees, improvement and addition of drainage features, widening of trails, armoring and improvement of switchbacks and washouts and removal of obstacles in the trail itself providing a safer more enjoyable experience for users.

**National Quality Standards are national criteria that establish the level of quality in terms of health and cleanliness, resource setting, safety and security, responsiveness, and condition of facilities for National Forest System trails managed at a full service level. -USFS*

3) PROJECT IMPACT -Describe how the project creates new opportunities not currently available?
(See examples in the application instructions)

There are a large number of trails that are currently in disrepair and virtually non-existent. Heavy trail maintenance on many of these trails ensures that trails are brought up to standard according to the afore-mentioned National Quality Standards. On more frequently used motorized trail systems regular maintenance will open new opportunities to novice/ intermediate level riders and provide a more sustainable trail for advanced riders. Also, many of the multi-use trail systems need to be maintained as such to provide a quality recreation experience for all users. Each season the Zone Trail Crew takes on a number of large scale project such as new construction, re-routes of existing trails, and improvement of structures such as bridges and switchbacks. Each of these projects adds new and improved opportunities to users. It is our hope to continue large scale construction projects adding new opportunities along with regular maintenance as time and money allow.

Comment [HDJ-1]: Good. To make it stronger add a blurb about maintaining public access to trails. Access, access, access is a huge thing for Idahoans.

4) PLAN OR SURVEY - Is this project included in an outdoor recreation plan or survey? How does this project relate to the recommendations of the plan? (See application instructions for examples of recreation plans.)

This project is part of the annual trail rotation plan for each of the following Forest Districts: Lowman, Cascade, and Emmett.

This project is included in the current Forest Plan which states as an agency we will “maintain, modify, or improve, as needed, the area trail system to reduce impacts to water quality and to improve user safety” (2003 Forest Plan as amended in 2010 (2010 Forest Plan)).

Most recently the previously mentioned 2013 Government Accountability Office Report to Congressional Requesters reflects that one of the Forest Service's major issues is “recreational trails require regular maintenance, including removal of trees and other debris and repairs to bridges. Without proper maintenance, trails can become dangerous or unusable”.

It is clear that the Forest Service and its user groups care about recreational opportunities and want to preserve them. According to this proposal we would be able to provide and enhance the trail experience and protect access to existing public lands for many different user groups visiting the National Forest. Trails have been a part of the Forest Service since its inception; we would like to see this continue through the maintenance of current trail systems and the process of incorporating new systems.

5) **SCOPE OF WORK -**

- a. **Describe what the project will accomplish.** Describe the project planning. Explain, in detail, what will be accomplished, including the number of units, timetable, etc. If equipment, who will be using, number of hours used per year, and for what? (**IMPORTANT:** Construction drawings or conceptual plans **should be attached to this application.** Please do not use anything larger than 11x17 size paper.)

Trail Plans for the Lowman, Cascade, and Emmett Districts call for regularly scheduled maintenance on a three year rotation. All trails have been assigned one of three maintenance intervals. Higher use trails are to be maintained, to at least a minimum standard, every year. Moderate use trails will be maintained biennially and low use trails triennially (see Appendix A for full three year rotation cycles). Rotation 3 of trail maintenance was accomplished in 2013 with the help of an Idaho State Parks and Recreation grant, over 1000 volunteer hours, and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Trail Rangers.

Due to the large amount of trails, volunteer groups and the IDPR Trail Rangers typically clear downfall to open trails and are not able to perform heavy maintenance. This proposal would allow for the "heavy maintenance" of the trails described in year one of the trail rotation (see Appendix A) by funding 8 individuals for 45 days of work, the remainder of their tour will be funded through USDA force account. 300+ miles of trail between three ranger districts would receive maintenance. Please refer to **Appendix E** for a map of motorized trails in the North Zone. The majority of funds would be used for salary of trail crew members. All scheduling will be done by the North Zone Recreation Staff for the 2014-2015 field season, approximately June-October.

Work will include, but not be limited to the following;

1. Cleaning and maintenance of existing water bars, drain dips, and check dams
2. Installation of water diversion devices (including grade dips, check dams, and rolling dips) at necessary locations
3. Switchback armoring and repair
4. Tread work to remove slough or berms and repair and re-establish trail tread
5. Brushing and logging out of trail corridor
6. Sign installation and maintenance
7. Puncheon/turnpike and minor feature construction
8. Realignment and rehabilitation of cheater routes and trail braiding
9. Assist and implement any large scale trail projects such as tread construction, bridge and drainage installation, supervision of any contract trail crews.

All maintenance activities will meet minimum specifications and standards for trail maintenance as described in the 2007 edition of the Forest Service Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook.

Have you discussed this project (in detail) with IDPR staff and/or the respective advisory committee member? Please list the IDPR staff and/or committee member:

Name:

Date Contacted:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

6) JUSTIFY THE NEED AND DEMAND FOR THE PROJECT -

Describe the **CURRENT** use in the area (*Waterways, RV, ORMV, and/or other*) and the **POTENTIAL** use expected with the development of this project. (Include user days, types of users, number of users during high use, etc.) Describe the current deficiencies and how they will be corrected with the development of this project. **Why is this project needed?**

The majority of trail users come from the Treasure Valley to enjoy the extensive trail systems throughout the forest. There are also a large number of people who come from out of state and across the country to enjoy the many trail opportunities. Many of these visitors from long distance come for the single track motorized opportunities and there is also an influx during the fall as many hunters converge on this area in pursuit of big game.

Many of the single track riders use this area as a "destination" as they can feasibly ride motorcycles from Yellow Pine to Stanley without spending any significant time on a road. The overall use of the system as a whole has been characterized as moderate with some of the more popular trails being characterized as high use.

As part of this project the resurgence of trail-head registers has been implemented to give a better understanding of user groups and numbers. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation have recorded 168% increase in OHV registration since 2000, and consistent annual increase since 1973 in OHV registration while the most recent Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Plan (SCORTP 2012-2016) has shown a 104% increase in OHV use between 1994 and 2011. With the annual increase in motorized users the recreation staff has installed new interpretive kiosks at major forest portals in an attempt to educate users about the Motorized Travel Management Plan and inform the users of motorized opportunities.

Regularly scheduled maintenance for public health and safety, as well as for a quality recreational experience is evident and well documented in several Federal and State surveys. The above mentioned Boise National Forest LRMP, the Idaho Trails Plan, the Forest Service NVUM, and the 2005 ATV/ Motorbike User Survey all show that the public expects a reasonable level of trail maintenance and that that maintenance level is currently falling short.

As match to the requested grant funds supplementing the Boise National Forest North Zone trail maintenance program, the grant request will allow Forest Service trail maintenance funds to extend Forest Service employees season of work. It will also enable the zone to purchase needed supplies and conduct design and planning for future projects. Since the inception of a Zone Trail Crew in 2011 there has been over 1200 miles of trail maintenance accomplished*.

*This number includes all of the work performed by the IDPR Trail Rangers/Trail Cat and volunteer groups.

7) MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION - Describe provisions for ongoing maintenance and operation of the project (*Who will be responsible for the maintenance and operation and what is the annual budget?*)

Ongoing maintenance is the absolute key to this project! With support both monetarily and through on the ground work it is a lofty goal to maintain the hundreds of miles of trail on the forest. If a large number of the trails can be brought up to standards the work to maintain them would lessen. This obligation will fall on the shoulders of the agency, outside groups (i.e. Youth Conservation Corps) and support from our dedicated volunteers.

Fiscal year 2013 federally allocated accounts on the BNF budgeted approximately \$130,000.00 for maintenance of 300+ miles of trail. This amount covered salary, vehicles, maintenance, field per-diem and supplies. There were also other funds that were used to cover trail crew expenses and hire on extra support bringing the total for maintenance near \$200,000.00. The majority of money spent on the trail program goes directly to ground work. With the financial insecurity we find ourselves we continue to struggle to support our strong history and quality trail maintenance.

The Zone recreation staff always has a plan to stretch our dollars as far as possible for the good of the users and the resource. Through careful planning and the efforts of volunteer groups we are confident that we can meet and exceed goals in the present and the future providing a well maintained trail system.

***PLEASE SEE ATTACHED ARTICLE APPENDIX E**

8) OBLIGATED MATCHING FUNDS – (a.) List the source, (b.) amount, and give a (c.) description of matching funds obligated to the project. Add column “b” and put total at the bottom.

(a.) CONTRIBUTOR	(b.) AMOUNT	(c.) DESCRIPTION
USFS Trail Foreman Salary, Vehicles (3), field per-diem, supplies	49,944.00	Obligated Funds
Treasure Valley Trail Machine Association/ Back Country Horsemen/ Idaho ATV Club	1450.00	Volunteer man hours committed. 200 Hours at 7.25/hr
15 days wages for 8 trail crew employees @130.00/day	15,600.00	
TOTAL	66,994.00	

*Provide letter(s) of commitment or other documentation to verify the match from **each** contributor. Your match will not be considered without appropriate letter(s) of commitment. Make sure the dollar value is noted on the letter of commitment.*

The total in column “b” must be the same as the total in the “matching share” column “B” on the next page.

9) USER GROUP SUPPORT – Describe the amount of support this project has from its associated user group(s). How has this support been demonstrated? (List supporting groups and attach letters of support.)

Treasure Valley Trail Machine Association
Squaw Butte Backcountry Horsemen
Boise ATV Trail Riders
Emmett “Rough Riders” ATV Club

Please See Attached letters

10) BUDGET

Project Name: North Zone Heavy Maintenance

For IDPR Use Only Grant #	Source of Funding			IDPR Use Only
	(C) Total Cost	(B) Matching Share	(A) Grant Request	Amount Approved
Project Components				
45 days wages for 8 employees @ 130/day	46,800.00		46,800.00	
180 days wages for Trail Coordinator @ \$203.58/day	36,644.00	36,644.00		
Expense of three crew vehicles. \$216/month - \$.50/mile 2,000 X .71 = 4260 2,000 X .44 = 2640 <small>Vehicle cost are \$.71/mile and \$.44/mile One vehicle is large crew carrier; other is a 4 door pickup. Cost is pre-determined and paid via force account.</small>	2,3008.00 0.00	2,300.00		
Field per diem	7,000.00	7,000.00		
Equipment maintenance and supplies	4,000.00	4,000.00		
15 days wages for 8 trail crew employees @ 130/day. Funded through USDA Force Account	15,600.00	15,600.00		
Volunteer hours 200hrs @ 7.25/hr =	1,450.00	1,450.00		
TOTALS	113,7943.3 54.00	66,994.00	46,800.00	
% of TOTAL	100%	59 %	41 %	%

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*Round to the nearest dollar and percentage. Be sure to check your addition. Columns A+B=C.

NOTES:

- For RV, WIF, ORMV, Motorbike, Road & Bridge projects – match is not required (except for motorized equipment as noted below), but more points are awarded to projects with financial commitments from the sponsor.
- For RTP projects only – A 20% match is required with 5% of the total project being non-federal money.

- For WIF projects only – grants for motorized equipment valued up to \$50,000 require a 25% match. WIF grants for motorized equipment valued at greater than \$50,000 require a 20% match.
- For ORMV, RTP, Motorbike and RV projects - grant requests for motorized equipment over \$1,000 (each) and under \$50,000 (each) shall require a minimum of 50% matching funds to be eligible for funding under Board Policy.
- For LWCF – 50% match is required.

The following questions are for administrative use and must be completed to establish eligibility of the project.

A. ACCESSIBILITY – Explain how the project complies with accessibility requirements as stated in the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards, Americans with Disabilities Act Guidelines, or Uniform Building Code? (**Include construction drawings or conceptual plans to support accessibility. Please do not use anything larger than 11x17 size paper.**)

The Forest Service follows the Accessibility CC standards on all trails whenever possible.

B. SITE DESCRIPTION - Describe the site as well as the surrounding area. Explain the compatibility of the project to the site. (*Include site location map, scale site plan including boundary and utility information, if available.*) If the grant is for equipment, describe where it will be used (include map). Be specific.

Please refer to the attached area map.

C. PROJECT DESIGN - Who will design and/or engineer this project? Is the person/company licensed?

_____ North Zone of the Boise National Forest Trail Coordinator _____

D. PROJECT PERIOD – What are the intended start and completion dates?

Estimated Project Start Date: ___9___ / ___1___ / ___2013___

Estimated Project End Date: ___6___ / ___30___ / ___2014___

Do not begin on your project or incur costs until notified by an IDPR grants specialist.

E. PROJECTED LIFE OF THE PROJECT/EQUIPMENT -

- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 16-20 years
- 20+ years

F. USE FEE - Will a fee be charged for use of or access to this project?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, justify the need to charge and specify the amount, to whom the fee will apply, and how the collected fee will be used. Be specific.

G. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT - Describe the public involvement process (*in detail*) used in the planning of this project and the results of the input (*attach necessary documentation*). **If your project will impact fish and/or wildlife, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game must be notified.**

NOTE: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL APPLICANTS AS STATED IN IDAPA CODE 26.01.31.100.03. YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT ELIGIBLE WITHOUT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT!

The Boise National Forest published a press release on 12/13/2012. This release was published in the Idaho Statesman, Messenger Inbox (Gem County), Star News along with being displayed at the Boise National Forest Supervisors Office and on the BNF web page.

H. PERMITS - Does this project require any necessary permits or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation? Yes No

- If Yes, the permits have been obtained (*attach copy*)
- the permits have been applied for
- the permits have not been applied for
- the approved NEPA documentation is complete (*attach copy*)

If Yes, please identify the permits that will be required: _____

I. APPLICANT OWNERSHIP - Describe ownership of the project site:

- The application is for equipment/service (*land ownership is not required*).
- Applicant owns land (*attach a copy of Fee Simple Title – Is the deed and title clear?*)
- Applicant has a Management Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding with the legal landowner/management agency. (*Attach copy of MOU and letter of support from landowner*)
- If ownership is different from above, describe specifically:

J. For Recreational Trails Program Grant Applications ONLY

Motorized Non-Motorized Diverse Use (Must check one. See program descriptions)

Project Name _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

This survey is a requirement for funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Recreational Trails Program. Please complete all items. Only those projects selected for funding will be submitted to the FHWA for their approval. **Please note that any answer enclosed by a box requires further explanation (on a separate sheet).**

1. Land Use

a. Briefly describe the land use in the project area. Attach a land use map if needed.

b. Is the project consistent with management/development plans for the area? Yes ___ No

Name of Plan _____

2. Socioeconomics

Will the proposed project *positively or negatively impact, or have no effect* on any of the following?

- a. Health/Education Facilities + no effect --
- b. Emergency Service Providers + no effect --
- c. Public Utilities + no effect --
- d. Residential Area + no effect --
- e. Handicapped, Minorities, or Elderly + no effect --
- f. Local Tax Base + no effect --
- g. Economic Activity + no effect --

3. Natural Resources

a. Are any of the following in the project area? (please check)

Streams	___	Floodplains	___	Wild and Scenic Rivers	___
Rivers	___	Lakes	___	National Natural Landmarks	___
Wetlands	___				

b. Will the project permanently or negatively impact the following?

Soil Erosion or Sedimentation Yes No ___ Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Yes No ___

4. Historic and Archeological Resources

a. Will the project have an effect on historic or archeological resources? Yes No ___

b. If the project has an effect on historic or archeological resources, Yes No ___
has the effect been coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office?

5. Hazardous Wastes

Is there any potential for involvement with hazardous wastes? Yes No ___

6. Noise

Is there potential for the project to have a noise impact on surrounding land uses? Yes No ___

7. Air Quality

Will the project have an adverse impact on air quality? Yes No ___x___

K. For Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Applications ONLY

(Further explanation of the project may be described on a separate sheet.)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- I. Project Type: Acquisition Development Redevelopment
 Combination: Acquisition & Development
- II. Is the facility part of or adjacent to another recreation facility?
 Yes No
- III. Is the facility a former LWCF Project? Yes No If yes, list project number(s) 16- _____
- IV. How many acres are included in the project? _____
- V. GPS Coordinates (Deg./Min./Sec./Dir.) _____
Latitude _____ Longitude _____
- VI. Maps: The 6(f)(3) project boundary map is a dated project boundary map showing the park area to be covered by Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965. The map should provide location, size indicators and a picture of key facilities and landmarks to help later project inspectors better identify and evaluate the site. All streets must be labeled, include a north arrow, etc. The area will be the entire park, open space, or recreation area being developed or added to. The property must remain open to public outdoor recreation in perpetuity.
- Submit a map that shows the location of the site. The location map must give sufficient detail so a person who has never been in the area before can find the site.
- VII. Congressional District where the project is located: _____
- VIII. Does the project acquire or protect wetlands? Yes No If yes, please explain.

- IX. What currently exists on the property? (Any existing development, power lines [underground or overhead], sewer or water, buildings, etc.) If support elements such as roads, parking, water, sewer, and power do not exist on the property, please explain how they will be provided. Also describe any changes you will make to them.
- X. How does this proposal implement statewide outdoor recreation goals as presented in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) (include references).
- XI. Has any prior environmental review been undertaken at any time for this proposal or related efforts that could be useful to understanding potential environmental impacts? If so, please explain.

FUNDING:

- I. Fifty percent (50%) match is required on all LWCF projects.
- II. The applicant agency will be responsible for the Grand Total in relation to the completed project. Explain how your agency will finance the total cost of the project. Remember, LWCF money cannot be used as "seed money". LWCF only reimburses completed work.

Do not start work on the project prior to receipt of a signed agreement.