

# 2004 Title II Application

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000                      Public Law 106-393		Project Number: (assigned by Designated Federal Official)	
USDA Forest Service Gifford Pinchot Resource Advisory Committee			
<b>1. Project Information:</b>			
A. Project Title: Silver Star Scenic Area Motorized Use Barriers			
B. Title II Funds Requested \$59,380	C. Partner Contribution \$20,144	D. Total Project Costs \$79,524	
E. Project Start Date: July 15, 2004	F. Project End Date: October 15, 2004	G. County(ies) Skamania & Clark	
H. Forest Service Person Familiar With Project: Jim Nieland	I. Is this project being proposed as a merchantable material pilot project?    Yes ___ No <u> X </u>		
J. Project Location (include legal description, project area map (mandatory), road #s if pertinent, watershed (river, stream, lake, etc.), land ownership(s), etc., FS Ranger District. Include name of Landowner if project will occur on private land. Upper East Fork Lewis River, Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Gifford Pinchot National Forest. T3N R4E S1, 10, 24, 25; T3N R5E S6, 31; T4N R4E S34, 36; T4N R5E S30, 32, 35			
K. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes:			
a. Total Acres:	b. Total Miles:	c. No. Structures:	
e. No. Labor Days:	f. Other (specify): 500 boulders at 10 locations; improved gates at 3 locations; 25 signs installed.		
<b>2. Project Applicant (Sponsor)</b>			
Applicant/Organization: Washington Trails Association (Susan Saul); Chinook Trail Association (Roger Anderson)			
Phone: 206-625-1367 (WTA) 360-906-6769 (CTA)	FAX: 206-625-9249 (WTA)	Email: <a href="mailto:smsaul@wa-net.com">smsaul@wa-net.com</a> <a href="mailto:traildog@pacifier.com">traildog@pacifier.com</a>	
Address (Street or P.O. Box, City, State, ZIP)			
(WTA) 1305 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 512 Seattle, WA 98101-2401	(CTA) PO Box 997 Vancouver, WA 98666-0997		
<b>3. Project Contact</b>			
Name & Title Jim Nieland, Recreation Planner/Region-6 Cave Management Specialist			
Organization/Jurisdiction: Mount St Helens National Volcanic Monument			
Phone: 360-449-7846	FAX: 360-247-3909	Email: <a href="mailto:jnieland@fs.fed.us">jnieland@fs.fed.us</a>	
<b>Forms and Instructions are available on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest website (<a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf">www.fs.fed.us/gpnf</a>). If you have questions or need assistance in filling out the application please contact the Forest Service Partnership Coordinator for your area.</b>			
<b>North RAC – Dave Olson (360-891-5154)</b>		<b>South RAC – Sue Ripp (360-891-5153)</b>	

#### 4. Project Description

Describe the project by addressing each of the following items: **Each item must be addressed.**

- A. Describe the project.
- B. Explain how your project is consistent with a resource management plan(s).
- C. Explain quantifiable project elements (e.g., road/stream miles, acres treated, # structures, commodities produced, jobs generated, # of laborer days, peoples served, economic activity, etc.)
- D. Identify what environmental, cultural and/or historical resource requirements are needed.
- E. Identify how the project will be completed, by whom, and their capacity to implement the project.
- F. Describe desired outcomes (ecological conditions, maintenance or stewardship objectives, commodities or other economic activity generated).
- G. Identify project partners, how they will work together, and how relationships will be enhanced.
- H. Identify if this is a continuation of a previously funded Title II project. Identify yes, what was funded, and what was completed.

**Response:**

- A. The Silver Star Scenic Area abounds with views, wildflowers and desert-like "wide open spaces." On a clear day, a visitor can see five volcanic peaks, the Columbia River Gorge, Saddle Mountain in the Coast Range, and the skyscrapers of downtown Portland. The flora of these open ridges features typical subalpine species normally found at higher elevations in the high Cascades. Unauthorized motorized vehicle use, including driving through fragile wildflower meadows and across cultural resource sites, continues to degrade the area's recreational and scenic qualities. Trampling and introduction of invasive species by motorized vehicles threaten the botanic features. Previous vehicle barricades have been either vandalized or circumvented. Vandalism has been so severe at the Road 4109 North trailhead that the USFS has removed it from the Northwest Forest Pass recreation user fee program. Washington Trails Association (WTA) and Chinook Trail Association (CTA) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding management of the Silver Star area in order to address this unauthorized motorized use. The USFS and DNR would close and reinforce existing gates, place large boulders at ten access points to block motorized vehicle access, and narrow tread where possible so quadrunners can't get through. Boulders have proven to be effective barriers elsewhere in the East Fork Lewis River watershed and they fit well into the natural setting. The boulders would be acquired from quarries close to the access points to be blocked in order to minimize hauling costs. A local contractor would be hired to haul and place the boulders in excavated holes and bury them to a depth from which they can't be pulled by vandals. The boulders would be oriented and sloped so a chain or strap cannot be placed around them. WTA and CTA volunteers would do the finishing work to fill dirt around the boulders, restore natural vegetation at the trailheads, and spread oat straw for erosion control until natural vegetation becomes established. The USFS would provide and maintain all new signage at trailheads and trail intersections, including those located on DNR land. WTA and CTA volunteer work parties would continue to provide trail maintenance in the Silver Star Scenic Area.
- B. This project is consistent with forest management plans and is endorsed by the USFS. The USFS closed the Silver Star Scenic Area to motorized use in the 1989 Forest Travel Plan. The 1990 Forest Land Management Plan reinforced that decision with the Scenic Area designation. A 1993 decision document converted approximately 8.5 miles of old roads to trails.
- C. Quantifiable project elements are the 500 boulders to be placed at 10 access points; improved gates at three locations on DNR land; and 25 signs installed at trailheads and trail intersections.
- D. The environmental assessment for this project has been completed and SHPO concurrence has been received so all resource management requirements for this project have been met.
- E. This project will be completed by a contractor working under supervision of the USFS. Rock will come from DNR quarries or be purchased from a commercial rock pit.
- F. The desired outcome of this project is an end to unauthorized motorized use of the Silver Star Scenic Area. Meadows will slowly recover from the damage if left alone.

- G. Project partners are WTA, CTA, USFS and DNR. This project would enhance the partners' credibility by demonstrating their concern for natural resources and recreation facilities protection and showcasing their ability to work together. The USFS will be responsible for selecting a local contractor and administering the contract. The USFS and DNR will be responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the boulder placement and gate reinforcement. CTA and/or WTA will be responsible for recruiting, scheduling and supervising youth and adult volunteers.
- H. This project has not has not been funded under Title II in a prior year.

## 5. Goals and Objectives

Describe the project including, but not limited to: **Each item must be addressed.**

- A. How does the proposed project meet the purposes of the Legislation?
  - 1. Create employment opportunities;
  - 2. Improve maintenance of existing infrastructure;
  - 3. Implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems; and/or
  - 4. Restore & improve land health & water quality.
- B. Is this project coordinated with other related project(s) on adjacent lands? (if yes, describe)
- C. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved?
- D. How is this project in the best public interest? Identify benefits to communities.
- E. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?

**Response:**

- A. This project meets the purposes of the Payments-to-Counties law by improving the abilities of USFS and DNR to protect the natural and cultural resources of the Silver Star Scenic Area. It brings together the public and private sectors in partnership to accomplish stewardship objectives that will improve land health and the recreational experiences of non-motorized users.
  - 1. This project would create employment opportunities by hiring a local contractor that uses local labor to haul the boulders and place them at the 10 access points. Potential youth training opportunities include the Educational Service District 112 youth program and the AmeriCorps volunteer program to do finishing work and native plant restoration under the guidance of crew leaders from WTA and CTA.
  - 2. This project would improve maintenance of the existing infrastructure by discouraging vandalism at the trailheads.
  - 3. By blocking unauthorized motorized use, this project enhances the ecosystem of the Silver Star Scenic Area.
  - 4. By blocking unauthorized motorized use, this project will improve land health. Meadows will be protected from trampling and erosion.
- B. There are no related projects on adjacent lands.
- C. This project is fostering a higher level of partnership between the USFS and DNR, WTA and CTA. Volunteers will be involved in maintaining the trail system, as well as doing the finishing work on the boulder placement and helping with sign installation.
- D. Silver Star Scenic Area is well known for its botanical displays and scenic views. It is a favorite hiking and wildflower area and often is a destination during the Friends of the Columbia Gorge's annual Gorge Hiking Weekend. Improving the credibility of land managers would positively affect the public's perception of recreation in southwest Washington and attract more recreation users. Hiking is one of America's fastest growing recreational activities. In 2000, almost a third of Americans - 67 million people - went hiking, so trails contribute to the local economy when people buy gas, food and other necessities while pursuing their activity.
- E. Boulder placement on DNR lands is essential to blocking motor vehicle access. Seven of the 10 access points to be blocked are located on DNR lands adjoining USFS lands to the south and west. The existence of old roads and fire breaks built prior to the scenic area designation are a temptation for unauthorized use and the multiple entry points from DNR lands make enforcement difficult. News publicity associated with this project will make more local residents aware of the motorized vehicle closures and the resource values to be protected.

6. Budget Information			
Total Title II Funds Requested (based on worksheet below – Line p.):			
Is this a multi-year funding request? Yes No			If yes, then display \$ need by fiscal year.
Previous years	requested <sup>1</sup>	approved	FY04 Request:
FY02			FY05 Request:
FY03			FY06 Request:

### Budget Summary

**You must attach a detailed cost worksheet which displays how you determined the cost figures below. This information is needed to substantiate your budget estimate. Indicate if contributions are Cash=C or In-Kind=IK. See instructions for an example of a detailed cost worksheet.**

**If your project requires Forest Service resources, be sure they are included in the Title II funds requested.**

Budget Categories	Title II Funds Requested (1)	Other Contributions			Total Costs (5)
		USFS (2)	DNR (3)	WTA & CTA (4)	
a. Personnel	\$560 [C]	\$1,600 [IK]	\$1,400 [IK]	\$6,300 [IK]	\$9,860 [IK]
b. Fringe benefits	\$180 [C]	\$480 [IK]	\$432 [IK]		\$1,092 [IK]
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. NEPA & Sec. 7 ESA consultation		\$1,000 [IK]			\$1,000 [IK]
f. Permit acquisition					
g. Materials & supplies	\$900 [C]				\$900 [C]
h. Project design & engineering		\$500 [IK]	\$500 [IK]		\$1,000 [IK]
i. Contractual	\$56,860 [C]				\$56,860 [C]
j. Monitoring		\$500 [IK]	\$475 [IK]		\$975 [IK]
k. Indirect costs - Applicant	\$880 [C]	\$7,668 [IK]	\$289 [IK]		\$8,837 [C] and [IK]
<b>l. Total</b>	<b>\$59,380</b>	<b>\$11,248</b>	<b>\$2,596</b>	<b>\$6,300</b>	<b>\$79,524</b>

Title II Project Summary, page 6

### **7. Project Work Form**

List tasks and time frames necessary to complete your project. Show who will complete each task.  
Time frame should include month/year. Ex: June 2002 – July 2002

<sup>1</sup> Show amounts, if any, previously requested and approved by the RAC for this project.

Tasks	Time Frame	Who Will Complete Work
Block access to USFS 4109 South (DNR W-1282 recently abandoned with Cardemon Timber Sale) by improving upon existing gate and rip-rap placement as needed. 40 large boulders spaced 30" apart.	July - October 2004	Contractor
DNR L-1265 continue to block Grouse Vista Trailhead by increasing use of rip-rap. 30 boulders needed spaced 30" apart.	July - October 2004	Contractor
Abandon DNR L-1211. Reinforce the L-1210/L-1211 gate.	July - October 2004	Contractor
Block abandoned L-1213 (unsanctioned horse trail known as Appaloosa Trail) and L-1212 spurs with rip-rap. 30 boulders spaced 30" apart.	July - October 2004	Contractor
Block access to abandoned DNR L-1100C by reinforcing gate at the L-1217/L-1210 junction with 10 large boulders.	July - October 2004	Contractor
Block the abandoned DNR L-1100C from the junction with L-1180 to the east with large boulders. Westward access from this junction provides access to private property and may need to be retained. Block access to abandoned L-1189 by placement of large boulders.	July - October 2004	Contractor
USFS Road 4109 North, Silver Star Trailhead. Block uphill side of road with boulders for 500 linear feet. Place triple rows of boulders to block user-developed 4-wheel drive tracks. 300 boulders spaced 30" apart.	July - October 2004	Contractor
Starway Trailhead. Place 10 boulders along side of existing gate, spaced 30" apart to block vehicles from driving around gate.	July-October 2004	Contractor

Bluff Mountain Trailhead. Place 20 boulders in old roadbed, now Bluff Mountain Trail, in three rows 30" apart.	July-October 2004	Contractor
Install Carsonite travel management signs at trailheads and directional signs at intersections. 25 signs showing permitted uses of trail and reason for restriction. Will have USFS and DNR logos on bottom of sign to denote authority.	July-October 2004	USFS. DNR. CTA. WTA
Provide finishing work around boulders, smoothing soil and planting native vegetation, and reestablishing trail tread as needed.	July-October 2004	CTA, WTA

**8. Project Planning Information**

Planning Item	Completed		
	Yes Date	No	Est. Date
			Not applicable

a. NEPA* Analysis Complete:	X	12/31/93		
b. NOAA* Sec. 7 ESA* Consultation Complete:				X
c. USFWS* Sec. 7 ESA* Consultation Complete:				X
d. Survey and Manage Complete:				X
e. WDFW* Permits -Formal HPA* Complete -Covered under MOU* with WDFW* -Not Completed				X
f. COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:				X
g. SHPO* Concurrence Received:	X			
h. Project Design(s) Completed:	X	03/06/03		
*NEPA=National Environmental Policy Act, NOAA=National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, ESA=Endangered Species Act, USFWS=United States Fish and Wildlife Service, WDFW=Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, HPA=Hydrologic Permit Approved, MOU=Memorandum of Understanding, COE=Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO=State Historic Preservation Officer				

If NEPA has been completed, who completed the analysis? USFS

If NEPA has not been completed, how will the analysis be completed?

If you identify uncompleted planning items above, insure the costs are displayed in the budget summary and attached detailed cost worksheet (Item 6).



## 9. Monitoring

Describe the monitoring plan to be used for this project. This should include identifying positive & negative impacts of implementation. Address who, how (evaluation criteria, methods, etc.) & when the following information will be gathered:

- A. Did the project meet or exceed desired ecological conditions?
- B. Did it create local employment or training opportunities?
- C. Did the project improve the use of, or add value to, any products removed from lands consistent with the purposes of this Act?
- D. What was accomplished with any previous Title II funding received for this project.

**Quarterly project updates, final accomplishment, and monitoring reports will be required.**

**Response:**

Periodic visual inspection will be used to determine whether boulder placement and gate reinforcement have been effective in stopping unauthorized motorized use of the Silver Star Scenic Area. The presence or absence of motorized vehicle tracks will indicate whether the project is functioning as designed. The USFS and DNR will be responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of boulder placement and gate reinforcement.

Visual inspection of the Silver Star Scenic Area trails and meadows will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of boulder placement in protecting the area's resources. Undamaged meadows and natural revegetation of old vehicle tracks will serve as indicators that the area's biological, cultural, and scenic resources are being protected and restored for the benefit of the ecosystem and the enjoyment of non-motorized recreational users.

The USFS will be responsible for preparing, awarding and administering the contract for rock hauling and placement. It will be the responsibility of the USFS to ensure that a local contractor is selected to do the work and that the contractor hires local labor.

CTA will be responsible for recruiting, scheduling and supervising any youth training and employment opportunities through Educational Service District 112.