

**State and Private Forestry
 FY 2009 Western Competitive
 Grant Process
 Multi-State Application Form**

Administration Information	
Dollar Amount Requested:	\$300,000
Matching Share:	\$419,500

Lead Applicant Information	
1	State Forestry Agency: Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS)
	Contact Person: Joseph A. Duda, Forest Management Division Supervisor
	Address: Campus Delivery 5060, Foothills Campus, Bldg. 1050
	City/Zip Code: Fort Collins, CO 80523-5060
	Phone (Work/Cell): (970) 491-7546 970) 222-8690
	Email: Joseph.Duda@ColoState.EDU
	Fax: (970) 491-7736

Lead Applicant - Project Information				
2	Title of Proposed Project:	Sugarite Cañon Watershed Protection Project		
	Names of Partnering Agencies / Organizations:	New Mexico Forestry Division, City of Raton (NM), Colorado Division of Wildlife, Culebra Range Community Coalition (CRCC) Community Driven Forest Health Project, Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service		
	State(s):	CO	Congressional Districts:	3rd
	Counties:	Las Animas	Forest Service Regions:	R2

Lead Applicant - 3 rd Party Contributors								
Please specify each 3 rd Party contributor and the dollar value of each contribution. Please DO NOT show grant requested funds in this table. This is for 3 rd Party matching share only.								
3	Contributors: (Please specify by name)	CO Div. of Wildlife	Las Animas County	SpanishPks-Purgatoire Riv. CD	CRCC			TOTAL
	Value of Contributions:	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	0	\$0	\$19,500

Lead Applicant - Total Project Expense				
	Grant Share (\$ requested)	Applicant	3rd Party Contributors	TOTAL
		Cash¹	In-Kind²	
Personnel / Labor:	\$32,782	\$56,911	\$19,500	\$109,193
Fringe Benefits:	\$7,868	\$13,089	\$0	\$20,957
Travel:	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Equipment:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Supplies:	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Contractual:	\$0	\$125,000	\$0	\$125,000
Construction:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Other:	\$150,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$152,000
Indirect Costs:	\$9,350	\$0	\$0	\$9,350
TOTAL:	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$19,500	\$419,500

¹ 'Cash' is the value of any qualifying match the applicant pays for such as cash, staff time, supplies, or equipment.

² 'In-Kind' is the value of any qualifying match contributed by a 3rd Party contributor such as cash, donated time, supplies, or equipment.

Co - Applicant Information								
1.1	State Forestry Agency:	New Mexico State Forestry Division (NMSF)						
	Contact Person:	Jeremy Kruger						
	Address:	4001 Edith Blvd. NE						
	City/Zip Code:	Albuquerque, NM 87107						
	Phone (Work/Cell):	505-345-2200						
	Email:	jeremy.kruger@state.nm.us						
	Fax:	505-345-1392						
Co – Applicant Project Information								
2.1	Title of Project:	Sugarite Cañon Watershed Protection Project						
	Partnering Agencies / Organizations:	City of Raton, Colfax Soil and Water Conservation District, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service, New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service						
	State(s):	NM	Congressional Districts:	3rd				
	Counties:	Colfax	Forest Service Regions:	R3				
Co-Applicant - 3 rd Party Contributors								
3.1	3rd Party Contributors: (Specify by name)	NMSF	City of Raton	Colfax County	FWRI	Colfax SWCD	NMDG&F	TOTAL
	Value of Contributions:	\$112,500	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$2,500	\$200,000
Co - Applicant - Total Project Expense								
4.1		Grant Share (\$ requested)	Applicant	3rd Party Contributors				TOTAL
			Cash³	In-Kind⁴				
	Personnel / Labor:	\$32,782	\$25,000	\$75,500				\$133,282
	Fringe Benefits:	\$7,868	\$6,000	\$0				\$13,868
	Travel:	\$0	\$2,000	\$0				\$2,000
	Equipment:	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$ 0
	Supplies:	\$0	\$4,000	\$0				\$4,000
	Contractual:	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$12,500				\$137,500
	Construction:	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$ 0
	Other:	\$0	\$0	\$0				\$ 0
	Indirect Costs:	\$9,350	\$0	\$0				\$9,350
TOTAL:	\$100,000	\$112,000	\$88,000				\$300,000	

³ 'Cash' is the value of any qualifying match the applicant pays for such as cash, staff time, supplies, or equipment.

⁴ 'In-Kind' is the value of any qualifying match contributed by a 3rd Party contributor such as cash, donated time, supplies, or equipment.

Project Duration	
5	What is the duration of this project? <input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three Years

National Relevance	
6	Conserve Working Forest Landscapes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Project Description	
Maximum 9000 Characters Including Spaces – PLEASE SPECIFY BY STATE THE COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT THAT WILL OCCUR IN EACH STATE	
7	<p>FOCUS: This project will greatly increase protection for the City of Raton's primary water supply through implementation of forest and watershed restoration treatments. The Sugarite Cañon Watershed (43,200 acres) has been identified by county, state, and federal officials in New Mexico and Colorado as an area at risk of large and catastrophic wildfires and in the Colfax County CWPP as a high priority area for treatments. Most of the forest lands within the watershed are owned by the City of Raton and straddle the New Mexico/Colorado border. Objectives of the Sugarite Cañon Watershed Protection Project include: 1) Reduce the risk of severe impairment of the City of Raton's water supply due to crown fire in the municipal watershed, 2) Restore the ecological health of the watershed to promote enhanced wildlife habitat, and 3) Provide a unique educational forum for residents , visitors to Sugarite Cañon State Park and students from Raton schools and Highlands University.</p> <p>PRIORITY: The 2008 Sugarite Watershed Stewardship Plan prepared for Colfax County by consultants utilizing GIS spatial analysis techniques identified forest restoration treatments as a high priority. The City of Raton depends on the three reservoirs it maintains in Sugarite Cañon for its main water source. Forest and Watershed Restoration-Forest health treatments will focus on high priority areas identified in the Colfax County CWPP and the Sugarite Watershed Stewardship Plan. These areas drain to Lake Maloya and Lake Dorothy, two of the City of Raton's reservoirs. The two forest types having the highest priority for treatment are ponderosa pine woodlands and xeric mixed-conifer forest; both occur on the slopes directly above the lake. The objectives of the treatment prescriptions are to reduce the threat of crown fire in the municipal watershed by reducing tree densities, canopy cover and basal area and improve forest and watershed health. Although prescriptions are site specific, general guidelines include taking advantage of existing forest structures such as large trees, groups structures and canopies to provide variation in forest structure across the landscape.</p> <p>OUTCOMES: Outcomes will include \$375,000 of financial assistance to treat over 1200 acres in targeted high priority areas (out of 3,280 remaining high priority acres), 2-3 public events addressing watershed health, 3-5 outdoor classroom sessions for local schools, and support for several existing and planned biomass utilization projects in the area. State and local land managers (CSFS, NMSF, NM State Parks, City of Raton, Colorado Division of Wildlife) have already implemented treatments on 1,379 acres to improve forest and watershed health while reducing threats to the municipal water supply. Funding from this grant will be used by CSFS and NMSF to implement treatments on private and municipal lands within the watershed, utilizing a collaborative, multi-jurisdictional, landscape scale approach to improving forest and watershed health with the primary goal of reducing the potential for a catastrophic wildfire to damage Raton's water supply. This project will promote utilization of woody biomass by making raw materials available to local small diameter processing facilities producing wattles, animal bedding, pellets and poles. Additionally, woody biomass from the Sugarite project will augment the existing supply coming off the Carson National Forest.</p>

The Colorado Portion: The Colorado portion of this project will include forest treatments on approximately 800 acres of City of Raton owned property in Colorado.

The New Mexico Portion: The New Mexico portion will include close to 400 acres of treatments.

The public events will occur in both states and the outdoor classrooms will be located at the project site (on the border) and will include school kids from both states.

This proposal represents a collaborative effort to implement recommendations outlined in the Stewardship Plan. The plan, a product of inter-agency efforts to characterize the health of and threats facing the Sugarite Watershed, provides a landscape scale approach to watershed restoration. Restoration activities in the watershed since 2002 have treated significant acreage and have led to excellent working relationships between the aforementioned collaborators. This multi-phase project will utilize current forest stand and vegetation data to implement treatments in high priority areas of ponderosa pine, gambel oak and mixed conifer forest types. The project will employ monitoring and adaptive management techniques to assess the effectiveness of treatments and to provide a mechanism for project evaluation.

Program Integration

Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces

The Sugarite Cañon Watershed Restoration Project brings the resources of two states, multiple USDA FS S&PF programs, the City of Raton, and private landowners together in a common cause. The integration of these entities allows a collaborative, landscape scale project that addresses an issue of critical importance across the west. USFS CFRP grant funded preparation of the stewardship plan. The NM State Water Trust Board paid for the initial round of thinning within the watershed. NM State severance tax funded the CWPP that lists Sugarite Watershed as a priority. The NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, funded in large part through USDA, will assist with monitoring. Additional monitoring will be conducted with assistance from a Forest Health Specialist supported through USFS (SPCH) and state funds. Recipients of previous CFRP and Southwest Sustainable Forestry Partnership grants support utilizing biomass from these projects. The local NRCS office has approached private landowners regarding availability of EQIP. The cumulative outcomes of these integrated programs will be measurable on-the-ground treatments that reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and improve the overall health of the watershed.

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Collaboration	
9	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>Colorado State Forest Service will take the lead on developing and implementing this project in partnership with the New Mexico State Forestry Division. The City of Raton is the primary landowner within the watershed and will assist with project design, contractual services, outreach and education within the community. Colfax Soil and Water Conservation District will provide technical assistance through the NRCS. The Colorado Division of Wildlife and New Mexico Department of Game and Fish will both assist with project design and implementation as well as monitoring. CSFS will help with project design and monitoring effectiveness of forest treatments. The New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute will assist in project monitoring and through providing educational opportunities for Highlands University students. Natural Resource Conservation Service will assist with monitoring and outreach to private landowners to develop EQIP projects on adjacent lands to meet project goals. The Culebra Range Community Coalition (CRCC) Community Driven Forest Health Project will provide outreach for implementation and product utilization. Spanish Peaks-Purgatoire River C. D. will provide outreach and technical assistance.</p>

Leveraging	
10	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The cross boundary/landscape scale nature of the Sugarite project will focus financial, physical, and political resources of Colorado and New Mexico in a complementary and collaborative way that will increase treatment area and support the states' capacity needs. Colorado and New Mexico State Forestry organizations will provide leadership and guidance bringing together individual authorities and skill sets to maximize output. Local partners such as the City of Raton and Colfax County will be instrumental in building the outreach component and increasing the visibility of the project by arranging media tours and site visits for local and state legislators. The non-government organizations such as the Nature Conservancy, Cimarron Watershed Alliance, and past collaborators such as Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will be key to getting volunteers out on-the-ground. Other agency partners such as NM State Parks, NRCS, and the NM Environment Department will donate supplies, assist with developing educational curriculum and provide professional expertise in their respective disciplines. The Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute will provide opportunities for students.</p>

Meaningful Scale	
11	<p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>This project will treat over one third of the high priority acres within the Sugarite watershed, significantly reducing the threat of crown fire within the municipal watershed. Over 1,300 priority acres have already been treated. This project treats an additional 1,200 acres of the 3,280 high priority acres identified in the Stewardship Plan. The Sugarite Cañon Watershed Protection Project builds on existing efforts to implement landscape-scale forest and watershed restoration. The highest priority areas on the slopes surrounding the City of Raton's primary reservoirs, Lake Maloya and Lake Dorothy, are targeted under this proposal. The scope of this project crosses jurisdictional and ownership boundaries to create a landscape scale collaborative restoration project.</p>

Sphere of Influence

Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces

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This project will serve as a model to similar communities around the west in several ways. It shows the ability to work across state lines; it shows the ability to work between state and local government; it demonstrates how local participation and support lead to success in coming to terms with the nature of the resource management problem, agreeing on a suite of possible solutions, prioritizing actions, and then leveraging resources to implement them. The methods and techniques of collaborative planning for landscape scale forest and watershed restoration utilized on this project are replicable in other western communities. In addition, NMSF and CSFS will publicize information about the methods and techniques developed in this project for treatment of ponderosa pine-gambel oak forest types. This project will test various methods for treating gambel oak in areas where it presents a significant fire hazard.

Many western communities face threats from wildfire to public water supplies, and many of their municipal watersheds fall under a diversity of public and private ownerships.

Sustainability of Outcomes

Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces

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The treatments proposed under this project will result in lasting improvements in the health of Sugarite watershed. The City of Raton has committed to staff training required to maintain the project's effectiveness. New Mexico State Forestry will sustain monitoring of trial and control plots for five years. Corollary benefits such as biomass utilization, outreach and educational programs, and enhanced recreational opportunities will extend beyond the life of the project. The flow of woody biomass to local small wood businesses will help ensure their sustainability and improve the economic vitality of the area through job creation and skill building. Outreach and education efforts will improve partners' understanding of stewardship values and comprehensive natural resource planning and project implementation. Other longer term benefits to the area's ecology include improved tree vigor and increased resiliency to insect and disease infestation as well as improvements to wildlife habitat. Perhaps the greatest long-term benefit will be to instill in the next generation what Leopold called the "Land Ethic"; to enlarge the boundaries of the community to include soils, waters, plants, and animals, or collectively: the land.