

Project Name: Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Contact Information:

Applicant sponsor: Oregon Department of Forestry – John Day

ODF District Representative: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Phone/Cell: [REDACTED]

Treatment location (150-word limit)

Small Forestlands to be treated will be focused primarily for private land ownerships rated as high to extreme risk, prioritized within 1/2 miles and extending North to Hwy. 26 from Malheur National Forest (MNF), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) bordering lands, and residing in the Laycock Creek, Lower Canyon Creek, Dog Creek, Clark Creek, and Luce Creek sub-watersheds of the HUC_6 John Day Basin. These areas are directly identified as priority one and two of the four highest wildfire risk priorities outlined in the 2021 Grant County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Treatments protect portions of three communities: John Day (moderate), Canyon City (high), and Mt. Vernon (high) communities identified in the 2020 Forest Action Plan (FAP) – Communities at Risk (CAR), and support inclusion and advancement for three existing Firewise Communities; Laycock Creek, Canyon Creek, and Corral Gulch. Boundary Coordinates; 119.1295426°W 44.4177823°N, 118.8299063°W 44.4339043°N, 118.8053229°W 44.3638534°N, 118.8563239°W 44.2226625°N, 119.1439203°W 44.3525541°N.

*Attached: Plan Area Map and GIS shapefile for work area perimeter(s).

Description of Treatment Activities (350-word limit):

The Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction (SGCHFR) project will use cost share for landowner match funds, and use a “rebate” compensation model to support private landowners for hazardous fuels reduction, education, guidance, and technical assistance. This project will create defensible space and support 25-30 small forest landowners for treating 75 acres of hazardous fuels surrounding structures and properties within and neighboring the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) zones prioritized and outlined in the Grant County CWPP (October 2021). Treatments will be completed on private lands by private landowners and/or contractors. ODF John Day Forester(s) will provide technical assistance and layout site specific treatment plans and certification for landowner compensation upon completion of work. Rebates will be proportional to cost per acre & adjusted depending on extent of work to be completed within the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) and adjacent areas in need of hazardous fuels reduction. Cost per acre is estimated to be an average of \$500/acres. Rebates will be paid at \$100, \$300, or \$600 per acre based on light, medium, and heavy treatment requirements. Specific site plans and treatments will follow “Firewise” standards to include forest thinning, pruning, slash removal, hazard tree mitigation, mowing, chipping, and pile burning. Treatments will promote sustainable forest health by removing vegetation affected by prevalent insect and disease, reducing mortality from severe drought, invasive species control, and stimulating forest vigor for remaining forest stand species. Treatments will support fire resistant landscapes by favoring fire dependent species, reducing continuous horizontal and vertical stand structures, thereby reducing the hazard potential for wildfire spread and severity. Primary emphasis will be given to properties that are adjacent (within 1/2 mile) to the MNF, BLM lands or in close proximity to existing Firewise Communities. Adjacent and complimentary fuel breaks along public and private lands boundaries will be created, when possible, to reduce high severity fire risk in the future. There will be ongoing coordination with BLM, MNF, John Day Basin Partnership, NRCS, Grant County Soil and Water, and City of John Day, John Day Rural, and Mt. Vernon Fire Departments to incorporate and coordinate priority fuels treatment projects.

Description of the anticipated benefit (250-word limit):

A combination of years of fire suppression, overstocking (500-700 tpa.), frequent droughts, and lightning storms over steep slopes has changed classic fuels regimes to condition Class 2 and 3. This has resulted in larger, high severity fires, some of which burned through WUI communities in the project vicinity: GC Complex (2013)-13,626 acres; and Canyon Creek Complex (2015)-110,238 acres, 43 structures lost. The SGCHFR project treatment area was derived directly from the two highest priority areas outlined in the 2021 Grant CWPP, and supports three 2020 FAP – CAR. Complimentary leverage projects in and adjacent to the treatment area include USFS: Laycock Creek Firewise Project (beginning 2022), and a joint Grant County Soil and Water Conservation District/NRCS: Blue Mountains Vegetative Health Initiative-RCPP (2017-2021) for non-commercial thinning and juniper removal. Treatment area resides within and compliments current planning areas outlined for the Upper John Day Valley Resiliency - Joint Chiefs proposal (Submission planned June 2022). Consistent with 2020 Census information, Grant County has declined in population serving less citizens, reducing the taxable population, supporting a higher population over the age of 65 (31.4%), having the second lowest mean household income (\$44,712) at 71.2%, and experiencing a higher poverty level than the Oregon average. Treatments through this area will serve communities by reducing fire hazard, restoring fuels to condition Class 1 within the landscape, making insurance more affordable for landowners, and potentially increasing economic opportunities generated from fuels reduction work. Fuels removed could add benefit if utilized for biomass products or firewood.

Timeline for implementation (75-word limit, Bullets preferred):

- O Landowner outreach mailers sent February/March 2022
- O Site plans complete and Funds promised March - October 31st 2022
- O Treatments to be completed March 2022 through June 15th 2023
- O All projects completed/Certified March 2022 through June 15th 2023
- O Invoices complete and sent by June 15th 2023

Budget (150-word limit) and complete the provided Budget Worksheet (Included):

- Funding will be primarily for the direct cost of technical assistance, grant administration, defensible space & fuel reduction treatment “rebates” for private landowners through a cost share program with work accomplished by contractual crews or landowners. An ODF Natural Resource Specialist 2 will provide oversight for the project.
- Leverage sources are private landowner cost share match \$350+/acre @ 75 acres (\$26,500), and leveraged partner agency USFS: Laycock Project costs for non-commercial thinning of 944 acres (\$566,000).
- Overall SGCHFR project costs (\$104,300). Total grant funds requested for the project are \$77,800. Personnel and Fringe (P&F) for landowner Technical Assistance (TA, 29%) P&F to Grant Administration and Reporting (6%), Travel (2.7%), Supplies (5%), Contractual (48%), and Indirect Costs (9.2%). **Treatment minimum Contractual + P&F for landowner TA = 77% requested funds.**
- Personnel (\$18,000) and Fringe Benefit (\$9,000); Travel (\$2,160); Supply (\$4,000); Contractual (\$37,500); Indirect (\$7,140); see budget spreadsheet for descriptions of costs.

**Oregon Department of Forestry
Small Forestland Grant Program
Budget Calculation Sheet**

Instructions: Fill out blue-bordered boxes

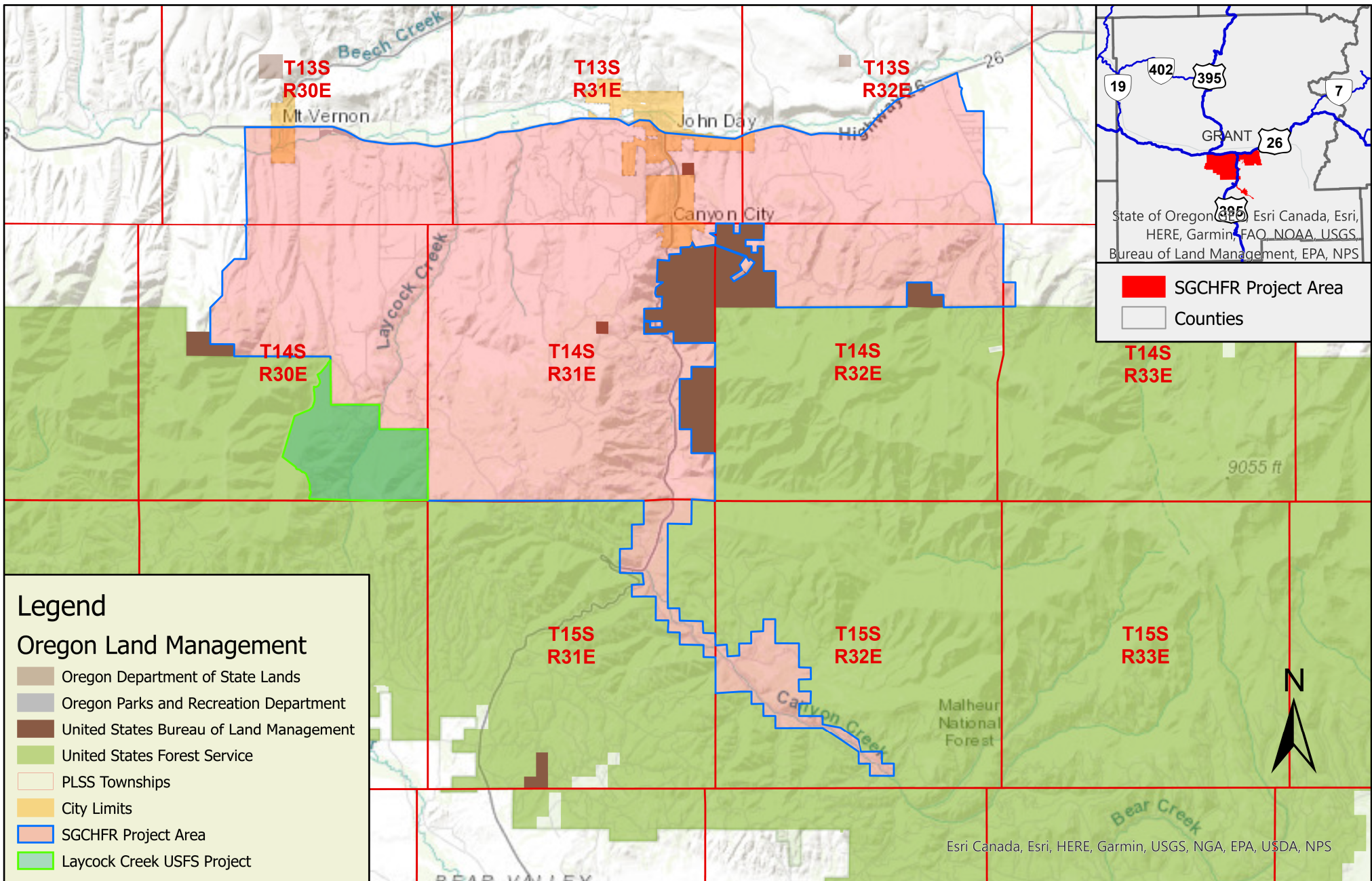
Grant Agreement #/Project Name: _____ # _____ / Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Deliverables	
Below are examples, replace with your projects quantified treatment activities (acres)	
1	75 acres of non-commercial thinning.
2	60 acres of pruning to a height of 8 feet above the ground
3	60 acres of slash treatment and brush removal.
4	75 acres of chipping, or piling and burning.
Treatment Footprint	75 Acres

Cost Category	Grant Request	Leverage (25% required)		Total Project Cost
		Match (if any)	Leverage (if any)	
1. Personnel	\$ 18,000.00			\$ 18,000.00
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 9,000.00			\$ 9,000.00
3. Travel	\$ 2,160.00			\$ 2,160.00
4. Equipment				\$ 0.00
5. Supplies	\$ 4,000.00			\$ 4,000.00
6. Contractual	\$ 37,500.00	\$ 26,500.00	\$ 566,000.00	\$ 630,000.00
7. ODF (if applicable)				\$ 0.00
8. Indirect	\$ 7,140.00			\$ 7,140.00
Total	\$ 77,800.00	\$ 26,500.00	\$ 566,000.00	\$ 670,300.00

Narrative justification by line item: totals should match claim above.

For each line item	Detail by position or item cost, rate, number of units, and subtotals. Tie costs to Deliverables. Example: Personnel and Fringe (\$1,480 and \$740=\$2,220) for 1 Ecologist working 40 hours @ \$37/hour to treatment plan 100 acres of fuel treatments
Personnel & Fringe	Personnel (\$18,000) and Fringe Benefit (\$9,000):Oregon Department of Forestry staff-1 ODF NRS2 @ \$37.50/hour for 400 hours to provide technical assistance, conduct home site assessments, and will provide wildfire education & outreach to WUI landowners. ODF staff will work with landowners to create defensible space treatment plans, design long-term maintenance strategies, and administer the "rebate" certification and cost-share program to landowners (\$22,500; 29% total requested funds applied to treatment). 1 ODF NRS2 @ \$37.50/hour for 80 hours for grant administration and reporting (\$4,500; 6% total requested funds).
Travel	Travel (\$2,160): costs are for ODF staff travel to/from project sites, meet with landowners, and monitor project progress.
Equipment	
Supplies	Supply (\$4,000): costs are for outreach supplies, prevention supplies/materials, mailing supplies/postage for landowner communications and prevention education materials as well as field supplies needed for project completion.
Contractual Payments	Contractual (\$37,500): costs associated with landowner defensible space/fuels reduction rebates (75 acres @ \$500 average/acre = \$37,500). Rebates are used for completing work including thinning, piling, pruning, burning, chipping, mowing and mastication. Landowner costs will be used as match funds (75 acres @ \$350 average/acre = \$26,500).
ODF (if Applicable)	Personnel and Fringe are ODF.
Leverage Sources	Leverage sources are private landowner cost share match \$350+/acre @ 75 acres (\$26,500), and leveraged partner agency USFS: Laycock Project costs for non-commercial thinning, juniper removal and slash treatments of 944 acres adjacent to and bordering project area (\$566,000).
Indirect Costs	Indirect (\$7,140): Fractional staff time and related expenses at 10%.



Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Oregon Department of Forestry-John Day Unit



Number of Panel Reviewer #1		Project Name	Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction	
Priority	Proposal Scoring Rubric	Possible Points	Reviewer Score	
1	Clearly describes treatment activities and how future condition reduces risk of high severity wildfire	20	20	
Reviewer Comments	75 acres: Non-commercial thinning, pruning, slash treatment, brush removal, chipping, piling, burning. Treatments will support fire resistant landscapes by favoring fire dependent species, reducing continuous horizontal and vertical stand structures, thereby reducing the hazard potential for wildfire spread and severity.			
2	Project protects infrastructure, creates shaded fuel breaks along roadways, or is in a Wildfire Risk Class of High or Extreme (HUC 6 watershed)	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	Treats hazardous fuels surrounding structures and properties within and neighboring the Wildland Urban Interface. Adjacent and complimentary fuel breaks along public and private lands boundaries will be created. Private land ownerships rated as high to extreme risk..			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	13	
Reviewer Comments	25-30 small forest landowners			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	13	
Reviewer Comments	Treatments will promote sustainable forest health by removing vegetation affected by prevalent insect and disease, reducing mortality from severe drought, invasive species control,			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	There will be ongoing coordination with BLM, MNF, John Day Basin Partnership, NRCS, Grant County Soil and Water, and City of John Day, John Day Rural, and Mt. Vernon Fire Departments to incorporate and coordinate priority fuels treatment projects.			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Grant County has declined in population serving less citizens, reducing the taxable population, supporting a higher population over the age of 65 (31.4%), having the second lowest mean household income (\$44,712) at 71.2%, and experiencing a higher poverty level than the Oregon average.			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	2021 Grant County Community Wildfire Protection Plan			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	5	
Reviewer Comments	Fuels removed could add benefit if utilized for biomass products or firewood.			
Final Score		Out of 100	96	

Number of Panel Reviewer #2		Project Name	Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction	
Priority	Proposal Scoring Rubric	Possible Points	Reviewer Score	
1	Clearly describes treatment activities and how future condition reduces risk of high severity wildfire	20	15	
Reviewer Comments	clearer on planned treatment(s) than future conditions			
2	Project protects infrastructure, creates shaded fuel breaks along roadways, or is in a Wildfire Risk Class of High or Extreme (HUC 6 watershed)	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	high risk — protection of communities rather than specified infrastructure			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	potentially 25-30—any already interested?			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	generalized description			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	yes			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	5	
Reviewer Comments	yes but vague—county statistics			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	5	
Reviewer Comments	likely given target communities, but unclear without selected participants			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	0	
Reviewer Comments	unspecified			

Final Score

Out of
100

65

Number of Panel Reviewer #3		Project Name	Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels Reduction	
Priority	Proposal Scoring Rubric	Possible Points	Reviewer Score	
1	Clearly describes treatment activities and how future condition reduces risk of high severity wildfire	20	18	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, good description of planned activities (rebate model) and how they would reduce risk of high severity wildfire			
2	Project protects infrastructure, creates shaded fuel breaks along roadways, or is in a Wildfire Risk Class of High or Extreme (HUC 6 watershed)	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, treats properties in High-Extreme Wildfire Risk Class			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	yes			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, notes insects/disease, drought, and invasives. But, doesn't provide a lot of additional details.			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, complements adjacent efforts			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, and good detail provided			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, Grant CWPP			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	2	
Reviewer Comments	Notes that fuels removed <i>could</i> add benefit <i>if</i> utilized for biomass products or firewood. A more active approach would strengthen the project			
Final Score		Out of 100	90	

Number of Panel Reviewer # 4		Project Name	Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuel Reduction	
Priority	Proposal Scoring Rubric	Possible Points	Reviewer Score	
1	Clearly describes treatment activities and how future condition reduces risk of high severity wildfire	20	5	
Reviewer Comments	The proposal is focused on outreach to landowners not a specific plan			
2	Project protects infrastructure, creates shaded fuel breaks along roadways, or is in a Wildfire Risk Class of High or Extreme (HUC 6 watershed)	15	5	
Reviewer Comments	No specific treatments are identified			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	5	
Reviewer Comments	The project would probably work with multiple landowners; however, no specific landowners of projects are identified			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	5	
Reviewer Comments	The treatments referenced could address these issues, but once again the specific treatment by landowner is not defined			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	2	
Reviewer Comments	A collaborative approach could occur, but not currently defined			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	2	
Reviewer Comments	The project are is within a rural community and probably has a population in need, but again not well defined.			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	2	
Reviewer Comments	No specific forest plans reference.			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	2	
Reviewer Comments	The project does not identify forest products.			
Final Score		Out of 100	28	

Number of Panel Reviewer # 5		Project Name	Southern Grant County Hazardous Fuels	
Priority	Proposal Scoring Rubric	Possible Points	Reviewer Score	
1	Clearly describes treatment activities and how future condition reduces risk of high severity wildfire	20	16	
Reviewer Comments	Lists treatment activities and desired future condition, provides some detail on activities but more specificity on treatment specifications would have been nice (thinning/spacing target)?			
2	Project protects infrastructure, creates shaded fuel breaks along roadways, or is in a Wildfire Risk Class of High or Extreme (HUC 6 watershed)	15	12	
Reviewer Comments	High and Moderate risk, protects homes			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	25-30 homes in and around the WUI, map does a good job displaying project area.			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	Treatments will promote forest health by prioritizing removal of drought mortality, insect and disease, and invasive species removal. No specific events or species provided.			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	6	
Reviewer Comments	Priority for ownerships adjacent to federal lands and Firewise communities, lists coordinating agencies. Lost points because previous treatments were not listed on map, nor quantified in write up			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	6	
Reviewer Comments	The project occurs in a county with a vulnerable population, but how vulnerable populations will be engaged, prioritized, or connected to benefit from project funding is unclear			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	8	
Reviewer Comments	Lists one planning area and prioritizes treatment based on county CWPP.			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	2	
Reviewer Comments	Firewood listed but not quantified			
Final Score		Out of 100	75	