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Prineville, Oregon 97754

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Oregon Department of Forestry – 2021 Small Forestland Grant Program

Project Name: Crook County Juniper Fuels Reduction

Contact Information:

Crooked River Watershed Council

498 SE Lynn Blvd.
Prineville, Oregon 97754

Oregon Department of Forestry

3501 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754

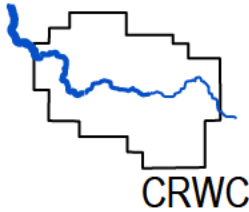
Treatment Locations:

The juniper sites are located on privately owned lands, with one property being within the urban boundary, while the other two are outside of Prineville, Oregon. The first property is in a residential area called Sunset Hills, about 5 miles East of Prineville, Oregon. This landowner [REDACTED] has 22 acres, 13.15 acres of which will be thinned. The second landowner is located southeast of Prineville, Oregon, about 8 miles before Post, Oregon. The second landowner [REDACTED] has 640 acres, 67.42 acres that will be treated. Lastly, the third property (owned by [REDACTED]) is located just on the outskirts of Prineville, Oregon, this property is 440.05 acres, with 258.7 acres being treated. This area is surrounded by infrastructure, subdivisions, and mostly importantly Barnes Butte elementary School. All properties are within the high desert geography, currently dominated by Western juniper.

Description of Treatment Activities:

The treatment activities proposed for these two project locations will be removing and thinning encroached juniper located in moderate to very high risks areas, based on the Advanced Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer. All fallen Juniper will either be piled or removed off-site to another location. If juniper is to be piled on-site, the juniper slash piles will then be burned the following year in the Spring of 2023. Some junipers will be hand fallen with a chainsaw in areas of 20 percent slope or greater, while areas with 20 percent or less slope will be mechanically removed with large machinery (i.e., Timco, Excavator). Both landowners have expressed the capability to do the treatments themselves as they have prior logging experience.

Removing juniper in these areas is critical solely based on the high density of junipers and the infrastructure located nearby. Eliminating/thinning these junipers will reduce fuel loads along roadways and property boundaries, ultimately decreasing the likelihood for catastrophic wildfires that would threaten structures, people, and the environment. Junipers negatively impact understory plants by reducing solar radiation and negatively impacting soil moisture, soil nutrients, and can increase soil erosion. Removing these junipers will help increase the vigor of native bunch grasses by reducing the competition and allowing native grasses to more easily establish. Consequently, this will also help decrease the fuel loads of annual invasive grasses as native species will be able to compete with invasive



annuals, like Medusahead, Ventenata, and Cheatgrass. Studies have been conducted that show invasive grasses burn at a much higher intensity and frequency compared to a native grass stand (Emily J. Fusco et al., 2019). Eliminating these junipers will not only enhance native grasses, but it will also improve habitat for wildlife (i.e., elk and deer) as they will have a wider variety of more nutrient rich and palatable food sources available.

Description of the Anticipated Benefits:

The areas selected to do the juniper treated were based on previous work done by the landowners with the need to expand treatments areas and to protect critical infrastructure (i.e. schools, housing). The new juniper units were selected adjacent to previous treatment areas to create a greater fire-resistant buffer. All projects will benefit surrounding properties and homes, as they're located in dense juniper woodlands, with phase 1 & 2 juniper stands. The adjacent properties have had very minimal to no juniper treatments completed, putting these areas at a much high risker of a wildfire.

This project plans to utilize non-traditional forests products as the juniper removed from the property might be taken off-site to another location, which will be incorporated into a restoration project, a restoration tool known as juniper revetments. The cost to thin juniper treatment areas is minuscule, compared to a catastrophic wildfire hitting these areas. The cost alone to fight a fire in these locations far exceeds the cost to eliminate the fuel loads, making these juniper treatments a high priority.

Timeline:

- April 2022- Pre-project site visit with landowners, ODF and pre-project photo
- May 2022-Juniper flagged by CRWC staff
- June 2022- Begin cutting junipers
- September 2022- Finish all remaining juniper cuts piling
- April-May 2023- Burning of slash piles
- June 2023- Treatment sites inspections & project photos taken by CRWC staff
- June 30th, 2023- Final invoicing for all completed work

Budget:

The project budget is based off the scope of work for this project. This grant will consist of several different project elements -cutting, removing/piling junipers, and burning slash piles. Project costs were broken down to a per acre rate. All project components must be completed based on the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) rate of \$772.67/acre, this includes cutting, piling/removing and burning slash piles. Built into this fixed rate is fuel, equipment mobilization and demobilization, equipment, power saws, and operators.

The Crooked River Watershed Council project managers will oversee the projects and assist landowners and contractors as needed. It's expected that the CRWC will have 100 hours into this project from start to finish, this includes flagging units, projects photos, landowner technical assistance, reporting, and invoicing. The billable rate for project managers at the CRWC is \$42.50/Hr.

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

Instructions: Fill out blue-bordered boxes

Grant Agreement #/Project Name: # _____ / Crook County Fuels Reduction

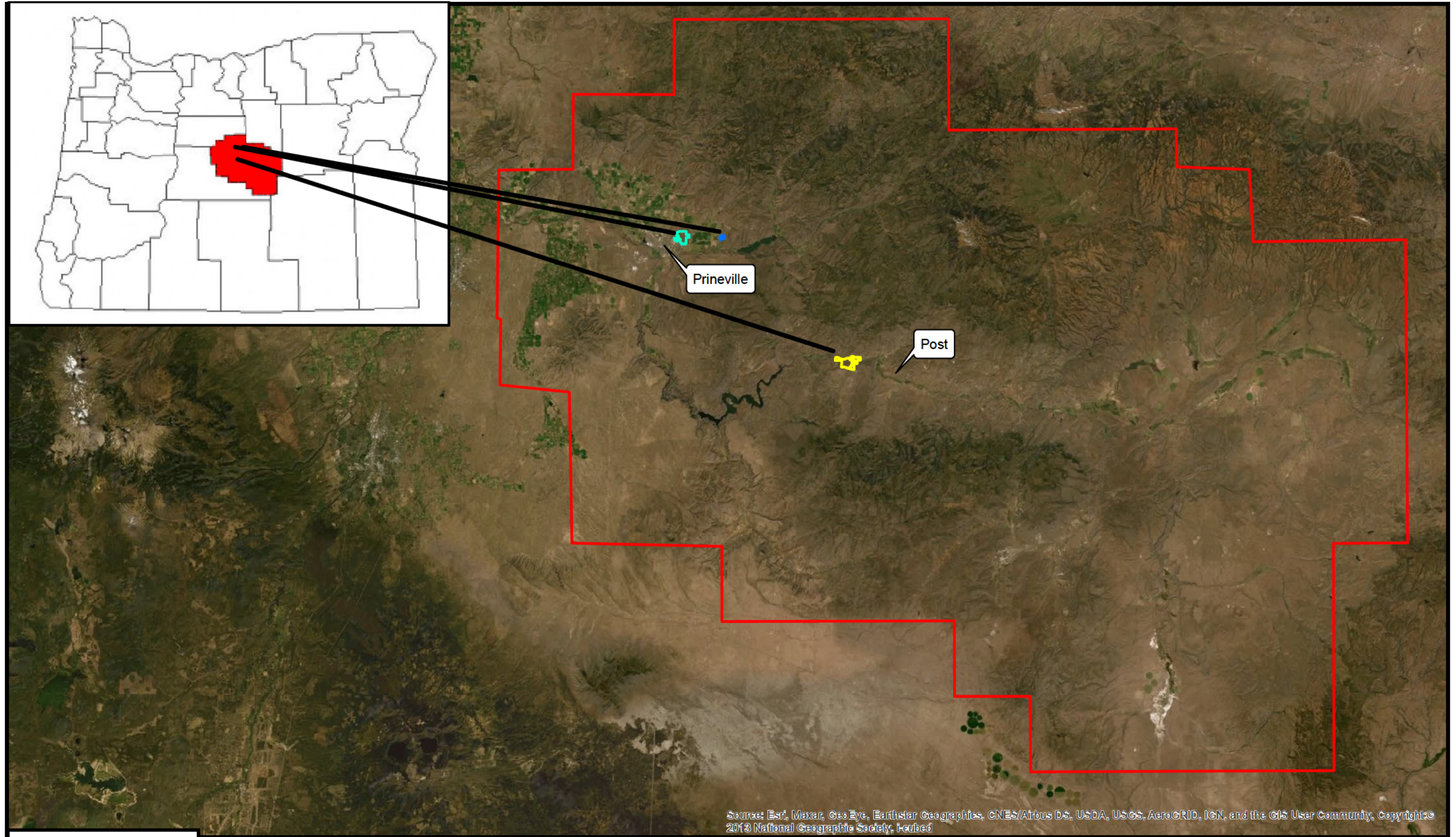
Deliverables	
Below are examples, replace with your projects quantified treatment activities (acres)	
339.27	339.27 acres of non-commercial thinning/clearing
339.27	339.27 acres of slashpile and burning
10	10 acres of stacking trees that will be taken offsite to another project
0	N/A
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
#	Add deliverables as needed
Treatment Footprint	349.27 Acres

Cost Category	Grant Request	Leverage (25% required)		Total Project Cost
		Match (if any)	Leverage (if any)	
1. Personnel	\$ 4,250.00	\$ 6,750.00		\$ 11,000.00
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0.00			\$ 0.00
3. Travel	\$ 392.00	\$ 193.00		\$ 585.00
4. Equipment	\$ 0.00			\$ 0.00
5. Supplies	\$ 0.00			\$ 0.00
6. Contractual	\$ 262,143.75	\$ 54,600.00		\$ 316,743.75
7. ODF (if applicable)	\$ 0.00			\$ 0.00
8. Indirect	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 28,000.00
Total	\$ 284,785.75	\$ 71,543.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 356,328.75

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 (\$4,250) for 2 project managers working 50 hours \$42.50/hour to help complete treatment plans of 339.27 acres
Travel	670 miles of travel during project duration.670 miles @ \$.585/mile= \$392.00 This mileage includes pre project meetings, pre-project photos, project oversight and project monitoring photos. 670 miles & \$392.00 will be grant requested.
Equipment	
Supplies	
Contractual Payments	contractors/landowners will be paid \$772.67/acre(based off NRCS rates- Brush Managment 314) to cut junipers, pile , and burn slash piles. These cost will cover the price to mobilize equipment, fuel, and man hours to complete project componenets.
ODF (if Applicable)	
Leverage Sources	Personnel match will include time working on project and coordinating efforts to get project completed. Travel will aslo be used as match. 330 miles or \$193.00 dollars will be used as match for when project managers are heading out to the project sites. Indirect of \$13,000 will be put towards project in-kind match. Landowners' equipment(Timco, Excavator, Bobcat, skidder) will be put towards project match, \$54,600 will be put towards the projects in-kind match.
Indirect Costs	indirect costs will help pay for interenet expenses, mapping software, office supplies, and office rent and utilities. In total \$18,000 will be asked to help cover many indirect costs over 1+ years

Overview Map

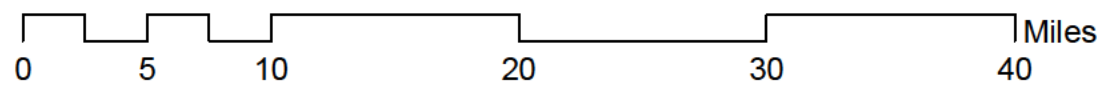


Prineville

Post

Legend

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Crook County-Boundary



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, Copyright © 2018 National Geographic Society, i-cubed



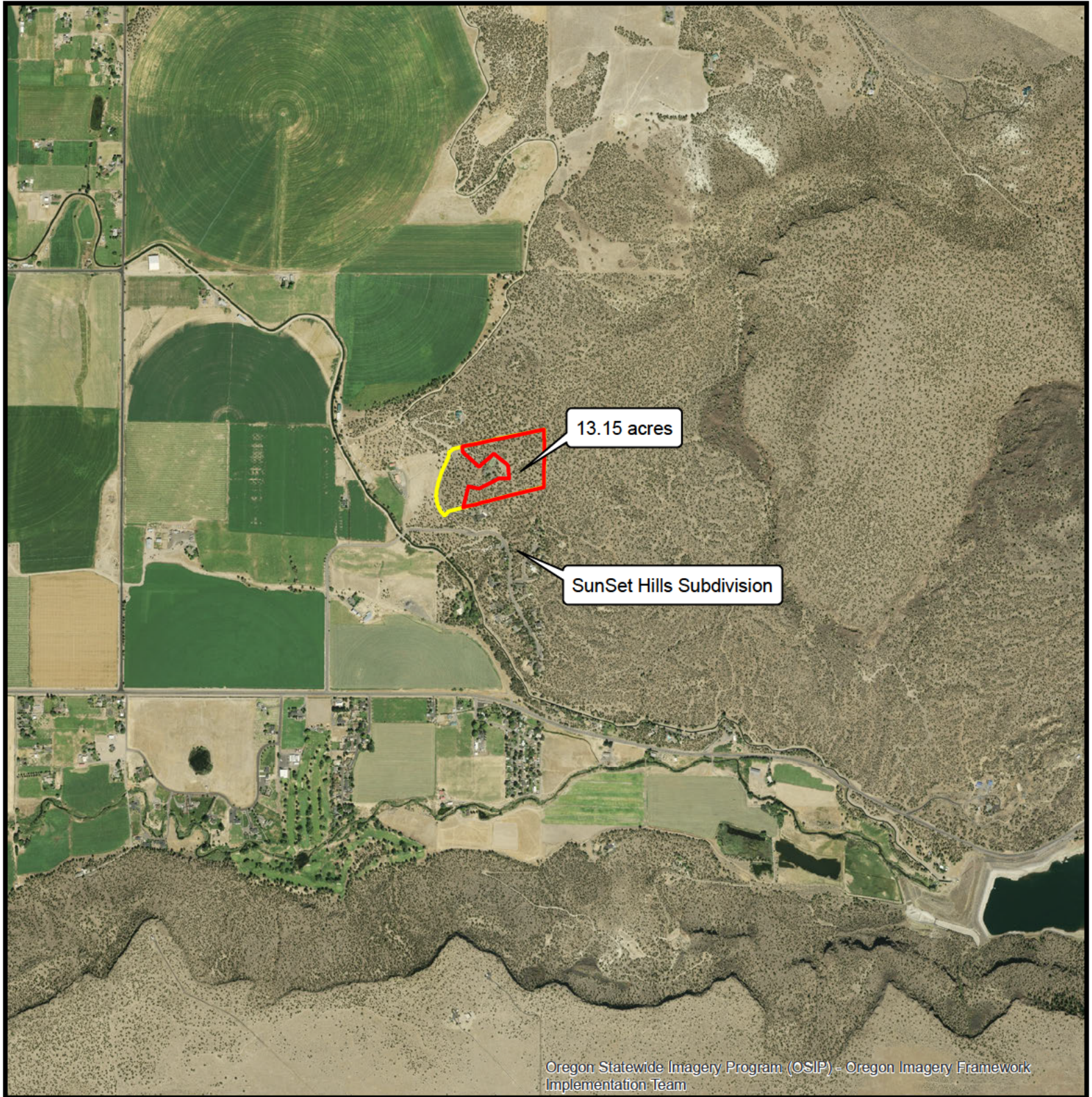
Plan Map

Juniper Thinning Project



Date: 1/10/2022

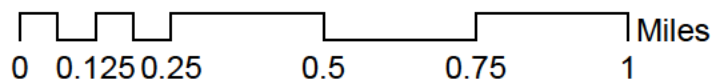
Agency: CRWC

Approximate Acres 22.05



Legend

-  Juniper_Cut
-  Property



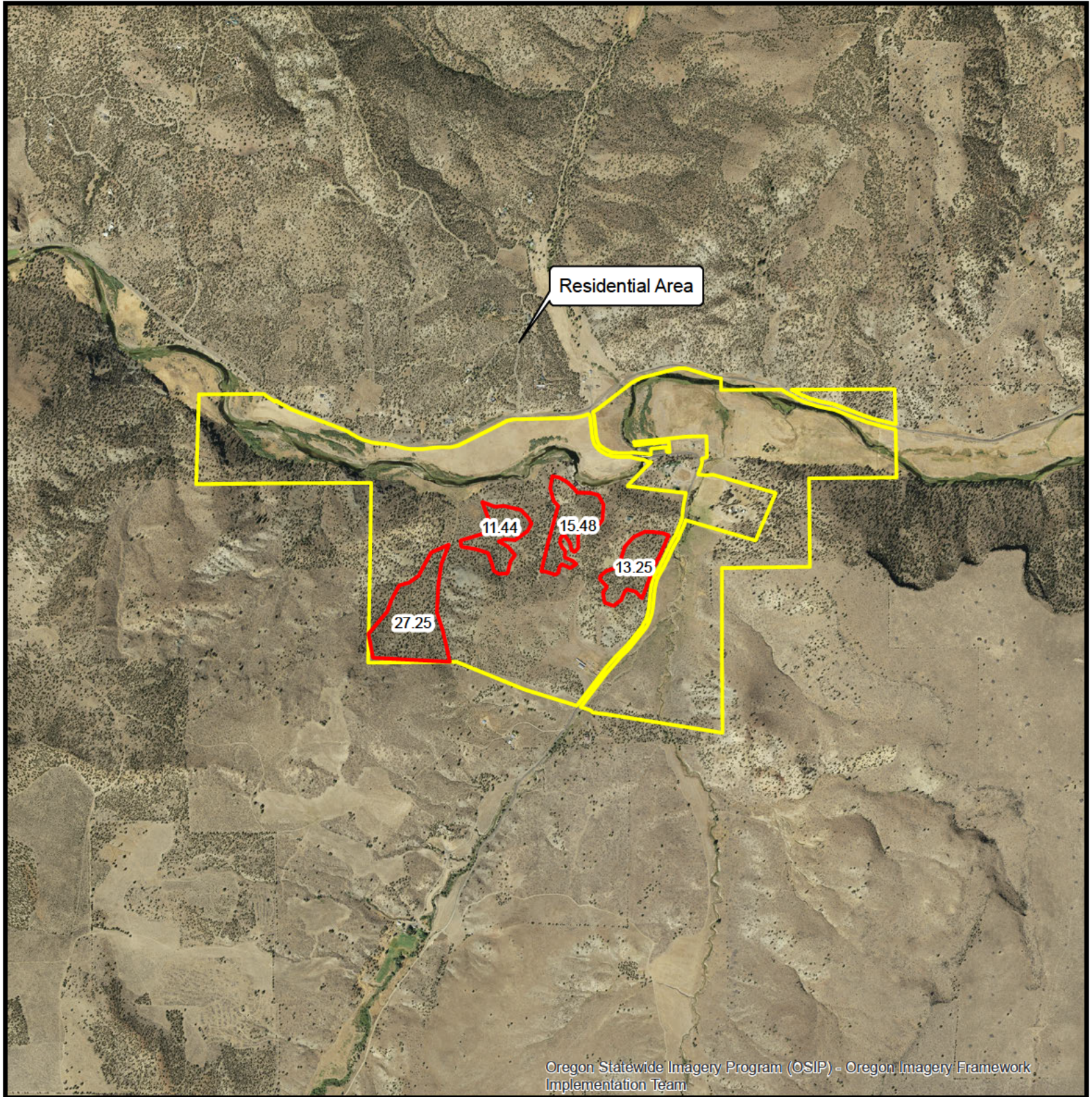
Plan Map

Juniper Thinning Project

Date: 1/10/2022





Agency: CRWC

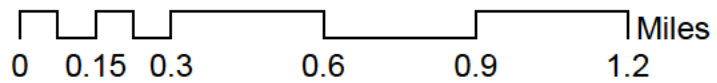
Approximate Acres 640



Oregon Statewide Imagery Program (OSIP) - Oregon Imagery Framework Implementation Team

Legend

-   Juniper Cut
-   Property



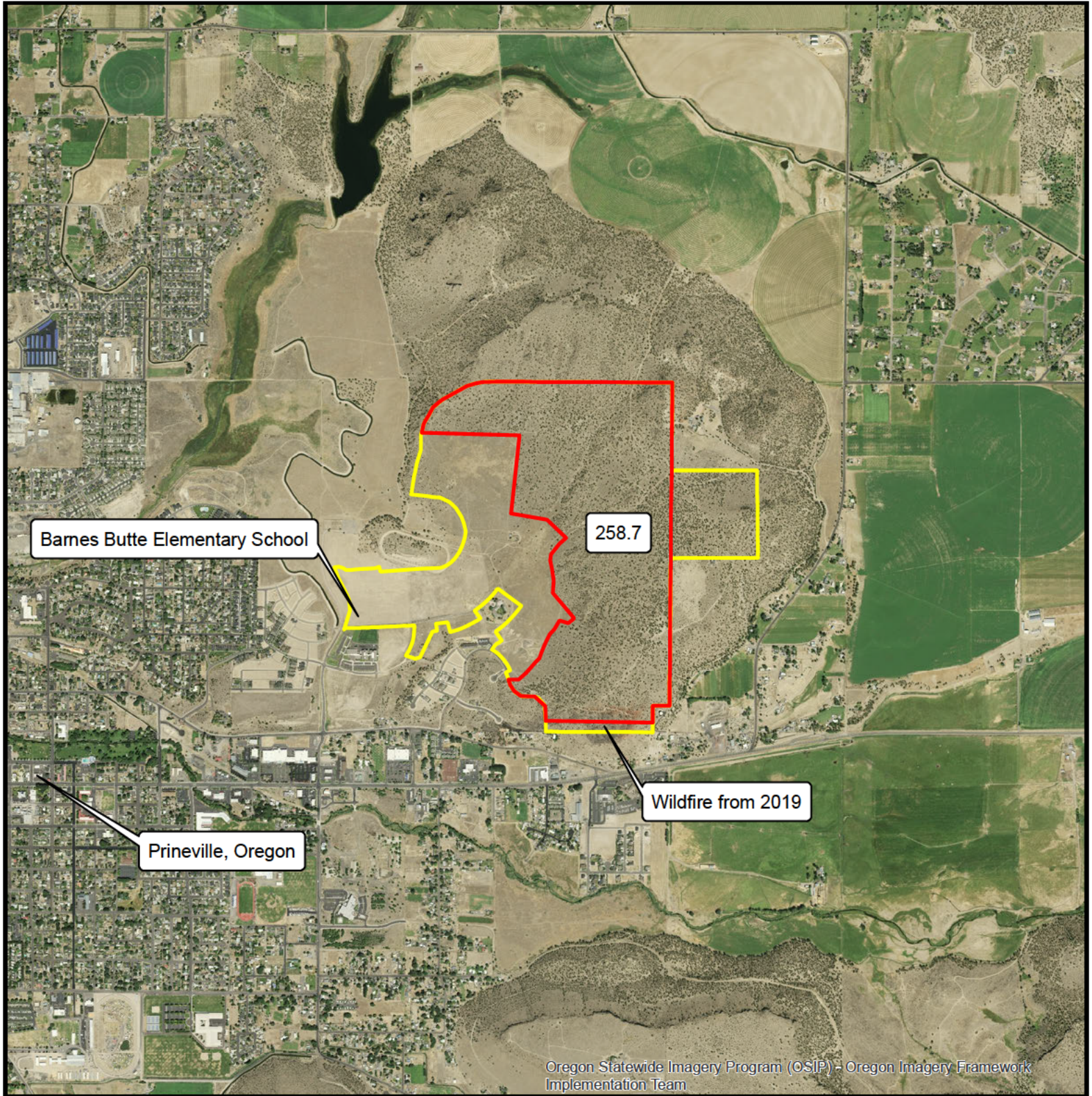
Plan Map

Juniper Thinning Project

Date: 1/10/2022



Agency: CRWC

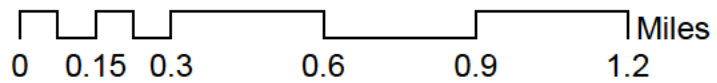
Approximate Acres 440.05



Oregon Statewide Imagery Program (OSIP) - Oregon Imagery Framework Implementation Team

Legend

-  Juniper Thinning
-  Stafford Property



N



Number of Panel Reviewer #1		Project Name	Crook County Juniper 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	349.27 acres: Removing and thinning encroached juniper. All fallen Juniper will either be piled or removed off-site to another location. If juniper is to be piled on-site, the juniper slash piles will then be burned the following year in the Spring of 2023. Eliminating/thinning these junipers will reduce fuel loads along roadways and property boundaries.			
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	The treatment activities proposed for these two project locations will be removing and thinning encroached juniper located in moderate to very high risks areas. Eliminating/thinning these junipers will reduce fuel loads along roadways and property boundaries. This area is surrounded by infrastructure, subdivisions, and mostly importantly Barnes Butte elementary School.			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	4	
Reviewer Comments	Three properties.			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	12	
Reviewer Comments	Removing these junipers will help increase the vigor of native bunch grasses by reducing the competition and allowing native grasses to more easily establish. Consequently, this will also help decrease the fuel loads of annual invasive grasses as native species and improve habitat for wildlife (elk and deer). One of the properties burned in the wildfires of 2019.			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	8	
Reviewer Comments	The new juniper units were selected adjacent to previous treatment areas to create a greater fire-resistant buffer. All projects will benefit surrounding properties and homes, as they're located in dense juniper woodlands, with phase 1 & 2 juniper stands. The adjacent properties have had very minimal to no juniper treatments completed, putting these areas at a much high risk of a wildfire.			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	Could not find where this criterium was addressed.			
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	Three CRCW land management plans , one for each landowner.			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	3	
Reviewer Comments	This project plans to utilize non-traditional forests products as the juniper removed from the property might be taken off-site to another location, which will be incorporated into a restoration project, a restoration tool known as juniper revegetations.			
Final Score		Out of 100	64	

Number of Panel Reviewer #2		Project Name	Crook County Juniper 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	Need & value well presented. Some confusion over precise location of adjacent previously treated vs. untreated areas.			
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	13	
Reviewer Comments	moderate to high risk, local school and nearby subdivision			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	3 properties			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	addresses invasive grasses (as well as juniper), wildlife enhancement			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	5	
Reviewer Comments	Landowners assisting, but unclear where previous work had been done			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	Not indicated			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	Not indicated.			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	5	
Reviewer Comments	juniper revetment			

Final Score

Out of
100

68

Number of Panel Reviewer #3		Project Name	Crook County Juniper 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	Removing juniper, fairly straightforward. Who will maintain gains though?			
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	Appears so, including an elementary school			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	Three properties treated.			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	12	
Reviewer Comments	Notes benefits to elk and deer, and that it would benefit native grasses. Not clear though how removing juniper leads to reduction of invasive annual grasses			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Adjacent to previous treatments			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	Not clear level of protection, or if it is protecting vulnerable populations			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	Not noted			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	5	
Reviewer Comments	Yes, juniper will be incorporated into off-site restoration project			
Final Score		Out of 100	72	

Number of Panel Reviewer # 4		Project Name	Crook County Juniper 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	The plan addresses the challenges with Juniper and its impact on the natural resource of the high desert			
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	8	
Reviewer Comments	The project varies with landowner and density of juniper removal			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	12	
Reviewer Comments	Working within the Prineville area the project covers multiple rural landowners			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	11	
Reviewer Comments	The project is directly addressing the removal of Juniper			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	8	
Reviewer Comments	The project proposes working with multiple landowners in a rural setting			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	6	
Reviewer Comments	The project will provide protection for the community of Prineville, but not necessarily protected property			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	No Forest Plans or others plans addressed			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	3	
Reviewer Comments	The project will utilize the Juniper as a special commodity for facility within the area			
Final Score		Out of 100	63	

Number of Panel Reviewer # 5		Project Name	Crook County Juniper 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	Does not state/quantify what density/target thinning goal is, remaining material specifications provided			
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	13	
Reviewer Comments	Moderate to high risk, along roadways, adjacent to subdivision and elementary school, not clearly articulated in write up, but map display is helpful			
3	Project treats or protects multiple properties	15	15	
Reviewer Comments	Lists 3 pre-identified landowners, with treatment specifications listed and identified on the map.			
4	Proposed treatment(s) address insects and disease, drought mortality, invasive species, storm damage or enhances wildlife habitat	15	10	
Reviewer Comments	Wildlife habitat, drought, invasive species and wildlife benefits articulated, did not specify maintenance or quantify benefits			
5	Clearly demonstrates collaborative approach including treatment proximity to previous or planned hazardous fuel treatments	10	10	
Reviewer Comments	Lists multiple past treatments and displayed them on the map.			
6	Proposed treatment(s) benefit vulnerable populations or under protected properties	10	3	
Reviewer Comments	Does not treat vulnerable properties, some benefit to schools and adjacent landowners mentioned			
7	Treatment area references a forest management plan or is located within a priority planning area listed in Funding Priority 6	10	0	
Reviewer Comments	None listed			
8	Project utilizes non-traditional forest products	5	3	
Reviewer Comments	States utilization intent but reads "might be" used for juniper revegetations			
Final Score		Out of 100	69	