



GREATER YELLOWSTONE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Participating Agencies

U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Grand Teton National Park

Yellowstone National Park

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

National Elk Refuge

Red Rock Lakes Refuge

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF

Bridger-Teton NF

Caribou-Targhee NF

Custer National Forest

Gallatin National Forest

Shoshone National Forest

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Date: September 28, 2009

To: GYCC Managers

Subject: Call for FY 2010 and FY 2011 GYCC Project Proposals

Reply due: November 16, 2009

The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) is soliciting new project proposals for their consideration for FY 2010 and FY 2011 funding. The GYCC is transitioning to a spring project solicitation schedule to allow more time each fiscal year to complete projects and to allow more compatibility between the GYCC project program and the units' outyear project planning and budgeting. For this round of proposals only, as a transition year, the GYCC is requesting proposals for two years. Then beginning in spring of 2011, the GYCC will ask for projects for the following fiscal year. FY 2010 project funds will be available after February 1, 2010, and FY 2011 project funds will be available after October 1, 2010.

GYCC priorities remain the same as in 2009. The GYCC has decided to only consider proposals that contribute to the priorities listed below:

- Ecosystem Health; in particular, terrestrial and aquatic invasive species, disease, air quality, "species on the brink" (e.g. whitebark pine, native fish, other rare species) and climate change effects to the ecosystem.
- Sustainable Operations, e.g. reducing our operational footprint.
- Protecting the Integrity of the Greater Yellowstone Area Landscape; particularly land patterns and preservation of open space near the public lands.
- Connecting People to the Land; e.g. promoting public land relevancy and a public land constituency, connecting to diverse populations, "kids-in-the-woods" type programs.

As in 2009, the GYCC is asking subcommittees to review and rank proposals in their subject area. The subcommittees will then forward their evaluation to the GYCC Coordinator, who will review all the proposals, considering the subcommittee work. Working groups have been established to review projects without an established subcommittee (e.g. climate change). Attachment 1 lists which subcommittee or group will review which type of proposal, the project outcomes and outcome based measurements and the detailed project ranking system developed by each subcommittee / working group.

The GYCC uses the following project evaluation criteria:

- How well does the project address GYCC priorities?
- To what extent does the project build external partnerships and leverage funds?
- To what extent does the project result in internal partnerships between units or result in wide-scale benefits for the Greater Yellowstone Area?
- In addition, the subcommittee ranking will be considered in project evaluation.

The following guidelines are also intended to help you with project development:

- Units are asked to limit their number of priority proposals to no more than 10. Units no longer need to prioritize the unit project proposals.
- Subcommittees may develop proposals; with no number limit. The subcommittee proposals do not count toward the unit limit of ten proposals and should be forwarded directly by the subcommittee chair to the Coordinator.
- Outside partners must cooperatively develop and submit projects with a GYCC unit. Project contacts must include a GYCC unit staff.
- GYCC funding is primarily available as seed money and is not intended for multi-year funding for similar work over repeated years.

The GYCC managers have agreed upon the following schedule for FY 2010 and FY 2011 projects:

- Deadline for submission of project proposals to GYCC Coordinator - November 16, 2009.
- GYCC Coordinator sends proposals to respective subcommittees - November 17, 2009.
- Subcommittees return rankings to GYCC Coordinator – December 11, 2009.
- Notice of GYCC project selection – Late January 2010
- Disbursement of funds for FY 2010 projects- After February 1, 2010
- Disbursement of funds for FY 2011 projects- After October 1, 2010

A proposal form is enclosed with this letter for your use. Proposals may be longer than one page. Project proposals and questions should be directed to Virginia Kelly at (406) 587-6704; email vkelly@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Rebecca Aus

REBECCA AUS
Chair, Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

Attachment: *GYCC Project Outcomes and Measures, Subcommittee Review/Ranking of 2010 and 2011 GYCC Proposals*

Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

Project Funds Request Form

Note: Fields will expand with additional information; proposals may be longer than one page

Fiscal Year _____

Please indicate if funds are requested for FY 2010 or FY 2011

Unit/Subcommittee:
Project Name:
Project Description:
Amount Requested:
Primary use of funds: (Salaries, contracts, procurement, etc)
Strategic fit/importance: (Describe key benefits, resources improved, fit with GYCC priorities, scope- multi unit or GYA wide benefits. Describe the outcome of the project, how the outcome will be measured, and the timeframe to achieve the outcome.)
Partnership/leverage potential: (Identify partners, and quantify to the extent possible the amount of hard and soft contributions of external partners.)
Project contact: (include phone number, email)

Submit to your unit first for prioritization as one of the unit's ten proposals. Units send list of up to ten proposals to the GYCC Coordinator. Subcommittee chairs may submit subcommittee proposals directly to the GYCC Coordinator. Send to: vkelly@fs.fed.us . Contact Virginia Kelly with any questions at 406-587-6704.