



NEW FAWRA PROJECT RECOMMENDATION TEMPLATE

Amount Requested:

Project name:

District:

Description:

What will be done?

By whom?

In what time frame?

Deliverables:

Eligibility Criteria:

A. Describe how the project is included in a current state forest and watershed health plan or forest action plan, a CWPP, other comprehensive forest and watershed treatment plan or wildlife conservation improvement plan?

B. Describe how the project incorporates actions recommended by current plans or, where new plans are developed, seeks to integrate forest, fire, and water management with community and economic development plans. Explain how the project complements or enhances those by other agencies or groups and ties into a greater landscape or community goal of other projects?

C. Name any drinking water source(s), irrigation system(s) or acequia(s), or reservoir(s) that will benefit from this project?

D. Use the Top 500 Priority Watersheds map from the 2020 Forest Action Plan to determine how many times the watershed in which the project resides ranks in the top 500 in terms of wildfire risk to communities, risk to water supplies and biodiversity.

E. Has the project cleared NEPA guidelines? The project will be considered shovel ready if the following NEPA criteria have been met:

- 1) Categorical Exclusion or Decision Memo is signed.**
- 2) Cultural surveys are completed.**
- 3) Biological surveys (if required) are completed or will be completed before contract execution.**
- 4) Projects are located on National Forest System lands outside of Mexican spotted owl (MSO) Protected Activity Centers (PACs), MSO critical habitat, and MSO recovery habitat; or a prescribed burning project with no trees greater than 9” diameter at breast height in MSO PACs; or are commercial firewood gathering projects outside of MSO habitat.**

Evaluation Criteria:

F. Describe the public benefits to New Mexico’s water and forest resources?

G. Name any drinking water source(s), irrigation system(s) or acequia(s), or reservoir(s) that will benefit from this project?

H. Name any wood users and wood-using businesses in the area (within haul distance) that currently do, or could in the future, use small-diameter trees for a product or biomass energy (e.g. firewood for XYZ community, ABC sawmill, 123 pellet company)?

I. How will the proposed project improve the use of, or add value to, small-diameter trees? What kinds of markets are available to support the project? Where is the resource base?

J. Project uses prescribed fire to restore or maintain resilience and does not include a utilization component.

Yes

No

K. Describe how this project will leverage funding by listing all known funding for this or previous phases of the project, as well as adjacent projects

L. If this project is funded, what other agencies or other entities would have an incentive to initiate or increase their funding?

M. Will the proposed project create local employment or training opportunities within the context of accomplishing restoration objectives?

N. Does the project have the potential to expand the application to additional forest treatment areas or to use more of the wood from treatments for higher valued uses?

O. Anticipated outcomes and measures of success?

P. List the ownership of the land (e.g. agency name, tribal or private)

Q. Is the project at least 20,000 acres or part of a continuing project of that size?

Yes

No

R. Is the project strategically located to impact a large part of a watershed?

Yes

No