



NEWS

From the Gifford Pinchot National Forest

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Application period open for 2012 Gifford Pinchot National Forest project funding

VANCOUVER, WA - The application period to propose projects designed to improve Gifford Pinchot National Forest lands and the rural economies of local counties has opened. The submitted projects will be considered for funding and implementation in 2012. Project funding is available through Title II funds under the reauthorized Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (Public Law 110-343).

Completed project applications must be submitted electronically or postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2011. Project application forms are available at the [Forest's web site](http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/projects/payments-to-counties/index.shtml) at <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/projects/payments-to-counties/index.shtml>, or from Gifford Pinchot Forest Headquarters, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, Washington 98682. Instructions for completing the required Title II form also are available online. Applicants for Title II funds are encouraged to submit their forms electronically. E-mail Title II applications to Sue Ripp at sripp@fs.fed.us. Proposals may also be mailed to Forest Headquarters in care of Sue Ripp, Gifford Pinchot Forest Headquarters, 10600 NE 51st Circle, Vancouver, Washington 98682.

Title II projects fund work to restore watersheds, decommission roads, remove invasive weeds, enhance forest health, improve recreation sites, maintain roads and trails, as well as other projects that benefit the national forest. The funds are made available by Skamania, Lewis, Cowlitz, and Klickitat counties which receive federal funds based on the percentage of land in federal ownership, timber receipt payments, and per capita income.

The applications are reviewed and recommended for Forest Supervisor approval by two citizen-based Resource Advisory Committees. The North Gifford Pinchot Resource Advisory Committee reviews and recommends projects submitted for implementation north of the Lewis River watershed boundary, and the South Gifford Pinchot National Forest Resource Advisory Committee reviews and recommends projects south of the Lewis River watershed boundary.

"The Resource Advisory Committees' work reviewing and recommending Title II projects is a tough yet rewarding task as they study and decide among a number of worthy projects that benefit your national forest," said Forest Supervisor Janine Clayton. "Over the last ten years, an investment of more than \$16 million in Title II projects created a healthier Gifford Pinchot National Forest and provided a boost to our local economies," Clayton added.

Any individual, non-profit organizations, or local governments can submit Title II project applications. The funds for approved projects are available for 2012 implementation. Additional information concerning the Title II program is available at the national Forest Service website: www.fs.fed.us/srs, as well as the Gifford Pinchot National Forest Website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/projects/payments-to-counties/index.shtml>. Applicants may also contact [Sue Ripp](mailto:sripp@fs.fed.us), Partnership Coordinator, Gifford Pinchot National Forest at (360) 891-5153, or Robert West, Partnership Coordinator, Gifford Pinchot National Forest at (360) 891-5068.

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