

State of Washington
Recommendation Summary

1:58:16PM

Agency: 471 State Conservation Commission

10/7/2015

Dollars in Thousands

| Annual Average FTEs | General Fund State | Other Funds | Total Funds |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|

2013-15 Current Biennium Total

Total Carry Forward Level

Percent Change from Current Biennium

Carry Forward plus Workload Changes

Percent Change from Current Biennium

Total Maintenance Level

Percent Change from Current Biennium

PL AA Fire Recovy-Add'l Damage Prevention

1,000

1,000

Subtotal - Performance Level Changes

0.0

1,000

1,000

2015-17 Total Proposed Budget

Percent Change from Current Biennium

1,000

1,000

PL AA Fire Recovy-Add'l Damage Prevention

Funding will be used as cost-share to private landowners to assist them with replacing critical agricultural and other property infrastructure related to natural resource management, stabilize soils, and partially fund conservation district staff time to coordinate landowner cost-share and coordination with other entities assisting with fire recovery efforts.

Agency: 471 State Conservation Commission
Decision Package Code/Title: AA Fire Recovy-Add'l Damage Prevention
Budget Period: 2015-17
Budget Level: PL - Performance Level

Recommendation Summary Text:

Funding will be used as cost-share to private landowners to assist them with replacing critical agricultural and other property infrastructure related to natural resource management, stabilize soils, and partially fund conservation district staff time to coordinate landowner cost-share and coordination with other entities assisting with fire recovery efforts.

Fiscal Detail

| Operating Expenditures | <u>FY 2016</u> | <u>FY 2017</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 001-1 General Fund - Basic Account-State | 500,000 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Total Cost | 500,000 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |

Package Description:

The Carlton Complex is still in need of recovery efforts, and the additional fires this year, increased the devastation by 100-fold.

This request is a placeholder for funding needed to address the recovery on private lands from these losses, and prevent future damage from rains and snow melt.

Funds will be used to fund directly, or as federal match, projects that protect critical natural resources destroyed by the many fires.

Projects will include critical area seeding and planting, fence repair/construction, stock water system repairs, noxious weed control, and hazard reductions such as flash flood diversions and/or hazard tree removal.

Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

What specific performance outcomes does the agency expect?

Funds will be used to fund directly, or as federal match, projects that protect critical natural resources destroyed by the many fires. Projects will include critical area seeding and planting, fence repair/construction, stock water system repairs, noxious weed control, and hazard reductions such as flash flood diversions and/or hazard tree removal.

Performance Measure Detail

Activity:

Incremental Changes

No measures submitted for package

Is this decision package essential to implement a strategy identified in the agency's strategic plan?

Yes. The 2014 plan listed the following purpose:

Impact on Natural Resource Concerns

Goal Statement: Continue to improve Washington State Natural Resources by demonstrating environmental objectives identified by each conservation district addressing resource priorities statewide by utilizing the local connection of Conservation Districts with private land owners to the network of federal, state and local agencies and organizations to implement the work necessary to achieve results through long term conservation implementation and documentation of related resource impacts.

Does this DP provide essential support to one or more of the Governor's Results Washington priorities?

According to Governor Inslee's web-site: Agricultural is one of the economies of Washington State that is a priority and he would like to "protect and manage scarce resources: land, water, energy, labor, capital, and credit"

Results Washington Implementation

The Washington State Conservation Commission and the 45 Conservation District Boards of Supervisors and employees provide the local linkage and relationship building with private land owners when they are making conservation planning and conservation practice implementation decisions. These local relationships for conservation work will be instrumental in the implementation activities under Goal 3 Sustainable Energy & a Clean Environment including strategic implementation for healthy fish and wildlife, clean and restored environment, and working & natural lands. This unique structure provides partnering agencies and organizations the opportunity to effectively and efficiently work with private land owners throughout Washington State on conservation planning, technical assistance, and information exchange and project implementation.

What are the other important connections or impacts related to this proposal?

This funding package funds the local conservation district to continue work with state, federal, and tribal agencies along with private organizations in their collective efforts to have a coordinated and seamless recovery program for private and public lands alike. Much of the natural resource protection offered in this funding package will protect many thousands of dollars in public improvements to natural resources that are near the burned area that will otherwise be at risk to erosion and other post-fire damage. Furthermore, the installation of the critical agricultural infrastructure will assist this rural economy to recovery quicker and provide for jobs and local tax revenue.

What alternatives were explored by the agency, and why was this alternative chosen?

Federal program assistance has not yet been secured but necessary non-federal match is needed to get many of these funds on the ground. Furthermore, federal assistance has generally been limited to agricultural producers and many of the property owners affected by the fire do not qualify for programs that require agricultural production as a minimum qualification.

What are the consequences of adopting or not adopting this package?

During the fire, hundreds of miles of livestock and deer fencing was damaged or destroyed, irrigation systems were impacted, crops and forage areas were burned, and soil stabilizing vegetation was burned. The resulting impact is a large area needing re-vegetation to reduce erosion, critical areas replanted with woody vegetation to protect natural resource values and establish wildlife cover and habitat, and loss of critical agricultural and private property infrastructure.

Stabilizing soils will ensure fewer significant erosive events will occur which carry sediment, debris, garbage, and other hazardous materials to streams and rivers in the region that cause further economic hardships with infrastructure such as culverts and roads lost, and impact natural resources such as water quality degradation and impacts to sensitive aquatic species such as ESA listed Chinook Salmon and Steelhead.

Assisting landowners with replacement of infrastructure such as fencing and irrigation systems is necessary as many are not receiving assistance with these costs from insurance companies, and no assistance for these costs will be forthcoming from the Federal Emergency Management Agency since individual assistance was denied.

What is the relationship, if any, to the state's capital budget?

OFM and the Legislature could decide to fund a portion of these requests in the capital budget. Those items that are construction in nature also allowing the construction to occur without fiscal year interruptions.

What changes would be required to existing statutes, rules, or contracts, in order to implement the change?

None

Expenditure and revenue calculations and assumptions

This request is to be used as a placeholder while the rest of the assessments and inventory are completed. Not all of the BAER (Burned Area Emergency Response) team reports have been done.

Which costs and functions are one-time? Which are ongoing? What are the budget impacts in future biennia?

Copied from last Supplemental Budget Request to address the Carlton Complex Fire:

It is anticipated the investments from this supplemental and the funding into the 15 17 biennium will be one time funding. The caveat would be if another fire occurred in the same area or if there was a delay in getting the work done over the next 2 years.

The same is true of this request, only on a much larger scale.

| <u>Object Detail</u> | <u>FY 2016</u> | <u>FY 2017</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| N Grants, Benefits & Client Services | 500,000 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 |

| District | NRCS EWP | FSA | FEMA | OTHER | Entered by and date |
|----------------|----------|-----|------|---|---------------------|
| Asotin | | | | | |
| Cascadia | 0 | 0 | 0 | This request is based on a 8.17.15 letter from the CD to Mark Clark. The CD would like to be a clearinghouse for recovery information similar to OCD during Carlton Complex. They are asking for \$100-150K for now. | BE - 8.23.15 |
| Stevens County | 0 | 0 | 0 | 169 private landowners to date (10,734 acres), 19,371 acres commercial forest, 9,805 acres state land, 28,120 acres federal land. Landowner data collected by GIS. 29 landowners have contacted District to date to report losses, 4 site visits have been made. \$14,900 requested for staffing needs until 11/1/15. May need additional \$ for BAER team (need not clear yet). Project \$ uncalculated at this point. | MB - 9.16.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | DC Complex South (mostly BLM land) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | DC Complex North (mostly Sagebrush) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | Chelan Complex Fire (Largely Sagebrush) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | DC Complex South (habitat loss including BLM land) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | DC Complex North (Habitat loss) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| Foster Creek | | | | Chelan Complex Fire (habitat loss) | MB - 9.24.15 |
| South Douglas | | | | Ranchers - Wittig, Irmer, Jordan, Daling, O'Brien (included). Paul Wittig replaced 1/2 mile of fencing for \$6,500 (fencing estimate about \$2.47/ft.). Estimated \$500/acre rangeland. | MB - 10.2.15 |
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