



Underwood Conservation District
170 NW Lincoln • Park Center Building
PO Box 96 • White Salmon WA 98672 • 509.493.1936

Skamania County Board of Commissioners
May 11, 2021

Commissioners Hamlin, Lannen and Mahar:

First of all: Thank you for your service to Skamania County – making decisions like Title III funding allocations, and a hundred others, where the need is greater than the available dollars. These cannot always be easy decisions, but they are important and we appreciate your thoughtful approach to them.

Please consider supporting our application for continued Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Title III, funding of the Skamania County Firewise Program. We are asking for just over \$35,000. This is about the same as our current funding.

As cost-effective as we try to be, the scale of need for preparing against wildfire is much greater. I see calamitous wildfires tear through communities around the West every year now, and then I see how we are helping a few dozen, maybe 50 or 60 homes a year in Skamania County. Counties in the Columbia Gorge need more energetic interventions by the state, by federal agencies, by changes to building codes and insurance, and more funding for local agencies, too, to dampen the chance of that sort wildfire catastrophe happening here. But we do what we can do, with whomever wants to strengthen their home's defensible space. Over the years, we have effectively accomplished work around hundreds of homes, properties, recreational cabin associations, homeowner associations, and small communities from the outskirts of Stevenson to Swift Lake, from Washougal River Road to Underwood.

This year, we're hoping that pandemic conditions relent enough that we can meet with groups of residents and organize a couple of community-scale projects that help larger number of residences all at once.

Thank you for considering this request to fund the Skamania County Firewise Program in 2021-22.

Respectfully,

Dan Richardson
Firewise Coordinator, Underwood Conservation District

SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON
Title III Project Submission Form
For Projects in 2021

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act
 Public Law 005-141

Submission deadline: May 12, 2021

Submit to: Skamania County Board of Commissioners
 PO Box 790
 Stevenson, WA 98648 or email: slack@co.skamania.wa.us

1. Project Number: (assigned by County)
2. Project Name: Skamania County Firewise Community Defensible Space
3. Project Sponsor: Underwood Conservation District
4. Sponsor's Contact Information
a. Contact Name: Dan Richardson
b. Contact Address: PO Box 96, White Salmon, WA 98672
c. Contact Phone: 509-637-7003
d. Contact Email: dan@ucdwa.org
e. Contact Fax: n/a

5. Project Location: Throughout Skamania County, mostly on private land (with possible work on public property adjacent to homes in wildfire-prone sites).
b. National Forest/District (if applicable) _____ Gifford Pinchot _____
c. Other Lands? State <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. Project meets following authorized use of funds* (check all applicable uses)
<input type="checkbox"/> Reimbursable Search, Rescue, and Emergency Services on National Forest Lands
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firewise Activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Training Costs and Equipment Purchases directly related to emergency services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Wildfire Protection Plans
<input type="checkbox"/>
*See application instructions package for expanded definition of authorized uses

7. Project Description

a. Describe the project

The idea of Firewise is that residents can increase their and their homes' safety in the face of a potential wildfire by strengthening their defensible space – basically, reducing the ignition sources around their structures and routes in/out. Underwood Conservation District (UCD) helps Skamania County residents through this program by supporting them in this work to improve defensible space and wildfire awareness. Participation is, of course, strictly voluntary.

Over the past several years, this support has included in-person technical assistance for rural homeowners; public tabling and films events, workshops and publications; an incentive program for residents to hire professional contractor help in lowering their wildfire risks; and, a mobile chipper service. When opportunities allow, UCD staff help coordinate community-scale fuels reduction projects, for example, with a homeowners group. All these efforts have been offered county-wide on a first-come, first-served basis.

This year, for the 2021-22 Firewise Program, if funded, UCD proposes to focus Firewise work on identifying a small number of larger, community-scale, projects, in hopes of making maximum use of limited funds. This is particularly pertinent this year, given the unprecedented demand for landscaping and forestry contractors in the wake of Covid-19.

b. Identify project readiness

UCD is ready to continue Firewise operations immediately, as funding allows. Renewing the Title III funding in summer 2021 will allow residents and communities to continue work through the most intense months of this wildfire season and prepare for 2022, too.

c. Identify project partners and how they will work together

Skamania County residents have always been the most important partners in the Firewise work, as they themselves must be interested and engaged around their homes to reduce wildfire hazards. Every mobile chipper visit we arrange, for example, comes after hours of a resident's own work improving their defensible space.

UCD has partnered with other groups and agencies over the years, including Skamania County Forest Youth Success (FYS); several fire protection districts; rural communities and cabin/homeowner associations at Northwestern Lake, Swift Lake, Skamania Landing and Interlaken; Saving Skamania County; and Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

This year, we propose to make Firewise work specifically partner-strengthened, by identifying a small number of multi-acre projects in and around rural communities that would reduce wildfire hazards to a number of homes and people. In other words, clustering defensible projects to make most efficient use of money and time in conducting outreaching, planning, and contractor management. The scale and number of projects depends on where we can gain traction with multiple neighboring residents, community fire district approval or coordination, and funding. We could envision community projects in any number of places, from the outskirts of Stevenson,

Skamania, outlying areas of Carson, or pretty much anywhere in and around Mill A. UCD will continue partnering with rural associations and communities where there is need and interest.

d. Identify if this is a continuation of a previously funded Title III project.

Yes, Skamania County Firewise is the continuation of a previously funded Title III project (“Skamania County Firewise, 2019-20”).



The mobile chipper funded by the Skamania County Firewise Program, removing brush piles from around a rural home near Carson, summer 2020. (UCD staff photo)

8. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives (address each question)

a. What are the expected outcomes of the project?

- The 2021-22 Firewise program will assist least 50 Skamania County households with *technical assistance, the mobile chipper service, and/or direct management of community-scale defensible space project.*
- *UCD staff expect to coordinate at least two community-scale Firewise projects (community clean-up, CWPP-identified projects, shaded fuelbreaks, etc.), based on identified need with a community partner, such as a fire district or homeowners group.*

- Conduct outreach at two or more community events, including and at least one UCD-produced workshop.
- Continuing to refresh and update several wildfire information/awareness kiosks' large signage at two or three sites in Skamania County.

b. How does the project meet the purposes of the legislation?

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act's call to "provide to homeowners in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires..."

The Skamania County Firewise Program acts in both the letter and the spirit of this legislation. This program's work is an ongoing effort to empower residents to adapt to wildfire and lower their risks from it. The specifications we use in carrying out this work are drawn from the Act and advisory documents on how to best implement it.

c. How is the project in the best public interest? Identify benefits to community and federal lands.

Reducing the threat from wildfire to individual homes and communities in the WUI is of undeniable and increasingly immediate public interest. When homeowners can prevent catastrophic loss from a wildfire, they avoid the emotional and financial toll of losing homes – and communities reduce the impact of lost infrastructure, lives, and residents cast adrift as refugees.

Wildfire research and experiences around the West in recent years show that there's no such thing as fire-proof. But: there is tilting the odds of a home surviving a wildfire by improving defensible space and homeowner awareness. The Skamania County Firewise Program serves people directly, person to person, in working to head off some of the foreseeable threat that wildfire poses to rural homes and communities.

The work carried out under this program also benefits adjacent federal lands, in that Skamania County residents live in proximity to an enormous area of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Some communities are surrounded by it. Fire is no respecter of boundaries, and work to reduce the threat of calamitous wildfire benefits all concerned.



A portion of Phoenix, Oregon, consumed by wildfire north of Ashland in September, 2020. (Photo from wildfiretoday.com)

9. Measurement of Project Accomplishments/Expected Goals:

OUTCOME	Explanation
Total Miles:	-
Total Acres:	25+ acres, estimated, of private land via the mobile chipper service, and coordinated community work crew projects. We believe this acreage could be closer to 35+ with if conditions allow for one or more community-scale projects this year.
Number of Labor Days:	At least 50 full staff-days from UCD Firewise technicians, plus at least 9 full days of chipping labor, and a significantly greater in-kind match labor from homeowners and other partners – at least another 25 work-days in homeowner labor, we estimate.
Estimated Participants:	We estimate service to 75 or more households; and, an unknown hundreds of people informed through articles, mailers and other outreach efforts.
Other (Specify):	-

10. Estimated Project Start Date: July 15, 2021

11. Estimated Project Completion Date: June 15, 2022

12. Readiness to Proceed: Are permits, environmental clearances, signed agreements, volunteers, etc. in place? Yes No (if No, explain)

Generally, permits are not required to work on wildfire hazard-reduction activities around homes with landowners. We assist landowners, when necessary, to engage relevant environmental compliance authorities (e.g., USDA Forest Service in the NSA), on a site-by-site basis. We sign agreements with landowners involved with contract crews, youth crews and similar projects they do not perform themselves. Other agreements (e.g., mobile chipper contracting) are produced and signed during the course of the work season; we are familiar with those and anticipate no delays in producing them as needed.

13. Applicant's qualifications and past experience with similar type projects (describe)

Underwood Conservation District has administered the Skamania County Firewise Program for more than a decade; is doing so now; and is ready to carry on this important work in the 2021-22 fiscal year.

UCD staff have visited several hundred homes, providing Firewise technical advice and assistance over the years, plus face-to-face education at presentations and workshops. UCD staff has also provided service to more than 750 homes through cost-share assistance and the mobile chipper service.

UCD is a public, local agency operating under state laws and regulations. Firewise is one of several natural resource programs and grants that UCD operates every year. Agency staff receive high marks in periodic state audits. UCD staff implements the Skamania County Firewise Program with professionalism and efficiency.

14. Title III Funding Request:

a. Total Skamania County 2021-2022 Title III Funds Requested: \$35,309.81

15. Monitoring Plan:

a. How will you measure your project success and the quantifiable outcomes identified in Question 8?

There are several quantifiable outcomes identified in Question 8 that we track, including:

- Documentation by residents participating in Firewise programs, including approximate acreage and location (community or locale) of fuels-reduction treatments, dollars spent, landowner hours contributed and number of landowners assisted.

- Documentation of Firewise community-scale demonstration project outcomes, such as the number of community members and volunteers involved, acres treated, publicity received and community response.
- The number and approximate location (community or locale) of Skamania County residents participating in the mobile chipper service and the Firewise Incentive Program.
- The number and approximate location of Skamania County residents given individual home wildfire hazard assessments and related one-on-one technical assistance.
- Other pertinent metrics, such as the location, curriculum and number of residents attending free public Firewise workshops completed in Skamania County.

PROJECT WORK PLAN

16. Lists the tasks and time frame. Name Individual(s), consultant(s), organization(s) responsible

<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Time Frame – Dates</u>	<u>Responsible Party/Name</u>
Manage the Mobile Chipper Service – publicity, scheduling, contracting.	Through funding period (July 2021- June 2022).	UCD Staff (DR, JT)
Provide technical assistance to community members for the planning and coordination of Firewise Community projects. Objective: <i>At least</i> two community-scale projects.	Through funding period	UCD Staff in partnership with cooperating communities, agencies
Provide individual Wildfire-Hazard Home Assessments and other technical assistance to Skamania County residents.	Through funding period	UCD Staff (DR, JT)
Provide public presentations and outreach information to Skamania County residents. Objective: participate or host <i>at least</i> two public informational events.	Through funding period	UCD Staff (DR, JT)
Project administration and vouchering.	Monthly: through funding period.	UCD Staff (AG)

Project Budget (Include any in-kind personnel, good, services)

Item	County Title III Funds Requested	Other County Or Local agency Funds	State, Federal Or Other Contributions	Total Available Funds
17. Salaries	\$14,673.78		1,500.00 (approx.)	\$16,173.78
18. Benefits	\$5,926.04		750.00 (approx.)	\$6,676.04
19. Materials & Supplies	\$900.00			\$900.00
20. Contracted Services	\$11,500.00		4,000.00 (approx.)	\$15,500.00
21. Travel	\$250.00		100.00 (approx.)	\$350.00
22. Interfund Costs	0			0
23. Other operating Costs	\$2,059.98			\$2,059.98
24. Operations Subtotal				
25. Indirect Sponsor Costs for non-county projects (project administration/overhead not to exceed 12.5%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
26. Capital Costs (specify)	0			

27. Total Project Budget	\$35,309.81		\$6,350.00	\$41,659.81

28. Identify Source(s) and amounts of other County or local agency contributions in budget:

- The (approx.) \$6,350: The approximate remaining funds in a current UCD grant from Washington DNR that covers a portion of eastern Skamania County (as well as western Klickitat County).

- Not listed are additional funds that have a reasonable chance of being secured using Title III funding as match for a community-scale project, due to changing budgetary resources at the state level. A potential match could easily double the Title-III funding for a community project – but Title III funds would be necessary or at least very helpful to win such funding in Skamania County.

29. Identify Source(s) of state, federal, and other contributions in budget:

This budget is created with Title III funding as the primary source. However, there is growing interest in wildfire prevention and forest health treatments at the state level and in the state budget. We believe this proposed investment in the Skamania County Firewise Program

30. Attach a worksheet that shows calculations for budget line items (i.e. personnel positions, hours, rates of pay, benefits, listing of contracted services and amounts.)

Outcome	Position	Salaries		Benefits		Travel	Materials and Supplies		Contracted Services		District Operating Costs	Total 2019-20 Title III Request
		Project Hrs/Yr	Cost	Project Hrs/Yr	Cost		Description	Cost	Description	Cost		
Outreach, Education & Project Implementation	District Manager	20	846.66	20	388.72	250.00	Office Equipment	50.00	Outreach: Advertising & Printing	500.00		
	Firewise Coordinator	225	6,982.63	225	2,192.36		Meeting & Event Refreshments	100.00	Mobile Chipping Subcontract	7,500.00		
	Firewise Technician	170	5,275.76	170	2,572.22		Field Equipment	100.00	Firewise Incentive Program	-		
	Forester						Community Project Rentals & Equipment	250.00	Project Pruning / Thinning / Disposal Crew	1,000.00		
	Admin	48	1,568.73	48	772.75		Technician Training & Continuing Ed	400.00	Firewise Community Assistance / Defensible Space Work Crew	2,500.00		
	Sub-Total	463.00	14,673.78		5,926.04	250.00		900.00		11,500.00	2,059.98	35,309.81
	Totals (Cumulative)		\$ 14,673.78		\$ 20,599.82	\$ 20,849.82		\$ 21,749.82		\$ 33,249.82	\$ 35,309.81	\$ 35,309.81

TOTAL REQUEST



SKAMANIA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & RESCUE

SKAMANIA COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT

253 SW First Street • PO BOX 338 • Stevenson, Washington 98648

Office: 509-427-5065 Fax: 509-427-2767 Email: info@skamaniaems.com

Skamania County
Board of Commissioners
Clerk of the Board
PO BOX 790
Stevenson, WA 98648

May 5, 2021

Honorable Commissioners and Clerk of the Board:

Skamania County EMS & Rescue is grateful for the opportunity to apply for project year 2021/22 Title III funding. As we have in years prior, we are asking that you award us funding to offset the costs of providing and preparing for emergency medical and rescue services on federally managed lands within Skamania County. These funds, if awarded, will be used to cover wages, equipment, response contracted rescue services expenses for areas within our district, which encompasses all of Skamania County.

Not only do the services we provide bring a benefit to the residents and visitors of our community, but the services and equipment we provide, as well as the training we take part in is imperative to the safety of our personnel and those first responders that we work so closely with.

Within the application materials, you will find historical funding requests and expense detail for the prior four project years. As we requested last year, we would welcome consideration for project adjustments as noted in our contract, and in section (17) of the 2020/21 application, which states, in part *"This budget represents estimated costs. Line items may be adjusted dependent upon need, call volume and training opportunities."*

In closing, Skamania EMS & Rescue is grateful for the opportunity you have provided and look forward to discussing our proposal with you in the upcoming months. Should you have any advance questions, please feel free to reach out to me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Ann Lueders
Superintendent

SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON
Title III Project Submission Form
For Projects in 2021

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

Submission deadline: May 12, 2021

Submit to: Skamania County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 790
Stevenson, WA 98648

1. **Project Number: (assigned by County)**
2. **Project Name: EMS & RESCUE RESPONSE, SKAMANIA COUNTY**
3. **Project Sponsor: Skamania Co Public Hospital District (dba: Skamania EMS & Rescue)**
4. **Sponsor's Contact Information:**
 - a. **Contact Name: Ann Lueders, Superintendent**
 - b. **Contact Address: PO BOX 338, 253 SW First Street, Stevenson, WA 98648**
 - c. **Contact Phone: 509.427.5065 (Office) 509.281.2394 (Mobile)**
 - d. **Contact Email: annlueders@skamaniaems.com**
 - e. **Contact Fax: N/A**

5. a. **Project Location: (attach project area map if applicable) federally owned land in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Columbia River Gorge Scenic Areas.**

b. **National Forest/District (if applicable): Gifford Pinchot**

c. **Other Lands? State Tribal Federal County City Private**

6. **Project meets following authorized use of funds* (check all applicable uses)**

- Reimbursable Search, Rescue, and Emergency Services on National Forest Lands**
- Firewise Activities**
- Training Costs and Equipment Purchases directly related to emergency services**
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans**

*See application instructions package for expanded definition of authorized uses

7. Project Description (Address each question)

- a. Describe the project**
- b. Identify project readiness**
- c. Identify project partners and how they will work together**
- d. Identify if this is a continuation of a previously funded Title III project.**

For many years, Skamania EMS & Rescue has been awarded Title III funding to address the needs of residents and, more particularly, visitors to Skamania County. These contracts were authorized to provide high quality medical care and rescue services to the residents and visitors of Skamania County who needed services while recreating or traveling on federally owned lands within our response areas. As Title III funding is based on reimbursement for services provided, we maintain appropriate call logs and expenditure records to seek payment on our contract. We are submitting an application for the upcoming project year (21/22) and have included a request that our funding be fluid, with an allowance to use it for training costs, equipment purchases and call reimbursements directly related to the services we provide under this contract, and for contracted services to cover our district in the areas above and beyond Old Man Pass.

The provision of service and associated training, materials, equipment and operational costs usually exceed the allotted contract amount, resulting in taxpayers for Skamania County subsidizing these services. Securing future contracts with the Board of Commissioners for Skamania County will be beneficial for both SCEMS (as an agency) and the public that we serve. Having the ability to recover service and readiness costs expended on lands that provide limited, if any, other form of revenue has continued to solidify our abilities to provide services in these areas.

Through a strong network of mutual aid and contract partners SCEMS is prepared to respond to calls for service within its designated response areas while working to decrease response times as much as possible. SCEMS currently has agreements in place with Klickitat County EMS, Klickitat County FD #1 (Trout Lake), Klickitat County FD #3 (Husum/BZ/NW Lake), all Skamania County Fire Agencies, Cascade Locks Fire & EMS, and North Country EMS. Additionally, we have a strong working relationship with the Skamania County Sheriff's Office. We continue to build a renewed and strong relationship with the SAR resources that are now directly under the guidance of the Sheriff.

SCEMS is requesting renewed funding of this project so that the provision of services and reimbursement of associated costs may continue uninterrupted. Funding of this project provides a benefit to taxpayers of Skamania County, who will not have to bear the entirety of costs associated with emergency medical response and rescue on federal lands.

8. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives (address each question)

- a. What are the expected outcomes of the project?**
- b. How does the project meet the purposes of the legislation?**
- c. How is the project in the best public interest? Identify benefits to community and federal lands.**

Reauthorization of funding at the level requested for this project would continue well-established responses to areas of our county that are owned by the federal government, while putting federal funding back into emergency services in our local communities. Funding that goes back into these services clearly benefits our local residents by reducing or eliminating that portion of their property tax payments used to subsidize emergency medical and rescue services.

This project meets the purposes of the legislation by allowing local resources to submit for reimbursement of funds expended for services provided on federal lands, training and equipment expenses. It also provides benefit to federal land managers by having high quality, consistent response to emergency medical and rescue calls that happen routinely on their lands.

Additionally, through a shared employee agreement with our neighboring district (Skamania Co Fire District 1), Skamania EMS & Rescue is requesting equipment funds to purchase a squad. This shared employee works is stationed at the gateway to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and within each reach of the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area, both locations that have recognized exponential calls for service on federal land.

9. Measurement of Project Accomplishments/Expected Goals:

OUTCOME	Explanation
Total Miles:	See attached map, Exhibit A
Total Acres:	See attached map, Exhibit A
Number of Labor Days:	Variable, Call Dependent
Estimated Participants:	20-25 (available, participants dependent on call needs)
Other (Specify):	None

10. Estimated Project Start Date: Immediately.

11. Estimated Project Completion Date: On going.

12. Readiness to Proceed: Are permits, environmental clearances, signed agreements, volunteers, etc. in place? Yes No (if No, explain)

13. Applicants qualifications and past experience with similar type projects (describe)

SCEMS has provided emergency medical and rescue services to the residents and visitors of Skamania County since the 1950's. These services are provided on private, state, and federally owned lands in Skamania County. Services provided consist of Advanced Life Support (ALS) medical transport, motor vehicle & machinery extrication, rope rescue, trail/overland rescue, special event staffing, public education, and are implemented through a strong commitment to the community. SCEMS provides these services through its personnel and strong agency partnerships from around the county and region. SCEMS itself employs 25 personnel in combination. Our roster is made up of volunteer, part-time, and full-time employees. SCEMS's current roster has 2 volunteers, 8 part-time employees, and 16 full-time employees. In addition, beginning with calendar year 2020, Skamania Fire District 1 and SCEMS share an employee who is stationed at Station 1-1 in Carson. This employee remains available and is in our response matrix for all calls generated in and surrounding the fire district boundaries.

14. Title III Funding Request:

- a. Total Skamania County 2021-2022 Title III Funds Requested: **\$53,275**
(Total financial project costs are estimated at \$78,233). SCEMS anticipates contributing \$24,958 in budget and an additional \$5,000 + in value of in-kind

contributions for response needs that are in excess of our award and costs that are directly and indirectly related.)

Monitoring Plan:

- b. How will you measure your project success and the quantifiable outcomes identified in Question 8?**
- c. How will you report this information back to the Skamania County Commissioners:**

SCEMS does a quality assurance/quality improvement review of all medical incidents that we provide service for. These reviews are performed by our agency training officer and medical program director to ensure the highest and most appropriate level of treatments were performed. When our agency performs a technical rescue (rope, water rescue, etc.) we also perform a peer review of the incident to ensure quality services were provided. We will continue these processes while soliciting feedback from agencies we work with to further streamline our performance. We also strive to keep up to date with industry practices through training and established networks.

At the end of the contract cycle, as requested SCEMS would present the commissioners with a report of our years' activity related to this project. Additionally, we could fulfill any requests made during the contract cycle

PROJECT WORK PLAN

15. Lists the tasks and time frame. Name Individual(s), consultant(s), organization(s) responsible

<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Time Frame – Dates</u>	<u>Responsible Party/Name</u>
Respond and provide aid and transport to medical emergencies	Ongoing	Skamania EMS & Rescue (and contracted agencies)
Respond to motor vehicle incidents	Ongoing	Skamania EMS & Rescue
Respond to recreational and technical rescue incidents	Ongoing	Skamania EMS & Rescue
Seek and obtain training to renew/expand skills/abilities	Ongoing	Skamania EMS & Rescue
Obtain equipment necessary to successfully perform activities	Ongoing	Skamania EMS & Rescue

Project Budget (Include any in-kind personnel, good, services)

Item	County Title III Funds Requested	Other County Or Local agency Funds	State, Federal Or Other Contributions	Total Available Funds
17. Salaries		5,581.00		5,581
18. Benefits				
19. Materials & Supplies				
20. Contracted Services	5,000.00	5,000.00		10,000
21. Travel				
22. Interfund Costs		7,120		7,120
23. Other operating Costs				
24. Operations Subtotal				
25. Indirect Sponsor Costs for non-county projects (non-profits, other government agencies, etc) (project administration/ overhead not to exceed 12.5%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
26. Capital Costs (specify) Squad (Response Vehicle) _____ _____	48,275			48,275
27. Total Project Budget	53,275	24,958		78,233

28. Identify Source(s) and amounts of other County or local agency contributions in budget: In kind contributions from the agency’s existing and projected budget; as well as registration fees for training of non-member personnel who respond with partner agencies; service fees for the provision of rescue services to non-residents.

29. Identify Source(s) of state, federal, and other contributions in budget: none.

30. Attach a worksheet that shows calculations for budget line items (i.e. personnel positions, hours, rates of pay, benefits, listing of contracted services and amounts.) As attached, Exhibit B

Skamania County Public Hospital District

EMS and Rescue Response in Skamania County, Washington

EXPENSE 2021/22 PROJECT (07/2021-06/2022)

<u>Total Estimated Project:</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>73,233</u>	<u>Project Budget Detail</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Personnel - Paramedic	\$	2,678	On Duty @ \$29.75 / \$44.65	60/20
Personnel - EMT	\$	1,935	On Duty @ \$21.50 / \$32.25	60/20
Personnel - AEMT	\$	968	On Duty @ \$21.50 / \$32.25	30/10
Apparatus	\$	7,120	Daily Rate w/o Operator	N/A
Contracted Services	\$	5,000	Interlocal Agreements for Service	
Training Expense	\$	-		
Equipment Expense	\$	48,275	Rescue Response Apparatus (Squad)	
Overhead	\$	7,257.36	11%	
			Total Estimated Project Expense = \$41,515	

HISTORICAL DATA

BUDGET 2020/21 PROJECT (07/2020-06/2021)

<u>Total Funding Request:</u> \$ <u>45,882</u>	CONTRACT AWARD: \$41,667 <u>Total Project Expense:</u> \$ <u>37,611.00</u>
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BUDGET 2019/20 PROJECT (07/2019-06/2020)

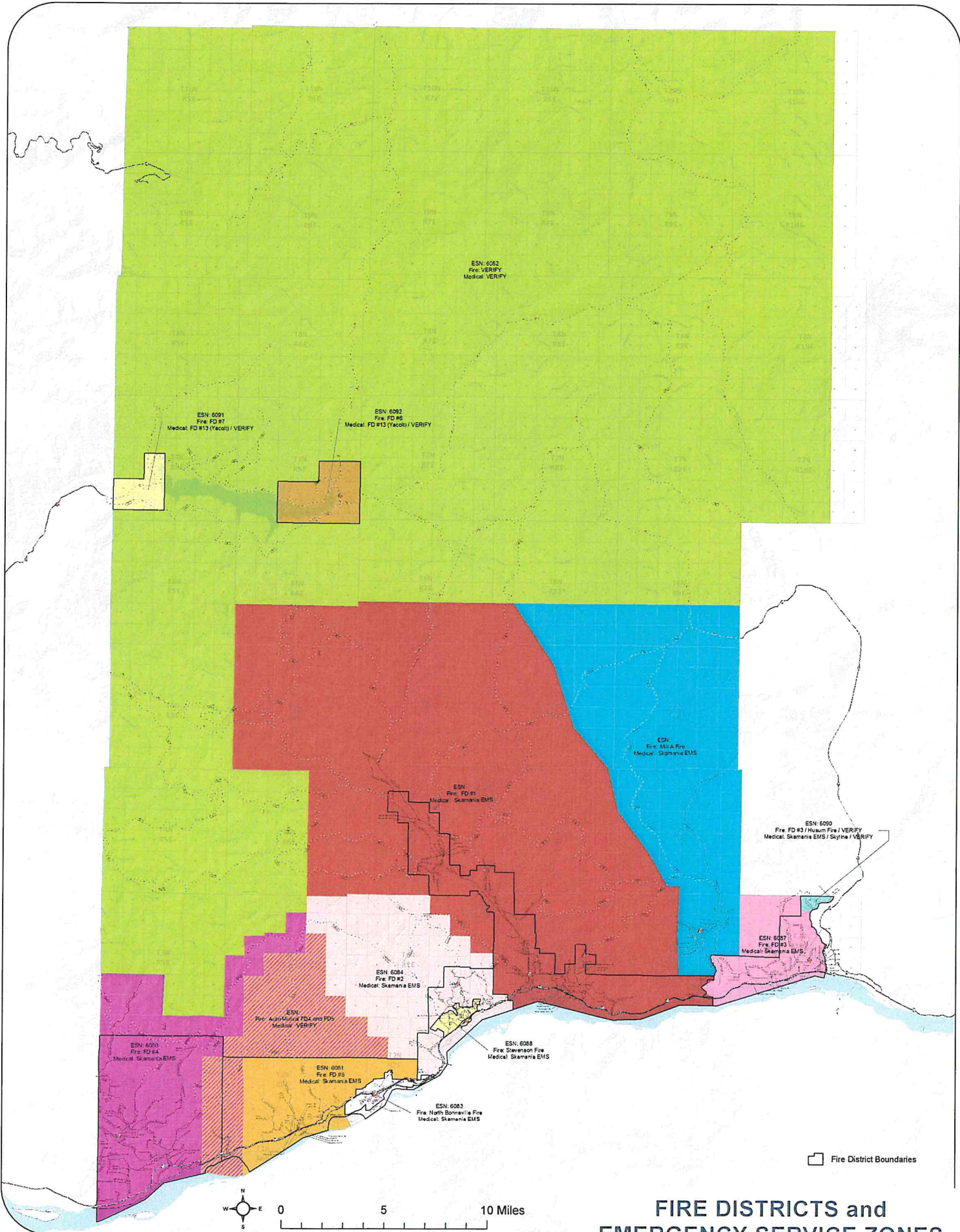
<u>Total Funding Request:</u> \$ <u>30,748</u>	CONTRACT AWARD: \$30,000 <u>Total Project Expense:</u> \$ <u>33,782.00</u>
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BUDGET 2018/19 PROJECT (07/2018-06/2019)

<u>Total Project Budget:</u> \$ <u>25,059</u>	CONTRACT AWARD: \$25,000 <u>Total Project Expense:</u> \$ <u>38,755.00</u>
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BUDGET 2017/18 PROJECT (07/2017-06/2018)

<u>Total Project Budget:</u> \$ <u>23,750</u>	CONTRACT AWARD: \$13,000 <u>Total Project Expense:</u> \$ <u>7,743.86</u>
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FIRE DISTRICTS and EMERGENCY SERVICE ZONES IN SKAMANIA COUNTY, WA



DISCLAIMER: This map product was prepared by Skamania County and is for information purposes only. It may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.
Data Source and Map By: Skamania County Assessment & GIS, R. Hollatz, 6/21/2016



Skamania County Fire District # 1
PO Box 309
Carson, WA 98610

509.427.8698 Station 1-1
509.427.7939 Robert Hildenbrand, Chief

May 12, 2021

Board of County Commissioners
Skamania County
RE: Title III Funding Application, 2021/22 Projects
PO BOX 790
Stevenson, WA 98648

Dear Sirs;

Skamania County Fire District 1 will not be submitting a request for Title III Funding for project year 2021-2022. Rather, the District would like to lend our support to the application submitted by Skamania EMS & Rescue, as they seek to obtain (partial) funding to purchase a response vehicle that will address a multitude of emergency needs that may occur on federally managed lands within our extended response areas.

In late 2020, Skamania Fire District 1 worked with Skamania EMS & Rescue to enter into a shared employee agreement that would help meet the ever increasing operational needs of the District. This agreement allows the District to have operational staff on-duty up to forty hours per week at times when our volunteers are likely unavailable (e.g. during weekday hours). During the peak summer tourist season, this operational staff member will be an integral part of the emergency response system to address the needs of visitors to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area. As our District is located at the gateway to these popular tourist areas, any effort for a more direct and capable response is something we can easily lend our voice to.

Should Skamania EMS & Rescue be successful in obtaining funding for their project, we would work collaboratively with them to ensure the response vehicle had adequate tools to address not only emergency medical needs, but also rescue response. These tools would be available to the operations person and help immensely as they work with other response agencies such as the Skamania County Sheriff's deputies and the Skamania County Search and Rescue to facilitate emergencies in popular areas such as Falls Creek, Dog Mountain, Spirit Falls and many more.

In closing, Skamania County Fire District 1 believes the project submitted by our colleagues at Skamania EMS & Rescue would be beneficial to both agencies, and our response

partners. We lend our support to these agencies and are hopeful the Board of Commissioners can see the value of this cooperative approach to providing emergency response throughout our immediate and extended response areas.

Respectfully,

Robert Hildenbrand
Division Chief

SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON
Title III Project Submission Form
For Projects in 2021

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000
Public Law 106-393

Submission deadline: May 12, 2021

Submit to: Skamania County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 790
Stevenson, WA 98648

1. Project Number: (assigned by County)
2. Project Name: Sheriff's Emergency Services
3. Project Sponsor: Skamania County Sheriff
4. Sponsor's Contact Information
a. Contact Name: David S. Brown
b. Contact Address: POB 790, Stevenson, WA 98648
c. Contact Phone: 509-427-9490
d. Contact Email: daveb@co.skamania.wa.us
e. Contact Fax: 509-427-4369

<p>5. a. Project Location: Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Columbia Gorge Scenic Area lands within Skamania County.</p> <p>b. National Forest/District: Same as above</p> <p>c. Other Lands? State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>A percentage of search and rescue calls for service as well as calls for other emergency services occur on lands adjacent to the National Forest and Gorge Scenic Area. The resources requested in this proposal may be occasionally utilized to assist in these areas.</p>
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<p>6. Project meets following authorized use of funds* (check all applicable uses)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reimbursable Search, Rescue, and Emergency Services on National Forest Lands</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Work Camp</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Easement Purchases</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Forest Related Educational Opportunities</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fire Prevention and County Planning</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Community Forestry</p> <p><small>*See application instructions package for expanded definition of authorized uses</small></p>

7. Project Description (Address each question)

- a. Describe the project**
- b. Identify project readiness**
- c. Identify project partners and how they will work together**
- d. Identify if this is a continuation of a previously funded Title III project.**

The Skamania County Sheriff proposes to maintain Road Deputy wages and overtime, including maintenance and replacement of supporting equipment and services utilized to provide response to emergencies including Search and Rescue missions upon National Forest lands in Skamania County. The primary responsibilities of personnel will be response to emergency services and coordination of, search and rescue incidents. The geographical area of primary responsibility is the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area within the boundaries of Skamania County. All SAR Coordinator Deputies will maintain appropriate training in Search and Rescue Coordination, emergency medical treatment, and training in the nationally recognized ICS and NIMS. This will allow the officers to be utilized in a command level position at the scene of incidents related to Search and Rescue, wildfires, and other emergencies

8. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives (address each question)

- a. What are the expected outcomes of the project?**
- b. How does the project meet the purposes of the legislation?**
- c. How is the project in the best public interest? Identify benefits to community and Federal lands.**

The ongoing objective is to continue to enhance and improve necessary and appropriate emergency response capabilities of the Skamania County Sheriff to include search and rescue in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. We also continue to provide initial response to medical calls, reported wildfires and other public safety services. We intend to seek reimbursement for search and rescue, law enforcement patrols, training, equipment purchases related to emergency services and continuing necessary maintenance and replacement of equipment, material, and supplies expended, damaged or destroyed in response to incidents on National Forest System lands.

9. Measurement of Project Accomplishments/Expected Goals:

OUTCOME	Explanation
Total Miles:	10,000
Total Acres:	1.1 million
Number of Labor Days:	365
Estimated Participants:	18
Other (Specify):	

10. Estimated Project Start Date: July 1, 2021

11. Estimated Project Completion Date: June 30, 2022

1. Readiness to Proceed: Are permits, environmental clearances, signed agreements, volunteers, etc. in place? **Yes** **No (if No, explain)**

2. Applicants qualifications and past experience with similar type projects (describe)

The Sheriff has the responsibility for Search and Rescue operations within Skamania County per the Revised Code of Washington (38.52.400). Skamania County and the Columbia River Gorge continue to have their recreational opportunities heavily promoted by the Forest Service as well as the business community. Recreational use continues to increase.

The current program has provided the Sheriff the opportunity to utilize Title 3 funds to provide necessary response to calls on National Forest System lands.

3. Title III Funding Request:

Total Skamania County 2021 Title III Funds Requested: \$69,503

4. Monitoring Plan:

a. How will you measure your project success and the quantifiable outcomes identified in Question 8?

Tracking the response of deputies to emergency calls, monitoring the length of time it takes to complete SAR calls, continued measuring of overtime costs for response to emergency calls in the GPNF and CRGNSA and overall cost analysis of the project.

b. How will you report this information back to the Skamania County Commissioners:

The Commissioners will be provided with a report detailing the activities of the program upon request.

PROJECT WORK PLAN		
5. Lists the tasks and time frame. Name Individual(s), consultant(s), organization(s) responsible		
<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Time Frame – Dates</u>	<u>Responsible Party/Name</u>
Coordination of SAR missions	Ongoing	Skamania County Sheriff
Response to emergency calls on National Forest lands	Ongoing	Skamania County Sheriff
Collaboration with other SAR resources outside of Skamania County	Ongoing	Skamania County Sheriff
Initial and ongoing training of Search and Rescue Coordinators in Sheriff's Office	Ongoing	Skamania County Sheriff
Maintenance and acquisition of emergency response equipment	Ongoing	Skamania County Sheriff

Project Budget (Include any in-kind personnel, good, services)

Item	County Title III Funds Requested	Other County Or Local agency Funds	State, Federal Or Other Contributions	Total Available Funds
17. Salaries	\$31,387			\$31,387
18. Benefits	\$8,116			\$ 8,116
19. Materials & Supplies	\$21,000			\$21,000
20. Equipment Replace	\$3,500			\$3,500
21. Equipment Repair	\$1,500			\$1,500
22. Equipment Maint.	\$1,500			\$1,500
23. Other operating Costs	\$2,500			\$2,500
24. Operations Subtotal	\$69, 503			\$69,503

25. Indirect Sponsor Costs (project administration/ overhead not to exceed 12.5%)	\$0			\$0
26. Capital Costs (specify) _____ _____ _____				
27. Total Project Budget	\$69,503			\$69,503

28. Identify Source(s) and amounts of other County or local agency contributions in budget: none

29. Identify Source(s) of state, federal, and other contributions in budget:
There currently are no known state or other federal contributions factored into this proposed budget.

30. Attach a worksheet that shows calculations for budget line items (i.e. personnel positions, hours, rates of pay, benefits, listing of contracted services and amounts.)

Position	Hours	Wages	Benefits	Contracted Svcs
SAR Deputy	400	22,674	5,843	
Overtime	200	8,713	2,273	

SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON
Title III Project Submission Form
For Projects in 2021

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act
Public Law 005-141

Submission deadline: May 12, 2021

Submit to: Skamania County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 790
Stevenson, WA 98648 or email: slack@co.skamania.wa.us

1. Project Number: (assigned by County)	
2. Project Name: NCEMS St. Helens Project	
3. Project Sponsor: North Country Emergency Medical Service	
4. Sponsor's Contact Information	
a. Contact Name:	Shaun Ford
b. Contact Address:	PO Box 189, Yacolt, WA 98675
c. Contact Phone:	360-686-3271
d. Contact Email:	s.ford@northcountryems.org
e. Contact Fax:	360-686-8127

5. a. Project Location: (attach project area map if applicable) <u>refer to attached map</u>	
b. National Forest/District (if applicable) St. Helens District of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount St. Helens Volcanic Monument, Mount St. Helens Ranger District	
c. Other Lands? State <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/>	

6. Project meets following authorized use of funds* (check all applicable uses)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reimbursable Search, Rescue, and Emergency Services on National Forest Lands
<input type="checkbox"/>	Firewise Activities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Training Costs and Equipment Purchases directly related to emergency services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Wildfire Protection Plans
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<small>*See application instructions package for expanded definition of authorized uses</small>	

7. Project Description (Address each question)

a. Describe the project

North Country EMS will provide ambulance and rescue services staffed with trained emergency medical service personnel to areas of Skamania County as depicted in the attached service area map with special emphasis on certain Mount St. Helens recreational areas during the months of July, August and early September. All other months NCEMS will respond from other stations as needed and available. The staff is provided extensive area familiarization and other specific training in EMS/Rescue related emergencies in this unique area. The crews are housed in a residence provided by the US Forest Service in the lower compound at the Pine Creek Information Center during the summer months.

b. Identify project readiness

North Country EMS is an Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport and rescue service that is specialized in rural and backcountry EMS. We have highly skilled and experienced paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and some of the best equipment available. North Country EMS has provided emergency medical service to this area since 1976. Throughout the years, we have grown to meet the needs of those seeking recreational activities, tourists, employees and residents of this area by providing emergency medical and rescue services.

c. Identify project partners and how they will work together

Since the beginning of our service in 1976 we have worked very closely with the US Forest Service and the Skamania County Sheriff's Office to provide emergency services to this area. The staff from the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument have been very cooperative in assisting with housing our crews and providing critical information on trauma and medical incidents prior to our arrival. The Skamania County Sheriff's Office and North Country EMS have worked very well together in search and rescue operations in the National Forest along with other incidents that involve both agencies.

d. Identify if this is a continuation of a previously funded Title III project

This will be a continuation of previous projects.

7. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives (address each question)
a. What are the expected outcomes of the project?

The expected outcomes of the project are the same as in past years, which is to provide the most professional, responsive and effective emergency medical and rescue service to designated areas in Skamania County with emphasis on the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument during the months of July, August, and early September.

b. How does the project meet the purposes of the legislation?

As stated in the Title III portion of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000 search, rescue, and emergency services are eligible to receive funds.

c. How is the project in the best public interest? Identify benefits to community and federal lands.

It is in the public interest to have emergency medical service available close by in the summer months due to the high volume of visitors and the potential for injury and illness. The area serviced by North Country EMS has an influx of visitors during the summer months. With the high number of visitors, there are always injuries or medical emergencies. In 2020 North Country EMS had 63 calls for service with the highest volume June through September while our crews were stationed at Pine Creek. These calls may range from traumatic injuries sustained while hiking or climbing or from motorcycle or motor vehicle accidents to heart attacks and other emergency medical problems. North Country EMS also provides search and rescue to the Mount St. Helens area working closely with the Skamania County Sheriff's Office.

8. Measurement of Project Accomplishments/Expected Goals:

OUTCOME	Explanation
Total Miles:	n/a
Total Acres:	n/a
Number of Labor Days:	365
Estimated Participants:	n/a
Other (Specify):	

10. Estimated Project Start Date: July 1, 2021

11. Estimated Project Completion Date: June 30, 2022

12. Readiness to Proceed: Are permits, environmental clearances, signed agreements, volunteers, etc. in place? Yes No (if No, explain)

13. Applicants qualifications and past experience with similar type projects (describe)

North Country EMS is an Advanced Life Support (ALS) service that is specialized in rural and back country EMS. We have skilled and experienced paramedics and EMTs and the best equipment available.

North Country EMS has provided emergency medical service to Skamania County areas since 1976. More specifically, we have served the area since the eruption of Mount St. Helens in 1980. Throughout the years, we have grown to meet the needs of those recreating in the area, the tourists, employees and residents, by providing emergency medical and rescue services.

North Country EMS has performed under the same grant guidelines for many years. We have continued to upgrade the equipment, communications, and services provided.

14. Title III Funding Request:

a. **Total Skamania County 2021-2022 Title III Funds Requested:** \$82,850

15. Monitoring Plan:

a. **How will you measure your project success and the quantifiable outcomes identified in Question 8?**

When the crews have an emergency medical or rescue call, they complete a St. Helens Project report. These reports are used to document all activities performed during the year. Any medical/trauma incident will be documented on a patient care report and reviewed by our Chief/Battalion chiefs. The leaders of the rescue team will review any rescue related incidents.

b. **How will you report this information back to the Skamania County Commissioners:**

The Chief will compile an annual report of activities that will describe all activity for the year which occurred in Skamania County with emphasis on the St. Helens project area.

PROJECT WORK PLAN

16. Lists the tasks and time frame. Name Individual(s), consultant(s), organization(s) responsible

<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Time Frame – Dates</u>	<u>Responsible Party/Name</u>
Staff Pine Creek Station	Full time staffing, July, August & early September 2021	North Country EMS
End regular schedule staffing at Pine Creek Station	September 2021	North Country EMS
Respond and assist in fall, winter, and spring months as available and needed	September 2021-June 2022	North Country EMS
Hiring and orientation of employees	May/June 2022	North Country EMS
Begin Staffing Pine Creek Station	Weekends May/June 2022 while training	North Country EMS

Project Budget (Include any in-kind personnel, good, services)

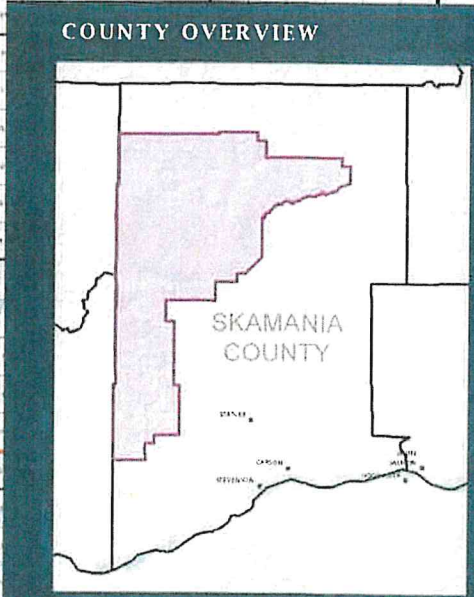
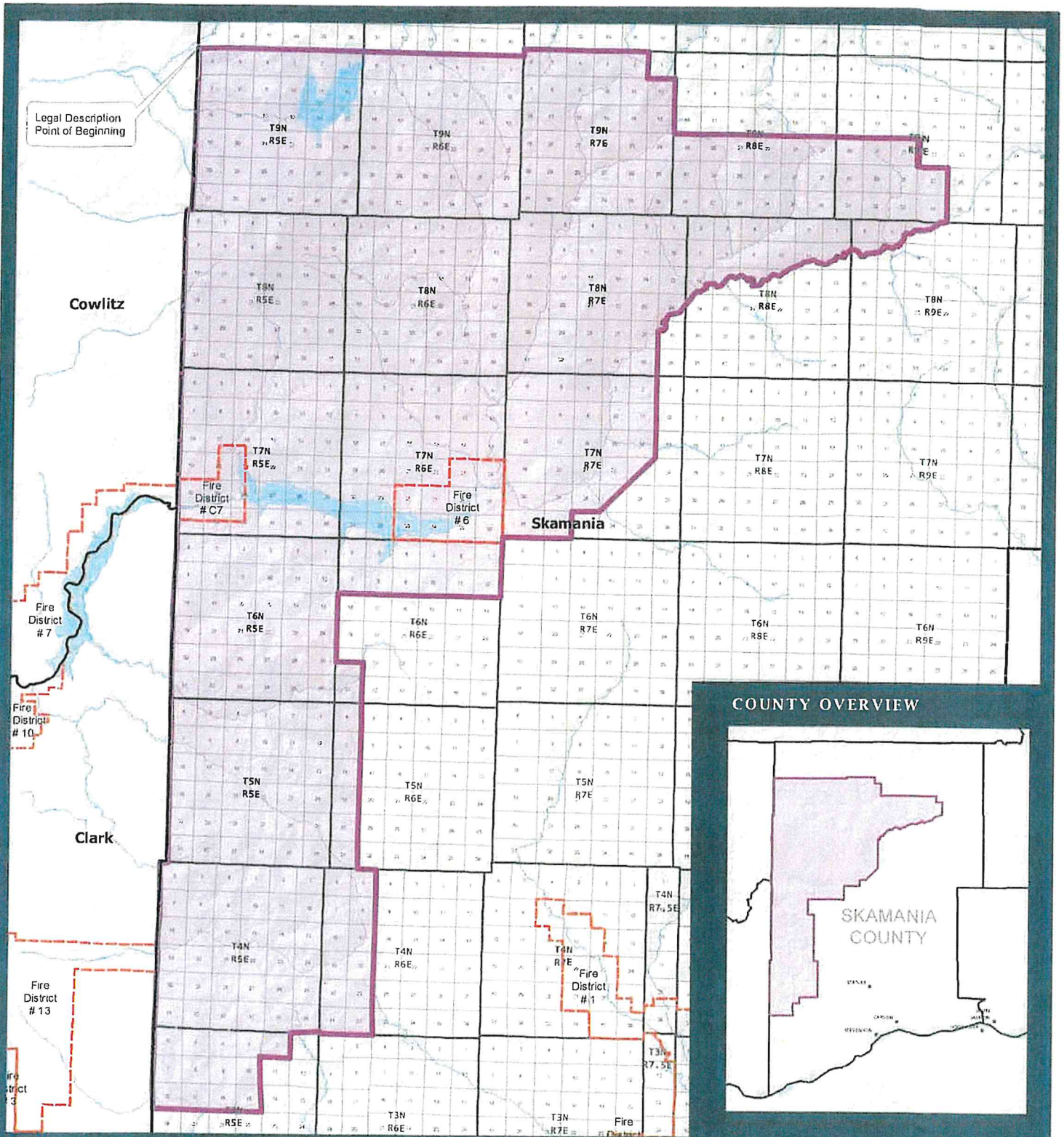
Item	County Title III Funds Requested	Other County Or Local agency Funds	State, Federal Or Other Contributions	Total Available Funds
17. Salaries	\$40,000			
18. Benefits	\$ 9,000			
19. Materials & Supplies	\$11,250			
20. Contracted Services	\$17,000			
21. Travel				
22. Interfund Costs				
23. Other operating Costs	\$ 5,600			
24. Operations Subtotal				
25. Indirect Sponsor Costs for non-county projects (non-profits, other government agencies, etc) (project administration/ overhead not to exceed 12.5%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
26. Capital Costs (specify) _____ _____ _____				
27. Total Project Budget	\$82,850			

28. Identify Source(s) and amounts of other County or local agency contributions in budget:
 \$500 in ambulance fees, \$10,000 Skamania Hospital District contract, \$500 investment interest.
 The total annual budget is \$93,850.

29. Identify Source(s) of state, federal, and other contributions in budget:

30. Attach a worksheet that shows calculations for budget line items (i.e. personnel positions, hours, rates of pay, benefits, listing of contracted services and amounts.)

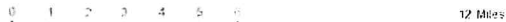
Budget worksheet attached.



LEGEND

- EMS District
- Townships
- Fire Districts
- Sections
- Major River

Skamania County Emergency Medical Service District 1 Boundary



DISCLAIMER: This map product was prepared by Skamania County and is for informational purposes only. It may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Absolute Scale
1:310,108
Relative Scale
1 in = 4.89 miles



SKAMANIA COUNTY
Department of Assessment (GIS)
Created by: Rick Hollatz
Creation date: 6/23/2011
Located in: Skamania County

**NORTH COUNTRY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
2021 Skamania County EMS District #1 Budget - Fund 6272**

REVENUE

Account Code	Description	Amount
3321070	TITLE III GRANT - SKAMANIA COUNTY	\$82,850.00
3422100	SKAMANIA HOSPITAL DISTRICT CONTRACT	\$10,000.00
3426000	AMBULANCE FEES	\$500.00
3611100	INVESTMENT INTEREST	\$500.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$93,850.00

EXPENSE

Account Code	Description	Amount
100	SALARIES	\$40,000.00
200	BENEFITS	\$9,000.00
300	SUPPLIES	\$11,250.00
323	Medical supplies	\$1,500.00
326	Expendable supplies	\$150.00
328	Uniforms	\$800.00
329	Operating supplies	\$100.00
330	Building supplies	\$1,000.00
351	Vehicle supplies	\$500.00
352	Tires	\$200.00
353	Radio supplies	\$500.00
359	Other equipment supplies / parts	\$2,000.00
360	Fuel	\$4,500.00
410	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
411	OVERHEAD EXPENSE FOR OPERATIONS	\$17,000.00
450	RENTAL / LEASE AGREEMENTS	\$2,600.00
460	INSURANCE	\$2,900.00
480	CONTRACT REPAIRS	\$6,000.00
490	MISCELLANEOUS	\$100.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$93,850.00

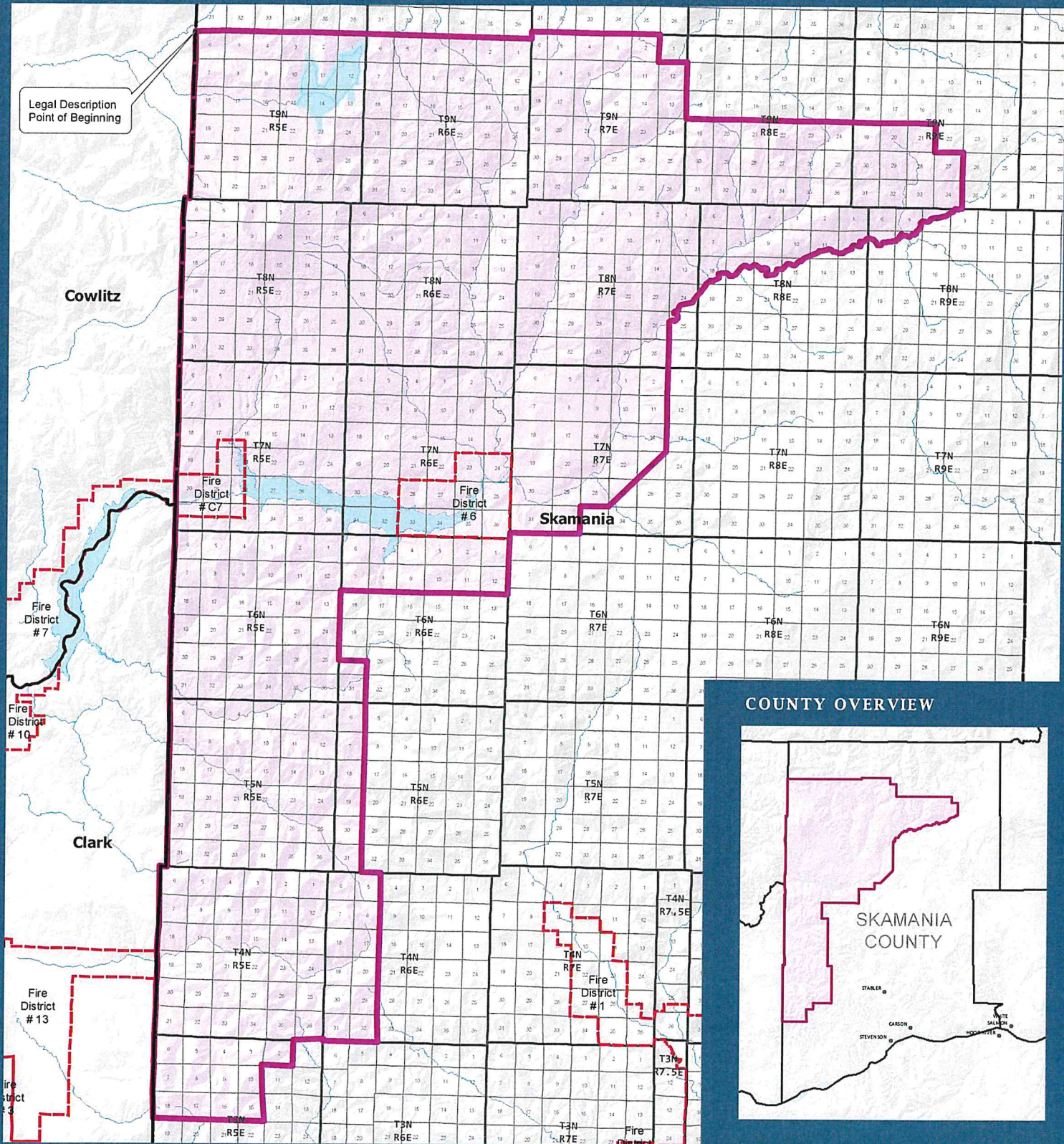
NORTH COUNTRY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
2021 Skamania County EMS District #1 Budget - Fund 6272

REVENUE

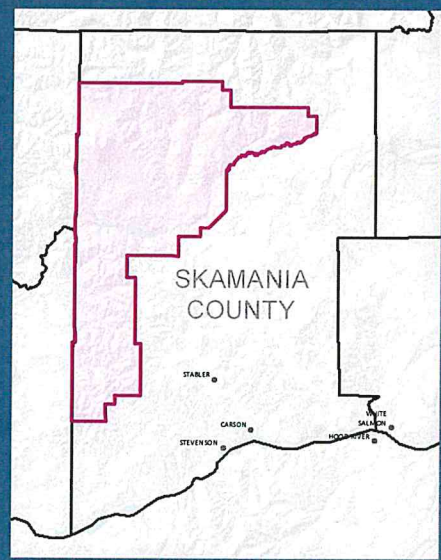
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3611100	INVESTMENT INTEREST	\$500.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$93,850.00

EXPENSE






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351	Vehicle supplies	\$500.00
352	Tires	\$200.00
353	Radio supplies	\$500.00
359	Other equipment supplies / parts	\$2,000.00
360	Fuel	\$4,500.00
410	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
411	OVERHEAD EXPENSE FOR OPERATIONS	\$17,000.00
450	RENTAL / LEASE AGREEMENTS	\$2,600.00
460	INSURANCE	\$2,900.00
480	CONTRACT REPAIRS	\$6,000.00
490	MISCELLANEOUS	\$100.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$93,850.00



COUNTY OVERVIEW



LEGEND

-  EMS District
-  Townships
-  Fire Districts
-  Sections
-  Major River

Skamania County Emergency Medical Service District 1 Boundary



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