Wildfire Fuel Crews

Edit Request

Requester Information

Legislator: Snider, Casey

Creation Date: 2024-01-23

Submission Date: 2024-01-26

Section 1: Request Details

Description:

This RFA would provide funding to the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to utilize fuel crews on various projects throughout the state. Competition with entities that have year-long career staffing models, as well as some seasonal staffing models, makes it difficult for the Division to compete due to increased costs and lack of base funding. Utilizing fuel crew base funding solves this problem and creates efficiencies where crews can work on any fuel projects available during downtime between assignments or larger landscape-scale projects within the existing programs.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Jamie Barnes

Organization: Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

Position: Director/State Forester

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

		One-time	Ongoing
Personnel Services		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$3,000,000.00
In-State Travel		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Out-of-state Travel		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies and Equipment		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$200,000.00	\$0.00
Technology Purchases		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru		2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditure Total			
One-time 2024	One-time 2025	Ongoing 2025	

\$3,000,000.00

Funding Sources:

General Fund

\$0.00

- Amount Requested 2024 (One-time) \$0.00
- Amount Requested 2025 (One-time) \$200,000.00
- Amount Requested 2025 (Ongoing) \$3,000,000.00

\$200,000.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2024 \$0.00 One-time 2025 \$200,000.00 Ongoing 2025 \$3,000,000.00

Should unused funding be returned to the state at the end of the fiscal year?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled

* 8-person Fuels Crew for a 6-month season at \$200,000 a year in personnel costs, \$500,000 yearlong workforce, and vehicle/equipment costs at \$45,000 a year. * A 20-person Fuels Crew for a 6-month season at \$500,000 a year in personnel costs, a yearlong workforce at \$1,100,000.00, and vehicle/equipment costs at \$100,000 a year. * A 9 Area fuels (squads of 4-6), 1 Lone Peak fuels (crew of 18-20), 2 Lone Peak fuels (squads of 6-8) for about \$5,800,000.00 a year and a 6-month season for \$3,000,000.00 a year.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Land and Environment Safety and Security

Agency:

560 / Natural Resources

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding

State Government

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit from this request (who is the target audience)?

The citizens of the state of Utah, local communities, and local government.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

This will increase safety in local communities and municipalities along with increasing safe and effective wildfire response. This will allow for increased, prevention, preparedness, and mitigation actions to take place in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas, bringing more awareness to communities and local governments of land development wildfire risks that are increasing as the population density increases.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

Mitigation and reduction of hazardous fuels that are measurable. Reduction in the number of wildfires and a reduction in the risk of wildfires in communities- both of which are measurable.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language
Previous State Funding