

Applicant's Acknowledgements

* I certify the DUNS number in this application is our only DUNS number and we have confirmed it is active in SAM.gov as the correct number.

* As required per 2 CFR § 25, I certify that prior to submission of this application I have checked the DUNS number listed in this application against the SAM.gov website and it is valid and active at time of submission.

* I certify that the applicant organization has consulted the appropriate Notice of Funding Opportunity and that all requested activities are programmatically allowable, technically feasible and can be completed within the award's one (1) year Period of Performance (POP).

* I certify that the applicant organization is aware that this application period is open from 10/11 to 11/18/2016 and will close at 5 PM EST; further that the applicant organization is aware that once an application is submitted, even if the application period is still open, a submitted application cannot be changed or released back to the applicant for modification.

* I certify that the applicant organization is aware that it is solely the applicant organization's responsibility to ensure that all activities funded by this award(s) comply with Federal Environmental planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) regulations, laws, and Executive Orders as applicable. The EHP Screening Form designed to initiate and facilitate the EHP Review is available at: http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1431970163011-80ce3cd907072a91295b1627c56d8fd2/gpd_ehp_screening_form_51815.pdf

* I certify that the applicant organization is aware that the applicant organization is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of all application information submitted. Regardless of the applicant's intent, the submission of information that is false or misleading may result in actions by FEMA that include, but are not limited to: the submitted application not being considered for award, an existing award being locked pending investigation, or referral to the Office of the Inspector General.

Signed by **Bradley Shoemaker** on **2016-11-10 16:49:06.0**

Overview

*** Did you attend one of the workshops conducted by an AFG regional fire program specialist?**

Yes, I have attended workshop

*** Did you participate in a webinar that was conducted by AFG?**

Yes

*** Are you a member, or are you currently involved in the management, of the fire department or nonaffiliated EMS organization or a State Fire Training Academy applying for this grant with this application?**

No, I am a grant writer or otherwise not affiliated with this applicant

If you answered "No", please **complete** the information below. If you answered "Yes", please skip the Preparer Information section.

Fields marked with an * are required.

Preparer Information

Preparer's Name	Dianne Lehm
Address 1	Big Sky Economic Development
Address 2	222 North 32nd Street #200
City	Billings
State	Montana
Zip	59101 - 1948 Need help for ZIP+4?

In the space below please list the person your organization has selected to be the primary point of contact for this grant. This should be a department officer or member of the organization who will see this grant through completion, including closeout. Reminder: if this person changes at any time during the period of performance please update this information. Please list only phone numbers where we can get in direct contact with the POC.

Primary Point of Contact

* Title	Director of Disaster and Emergency Services
Prefix (select one)	N/A
* First Name	Bradley
Middle Initial	
* Last Name	Shoemaker
* Primary Phone	406-208-0506 Ext. Type work
* Secondary Phone	406-702-2344 Ext. Type cell
Optional Phone	Type
Fax	406-256-6947
* Email	bshoemaker@co.yellowstone.mt.gov

Contact Information

Alternate Contact Information Number 1

* Title Chief Lockwood Fire
Prefix (select one) N/A
* First Name John
Middle Initial
* Last Name Staley
* Primary Phone 406-855-0400 Ext. Type cell
* Secondary Phone 406-252-1460 Ext. Type work
Optional Phone Type
Fax
* Email jstaley@lockwoodfire.com

Alternate Contact Information Number 2

* Title Chief Worden Fire
Prefix (select one) N/A
* First Name Lance
Middle Initial
* Last Name Taylor
* Primary Phone 406-698-0494 Ext. Type work
* Secondary Phone 406-967-2731 Ext. Type cell
Optional Phone Type
Fax
* Email ltaylor@feiinc.com

Applicant Information

* Organization Name	County of Yellowstone
* Type of Applicant	Fire Department/Fire District (Regional)
* Fire Department/District, nonaffiliated EMS, and Regional applicants , select type of Jurisdiction Served :	County
If "Other", please enter the type of Jurisdiction	

SAM.gov (System For Award Management)

* What is the legal name of your Entity as it appears in SAM.gov?

Note: This information must match your SAM.gov profile if your organization is using the DUNS number of your Jurisdiction. County of Yellowstone

* What is the legal business address of your Entity as it appears in SAM.gov?

Note: This information must match your SAM.gov profile if your organization is using the DUNS number of your Jurisdiction.

* Mailing Address 1 217 N 27th St

Mailing Address 2

* City Billings

* State Montana

* Zip 59101 - 1939
[Need help for ZIP+4?](#)

* Employer Identification Number (e.g. 12-3456789)

Note: This information must match your SAM.gov profile. 81-6001449

* Is your organization using the DUNS number of your Jurisdiction? Yes

I certify that my organization is authorized to use the DUNS number of my Jurisdiction provided in this application. (Required if you selected Yes above)

* What is your 9 digit DUNS number?

071404941

(call 1-866-705-5711 to get a DUNS number)

If you were issued a 4 digit number (DUNS plus 4) by your Jurisdiction in addition to your 9 digit number please enter it here.

Note: This is only required if you are using your Jurisdiction's DUNS number and have a separate bank account from your Jurisdiction. Leave the field blank if you are using your Jurisdiction's bank account or have your own DUNS number and bank account separate from your Jurisdiction.

Yes

* Is your DUNS Number registered in SAM.gov (System for Award Management previously CCR.gov)?

* I certify that my organization/entity is registered and active at SAM.gov and registration will be renewed annually in compliance with Federal regulations. I acknowledge that the information submitted in this application is accurate, current and consistent with my organization's/entity's SAM.gov record.

Headquarters or Main Station Physical Address

* Physical Address 1 217 N 27th St
 Physical Address 2
 * City Billings
 * State Montana
 * Zip 59101 - 1939
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Mailing Address

* Mailing Address 1 217 N 27th St
 Mailing Address 2
 * City Billings
 * State Montana
 * Zip 59101 - 1939
[Need help for ZIP+4?](#)

Bank Account Information

* The bank account being used is: (Please select one from right)

Maintained by my Jurisdiction

Note: The following banking information must match your SAM.gov profile.

* Type of bank account
 * Bank routing number - 9 digit number on the bottom left hand corner of your check 092905278
 * **Your account number** 4030126366

Additional Information

* For this fiscal year (Federal) is your organization receiving Federal funding from any other grant program that may duplicate the purpose and/or scope of this grant request?

* If awarded, will your organization expend more than \$750,000 in Federal funds during your organization's fiscal year? If "Yes", your organization will be required to undergo an A-133 audit. Reasonable costs incurred for an A-133 audit are an eligible expenditure and should be included in the applicant's proposed budget. Please enter audit costs only once

under any "Additional Funding" in the "Request Details" section of the application.

* Is the applicant delinquent on any Federal debt?

No

If you answered yes to any of the additional questions above, please provide an explanation in the space provided below:

Regional Request Department Characteristics (Part I)

* What kind of organization do you represent?	Combination
If you answered "Combination", above, how many Career members are in your organization? (whole number only)	30
* What type of community will your regional project serve (what is the make up of the majority of the region affected by the project)?	Rural
* Is your Organization considered a Metro Department? (Over 350 paid career Firefighters)	No
* What is the square mileage of the region affected by the project? (whole number only)	2666
* In what county/parish is the host applicant physically located? If you have more than one station, in what county/parish is your main station located?	County of Yellowstone
* Does your region protect critical infrastructure of the state?	Yes
* What percentage of your region's land use is for Agriculture , Wildland , Open space, or Undeveloped properties?	98 %
* What percentage of your region's land use is for commercial and industrial purposes?	1 %
* What percentage of your region's land is used for residential purposes?	1 %
* What is the permanent resident population of your region served? Remember this is the combined population of all departments/agencies included in this application	50000
*Do you have a seasonal increase in population?	No
If "Yes" what is your seasonal increase in population?	
* What is the total membership in your region? <i>Remember this is the <u>combined</u> personnel of all departments/agencies included in this application.</i>	203
*How many active members are trained to Firefighter I?	47
*How many active members are trained to Firefighter II?	18
*How many active BLS providers does your region have?	2
*How many active ALS providers does your region have?	1
*How many active Emergency Medical Responders does your region have?	25

*How many personnel are trained to the Community Paramedic level? 0

* How many stations are in your region? 9

* If you (the host applicant) are a fire department, do you report to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)? No

If you answered "Yes" above, please enter your Requesting departments FDIN/FDID

* How many regional partners will directly participate in this project? 8

* Please list each participating agency by name along with a point of contact, to include a phone number. All regional participants must be eligible as defined by the AFG Funding Opportunity Announcement (e.g., Fire Departments or nonaffiliated EMS organizations)

Participating Organization Name	First Name	Last Name	Phone Number	Action
Worden Fire Department	Lance	Taylor	406-967-2731 Ext:	View
Shepherd Fire Department	Phil	Ehlers	406-671-5113 Ext:	View
Lockwood Fire Department	John	Staley	406-855-0400 Ext:	View
Laurel Fire Department	Brent	Peters	406-860-0782 Ext:	View
Haley Bench Fire Department	Mike	Hammond	406-855-4596 Ext:	View
Broadview Fire Department	Travis	Jones	406-855-1065 Ext:	View
Blue Creek Fire Department	Rick	Cortez III	406-208-0524 Ext:	View
Custer Fire Department	Brad	Shoemaker	406-208-0506 Ext:	View

* Do all departments in this request report to NFIRS? Yes

* Do all agencies meet the regional minimum for NIMS compliancy? Yes

* What services are provided by your organization and the organizations participating in the regional application?

Advanced Life Support Transport	Haz-Mat Operational Level
Basic Life Support Non-Transport	Haz-Mat Technical Level
Basic Life Support Transport	

* Please describe your organization and/or community that you serve. We recommend typing your response in a Word Document outside of this application, then copying and pasting it into the written field. There is a 4000 character limit.

Yellowstone County, located in south central Montana, is the most populous County with an estimated 157,048 residents according to the 2015 Census but is still considered rural by today's standards. The county is 2,666 square miles in area, 2,635 square miles in land area and 31 square miles in inland water area. There are two incorporated cities in Yellowstone County, the City of Billings, and the City of Laurel, and one incorporated town, the town of Broadview. The remainder of the county is unincorporated rural

communities including Acton, Ballantine, Custer, Huntley, Pompeys Pillar, Shepherd and Worden. A portion of the Crow Indian Reservation lies within Yellowstone County. Billings, the county seat, is the state's largest city with a population of 110,263 as of the 2015 Census. Billings's primary industries are major retail and wholesale trade, financial, energy, transportation, and healthcare. Census data shows that between 2000 and 2012, Billings's population increased by 16.6%. While the majority of the County's population resides in or within close proximity to the City of Billings, the remainder of the County is very rural and has many areas where cell service is sparse or nonexistent.

The eight identified applicants serve the rural areas of Yellowstone County and provide their services in mostly volunteer capacities. Yellowstone County includes the small rural communities of Laurel, Lockwood, Shepherd, Worden, Huntley all home to significant residential areas and critical infrastructure. The rural departments serve approximately 50,000 people, critical infrastructure includes two oil refineries (CHS and Exxon) and a large (BNSF) Train yard. These areas include significant HAZMAT sites having unique service requirements. Yellowstone County has several businesses using hazardous materials including chemical distribution and oil and gas production and distribution. These rural emergency services departments also respond to medical and fire emergencies on two interstate highways, I-90 and I-94 which intersect in our service area. These corridors are major public and commercial transportation in Montana and are the main transportation routes south to Wyoming, and to eastern Montana, North Dakota and the Bakken Oil Fields. Multiple petroleum pipelines run through our service area including below the Yellowstone River.

Yellowstone County's Emergency and General Services is directed by Brad Shoemaker, DES Director and County Rural Fire Warden. The DES Director is responsible for coordination efforts in emergency events, oversight of the Emergency Operations Center and equipment, ensuring all area plans are up-to-date (Emergency Operations Plan, Pre Disaster Mitigation Plan, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and many others), working with an active Local Emergency Planning Committee, scheduling regional training, and coordinating the rural fire council to name a few. As the County Fire Warden, Brad Shoemaker oversees 13 departments and districts throughout the County comprised mostly of volunteers.

One of the greatest risks to Yellowstone County identified in the Pre Disaster Mitigation Plan and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan is wildfire. Yellowstone County has experienced many wildfires throughout the County during the last several years which threatened and in some cases destroyed homes and endangered the residents of Yellowstone County.

After taking over the post in early 2016, the DES Director identified several deficiencies related to communications and is working to resolve or greatly reduce those deficiencies. One of the most important resources in rural fire and emergency response is communication equipment.

Regional Characteristics (Part II)

	2015	2014	2013
* What is the total number of line of duty member fatalities in your region over the last three calendar years?	0	0	0
* What is the total number of line of duty member injuries in your region over the last three calendar years?	0	0	0
*What is the cumulative total of the three-year budgets of all participating organizations in this project?	2900000		
* How much of this declared budget is dedicated to personnel costs (salary, fringe, and overtime)?	1508000		
* What percentage of the declared operating budget is derived from: Enter numbers only, percentages must sum up to 100%	2015	2014	2013
<u>Taxes?</u>	81 %	81 %	81 %
Bond Issues?	0 %	0 %	0 %
<u>EMS Billing?</u>	4 %	4 %	4 %
Grants?	4 %	4 %	4 %
Donations?	3 %	3 %	3 %
Fund drives?	1 %	1 %	1 %
<u>Fee for Service?</u>	7 %	7 %	7 %

* Applicants should describe their financial need and how consistent it is with the intent of the AFG Program. This statement should include details describing the applicant's financial distress, including summarizing budget constraints, unsuccessful attempts to obtain vehicle and outside funding, and proving the trouble is out of their control

Yellowstone County operates on a fiscally conservative budget. The County has several businesses protesting their tax liability in recent years placing additional constraints on spending and creating concerns on expending any reserves. Yellowstone County Commissioners have asked department heads to reduce expenses and keep costs to a minimum. The County, as well as Disaster and Emergency Services, continue to look for ways to resolve deficiencies to better serve the population of the County.

Each of the departments included in this application are rural fire departments with small budgets for providing emergency services. The departments are adept at seeking and purchasing used handed down equipment for their operations including trucks and apparatus, PPE, and station equipment, but communications are critical to effectively responding to incidents in the rural areas and radio communications need to be operating fully and properly.

Yellowstone County DES and individual departments have sought funding through other sources but have not been able to obtain the needed funding for the requested communication equipment. The applicants have an urgent need to replace and add to aging and outdated communications equipment and increase interoperability. A significant number of radios in use today throughout the multiple departments are over 15 years old and are past their serviceable life. Many response vehicles and members are not equipped with sufficient required communications equipment which creates safety and operational issues on incidents. Additionally, interoperability with the City of Billings Fire Department, who are on an 800 MHz radio system, requires communication between entities to rely solely on a patch through the local dispatch center. This can create confusion, and inefficient methods of communication in times when effective communication is irreplaceable. Without these new radios and an upgrade to current interoperability between entities will continue to decline as the rural department radios are unable to be replaced. This shortfall is not acceptable to emergency departments, nor is it to constituents of Yellowstone County, therefore it is identified as a high priority to DES Director Brad Shoemaker and collectively the Yellowstone County Commissioners. By funding this grant each department will be able to fulfill its radio communication needs. A common communication plan for large rural fires has been established across the county and with our state and federal partners

following state mutual aid frequency guidelines. Each of these radios will be programmed with each of these common partner groups to ensure a common seamless communications plan on large fires and multi-agency incidents.

*** How many vehicles are operational within the region in each of the type or class of vehicle listed below? You must include vehicles that are leased or as well as any vehicles that have been ordered or otherwise currently under contract for purchase or lease by your organization but not yet in your possession. (Enter numbers only and enter 0 if you do not have any of the vehicles below)**

Type or Class of Vehicle	Number of Front Line Apparatus	Number of Reserve Apparatus	Number of Seated Riding Positions
Engines or Pumpers (pumping capacity of 750 gpm or greater and water capacity of 300 gallons or more): Pumper, Pumper/Tanker, Rescue/Pumper, Foam Pumper, CAFS Pumper, Type I, Type II Engine Urban Interface	17	0	68
Ambulances that are used for transport:	8	0	16
Tankers or Tenders (pumping capacity of less than 750 gallons per minute (gpm) and water capacity of 1,000 gallons or more):	15	0	30
Aerial Apparatus: Aerial Ladder Truck, Telescoping, Articulating, Ladder Towers, Platform, Tiller Ladder Truck, Quint	2	0	8
Brush/Quick attack (pumping capacity of less than 750 gpm and water carrying capacity of at least 300 gallons): Brush Truck, Patrol Unit (Pickup w/ Skid Unit), Quick Attack Unit, Mini-Pumper, Type III Engine, Type IV Engine, Type V Engine, Type VI Engine, Type VII Engine	37	0	37
Rescue Vehicles: Rescue Squad, Rescue (Light, Medium, Heavy), Technical Rescue Vehicle, Hazardous Materials Unit	3	0	5
Additional Vehicles: EMS Chase Vehicle, Air/Light Unit, Rehab Units, Bomb Unit, Technical Support (Command, Operational Support/Supply), Hose Tender, Salvage Truck, ARFF (Aircraft Rescue Firefighting), Command/Mobile Communications Vehicle, Bariatric Ambulance(s)	8	0	10

Regional Call Volume

2015 2014 2013

* **Summary** of responses per year by category (Enter whole number only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, Enter 0)

Fire - NFIRS Series 100	879	475	518
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 200	40	28	40
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident - NFIRS Series 300	430	531	542
Hazardous Condition (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 400	12	18	6
Service Call - NFIRS Series 500	58	44	60
Good Intent Call - NFIRS Series 600	3	7	8
False Alarm & False Call - NFIRS Series 700	50	84	61
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster - NFIRS Series 800	0	0	0
Special Incident Type - NFIRS Series 900	2	1	1

FIRES

* How many responses per year by category? (Enter whole number only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, Enter 0)

Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Structure Fire" (NFIRS Codes 111-120)	70	66	86
Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Vehicle Fire" (NFIRS Codes 130-138)	40	45	40
Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Vegetation Fire" (NFIRS Codes 140-143)	175	172	197
What is the total acreage of all vegetation fires?	200	1600	250

RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE INCIDENTS

* How many responses per year by category? (Enter whole number only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, Enter 0)

Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Motor Vehicle Accidents" (NFIRS Codes 322-324)	312	341	347
Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Extrications from Vehicles" (NFIRS Code 352)	24	36	28
Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Rescues" (NFIRS Codes 300, 351, 353-381)	4	3	3
How many EMS-BLS Response Calls	426	528	539
How many EMS-ALS Response Calls	450	443	482
How many EMS-BLS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
How many EMS-ALS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
How many Community Paramedic Response Calls	0	0	0

MUTUAL AND AUTOMATIC AID

* How many responses per year by category? (Enter whole number only. If you have no calls for any of the categories, Enter 0)

How many times did your organization receive Mutual Aid?	8	2	0
How many times did your organization receive Automatic Aid?	22	19	22
	8	2	0

How many times did your organization provide Mutual Aid?			
How many times did your organization provide Automatic Aid?	22	19	22
Of the Mutual and Automatic Aid responses, how many were structure fires?	22	19	22

Regional Request Information

1. Select a program for which you are applying. **Regional applications are not eligible for modification of facilities or wellness and fitness programs.** You can apply for as many activities within a program as you need.

Program Name

Regional Request

2. Enter grant-writing fee associated with the preparation of this request. Enter 0 if there is no fee.

\$1500

Request Details

The activities for program **Regional Request** are listed in the table below.

Activity	Number of Entries	Total Cost	Additional Funding	Action
Equipment	3	\$ 390,000	\$ 0	View Details View Additional Funding Narratives
Personal Protective Equipment	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	View Details
Training	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	View Details
Grant-writing fee associated with the preparation of this request.			\$1500	

Regional Equipment - Narrative

* Section # 1 Project Description: In the space provided below, include clear and concise details regarding your organization's project's description and budget. This includes providing local statistics to justify the needs of your department and a detailed plan for how your department will implement the proposed project. Further, please describe what you are requesting funding for, including budget descriptions of the major budget items, i.e., personnel, equipment, contracts, etc. *4000 characters

The applicants serve the rural areas of Yellowstone County, Montana. Yellowstone County is home to the communities of Laurel, Lockwood, Shepherd, Worden, Huntley and significant residential and commercial areas and critical infrastructure. The rural departments cover approximately 50,000 people, two oil(CHS and Exxon)refineries and a large(BNSF)train yard. These industrial areas include significant HAZMAT sites and difficult service requirements. The rural areas of the county also respond to medical and fire emergencies on two interstate highways, I-90 and I-94 which intersect in our service area. These corridors are major public and commercial transportation in Montana and are the main transportation routes south to Wyoming, and to eastern Montana, North Dakota and the Bakken Oil Fields. Multiple petroleum pipelines run through our service area as well including below the Yellowstone River.

Yellowstone County is in need of fully functioning P25 compliance mobile, portable, and base radio equipment to provide reliable communications throughout all of Yellowstone County. Yellowstone County Rural Fire is proposing to replace aging and outdated equipment to create a reliable system for emergency communications. The DES Director met with each department/district within Yellowstone County to determine the condition of current equipment, deficiencies in current communication equipment, and needs of each department to serve the citizens of Yellowstone County. The request is for 75 mobile radios, 100 portable radios, and 12 base stations. All radio equipment proposed will be P25 compliant with multi-protocol support. The radios need to be VHF/UHF/700-800MHZ Transceiver is P25 (I&II) NXDN (conventional and Type C trunked) Multi-digital portable radios for total interoperability. The radios should have automatic call identification, enhanced mixed operation, LCD displays, active noise cancelling to reduce background noise, built in Bluetooth, GPS to transmit position, encryption equipped, and extended life intelligent management for batteries.

Rural Yellowstone County emergency response departments have seen a significant rise in the number of calls they receive. Overall the number of calls has risen over by over 1/3 in the last three years. In 2015, rural departments received 70 structure fire calls, 40 vehicle fire calls, and 175 vegetation fire calls. Rescue and emergency medical service incidents for 2015 included 312 motor vehicle incidents, 24 extractions from vehicles, with 876 EMS responses.

This grant is requesting funds to purchase, program and install 187 portable, mobile or base station VHF radios which meet P-25 compliance and are capable of Phase 2 narrow banding. By incorporating these radios to each department, they will be able to confidently serve their constituents regardless of the rural area of the Yellowstone County. Individual respondents will be able to confidently concentrate on their duty and task compared to communication concerns in addition to their duty. The funds will be utilized for equipment and installation to increase the capabilities of the departments to communicate across departments in the county and region. The standardization and upgrade of equipment will allow for the programming of a common-accepted communications plan that will allow County Fire-EMS-Law Enforcement agencies in the area to communicate during large incidents. Interoperability in the region with the neighboring municipality, who is on a trunked 800MHz radio system will also be increased because interoperability is through a patch in the dispatch center. With the increased radios, more trucks and personnel will be able to communicate back to the dispatch center and thus across all agencies in the region. The requested equipment includes 75 mobile radios, 100 portable radios, and 12 base stations to fully equip the rural fire departments within Yellowstone County. The total request for equipment is \$390,000.

* Section # 2 Cost/Benefit: In the space provided below please explain, as clearly as possible, what will be the benefits your department or your community will realize if the project described is funded (i.e. anticipated savings and/or efficiencies)? Is there a high benefit for the cost incurred? Are the costs reasonable? Provide justification for the budget items relating to the cost of the requested items. *4000 characters

The cost benefit with this grant proposal is difficult to quantify but clear to see. The aging and outdated radio communications components in Yellowstone County are in desperate need to be replaced. Updated radios will provide benefit to internal communications amongst departments, but it will also allow rural department to communicate together. Most rural Departments serve in volunteer capacities; this often creates restrictions to services or emergency situations; other Departments if available can assist in providing service. This will allow efficient communication between Departments and how efforts can be effectively initiated. In previous reports, a lack of radios and a pre-identified common communications plan were pre-identified on three major incidents in the last year including two large fires and one large-scale search and rescue operation. This equipment will allow for the programming of a recently adopted communications plan developed by the Rural Fire Council and Local Emergency Planning Committee following guidance from the state mutual aid frequency guide. The benefits of working communication systems are numerous including clear information flow from command to operation level responders, increased safety, better response organization and increased coordination during interagency operations on large incidents.

* Section # 3 Statement of Effect: How would this award impact the daily operations of your department? How would this award impact your department's ability to protect lives and property in your community? *4000 characters

Daily operations of the rural departments involved will be improved by allowing for a common communications plan and equipment to improve and expand communications within the individual departments and also during mutual aid and interagency incident response. The recently accepted common communications plan cannot be fully implemented without this equipment as many departments have older radios or low-budget radios which only allow for one group of channels to be programmed in. The proposed radio purchase will allow for multiple groups to be programmed in the radios for mutual aid or incident specific communication plans. The addition of these radios will also increase the number of radios each department has significantly which will allow for expanded communications, better flow of information to and from command and operations staff. These improvements will result in increased safety, coordination and a more timely response for the residents of our protection areas.

Budget

Budget Object Class

a. Personnel	\$ 0
b. Fringe Benefits	\$ 0
c. Travel	\$ 0
d. Equipment	\$ 390,000
e. Supplies	\$ 0
f. Contractual	\$ 0
g. Construction	\$ 0
h. Other	\$ 1,500
i. Indirect Charges	\$ 0
j. State Taxes	\$ 0

Federal and Applicant Share

Federal Share	\$ 355,910
Applicant Share	\$ 35,590
Applicant Share of Award (%)	10

* Non-Federal Resources (The combined Non-Federal Resources must equal the Applicant Share of \$ 35,590)

a. Applicant	\$ 25590
b. State	\$ 0
c. Local	\$ 10000
d. Other Sources	\$ 0

If you entered a value in Other Sources other than zero (0), include your explanation below. You can use this space to provide information on the project, cost share match, or if you have an indirect cost agreement with a federal agency.

Total Budget **\$ 391,500**