



## Parks and Open Space

5201 St. Vrain Road • Longmont, Colorado 80503 • 303.678.6200 • Fax: 303.678.6177  
www.BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org • POSinfo@bouldercounty.org

### *Small Grants Program 2010*

The Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department, through its Resource Management Division, is offering small grants\*\* for research and biological inventories on open space lands. The purpose of the program is to increase the scientific knowledge of ecosystems found in Boulder County and visitor effects on them.

The department will use the information gained through this research to improve natural resource and public uses on county open space lands. Two categories will be awarded: grants up to \$5,000 and grants up to \$10,000. **The deadline for proposals is Thursday, January 28, 2010 by 4:30pm.**

#### ***PRIORITY RESEARCH NEEDS***

Boulder County Parks and Open Space has identified the following research topics as priority needs for natural resource and visitor management. Proposals\*\* other than the following will also be accepted. We encourage you to contact appropriate staff members (see list) to discuss research topics in advance of the deadline.

- Short and long-term prairie dog ecology studies (demographics, plant community dynamics, plague or other disease topics, etc.).
- Impacts of passive recreation (equestrians, hikers, mountain bikes) on native wildlife near trails on open space.
- Surveys or inventories on the following wildlife species on open space: porcupine and pine marten.
- Comparison of wildlife occurrence and abundance on restored prairie versus native prairie.
- Wildlife species comparisons between thinned and unthinned Ponderosa pine or lodgepole pine forests.
- Investigate nesting success of burrowing owls in Boulder County versus other areas in Colorado.
- Evaluation of restoration techniques for former agricultural lands, particularly diversity of plants restored.
- Evaluation of integrated noxious weed management techniques.
- Evaluation of selectivity of rangeland herbicides on native flora.
- Evaluation of effectiveness of various Russian olive treatment methods.
- Mountain pine beetle infestation in thinned and un-thinned ponderosa pine stands.
- Boulder County residents' perception of the mountain pine beetle epidemic.
- Connections between volunteer experiences and land stewardship.
- Park Visitors' opinions about carrying capacity management strategies.
- Economic and carbon reduction benefits of disposing of wood with an air curtain burner.

\*\* For the purpose of this request, the terms "grant(s)" and/or "proposal(s)" are only used in an informal context.

## *Guidelines*

- Proposals requesting funding must be received by **Thursday, January 28, 2010 by 4:30pm**. Proposal requirements are listed below. Proposals that do not follow the required format in the Proposal Requirements listed below will not be considered or reviewed.
- Submit an electronic file (Word or pdf) to [swilliams@bouldercounty.org](mailto:swilliams@bouldercounty.org)
- Applicants will be notified of a decision by **Wednesday, February 24, 2010**.
- Anyone may apply. Students must submit a signed letter from an academic advisor to confirm that the proposal has been reviewed, approved, and is supported.
- Grant proposals up to \$10,000 will be considered.
- Research must take place on Boulder County Parks and Open Space properties. Researchers may use BC Conservation Easement lands with the condition that the researcher secure prior written permission from the private landowner.
- Researchers must adhere to all applicable policies and regulations set forth by the department. The researcher is responsible for knowing the appropriate rules.
- Grantees will need to submit a draft final report on **Monday, October 25, 2010** unless other arrangements are made in advance. The draft will be reviewed and returned with comments by **Friday, November 19, 2010**. The final report (see requirements below) is due **Thursday, December 16, 2010** and must be received before the final payment is issued.

## *Proposal Requirements*

The proposal text must not exceed six double-spaced typewritten pages. In addition, budget, resumes, and cited literature can be added as appendices. The proposal must include the items listed below. In addition, other sources of funding supporting the project should be identified. The investigator's resume must accompany the proposal.

### **SECTION 1, Abstract**

- Provide a one-paragraph summary (abstract) of the proposal that describes the objectives, general methods, and anticipated value the research.

### **SECTION 2, Introduction: Objectives, Hypotheses, Anticipated Value, Literature Review**

- The proposal report cover page should specify the **proposal** report title, author name(s) and contact information, and proposal report date. It should be printed on both sides of recycled paper and mailed in a recycled envelope.
- Describe the overall objective(s) to be addressed by the research.
- State the hypotheses and alternative hypotheses or purpose of research related to the objective.
- State how the research will contribute to the natural resource and/or visitor management needs of Boulder County Parks and Open Space.
- Describe the anticipated value of the research to furthering of scientific knowledge and public education.
- Provide a summary of pertinent published literature.

### **SECTION 3, Methods: Description of research**

- A detailed explanation of sampling or survey methods.
- A discussion of data analysis techniques.
- Project requirements, including logistics, and permits.
- A detailed project schedule.
- A map showing location of research activities.
- Describe in detail any potential negative impacts to the natural resources on Boulder County Open Space.

## ***Proposal Requirements, Continued***

### **SECTION 4, Budget**

- Provide a detailed and itemized annual budget, including funding requirements for salaries, equipment, travel, office supplies, report preparation, and required overhead.
- Provide information on any sources of cooperative funding or assistance-in-kind and include appropriate documentation.

### **SECTION 5, Qualification of Researchers**

- Provide a resume or curriculum vitae of the investigator(s), including the faculty advisor for student projects.
- For student projects, attach a signed statement from a faculty advisor supporting and approving the proposal and describing the degree of faculty involvement and supervision. Faculty sponsors are responsible for providing reports to BCPOS should the student fail to submit one. Future requests by students of a faculty advisor who has not provided required reports may not be processed.

## ***Final Report***

- A draft final report must be completed and submitted by **Monday, October 25, 2010** and must include the following information:
  1. The final report cover page should specify the final report title, author name(s) and contact information, and final report date. It should be printed on both sides of recycled paper and mailed in a recycled envelope.
  2. Abstract.
  3. Introduction and literature review.
  4. Description of materials and methods used.
  5. Results with detailed data analyses.
  6. Discussion of the results, including a description of how the results apply to natural resource and/or visitor management for the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department.
  7. Conclusion.
  8. Literature cited.
- The draft will be reviewed and returned with comments by **Friday, November 19, 2010**.
- An oral presentation of the research results may be requested.
- Progress reports may also be required.
- The final report will be the property of Boulder County and may be used in publications and other documents. Primary researchers will be credited in any publication.
- The final report should be submitted as two hard copies plus the original word document or a five-megabyte (max) pdf on a CD or DVD by **Thursday, December 16, 2010**. Do not submit “Read Only” word documents. The final payment will not be issued until the final report is received.

## *Questions?*

### *Boulder County Parks and Open Space Research Supervisor Contact List*

Please direct all questions to the appropriate contact person below:

Chad Julian, Forestry  
cjulian@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6202

Claire DeLeo, Plant Ecology  
cdeleo@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6205

Dave Hoerath, Wildlife Biologist, Large Mammals and Fish  
dhoerath@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6204

Mark Brennan, Wildlife Biologist, Small Mammals and Birds  
mbrennan@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6203

Pascale Fried, Visitor Issues  
pfried@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6201

Rob Alexander, Agriculture  
ralexander@bouldercounty.org  
303-678-6239