

Grants Team Responses to Workshop Questions

1. Subject – Match

Question: Last year we hired a trails contractor to do a lot of trail grading. We paid for this with In Lieu County grant funds. Since it gave us more match than we needed can we give about half the amount to Los Padres for them to claim as match since all the work was done on Los Padres roads and trails? Los Padres did not do any work on these trails at all.

Division Response:

If your organization donates cash funds to the Los Padres National Forest separate from your project, the forest can use those cash funds as match. Any other type of match, such as in-kind labor, must be project specific to the Los Padres' application.

2. Subject – Regarding value of downed logs as barrier materials

Suggestion: I suggest Garrett discuss this with the Division and come up with a standard which all of us FS program managers can use. Similar to how we document the value of volunteer time (which would otherwise be free); it is standardized.

Division Response:

We look forward to have such a discussion with Garrett.

3. Subject – Requesting ideas for alternative match line items due to COVID-19

Question: For our ongoing restoration grant, I canceled our monthly restoration project volunteer activities in our greenhouses and in the forest due to COVID from March-October 2020. We rescheduled them for March-October 2021 but with Covid-19 spike now, are not sure again. (We have a lot of older volunteers and some that ride in our vehicles with us into the forest. We could not guarantee they would not become sick, did not want to risk it and if they did get sick the FS was responsible under the volunteer agreement.

Can you give some examples of how others came up with alternate match activities during COVID?

Division Response:

Unfortunately, the OHMVR Division cannot provide such guidance. Each Grantee must make their own determinations on ways to meet match.

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4. Subject – Trail Tractor Training

Question: We'd like to host a trail heavy equipment training class (mini ex and trail dozer). Due to COVID it would be half distance learning and half a field skills session.

It would be open to experienced operators, not the general public so I don't think this would fit as a Safety and Education grant. Usually, you require this type of thing to be an indirect cost, but it's too expensive for us to do that.

Any ideas on how we could do this?

Division Response:

You are correct. The activity as proposed would be an indirect cost. We would suggest contacting either a forest or the OHMVR Division directly to engage in a conversation about possibilities to accomplish such a project.

5. Subject – Photographic Documentation

Question: What are the spec capabilities for photograph submissions (jpeg?; 2MB or less?) can OLGA handle?

Division Response:

OLGA supports JPG and GIF file extensions. The size limit for photographs are restricted to 240 KB. *Note: OLGA does not accept JPEG file extensions, only JPG. There is no difference between the two files. If a file has a ".jpeg" extension, it can be renamed to ".jpg".*

6. Subject – Clarification Regarding Equipment Logbook

Question 1: Do Forest Service vehicle log books need to be submitted with our G21 payment requests?

Division Response:

No. We will accept the forest service transaction registry. However, the logs shall be kept by the Grantee and made available for review by either the OHMVR Division or the Department's Audits Office. If a Grantee seeks reimbursement for gas purchases, the receipts for the gas purchases must be submitted with their payment request.

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Question 2: In our previous payment requests the Forest only needed to submit our transaction registry, does that still suffice?

Division Response:

See response to question 1 above.

Question 3: Should we keep vehicle logbooks for audits? Or, do we need to provide them with our Payment Request?

Division Response:

Refer to response in question 1 above.