



15051 Caspar Road
Caspar, California
95420

casparcommons.org

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Caspar Community, Inc.
is a federally recognized
charitable organization
EIN: 94-3321996

According to the Gorse Action Group of Oregon's website, gorse is now rated as **one of the top 100 worst invasive species worldwide (World Conservation Union), and the #1 most invasive species on the south coast of Oregon (Oregon State Parks). The plant is both a noxious weed and an extreme fire hazard due to the volatile oils it contains. With the increasingly dry summers as a result of climate change, gorse is only going to become a more dangerous part of our noxious weed community.**

Caspar Community Board has reviewed and accepts this proposal for gorse treatment in Caspar utilizing \$ 10,000 of the funding from the USDA grant and pledges a \$ 10,000 match from Caspar Board's Firesafe saved funds.

Proposal

The proposal is that Caspar Community Center will utilize \$ 10,000 of the funds in the USDA grant to first treat west of Highway One properties for gorse removal, matched by Caspar Board Firesafe funds of \$ 10,000.

These plants are not only noxious weeds but present an extreme fire danger to the town of Caspar. Therefore we propose that the grant funds be spent in the following order of priority:

I. Hagland property- 12.5 acre parcel at the corner of Pacifica Way and Caspar Road. Center of town. Landowner permission and annual follow up agreement has been obtained.

Price Estimate

4 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 8,000

or

6 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 12,000

To preserve & enhance the quality of all life in Caspar



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2. Managhan property--6 acre parcel at north entrance into Caspar which extends into the town. Landowner permission and annual follow up agreement has been obtained.

Price Estimate
2 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 4,000
or
3 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 6,000

3. Mitchell Estate-- 5.5 acre parcel at the corner of Caspar Road and Caspar Point Road. Landowner permission and annual follow up agreement in process.

Price Estimate
2 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 4,000
or
3 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 6,000

Karen Reynolds - 1 acre on Caspar Point Road-Landowner permission and agreement to do annual follow up has been obtained. This property will be treated only if enough funds are left over.

The loose bid from machine operators David Lindstrom and Jerry Beaty falls into these cost ranges. Depending on conditions at the site it could take less time or more time.

The full cost of the project on the west side of Highway One will fall between \$ 16,000 and \$ 24,00 depending on conditions at the site underlying the gorse.

Caspar Community has voted and agreed that the above properties will be treated **first**, in order of priority, with the Caspar Community donating an additional \$ 10,000 towards the work.

This would leave from \$ 6,000 to \$ 14,000 still available in the \$ 20,000 USDA grant to be spent of the east side of Highway One.



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Property owners east of Highway One were also approached to participate in the USDA grant, and Caspar Board agrees that from \$ 6,000 to \$ 10,000 of the USDA grant be spent on these properties. A west Caspar landowner anonymous donor is also donating for the east side properties an additional \$ 5,000 match to the USDA grant.

Treatment priority for the east side of Highway One will be prioritized as follows:

4. Karlin property - located between Fortunate Farm and Oscar Smith Ranch --treat 5 to 7 acres of the property where the gorse is easy to reach..

Gorse in the tree stand would be avoided during this round as it is too hard to get at and will cause delay due to maneuvering equipment around numerous trees and moving downed trees, which will expend too much of the weed removal grant money. Landowner permission and agreement to do annual follow up has been obtained.

Price Estimate

2 days @ \$ \$2,000 per day = \$ 4,000

or

4 days @ \$ 2,000 a day = \$ 8,000

5. Cameron property-adjacent to Karlin--treat 3 acres. Landowner permission and agreement to do annual follow up has been obtained.

Price Estimate

1 day @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 2,000

or

2 days @ \$ 2,000 per day = \$ 4,000

6. Buechner property: Fortunate Farm- has already removed much of the gorse on its property, but has problems on the northwest creek bed which require removal. Treat 2 to 3 acres at northwest corner of property.

Price Estimate

1 day @ \$ 2,000 per day



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7. Oscar Smith Ranch-on east side of Highway One-- 5 to 7 acres need treatment. Smith Ranch also has acreage located just east of Caspar Community Center. Caspar Community Board voted to prioritize the property adjacent at the east to the Caspar Community Center

Landowner permission has been obtained. However landowner only has agreed to allow grazing of goats but has not agreed to spend any funds for annual follow up. This property is the last priority, and will be treated only if funds are left over after treatment of properties # 1 through # 6.

Additional Notes:

A CFIP grant will be pursued by Helene Chalfin to help landowners on the east side of Highway One who qualify for this source of funding. The funding is only available to property owners with forest stands, so would not be available to landowners on the west side of Highway One unless they have large stands of trees.

The CFIP funding allows for improving forest health, removal of dead and dying trees and exotics removal.

East side of Highway One landowners could realize much greater funding from this source during the next year.

Paul Reiber

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President

Caspar Community Board