

# Idaho Federal Lands Access Program

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## 2015 Request for Proposals Informational Webinar

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# Overview

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- Who is Federal Lands Highway?
  - MAP-21 & The Federal Lands Access Program
  - Eligibility & the Proposal Selection Process
  - 2015 Request for Proposals
  - Tips for developing good proposals
  - Great questions and hopefully some good answers
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# Office of Federal Lands Highway (FLH)

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Western Federal Lands



Eastern Federal Lands

Central Federal Lands

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# Western Federal Lands Highway (WFL) Services Provided

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- Transportation Planning/Public Involvement
  - Transportation engineering disciplines, technical assistance & training (Project Management, Environment, Geotech, Bridge, Hydraulics, Materials, Survey, Mapping, ROW)
  - Roadway Design
  - Contracting & Procurement
  - Construction Engineering/Administration
  - Technology Deployment
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# Western Federal Lands Highway (WFL)

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- Oversight of Federal Lands Highway Program
- Deliver projects that access
  - National Parks
  - National Forests System Lands
  - National Wildlife Refuges
  - BLM Lands
  - US Corp of Engineers Lands
  - Tribal Lands
  - Others (ie DAR)



# Federal Lands Highway (con't)

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- Grangemont Road



# Federal Lands Highway (con't)

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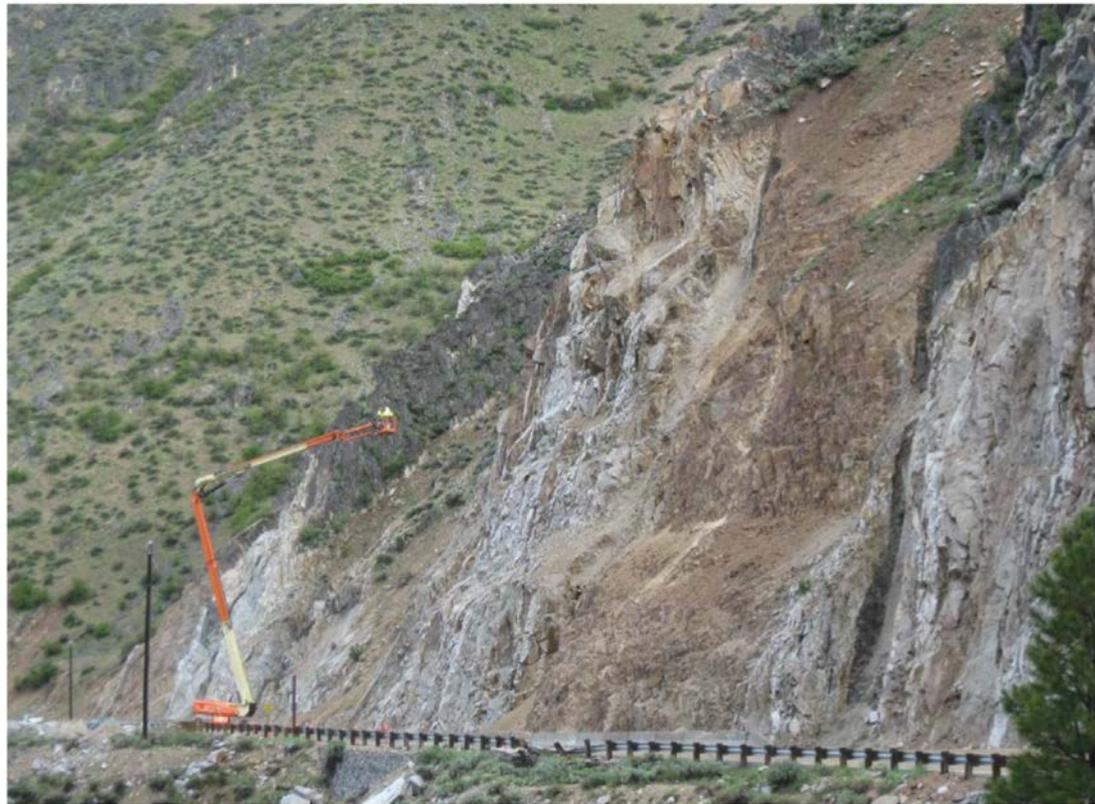
- Davey's Bridge



# Federal Lands Highway (con't)

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- Banks Lowman Rockfall, Phase 1



# MAP-21 Overview

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- Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century – MAP-21
  - Program authorized through May 2015
  - Funds expire in 3 years
  - Requires minimum 4 year program of projects
  - Establishes a performance-based Federal program
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# Federal Lands & Tribal Transportation Programs

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	Annual \$
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	\$300 million
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	\$250 million
Tribal Transportation Program	\$450 million

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# What is the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)?

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- “Access Program” goals
  - Improve transportation facilities that are located, are, are adjacent to, or provide access to Federal lands.
  - Supplements State and local resources for public roads, transit systems, and other transportation facilities
  - With an emphasis on high-use Federal recreation sites and Federal economic generators.

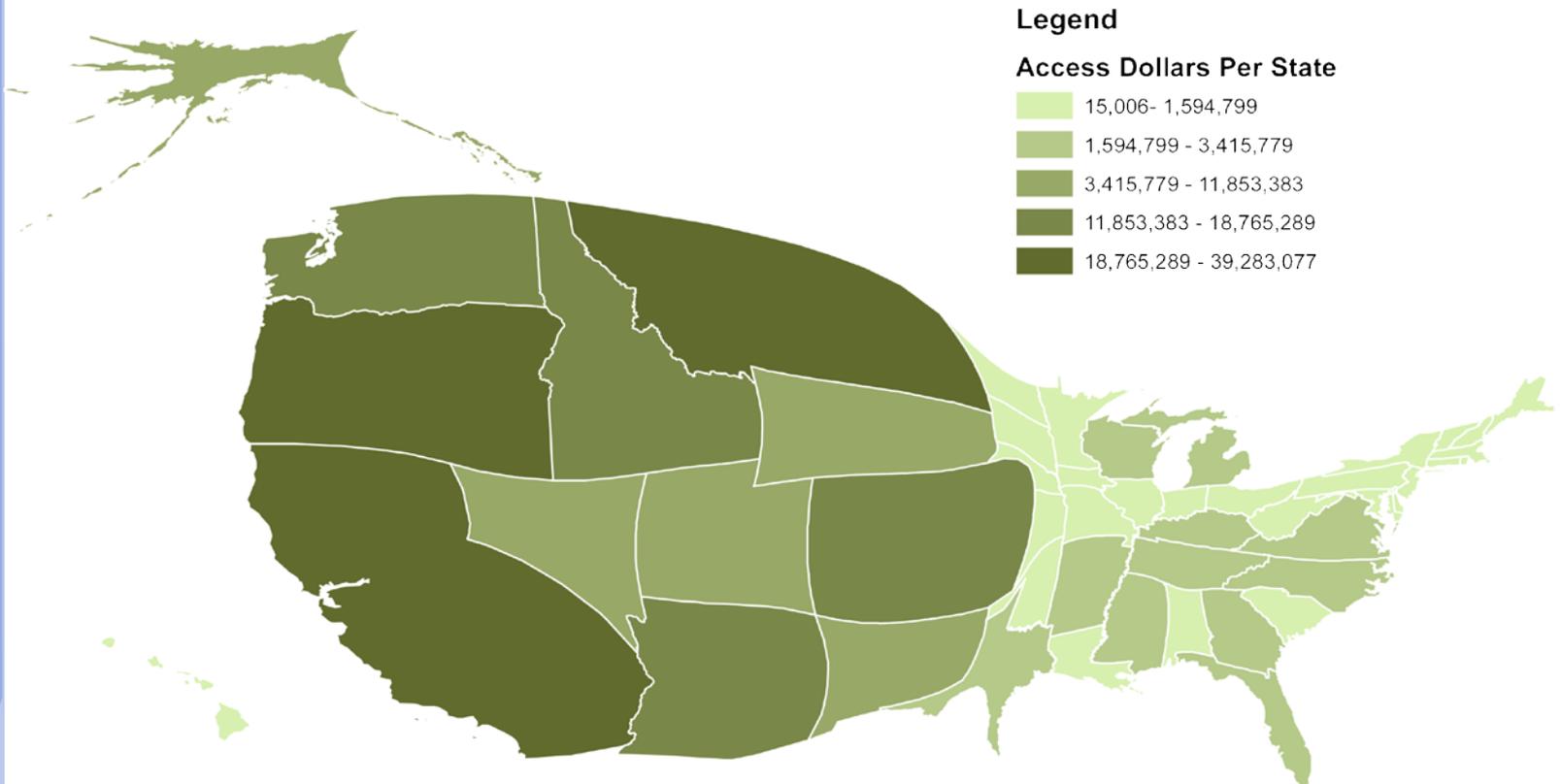


# Federal Lands Access Program ( FLAP-\$250M)

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- ***How are funds distributed?***
    - 80% of funds to States with  $\geq 1.5\%$  of total public land (i.e. western states)
    - Distributed by formula:
      - Recreational visitation (30%)
      - Federal land area (5%)
      - Federal public road mileage (55%)
      - Federal public bridges (10%)
    - Idaho authorized for **~\$18.8 million** annually (net about \$17 million)
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# Access Program Dollars by State | A Cartogram



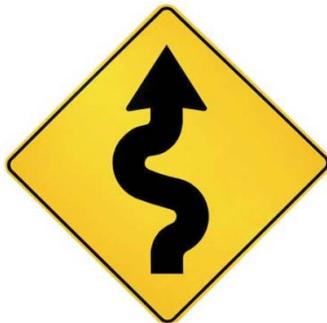
Sources:  
State Shapefile: US Census  
Access Dollars: FLHD, Access Program Funding Table Dated 10/26/2012

Puerto Rico is not represented, but will receive around \$78,000 per year in Access Funds

# Federal Lands Access Program

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- ***Where can FLAP funds be spent?***
  - On a Federal Lands Access Transportation Facility
    - public highway, road, bridge, trail or transit system
    - located on, is adjacent to, or provides access to Federal lands
    - title or maintenance responsibility is vested with State, County, Local Government, or Tribe
    - Vested- bears majority of the maintenance cost

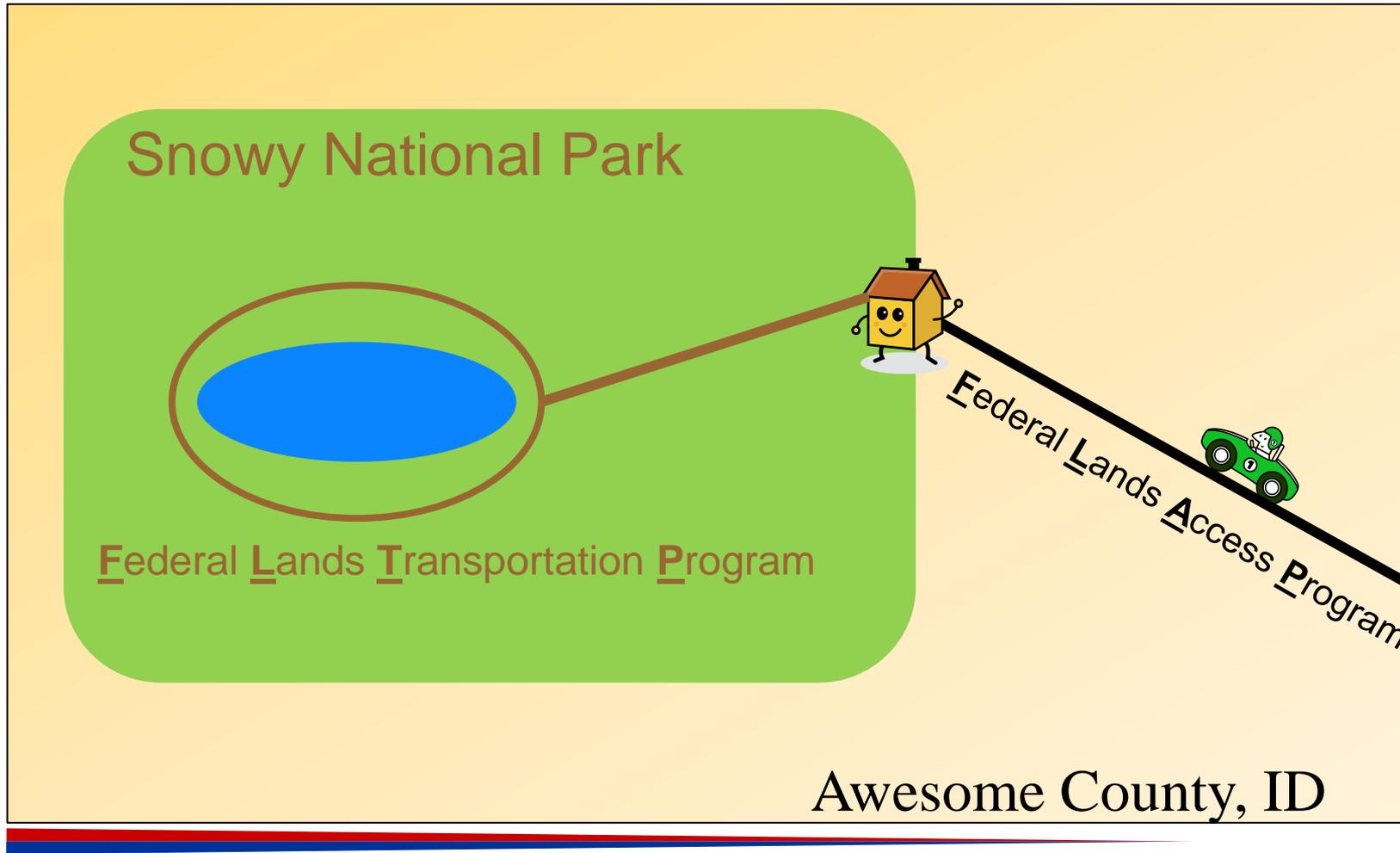


# Federal Lands Access Program (con't)

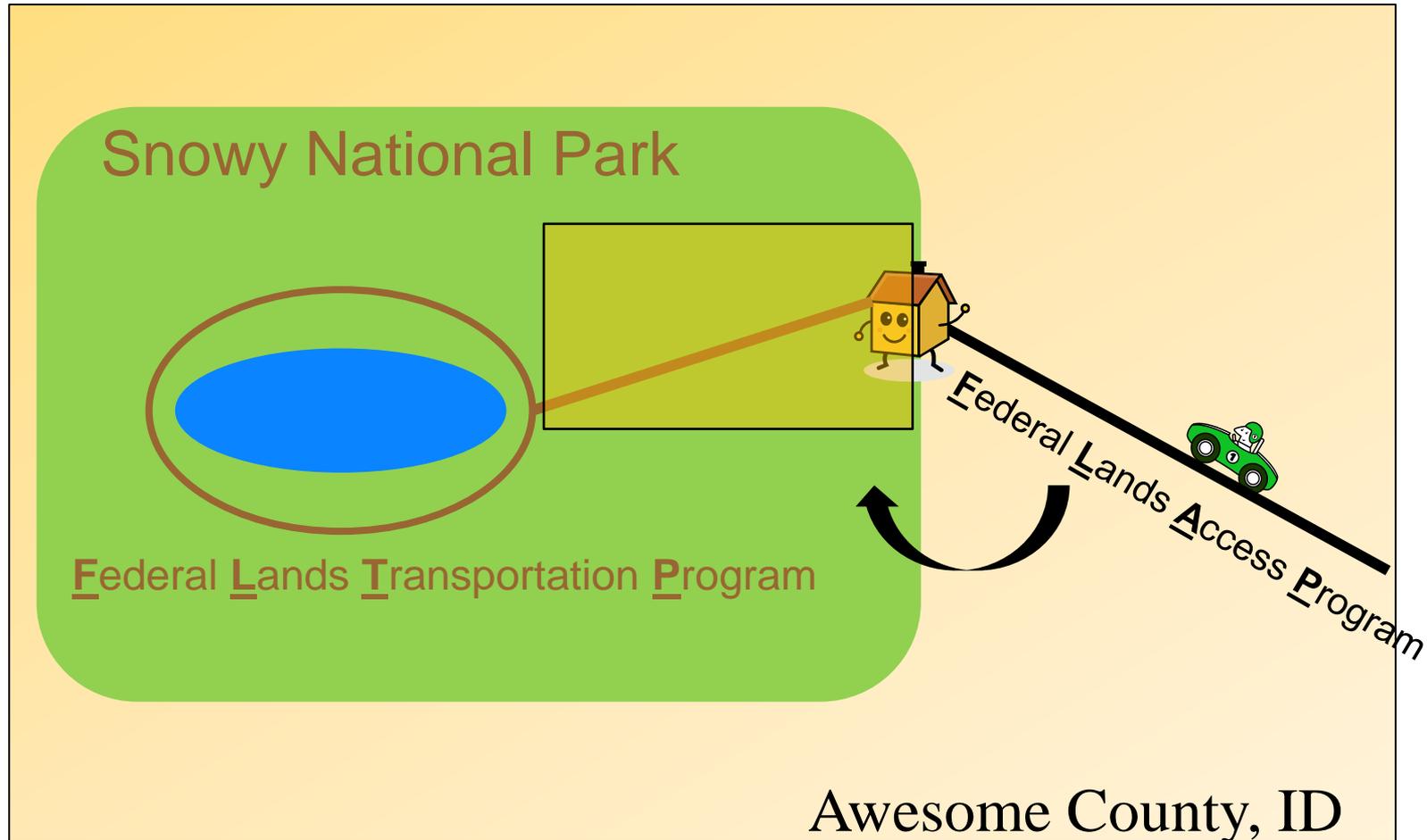
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- This is a transportation program.
  - This is not a “grant” program.
  - Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands has stewardship and oversight responsibility of **ALL** projects
  - It's called the Federal Lands Access Program not the “let's build a nice road for the State/County” program
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# Where can funding be spent?



# Title or Maintenance Responsibility?



# What are federal lands?

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- ***Lands administered by:***
    - BLM
    - BOR
    - DOD
    - NPS
    - USACE
    - USFS
    - USFWS
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# Eligibility

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- ***What types of proposals are eligible?***
    - Transportation planning, research, engineering
    - Preventive maintenance, rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction
    - Adjacent vehicular parking areas
      - Can be under Federal maintenance responsibility
    - Acquisition of necessary scenic easements and scenic or historic sites
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# Eligibility (con't)

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- ***What types of proposals are eligible? (con't):***
    - Provisions for pedestrian and bicycles
    - Environmental mitigation in or adjacent to Federal Land to improve public safety and reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity
    - Roadside rest areas, including sanitary and water facilities
    - Operation and maintenance of transit facilities
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# Programming Decisions Committee (PDC)

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- ***Who makes programming decisions?***
    - The Programming Decisions Committee
    - Members include representatives from:
      - Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Lands – Phyllis Chun
      - Idaho Transportation Department– Dave Jones
      - Local Highway Technical Assistance Council– Gerald Flatz
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# Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

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- ***Who evaluates proposals?***

- A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is made up of several entities to help evaluate proposals that includes:
    - WFL
    - LHTAC
    - ITD
    - FLMA representatives from:
      - NPS, USFS, USACE, US Army, BLM, and USFWS
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# Investment Strategy

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- ***Maximize the use of limited funds by emphasizing:***
    - Proposals that access high-use Federal recreation sites and Federal economic generators.
    - Preserving existing access to Federal Lands and restoring serviceability of the assets.
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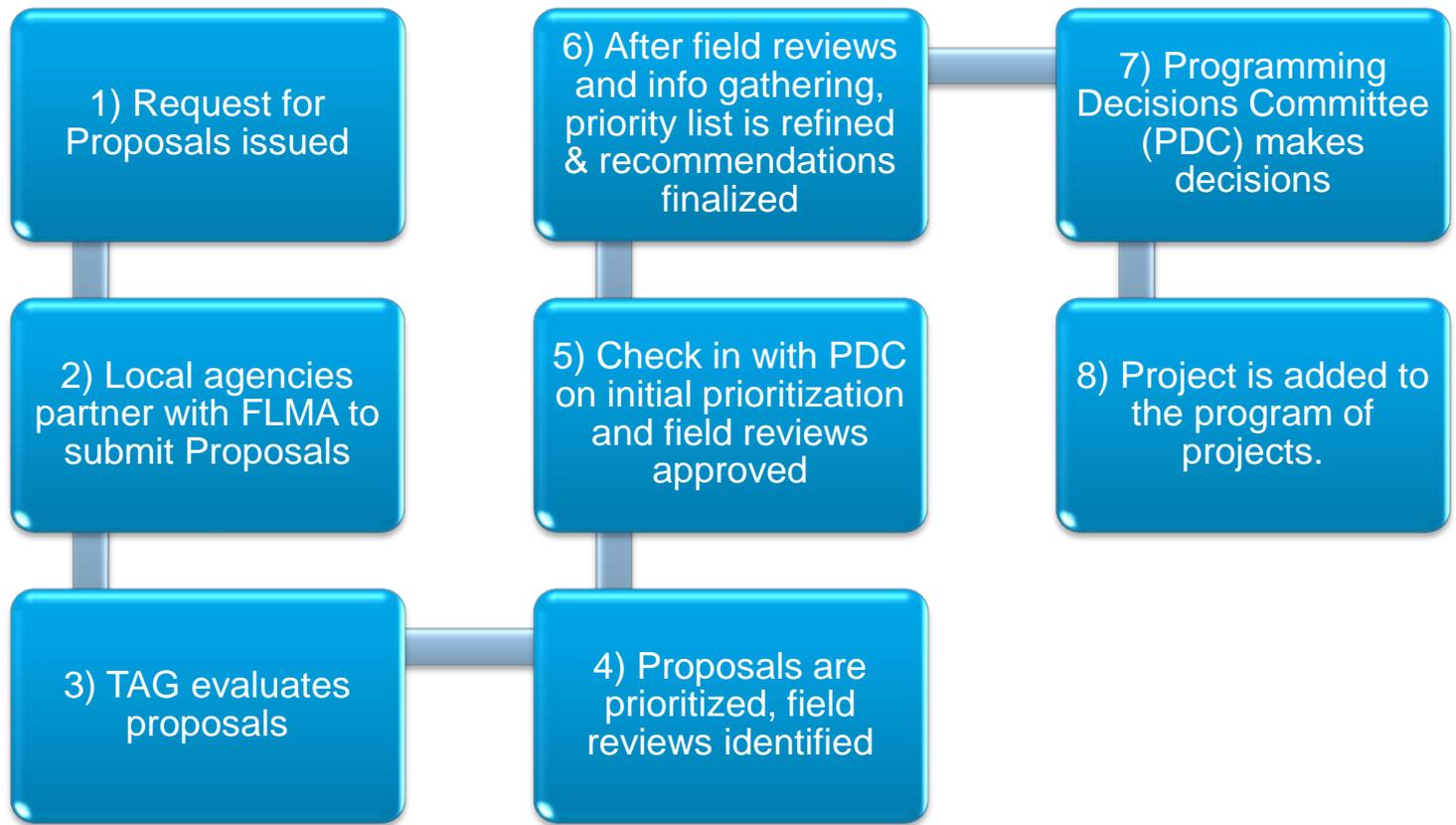
# Investment Strategy (con't)

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- ***Maximize the use of limited funds by emphasizing (con't)***
    - Proposals where important access will be lost
    - In general, investment levels should be proportional to the % of use that is directly related to Federal Lands.
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# Proposal Selection Process

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# Proposal Selection Process (con't)

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- ***How are proposals evaluated?***
    - Safety
    - Preservation
    - Recreation & Economic
    - Mobility
    - Sustainability & Environmental Quality
    - Readiness & Support
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# Proposal Selection Process (con't)

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- PDC will make final decision also considering:
    - Agency priorities
    - Applicant's share of the costs, previous federal investment specifically related to project, availability of funds, leverage of funds
    - Project delivery schedules
    - Environmental and right-of-way constraints
  - Access Program contingent on available funding and authorizing legislation.
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# Proposal Selection Process (con't)

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- PDC makes final selection
  - WFL prepares match agreements
    - Consider lead agency if other than WFL
    - Match requirements
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# Match Requirement

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- Statute (23 USC 120); FedAid Rules
  - Idaho Match is **7.34%**
  - Match can be:
    - Cash (Non-Federal see below)
    - In kind services (labor), r/w, materials (rock, culvert, etc), equipment
      - Valued at fair market value
      - For materials and services, work eligible **after** funding agreement signed.
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# Match Requirement (con't)

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- Limitations:
    - Non-Federal Funds unless specific statutory authority otherwise. Exceptions include:
      - Federal Lands Transportation Program/Tribal Transportation Funds
      - Federal Land Management Agency funds (Non Title 23/49)
    - Access funds **cannot** be used as non-Federal match for other programs.
    - **Cannot** use Forest Highway Program Carryover funds for match.
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# 2015 Request for Proposals

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- Types of projects include capital improvement, enhancement, surface preservation, transit, planning and research.
  - Proposals must be submitted **JOINTLY** by State, county, town, tribal, municipal or local government and the Federal Land Management Agency(ies) being accessed.
  - Minimum proposal size is at least \$100,000
  - For FY 2018 and 2019
  - Proposals due Apr 3, 2015
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# Types of Proposals

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- Capital improvement
    - Rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of roads and bridges.
      - Includes safety improvements, widening, realignments, surfacing, culverts, signing, guardrail, walls and associated road appurtenances
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# Types of Proposals (con't)

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- Enhancement
    - Road and trail improvements
      - Includes interpretive signing, kiosks, viewpoints, adjacent vehicular parking areas, roadside rest areas (including sanitary and water facilities), provisions for pedestrians and bicycles, acquisition of scenic easement and scenic or historic sites, trailheads, trails, and improvements that improve public safety and reduce vehicle-wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity
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# Types of Proposals (con't)

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- Surface Preservation
    - Surface preservation of roads, trails, and adjacent vehicular parking areas
      - Includes chip sealing, crack sealing and aggregate courses
    - FY 2018 only
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# Types of Proposals (con't)

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- Transit
    - Construction of transit facilities
    - Limited operation/maintenance of transit services and facilities (including vehicles)
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# Types of Proposals (con't)

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- Planning
    - Engineering studies, corridor management planning, bicycle/pedestrian planning, and alternative transportation planning
    - Provide valuable information for future FLAP proposals
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# Types of Proposals (con't)

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- Research
    - Evaluate solutions that enhance access, safety, or sustainability
      - Addresses issues such as wildlife-vehicle avoidance measures, context sensitive roadside safety features, and congestion management strategies
    - Must be broad-based and applicable to multiple Federal Land Management Agencies
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# Schedule

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- Proposal packets went out Jan 12, 2015
  - Completed proposal to WFL by **Apr 3, 2015.**
  - TAG reviews proposals and provide initial recommendations to PDC for field review in May
  - TAG field reviews projects in June
  - Additional data gathering in July
  - PDC makes final programming decisions in Aug
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# The Proposal

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- Strategies to make your proposal compete as well as possible
  - The good, the bad, and the ugly
  - Tips for good proposals
  - Who do you call?
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# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***Strategies***
  - Turn it in on time
  - Get all the correct signatures
  - Write to criterion
  - Include map- show federal land
  - Include photos
  - Include letters of support



# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***Strategies***

- Talk to the Federal Land Managers

- It avoids surprises

- They can help you with data

- Often they are pretty good at writing proposals

- Their support will help it compete

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# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***The good, the bad, and the ugly***
  - Mind the page limits (30 pages) and file size (10 mb)
  - Make sure you have good project maps and clear photos
  - Sometimes you have to state the obvious



# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***Tips for good proposals***
  - Be clear about the intended work
  - Be clear about who should deliver the project and why
  - Be clear about the match



# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***Tips for good proposals***
    - Size your request to a reasonable project
    - Traffic data at the beginning and end of project
    - Ask the FLMAs to help
      - User information, high use fed rec sites, fed economic generators
      - % federal land related traffic
      - Mapping the federal lands that the project accesses
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# The Proposal (con't)

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- ***Who do you call with questions ?***
    - For general information or project eligibility – George Fekaris– WFLHD
    - Your Representative on TAG
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# Questions

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<http://www.wfl.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/>

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