



**Idaho Bulletin:** 300-21-10

**Date:** February 8, 2021

**Subject:** LTP – Cheatgrass Challenge Project Proposal deadline

**Purpose.** To Announce the Cheatgrass Challenge Project Proposal deadline for consideration of FY 2021 funds.

**Expiration Date.** September **30, 2021**

**Background.** The Cheatgrass Challenge is a proactive strategy developed to halt the transition of sagebrush steppe plant communities to annual grasslands. The strategy was developed collaboratively by federal, state, and local partners in Idaho. Defend the Core Grow the Core Mitigate Impacts Project areas should be developed through local community-based partnerships. A landscape level approach is encouraged to create measurable outcomes and provide additional resources for planned treatments.

**Explanation.** Project Proposals are due to the ID NRCS State office for consideration by the Cheatgrass Challenge Team on **April 16<sup>th</sup>**.

**April 16<sup>th</sup>:** Cheatgrass Challenge Project Proposal Deadline

**June 4<sup>th</sup>:** EQIP Second sign-up Deadline

Please use the attached Template to submit your project proposal to Lori Kassib, ASTC-Programs by the required deadline. An example project is also attached to help demonstrate how the template should be filled out. A virtual Cheatgrass Challenge Proposal demo and Q & A session has been scheduled for **February 25<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 to 12:00.

## Microsoft Teams meeting

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We encourage all partners and NRCS folks who are interested in submitting a proposal to attend. This is a great opportunity to ask the Cheatgrass Challenge Technical Team Experts about issues related to your proposal.

**Contact.** Please contact Lori Kassib ASTC-Program (208 685-6986), Amber Brocke, Acting State Resource Conservations, or any other member of the Cheatgrass Challenge team if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

**Curtis Elke**  
State Conservationist

CC: Amber Brocke, Acting State Resource Conservationist  
Brendan Brazee, State Rangeland Specialist  
Trisha Cracroft, Area West Conservationist  
Mark Olson, Area East Conservationist  
Jennifer Skeldon, State Biologist

Attachments: Attachment A - Cheatgrass Challenge 2020-2021, FY21 Funding Cycle  
Grant Application Instructions  
Attachment B - Cheatgrass Challenge Team EXAMPLE:  
Cooperative Annual Grass Project Application 2020-2021,  
FY21 Funding Cycle  
Attachment C - Cheatgrass Challenge Team –  
Cooperative Annual Grass Project APPLICATION – 2021-2022,  
FY21 Funding Cycle  
Attachment D - Moorecastle Basin AIG Proposed Treatment  
Attachment E - Moorecastle Basin AIG Proposed Treatment Schedule  
Attachment F - Cheatgrass Challenge Proposal – Moorecastle Basin  
AIG Treatments (Map)  
Attachment G – Defend the Core, Grow the Core, Mitigate Impacts Map