

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control,
River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)**

Applicant: SIERRA FOOTHILL CONSERVANCY
Project Title: ATKINSON – PIASECKI RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT
Application Number: SNC 080171

PROJECT SCOPE

The 680 acre Atkinson-Piasecki Ranch is located on Black Mountain in Fresno County east of the city of Clovis and is currently used for winter grazing of a cow-calf cattle operation. It has relatively steep slopes ranging from 1,800 – 3,200 feet in elevation, many large granite outcroppings, 2.5 miles of intermittent stream, a spring, and two ponds. Blue Oak woodland dominates the landscape along with more than 200 native plant species, including a rare and endemic flowering shrub. This project shares a 3.5 mile boundary with the Black Mountain Preserve. The project will protect the Dry Creek watershed, a tributary of the San Joaquin River, and increase contiguous protected habitat for a rare and diverse plant and animal population.

Outcomes delivered through the SNC grant:

- Acquisition of a conservation easement on 680 acres (Fresno County APN 138-050-01, 138-050-53, 138-050-55), providing permanent protection of the natural resources within its boundaries.

Additional project benefits:

- Protection of water quality for Dry Creek, a tributary of the San Joaquin River
- Protection of wildlife and rare plant habitat
- Increase the continuum of land protection on Black Mountain

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Black Mountain Atkinson-Piasecki Celebration	The Project Schedule will be set at the time the agreement is finalized.
Complete Baseline Report	
Close Escrow and Record Conservation Easement	
Send Out Press Release	
Erect Sign on Property Recognizing Project	
Submit 6 month report progress report SNC	
SFC Presentation to SJVWLF: Atkinson Piasecki Model	
Annual Monitoring Visit	

Submit 6 month progress report to SNC	
Annual Monitoring Visit and Report	
Submit 6 month progress report	
Submit 6 month progress report	
California Fish and Game conduct bio survey on property	
Submit Final Report to SNC	

SNC PORTION OF PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Fair Market Value Purchase of Conservation Easement	\$ 270,000
Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs	5,000
Direct Administrative Costs, Consultant and Professional Fees	38,300
Performance Measure Fulfillment and Reporting	1,000
SNC Grant Total	\$ 314,300

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT
Sierra Foothill Conservancy	\$ 31,500
TOTAL	\$ 31,500

PROJECT SUPPORT LETTERS

- Fresno Resource Conservation District (RCD)
- California Native Plant Society (CNPS)
- San Joaquin Valley Water Leadership Forum (SJVWLF)
- California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

- Acres of Land Conserved
- Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protected