

CALIFORNIA
RANGELAND
Trust

Sent via Email and Fed Ex Delivery

May 30, 2012

Lisa Forma
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Application Reference #SNC 080127, Grant Agreement #159

Dear Ms. Forma:

Please find attached the "SNC Final Report", "Request for Payment", and "Project Deliverables" for the "California Rangeland Trust Conservation Easement Grant Request – Maddalena Ranch" project as contracted with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC).

The California Rangeland Trust (Rangeland Trust) previously completed the original task of acquiring a conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch property, for which we have received payment. This submission includes our "SNC Final Report" along with a "Request for Payment – Invoice #2", which covers our administrative and third party costs. Please note that the "Actual Dollars" spent by the Rangeland Trust in the each category varies from the original "Budgeted SNC Dollars". Also, the Rangeland Trust is not requesting reimbursement for any "Hard Costs". Therefore, we are requesting adjustments to the budgeted amounts for each category.

Please note that the originals of the "Request for Payment" and "Project Deliverables" are being mailed to you along with a CD containing PDF files. The "Project Deliverables" include the following: recorded Conservation Easement Deed, Final Closing Statements, Title Insurance Policy, Baseline Conditions Report, Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report, Project Sign layout, and published articles.

Lastly, we understand that once the final report is approved, the 10% Retention will be processed for payment. Please contact me if you have any questions or need anything else. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Meredith Kupferman
Conservation Land Specialist

Attachments

Cc: Linda Hansen, Sierra Nevada Conservancy (via email)
Barbara Harriman, Sierra Nevada Conservancy (via email)
Marshall Cook, California Rangeland Trust (via email)
Jon Cartwright, California Rangeland Trust (via email)

Sierra Nevada Conservancy-Progress Report

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control River and Coastal Protection Act of 2008 (Proposition 84)

Grantee Name: California Rangeland Trust

Project Title: California Rangeland Trust Conservation Easement Grant
Request - Maddalena Ranch

SNC Reference Number: SNC080127

Submittal Date: 5/29/2012

Report Preparer: Meredith Kupferman

Phone #: 916-444-2096

Check one: 6-Month Progress Report

Final Report

A. Final Report Summary:

Using the Sierra Nevada Rangeland Assessment Project grant provided by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (Conservancy/SNC) in 2008, the California Rangeland Trust (Rangeland Trust) evaluated eighteen working cattle ranches within five of the six SNC Sub-regions, ranking them in terms of resource issues, cultural/ historic issues, and economic/ community issues.

The Maddalena Ranch (SNC North Central Sierra Sub-region), with 743 acres and located in Sierra County within the Middle Fork of the Feather River watershed, scored 40 points out of a possible total of 45 points when assessing the Conservancy's program goals. This score qualified the Ranch as one of the four highest ranking working cattle ranch projects evaluated in the Sierra Nevada Rangeland Assessment Project.

The Rangeland Trust then applied for a Strategic Opportunity Grant Category 1 (SOG1) in the amount of \$1,000,000 to obtain partial funding for the purpose of acquiring a conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch. However, our efforts were affected by the State General Obligation Bond freeze that began in December 2008. The Conservancy Board approved the grant in December 2009, conditional upon the availability of funding from the State and the Grant Agreement with the Conservancy was executed in October 2010.

In the meantime, with the sponsorship of the Feather River Land Trust, a request for funding was submitted to the Northern Sierra Partnership. The project was approved and \$30,000 was provided as matching funds.

B. Deliverables or Outcomes completed during this Reporting Period or Milestones Achieved:

The Rangeland Trust was successful in obtaining the desired project deliverable, which was the acquisition of a permanent conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch. During the process, the opportunity arose to partner with the Northern Sierra Partnership who provided matching funds for Conservation Easement and the Sierra Business Council who financed the cost of the Appraisal Report and update.

C. Challenges or Opportunities Encountered:

Our most pressing challenge was the delay created by the State's General Obligation bond freeze. From the time the grant application was submitted to the Conservancy, two years passed before the Grant Agreement was executed. We were fortunate that the Landowner's situation was not impacted by the delay.

D. Unanticipated Successes Achieved:

Working with the Northern Sierra Partnership and the Sierra Business Council as a funding partner strengthened our working arrangements with both organizations.

E. Compare Actual Costs to Budgeted Costs:

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	Budgeted SNC Dollars	Actual Dollars
SNC portion of Conservation Easement Acquisitions Funds	\$953,000.00	\$953,000.00
Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs	6,000.00	4,232.50
Rangeland Trust Directly Related Administrative Costs	35,000.00	39,062.00
Rangeland Trust Performance Measures & Reporting	5,000.00	3,650.00
Rangeland Trust Hard Costs	1,000.00	0.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,000,000.00	\$46,944.50

The Conservancy dollars budgeted for the Project Budget Categories were originally estimated when the Grant Application was submitted in September 2008. The appraised value of the conservation easement was \$1,030,000, thus the requested amount of \$953,000 was a portion of the value. The actual costs for the transaction portion of the project budget are both higher and lower than the original category estimates. The Rangeland Trust is requesting an adjustment to the affected categories in order to cover the actual amounts.

F. Do you have information to report on the project-specific Performance Measures for your project?

The Performance Measures that were included in the Grant Agreement are addressed below in Section K “SNC-approved Performance Measures.”

G. Were there any other relevant materials produced under the terms of this Agreement that are not a part of the budgeted deliverables?

There were no other relevant materials produced under the terms of this Agreement that are not a part of the budgeted deliverables.

H. Next Steps:

The Rangeland Trust completed the Conservation Easement acquisition on January 12, 2011. The easement sign has been installed and annual monitoring will commence in late spring of 2012.

I. Capacity-Building Results and Collaboration and Cooperation with Stakeholders:

As a result of this project, the Rangeland Trust worked with two consultants to provide transaction related services; James P. Saake prepared the Summary Appraisal Report and Geocon Consultants, Inc. prepared the Phase I ESA report. There were two public agencies, the Conservancy and Northern Sierra Partnership, along with the Sierra Business Council, who provided funding.

J. Description of Project Accomplishments:

1. Most Significant Accomplishment

The placement of the Conservation Easement on the Maddalena Ranch was accomplished as a result of this unique funding opportunity. By placing a conservation easement on their property, the owners of this family ranch are now confident that the wildlife and habitat resources on the ranch today, along with their culture and heritage will remain unchanged for future generations.

2. WOW Factor

Nothing particularly impressive happened during the project; however, as a result of the project, now that the Rangeland Trust has been successful in acquiring a conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch, the true WOW factor is the sincere devotion of these

Ranch Owners to preserving their working landscape and all the conservation values that the Ranch contributes to the general public.

3. Design and Implementation

The lesson learned is that long term planning and timing is critical to utilizing funding from a public agency. Grantees need to be aggressive in finding the few sources of funding that are available and coordinate with all funding parties. Also, the length of time it will take to receive the funding as well as when the transaction is expected to close must all be taken into consideration.

4. Indirect Impact

Now that the Rangeland Trust has been successful in conserving the Maddalena Ranch, the local community and general public will benefit for all of the following reasons: protect water quality, conserve wildlife habitat, preserve open space preserve rangeland and timberland, maintain character of rural communities, buffer public lands, maintain landscapes for tourism, and require less in public services. Because the land remains in private ownership, with the remainder of the rights intact, an easement property continues to provide economic benefits for the area in the form of jobs, economic activity and property taxes.

5. Collaboration and Conflict Resolution

Although the Conservancy's funding process was greatly delayed by the State's General Obligation bond freeze, there were no major conflicts for the conservation easement project.

6. Capacity-Building

The Rangeland Trust currently holds conservation easements on over 241,000 acres throughout California. Of that, over 46,000 acres are located within the Sierra Nevada region that was achieved by collaborating with organizations such as the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, the Nature Conservancy, Northern Sierra Partnership and Sierra Business Council.

The financial funding provided by the Conservancy has allowed the Rangeland Trust to successfully acquire the Maddalena Ranch conservation easement as well as the funding of the two Goodwin Ranches projects, both of which have closed. In addition, the funding provided by the Conservancy for the Resource Assessment Project enabled the Rangeland Trust to identify potential projects that strongly supported the Conservancy's program goals.

The Rangeland Trust is in a position of positive growth and sustainability, recently increasing the staff size to 9 staff employees and 1 contract employee. The organization was awarded accreditation by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission last year,

signifying its ability to meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The fifteen Board members are actively involved in many aspects of the organization's purposes and activities.

7. Challenges

Although the project faced a long delay as a result of the State's General Obligation bond freeze, there were no major challenges for this project.

8. Photographs

Pictures of the Ranch that was conserved are included on pages 7 and 8.

9. Post Grant Plans

Our post grant plans are described above in Section H "Next Steps".

10. Post Grant Contact

Either Nita Vail, Chief Executive Officer or Marshall Cook, Transaction Director can be contacted at 916-444-2096.

K. SNC-approved Performance Measures:

1. Number and Diversity of People Reached

The general public, Sierra Nevada residents, recreational users/tourists, conservation groups, and landowner individuals will all be positively affected to some degree by the preservation of the Ranch although this performance would be difficult to measure. The Rangeland Trust and the California Cattlemen's Association have published articles on their websites and in their newsletters announcing the conservation project and giving credit to the Conservancy and the other funding sources.

2. Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada

The Rangeland Trust was successful securing project funds from the Conservancy and the Northern Sierra Partnership to acquire a conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch. The Sierra Business Council paid for the Appraisal Report. Matching funds sources, descriptions, and dollar amounts are as follows:

Other Funding Sources	Purpose	Amount
Northern Sierra Partnership	Conservation Easement Funds	\$30,000
Sierra Business Council	Appraisal Report Cost	\$7,200

Additionally, the cost of acquiring a conservation easement is generally less than 50% of the cost of acquiring fee title to the property and there are no on-going publicly-funded management costs. Conservation easements by their nature leverage dollars.

3. Number and Type of Jobs Created

The placement of the conservation easement will help preserve the working cattle ranch and the associated work forces, although this performance is difficult to measure.

4. Number & Value of New, Improved or Preserved Economic Activities

As a working landscape, placing a conservation easement on the Maddalena Ranch has preserved the use of the land for the grazing of livestock. As a measure of performance, the Rangeland Trust will monitor the livestock rate in conjunction with its annual monitoring by asking the landowner if there have been any significant changes to the stocking rate or grazing management since the last monitoring visit. The Rangeland Trust does not inquire as to the number of head of livestock or their value as this is considered confidential economic information.

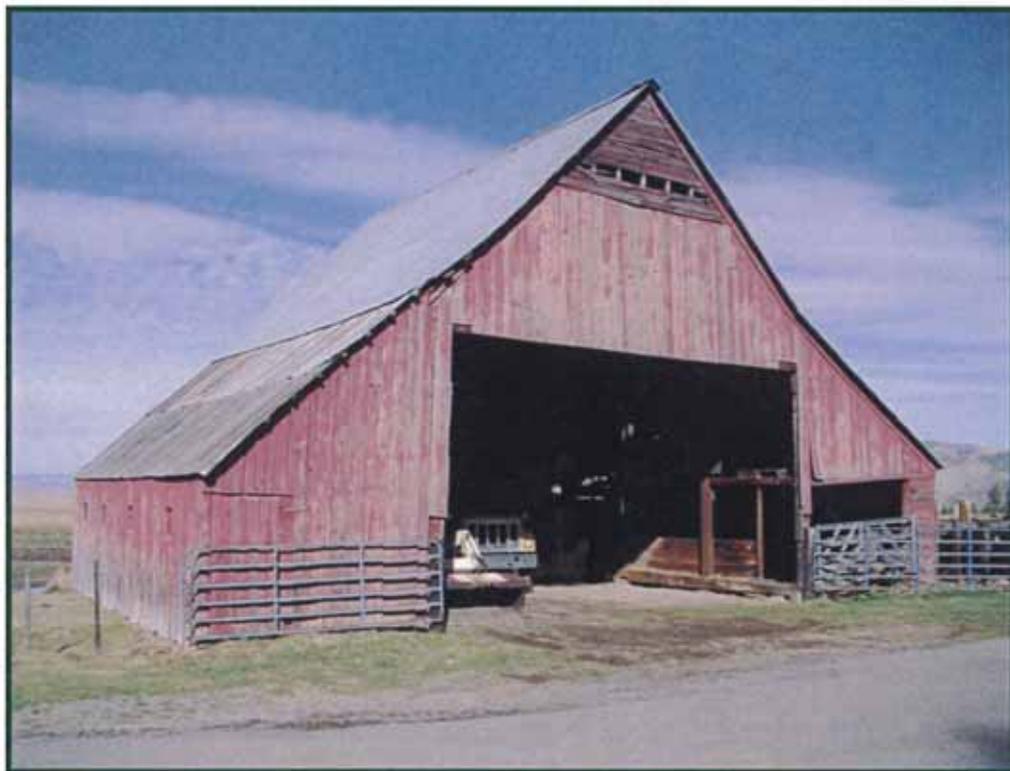
5. Acres of Land Conserved

The goal of this grant was to partially fund a conservation easement to be held by the Rangeland Trust over 743 acres of the Maddalena Ranch. The conservation purpose has been to preserve the working cattle ranch landscape, natural resources including wetlands, water courses, downstream water supply, numerous significant and other wildlife species as well as the historical and cultural values of the Ranch. This performance measure was implemented upon the recordation of the Conservation Easement Deed and will be measured as part of the Rangeland Trust annual monitoring program.

**Maddalena Ranch
Sierra Valley, Sierra County
~Conservation Easement~**



**Maddalena Ranch
Sierra Valley, Sierra County
~Conservation Easement~**



**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
REQUEST FOR PAYMENT - PROPOSITION 84 GRANT PROGRAMS**

MAIL PAYMENT REQUESTS TO:

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
11521 BLOCKER DRIVE, SUITE 205
AUBURN, CA 95603
ATTENTION: GRANT ADMINISTRATION

(530) 823-4670

Fax: (530) 823-4665

DATE:	29-May-12	REPORT PERIOD:	February 2011 - May 2012		
AGREEMENT NUMBER:	159 (Maddalena Ranch CE)	SNC REFERENCE #:	80127	INVOICE #:	Maddalena-2
AGREEMENT TERM:	25-Oct-10 to 1-Mar-13				

REMIT TO:

GRANTEE NAME:	California Rangeland Trust				
ADDRESS:	1225 H Street				
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	Sacramento, CA 95819				
CONTACT PERSON:	Meredith Kupferman	PHONE/FAX:	916-444-2096		

1) PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES PER EXHIBIT A	2) BUDGETED EXPENSES	3) EXPENSES THIS REPORTING PERIOD	4) YEAR TO DATE (YTD) EXPENSES	5) BALANCE (BUDGETED EXPENSES LESS YTD EXPENSES)	6) PERCENT OF ACTUAL YTD EXPENSES TO BUDGETED EXPENSES
A Conservation Easement Acquisition Funds	953,000.00	0.00	953,000.00	0.00	100.0%
B Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs	4,232.50	4,232.50	4,232.50	0.00	100.0%
C Rangeland Trust Directly Related Administrative Costs	39,117.50	39,062.00	39,062.00	55.50	99.9%
D Rangeland Trust Performance Measures & Reporting	3,650.00	3,650.00	3,650.00	0.00	100.0%
E Rangeland Trust Hard Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!
F				0.00	
G				0.00	
H				0.00	
I				0.00	
J				0.00	
K				0.00	
L				0.00	

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$1,000,000.00	\$46,944.50	\$999,944.50	\$55.50	100.0%
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7) TOTAL OF EXPENSES THIS REPORTING PERIOD:	\$46,944.50	CERTIFICATION: By my signature below, I certify that I have full authority to execute this payment request on behalf of the Grantee. I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that this report, and any accompanying documents, for the above-mentioned Grant are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and all disbursements have been made for the purposes and conditions as outlined in the Grant Agreement.			
8) 10% WITHHOLDING/OTHER ADJUSTMENTS (IF ANY):	\$4,694.45				
9) ENTER AUTHORIZED ADVANCE BALANCE (IF ANY):					
10) ENTER ADVANCE INTEREST EARNED					
11) TOTAL ADVANCE BALANCE (SUM OF ADVANCE AND INTEREST)	\$0.00	Print Name:	Nita C. Vail		
12) AMOUNT APPLIED TO ADVANCE REPAYMENT:	\$0.00	Print Title:	 Chief Executive Officer		
13) REMAINING ADVANCE BALANCE:	\$0.00	Signature:			
14) REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT:	\$42,250.05	Date:	30-May-12		

CALIFORNIA RANGELAND *Trust*

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
5/29/2012	11/12-1011

1225 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-1910
916-444-2096
916-329-3488 Fax
EIN # 31-1631453

Bill To
SNC Attn. Invoice Processing 11521 Blocker Dr. Suite 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Item	Description	Amount
Project Reimbursement	Maddalena Ranch, Sierra County – SNC 80127	46,944.50
	Item: Reimbursement Description: Escrow Fees, Title Insurance, Closing Costs Fidelity National Title Company - Escrow & Title Closing Costs (reimbursement) \$ 4,232.50 Subtotal: \$ 4,232.50	
	Item: Reimbursement Description: Rangeland Trust Directly Related Administrative Costs Rangeland Trust Staff time – Project Related \$19,947.20 Rangeland Trust Legal time – Project Related \$ 7,683.80 Rangeland Trust Staff time – Baseline Conditions Report \$ 5,865.00 Geocon Consultants - Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Report (reimbursement) \$ 4,200.00 Fossil Industries, Inc. Project Sign (reimbursement) \$ 1,366.00 Subtotal: \$39,062.00	
	Item: Reimbursement Description: Rangeland Trust Performance Measures & Reporting Rangeland Trust Staff time \$ 3,650.00 Subtotal: \$ 3,650.00	
	Total: \$46,944.50	

	Total	\$46,944.50
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Fidelity National Title Company OF CALIFORNIA

2070 Churn Creek Road, Suite C, Redding, CA 96002
530 221-8611 • FAX 530 221-2748

DATE: February 28, 2011
ESCROW NO.: 10-143197-SL
LOCATE NO.: CAIND0000-0945-0003-
ESCROW OFFICER: Sherri Leard

TIME: 2:24 PM

CLOSING DATE: January 12, 2011

BUYER FINAL CLOSING STATEMENT

SELLER: Asset Preservation, Inc., as Qualified Intermediary for Anthony J. Maddalena and Cindy J. Maddalena and Lacey A. Maddalena
BUYER: California Rangeland Trust, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation
PROPERTY: 920 & 934 West Willow Street, Sierraville, CA 96126

	\$ DEBITS	\$ CREDITS
FINANCIAL:		
Total Consideration	1,030,000.00	
funds deposited by Sierra Nevada Conservancy		953,000.00
funds deposited by Resources Legacy Fund		30,000.00
PRORATIONS/ADJUSTMENTS:		
funds held POC by Sierra Nevada Conservancy		47,000.00
<hr/>		
BALANCE DUE ESCROW		
TOTALS	\$1,030,000.00	\$1,030,000.00

SAVE THIS STATEMENT FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES



Fidelity National Title Company

OF CALIFORNIA

2070 Churn Creek Road, Suite C, Redding, CA 96002
530 221-8611 • FAX 530 221-2748

DATE: February 28, 2011
ESCROW NO.: 10-143197-SL
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PROPERTY: 920 & 934 West Willow Street, Sierraville, CA 96126

	\$ DEBITS	\$ CREDITS
FINANCIAL:		
Total Consideration		1,030,000.00
PRORATIONS/ADJUSTMENTS:		
funds held POC by Sierra Nevada Conservancy	47,000.00	
TITLE CHARGES:		
01-O-CLTA Standard - 1990 for \$1,030,000.00	2,144.00	
Recording total recording fees	146.00	
ESCROW CHARGES:		
Escrow Fee to Fidelity National Title	1,500.00	
Notary Fees	30.00	
Escrow Exchange Fee	250.00	
Overnight Delivery Fee	62.50	
Doc Prep Fees to Fidelity National Title life estate deed	50.00	
MISCELLANEOUS:		
HSD Signature Services for sign-up/notary fee	50.00	
FNT-escrow 143197-B for transfer for disbursement	978,767.50	
<hr/>		
BALANCE DUE ESCROW		
TOTALS	\$1,030,000.00	\$1,030,000.00

SAVE THIS STATEMENT FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES



FOSSIL INDUSTRIES, INC.
 44 Jefryn Boulevard
 Deer Park, NY 11729
 800-244-9809 631-254-9200
 Fax: 631-254-4172
 www.FossilGraphics.com

INVOICE F46494

DATE: 6-10-11

PAGE: 1

TERMS: 60% Deposit / Balance Net 10 After Delivery

To: California Rangeland Trust
 1225 H Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Attn: Accounts Payable

For: Nancy Loogman
 California Rangeland Trust
 1225 H Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Phone#: 916-444-2096 Fax#: 916-329-3488

Cust PO

Account Executive: Linda Peters

ID #: 63976.03

Part Number	Qty	Description	Each	Ext
E12-07-T	1	Oak Hills 1/2" Exterior dHPL Graphic. 12-Color HD Printing. Panel Size: 26"w x 38"h 4 Threaded Inserts w/ Tamper Resistant Bolts.	618.00	618.00
E12-07-T	1	Maddalena 1/2" Exterior dHPL Graphic. 12-Color HD Printing. Panel Size: 26"w x 38"h 4 Threaded Inserts w/ Tamper Resistant Bolts.	618.00	618.00
UD4	2	Upright Double Post (90 Degree) with 4 Mounting Brackets. - Black Powder Coated Aluminum. - Surface Mount. (In-Ground Mount available).	500.00	1,000.00
99810	1	Color Sample - 8" x 10" x 1/16" dHPL. - Used in production for color matching and resolution. - Includes shipping.	40.00	40.00

Subtotal: \$2,276.00

1.5% Late Charge per month on Past Due invoices.

Subtotal: 2,276.00

Shipping: 202.00

0 %Tax: 0.00

TOTAL: \$2,478.00

Deposit Paid: 1,366.00

Customer Copy



Project No. S9561-06-01

December 14, 2010

Revised July 27, 2011

Meredith Kupferman
Conservation Land Specialist
California Rangeland Trust
1225 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ABOVEGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANKS
SPILL CONTAINMENT
MADDALENA RANCH
SIERRAVILLE, SIERRA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Ms. Kupferman:

This letter provides recommendations regarding spill containment for aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) used to store diesel fuel at the Maddalena Ranch (the Site) located near Sierraville in Sierra County, California. Three fuel ASTs were observed during our site reconnaissance conducted for a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) of the ranch in October 2010. According to the ranch owner, Mr. Tony Maddalena, the ASTs are approximately 650, 500, and 300 gallons in size, but only the 500 and 300-gallon ASTs contain fuel and are in use. No spill containment existed beneath the ASTs. Staining that appeared to be from minor spillage of fuel was observed on the ground surface beneath one of the ASTs. The staining was noted to be a "de minimis" condition and not a recognized environmental condition.

According to the California Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA), a tank facility is described as a facility having a storage capacity (single or combined ASTs plus piping) of greater than 1,320 gallons. Additionally, a tank facility on a farm is not subject to the requirement to prepare and implement a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan (which requires secondary containment for ASTs) if no tank is greater than 20,000 gallons and the cumulative storage does not exceed 100,000 gallons. The APSA states that an owner or operator of a farm AST must conduct daily visual inspections of the ASTs, allow the local unified permitting agency (in this case the Sierra County Human Services Department) to conduct periodic inspections of the tanks, and install a secondary means of containment if the unified permitting agency determines that secondary containment is necessary to protect the waters of the State.

However, APSA-excluded ASTs are not exempt from the Federal SPCC rules. Federal SPCC rules apply to owners or operators of farms that:

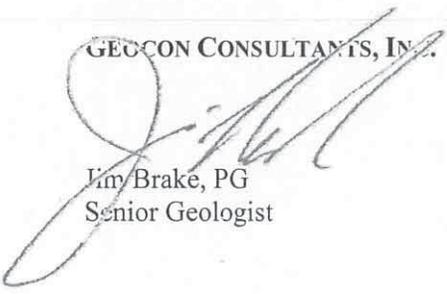
- Store, transfer, use, or consume oil or oil products, and
- Could reasonably be expected to discharge oil to waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines. Farms that meet these criteria are subject to the SPCC rule if they meet at least one of the following capacity thresholds:
 - Aboveground oil storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons, or
 - Completely buried oil storage capacity greater than 42,000 gallons.

In order to not meet the above criteria for aboveground oil storage capacity of greater than 1,320 gallons, the 650-gallon AST that is not in use at the Site should be removed. Spill containment beneath the ASTs would then not be required. Sierra County would still have the authority to inspect the ASTs and require spill containment to be installed if they were to deem that a release from the ASTs could impact nearby surface waters. This seems unlikely, though, since the ASTs have been in place for many years and this has not occurred to date.

We trust this provides you with the information that you require. Please contact us if you have any questions concerning this letter or if we may be of further service.

Sincerely,

GEO-CON CONSULTANTS, INC.



Jim Brake, PG
Senior Geologist



Photo No. 11 Corrals by Eastern Hay Barn and Scale House



Photo No. 12 Fuel ASTs at Ranch Headquarters

PHOTOS NO. 11 & 12



GEOCON
CONSULTANTS, INC.

3160 GOLD VALLEY DR. - SUITE 800 - RANCHO CORDOVA, CA. 95742
PHONE 916 852-9118 - FAX 916 852-9132

Maddalena Ranch

Sierra County,
California

GEOCON Project No. S9561-06-01

November 2010



Maddalena Ranch, Sierra Valley

July 28, 2011

Removal of 650 gallon tank (AST)

Maddalena Ranch

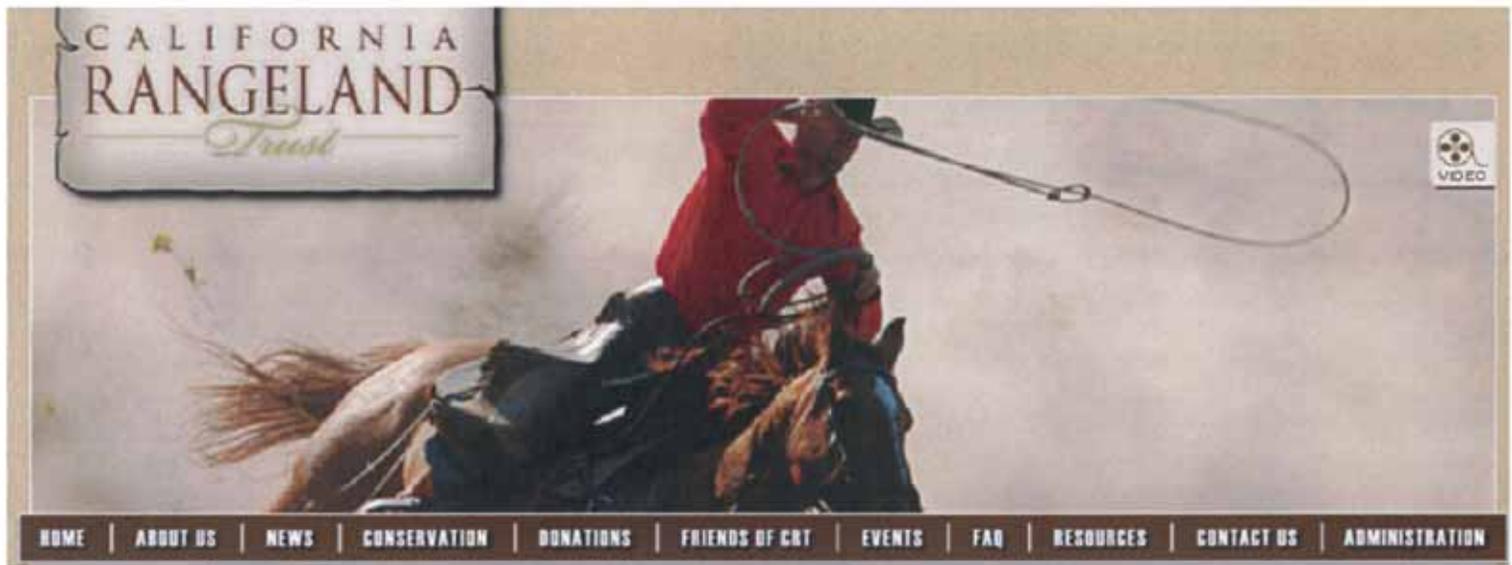
Protected in perpetuity in 2011
with the support of

Maddalena Family
California Rangeland Trust
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Northern Sierra Partnership
Sierra Business Council



Maddalena Ranch is a Working
Cattle Ranch

Private Property
No Trespassing Please



Press Releases

Newsletters

CRT in the News

Archive

News on the Range - Read the latest!

Sierra Valley Ranch Secures its Future



Jewels of the Valley

The Sierra Valley in Northern California is like no other. In fact, it is the largest Alpine Valley of its kind in the country. Now 750 acres of this special place, on the Maddalena Ranch, will forever remain home to these environmental riches, a family cattle operation and its future generations. The Maddalena Ranch has been protected from future development through a conservation easement with the California Rangeland Trust.

Ranch owners, Tony and Cindy Maddalena, have dedicated their

property to grazing and ranching purposes while providing for future uses such as a youth camp. This conservation easement was funded with support from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and the Northern Sierra Partnership due to its outstanding native habitat, perennial surface water resources, and open space values. Many ranches in the Valley, like the Maddalena, are privately owned and have been for generations. These jewels are the conservation puzzle pieces that will ensure this region remains as it is now, forever.

"For what this ranch is and where it sits, it is not supposed to be anything less but what it is right now, also we do not want to go the way of the Reno area," said Tony Maddalena. "This valley is precious and it should always stay as the Sierra Valley is known, now a part of it will."

The Maddalena Ranch

The Maddalena Ranch is a typical cow-calf operation in the mountain valley, running pairs during the growing season from May to November, weather permitting. Cows are moved south as the weather changes and calves go to market in August.

A typical cattle operation, but a less than typical scenario when it comes to the next generation. Tony and Cindy's children plan to continue the ranch into the future. Annie and her fiancé, will be moving back to the ranch after they wed this summer and her older brother, Sam (pictured below with Tony),

has visions of continuing the business as well. Nowadays, the aspirations of the younger generation often venture away from the home ranch or the ranching lifestyle, but the Maddalena kids want to continue the family tradition.

Tony and his wife Cindy, married for 35 years, took on the care and maintenance of the land and cattle from his father, Louie, in 1983 and have been there ever since. "We can't imagine being anywhere else. This place is home," said Cindy.

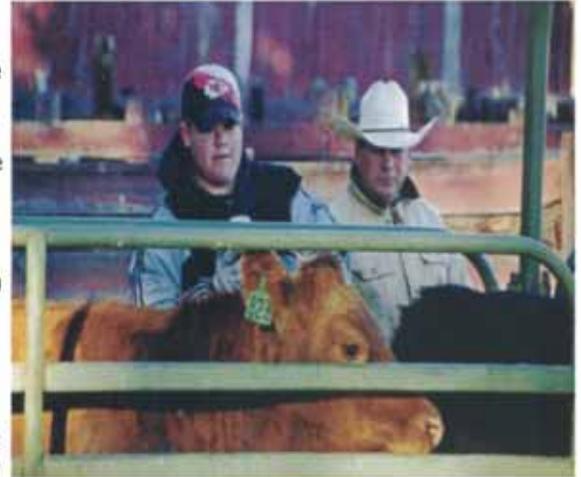
Securing the Future

"I would say the process began about 10 years ago," said Tony. "We thought about it for about five years and it took nearly five years to make the dream come true." The Maddalena's had watched fellow ranchers and friends, like Jack Sparrowk, place easements on their land and because their children were

"100 percent behind it", they knew they were doing what was right for their family and the land.

The couple also found that working with their own team of advisors, from tax experts to attorneys, helped them make decisions today that will be applicable in the future. "We love that this easement with the Rangeland Trust is tailor-made, but you need good advisors surrounding you," said Cindy. "The Rangeland Trust also helped in meeting the goals most important to us and our family."

"We are proud to have worked with a family like the Maddalena's whose goals for stewardship of the land and protecting family ranch operations align with our own," said Darrel Sweet, Rangeland Trust board member. "The goals of our conservation partners and the Rangeland Trust's support of ranchers in the Valley will serve to assist more landowners who want to protect the future of their ranches."



Sierra Valley Ranch Secures Its Future

Jewels of the Valley

The Sierra Valley in Northern California is like no other. In fact, it is the largest Alpine Valley of its kind in the country. Now 750 acres of this special place, on the Maddalena Ranch, will forever remain home to these environmental riches, a family cattle operation and its future generations. The Maddalena Ranch has been protected from future development through a conservation easement with the California Rangeland Trust.



Maddalena Ranch Brand

PHOTO: MADDALENA FAMILY

Ranch owners, Tony and Cindy Maddalena, have dedicated their property to grazing and ranching purposes while providing for future uses such as a youth camp. This conservation easement was funded with support from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and the Northern Sierra Partnership due to its outstanding native habitat, perennial surface water resources, and open space values. Many ranches in the Valley, like the Maddalena, are privately owned and have been for generations. These jewels are the conservation puzzle pieces that will ensure this region remains as it is now, forever.

"For what this ranch is and where it sits, it is not supposed to be anything less but what it is right now, also we do not want to go the way of the Reno area," said Tony Maddalena. "This valley is precious and it should always stay as the Sierra Valley is known, now a part of it will."

The Maddalena Ranch

The Maddalena Ranch is a typical cow-calf operation in the mountain valley, running pairs during the growing season from May to November, weather permitting. Cows are moved south as the weather changes and calves go to market in August.

A typical cattle operation, but a less than typical scenario when it comes to the next generation. Tony and Cindy's children plan to continue the ranch into the future, Annie

and her fiancé, will be moving back to the ranch after they wed this summer and her older brother, Sam, has visions of continuing the business as well. Nowadays, the aspirations of the younger generation often venture away from the home ranch or the ranching lifestyle, but the Maddalena kids want to continue the family tradition.

Tony and his wife Cindy, married for 35 years, took on the care and maintenance of the land and cattle from his father, Louie, in 1983 and have been there ever since. "We can't imagine being anywhere else. This place is home," said Cindy.

Securing the Future

"I would say the process began about 10 years ago," said Tony. "We thought about it for about five years and it took nearly five years to make the dream come true." The Maddalena's had watched fellow ranchers and friends, like Jack Sparrow, place easements on their land and because their children were "100 percent behind it", they knew they were doing what was right for their family and the land.

The couple also found that working with their own team of advisors, from tax experts to attorneys, helped them make decisions today that will be applicable in the future. "We love that this easement with the Rangeland Trust is tailor-made, but you need good advisors surrounding you," said Cindy. "The Rangeland Trust also helped in meeting the goals most important to us and our family."

"We are proud to have worked with a family like the Maddalena's whose goals for stewardship of the land and protecting family ranch operations align with our own," said Darrel Sweet, Rangeland Trust board member. "The goals of our conservation partners and the Rangeland Trust's support of ranchers in the Valley will serve to assist more landowners who want to protect the future of their ranches."



Tony Maddalena with his son, Sam, vaccinating cattle on the ranch.

PHOTO: MADDALENA FAMILY

Sierra Valley Ranch Secures Easement

Carrying on the family tradition at Maddalena Ranch

by Erin Davis, director of communications, California Rangeland Trust

JEWELS OF THE VALLEY

The Sierra Valley in Northern California is like no other. In fact, it is the largest Alpine Valley of its kind in the country. Now 750 acres of this special place on the Maddalena Ranch (pictured below), located near Sierraville, will forever remain home to these environmental riches, a family cattle operation and its future generations.

The Maddalena Ranch has been protected from future development through a conservation easement with the California Rangeland Trust (Rangeland Trust).

Ranch owners, **Tony and Cindy Maddalena**, have dedicated their property to grazing and ranching purposes while providing for future uses such as a youth camp. This conservation easement was funded with support from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and the Northern Sierra Partnership due to its outstanding native habitat, perennial surface water resources and open space values.

Many ranches in the Valley, like Maddalena Ranch, are privately owned and have been for generations. These jewels are the conservation puzzle pieces that will ensure this region remains as it is now, forever.

"For what this ranch is and where it sits, it is not supposed to be anything less but what it is right now, also we do not want to grow the way of the Reno area has," said Tony Maddalena.

"This valley is precious and it should always stay as the Sierra Valley is known, now a part of it will."

MADDALENA RANCH HISTORY

The Maddalena Ranch is a typical cow-calf operation in the mountain valley, running pairs during the growing season from May to November, weather permitting. Cows are moved out of the Sierra Valley to nearby Butte County as the weather changes and calves go to market in August.

While a typical cattle operation, it is a less than typical scenario when it comes to the next generation. Tony and Cindy's children plan to continue operating the ranch into the future. **Annie** and her fiancé, **Joe Tipton**, Marysville, who is also from a strong California ranching family, will be moving back to the ranch after they wed this summer and Annie's older brother, **Sam**, has visions of continuing the business as well.

Nowadays, the aspirations of many of the younger generation often venture away from the home ranch or the ranching lifestyle, but the Maddalena children want to continue the family tradition.

The Maddalenas, married for 35 years, took on the care and maintenance of the land and cattle from Tony's father, Louie, in 1983 and have been there ever since.

"We can't imagine being anywhere

else. This place is home," said Cindy.

SECURING THE FUTURE

"I would say the process began about 10 years ago," said Tony. "We thought about it for about five years and it took nearly five years to make the dream [of an easement] come true." The Maddalenas had watched fellow ranchers and friends, like **Jack Sparrowk**, Clements, place easements on their land and because their children were "100 percent behind it." They knew they were doing what was right for their family and the land.

The couple also found that working with their own team of advisors – from tax experts to attorneys – helped them make decisions today that will be applicable in the future.

"We love that this easement with the Rangeland Trust is tailor-made, but you need good advisors surrounding you," said Cindy. "The Rangeland Trust also helped in meeting the goals most important to us and our family"

"We are proud to have worked with a family like the Maddalenas whose goals for stewardship of the land and protecting family ranch operations align with our own," said Rangeland Trust Board Member **Darrel Sweet**, Livermore. "The goals of our conservation partners and the Rangeland Trust's support of ranchers in the Sierra Valley will serve to assist more landowners who want to protect the future of their ranches."





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Sierra County Firesafe and Watershed Council



Our Communities

Links to Sierra County Communities

#	Web Link	Display #	Hits
1	Sierra County Arts Council The Sierra County Arts Council is made up of members of the Sierra County community who love their rugged and beautiful corner of California, and who love art.	100	481
2	UC Cooperative Extension Plumas & Sierra Counties		247
3	Sierra County - Reverse 911 Emergency Notifications		180
4	Maddalena Conservation Easement Sierra Valley Ranch Preserved - Once you click on the link scroll down to Conservation Corner for the article in California Rangeland Trust News.		286

Mount'n Messenger

The Mountain Messenger published an article speaking to the 84+ Clear Acres resulting from the Calpine Project.

[Click here to view the article!](#)

- Fire Preparedness (16)
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- Our Communities (4)

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