

**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: Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.**

**Project Title: South Knob Sagebrush Steppe Watershed Restoration Project/BLM**

**SNC Reference Number: 070144  
SNC Agreement Number: G0711005**

**Submittal Date: 2/4/10**

**Report Preparer: Thomas W. Esgate**

**Phone #: 530-310-0146**

**Check one:**

**6-Month Progress Report**  
 **Final Report**

<p><b>6-Month Progress Reports</b> should reflect the previous six months. <b>Final Reports</b> should reflect the entire grant period.</p>
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**A. Progress Report Summary:** (Please provide a general description of work)

**Addendum to Invoice, Progress Report and Performance Reporting:**

1. Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LCFSC) has substantially completed all deliverables of the Grant Agreement.
2. SNC funds were used to reduce fuel loads and restore the watershed on 136 acres. The project area was identified and defined in the grant application Site Plan map. The attached project completion map document the completed work. All of these acres are within the defined project area displayed on the Site Plan submitted with the SNC grant application.
3. A copy of an invoice from the treatment contractor for the treated acres is attached.
4. A copy of the Request for Payment is attached.
5. This is in fact the final billing for the completed project. We will be requesting the 10% retainage as soon as weather permits us to acquire photos of the completed work from photos monitoring points. SNC staff was on site and saw that the work was completed.
6. Project treatment work began April 1, 2008 and all SNC funded work was completed July 31, 2009.

## **Final Project Report:**

1. LCFSC identified and hired a Licensed Timber Operator, Tubit Enterprises, Inc. to perform the work.
2. A grazing stewardship plan was developed and executed by the landowner as part of the Tenure Agreement that was submitted with the grant application. The grazing prescription calls for non-use in 2009 and during the 2010 growing season in order to enhance restoration. The prescription is being followed by the landowner.
3. Approximately 6 miles of new fencing were constructed through the landowner's NRCS/EQIP Contract. Only NRCS funds and the private landowner's resources were used for this part of the project.
4. A watering facility with a solar pump is being constructed through the landowner's NRCS/EQIP contract was completed in November, 2009. Only NRCS funds and the private landowner's resources were used for this part of the project.
5. 19 long term monitoring transects were established on a random selection basis.
6. Pre-treatment data was collected in 2008 and post treatment data was collected in 2009.
7. Post-treatment data will continue to be conducted after vegetative green up in 2010 and 2011.
8. Items 5, 6 and 7 above, combined, are the monitoring plan. The Tenure Agreement submitted to SNC with the application clearly states the goals for sustainability and restoration.

## **Performance Reporting**

1. **Resources Leveraged:** The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) investment has been leveraged through the South Knob Projects' participation in a national NRCS Conservation Innovative Grant that was awarded to the Cooperative Sagebrush Initiative in June of 2008. This is bringing an additional \$68,000 for treatments on adjacent BLM managed land and thousands of dollars in additional monitoring to demonstrate the metrics necessary to establish a credit trading system that holds great potential to make more funds available for restoration projects. The SNC investment also attracted a \$25,000 investment in restoration within the project area by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. This resulted in more acres treated and a fence to exclude grazing for wildlife benefit.
2. **Impact on collaboration and Cooperation among Stakeholders:** Entities involved in the project included US Fish and Wildlife Service, NRCS, BLM, Pit Resource Conservation District, Lassen County, Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.,

Susanville Indian Rancheria, UC Cooperative Extension, CalFire Intermountain Camp, Ash Valley Ranch, South Knob Ranch, McClelland Ranch, Cooperative Sagebrush Initiative and a visit by Oregon Department of Wildlife Resources personnel to review our treatment prescription for application to Oregon projects.

The involvement of all the entities listed above has resulted in cooperation among stakeholders and reduced conflict.

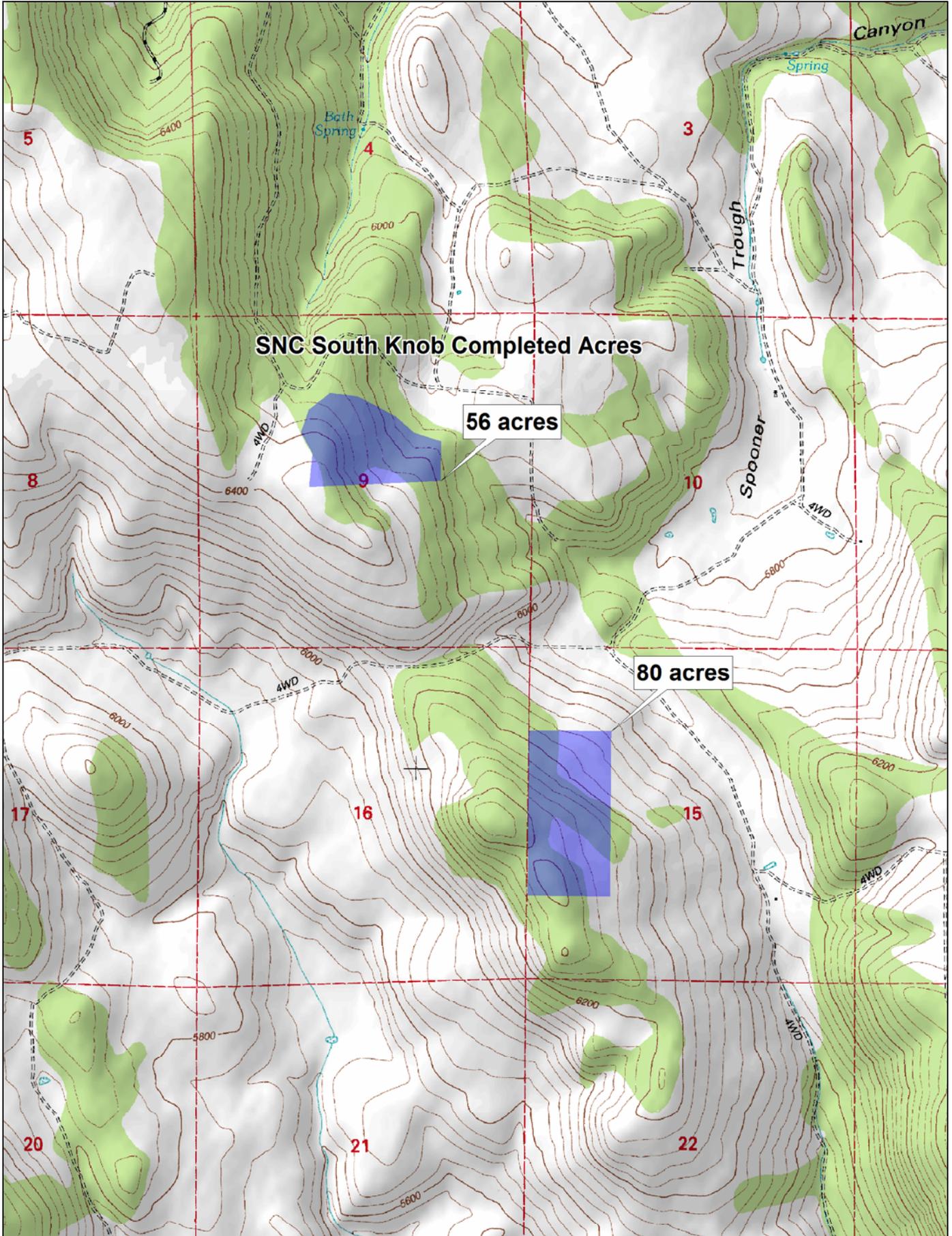
3. Capacity Building within the Region: The SNC involvement in our project helped us leverage funds and expand our partnership by getting us involved in the Cooperative Sagebrush Initiative's western region wide project. The state's fiscal crisis, a project stop work order by SNC and the fund freeze have added chaos to our project. This halted work in SNC funded areas for awhile and some of our bills have been left unpaid. We're hopeful that our invoice will be paid promptly so that our capacity will not be diminished.
4. The project objectives were overachieved by our leveraging of funds that has resulted in more work being done through other funding sources including, the USFWS investing \$25,000 rather than just their initial \$10,000 commitment, CSI agreeing to match \$68,000 for treatments on adjacent BLM managed land (subject to SNC paying its commitment to the project) and the private landowner getting 43 more acres restored on adjacent lands in trade for in-kind dozer work.

Indirect benefits include numerous resource agencies visiting the project to view our treatment prescriptions in an effort to adopt them for use in their treatments.

Positive experiences include the fact that almost everyone who visits our project is awe struck at the scope of the project and our treatment prescription's low impact on the environment.

Under lessons learned we found that it was necessary for our Project Manager to invest a great deal of time with the two skidding operators to perfect the treatment prescription. They've done a fantastic job, but sadly, one of the two committed suicide last summer. It's had a devastating impact on everyone involved with our project.

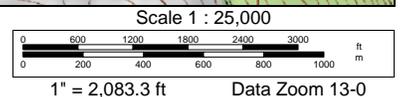
5. 136 acres were treated and restored with SNC funds.
6. It is hard to know the exact the amount of ground water that was restored as a result of our project, but we have noticed that spring fed reservoirs within the watershed have much more water than expected going into the third year of a severe drought. The current phase of the South Knob Project was completed in the fall of 2009 and 3,000 acres of watershed restoration has been completed. We're hopeful that SNC will be able to follow through with its award, and funding, to us for a grant to do more intensive science based monitoring to better understand the full beneficial impact of our treatments on the watershed.



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**TUBIT ENTERPRISES, INC.**

P.O. Box 1019  
Burney, CA 96013  
(530) 335-5085 • FAX (530) 335-6366

**INVOICE**

<b>DATE</b>
7/31/2009

**Bill TO:**

Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.

P.O. Box 816  
Susanville, CA 96130

South Knob Watershed Restoration Project/BLM  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy Work  
All Work Performed Between 4/1/08 and 7/31/09

<b>Description</b>				
<b>QUANTITY</b>		<b>Rate</b>		<b>Amount</b>
136	acres of shearing and chipping	\$380.294		\$51,720.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,720.00</b>

**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

<b>DATE:</b>	2/4/2010	<b>REPORT PERIOD:</b>	2-27-08 through 2/4/10		
<b>AGREEMENT NUMBER:</b>	G0711005	<b>SNC REFERENCE #:</b>	70144	<b>INVOICE #:</b>	2
<b>AGREEMENT TERM:</b>	SNC 070114				

**REMIT TO:**

<b>GRANTEE NAME:</b>	Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.				
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	P.O. 816				
<b>CITY/STATE/ZIP:</b>	Susanville, CA 96130				
<b>CONTACT PERSON:</b>	Thomas W. Esgate	<b>PHONE/FAX:</b>	530-310-0146		

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	Treatments	51,720.00	51,720.00	51,720.00	0.00	100.0%
B					0.00	
C					0.00	
D					0.00	
E					0.00	
F					0.00	
G					0.00	
H					0.00	
I					0.00	
J					0.00	
K					0.00	
L					0.00	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>		<b>\$51,720.00</b>	<b>\$51,720.00</b>	<b>\$51,720.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<b>7) TOTAL OF EXPENSES THIS REPORTING PERIOD:</b>	\$51,720.00	<b>CERTIFICATION:</b> 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 do			
<b>8) 10% WITHHOLDING/OTHER ADJUSTMENTS (IF ANY):</b>	\$5,172.00	<b>Print Name:</b>	Thomas W. Esgate		
<b>9) ENTER AUTHORIZED ADVANCE BALANCE (IF ANY):</b>	\$20,668.00	<b>Signature:</b>			
<b>10) AMOUNT APPLIED TO ADVANCE REPAYMENT:</b>	\$20,668.00	<b>Date:</b>	2/4/2010		
<b>11) REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT:</b>	<b>\$25,880.00</b>				