

Camptonville Bioenergy Feasibility Study

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IV. Camptonville Community Partnership Proposal EGID#781

1. Detailed Project Description and Narrative: Camptonville Bioenergy Feasibility Study

a. Project Description

Background Information:

The community of Camptonville is located at about 2800' above sea level, between the Middle and North Forks of the Yuba River. The Yuba River watershed and the adjacent Feather River watershed to the north are major drainages of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada range and reach from the range crest to the floor of the Central Valley. This region contains extensive forested landscapes and other natural, cultural and historic resources that support recreation, hydropower generation, tourism, agriculture and species/habitats of local and statewide significance. Although the river watersheds that drain the west side of the Sierra make up a relatively small proportion of the State's total land area, they contribute a large percentage of the State's water supply.¹ The quality and quantity of water that flows from these watersheds is of critical importance to the future of California, but the degraded state of much of these landscapes puts these benefits at great risk.

Since the Gold Rush, the Yuba and Feather watersheds have experienced extensive alteration of their natural systems as a result of intense human activity. Two of these activities in particular, industrial logging and suppression of natural fire regimes, have resulted in forest fuel loads that are unnaturally high, through overly dense stand conditions and accumulated dead woody debris on the forest floor.² Historically, fires burned at an average interval of 3 to 15 years below 5000' elevation, which moderated tree recruitment. Since natural wildfires have been actively suppressed for up to 100 years, 80-90% of the forest below 5000' in the Yuba Watershed is classified by USFS scientists as in a state of "severe departure" from historical conditions relative to fuel loads.³ This excessive fuel loading puts watershed resources at great risk of damage from high-intensity, "catastrophic" wildfires.

Of particular concern are the effects of high-intensity wildfire on water quality and quantity,⁴ Wildfire can cause water repellency of surface soils and reduce the shading and cover provided by plant canopy, surface plants and litter. Fires can also change soil structure, and reduce soil moisture and infiltration rates, which accelerates surface runoff, erosion, sediment transport, and deposition. Intense rainfall and some soil and terrain conditions can contribute to overland runoff and in-channel debris torrents. Mineralization of organic matter, interruption of root uptake, and loss of shade can further impact water quality by increasing stream temperatures and nutrient concentrations. Where wildfires are unnaturally large and severe, these watershed effects are likely to have significant negative impacts on downstream water supplies.

The forest landscapes surrounding Camptonville have recently seen several high intensity wildfires. The most devastating was the Pendola fire of 1999, which burned 11,725 acres and destroyed 76 structures. More recently, the Bullards fire in 2010 burned 1,307 acres. The past fire history combined with existing fuel accumulation in the project area heighten the need to take action to protect the adjacent private land and homes that are found in the project area's extensive Wildland Urban Interface. CAL

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FIRE has stated that if these acres were treated by forest thinning, there would be a significant reduction in high intensity fire threat.

A recent USFS report recommends management actions to increase resiliency and adaptability of Sierra Nevada forests.⁵ Mixed-conifer resilience might be best insured by, (1) reducing fuels so that if the forest burned, the fire would most likely be a low-severity surface fire and (2) producing a forest structure that keeps insect and pathogen mortality at low, chronic levels. In some fire-suppressed forests, mortality from bark beetles has shifted to large-scale, episodic occurrences. One method of changing this pattern is to reduce tree moisture stress and subsequent bark beetle activity by reducing stand density with mechanical thinning and prescribed fire. In dense, fire-suppressed stands, thinning can significantly reduce the amount of transpiring leaf area often leading to decreased transpiration and an increase in soil water content. Mixed-conifer forests have persisted in the Sierra Nevada through more severe droughts than they are currently experiencing. These forests, however, are not adapted to the high densities and fuel loads now commonly found in many stands. In the near term, reducing surface fuels and the densities of small-diameter stems may be the best means of creating more resilient forest.

The costs of undertaking such fuel reduction and forest thinning efforts are often prohibitive. Those fuel reduction projects that are completed often rely on open pile burning to reduce forest biomass, which can lead to poor air quality and undesirable greenhouse gas emissions. Public land managers and policy makers in California have come to recognize that the development of biomass processing industries, particularly bioenergy, can promote landscape-level restoration through the use of the above referenced management prescriptions, while replacing some of the jobs lost in the timber industry collapse. These industries make it more viable to increase forest management through fuel reduction, since they give economic value to the biomass that must be removed for forest and watershed health and fire safety. Among other benefits, these restoration treatments will increase forest resiliency and adaptability, and ensure a sustainable water supply and a high level of water quality for California by reducing the risk of high intensity fire.

Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) recognizes the need to provide economic opportunities for community residents, particularly economic activity which supports a healthy forest environment. To this end, CCP has already invested \$3,000 from its reserve fund to initiate local discussions and attend relevant educational workshops. This Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) funding request will allow us to undertake a vital next step: the completion of a bioenergy feasibility study, focused on a specific technology (wood gasification) and a specific site. TSS Consultants completed a Yuba Biomass Feasibility Study in December of 2010.⁶ The study identified a former sawmill site in Celestial Valley, near Camptonville, as one of two highest ranking "upcountry" sites for locating a bioenergy facility in Yuba County. A preliminary biomass fuel availability review conducted as part of the study indicated that sufficient sustainable biomass is available in the foothill region of Yuba County (and neighboring counties) to support a 3 MW facility, but the consultant advised that a more detailed fuel availability analysis is needed to verify this number. The study confirmed the potential for building a successful biomass-to-energy enterprise in the study area, but it did not investigate the feasibility of the Camptonville site in sufficient detail and focused solely on direct combustion systems, rather than the more efficient and cleaner technologies that have since become more widely available, such as gasification. CCP is requesting this

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funding to secure a reliable feasibility study for the bioenergy facility at the Camptonville site and to continue to generate community involvement and education during the development of the project as a whole.

The bioenergy feasibility study would complement other efforts by CCP and the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council (YWP&FSC) to facilitate biomass utilization and watershed stewardship in the region. In 2013, CCP was awarded a Community Capacity Land Stewardship Grant from the National Forest Foundation to develop an economic development plan for a multi-product biomass utilization campus at the Celestial Valley site. The campus, known as the Forest Biomass Business Center (FBBC), would facilitate a combination of revenue generating activities that can be co-located on a single campus. By providing a market for underutilized forest biomass, the FBBC would help reduce the costs of local forest management and would also help replace jobs lost in the closure of local sawlog mills. A feasibility study for a bioenergy facility located at the site would provide the first step towards a potential anchor for the FBBC, that could be incorporated into a more relevant, useful economic development plan. The economic development plan is scheduled to be completed and circulated by October 31, 2014. The CCP and YWP&FSC are also in the process of developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the foothills of Yuba County. Through the CWPP, the proposed bioenergy facility and business center will be integrated with existing landscape level forest-planning efforts currently taking place in the Tahoe and Plumas National Forests and on private timber lands.

Project Location:

The proposed project site is an approximately 20-acre property located off of State Highway 49 in Celestial Valley, about 2 miles south of the community of Camptonville. Figure 1 shows an aerial depiction of the site and location. The site is the previous location of an operating sawmill, which closed in the 1990s. The site is zoned by Yuba County as "A/RR," or Agriculture/Rural Residential. Industrial uses are allowed in this zoning designation, subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The Yuba County Planning Department has confirmed that a small-scale biomass power plant is considered an allowable use with a CUP.⁷

Figure 1. Celestial Valley Area

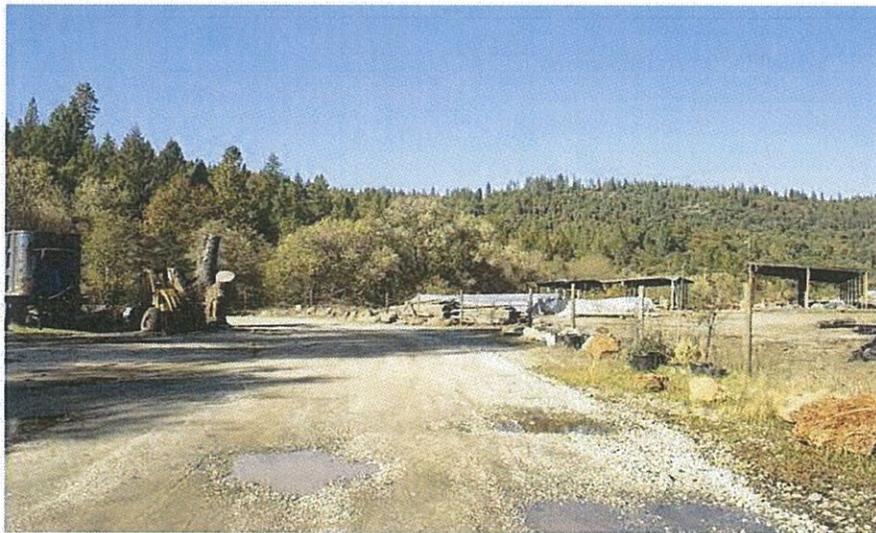


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Due to its history as a sawmill operation, the site has features that make it attractive for siting a Forest Biomass Business Center. The site is level, graded, and has existing ingress/egress routes that would facilitate the delivery of chips and other materials. Several existing large buildings and covered storage areas could be retrofitted to become part of Center operations. Figure 2 shows a photo of the site. The site's proximity to Highway 49 would facilitate the transportation of biomass from nearby harvest areas. TSS consultants identified that the Celestial Valley site is located between the Pike City electrical substation (located about 5 miles north) and the Columbia Hill substation (about 5 miles south-southeast). A 60-92 KV transmission line runs between the two substations and passes about two and one half miles southeast of the site.

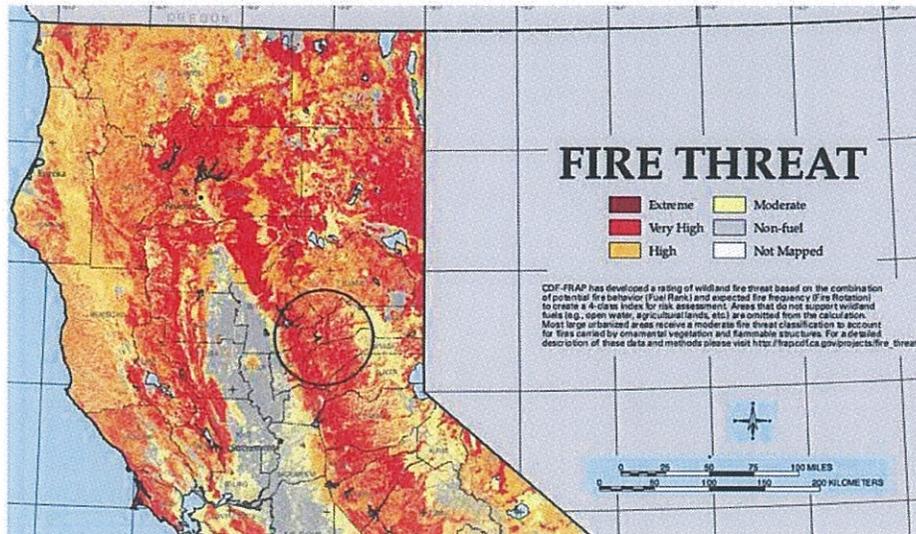
Figure 2. Celestial Valley Site Photo



The project is located strategically in relation to forest landscapes that are overloaded with excess fuel. Extensive federal and private timberlands within the Yuba and Feather River watersheds lie within a 30-mile radius of the proposed bioenergy facility. Biomass supply and forest fire threat coincide in the same areas. The California Threat Classification in this region is Moderate to Very High. The black circle in Figure 3 shows an approximately 30-mile radius around the site of the proposed facility in relation to Fire Threat as assessed by CAL FIRE's Fire and Resource Assessment Program.⁸

Figure 3. Fire Threat in Relation to Facility Location

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Project Description Summary:

CCP, through a contracted consultant, will develop an industry-standard preliminary feasibility study for a bioenergy facility in Celestial Valley, Camptonville. This study will identify and evaluate significant items, such as fuel resource availability, siting and infrastructure issues, conversion technology options, legislative and regulatory context, and financial/economic considerations to ascertain if the project is viable at this particular scale (3 MW) at the proposed site. The feasibility study will assist in determining if there are any upfront “deal-killing” issues or “fatal flaws” with the proposed project.

CCP will manage the feasibility study contract, including circulation of the RFP, selection and oversight of the vendor, and monitoring of project deliverables. CCP will also provide outreach to surrounding communities about the proposed bioenergy facility and the feasibility study, and coordinate with project stakeholders, including members of the YWP&FSC. In addition, CCP will perform outreach to new stakeholders and project partners, track potential funding sources, promote and circulate the final feasibility study, and ensure detailed reporting of project performance to the SNC.

b. Workplan Schedule and Narrative.

Outreach components will include development of materials for public meetings, staff time and room rental. Good partnerships are in place with local institutions that will support the needed community outreach, awareness, and education. With funding from the National Forest Foundation’s Community Capacity Land Stewardship grant, CCP has hired Chris Friedel, who has with an extensive watershed restoration background and a BS in Earth Systems. He will work as Project Manager for this project, with assistance from CCP Co- Executive Director and Rural Health Advocate, Cathy LeBlanc. Together they will perform the tasks as described below.

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Work plan and schedule:

Sequential Tasks	Responsible Party	Timeframe (Month 1-12)
Work with Yuba County Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council (YCWP&FSC) as feasibility study is developed.	YCWP&FSC RFP committee, CCP	1-12
Work with YCWP&FSC to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for feasibility study, bid acceptance procedure and contractor selection process	YCWP&FSC RFP committee, CCP	1-2
Circulate RFP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and Post Notice to bidders/ email/Internet 	CCP	3
Select vendor	CCP	4
Hold community/ YWP&FSC feasibility study kick off meeting		
Manage vendor- Monitor project deliverables	CCP	4-12
Establish project partners and potential funding sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and track data 	CCP	1-12
Accept final feasibility study Document	YCWP&FSC/ CCP	11
Promote/circulate feasibility study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and inform community through written articles published in local papers and internet • Create/update Information available through phone calls and email/websites 	CCP	11-12
Prepare and send Final Report to SNC	CCP	11-12

c. Restrictions/ Agreements

The Celestial Valley old mill site property owner, Nick Whittlesey, values this project feasibility study and the proposed FBBC. He moves forward with full permission in anticipation of the potential this project has to offer. Celestial Valley is zoned "Natural Resource, A/RR20." A Major Conditional Use Permit would cost about \$10,000. If subject to CEQA statutory level of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the cost could be over \$100,000.

The Yuba County Board of Supervisors and Planning Department are fully aware of and support this project. No restrictions have been discovered as of yet. The feasibility study is the first step. An important part of the feasibility study will be determining the required CEQA process (EIR, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Categorical Exemption). We are

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optimistic that it is a Negative Declaration, as an EIR has been estimated by the Planning Department to cost over \$100,000.

If the feasibility study determines that a bioenergy operation would be cost-effective, the next step would be a finance plan that would fund the CEQA review and project implementation.

d. Organizational Capacity Narrative

CCP has successfully developed community health and family support programs and is acting as the Fiscal Agent/Grant Manager for the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council (YWP&FSC), which has been leading the charge for a Yuba biomass facility. Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has supported our biomass utilization efforts. Elissa Brown, SNC Consultant, has been instrumental in assisting the YWP&FSC and CCP in moving the YWP&FSC forward with a biomass utilization project. This has included assisting CCP to better understand the process and write grant proposals. On September 1, 2013, the CCP was awarded a Community Capacity Land Stewardship (CCLS) grant from the National Forest Foundation to help build community capacity for the economic development work by completing an Economic Development Plan for the Forest Biomass Business Center project. CCP intends to work concurrently on the Economic Development Plan, the bioenergy feasibility study, and community outreach. The three components of this effort are mutually dependent and necessary to achieve the ultimate goal of a successful project at the abandoned mill site and a healthier forest.

CCP Staff assigned to this project include:

Management Staff :

Rita Ortega, who has worked as the Office Manager for the Camptonville Community Partnership since January 2001 and became a Co- Executive Director along with Cathy LeBlanc in July 2012. Presently Rita is President of the Camptonville Community Services District (CCSD) and Joint Powers Agency (JPA) boards. Rita is also a member of the Camptonville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary.

Cathy LeBlanc, who is employed by Camptonville Community Partnership as the Co-Executive Director and Rural Health Advocate to *promote the voice of the community to advocate for sustainable rural health* and is also the grant writer for CCP. She has fifteen years experience in Asset Based Community Development and is also Director of community programs for children and families in Camptonville. She serves as the Community Chair and Policy Chair of the Yuba County Children's Council/ Child Abuse Prevention Council and Steering Committee member for the Sacramento Region Food System Collaborative. Cathy is also Sierra Health Foundation Leadership Fellow Class IX. Her personal mission is to empower community members to have their voice heard by educating and engaging them in the civic processes that inform and guide decision makers.

Project Lead: Chris Friedel, whose professional background is in project management and ecological restoration. His most recent position was as a vegetation ecologist for the National Park Service in Marin and San Mateo counties, where he helped to coordinate large habitat restoration projects for endangered wildlife species. He just recently returned to the States from half a year of volunteer work in Africa, where he assisted with biomass-to-energy projects (see www.bushblok.com). He came back with a desire to help accomplish the restoration of Sierra Nevada watershed lands using revenue-generating enterprises like biomass energy and other forest products.

e. Cooperation and Community Support Narrative

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While there is support on the level of policy-makers for these projects, they are often not integrated with local landscape level forest planning efforts. This funding will help CCP to support this vital local collaboration. Initial work has already begun. The Plumas and Tahoe National Forest District Rangers, multiple logging companies (including CHY, Soper Wheeler, Siller, and Robinson Timber Industries), the Yuba County Water Agency and the Yuba/Sutter Economic Development Corporation support the bioenergy facility project. The Yuba County Board of Supervisors supports the project and Yuba foothill County Supervisor Hal Stocker has taken a special interest in the project's development. Consulting resources and expertise have been leveraged from UC Cooperative Extension and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC). The landowner, a retired PG&E employee, has strong forest business management experience and has some forest-based businesses currently located at the Celestial Valley Site. These businesses include a pole peeling company, a logging truck mechanic shop and wood yard. SNC has participated in development of this concept through discussions and attendance at YCWP&FSC meetings.

Several other planned small-scale biomass utilization enterprises in the Sierra Nevada, such as the efforts in Placer County and North Fork, have been slowed by objections from community members and from environmental organizations. CCP is undertaking an early and thorough community outreach and engagement process regarding the proposed bioenergy facility and FBBC project, CCP expects to gain widespread support from the local community and relevant stakeholders from the region. In the near term, CCP also plans to initiate a dialogue with CBD and other organizations with an interest in the environmental impacts of biomass harvest and utilization, in order to address their concerns early and avoid costly delays, appeals and litigation.

Other Project Contributions

Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council (YWP&FSC Council Coordinator in-kind through CWPP process \$14,000) Vital contributor managing and coordinating YWP&FSC meetings and activities as they pertain to this project.

University of California UCD Cooperative Ext. YWP&FSC Facilitator \$33,000 in-kind. Vital convener to connect and inform diverse stakeholders of this project.

Camptonville Union Elementary School \$9,562 in-kind, contributing CCP's Office space, including rent, utilities, Internet connection and tech support for CCP

Sutter/Yuba Mental Health \$397 for mileage. This program reimburses CCP mileage to the monthly Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council meetings through Youth Prevention Early Intervention collaboration, which offers opportunity for youth mentorship.

National Forest Foundation/ Community Capacity Land Stewardship grant \$23,961 funding Forest Biomass Business Center (FBBC) Economic Development Plan. This funds project manager and assistant to contribute community engagement and outreach activities re: the FBBC from September 2013 through August 31, 2014.

Total Contributions - \$80,920

f. Long-Term Management and Sustainability Narrative

This project is still near the beginning of the planning phase. The next key steps in the project are completion of the feasibility study and preliminary planning and engineering, including obtaining CUP, Air Board and CEQA permits and finalizing the business model from the Economic Development Plan. After completion of these steps and with

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stakeholder approval we will move on to a System Impact Study (grid interconnection with PG&E), Feed in Tariff Auction (CA PUC), Power Purchase Agreement, financing, and project construction, after which we may begin actual project operation. We anticipate a time span of 5-10 years from completion of the feasibility study to facility operation. Please see the Critical Path Analysis in the Supplemental Documents.

2. Supplemental Documents

The following supplemental documents are attached

- Detailed Budget form
- Budget Narrative
- Cost Allocation Form
- Site Plan
- Project Location Map
- Parcel Map
- Topographic Map
- Site Photos
- Letters Of Support
- Project Monitoring Plan
- CCP Board Resolution
- Land Tenure Agreement
- Non-Profit Doc.

REFERENCES

¹ California Department of Water Resources (2009). *California Water Plan Update*. Bulletin 160-09. Sacramento, CA.

² Collins, B.M. & Stephens, S.L. (2007). Managing natural wildfires in Sierra Nevada wilderness areas. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. **5**, 523-527

³ Hitchcock, D. et al. (2011). *A 21st Century Assessment of the Yuba River Watershed: A Report by the South Yuba River Citizens League*. 2nd Edition. Nevada City, CA.

⁴ Ice, G.C, Neary D.G. & Adams, P.W. (2004). Effects of Wildfire on Soils and Watershed Processes. *Journal of Forestry*, September Issue.

⁵ North, M. et al. (2009). *An Ecosystem Management Strategy for Sierran Mixed-Conifer Forests*. USDA Forest Service General Technical Report PSW-GTR-220.

⁶ TSS Consultants (2010). *Yuba Foothills Biomass Feasibility Study*. Prepared for the High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council and the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council. Rancho Cordova, CA.

⁷ Meeting with Ed Palmeri, Yuba County Assistant Planning Director, October 30, 2010.

⁸ Source map can be found at: http://frap.fire.ca.gov/data/frapgismaps-fire_threat_download.php

**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM**

Project Name: Camptonville Bioenergy Feasibility Study
Applicant: Camptonville Community Partnership

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
1) Project management	\$4,700					\$4,700
2) Project Lead	\$7,488					\$7,488
3) Labor burden:	\$2,072					\$2,072
4) Contractor: Feasibility Study	\$50,000					\$50,000
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$64,260	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$64,260

SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
1) Publications/ Outreach Materials	\$400					\$400
2) Project materials & supplies	\$200					\$200
3) Travel	\$500					\$500
						\$0
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$1,100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$65,360	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,360

SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :						Total
*Organization operating/overhead costs						\$0
share of cost allocation	\$3,230					\$3,230
						\$0
						\$0
						\$0
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$3,230	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,230
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$68,590	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$68,590

SECTION FOUR						
OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>In Kind:</i>						
<i>Camptonville Union Elementary School Rent, utilities, Internet tech support</i>	\$9,562.00					\$9,562.00
<i>National Forest Foundation</i>	\$23,961.00					\$23,961.00
						\$0.00
Total Other Contributions:	\$33,523.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,523.00

NOTE: The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

* Operating Costs should be allocated to the percentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.

6. Budget Narrative

Salaries and Benefits:

Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) staff:

- 1) Project Management provide project oversight to include: Work with the YWP&FSC to develop Feasibility Study Criteria, Develop RFP, Develop bid acceptance procedure, Circulate RFP, Develop contractor selection criteria. Select vender. Manage vender- \$ 4,700

- 2) Project Lead to . \$ 7,488 Total \$ \$12,188 Facilitate community outreach, education, involvement. Establish project partners and potential funding sources, work with stake holders as product is developed and circulate document

Labor burden: \$2072 (These include, Payroll Taxes, both Federal and State, Retirement/Pension Costs, Worker's Compensation Costs, Long-Term Disability Insurance, Short-Term Disability Insurance, etc)

Total CCP personnel \$14,260

Consultants/Contractors:

Contractor: Feasibility Study for a Community-Scale Forest Bioenergy in Camptonville CA \$50,000.

Total Direct Cost \$64,260

Publications/ Outreach Materials

Communication expense/outreach materials **\$400**

Program Supplies

- Supplies for meeting and workshops, including room rental
- Program/office supplies postage/paper/ink project binders, tabs labels/ easel pads, pens, **\$200**

Travel:

Mileage reimbursement is calculated at the current federal rate of \$0.56. To include travel to the county seat in Marysville, 100 mile round trip, to confer with county based project partners. **\$500.**

Share of Cost Allocation	\$3230
Total grant request	<u>\$ 68,590</u>

Dollars Leveraged:

Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council: 14,000.00 in facilitation services for pre and post outreach and education components.

Camptonville school: 9,562.00 office space

National Forest Foundation: 23,000.00 project management position

SNC Cost Allocation form

Share of Cost Allocation for CCP

Organization operating/overhead expenses

Equipment maintenance agreements/repair (copiers, computers, printers etc.) \$430

Phone/fax \$2040

Media/ Web page support \$700 yr

Non-Program Office Supplies (paper towels, tissue, cleaning supplies, etc.) \$1,200

Office Manager/payroll 8hr week x \$20.60 (+benefits 17%) \$10,026

Officers and Liability Insurance (CCP Board) \$2,959

PO Box rental \$100

Payroll subscription \$425

Total \$17,880

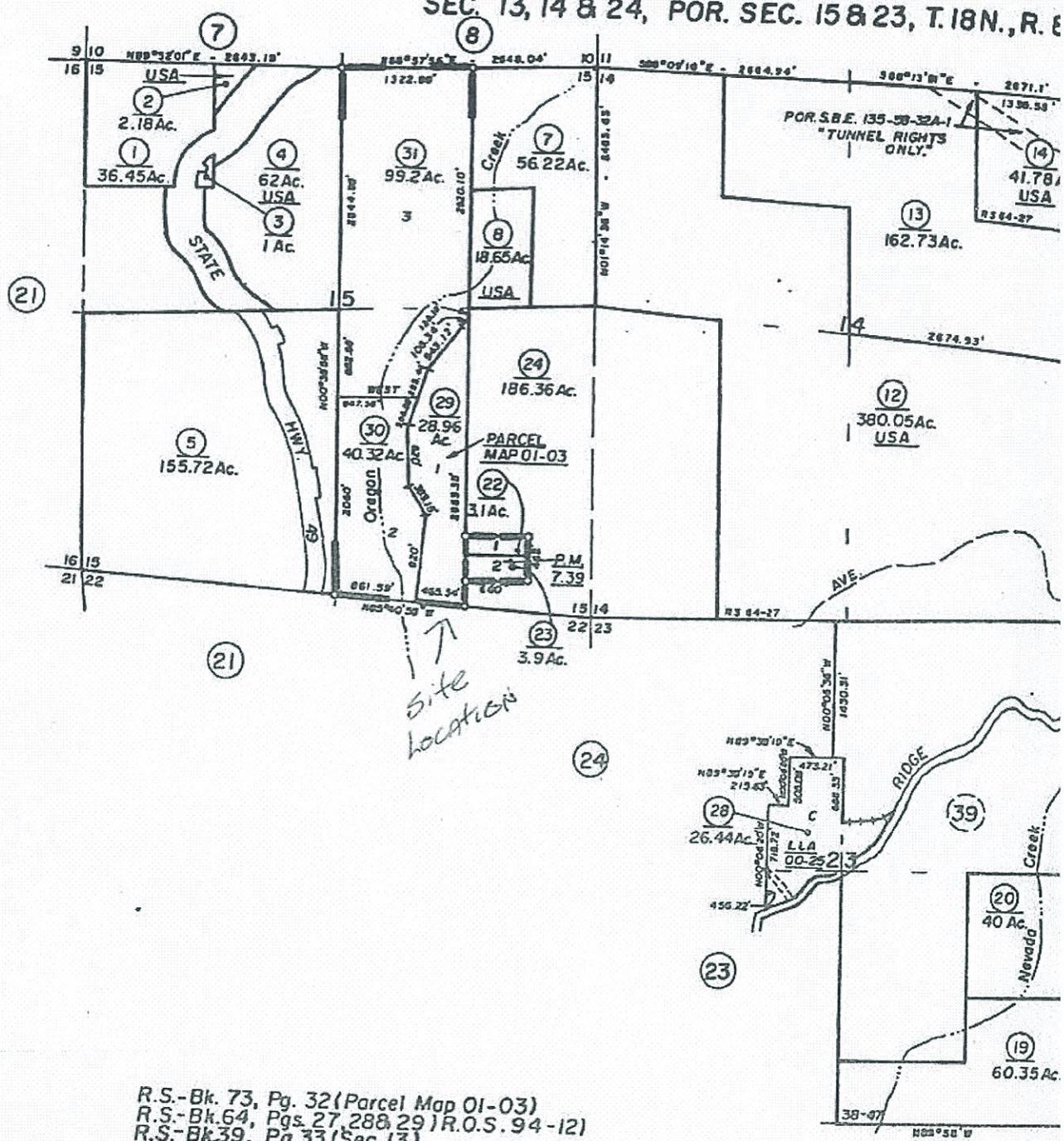
Expense Amount \$17,880

Current Grant income

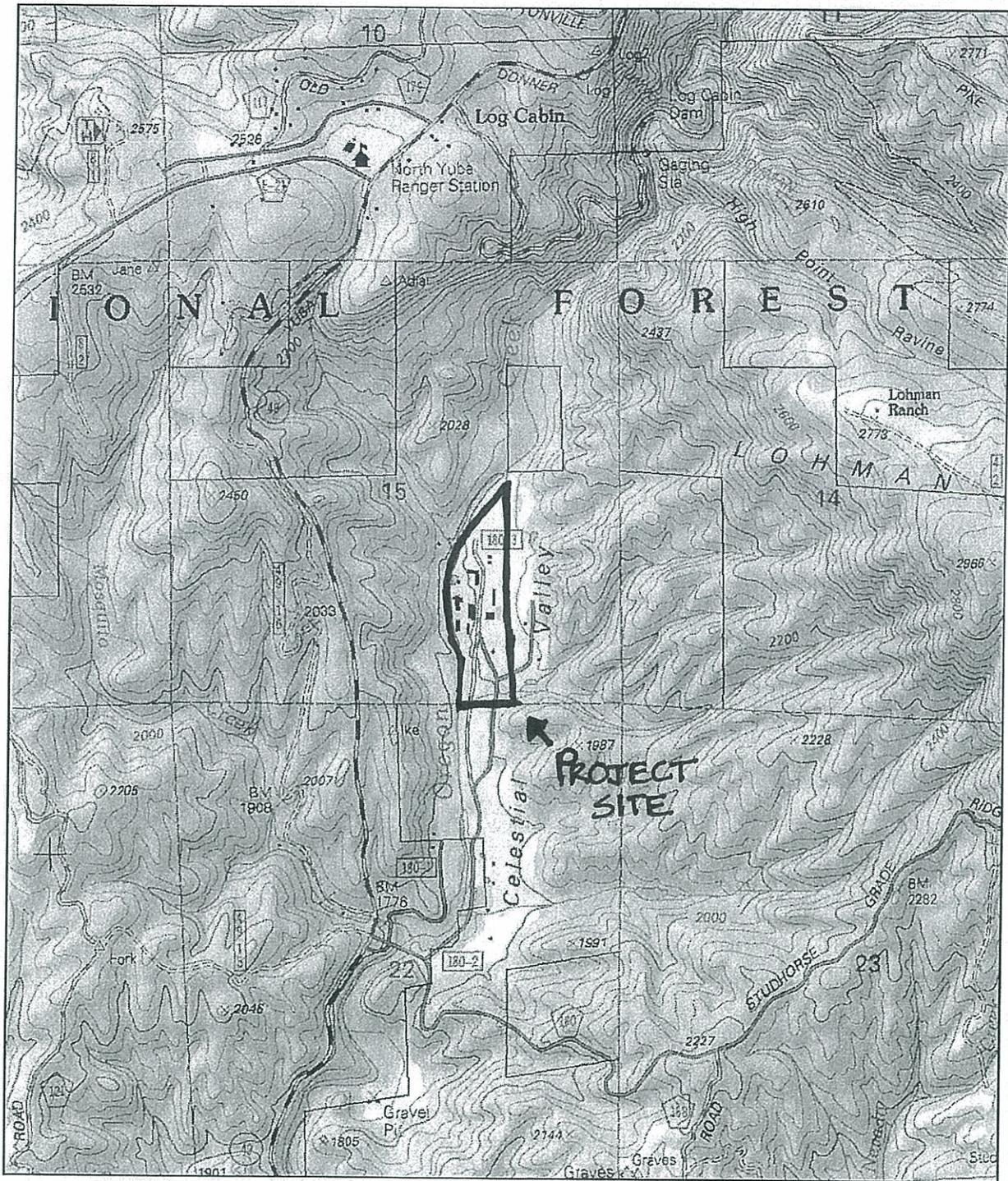
<u>Grant</u>	<u>Personnel Cost</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount Allocated</u>
Sutter/Yuba Mental Health	\$ 6,071	7%	\$1,252
First 5 Yuba	\$10,413	13%	\$2,324
CalFresh Outreach	\$23,974	29%	\$5,185
Van Loben	\$ 5,610	7%	\$1,252
National Forest Foundation	\$18,617	23%	\$4,112
Sierra Nevada Conservancy	<u>\$17,670</u>	21%	<u>\$3,755</u>
	\$83,355	100%\$	\$17,880

SNC 21% share of cost allocation = \$3,755

SEC. 13, 14 & 24, POR. SEC. 15 & 23, T.18N., R. 8



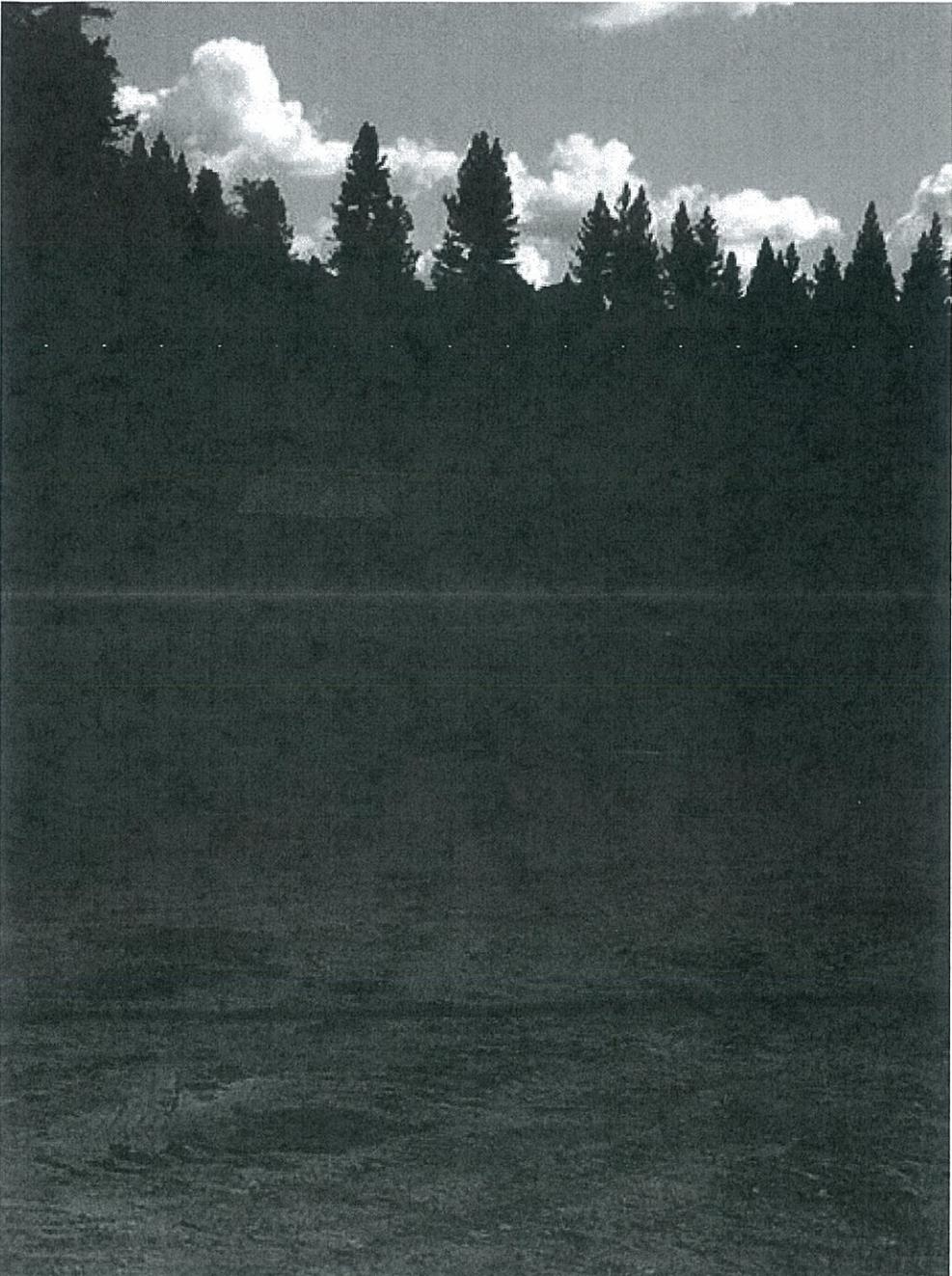
R.S.-Bk. 73, Pg. 32 (Parcel Map 01-03)
 R.S.-Bk. 64, Pgs. 27, 28 & 29 (R.O.S. 94-12)
 R.S.-Bk. 39, Pg. 33 (Sec. 13)
 R.S.-Bk. 38, Pa. 47 (Sec. 23)

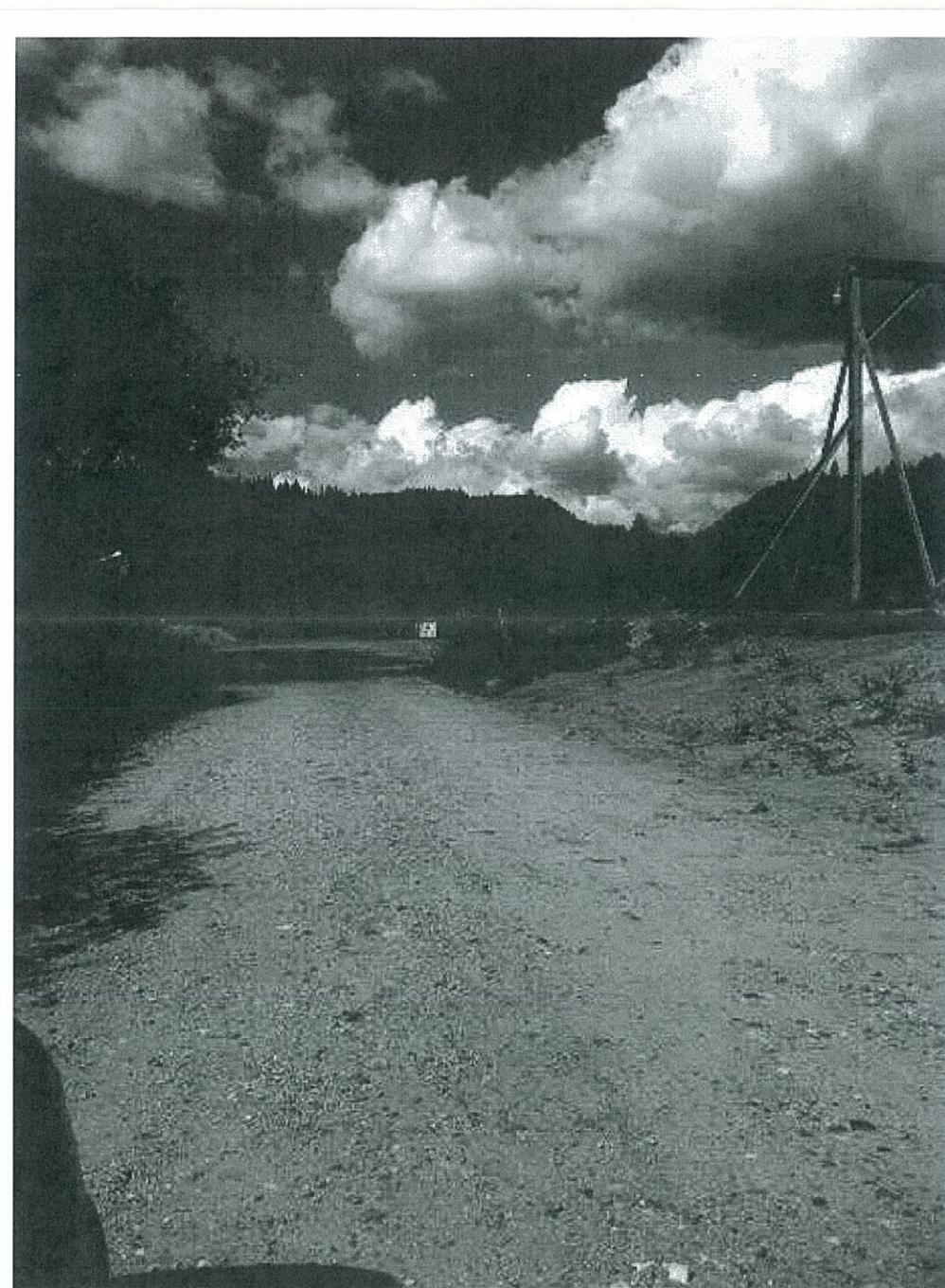


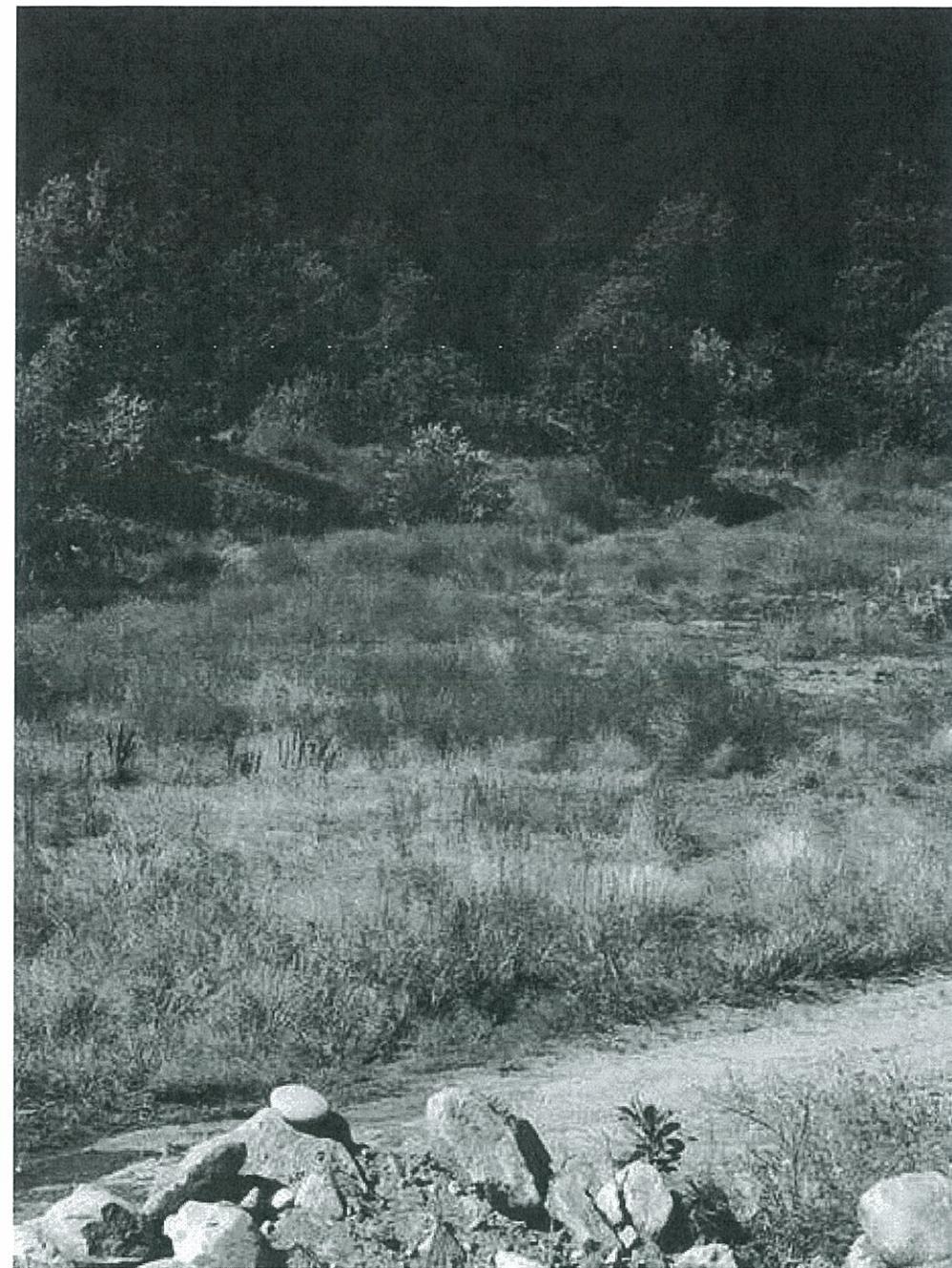
Map provided by MyTopo.com

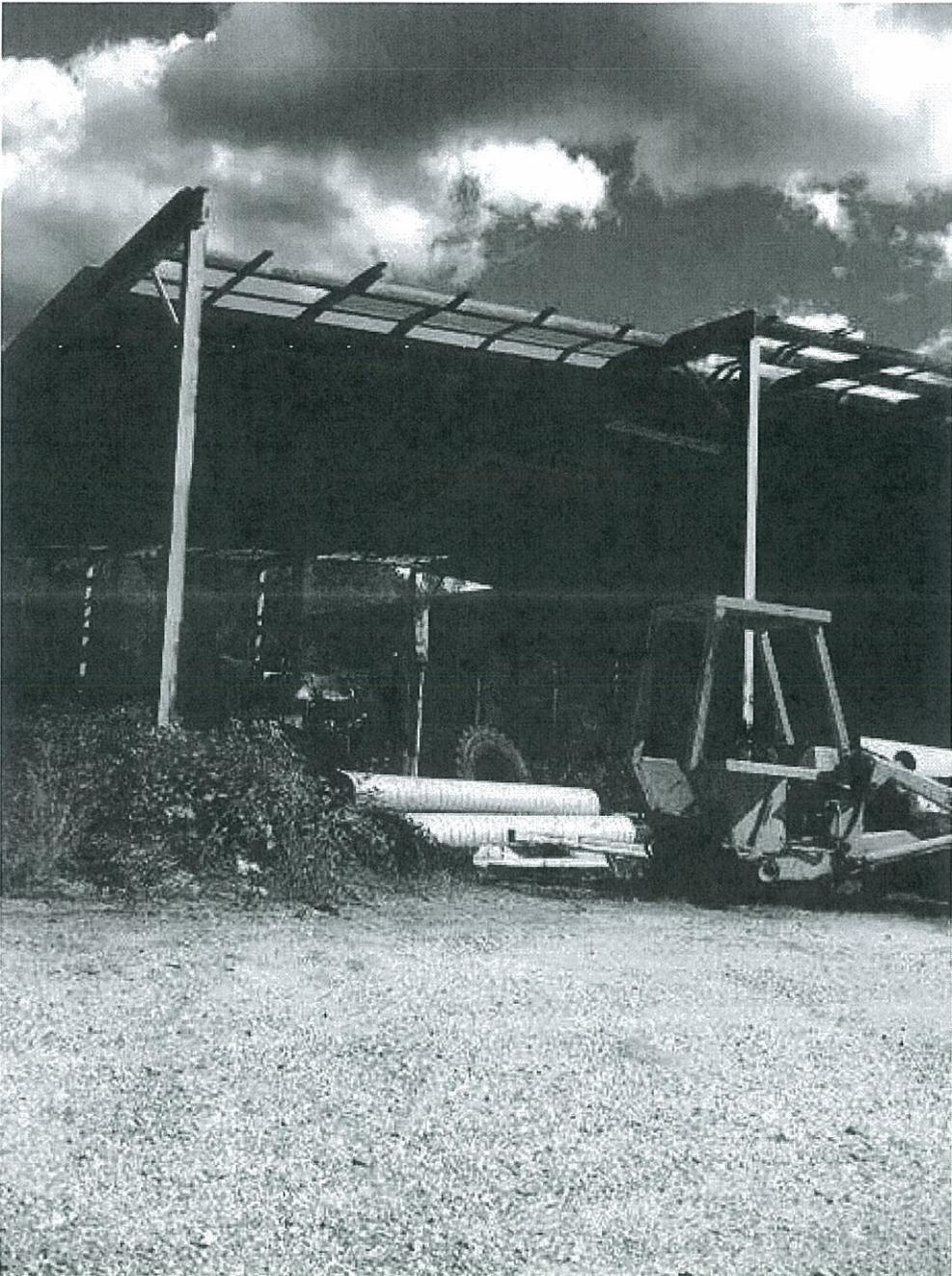














The County of Yuba

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



915 8th Street, Ste. 109
Marysville, California 95901
(530) 749-7510
(530) 749-7353 FAX

October 8, 2013

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Jim Branham, Executive Director
11524 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95063

RE: Camptonville Community Partnership Grant Application

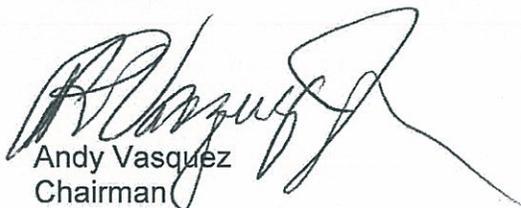
Dear Mr. Branham:

The Yuba County Board of Supervisors supports Camptonville Community Partnership's grant application for funding a feasibility study of a biomass facility at the old Celestial Valley Mill site in Camptonville.

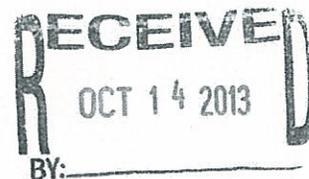
The Board recognizes heavy fuel loads in forested areas of the County pose a threat to the health of the forest and create an elevated risk for devastating forest fires which the County has experienced in 1999 and 2010. Forest thinning would bring a significant reduction to this fire threat. The development of a Biomass Business Center will help reduce cost of forest management and provide community outreach, awareness, and education. In addition, the long-term result of this project will be economic development forest restoration, and watershed protection efforts.

We hope your organization will give Camptonville Community Partnership's efforts the careful consideration it deserves.

Sincerely,



Andy Vasquez
Chairman



SUPERVISORS



Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205
Auburn, CA 95603

September 23, 2013

RE: Camptonville Community Partnership Biomass Utilization Grant application

The Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council have been working in the Yuba County foothills for 15 years to prevent wildfires. During this period, we have secured over 1.8 million dollars to implement prevention measures such as shaded fuel breaks. As National Fire plan grant funds have been reduced, we have studied other ways of reducing forest fuels. We are now focusing on a biomass feasibility study for the Yuba County foothills as a method to achieve landscape level fuel reduction. Using this fuel for energy production could provide a sustainable alternative to the present method of National Fire plan grant requests. The Council has asked the Camptonville Community Partnership to be our fiscal sponsor for a request to SNC for funding the feasibility study of a 3 MW plant in Camptonville that would conform to SB 1122 guidelines. We ask that you support our effort to protect the Sierras.

Sincerely,

Glenn Nader
Council Facilitator