

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

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

**Applicant:** South Yuba River Citizen's League (SYRCL)

**Project Title:** Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project, Phase 2

**Subregion:** Central

**County:** Nevada

**SNC Funding:** \$ 53,872.44

**Total Project Cost:** \$138,432.00

**Application Number:** 588

**Final Score:** 77

**PROJECT SCOPE**

Loney Meadow is a 300 acre wet meadow complex at 6000' elevation, consisting entirely of, and surrounded by, Tahoe National Forest (TNF) land. Loney Meadow provides unique recreational and educational opportunities near Interstate 80.

As a popular recreation destination, Loney Meadow is one of the most visited and visible wet meadows in the Sierra Nevada and presents a tremendous opportunity to educate the public about the values of healthy mountain meadows. Current uses include grazing and an interpretive trail.

Conifer encroachment is a principal threat to remnant aspen stands in Loney meadow. There is an immediate need to remove conifers as they out-compete aspen for sunlight, water and nutrients, resulting in decreased vigor and attack by pathogens which increase mortality. Conifer encroachment has been shown to alter soil properties, impacting water holding capacity and changing meadow vegetation. Removal of conifers will partially emulate natural disturbance regimes allowing aspen regeneration.

Project partners will:

- Assess aspen stands on 4 acres using the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) "Aspen Location and Condition" protocol, purchase all necessary tools and lead a trained team of volunteers to treat areas using USFS Best Management Practices. Once removed, the conifers will be piled as grazing barriers or removed if deemed a fire hazard.
- Partners will design and install 15 interpretive signs with information including the importance of meadows for ecological biodiversity, increased late season water

storage and improved downstream water quality, as well as other important meadow features.

Additional funding for the project will be provided by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (application pending) and in-kind service provided by SYRCL and the Sierra Nevada Americorp Program.

This project will protect the Yuba River Watershed through improvements in meadow and forest health, water storage and water quality.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Year 1: Volunteer Recruitment and Training Materials	April – July 2013
Year 2: Volunteer Recruitment and Training Materials	April – July 2014
Year 1: Site surveying and mapping	June – July 2013
Year 2: Site surveying and mapping	June – July 2014
Year 1: Final Site Workplan	July 2013
Year 2: Final Site Workplan	July 2014
List of tools purchased	July 2013 and July 2014
Year 1: Completed Baseline Aspen Location and Condition form	July 2013
Year 1: 2 acres of enhanced aspen habitat	July – September 2013
Year 1: Trained Volunteer List and Hours Completed	September 2013
Year 2: Completed Baseline Aspen Location and Condition form	July 2014
Year 2: 2 acres of enhanced aspen habitat	July – September 2014
Year 2: Trained Volunteer List and Hours Completed	September 2014
Volunteer Project Evaluations	September 2013 and 2014
Year 1: Monitoring Results	July 2014
Year 2: Monitoring Results	July 2015
15 Interpretive Signs Installed	August - September 2014
Outreach Materials	August – September 2014
SNC Performance Monitoring Results	August 2015
Six Month Progress Reports (Six)	January 2013 – July 2015
Final Report	1/2016
<b>FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>	<b>January 2016</b>

## PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$40,617.96
Indirect**	6,227.64
Administrative***	7,026.84
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,872.44</b>

\* Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year.

\*\* Indirect: Expenses involve ongoing operations, repair or maintenance costs, regardless of whether the repair or maintenance may last more than one year.

\*\*\* Administrative: Expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct and indirect costs.

## PROJECT LETTERS

- Support
  - USDA- Yuba River Ranger District
  - American Rivers, Inc.

## 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.

- Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior
- Acres of Land Improved