

**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: Placer County Community Development Resource Agency

Project Title: Side Hill Citrus Conservation Easement

Subregion: Central

County: Placer County

SNC Funding: \$185,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$340,000.00

Application Number: 674

Final Score: 87

PROJECT SCOPE

The Side Hill Citrus Conservation Easement Project is the acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on an organic mandarin and citrus orchard. The 47-acre farm is located on Pleasant Hill Road near Lincoln in Placer County.

Side Hill Citrus' organic farming practices protect and enrich the soil, avoid putting harmful chemicals into the ground, and protect the Coon Creek Watershed. Protecting the Side Hill Citrus property will maintain open space, retain natural systems and processes, contribute to maintaining the local agricultural economic base, maintain local specialty crops, and conserve energy. The owner will run interpretive programs at the site as part of an organic farming/education program.

In conjunction with addressing Proposition 84 objectives and many SNC program goals, the Side Hill Citrus conservation easement meets multiple objectives for Placer County's Placer Legacy program. The Placer Legacy program was developed in accordance with the Placer County General Plan as a critical step toward protection, preservation, and restoration of the integrity, productivity, and biodiversity of the County's natural resources.

Other funds leveraged include \$75,000 from Placer County for project administration and pre-project due diligence, \$10,000 from Placer Land Trust, \$50,000 from the Emigrant Trails Greenway Trust, and \$20,000 from the landowner.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

| DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES | TIMELINE |
|---|-----------------------|
| 6 month progress report | September 30, 2013 |
| CE Acquisition | January 31, 2014 |
| Final Report | March 30, 2013 |
| Copies of recorded conservation easement documents | March 30, 2013 |

PROJECT COSTS

| PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES | TOTAL SNC FUNDING |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| *Direct | \$185,000.00 |
| **Indirect | 0 |
| ***Administrative | 0 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$185,000.00 |

* 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/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - Placer Land Trust
 - Nevada Irrigation District
 - UC Cooperative Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources
 - Placer County Agricultural Commission
 - The Natural Trading Company
 - Placer County Farm Bureau
 - Placer Grown
 - Joanne Neft, Agriculture Advocate and Founder of Mountain Mandarin Festival
- Oppose
 - None

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.

