

**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: American Rivers

Project Title: Integrated Meadow Restoration and Grazing in Shell Meadow

Subregion: South Central

County: Tuolumne

SNC Funding: \$62,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$124,000.00

Application Number: 690

Final Score: 83.67

PROJECT SCOPE

High in the Sierra Nevada near Sonora Pass, a tributary to the Middle Fork Stanislaus River flows into three-acre Shell Meadow. The meadow provides important breeding habitat for Yosemite toads and other sensitive species. A recent site visit indicated two headcuts in the stream channel. The main headcut was approximately 5-feet deep and the side headcut was approximately 3-feet deep.

The project will result in completed plans for on-the-ground activities to prevent the advancement of the headcuts. Stabilization of the headcuts will keep the channel from incising, preventing a drop in the water table, restoring floodplain connectivity, and preventing conversion of the meadow plant community to dryland species.

The project has three main goals. The first is to protect Shell Meadow and its associated high-quality aquatic and terrestrial habitats. The second is to assist the U.S. Forest Service in determining how grazing could be compatible with post-restoration management at the site by gathering the information necessary for a site-specific management plan. The third is to develop a project model that demonstrates both how to take preventative action to protect a meadow before full-scale degradation occurs and how to develop appropriate questions and solutions for integrating grazing with meadow management.

Conceptual restoration design and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will be at the project onset. SNC funding will provide for technical restoration design that integrates grazing and meadow health, in addition to permitting and remaining clearances for follow-up site improvement activities.

Additional funding for this project has been provided by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Bella Vista Foundation.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Signed subcontracts/grants with project partners	June 2013
Finalize data collection work plan	July 2013
Complete and Submit Six-Month Progress Report	December 2013
Compile materials/applications required for permits	February 2014
Acquire completed permits (401 and 404)	June 2014
Complete and Submit Six-Month Progress Report	June 2014
Complete design drawings	July 2014
Finalize restoration cost-estimate and contractor requirements	August 2014
Finalize and distribute request for bids	September 2014
Monitoring data collected	November 2014
Complete and Submit Six-Month Progress Report	December 2014
Compile analyzed data and monitoring report	January 2015
Complete and Submit Final Report	January 2015
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	January 31, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$51,168.00
Indirect**	\$2,746.00
Administrative***	\$8,086.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$62,000.00

* 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
 - Stanislaus National Forest

- 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.

- Number of people reached.
- Dollar value of resources leveraged for the Sierra Nevada.
- Number and type of jobs created.
- Number of new, improved or preserved economic activities.
- Number of collaboratively developed plans and assessments.
- Percent of pre-project and planning efforts resulting in project implementation.