

**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: Feather River Land Trust

Project Title: Chadwick Ranch Conservation Easement

Subregion: North Central

County: Plumas

SNC Funding: \$ 97,750.00

Total Project Cost: \$222,750.00

Application Number: 724

Final Score: 90.75

PROJECT SCOPE

The Feather River Land Trust (FRLT) will purchase a conservation easement over the 142-acre Chadwick Ranch, located immediately adjacent to Loyalton Elementary and High Schools in Sierra County. The landowner currently leases the property for cattle grazing and haying and will continue to do so under the easement.

The conservation easement will protect a working ranch, wildlife habitat, and scenic open space, as well as guarantee permanent educational access to this land. The property contains 142-acres of irrigated pasture, wetlands, and exceptional cottonwood-willow riparian habitat. It includes three branches of Smithneck Creek, a major tributary to the Middle Fork Feather River.

The Chadwick Ranch is centered in Sierra Valley, which is designated by the National Audubon Society as a Nationally-Important Bird Area and an important stopover in the Pacific Flyway. After acquisition of the conservation easement, FRLT's school-based K-12 Learning Landscapes education program plans on highlighting agriculture and local food production, as well as, stream restoration and ecology on the Chadwick Ranch. Using funds donated by FRLT partners, teachers and students will be trained and supported to plan and implement hands-on stewardship and restoration projects on the property including invasive weeds management, restoration of native plants, wildlife viewing and habitat enhancement. The Northern Sierra Partnership has committed \$65,000 in capital toward the purchase of the easement, as well as, \$30,000 toward staff, legal, baseline, and other pre-acquisition costs needed to complete the easement. The owner, Anne Chadwick, will also donate \$30,000 towards long-term management of the easement and protection of the land.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Six Month Progress Report	October 15, 2013
Close Escrow- Transfer of CE	October 31, 2013
Final Report	May 30, 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 30, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$85,000.00
Indirect**	\$0
Administrative***	\$12,750.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$97,750.00

* 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
 - Northern Sierra Partnership
 - Sierra County Board of Supervisors

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 Types of Jobs Created.
- Number of Acres Conserved.
- Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protected or Restored.
- Number of significant sites protected or preserved.