

**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: Lassen County Fire Safe Council

Project Title: Ash Valley Ranch Native Grassland Restoration

Subregion: North

County: Lassen

SNC Funding: \$350,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$950,000.00

Application Number: 725

Final Score: 87.00

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will complete restoration activities, exclusionary livestock fencing, and hydrologic monitoring on 667-acres of degraded native grassland/rangeland on the Ash Valley Ranch, a cattle operation in Adin, CA. This work will complement 1,100-acres of similar work already completed on the 5,500-acre ranch. The project area includes both private land and public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Overly dense Western juniper and Eastside pine stands will be removed from montane wet meadows and sagebrush-steppe ecosystems to reduce the risk for high-intensity wildfire, and restore hydrologic function to native plant communities that support livestock and wildlife. Following removal, most of the material will be chipped and hauled to an electrical power producing facility to be used as fuel.

The project will also construct up to 40,000 linear feet of “wildlife friendly” livestock fencing enclosures to protect wet meadow and restored areas.

The project will also assist in continuation of established vegetation and hydrologic monitoring on the ranch to measure effectiveness of restoration efforts.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Complete project layout and prepare bid solicitations	April – May 2013
Set up photo monitoring points (pre-treatment)	May – July 2013
Select contractor	June - July 2013

Restoration treatments	July 2013 – August 2014
Fence construction	July – September 2013
6 month progress report	October 31, 2013
Hydrologic monitoring	April 2013 July 2013 October 2013 March 2014 June 2014 September 2014
Vegetation Monitoring	July 2013 June 2014
6 month progress report	March 31, 2014
Post-project photo monitoring	April – October 2014
Prepare completed GIS files for project	September 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	October 31, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$330,396.00
Indirect**	\$13,000.00
Administrative***	\$6,604.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$350,000.00

* 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
 - Bureau of Land Management, Alturas Field Office
 - Greenleaf Power
 - Lassen County Board of Supervisors
 - Modoc National Forest, Big Valley Ranger District
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
 - Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - Pit Resource Conservation District
- 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 Improved or Restored.