

Background

In June 2013, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Governing Board (Board) approved Grant Guidelines for the 2013-14 Grant Round. This will be the SNC's final grant round using funding from Proposition 84, The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006. Staff released public notification of the SNC 2013-14 Grant Round on June 27, 2013. Estimated funding available for this grant round is approximately \$2.9 million.

This grant round has no final application due date. Applicants may contact SNC Staff at any time while adequate funding remains. Projects that have provided a complete grant application and that receive a minimum score of 85 out of 100 may be presented to the Board for approval.

At the December 2013 Board meeting, the Board authorized one grant in the amount of \$250,000. At the March 2014 Board meeting, four (4) projects totaling \$1.2 million were authorized. For the June 2014 meeting, three (3) projects totaling \$258,975 are being recommended to the Board for approval. Staff expects that the remainder of funds, approximately \$1.3 million, will be recommended for authorization at the September 2014 Board meeting (this does not include the \$1 million allocated for the Rim Fire Restoration effort).

Current Status

Staff has completed review of the following three projects and has found that they meet or exceed the threshold scoring level of 85 points:

- Project [791](#), Oro De Amador Removal Action Workplan
- Project [781](#), Camptonville Forest Biomass Business Center Feasibility Study
- Project [802](#), Upper Stevens Meadow Project

Staff is recommending Board approval of these three projects totaling \$258,975. Project specific information including project descriptions, maps and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation is provided in the attached Exhibit A to this item.

Attachments:

[Exhibit A](#) – Project Descriptions, Maps and CEQA Documentation

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board (a) approve, and authorize the Executive Officer to file, Notices of Exemption for the Oro De Amador Removal Action Workplan Project (SNC 791); the Camptonville Forest Biomass Business Center Feasibility Study Project (SNC 781), and the Upper Stevens Meadow Restoration Project (SNC802); and (b) authorize a grant award to each of the above listed projects for the amounts recommended by staff, and further authorize staff to enter into the necessary agreements for the recommended projects.