

Current Status – Budget

The Governor's proposed State Budget for 2015-16 was released on January 9, 2015. The budget includes the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's (SNC) base budget request as well as the \$10 million for Proposition 1 grant funds and two new positions to support the program. As for the Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF), revenues are declining so we have been asked by the Natural Resources Agency to create a plan for cost savings in the current year and in 2015-16. These cost savings reductions are not reflected in the Governor's 2015-16 proposed budget but we anticipate they will be included in the Governor's May Revise of the state budget. The cost savings for ELPF will not affect any of SNC's current positions. As for program delivery, the effects will be modest this year but in 2015-16 there will likely be impacts on our efforts. We will be reviewing our Strategic Plan and Action Plan to identify items that can be postponed, reduced or removed. The current status of SNC's 2014-15 budget can be viewed on page two of this report.

Current Status – Human Resources

Four members of the SNC team will be leaving the organization this fiscal year. Each of them has worked for SNC for the past seven years. Joan Keegan, who served as our Assistant Executive Officer (AEO), has been appointed by the Governor as the Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing. Joan's last day was January 23, 2015. Kim Carr, most recently the Sustainability Specialist, has accepted a new position with CAL FIRE as an Assistant Deputy Director for Climate and Energy. Kim's last day was February 5, 2015. Linda Hansen, the Mt. Lassen Representative in Susanville, will be retiring at the end of March. Julie Bear, most recently the Mt. Whitney Area Manager, will be retiring at the end of April.

The departure of these four staff members represents a significant event in SNC's history. Each of them are long-time SNCers who have contributed greatly to the successes of our organization. While their contributions will live on, we will obviously miss having them as a part of the team.

We have begun the process of filling the AEO position by posting a job opportunity. While it is hard to be precise as to how long the process will take, we are moving forward in an expeditious but thoughtful way. Our goal is to find the best possible person available to us to fill Joan's very large shoes. Staff will provide a verbal update at this meeting.

As for the other vacancies, the management team is considering how to proceed in dealing with these departures both in terms of replacement and workload, while considering some of the ELPF budget pressures that exist. The current SNC organizational chart can be viewed on page three of this report.

Recommendation

This is an informational item only; no formal action is needed by the Board at this time, although Boardmembers are encouraged to share their thoughts and comments.

BOARD REPORT

2014-15 SNC EXPENDITURES AND ENCUMBRANCES

Through January 27, 2015

State Operations				
<i>Personal Services</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Expended</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>% Spent</i>
SALARIES AND WAGES	2,114,276	981,073	1,133,204	46%
STAFF BENEFITS	876,000	444,368	431,632	51%
<i>Personal Services, Totals</i>	<i>\$2,990,276</i>	<i>\$1,425,441</i>	<i>\$1,564,836</i>	<i>48%</i>

<i>Operating Expenses & Equipment</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Expended</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>% Spent</i>
GENERAL EXPENSE	191,235	107,653	83,582	56%
TRAVEL - IS	59,226	31,962	27,264	54%
TRAVEL - OS	3,574	0	3,574	0%
TRAINING	25,000	10,588	14,412	42%
FACILITIES	274,847	160,591	114,256	58%
UTILITIES	16,800	8,358	8,442	50%
CONTRACTS- INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT	354,311	149,109	205,202	42%
CONTRACTS- EXTERNAL	362,333	188,903	173,430	52%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	109,320	28,790	80,530	26%
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	0%
OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENSE	23,000	12,686	10,314	55%
PRO RATA (control agency costs)	238,603	119,302	119,302	50%
<i>Operating Expenses & Equipment, Totals</i>	<i>\$1,658,247</i>	<i>\$817,940</i>	<i>\$840,307</i>	<i>49%</i>

Local Assistance				
<i>Appropriation</i>	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Expended</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>% Spent</i>
2014 Appropriation; Reverted 2007 & 2008 funds (Returned grant funds that have been allocated to the RIM Fire and other recently approved projects)	1,550,000	62,463	1,487,537	4%

SNC EXPENDITURES	<i>Budgeted</i>	<i>Expended</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>% Spent</i>
<i>State Operations</i>	<i>4,648,524</i>	<i>2,243,381</i>	<i>2,405,143</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Local Assistance</i>	<i>1,550,000</i>	<i>62,463</i>	<i>1,487,537</i>	<i>4%</i>
<i>SNC EXPENDITURES, TOTALS</i>	<i>\$6,198,524</i>	<i>\$2,305,844</i>	<i>\$3,892,680</i>	<i>38%</i>

Agenda Item VII.a
 Administrative Update



Jim Branham
 Executive Officer

No Picture Available
VACANT
 Assistant Executive Officer



2/15/15



AR = Area Representative
 PL = Project Lead