

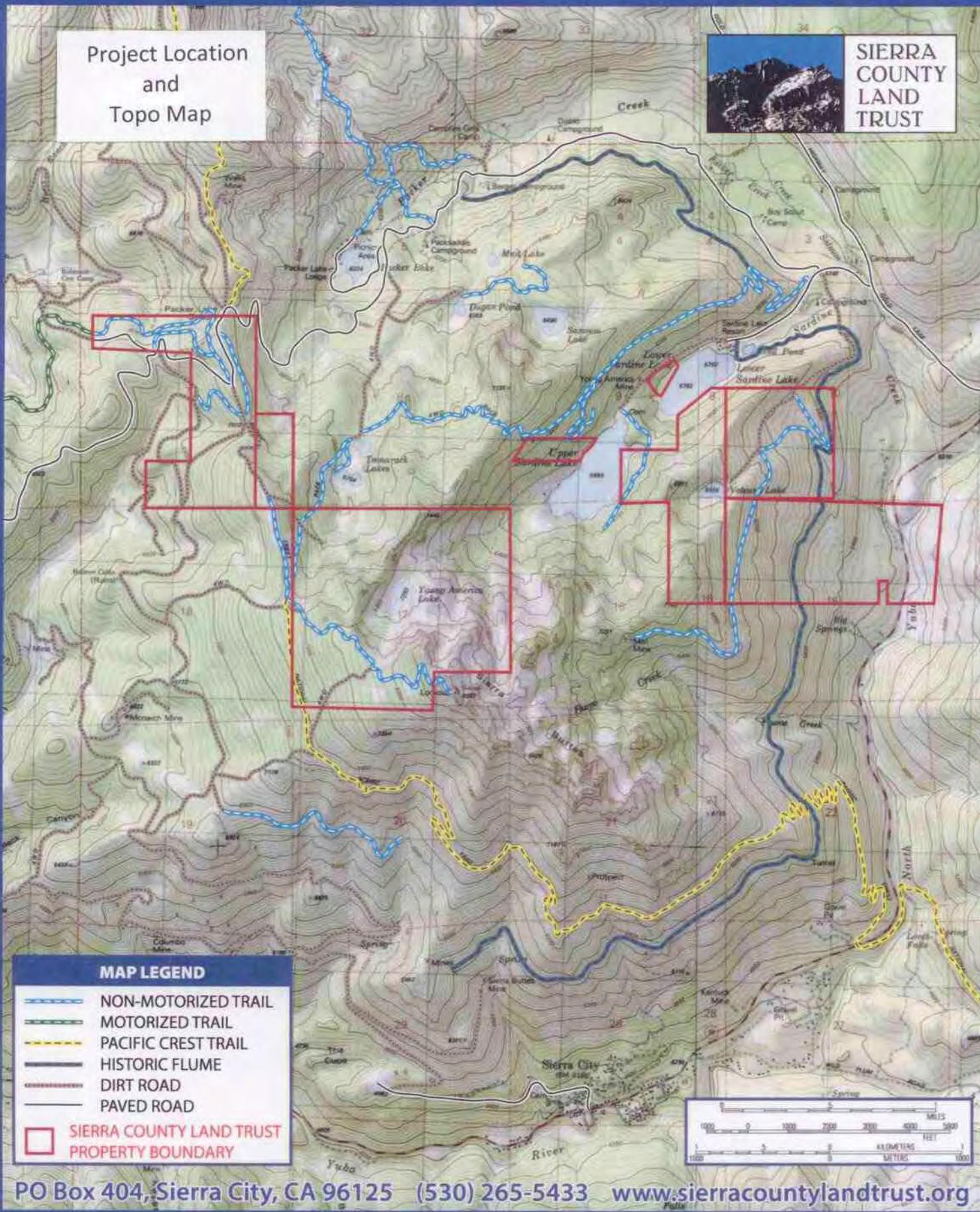
**864**  
**Sierra Buttes / Gold Lakes Basin Properties Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan,**  
**Sierra County,**  
**Upper Yuba Watershed**



# Project Location and Topo Map



SIERRA  
COUNTY  
LAND  
TRUST



### MAP LEGEND

-  NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL
-  MOTORIZED TRAIL
-  PACIFIC CREST TRAIL
-  HISTORIC FLUME
-  DIRT ROAD
-  PAVED ROAD
-  SIERRA COUNTY LAND TRUST  
PROPERTY BOUNDARY



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program  
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)**

**Applicant:** Sierra County Land Trust

**Project Title:** Sierra Buttes / Gold Lake Basin Properties  
Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP)

**Subregion:** North Central

**County:** Sierra

**SNC Funding:** \$74,750

**Total Project Cost:** \$80,250

**Application Number:** 864

**Final Score:** 92.5

**PROJECT SCOPE**

The project area consists of 1,525 acres of forested property owned by the Sierra County Land Trust (SCLT) in the Sierra Buttes/Gold Lakes Basin in Sierra County. The properties are located in three clusters in close proximity centered generally near Sardine Lake. They include two entire lakes (Volcano Lake and Young America Lake), frontage on Lower, and Upper Sardine Lakes, frontage on the North Fork of the Yuba River, and a number of streams – all in the watershed of the North Fork of the Yuba River. The North Fork of the Yuba River feeds the Yuba River and the Sacramento River system which have critical domestic water, agricultural, wildlife, and fisheries values of Regional and statewide importance. As a result, existing water quality protection at this headwaters location is critical.

A Professional Forester will prepare a Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) to submit for approval to CAL FIRE which will be used to guide forest management practices on SCLT properties for many years to come. Specific fuel reduction projects needed in the short-term will also be developed. Upon completion, these projects will protect and improve water quality, watershed health, and water retention ability as well as reduce potential greenhouse gas emissions and air quality impacts by reducing the threat of high-intensity fire and its impacts including soil erosion and carbon release.

The NTMP will serve as the functional equivalent of CEQA review. This planning work will build on the work the SCLT has done to date in acquiring these parcels for public open space and water quality protection with the participation and alignment of

programs through the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, the California Natural Resources Agency, and Proposition 1.

The project complements other fuel treatment projects that are in progress on private, state, and federal lands nearby.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

| <b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>TIMELINE</b>                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Contract: Professional Forester                                                                                                                                                                       | August 30, 2016                    |
| Professional Forester's initial work completed: NDDDB ordered, CHRIS report ordered, GIS analysis of the lands and initial site visits. (Maps depicting forest types and quantity of forest products) | August 2016 - February 2017        |
| Initial consultation with Sierra County Fire Safe Council, Sierra County, USFS, tribal representatives                                                                                                | August 2016 - February 2017        |
| Early Spring surveys (if needed)                                                                                                                                                                      | June 2017                          |
| NTMP submitted for first review by CAL FIRE and inter-agency team for completeness as well as initial review by local groups listed above. (1 <sup>st</sup> draft NTMP)                               | July 2017 (starts 10 day review)   |
| File NTMP with CAL FIRE (2 <sup>nd</sup> draft NTMP, application)                                                                                                                                     | September 2017                     |
| Meeting with CAL FIRE to review Pre-Harvest Inspection reports.                                                                                                                                       | September 2017                     |
| 30 day comment period                                                                                                                                                                                 | October - November 2017            |
| Professional Forester reviews comments, responds to commenters, and revises NTMP. (Final NTMP)                                                                                                        | December 2017                      |
| Six Month Reports (2)                                                                                                                                                                                 | February 1, 2017<br>August 1, 2018 |
| <b>FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>                                                                                                                                                            | January 30, 2018                   |

### PROJECT COSTS

| <b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>                        | <b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Direct*</b>                                          |                          |
| Database Searches (CHRIS, CNDDDB)                       | \$2,500.00               |
| Technical Sub-consultants and Environmental Planner     | \$24,500.00              |
| Preparation of NTMP by Registered Professional Forester | \$31,400.00              |
| Project Management / Monitoring / Reporting/ Invoicing  | \$10,550.00              |
|                                                         |                          |
| <b>Administrative**</b>                                 |                          |
| Administrative Costs                                    | \$5,800.00               |
|                                                         |                          |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                                      | <b>\$74,750.00</b>       |

- \* 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. Direct expenses should also include costs directly attributable to the project such as performance measure reporting, project management, billing, signs, etc.
- \*\* Administrative: Shared expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct costs. Examples of administrative costs include the costs of operating/maintaining facilities, general expenses, general administration, etc.

## **PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION**

- Support
  - Sierra County Board of Supervisors
  - Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship Council
  - USFS, Yuba River Ranger District

## **PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include one to 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 Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

# Notice of Exemption

Form D

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

(Address)

County Clerk  
County of Sierra  
100 Courthouse Sq. Room 11, P.O. Drawer D  
Downieville, CA 95936

Project Title: Sierra Buttes/Gold Lakes Basin Properties Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan

**Project Location - Specific:**

The project is located in Sierra County, approximately four miles west of the community of Sattley, CA; centered at approximately 39°36'39"N, 120°30'13"W

Project Location – City: Sattley Project Location – County: Sierra

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding to Sierra County Land Trust to employ a Registered Professional Forester to prepare a Non-Industrial Timber Harvesting Plan (NTMP) for 1,525 acres in the Sierra Buttes/Gold Lakes Basin for approval by CalFire. Upon approval, the NTMP would guide the implementation of fuel reduction strategies and other measures to reduce wildfire hazards, protect water quality, and improve forest yield from these properties.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Sierra County Land Trust

**Exempt Status: (check one)**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The project involves the preparation of a plan to guide possible future action to reduce wildfire hazards and protect water quality. The plan would be submitted for future approval. Preparation of the plan would not involve ground disturbance or physical alternations to the environment.

Lead Agency  
Contact Person: Patrick Eidman Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4689

**If filed by applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?  Yes  No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

- Signed by Lead Agency
  - Signed by Applicant
- Date received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 2005