

**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: Wolf Creek Community Alliance

Project Title: Maidu Meadow Restoration and Riparian Enhancements
South Fork Wolf Creek

Subregion: Central

County: Nevada

SNC Funding: \$74,900

Total Project Cost: \$78,650

Application Number: 523

Final Score: 73.50

PROJECT SCOPE

Maidu Meadow is located on a stretch of the South Fork of Wolf Creek within the upper Bear River Watershed. The meadow and creek are just upstream of the town of Grass Valley, and adjacent to the former Empire Mine and located within Empire Mine State Historic Park. The creek and meadow consist of a 43 acre complex in an area that once supported very productive and diverse ecosystems because of its elevation, sun exposure, and diversity of soils.

This project will complete Phase 1 of a larger plan to restore hydrologic and ecosystem functions to the meadow and South Fork Wolf Creek that flows through it. Phase 1 includes the following tasks: a) obtain soils analysis; b) obtain a wetland delineation; c) conduct wildlife surveys; d) begin geomorphic analysis as part of a stream watershed study including disturbance history, current function, impairments and conditions, surveying of profile, cross section and flows, and opportunities/constraints for future projects; e) obtain relevant permits.

The project will leverage additional non-SNC funding to help implement projects identified in Phase 1 that will likely include the following elements: a) establish a native vegetation riparian buffer zone along the creek banks to halt erosional down-cutting and prevent further lateral erosion and sedimentation into the creek; b) remove non-native invasive plants and grasses in the meadow in accordance with recommended best practices; c) replant with appropriate local native vegetation; d) improve native wildlife habitat; and e) move public access trails and facilities away from protected habitat.

With the help of State Park volunteer docents, children and adults will be educated about conservation and stewardship of the public land.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Soil Sampling and Analysis report	December 2012
Wetland Delineation report	August 2013
Wildlife Surveys	September 2013
Permits: Groundwater monitoring wells	June 2014
Baseline geomorphology assessment: (stream gauging, monitoring well installation, ground water monitoring)	June 2014
Recommend 3 alternative restoration approaches and conceptual designs; baseline report	July 2014
GIS Support	August 2014
CEQA Document	October 2014
Six Month Progress Reports (4)	April 2013, October 2013, April 2014, October 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	January 31, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Management	\$6,000
Soil Sampling and Analysis	\$8,000
Wetland Delineation	\$7,200
Wildlife Surveys	\$4,250
Baseline Geomorphology Assessment	\$34,000
GIS Support	\$4,900
Permit: Groundwater Monitoring Wells	\$2,000
CEQA Documentation	\$5,000
Indirect**	0
Administrative***	\$3,550
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,900

*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
 - Matt Green, Sierra District Supervisor, California Department of Parks and Recreation
 - Alex Ezzell, Service and Adventure Teacher, Grass Valley Charter School
 - Gary Griffith, Faculty, Nevada City School of the Arts
 - Bruce Herring, Principal, Bitney College Prep
 - Joanne Hild, Executive Director, Sierra Streams Institute
 - Elizabeth Martin, Chief Executive Officer, The Sierra Fund

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.

- Collaboratively Developed Plans/Assessments
- Percent of Pre-Project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Implementation
- Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior