

**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: South Yuba River Citizens League

Project Title: Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Project, Phase 2

Subregion: Central

County: Nevada

SNC Funding: \$ 49,265.44

Total Project Cost: \$133,825.64

Application Number: 588

Final Score: 77

PROJECT SCOPE

Loney Meadow is a 300 acre wet meadow complex at 6000 feet elevation, entirely on Tahoe National Forest (TNF) lands. Loney Meadow provides unique recreational and educational opportunities near Interstate 80. Current uses include grazing and an interpretive trail. In collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), SYRCL completed Phase 1 of the Loney Meadow Aspen Regeneration Program in 2011. Staff and volunteers used hand tools to remove small conifers and enhance two acres for aspen regeneration using USFS Best Management Practices, which have been successfully employed in other Sierra mountain meadows. Of the prioritized and mapped areas, four acres remain untreated.

With funding from the SNC, SYRCL and the USFS will survey and map aspen stands using the USFS "Aspen Location and Condition" protocol, purchase all necessary tools and lead a trained team of volunteers to treat areas with methods similar to those used in 2011. Once removed, the conifers will be piled as grazing barriers or removed if deemed a fire hazard. Once treated, aspen stands can act as natural firebreaks.

Interpretive signs will be designed and installed to educate the public about the need to preserve critical aspen habitat. Aspen habitat is the single most species-rich avian habitat in the Sierra Nevada, and also provides habitat for rare species, and diverse wetland vegetation. Removal of conifers in Loney Meadow will help preserve unique features of mountain meadows, including vegetation, soils, hydrology, biodiversity, and provide a supporting role in watershed health.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Start Date (after spring snow melt)	April 2013
Complete Baseline Aspen Location and Condition Forms Sites 1 & 2 (Years 1 & 2)	July 2013, 2014
Volunteer Recruitment and Training/ Materials (Years 1 & 2)	April-July 2013, 2014
Site surveying and mapping (Years 1 & 2)	June-July 2013, 2014
Final Site Workplans (Years 1 & 2)	July 2013, 2014
4 acres of enhanced aspen habitat work completed (photos)	
Signs completed and installed	September 2014
Outreach materials	September 2014
Monitoring/results report	July 2014, 2015
Six month progress reports (2)	October 2013, April 2014
Final Report	August 2015
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	August 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Management/Staff coordination, training, work days and materials development and installation	\$17,244.48
USFS Contract (planning, oversight, fieldwork)	\$6,717.00
Maps and Surveys	\$2,428.80
Travel	\$850.00
Signs Design	\$1,500.00
Signs Materials	\$4,520.00
Signs Installation	\$2,750.88
Equipment	\$500.00
Indirect**	
Signs- color drafts	\$50.00
Outreach materials	\$607.20
Performance Measures	\$2,165.24
Reporting	\$2,455.20
printing and materials	\$450.00
Administrative***	\$7,026.84
GRAND TOTAL	\$49,265.64

- * 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
 - USDA Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest
 - American Rivers, Inc.

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.

- Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior
- Acres of Land Improved or Restored