

**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: California Invasive Plant Council

Project Title: Planning High Priority Invasive Plant Management in Mixed Conifer Forests in the Sierra Nevada

Subregion: Regional

County: Multi-County

SNC Funding: \$58,593.00

Total Project Cost: \$65,000.00

Application Number: 613

Final Score: 74.50

PROJECT SCOPE

This planning project protects Sierra Nevada watersheds and mixed conifer forests by preparing high-priority invasive plant removal projects for implementation. With regional partners we will complete site assessments, environmental compliance, and management plans for key “rapid response” sites in Plumas and Tuolumne Counties. Collaborators will use the new CalWeedMapper tool to determine other top sites across the region and how they can be served by a similar planning approach.

Invasive plants can seriously alter mixed conifer forests and meadow habitats in the Sierra Nevada. Some plants alter undergrowth communities that support wildlife, some contribute to wildfire fuels, and others are strong fire-followers that can inhibit reforestation after wildfire. Controlling invasive plant populations before they spread is a cost-effective way to protect watershed and forest health. Some invasive plant species are just now moving into the region, and responding promptly is critical for avoiding large scale impacts.

This project engages regional stakeholders from Plumas and Tuolumne Counties, working through each county’s collaborative Weed Management Area (WMA) group. WMAs engage virtually all stakeholders involved in land management in each county, including the U.S. Forest Service, National Parks, UC Cooperative Extension, county agricultural departments, Caltrans, local Resource Conservation Districts, (RCDs), as well as private industry. These partners work together to stop the spread of new invasive plants that are moving into the Sierra Nevada. Recently established high-priority populations have been identified but cannot be controlled without additional

planning, primarily environmental compliance. These are cost-effective “early detection/rapid response” opportunities focused on small populations of known weeds with high potential for spread.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Complete site assessment for Plumas and Tuolumne sites	August-October 2012
Form project team for environmental compliance work	September 2012
Begin environmental compliance work	October 2012
Progress Report	February 2013
Final Report	June 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 30, 2013

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct Costs	\$44,150.00
Indirect Costs	\$6,800.00
Administrative Costs	\$7,643.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$58,593.00

PROJECT SUPPORT/OPPOSITION LETTERS

Support:

- Keith Mahan, Plumas County Agricultural Commissioner, Chair of Plumas-Sierra WMA
- Wendy West, Extension Agent, University of California Cooperative Extension Chair of El Dorado WMA
- Scott Oneto, Extension Agent, University of California Cooperative Extension, Chair of Central Sierra WMA (Tuolumne and Calaveras counties)
- Joanna Clines, Forest Botanist, Sierra National Forest, Chair of Sierra-San Joaquin WMA (Madera, Mariposa and Fresno counties)

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measures will include:

- The number of sites for which we complete planning.
- The number of acres that will be improved.
- The estimated number of acres protected by preventing spread of pioneer invasive plant populations.
- The number of additional sites identified to be addressed in future planning.
- The number of occurrence reports identified for field verification.