

ATTACHMENT A

**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: Pacific Forest Trust

Project Title: Campstool Ranch and Working Forest

Subregion: South Central

County: Calaveras

SNC Funding: \$ 350,000

Total Project Cost: \$4,063,005

Application Number: 489

Final Score: 90

PROJECT SCOPE

Pacific Forest Trust will acquire a conservation easement on the 2,168 acre Campstool Ranch and Working Forest located in Calaveras County, in the Upper Calaveras Watershed. The easement will permanently protect and enhance the property's working timberlands and oak woodlands, well-managed cattle ranching, historic sites and important watershed resources. These goals will be accomplished through easement terms that specifically meet the goals and mission of Proposition 84 and SNC. The SNC grant funds would be used solely towards the purchase price of the conservation easement under option with the landowner.

The easement will limit development and subdivision of this property. Subdivision often results in landscape and habitat fragmentation, if planned development occurs. Over the last 20 years, Calaveras County has experienced significant parcel fragmentation and a loss of its large ranches. As mentioned above, the Campstool Ranch is one of the largest private forests left in Calaveras County. The Ranch sits next to a subdivision and has 37 different adjacent landowners. On the other side, the Ranch is adjacent to a 643-acre reserve owned by the BLM. This easement would have landscape level benefits by permanently protecting the connectivity of wildlife habitat between the property and the BLM reserve and providing a buffer against encroaching residential development.

The easement will also limit road building and other land uses that can increase impermeable surfaces, concentrate flows and generate sediment in riparian areas. The landowners will dedicate the property's water rights to approved uses on the ranch and in-stream flows. These terms will provide protection to the eight springs and 5.8 miles of streams on the property, including 3 miles of the North Fork of the Calaveras River,

which flows into the New Hogan Reservoir and San Joaquin River Delta, providing drinking and irrigation water to Valley farmers. Public benefits from the project include improved water quality and preservation of habitat connectivity.

In terms of allowable development, one additional home may be constructed under the easement, with the remaining two residential envelopes being null and void. This will result in no more than four homes on the property; the three existing residences in addition to the one allowed on one-of-three prospective homesites. A small sawmill is authorized for use under the easement terms as well, which is consistent with the management planning that has been put in place in partnership with the landowner, NRCS, and the Trust..

The majority of the land covered by the terms of the easement is currently under a Williamson Act Contract, with only 18.8 acres not being encumbered under the Williamson Act. The Williamson Act has, in recent years, come under threat as a result of fiscal challenges at the State and County level, and therefore future protection is less than certain. The zoning of the subject property is identified as a mix of “Ag Preserve – Mineral Extraction,” “General Ag – Mineral Extraction,” and “Residential – Ag,” all of which are consistent with the Williamson Act Contracts which encumber the property.

The grantee intends to acquire matching funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board to cover the remaining cost of the conservation easement.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Sign Grant Agreement with SNC	December 2012
Submit Project Documentation (Easement, Baseline Report, Monitoring Plan, Preliminary Title Report) to SNC and Wildlife Conservation Board for Review/Approval	December 2012 – May 2012
Submit progress report to SNC	June 2013
Complete Escrow Instructions for Closing w/ SNC and WCB review and approval	December 2013
Submit progress report to SNC	December 2013
Close and Record Conservation Easement	March 2013
Submit Final Report to SNC	April 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 1, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$350,000
Indirect**	0
Administrative***	0
GRAND TOTAL	\$350,000

- * 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
 - Senator Ted Gaines
 - Assemblywoman Kristin Olsen
 - Calaveras County Supervisor Steve Wilensky
 - Thomas Tinsley, CalFire
 - Randy Metzger Jr., County Assessor (retired)
 - Matt McNicol, NRCS
 - Will Dorrell, Registered Professional Forester

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.

- Acres of land conserved (projected at 2,168 acres)
- Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protected (projected at 30,624 linear feet)

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**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: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Project Title: Create Restoration Plan for Cahoon Meadow, Sequoia National Park

Subregion: South

County: Tulare

SNC Funding: \$ 74,500

Total Project Cost: \$154,060

Application Number: 580

Final Score: 85.50

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will produce a plan and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance to restore wetland hydrology, vegetation, and ecosystem function in the 17 acre Cahoon Meadow. Cahoon Meadow is a wet meadow located at 7,350 feet elevation at the headwaters of Cahoon Creek, a tributary of the East Fork of the Kaweah River in Sequoia National Park containing severe erosion gullies. The meadow is located in designated wilderness, and alternatives will include both mechanized and non-mechanized treatments. Additional funds and in-kind services will be provided by the National Park Service.

The following are project objectives:

1. Collect topographic information and create a base map for restoration plans.
2. Assess the success of past (1940s and 1950s) efforts to restore similar erosion gullies using hand crews, to evaluate whether hand-work (check dams) is likely to succeed in meeting restoration goals.
3. Formulate a range of feasible restoration goals and alternatives.
4. Create concept plans for the restoration alternatives, including plan views, cross sections, and draft details of restoration structures.
5. Write a NEPA/CEQA document.

The following are project deliverables:

1. A base map and wetland delineation of Cahoon Meadow.
2. A trip report of the 2013 site visit.

3. A report assessing the long-term (50 year) results of non-mechanized meadow restoration techniques and discussing their potential application in Cahoon Meadow and Sierra Nevada wilderness meadows.
4. A written plan and Environmental Assessment to implement on-the-ground restoration of wetlands at Cahoon Meadow, allowing the park to move directly to implementation of the selected alternative.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Initiate project	December 1, 2012
Complete cooperative agreement with Colorado State University, David Cooper PI	January 31, 2013
Schedule 2013 site visit	March 31, 2013
Six-month progress report to SNC	June 30, 2013
Trip report of site visit, including preliminary identification and description of several restoration/stabilization goals & alternatives	September 15, 2013
Six-month progress report to SNC	December 31, 2013
Wetland Delineation Report	December 31, 2013
Six-month progress report to SNC	June 30, 2014
Begin scoping for EA	April 1, 2014
Search archives for relevant SAM Crew notes, maps, photos, and reports. Convert to digital format. Select meadows for revisits. Provide summary task report to park.	May 31, 2014
Draft Restoration Plan, including base map, several alternatives described with narratives, plan view of treatments, cross-sections of treatments, and conceptual details as necessary.	May 31, 2014
Begin writing EA	June 1, 2014
Complete site visits to relocate check dams & project sites and assess results of 1940s SAM Crew restoration treatments. Provide short trip report.	September 15, 2014
Six-month progress report to SNC	December 30, 2014
Final report assessing success of SAM Crew restoration treatments Provide recommendations.	December 31, 2014
Final Restoration Plan, incorporating results of SAM Crew site revisits	February 28, 2015
Six-month progress report to SNC	June 31, 2015
Release EA for public comment	June 1, 2015
Finding of No Significant Impact signed by Regional Director	December 31, 2015
Submit Final project completion report to SNC	January 31, 2016

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$70,950
Indirect**	\$3,550
Administrative***	0
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,500

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PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - David Cooper and Evan Wolf, Colorado State University

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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- Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation
- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

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**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: USDA Forest Service, El Dorado National Forest, Pacific Ranger District

Project Title: Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan

Subregion: Central

County: El Dorado

SNC Funding: \$ 75,000

Total Project Cost: \$125,000

Application Number: 622

Final Score: 84.25

PROJECT SCOPE

The Van Vleck Meadow Complex is located on the Pacific District, El Dorado National Forest just outside of Desolation Wilderness in El Dorado County. Van Vleck Meadow Complex occupies upper Montane habitats near the headwaters of the American River Watershed and feeds the Upper American River Hydroelectric Project. The area is designated critical summer deer fawning habitat and supports sensitive species, such as northern goshawk and habitat for willow flycatcher. The El Dorado National Forest has identified problem areas that are negatively contributing to watershed condition and has drafted an action plan for restoration.

This project will complete project design for priority restoration areas, complete necessary surveys collect baseline monitoring data to measure effectiveness of future restoration activities, and complete California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/ National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and required permitting for selected sites.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Develop site specific restoration project designs (including engineering surveys and design)	September 2012- July 2013
Initiate internal and interagency scoping (documents)	October 2012
Initiate public scoping on preliminary action. Collaborate with interested stakeholders (documentation).	July 2013
Complete needed surveys (botany, cultural resources, aquatics, wildlife, hydrology, engineering, etc)	June 2013- September 2013
Develop monitoring plan based on specific project design	July 2013
Collect baseline monitoring data	July-October 2013
Complete Resource Specialist Reports (Botanical and Wildlife Biological Evaluations, Archaeological Reconnaissance Reports, Riparian Conservation Objectives, Cumulative Watershed Effects, etc.) based on site-specific project designs.	July- October 2013
Prepare and issue appropriate NEPA/CEQA documentation and Decision document (i.e. Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Notice, or Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision).	September - November 2013
Six Month Progress Reports (two)	March 2013, September 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	January 1, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Management and Staff: Project Design	\$10,000
Project Staff: Surveys by Resource Specialists	\$12,000
Environmental Analysis	\$30,000
Monitoring Plan	\$5,000
Engineering Surveys	\$5,000
Project Materials and Supplies	\$1,000
Indirect**	
Baseline Monitoring	\$5,000
Performance Measure Reporting	\$2,000
Administrative***	\$5,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,000

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PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - CA State University, Sacramento- Department of Biological Sciences
 - CABY

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments
- Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation

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**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: U.S. Forest Service, Modoc National Forest

Project Title: Swanson Canyon HFR/Riparian Enhancement CE/EA

Subregion: North

County: Modoc

SNC Funding: \$73,999

Total Project Cost: 100,000

Application Number: 461

Final Score: 84

PROJECT SCOPE

The immediate goal of this project is to complete a NEPA analysis for the Swanson Canyon fuel reduction and riparian enhancement project. This project is located within the Pit River Watershed. It contains a seasonal stream that runs north to south and is flanked by steep canyon walls. The lower portion of the canyon contains a wet meadow that feeds into Rattlesnake Creek and eventually the Pit River.

The anticipated deliverable would be a categorical exclusion or environmental assessment under NEPA. The purpose of the project itself is to reduce hazardous fuels within the Swanson Canyon area, enhance riparian vegetation, and repair the adjacent road to eliminate sediment delivery into the creek. The project would occur on Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) lands. Reducing hazardous fuels in the Swanson Canyon area would, in turn, reduce the probability of a large-scale, destructive fire burning from Forest Service lands into the neighboring subdivision of Modoc Recreational Estates.

Similar faded fuel break is being implemented within the Modoc Recreational Estates and this project would augment those efforts on private lands.

This project is consistent with the goals of the Sage Steppe Ecosystem Restoration Strategy for the Modoc National Forest, the Modoc National Forest Plan, and the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Final SEIS. The U.S. Forest Service proposes removal of non-old-growth juniper, leaving the few existing ponderosa pine. The environmental analysis would also analyze actions to prune the limbs of the remaining trees to reduce flammability.

Cut wood would be removed from the riparian area for piling and burning; woodcutter-generated slash would likewise be piled and burned. Burn piles would consist of limbs and old slash (waste wood from cutting). The burn pile locations would later be seeded with native tobacco, which thrives in burned areas. Bole (trunk) wood from the treatment would be offered free to the public as firewood. Crews would use only hand labor (no heavy equipment).

After thinning the juniper, the riparian area would be seeded with Great Basin wild rye and other native plants to improve water retention of the soil. Rip rap would be installed on the road for side slope stabilization, aggregate (gravel) surfacing to direct runoff, contour of the road prism with side sloping, and reestablishing ditch lines to better direct runoff. Any trash (old tires, barrels, refrigerators, etc.) would be removed from the project area.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Archeological Surveys	September, 2012-September 2013
Botanical Surveys	June 2013-September 2012
Road Condition Surveys, Maintenance Evaluation	September 2012 – September 2013
Project Coordination	September 2012 – December 2013
Travel and Project Administration	September 2012 – December 2013
Progress Report	March 2013
Progress Report	September 2013
Final Progress Report	March 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct Funding Costs	\$55,400
Indirect	\$13,500
Administrative	\$5,099
GRAND TOTAL	\$73,999

PROJECT SUPPORT/OPPOSITION LETTERS

- Modoc Fire Safe Council

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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Number of People Reached

- Reach out to public through public involvement in the NEPA process
- Confer with Fire Safe Council, Modoc Estates Homeowner Association, (Alturas) River Center, and Pit River Tribe on plan design

Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada

- Forest employees' time
- River Center time and expertise
- CA Dept. of Corrections inmates' time and labor
- Indian youth time (Cedarville Rancheria)

Number and Type of Jobs Created

- Provide jobs for local, low-income youth

Number of New, Improved, or Preserved Economic Activities

- Preserve fishing quality on Rattlesnake Creek and Pit River, due to removal of upstream sediment loading.
- Increase value of homes in adjoining Modoc Estates by reducing severe-fire hazard.
- Make bole wood from thinning available to public as fuel wood.
- Increase recreational economic value of area by enhancing the creek, and repairing and maintaining the road.

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**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: Fall River Resource Conservation District

Project Title: Burney Gardens Restoration Planning Project

Subregion: North

County: Shasta

SNC Funding: \$75,000

Total Project Cost: \$202,500

Application Number: 553

Final Score: 83.83

PROJECT SCOPE

The project will assess, design, and prepare permits and compliance information to restore 2,000 acres of mostly encroached meadows and thin 1,000 acres of dense forest adjacent to the meadow so that future thinning and burning may be used to maintain the restoration. The meadow complex is co-owned by four landowners and consists of forested (i.e. encroached lodgepole) and non-forested meadow habitat. Lodgepole pine has colonized most of the meadow area, resulting in the loss of relic aspen stands or degradation of still existing stands. In the non-forested meadow area (approximately 100 acres), past management practices have resulted in entrenchment of the stream channel.

Within the forested areas in the floodplain, nearly all conifer trees will be identified for removal. The aspen stands are expected to increase in size after conifer treatment. Snags and other trees known to be important for wildlife will be left. These remaining “wildlife” trees, and aspen trees, along with a few willows, will provide important structural habitat for migratory and resident birds and foraging habitat and cover for other vertebrates (e.g. elk, black-tailed deer, Douglas squirrel).

A plan will be developed to restore the open degraded meadow habitat (20 acres) in a south meadow and 10 acres in a north meadow. The restoration goal within the open meadow areas will be to reconnect the stream channel to the floodplain. If possible, channel(s) that are greatly larger than historical dimensions will be filled, while those that are close to historical dimensions will be reveted with trees and gravel/rock material (referred to as riffle augmentation/revetment) so they mimic a natural shape. Surface flow will be re-directed into stable existing remnant channels within the floodplain so that water and sediment can be transported from the meadow and from the upper watershed

in a natural manner. Planned restoration of the channels will improve water quality, stop degradation of adjacent open meadow habitat (90 acres), and provide wet conditions suitable for a variety of vertebrate (e.g. greater sandhill crane), invertebrate (e.g. cryptic tadpole shrimp), and plant species (long-bearded star-tulip).

Much assessment and design planning has already been conducted using partner funds in the southern meadow area. However, the project has grown in scope and nature and requires additional funds, and no assessment and design plan has yet been developed for channel work in the northern meadow. This project has \$279,142 in secured or pending match from Shasta Resource Advisory Committee, Pacific Gas and Electric, Department of Conservation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and private timber companies/land owners.

A Timber Harvest Plan will be developed for four landowners, and Cal Fire has agreed to allow the open meadow restoration plan to be included in this document so the landowners do not have to go through a separate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) permitting process (e.g. Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration). This approach is unique and novel, and has the potential to streamline permitting and compliance processes. It is also consistent with CEQA law in that the project is not segmented solely to meet the existing conflicting processes (i.e. THP and non-timber restoration planning). Finally, both the timber and water quality divisions with Department of Fish and Game and Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWCQB) has agreed to this approach and are providing guidance on how to meet their permit requirements.

The eventual implementation cost associated with the proposed removal of lodgepole is expected to pay for itself through the sale of chip material.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Project Management/Coordination	November 2012 – September 2014
Grazing Management Plan	November 2012 – May 2013
Forest Management Plan	November 2012 – October 2013
North Meadow Assessment and Design	November 2012 – May 2013
THP Amendment	September 2013 – May 2014
Performance Measure Monitoring	November 2012 – September 2014
Outreach	November 2012 – September 2014
Six-Month Progress Reports	April 30, 2013; October 31, 2013; April 30, 2014
Final Report	October 31, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$49,000
Indirect**	\$16,400
Administrative***	\$9,600
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,000

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PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
 - Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee
 - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
 - Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

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.

- Percent of pre-project planning efforts resulting in project implementation
- Number of collaboratively developed plans and assessments

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water,
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Applicant: Sierra Streams Institute

Project Title: Hirschmann's Pond Healthy Forest Initiative

Subregion: Central

County: Nevada

SNC Funding: \$75,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$92,250.00

Application Number: 536

Final Score: 83

PROJECT SCOPE

The project will complete a Land Management Plan, and additional necessary planning, assessment, CEQA documentation and permitting to implement a brush and ladder-fuels reduction project on 36.33 acres at Hirschman's Pond.

Hirschman's Pond was created as a result of extensive hydraulic mining in the 19th century. Located just across Hwy 49 from downtown Nevada City, today it is a scenic and peaceful forested retreat for area residents and a haven for wildlife. The city purchased the land around and including the pond in 2004-2007 in order to preserve it for recreational purposes in perpetuity. A trail system funded through California State Parks and Recreation has been developed in the area. The property is infested with non-native plants, primarily Scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry. These non-native plants greatly increase the fire danger and their presence is contrary to the objectives of the city for management of the property, as stated in the city's Hirschmans Pond Vision and Planning Study completed in 2010. The city's long term goal is complete removal of all non-native vegetation from the site and replanting with native vegetation, in order to improve habitat for native wildlife and reduce fire risk.

Maintaining a fire safe forest in the Hirschman's Pond area will also prevent potential water quality impacts to nearby Woods Ravine, a tributary of the Deer Creek Watershed, drinking water source to Nevada City, by preventing erosion that ensues after catastrophic fires.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Finalized workplan and budget	September 2012
Finalized subcontracts/grants	October 2012
Finalized Report of Existing Data	December 2012
Reports to Nevada City City Council (3)	March 2013, November 2013, July 2014
Final Survey and Assessment Report	July 2013
Final Land Management Plan	December 2013
CEQA Documentation Completed	March 2014
Permits Secured	June 2014
Six Month Progress Reports (3)	March 2013, September 2013, March 2014
Final Report	August 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	August 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Staff (management, data collection, assessments, plan development)	\$37,000.00
Project Contractor: (City of NC plan development)	\$3,600.00
CEQA and Permitting	\$25,000.00
Indirect**	
Outreach Materials	\$1,200.00
Administrative***	
Overhead	\$8,200.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,000.00

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PROJECT LETTERS

- Support
 - City of Nevada City
 - Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
 - Bear Yuba Land Trust

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

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**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water,
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Applicant: Tulare County Resource Conservation District and
Sequoia Fire Safe Council

Project Title: Mountain Home Fuel Load Reduction Project

Subregion: South

County: Tulare

SNC Funding: \$350,000

Total Project Cost: \$370,000

Application Number: 644

Final Score: 82.50

PROJECT SCOPE

Demonstration State Forests are managed by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for the purpose of providing opportunities to conduct research, demonstration, and education on sustainable forestry practices. State forests are used for experimentation to determine the economic feasibility of reforestation, and to demonstrate the productive and economic possibilities of good forest practices toward maintaining forest crop land in a productive condition. While these forests are managed to provide research and demonstration projects, they continue to provide public recreation opportunities, fish and wildlife habitat, and watershed protection.

Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest (MHDSF) is located in Tulare County in the Southern Sierra Nevada range, 22 miles east of Porterville, California. It is unique among the eight Demonstration State Forests in that it contains old growth giant sequoia groves and individual trees. Old growth giant sequoias are protected from harvest. Recreation is the primary land use on Mountain Home. The primary objectives of Mountain Home management is to protect old growth giant sequoia trees, recruit replacement old growth trees from second growth, support recreation, practice sustainable forestry and conduct innovative demonstrations, experiments, and education in forest management.

There are seventeen areas within the bounds of MHDSF that have been identified for fuel treatment by means of mechanical mastication. They range in size from 20 acres to 185 acres. Crews will utilize mastication equipment on 310 acres to modify fuels. Small biological islands shall be retained within the treated areas to provide for species

diversity, thermal cover and aesthetics. In the treatment areas, at least 75 percent of the brush and downed material will be treated. Conifers that are not of merchantable size (generally less than 12" DBH) will be thinned to a variable spacing of 12 to 25 feet, depending on the species. Untreated areas shall include rock outcroppings, over steepened ground, biologic islands, and prohibited areas. The resulting treated material will be left as is or later scheduled for broadcast burning. Other areas proposed for mastication include strategic fuel break areas, infrastructure, and access routes that provide for ingress and egress. This project is considered the hub of most fuel break projects in Tulare County because it will connect with the Rancheria Fuel Break and the Happy Camp Fuel Break.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Treat 60 acres of vegetation	June 1, 2013 – August 1, 2013
Six-month progress report to SNC	December 31, 2013
Six-month progress report to SNC	June 30, 2014
Treat 250 acres of vegetation	June 1, 2014 – December 30, 2014
Project completion/final report	December 31, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$328,000
Indirect**	\$6,000
Administrative***	\$16,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$350,000

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PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPISTION

- Support
 - Sequoia Fire Safe Council
 - Cal Fire
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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.

- Acres of land improved or restored
- Number and types of jobs created
- Resources Leveraged

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**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: City of Alturas

Project Title: Pre-Engineering Study/ Biomass Heating

Subregion: North

County: Modoc

SNC Funding: \$75,000

Total Project Cost: \$81,800

Application Number: 579

Final Score: 82

PROJECT SCOPE

The project would provide a pre-engineering study for a biomass-fueled district heating system in support of the Forest Health Sage Steppe restoration project on the National Forest to include: 1) A preliminary design of the biomass heat generation facility for district wide heating, 2) A preliminary design of a heating district distribution system with utilization of existing infrastructure, 3) A fuel cost comparison study for customer conversion, 4) Design alternatives to incorporate the use of combined biomass heat and power generation and existing geothermal wells to augment the district heating system, and 5) Identification of overall project needs for phased development: financing requirements for construction and operation, project schedule requirements, permits and licenses, safety plans, development of supplier and customer contracts, recommended ownership and management structure, initial operation and management plan requirements.

Local utilization of biomass is a key strategy in the Modoc Forest Collaborative Landscape Restoration Project Proposal for implementation of the Sage Steppe Project. (see Letters of Support BLM/USFS). The Modoc Forest and the Modoc area Bureau of Land Management and local and regional collaborators completed a nine-year planning process (FEIS) for juniper management and habitat improvement on the four million acre Sage Steppe ecosystem of dry coniferous forest lands, juniper woodlands, and sage steppe habitat. Key habitat for the sage grouse, degraded by an incursion of juniper, is currently under threat of high intensity fire. Approximately 200,000 acres of the dry forest within the Modoc National Forest project area are at significant risk of volume loss due to pests and disease over the next 15 years. (FEIS) Forest thinning, juniper removal, and fuels reduction are key forest health strategies identified in the FEIS.

The local biomass working group identified biomass thermal as the most accessible use of forest biomass in the near term. This project strategically provides the foundation of a campus for in-county energy production, and value-added processing. The build-out plan includes clustered development on the heating facility site to include combined heat and power generation, densified wood products (pellets and bricks), and other value-added products as appropriate.

Over stocked forest stands have decreased water yield, impacting flows and fisheries in both the Klamath and Sacramento drainages and into the great Basin. There is a reduction in hydrologic values due to reduction of ground cover (shrubs and grasses) and increases in erosion caused by increased juniper density. Some of the streams in the project area are impaired by excess sediment and runoff that cause physical stream channel changes, which in turn increase water temperature and decrease fish habitat. (FEIS) Juniper reduction is a key strategy to improve water quality and quantity. Having an economically feasible use of the biomass to be removed will allow more area to be treated, contributing to environmental, economic and social well-being of the community.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Prepare Solicitation for consultant engineer	September 2012
Select consultant engineer	October 2012
Review engineer report/recommendations	April 2013
Six Month Progress Report	April 2013
Present to City Council with recommendations	June 2013
Initiate Phase II	August 2013
Six Month Progress Report	October 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	December 2013

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Project Management Costs	\$ 7,500
Pre-Engineering Study	\$51,500
Reports/ Public Outreach	\$6,300
Administrative Costs	\$9,700
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,000

PROJECT SUPPORT/OPPOSITION LETTERS

- Modoc National Forest
- Modoc Area Bureau of Land Management
- Local business- Baird
- Local business-Niles Hotel
- County of Modoc
- Modoc Land Use Committee
- Modoc Transportation Agency
- The Watershed Center

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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.

Performance Measures—Key Performance Measure

Percent of pre-project or planning effort resulting in plan implementation.

Data: Progress reported annually for three years following completion of grant.

Additional performance measures one to three years after project completion

1. Kilowatt equivalent of renewable energy developed and produced

Data: Engineering data from schematics

Billing Data from City of Alturas to agencies and private property owners

2. Resources leveraged

Data: Cash and in-kind collected by project manager

Financial agreements for construction

Biomass delivery contract dollar amount

3. Number and type of jobs created

Data: Employee roster from City of Alturas

Tracking by private businesses

Extrapolation based upon biomass delivery contracts to district heating facility

4. Number and value of new, improved, or preserved economic activities

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**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: USDA/USFS Stanislaus National Forest – Calaveras
Ranger District

Project Title: ACCG Collaborative Project: West Calaveras Plantation
Thinning National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Subregion: South Central

County: Calaveras

SNC Funding: \$ 74,975

Total Project Cost: \$103,424

Application Number: 630

Final Score: 81.75

PROJECT SCOPE

This project area is approximately 550 acres of plantations in the Western Calaveras Ranger District in the Stanislaus National Forest. This pre-project activity will produce National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance needed to prepare a treatment plan that will result in a specific project (West Calaveras Plantation Thinning) on National Forest Land. The applicant will also implement this project so as to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as part of its involvement with the Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG) collaborative. As feasible, these activities will be done in a way that is consistent with principles of the ACCG collaborative partnership's All-Lands, triple-bottom-line strategy addressing environmental, social and economic dimensions.

This project will move plantations and watershed conditions in the project area towards desired resource conditions. Plantations in the project area are overstocked and roads in the project area are hydrologically connected with drainage, runoff, and erosion contributing to sediment loading. The high stocking levels in the plantations in the project area are contributing to increased tree stress due to inter tree competition for moisture and nutrients, resulting in conditions that increase the susceptibility of bark beetle infestations and other pathogens.

The West Calaveras Plantation Thinning Project area is within the area considered in the ACCG Cornerstone Project. Management goals identified in the ACCG Cornerstone

Project for ecosystem restoration that apply to the West Calaveras Plantation Thinning Project include:

- Reduce the risk of uncharacteristic fire and threat of wildland fire;
- Restore hydrologic processes in watersheds, meadows and streams to proper functioning condition; and
- Restore forest structure, ecological processes, and function by creating more resilient vegetation conditions.

The objectives for the West Calaveras Plantation Thinning Project are as follows:

- Enhance the general health of plantations by reducing susceptibility to insect, diseases, and drought related mortality by improving and promoting stand and individual tree growth and vigor.
- Reduce future fire intensity and severity by reducing surface fuels, increasing the height to canopy, decreasing crown density, and retaining large, fire resistant tree species.
- Improve watershed conditions, water quality and riparian and hardwood habitats by reducing the amount of sediment from the road system delivered into streams and special aquatic features.
- Maintain or restore the hydrologic, geomorphic, and biological characteristics of special aquatic features (i.e. springs, seeps, and meadows).

This project leverages a total of \$28,449 in matching funds and in-kind services from the USDA/USFS Stanislaus National Forest.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Resource Field Surveys	May 2013
IDT meetings to develop proposed action	July - August 2013
Progress Report	November 2013
Progress Report	May 2014
Resource Field Surveys	May 2014
Public Scoping	June 2014
Progress Report (including performance measures)	November 2014
Environmental Assessment Public Comment	September 2014
Decision Notice/FONSI	January 2015
Final Report (including performance measures)	March 2015
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 1, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$68,895
Indirect**	\$ 4,800
Administrative***	\$ 1,280
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,975

* 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
 - Amador Calaveras Consensus Group

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.

- Number of collaboratively developed plans and assessments

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**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: Yosemite-Sequoia Resource Conservation and
Development Council

Project Title: The North Fork Community - Scale Biomass Project

Subregion: South

County: Madera

SNC Funding: \$ 70,049

Total Project Cost: \$111,082

Application Number: 565

Final Score: 81.50

PROJECT SCOPE

This project is located on the site of a former lumber mill zoned for heavy industry in the town of North Fork, just south of Bass Lake in Madera County. Required infrastructure is in place. The facility is next to a recycled lumber operation and adjacent to the Sierra National Forest where fuel will be removed, within the Upper Joaquin River and Fresno River Watersheds. This project completes major pre-development tasks allowing for the financing and construction of a small scale (1 MW) combined heat and power bioenergy facility on the North Fork Mill Site. This will lead to implementation of a clean energy facility project which provides an economic value to biomass removed from forests for restoration purposes, serving as a model for community-scale biomass in the Sierras. Phase I - feasibility analysis – has been completed, as has an Memorandum of Understanding with a bioenergy developer. This project will help move the project through Phase II – The Design and Permitting/ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Phase and will fulfill the pre-requisites to move into Phase III – construction and deployment.

The overall focus is to complete CEQA requirements, with the added advantage that the write-ups in the initial study will be targeted to be maximally useful for any further permitting needs. The proposed scope of work and activities include the completion of the initial study for the CEQA process, including utilizing the initial study for other permitting needs; and conducting a community awareness campaign geared to increase community knowledge base of such facilities. This will include hosting two public information meetings and publishing two news articles.

Development of infrastructure that utilizes and provides economic value for woody biomass is a vital element of the sustainable protection of watersheds, forests and other natural resources. Promoting such restoration work meets SNC's goals of reducing the risk of wildfires, protecting and improving water and air quality, and conserving the Region's physical resources. In addition, it addresses the SNC's triple-bottom-line by supporting economic, job-generating activities in North Fork, a low-income community that has suffered from economic dislocation due to the closure of its timber mill. This economic use of biomass was recognized as important in the recent SNC staffed Willow Creek Collaborative Forest Planning process. In addition to preventing catastrophic wildfire, fuel reduction removes excessive fuels resulting in less intense managed fires. Low intensity beneficial fires remove natural fuels, restore nutrients to soils and produce small, natural openings that allow for vegetative undergrowth, resulting in increased forest health, diversity and habitat.

This project leverages \$41,033 in matching funding and in-kind support from the Yosemite-Sequoia RC&D, Reliable Renewables, TSS Consultants and the North Fork Community Development Council.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Communications and community support - Negotiation with County completed	December 2012 – April 2013
Stakeholder informational meeting - Public Meeting #1	April 2013
CEQA process - Project Description Completed	April– June 2013
Submit 6 Month Report to SNC	June 2013
CEQA Process - Environmental Checklist Disciplines completed	June –August 2013
Stakeholder informational meeting - Public Meeting #2	September 2013
At least 2 Newspaper articles published	December 2012- November 2013
CEQA process management Project management and site visits completed	December 2012- November 2013
Response to initial study comments/Completion of CEQA	July-October 2013
Submit SNC Final report, including final studies results and CEQA documents	November 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	January 1, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$60,912
Indirect**	\$3,046
Administrative***	\$6,091
GRAND TOTAL	\$70,049

- * 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.
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PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - North Fork Community Development Council
 - Bass Lake Ranger District – U.S. Forest Service
 - TSS Consultants
 - California Senator, Berryhill
 - North Fork Chamber of Commerce
 - Reliable Renewable - Vendor

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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- Measurable changes in knowledge or behavior

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**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: Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council

Project Title: White Sulphur Springs Ranch Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Subregion: North Central

County: Plumas

SNC Funding: \$20,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$20,000.00

Application Number: 552

Final Score: 79.50

PROJECT SCOPE

The Mohawk Valley Stewardship Council (MVSC) will complete a plan to implement Phase I of a Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) project, which will be designed to treat fuels on approximately 40 acres of mixed conifer forests at White Sulphur Springs Ranch (WSSR) and adjacent public lands. The WSSR lies at the headwaters of the Middle Fork Feather River watershed, within the Sulphur Creek sub-watershed. The Feather River watershed is located in California's northern Sierra Nevada and encompasses a broad variety of terrain, climate, historic use, and flora and fauna. The Feather River watershed has long been recognized for its recreational and aesthetic values, as well as its water resource. The anticipated high public use of WSSR for recreational purposes, coupled with its proximity to public and private wild lands and rural residential areas, results in a great need to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfire. WSSR has had no fuels treatment or thinning since the property was logged around the turn of the century.

The planning grant will allow the MVSC to develop a plan to reduce the risk and impacts of large, damaging fires and to help restore healthy forest ecosystems at WSSR. WSSR backs up to Plumas NF lands that have had some recent fuels treatments (hand work and piling). This project would complement this work as well as projects completed near-by on private lands by the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (near Whitehawk) to create a more contiguous land base and change expected fire behavior from fires that may remove the entire forest canopy to conditions where mostly surface fuels burn, reducing stand damage and spotting potential. MVSC's efforts to reduce fire occurrence and intensity would have a direct benefit to public lands and the community

of Mohawk Valley. By improving forest conditions at WSSR, the public can continue to enjoy this property as a recreation and cultural center with reduced risk of catastrophic fire.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Grant Administration	September 2012 - December 2014
6-month Progress Reports	March 2013
Resource Professional Services	September 2012 - September 2013
Monitoring	June 2012 - September 2013
Public Outreach	June 2013 - December 2014
Project Completion	December 2014
Final Report	December 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	January 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct Costs	\$13,500.00
Indirect Costs	\$4,000.00
Administrative Costs	\$2,500.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$20,000.00

PROJECT SUPPORT/OPPOSITION LETTERS

- Plumas County BOS
- Plumas County Museum Assoc.
- Rotary Club of Portola
- Mohawk Meadows Owners Assoc.
- WhiteHawk Ranch Homeowners Assoc.
- Valley Ranch Homeowners Assoc.
- Plumas County Fire Safe Council

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.

1. Number and Type of Jobs Created

This project is estimated to create about 2 FTE's for resource professionals to conduct the necessary outreach, obtain agreements, develop treatment prescriptions, prepare the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption/CEQA, conduct surveys, and complete grant reporting. Implementation of Phase II may generate about 2.9 FTE's from forest products, depending on the amount of forest products which can be recovered from the final project.

2. Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

This project is expected to create the following:

- A Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Plan developed by resource professionals in collaboration with Plumas County Fire Safe Council, MVSC volunteers, adjacent landowners including the U.S. Forest Service, Cal Fire or other resource management agencies, as appropriate;
- Approvals by Cal Fire;
- A Hazardous Fuel Reduction Prospectus identifying treatment methods and standards for implementation. This prospectus will be used in soliciting HFR contractors in the future;
- Establishment of pre-treatment monitoring plots and the collection of pertinent stand information such as tree stocking levels, surface fuel loadings, expected fire behavior, and photos.

3. Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation

Completion of this project will allow MVSC to seek additional funding for on-the-ground implementation of the needed Hazardous Fuel Reduction work at WSSR. One hundred percent of the proposed planning funds/effort will result in project implementation.

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**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: U.S. Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest, Pacific Ranger District

Project Title: Bloody Run Subwatershed Forest Health Improvement Project

Subregion: Central

County: Nevada, Sierra

SNC Funding: \$74,326.53

Total Project Cost: \$176,558.68

Application Number: 503

Final Score: 78.25

PROJECT SCOPE

This project is located on the Tahoe National Forest northeast of Nevada City and east of Malakoff Diggins State Park, within the South Yuba River watershed. The project will complete necessary resource surveys and preparation of a NEPA environmental analysis to implement vegetative treatments on approximately 851 acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands.

Project goals include reduction of wildfire risk on 851 acres, improved forest health through thinning and other fuel reduction activities, improved habitat conditions, and treatments to eliminate Scotchbroom on 10 acres. An additional goal is to improve the resilience of the forest so it is better adapted to impacts from predicted climate change. Forest health will be promoted by improving the health of trees by thinning, fuel reduction, invasive weed removal, and selection of hardwoods and other native trees as leave trees.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Project initiation letter	August 2012
Interdisciplinary team (IDT) meeting to develop draft project description and proposed action.	September 2012
Public Scoping	November 2012
Publish project in Statement of Proposed Actions (SOPA)	November 2012

IDT meeting to go over scoping comments and develop alternatives	December 2012
Archaeology surveys	November 2012
Completion of biological evaluations for wildlife and rare plants	January 2013
Completion of weed risk assessment	January 2013
IDT meeting to review proposed mitigations including best management practices	March 2013
Publish EA	April 2013
Final decision	May 2013
Six month progress reports (1)	January 2013
Final Report/Final Payment Request	May 2013

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Management/Staff- NEPA	\$40,664.38
Project Management/Staff- Layout/Cruise and Marking	\$31,887.15
Monitoring- Bio/Arch/Hydro	\$1,775.00
Administrative***	
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,326.53

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*** 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

N/A

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.

- Linear Feet of Stream Bank Protected
- Acres of Land Improved or Restored
- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

**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:	Tehama County Resource Conservation District
Project Title:	Tramway Road/A-Line Road Shaded Fuel break CEQA Environmental Analysis Project
Subregion:	North-Central
County:	Tehama
SNC Funding:	\$23,550
Total Project Cost:	\$23,550
Application Number:	460
Final Score:	77.75

PROJECT SCOPE

The Tramway Road / A-Line Road Shaded Fuel Break California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Analysis Project will provide environmental analysis leading to a Notice of Determination in preparation of fuels reduction work along a 10 mile segment of county and private timberland roads in Tehama County. This analysis will be described and discussed in a CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document (IS/MND) prepared by the TCRCD who will act as the project's lead agency. Project work to be analyzed in the IS/MND will entail cutting and chipping or piling and burning mixed confer species 8"DBH and under along with related understory vegetation to 100' on both sides of the roadway. The vegetation treatments conducted during initial project work will be maintained through the use of an appropriate herbicide licensed for use within forested landscape.

The project site is contained within the Tehama East Community Wildfire Protection Plan developed between the Tehama County RCD and Tehama-Glenn Fire Safe Council. The project ties into the soon to be completed C-Line Shaded Fuel Break which is being developed cooperatively between Cal Fire and Sierra Pacific Industries. Combined, the two ridge top fuel breaks will provide approximately 22 miles of fire protection to the Antelope Creek and Battle Creek Watersheds.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Consultations with responsible agencies for CEQA scoping	December 2012 – January 2013
Obtain access agreements from landowners in project area	December 2012 – February 2013
Community meeting and newspaper request for comments	January 2013
Contracts with required specialists (biological, archeological) for the Initial Study leading to a Mitigated Negative Declaration	February 2013
Progress Report	April 2013
Prepare CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration	January 2013 – July 2013
Preparation of an Adoption Resolution for ratification by the Tehama County RCD Board of Directors	July 2013
Prepare and post Notice of Determination	August 2013
Prepare and submit Final Report	September 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 30, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$18,639
Indirect**	\$1,840
Administrative***	\$3,071
GRAND TOTAL	\$23,550

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*** 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
 - Sierra Pacific Industries
 - Turner Ranch
 - O'Sullivan Cattle Company
 - Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy
 - Cal Fire – Tehama-Glenn Unit
 - California Department of Fish and Game

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.

- Percent of pre-project planning efforts resulting in project implementation

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**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: Sierra Streams Institute

Project Title: Lower Deer Creek Healthy Revegetation Project

Subregion: Central

County: Nevada

SNC Funding: \$112,932

Total Project Cost: \$117,683

Application Number: 533

Final Score: 77.50

PROJECT SCOPE

The project will remove non-native plant species and revegetate with natives in 5 critical acres of meadow, riparian and upland habitat in the Deer Creek Watershed. The project will also implement a monitoring program that includes pre- mid- and post-project hydrological, biological, physical, and chemical monitoring and reporting within, upstream and downstream of the project sites.

The project site is located on private land at the confluence of Deer and Squirrel Creeks in Nevada County, approximately 2 miles downstream of the township of Lake Wildwood. Habitat features at the site include meadow, chaparral and mixed oak/pine woodland which are severely impacted by non-native invasive vegetation, especially Yellow Star thistle and Scotch broom. This land includes the only meadow in the lower watershed.

This project will: 1) Preserve mixed conifer forest health; 2) Restore native vegetative communities in a degraded meadow; 3) Reduce the fire risk for the communities of Penn Valley, Smartsville, and Lake Wildwood; 4) Improve water quality in Lower Deer Creek; 5) Increase carbon sequestration capacity by increasing plant biomass; 6) Increase habitat diversity to increase resilience to climate change and development pressures.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Finalized workplan and budget	September 2012
Monitoring Plan	February 2013
Revegetation Plan	July 2013
Removal of invasive plants; revegetation (photo points)	January 2013-July 2014
Monitoring and Assessment Report	July 2015
Six Month Progress Reports (5)	March 2013, September 2013, March 2014, September 2014, March 2015
Final Report	August 2015
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	August 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project Management: Staff	\$9,000
Complete Revegetation Plan	\$5,000
Contract work: invasive removal/revegetation	\$42,500
Indirect**	
Monitoring	\$30,000
Outreach and Education	\$3,000
Adaptive Management (follow-up activities)	\$10,000
Administrative***	\$13,432
GRAND TOTAL	\$112,932

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PROJECT LETTERS

Support (letters reference the “proposed Deer Creek Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Restoration Project”, and address “restoring native riparian vegetation”)

- William Sheatsly (project site landowner)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Forest Charter School
- Nevada County Sanitation District #1
- ENV-vision Development, Inc (Brian Bisnett)
- Yuba River Land and Water Conservancy (Shaun Garvey)
- Wild Moon Ranch (neighboring landowner)

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.

- Acres of Land Improved or Restored

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**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:	Calaveras Healthy Impact Products Solutions
Project Title:	Wilseyville Woody Biomass Utilization Product Yard Development Engineering Plans
Subregion:	South Central
County:	Calaveras
SNC Funding:	\$74,800
Total Project Cost:	\$78,310
Application Number:	638
Final Score:	77.33

PROJECT SCOPE

The Wilseyville Product Yard site is located on a closed and abandoned mill site adjacent to the Calaveras County Water District spray field to the northwest, and near the community of Wilseyville to the southeast. It has private ranchland to the west. The environmental setting lends itself well to revitalizing this site, which is centrally located to the operating area of the Mokelumne and Calaveras River Watersheds. This pre-project work will allow the development of key project engineering plans needed to develop the Wilseyville Woody Biomass Utilization Product Yard. This qualified civil engineering work includes the following:

- Encroachment permit plans for Blizzard Mine Road access for Calaveras County Public Works;
- Access plans for commercial driveway from Blizzard Mine Road to the product site;
- Water main line extension plan;
- Grading plan; and,
- A storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).

The cooperative product yard operation currently has local small businesses interested in developing opportunities on the site such as small scale biomass fueled power and heat cogeneration, small sawmill and wood kiln operation, firewood processing and kiln operation, hog fuel chipping for forest material and green waste, native plant green house and post and pole fabrication for both agricultural and architectural uses. The

outcome of this pre-project activity will be the engineered plans required for developing the woody biomass product yard site for such value added activities as those listed above.

This project is directly related to developing local economic infrastructure capacity for sustainable utilization of biomass and small diameter tree harvesting. The infrastructure is for a range of forest products in activities associated with improving forest health and watershed protection for the Mokelumne River and Calaveras River Watersheds, and for fire fuel reduction to protect local communities with a wildland urban interface. There is currently no local infrastructure for providing diverse, market based value added products using harvested biomass and small diameter trees to their highest and best value. The establishment of this infrastructure is critical to making needs forest health activities economically feasible.

The Calaveras Healthy Impact Products Solutions (CHIPS) is facilitating a cooperative community economic development project to create local sustainable biomass utilization. CHIPS is a member of the Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG) and its practices are consistent with cooperating in partnerships to realize the triple-bottom-line approach consistent with ACCG principles. This collaborative approach seeks a healthy equilibrium between the environment, community, and economy.

A total of \$3,510 is being leveraged in this project through matching funds and in-kind services from the project steering committee and the grantee.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Begin project	December 2012
Initial Steering Committee meeting with engineers for scoping dialogue	January 2013
Draft engineering plans ready for review by Steering Committee	February 2013
Steering Committee engineering plans review input to engineers	March 2013
Final civil engineering work completed and delivered	April 2013
Final project report delivered to Sierra Nevada Conservancy	May 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	August 1, 2013

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$72,000
Indirect**	0
Administrative***	\$2,800
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,800

* 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
 - Amador Calaveras Consensus Group
 - Cal Fire-Tuolumne/Calaveras Unit

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.

- Number of collaboratively developed plans or assessments
- Measurable changes in knowledge or behavior

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**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: El Dorado Irrigation District

Project Title: Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration

Subregion: Central, South Central and East

County: El Dorado, Alpine, Amador

SNC Funding: \$ 75,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$252,407.34

Application Number: 564

Final Score: 77.25

PROJECT SCOPE

The project outcome will be a NEPA document and decision that will include measures for fuels reduction and meadow restoration on 4,000 acres of forest land within the Caples Creek Watershed on the Eldorado National Forest. Deliverables will also include surveys, inventories, public involvement planning and scoping meetings and a wide range of specialist reports. This watershed has been identified as a restoration priority by earlier U.S. Forest Service (USFS) analysis. The watershed is 30 miles east of Placerville and is comprised of 92 percent USFS managed land including Schneider Camp Meadow, Jake Schneider Meadow, Government Meadows, Convict Meadow and a number of unnamed meadows.

It is a primary watershed for 110,000 residents and businesses in the Region and provides high quality back country recreation and fisheries. Efforts will focus on the reintroduction of fire and management of fire adapted ecosystems and meadow restoration. This project is a joint effort between the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and the Eldorado National Forest (ENF), with the ENF contributing additional funding and support to complete the NEPA process. EID and ENF will refine areas of the watershed for restoration, develop appropriate restoration actions for each area and identify an implementation schedule for actions determined in the NEPA decision.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Work Begins	November 2012
Survey/inventory	November 30, 2014
Progress Reports	April 28, 2013 October 31, 2013 April 29, 2014 October 31, 2014
Begin NEPA – Proposed Action, Purpose and Need	January 2, 2015
Public Involvement Plan and Scoping	March 31, 2015
6 Month Progress Report	April 29, 2015
Issues and Alternatives	May 31, 2015
Specialist Reports	July 31, 2015
6 Month Progress Report	October 31, 2015
NEPA Document Written	October 31, 2015
Comment Period and Analysis	January 30, 2016
Written Decision Document	May 31, 2016
Project Completed	June 30, 2016
Final Report	June 30, 2016

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$74,315.12
Indirect**	\$1,369.76
Administrative***	0
GRAND TOTAL	\$75,000.00

* 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
 - El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
 - El Dorado County Water Agency
 - El Dorado County Fire Safe Council
 - Sierra Forest Legacy

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.

- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

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**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.
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- *** 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

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**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: City of Portola

Project Title: Willow Creek Springs Hazardous Fuel Reduction

Subregion: North Central

County: Plumas

SNC Funding: \$263,230

Total Project Cost: \$263,230

Application Number: 454

Final Score: 76

PROJECT SCOPE

Approximately 168 acres of forest will receive hazardous fuel reduction treatments. The site is a Sierra mixed-conifer young growth forest with sagebrush and riparian inclusion habitat. The site is adjacent (on 3 sides) to the existing 3,100 acre U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Humbug Defensible Fuel Profile Zone (DFPZ). Treatment of the City parcels will directly benefit the efficacy of the USFS DFPZ.

Activities will target removal, modification, and rearrangement of concentrated surface fuels and ladder fuels. Treatment will use biomass removal/thinning from below, mechanical mastication, and hand thinning methods, including prescribed fire, in accordance with the CA Forest Practices Act and the Cal Fire permit. Treatment will include 100 acres of biomass removal, 25 acres of hand thinning and 30 acres of mastication. The project is estimated to produce biomass chips and sawlogs with the potential to generate revenue of up to \$30,600. Any revenue will go back into maintenance of the property.

The project will encourage watershed restoration. Willow Creek springs are on the project site and provide water to the City of Portola. Undeveloped springs flow to Willow Creek, a tributary to the Middle Fork of the Feather River and ultimately, Lake Oroville. Implementation of the project will reduce current issues of trespassing to cut firewood and improve the watershed and overall site.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Establish pre & post photo-monitoring points.	November 2012
Prepare and solicit Request for Proposals	November- December 2012
Retain contractors perform the necessary treatments following California Forest Practice Rules, required by the Board of Forestry.	January 2013
Treatment – Biomass harvesting on 100 acres with follow-up surface fuel treatment where needed.	January –December 2013
Treatment – Mechanical mastication or hand treatments on 55 acres.	January – December 2013
Six Month Progress Reports (three)	January 2013, June 2013, January 2014
Final Report	January 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 30, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$239,300
Indirect**	0
Administrative***	\$23,930
GRAND TOTAL	\$263,230

* 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.

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*** 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
 - Board of Supervisors, Plumas County
 - Plumas County Fire Safe Council
 - U.S. Forest Service, Beckwourth Ranger District, Plumas National Forest

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.

- Number of Jobs Created
- Kilowatts of Renewable Energy Production
- Acres of Land Improved

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water,
Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River
and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)**

Applicant: Placer County Resource Conservation District

Project Title: Gillis Hill Fuel Break

Subregion: Central

County: Placer

SNC Funding: \$17,528.00

Total Project Cost: \$72,278.00

Application Number: 513

Final Score: 75.83

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will conduct surveys and outreach necessary to complete California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation for an approximately 114 acre shaded fuel break on private lands between the North Fork of the American River and the communities of Colfax and Weimar. Steps to be completed include:

- Archaeological, nesting bird, rare plant, and threatened and endangered species surveys;
- Project area mapping and layout; and,
- Landowner outreach meetings.

Construction of this fuel break will help to protect portions of the North Fork of the American River watershed and homes of more than 7,000 residents. The fuel break would likewise reduce the spread of wildfire between adjacent Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation Lands, and connect an existing network of fuel breaks along the North Fork of the American River Canyon from Foresthill to Colfax.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Archaeological surveys and nesting bird surveys	October – November 2012
Nesting bird, rare plant, and threatened and endangered species surveys	April – May 2013
Progress Report	June 30, 2013
Field site visits to layout shaded fuel break, GPS work and mapping	May – June 2013
FINAL REPORT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	July 31, 2013

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$13,950
Indirect**	\$1,700
Administrative***	\$1,878
GRAND TOTAL	\$17,528

* 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
 - Placer County Resource Conservation District
 - Placer County Fire Safe Alliance
 - Bureau of Land Management Mother Lode Field Office
 - California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
 - Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 - Edwards Family Farm

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.

- Number of collaboratively developed plans and assessments
- Measureable changes in knowledge or behavior

**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: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Project Title: Control Velvetgrass (*Holcus lanatus*) in the Kern Canyon of Sequoia National Park and Sequoia National Forest

Subregion: South

County: Tulare

SNC Funding: \$237,638

Total Project Cost: \$647,738

Application Number: 521

Final Score: 75.33

PROJECT SCOPE

This is a joint effort between Sequoia National Park (NPS) and Sequoia National Forest (USFS), to successfully eradicate velvetgrass, a perennial grass, and native to Europe, on lands in the Kern Canyon area in designated wilderness. Large scale efforts were implemented from 2009-2011, and have been successful at reducing populations of velvetgrass. Montane meadows and riparian wetlands are rare vegetation types in Kern Canyon occupying less than 2 percent of the land area, and are critical for habitat protection, native species diversity, biomass, and productivity. Initial efforts to reduce velvetgrass using herbicides, tarping, and hand-pulling have been successful, but further funding is required to ensure that it does not again come to dominate the area. Combining continued treatment efforts with the prior three years of work they have conducted, will allow them to eradicate velvetgrass from the Kern Canyon. Eliminating velvetgrass from the Kern Canyon will also ease grazing restrictions in these areas and reduce the likelihood of further spread via human activity.

Crews will install tarping materials on large USFS velvetgrass infestations and use hand-pulling and herbicide application on other populations on NPS and USFS lands. Four seasonal NPS personnel will oversee work crews of 12 people to hand-pull velvetgrass and install tarping materials. Backcountry Horseman will provide pack support for all large work crews.

Crews will also monitor past control efforts to ensure that they are not re-infested and to assess and correct any potential erosion problems as native vegetation begins to re-establish. Monitoring infestations can continue on NPS lands, while focusing efforts on USFS lands that have only received a single year of treatment.

Results of this project will be shared with outside land managers by presentations at the California Invasive Plant Council meeting and potential preparation of a manuscript for publication on their proceedings. Results of the project will also be presented to the public through meetings with interested parties (i.e. Backcountry Horseman).

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Field Crews Conducting Restoration Activities	June-September 2013
Visitor Outreach Materials Posted	June-September 2013
Six-month Report to SNC	December 31, 2013
Public Presentation of Project Results (At least 1 per year)	October–December 2013
Field Crews Conducting Restoration Activities	June-September 2014
Six-month Report to SNC	June, 2014
Visitor Outreach Materials Posted	June-September 2014
Six-month Report to SNC	December 31, 2014
Public Presentation of Project Results (at least 1 per year)	October–December 2014
Field Crews Conducting Restoration Activities	June-September 2015
Six-month Report to SNC	June, 2015
Visitor Outreach Materials Posted	June-September 2015
Public Presentation of Project Results (At least 1 per year)	October–December 2015
Final Project Report to SNC	December 31, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$231,434
Indirect**	6,204
Administrative***	0
GRAND TOTAL	\$237,638

* 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
 - High Sierra Unit of the Backcountry Horsemen of California

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.

- Acres of Land Improved or Restored

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water,
Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and
Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)**

Applicant: Tehama County Resource Conservation District

Project Title: Childs Meadow Head Cut Repair Project

Subregion: North-Central

County: Tehama

SNC Funding: \$41,663

Total Project Cost: \$41,663

Application Number: 462

Final Score: 74.75

PROJECT SCOPE

The project area is located within the 1,272 acre Childs Meadows owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy (the acquisition was partially funded by the SNC), and is a key property in TNC's Lassen Foothills Project.

The Childs Meadow Head Cut Repair Project will develop an engineering solution that will stop head cutting and related erosion attributable to a small tributary of Gurnsey Creek at a location within Childs Meadow. This project will also eliminate a source of sediment into Deer Creek as Gurnsey Creek is a significant tributary to that stream. Deer Creek is a major tributary to the Sacramento River and provides significant anadromous fish habitat for the State and Federally listed Spring Run Chinook Salmon. The Childs Meadows area has also been found to contain colonies of the State Listed (endangered) Cascades Frog.

Tehama County RCD will contract for the services of an engineer who would prepare construction drawings and develop cost estimates for a structure that would stop head cutting and related erosion. Tehama County RCD will prepare necessary California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis and Notice of Determination for the project.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Finalize access agreement form The Nature Conservancy	December 2012
Develop RFP for engineering consulting services for repair design	December 2012
Select consultant to provide design services	January 2013
Consultant to provide geomorphologic analysis and hydrologic assessment of site, and conduct longitudinal profile survey	January 2013 – February 2013
Conduct public meeting to introduce headcut project and seek public input on environmental issues	February 2013
Consultant to produce headcut stabilization mitigation plan	March 2013
Consultant to describe Best Management Practices to minimize sedimentation in stream during repair	April 2013
Consultant to produce final design report/schematics	May 2013
TCRCD to consult with responsible agencies on CEQA scoping	January 2013 – February 2013
TCRCD to contract with required specialists (biological, archeological) for the Initial Study	March 2013 – May 2013
TCRCD to prepare CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration	January 2013 – July 2013
Progress Report	April 2013
TCRCD to prepare of an Adoption Resolution for ratification by the Tehama County RCD Board of Directors	August 2013
Prepare and post Notice of Determination	September 2013
Prepare and submit Final Report	October 2013
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 30, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$35,479
Indirect**	\$750
Administrative***	\$5,434
GRAND TOTAL	\$41,663

* 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/OPPISTION

- Support
 - The Nature Conservancy, Northern Central Valley Office
 - California Department of Fish and Game

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.

- Percent of pre-project planning efforts resulting in project implementation

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**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.

**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 Department of Parks and Recreation

Project Title: Calaveras Big Trees State Park Fuels Treatments & Prescribed Fire Management Plan

Subregion: South Central

County: Calaveras

SNC Funding: \$33,091.00

Total Project Cost: \$51,200.60

Application Number: 490

Final Score: 74.25

PROJECT SCOPE

The main deliverable of this project will be the development of a Fuels Treatments & Prescribed Fire Management Plan for the Calaveras Big Trees State Park (CBT). This plan will provide specific direction to the Natural Resources program at CBT relative to defining on-the-ground projects and their respective prescriptions. The plan will also establish overall resource management goals and provide analysis on program constraints and guidelines for implementation.

Prescriptions to be validated under the plan include mechanical and manual thinning of overstocked stands, application of prescribed fire, and limited commercial thinning in overstocked stands. These prescriptions will be applied in specific locations to be determined as part of the planning process.

The vision for the plan will be forest restoration while protecting natural resources, preserving biological diversity, promoting natural processes and restoring vegetation composition and structure to pre-settlement conditions.

The second deliverable under this project is a comprehensive California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document which will incorporate the specific sites for restoration stemming from the management plan and identify any impacts from the prescriptions that will be used.

The North Fork Stanislaus River, Big Trees Creek, Big Tree Creek and Beaver Creek are the four main hydrologic drainage systems that will benefit from implementation of the plan when complete.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Research Fuels Treatment Methods, Prepare Draft Plan, Arch Survey and Recommendations	November -December 2012
District Management Review of Draft	December 2, 2012 – February 2, 2013
Edit and Prepare Final Draft	February 2, 2013 - March 30, 2013
6 Month Progress Report	May 7, 2013
CEQA Review Process	June 1, 2013 – December 1, 2013
6 Month Progress Report	November 7, 2013
6 Month Progress Report	May 7, 2014
Final Report	August 7, 2014
Performance Measures Reporting	August 15, 2014 and August 15, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$26, 493
Indirect**	\$2,499
Administrative***	\$4,099
GRAND TOTAL	\$33,091

* 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 Letters
 - Marilyn Regan, Calaveras Big Trees Association
 - Merita Callaway, Calaveras County Supervisor District 3
 - Bertha Underhill, Greater Arnold Business Association

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.

- Number and Diversity of People Reached
- Percent of Pre-Project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation

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**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:	Butte County Fire Safe Council
Project Title:	Forest Health Chipper Program
Subregion:	North Central
County:	Butte
SNC Funding:	\$100,000
Total Project Cost:	\$110,000
Application Number:	480
Final Score:	72.75

PROJECT SCOPE

This project will provide on-site chipper service to landowners to assist them with disposal of material from their efforts to reduce hazardous fuels on their properties. The chipper program provides an alternative for homeowners to pile burning or hauling waste material to a landfill.

The program is available to the 23 communities at risk to wildfire within Butte County's major watersheds: Big Chico Creek, Little Chico Creek, Butte Creek, Cherokee, Upper Feather River and Lower Feather River/Honcut Watersheds. These communities have a total population of about 67,000 people.

Between 560 and 600 landowners will be served through agreements to conduct chipping on their properties, utilizing 70 days of chipping service yielding about 400 acres of treated land. The Butte County Fire Safe Council is providing \$10,000 in in-kind services to the grant.

The Forest Health Chipper Program is a critical tool for watershed protection that assists homeowners in reducing hazardous vegetation on their property thereby reducing the risk of intense wildfires in their communities and watersheds which could result in post-fire sedimentation into local streams, rivers, and lakes.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Contractor agreements prepared and signed	October 2012 – November 2013
Landowner requests compiled	October 2012 – November 2013
Volunteer training	October 2012 – November 2013
Chipping services provided	October 2012 – June 2014
Monitoring, tracking, and documentation	October 2012 – June 2014
Maintenance education	October 2012 – June 2014
Progress Reports	March 2013, Sep. 2013, March 2014
Final Report	September 2014
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	December 31, 2014

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$88,000
Indirect**	\$6,000
Administrative***	\$6,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$100,000

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*** 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/OPPISTION

- Support
 - Butte County Board of Supervisors Resolution
 - Jeremy Strait, Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist, Bureau of Land Management Redding Field Office
 - U.S. Forest Service, Plumas National Forest, Feather River Ranger District
 - Cal Fire/Butte County Fire Department
 - Butte County Office of Emergency Management
 - Butte County Air Quality Management District
 - Butte County Resource Conservation District
 - Paradise Irrigation District

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.

- Acres of Land Improved or Restored

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**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: Eastern Sierra Fire Safe Council

Project Title: Malum Ridge Healthy Forest and Watershed Protection Project

Subregion: South

County: Madera

SNC Funding: \$70,000

Total Project Cost: \$74,500

Application Number: 470

Final Score: 72.25

PROJECT SCOPE

Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council proposes to support the planning, coordination with residents and land owners, needed environmental documents such as California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), surveys and permits in preparation to implement the the Malum Ridge Healthy Forest and Watershed Protection site improvement project, a part of the Madera County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

The project area is considered a very high wildland fire risk in the Wildland Urban Interface along a major route for travel and is critical for evacuation safety and protection for both residents and recreational visitors. It covers a zone approximately five miles long, where Sierra National Forest and private lands form a checkerboard of land ownership from Malum Ridge Road (RD 274) east towards the South Fork of Willow Creek in the Sierra Nevada Foothills of Madera County. This area is just south of Bass Lake beginning at Browns Creek Ditch (flumes) and continues south between the North and South Forks of Willow Creek. The planning area includes Bass Lake and the 4WD trails on U.S Forest Service lands involving 30 percent of this project's footprint or 55 acres out of 182 acres.

The terrain is conducive to mechanical treatment utilizing hand crews with chain saws, wood chippers, and a masticator to mulch the woody biomass broadcasting it on the landscape. This will reduce regrowth and assist with maintaining a park-like look. Debris will be removed and rip rap utilized to provide erosion control.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Property permission forms signed	February 2013
Photo documentation	February 2013 – February 2015
Six-month report to SNC	June 2013
Completed Environmental Compliance CEQA Document-Negative Declaration NEPA Document Surveys Permits	July 2013 – July 2014
Six-month report to SNC	December 2013
Six-month report to SNC	June 2014
Six-month report to SNC	December 2014
Performance Measures	February 2015
Final Project Report to SNC	June 30, 2015

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$64,255
Indirect**	\$4,445
Administrative***	\$1,300
GRAND TOTAL	\$70,000

* 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.

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• PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - Central Sierra Watershed Committee

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

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- Number and Diversity of People Reached
- Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada
- Number and Type of Jobs Created
- Number and Value of New, Improved, or Preserved Economic Activities
- Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation