

ATTACHMENT B

**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 Forest Service, Georgetown Ranger District

**Project Title:** Blacksmith Ecological Restoration Project

**Subregion:** Central

**County:** Placer

**SNC Funding:** \$ 75,000

**Total Project Cost:** \$400,000

**Application Number:** 502

**Final Score:** 74

**PROJECT SCOPE**

This project will complete the necessary surveys and planning to develop appropriate treatment design for fuels reduction on approximately 6,000 acres in the Eldorado National Forest. The project area is located in Placer County, north of the Rubicon River and south of the Middle Fork American River; primarily on Ralston and Nevada Point ridges. Surveys and plans to be completed include:

- Project surveys (Wildlife, botany, fisheries, silviculture, soils, hydrology, and archaeology);
- Treatment area layout;
- Project design; and,
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis.

Completion of these plans and surveys will result in application of a variety of vegetation treatments in forest stands to reduce fire behavior, improve forest health and increase resilience of stands to the adverse affects of insects and disease, while improving conditions for wildlife and enhancing watershed conditions.

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Development of treatment prescriptions	May 2013 – October 2014
Survey for archaeological sites and prescription development	May 2013 – October 2014
Wildlife surveys for threatened, endangered, and sensitive species	May 2013 – August 2015

Progress report	July 31, 2013
Stand examinations for proposed treatment areas	July 2013 – October 2013
Stream surveys	October 2013 – November 2013
Soil surveys	October 2013 – October 2014
Project preparation/marketing	November 2013 – November 2015
Progress Report	December 31, 2013
Survey for threatened, endangered, and sensitive plant species	May 2014 – September 2015
Riparian conservation objectives assessment and design	May 2014 – July 2014
Project design/proposal Project scoping for NEPA	July 2014
Progress Report	July 31, 2014
Progress Report	December 31, 2014
Draft project reports for hydrology, fuels, silviculture, wildlife, archaeology, botany, and transportation	March 2015
Draft NEPA document	April 2015
Progress Report	July 31, 2015
Conditional waiver for timber harvest activities on USFS lands from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	November 2015
<b>FINAL REPORT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>	<b>March 1, 2016</b>

### PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$75,000
Indirect**	0
Administrative***	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>

\* Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year.

\*\* 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
  - Mason, Bruce, & Girard, Inc.
  - California Forestry 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 of collaboratively developed plans and assessments
- Percent of pre-project planning efforts resulting in project implementation

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# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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

**Project Title:** Blacksmith Ecological Restoration Project (SNC 502)

### Project Location – Specific:

The project is located in the Eldorado National Forest, north of the Rubicon River and south of the Middle Fork American River, approximately nine miles southeast of Foresthill and ten miles northeast of Georgetown, Placer County, California.

**Project Location – City:** Georgetown and Foresthill

**Project Location – County:** Placer

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

The Eldorado National Forest, Georgetown Ranger District is requesting \$75,000 in funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Proposition 84 Healthy Forests Grant Program to complete surveys and planning to develop appropriate treatment design for hazardous fuels reduction and riparian conservation. Project activities include completing data collection and field surveys, designing vegetation treatments to reduce crown fire potential, designing post-fire treatments to keep flame lengths at four feet or less, evaluating and designing appropriate treatment of riparian areas, developing silviculture prescriptions to support forest health, and preparing project-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation leading to NEPA and project approval. The purpose of this project is to gather the information necessary to identify appropriate fuel treatments and riparian conservation activities for the project area, to prepare environmental documents for NEPA compliance and obtain all necessary permits.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Eldorado National Forest, Georgetown Ranger District

### Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15306, "Information Collection"
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed Blacksmith Ecological Restoration Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306, Class 6, which permits basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project consists of data gathering and resource evaluation for the identification of appropriate treatment design for hazardous fuels reduction and riparian conservation, the preparation of technical documents for NEPA compliance and necessary permits. No significant adverse impacts to natural resources will occur as a result of the project.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Marji Feliz

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4679

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Executive Officer  
Jim Branham

Date Received for Filing at OPR:

*Revised 2005*

**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:** American River Conservancy

**Project Title:** Leek Springs Meadow Restoration- Baseline Monitoring, Assessment and Restoration Plan

**Subregion:** Central

**County:** El Dorado

**SNC Funding:** \$65,364

**Total Project Cost:** \$108,693

**Application Number:** 519

**Final Score:** 73.25

**PROJECT SCOPE**

This project will complete biological and hydrological site assessments and use remote-sensing data and historical aerial imagery to complete a conceptual restoration design plan, necessary permitting, and CEQA/NEPA documentation to implement the restoration of a high-elevation wet meadow system at Leek Springs in El Dorado County, California.

The project area is located at the headwaters of the North Fork Cosumnes River, located in El Dorado and Amador Counties and includes 614 square miles of forested land base that drains west from the crest of the central Sierra Nevada.

Preliminary site visits have identified areas of degradation, including an incised stream channel, the encroachment on the meadow by xeric vegetation types (pine and fir) and the disconnection of channel from the meadow floodplain, hindering the meadow's ability to function properly.

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
Convene Stakeholder Meeting; create MOU	October 2012
Base map	December 2012
Convene Stakeholder Management Meeting	July 2013
Conduct Biological Surveys (amphibians, mammals, birds) Collect BMI samples	August – September 2013
Convene a Technical Workshop	July 2014

Surface water model	September 2014
Ground water model	September 2014
Hydrology Report	September 2014
Design Workshop Conclusions Report	October 2014
Preliminary restoration plan	December 2014
CEQA Documentation	December 2014
NEPA Documentation (if required)	December 2014
Six Month Progress Reports (4)	March 2013, September 2013, March 2014, September 2014
Final Report	January 2015
<b>FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>	<b>January 2015</b>

### PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
<b>Direct*</b>	
Project Management and Coordination	\$13,735
Equipment: wildlife, groundwater and streamgage monitoring	\$5,500
Contract: aerial survey	\$5,500
Contract: GIS work	\$2,500
Contract: Biological Surveys	\$3,600
Contract: BMI collections and lab work	\$12,000
Contract: Engineering and Hydrology Model/ Planning Rpt Development	\$12,000
Contract: Preliminary Restoration Plan Development	\$3,000
Travel Expenses	\$1,650
Clerical Support/bookkeeper	\$840
<b>Indirect**</b>	
Printing	\$600
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$714
Performance Measures Reporting	\$540
Outreach materials	\$300
<b>Administrative***</b>	\$2,895
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,374</b>

\* Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year.

\*\* 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**

- CA Department of Fish and Game
- PRBO Conservation Science

## **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
- Percent of Pre-Project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation

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# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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

**Project Title:** Leek Springs Meadow Restoration – Baseline Monitoring, Assessment and Restoration Plan Project (SNC 519)

### Project Location – Specific:

The project is located at the headwaters of the North Fork Cosumnes River, surrounded by the Eldorado National Forest, eight miles west of Kit Carson and Silver Lake, 10 miles southwest of Kirkwood Mountain Resort, and 20 miles southeast of Pollock Pines, El Dorado County, California.

**Project Location – City:** Kit Carson

**Project Location – County:** El Dorado

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

The American River Conservancy is requesting \$65,374 in funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Proposition 84 Healthy Forests Grant Program to develop a management and monitoring plan, develop a conceptual restoration design plan, and complete environmental documentation and permitting necessary to protect, restore and enhance 160 acres owned by the Department of Fish and Game in Leek Springs Meadow, the headwaters of the North Fork of the Cosumnes River. The meadow has been degraded by past use, conifer encroachment and channel erosion. Project activities include conducting biological and hydrological surveys, habitat and hydrology assessments, and surface and groundwater modeling; developing a conceptual restoration design plan; preparing appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and possibly National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documents; and preparing necessary permit applications. The purpose of this project is to gather information and prepare technical documents for compliance with CEQA and NEPA, as necessary, and prepare technical documents needed to secure permit approvals.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** American River Conservancy

### Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption.** State type and section number: Section 15306, "Information Collection"
- Statutory Exemptions.** State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reasons why project is exempt:

The proposed Leek Springs Meadow Restoration – Baseline Monitoring, Assessment and Restoration Plan Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306, Class 6, which permits basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project consists of data gathering and resource evaluation for the preparation of conceptual restoration design plans, technical documents for CEQA compliance, and possibly NEPA compliance, and technical documents for necessary permits. No significant adverse impacts to natural resources will occur as a result of the project.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Marji Feliz

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4679

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Executive Officer

Jim Branham

Date Received for Filing at OPR:

*Revised 2005*

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

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

**Applicant:** Wolf Creek Community Alliance

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

**Subregion:** Central

**County:** Nevada

**SNC Funding:** \$74,900

**Total Project Cost:** \$78,650

**Application Number:** 523

**Final Score:** 73.50

**PROJECT SCOPE**

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

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

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

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

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

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

### PROJECT COSTS

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

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\*\*Indirect: Expenses involve ongoing operations, repair or maintenance costs, regardless of whether the repair or maintenance may last more than one year.

\*\*\*Administrative: Expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct and indirect costs.

## **PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION**

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

## **PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

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

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# Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research  
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 212  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

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

**Project Title:** Grass Valley (Maidu Meadow) Restoration, Riparian Enhancements South Fork Wolf Creek Project (SNC 523)

**Project Location – Specific:**

The project is located near the City of Grass Valley, adjacent to the former Empire Mine, within the Bear River Watershed, Nevada County, California.

**Project Location – City:** near Grass Valley

**Project Location – County:** Nevada

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

The Wolf Creek Community Alliance is requesting \$74,900 in funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s Proposition 84 Healthy Forests Grant Program to complete environmental site assessment and resource analyses to support environmental document preparation and permit applications needed for future restoration activities on 43 acres of State Park property in the Maidu Meadow and a stretch of South Fork Wolf Creek. Activities under this project include data collection, resource evaluation, and the preparation environmental studies. Specifically, the project would: a) obtain soils analysis; b) obtain a wetland delineation; c) conduct wildlife surveys; d) begin geomorphic analysis as part of a stream watershed study including disturbance history, current function, impairments and conditions, surveying of profile, cross section and flows, and opportunities/constraints for future projects; and e) obtain relevant permits. The purpose of this project is to provide essential baseline data and prepare environmental analyses prior to preparing environmental documents, securing permits and implementing future restoration/riparian enhancement activities.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Wolf Creek Community Alliance

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Sec 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15306, “Information Collection”

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The proposed Grass Valley (Maidu Meadow) Restoration, Riparian Enhancements South Fork Wolf Creek Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15306, Class 6, which permits basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. The project consists of data gathering and resource evaluation for the preparation of environmental studies in order to prepare necessary CEQA documents for approval and obtain all appropriate permits. No significant adverse impacts to natural resources will occur as a result of the project.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Marji Feliz

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4679

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Executive Officer  
Jim Branham

Date Received for Filing at OPR:

*Revised 2005*

**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:** Lake Valley Fire Protection District

**Project Title:** Mt. Ralston Community Defense Zone

**Subregion:** Central

**County:** El Dorado

**SNC Funding:** \$171,156

**Total Project Cost:** \$201,230

**Application Number:** 616

**Final Score:** 72.75

**PROJECT SCOPE**

The Mt. Ralston Community Defense Zone Project (DZP) will create a fuels-buffer between National Forest Service (NFS) land and privately owned residential properties. The 28-acre fuel thinning project, located on private land within the headwaters of the South Fork of the American River, is adjacent to the heavily traveled Highway 50 and within a high fire hazard severity zone. The project will thin dead, dying and diseased trees, understory ladder fuels, non-riparian brush and downed woody debris. Tree felling will be conducted by a hand crew with chainsaws. Slash is to be piled and burned in the spring or fall in accordance with an approved smoke management plan filed with El Dorado County Air Quality Management District. Where accessible, a truck pulled chipper or track chipper may broadcast cut materials on site. Biomass created will be utilized in area to protect soils from erosion. The residual stand shall primarily consist of the dominant and co-dominant Jeffrey pine, white fir, incense cedar western juniper and aspen.

A fire started within or outside the community could threaten lives, destroy homes and severely impact the forest and watershed. The DZP protects Tamarack Creek, a tributary to the American River and water source for the Mt. Ralston Property Owners water system. Overarching goals for this project are to restore the Mt. Ralston forest ecosystem and watershed.

This project:

- Protects private property, cultural, historic, biological and infrastructure resources from destruction by wildfire;

- Improves suppression capability and provides for firefighter safety in the event of a wildfire;
- Enhances existing individual efforts to protect property by creating a single fuel break;
- Provides a platform for future fire hazard reduction efforts;
- Complements U.S. Forest Service efforts to reduce hazardous fuels on National Forest Service lands; and ,
- Protects Tamarack Creek and surrounding watershed habitat values.

### PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE*
Complete access (tenure) agreements with property owners	December 2012
Complete final prescription, layout and design	January 013
Prepare project by marking tree, setting boundary flagging, WLPZ flagging and wildlife area protection measures	February 2013
Obtain necessary approvals and permits from CalFire	February 2013
Implementation of project by Angora Peak handcrew in accordance with forester's prescription, approvals and permits	Late summer or early fall of 2013
Slash burning in DPZ	Spring of 2014
Six month Progress Reports (2)	June 2013, December 2013
<b>Final Report</b>	<b>July 31, 2014</b>
<b>FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST</b>	<b>July 31, 2014</b>

\* *Timeline depends upon winter/spring access*

### PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
<b>Direct*</b>	0
Staff: Property owner agreements	\$2,880
Staff: Project boundaries, marking and flagging	\$3,888
RPF: Prescription and permitting	\$6,000
Labor: treatments	\$102,368
Equipment: treatments	\$10,100
Labor: burning	\$25,340
Equipment/fuel: burning	\$3,000
<b>Indirect**</b>	0
Implementation: monitoring	\$1,420
Publications, printing, PR	\$600
<b>Administrative***</b>	\$15,560
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$171,156</b>

- \* Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year.
- \*\* 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**

- None submitted

### **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 Diversity of People Reached

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

**Project Title:** Mount Ralston Community Defense Zone Project (SNC 616)

**Project Location – Specific:**

The project is located within the headwaters of the South Fork American River, adjacent to U.S. Highway 50, east of Twin Bridges, El Dorado County, California, Section 16 or Township 11 North Range 17 East.

**Project Location – City:** Twin Bridges

**Project Location – County:** El Dorado

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

The Lake Valley Fire Protection District is requesting \$171,156 in funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s Proposition 84 Healthy Forests Grant Program for fuel reduction treatment on 28 acres of private land adjacent to National Forest lands, bisected by Highway 50 and near the headwaters of the South Fork of the American River. This project includes fuel reduction by hand-thinning of dead, dying, and diseased trees six inches or less, understory ladder fuels, non-riparian brush, and downed woody debris within 100 feet of structures near Tamarack Creek. Tree felling will be conducted by a hand crew with chainsaws and the slash will be piled and left for spring or fall burning, in accordance with an approved smoke management plan filed with the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District. Where accessible, a truck-pulled chipper or track chipper may broadcast cut material on site. Best Management Practices (BMPs), erosion control measures, and monitoring are incorporated into the project to avoid impacts to any sensitive resources (i.e., biological or cultural). The purpose of the fuel reduction is to reduce the risk of high-intensity fire in the area, provide greater safety during fire events, complement U.S. Forest Service (USFS) fuel reduction in the area, and protect water quality in Tamarack Creek, a tributary for the headwaters of the South Fork American River.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Lake Valley Fire Protection District

**Exempt Status:** *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15304, “Minor Alterations to Land”
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

The proposed Mount Ralston Community Defense Zone Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4, which permits minor public or private alterations in the condition of the land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes. The project consists of minor land alterations (hand thinning vegetation and fuel reduction activities that will protect structures) to reduce the risk of high-intensity forest fires and to protect the health and function of the watershed. No significant adverse impacts to natural resources will occur as a result of the project.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Marji Feliz

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4679

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: Executive Officer

Jim Branham

Date Received for Filing at OPR:

*Revised 2005*