

**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: GEORGETOWN DIVIDE RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Project Title: FINNON LAKE RESTORATION AND
HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Application Number: SNC 080139

PROJECT SCOPE

The project is located in El Dorado County in Mosquito, northeast of the city of Placerville and close to the South Fork of the American River. The 350 acre-foot lake is surrounded by 55 forested acres. It is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and is also designated as a wild game preserve. Fed by intermittent flows from Jay Bird Creek, it was originally used as a stock pond by ranchers in the 1800's. The lake's capacity was increased in 1905 by a hydraulic fill placement method. In 1990, the lake was drawn down to 50 acre-feet due to a finding of seismic stability deficiency. Virtually all of the associated watershed values of the lake have been lost or severely degraded. Locally, response to wildfire is significantly impaired by poor access roads. At capacity, Finnon Lake has been used by helicopter buckets to fight past wildfires in the American River watershed. At current lake levels, this is no longer possible and there is no other local place for helicopters to fill. The Finnon Lake project will restore an economic and natural watershed resource back to its former operating capacity of 350 acre-feet while enhancing fishery and aquatic habitats, improving wetland habitat, improving upland forested habitats, and securing a sustainable water supply to combat wildfires.

Outcomes delivered through the SNC grant:

- Restoration of an economic and natural watershed resource back to its former operating capacity of 350 acre-feet while enhancing fishery and aquatic habitats, improving wetland habitat, improving upland forested habitats, and securing a sustainable water supply to combat wildfires.

Additional project benefits:

- Increase in local water supply and quality
- Development of monitoring plans for wetlands, aquatic habitat, and fisheries
- Development of Healthy Forest and Restoration Conservation Plan
- Development of recreational use monitoring plan
- Fishing Derby to public awareness of restoration project
- Job Corp heavy equipment training program

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Administration	The Project Schedule will be set at the time the agreement is finalized.
Environmental Monitoring	
Fish Rescue and Relocation	
Removal of Existing Embankment	
Foundation & Core Treatment	
Fishery Habitat Improvements	
Reconstruction of Embankment	
Healthy Forest Restoration	
Supply 350 acre feet of water to Finnon Lake	

SNC PORTION OF PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Task 1: Project Administration. Six month progress reports, draft & final reports, 500 quarterly newsletters, media articles, community meetings, project site tours	\$ 54,000
Task 2: Environmental Monitoring	30,000
Task 3: Fish Rescue and Relocation. Fishing Derby and seine netting	20,000
Tasks 4,5,6,7,8: Construction Implementation: Labor (International Union of Operating Engineers Job Corps Training Project)	100,000
Tasks 4,5,6,7,8: Construction Implementation: Materials	275,000
Tasks 4,5,6,7: Onsite Construction Engineering	125,000
Total SNC Funding	\$ 604,000

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT
International Union of Operating Engineers	\$ 751,680
Georgetown Divide RCD	26,000
Georgetown RCD	43,200
Trout International	48,800
TOTAL	\$ 869, 680

PROJECT SUPPORT LETTERS

- CA Senator Dave Cox, First District
- CA Assemblyman Ted Gains, Assembly District 4;

- El Dorado County Supervisors:
Helen Baumann, Supervisor District II; Ron Briggs, Supervisor District IV; James R. "Jack" Sweeney, Supervisor District III; Rusty Dupray, Supervisor District I
- El Dorado County Water Agency
- El Dorado Irrigation District
- Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association
- El Dorado County CAO-Economic Development Department
- International Union of Operating Engineers: Job Corps Training Program
- CABY (Consumes, American, Bear & Yuba Integrated Regional Water Mgmt.)
- El Dorado County Fish & Game Commission
- CA Wildlife Conservation Board
- El Dorado County Resource Conservation District
- Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD)
- Department of Water Resources Assessment Branch
- California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
- Department of Conservation, Division of Land Resource Protection
- Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp)
- High Sierra Resource Conservation & Development Area (HSRC&D)
- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Eldorado National Forest (USFS)
- Trout Unlimited, SAC-Sierra Chapter

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 New Recreational Access Points
- Number of Special Significant Sites Protected
- Acre Feet of Water Supply Conserved or Enhanced
- Acres of Land Improved or Restored