

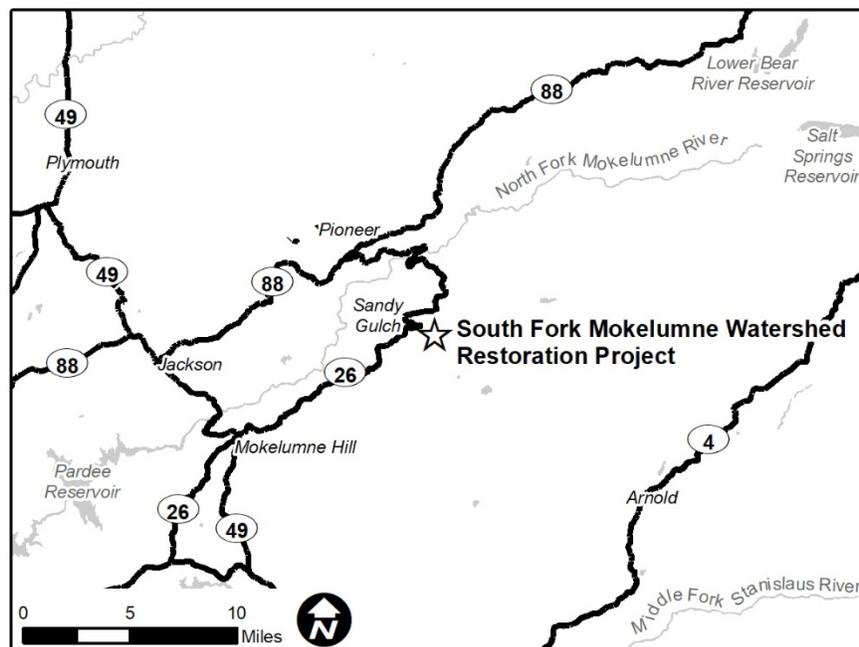
# Sierra Nevada Conservancy

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Release of an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the South Fork Mokelumne Watershed Restoration Project

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has released for public review the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the South Fork (SF) Mokelumne Watershed Restoration Project. SNC would provide funding for the project, which is designed to remove dense understory brush and thin derelict pine plantations on approximately 900 acres of forested land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Because the BLM lands span both sides of the SF Mokelumne River, it is a strategic place to construct a shaded fuel break. The project is intended to create fire-resilient conditions, reduce the risk of wildfire, and control bark beetle infestation while increasing water yield and sequestering carbon.

**Project Location:** The project is in the SF Mokelumne River Watershed in northeastern Calaveras County on approximately 900 acres of land managed by BLM. The project borders the SF Mokelumne River and its two tributaries, Wet Gulch and Independence Gulch. State Route 26 is on the north, Independence Road on the south, Deardorff Road on the west, and Independence Cemetery Road on the east. This BLM land is surrounded by the communities of Sandy Gulch, Wilseyville, Railroad Flat, Independence, and Glencoe (see map).



**Environmental Effects:** SNC has prepared an IS/MND pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15063 and 15071. SNC has studied the effects the proposed project may have on the environment. Based on the IS, mitigation imposed, and environmental protection measures that have been incorporated into the project before release of the proposed IS/MND for public review,

the project would not result in significant environmental impacts. Therefore, an IS/MND is proposed for compliance with the requirements of CEQA.

**Where You Come In:** As lead agency under CEQA, SNC is releasing the IS/MND for public review and comments. The document is available for a 30-day public review period from April 19, 2018 to May 21, 2018.

**Where to Review the Environmental Document and Provide Comments:** Formal comments regarding the IS/Proposed MND may be submitted in writing via U.S. mail or email any time during the public review period. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the IS/Proposed MND or any questions regarding the document should be submitted no later than May 21, 2018. Comments may be sent to:

Shannon Ciotti  
Grant Program Coordinator  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive #205  
Auburn, CA 95603  
Phone: (530) 823-4689  
Email: Shannon.Ciotti@sierranevada.ca.gov

Copies of the IS/MND, and the documents referenced therein, are available for public review during regular business hours at the office of SNC identified above.

Digital copies of the IS/MND are available online at: [www.sierranevada.ca.gov/other-assistance/prop1-grantprog](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/other-assistance/prop1-grantprog)

Paper copies of the IS/MND are also available for public review at:

Calaveras County Library -West Point Branch  
54 Bald Mountain Road  
West Point, CA 95255  
Ph. 209-293-7020

**Public Hearing:** A public hearing on the proposed project is scheduled during the SNC Governing Board meeting that will begin at 9 a.m. on June 7, 2018 in Bishop. The meeting location will be posted a month prior to the meeting online at: <http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov/our-board/board-meetings>