

NEWS RELEASE

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Ranchers and Farmers in the Sierra Nevada Receive \$5.2 Million in Prop. 84 Conservation Grants

(Sacramento) – The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Governing Board today approved \$5.2 million in Proposition 84 grant awards to assist Sierra ranchers and farmers in 18 counties with conservation measures designed to protect California’s most important watersheds. The action was taken at the board’s quarterly meeting, held in Sacramento.

(Note: A county-by-county listing of grant awards is included below, with contact information.)

With the completion of this grant round, the SNC has awarded \$52 million to nearly 300 projects in the Sierra in the past five years. A wide variety of projects have been funded, including those to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire, protect important landscapes and improve watershed health.

“These working landscapes have a rich and important place in our region, so preserving that heritage is critical to our future,” said SNC Executive Officer Jim Branham. “These lands provide not only economic benefits, but substantial natural resource benefits as well. These projects will help conserve or restore land and water resources valuable to those living downstream.”

Projects will result in reduced erosion, meadow and stream restoration, conservation easements, ranch infrastructure development, invasive species removal and pre-project environmental work.

Funding was made available following a competitive grant round in which 62 qualified applications were received, totaling \$11 million in requests. Eligible applicants include public agencies, qualifying nonprofit organizations whose charitable purposes are consistent with the purposes of the SNC, and eligible tribal organizations. Where the funds are used by applicants on private land, there must be a demonstrated benefit to the public.

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About the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Governing Board

Created in 2004, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency whose mission is to improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada region.

The SNC, which receives no general fund tax dollars, has awarded approximately \$52 million in grants for projects including fuels reduction, conservation easements and acquisitions, and watershed and habitat restoration. Funding for these projects comes from Proposition 84 passed by voters in 2006.

The SNC Governing Board meets quarterly around the Sierra Nevada region, which spans 25 million acres, encompasses all or part of 22 counties and runs from the Oregon border on the north, to southeast of Bakersfield.

County	Organization	Project Title	Amount Requested
Alpine	American Rivers	Integrated Restoration and Grazing in Hope Valley Meadow	\$75,000.00
<i>Bill Lee, (202) 347-7550</i>		blee@amrivers.org	
Amador	California Land Stewardship Institute	Fish Friendly Farming and Fish Friendly Ranching: Amador County	\$75,000.00
<i>Laurel Marcus, (707) 253-1226 ext #1</i>		laurelm@fishfriendlyfarming.org	
El Dorado	El Dorado National Forest	Cody Meadow Restoration Project	\$72,000.00
<i>Kimberly Morales, (530) 621-5261</i>		kmorales@fs.fed.us	
El Dorado	El Dorado County Resource Conservation District	Fish Friendly Farming - Phase II	\$75,000.00
<i>Mark Egbert, (530) 295-5630</i>		Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov	
El Dorado; Alpine	El Dorado County Department of Agriculture	Noxious Weed Eradication in El Dorado and Alpine Counties	\$266,500.00
<i>Myrna Tow, (530) 621-6647</i>		myrna.tow@edc.gov.us	
Inyo	Inyo and Mono Counties' Agricultural Commissioner's Office	Lower Owens Invasive Plant Removal and Survey Project	\$88,249.00
<i>George Milovich, (760) 873-7860</i>		inyomonoag@gmail.com	
Kern	Desert Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Council	Kern River Valley and Walker Basin Agricultural Lands Improvement Project	\$274,420.00
<i>Donna Thomas, (760) 446-1974</i>		dmscandd@iwvisp.com	
Lassen	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office	Upper Pete's Creek Habitat Restoration Project	\$198,225.00
<i>Ted Koch, (775) 861-6311</i>		ted_koch@fws.gov	
Lassen	Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.	Ash Valley Ranch Native Grassland Restoration	\$350,000.00
<i>Thomas Esgate, (530) 310-0146</i>		twesgate@sbcglobal.net	
Lassen	Pit Resource Conservation District	Butte Creek Meadow Restoration Project	\$294,817.00
<i>Sharmie Stevenson, (530) 399-3405</i>		pitrtd@frontiernet.net	
Lassen	Bureau of Land Management, Eagle Lake field Office	Rush Creek Improvement Project	\$207,164.00

<i>Valda Lockie, (530) 252-5325</i>		vlOCKIE@blm.gov	
Lassen	Lassen Land and Trails Trust	Pyle Ranch Conservation Easement	\$35,000.00
<i>Louise Jensen, (530) 257-3252</i>		director@llttweb.org	
Madera	Yosemite-Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council	Long Ridge Allotment Rangeland Improvement Project	\$18,607.00
<i>Steve Haze, (559) 877-8664</i>		info@ysrcandd.org	
Modoc	Pit Resource Conservation District	Dutch Flat Creek Enhancement and Nelson Ranch Sustainability Project	\$149,777.00
<i>Sharmie Stevenson, (530) 399-3405</i>		pitrcd@frontiernet.net	
Mono	Eastern Sierra Land Trust	Sinnamon Meadows Agricultural Conservation Easement	\$350,000.00
<i>Karen Ferrell-Ingram, (760) 873-4554</i>		karen@eslt.org	
Nevada	Bear Yuba Land Trust	Garden Bar Preserve Riparian Restoration and Grazing Management Planning Grant	\$68,075.00
<i>Mary Coleman-Hunt, (530) 272-5994</i>		marty@bylt.org	
Placer	Placer County Community Development Resource Agency	Side Hill Citrus Conservation Easement	\$185,000.00
<i>Donna Kirkpatrick, (530) 745-3038</i>		dkirkpat@placer.ca.gov	
Placer	Placer County	Hidden Falls Regional Park Agricultural and Public Use Improvements	\$325,000.00
<i>James Durfee, (530) 886-4900</i>		jdurfee@placer.ca.gov	
Placer	California Land Stewardship Institute	Fish Friendly Farming and Fish Friendly Ranching: Placer County	\$75,000.00
<i>Laurel Marcus, (707) 253-1226 ext #1</i>		laurelm@fishfriendlyfarming.org	
Plumas	Feather River Land Trust	Rogers Key Brand Ranch Conservation Easement	\$350,000.00
<i>Paul Hardy, (530) 283-5758</i>		phardy@frlt.org	
Plumas	Plumas Corporation	Greenhorn Creek Integrated Restoration Project	\$341,000.00
<i>Gia Martynn, (530) 283-3739</i>		gia@plumascounty.org	
Plumas; Sierra	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	Sierra Valley Agricultural Water Quality and Habitat Enhancement Project	\$316,820.00
<i>Carol Dobbas, (775) 722-2610</i>		cjdoobas@yahoo.com	
Shasta	Shasta Land Trust	Hathaway Ranch Riparian Zone Restoration Planning	\$39,600.00
<i>Ben Miles, (530) 241-7886</i>		bmiles@shastalandtrust.org	
Sierra	Feather River Land Trust	Chadwick Ranch Conservation Easement	\$97,750.00
<i>Paul Hardy, (530) 283-5758</i>		phardy@frlt.org	
Sierra	Sierra County Fire Safe and Watershed Council, Inc.	The Upper Long Valley Creek Agricultural Lands Improvement Project	\$348,850.00
<i>Cindy Noble, (530) 249-0444</i>		cindy@scfswc.com	
Tehama; Butte	Northern California Regional Land Trust	Pine Creek Linkage Project	\$50,300.00
<i>Jamison Watts, (530) 894-7738</i>		jwatts@landconservation.org	

Tulare	Sequoia Riverlands Trust	Acquisition of a Conservation Easement in the White River Watershed	\$347,061.00
<i>Tony Lester, (559) 738-0211</i>		tony@sequoiariverlands.org	
Tuolumne	American Rivers	Integrated Meadow Restoration and Grazing in Shell Meadow	\$62,000.00
<i>Bill Lee, (202) 347-7550</i>		blee@amrivers.org	
Tuolumne	Tuolumne County Land Trust, Inc.	Ratto Ranch Conservation Easement - Appraisal and Planning	\$19,650.00
<i>R. Brian Kermeen, (209) 743-2033</i>		briankermeen@yahoo.com	

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