

NEWS RELEASE

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Sierra Nevada Conservancy Seeking Public Input on Grant Guidelines

(Auburn) – The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is seeking public input on new grant guidelines for the Conservancy’s Proposition 1 grant program. The SNC grant program is funded by Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, which was passed by voters in November 2014.

The SNC is proposing that the first grant round will be focused on forest health projects, including projects to reduce the risk of large, damaging wildfires. These types of projects are specifically called out in Proposition 1 and the California Water Action Plan, in recognition of the critical role watersheds play in California’s water future.

A series of three public workshops will be held to gather public comment and familiarize potential grantees with the application process:

- The first of these workshops will be held at the McConnell Foundation in Redding on March 12, 2015, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- The second workshop will be held at the SNC Headquarters in Auburn on March 18, 2015, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. In addition to providing for in-person participation, the workshop will be webcast. Pre-registration will be required to participate in the live webcast, which will be recorded and subsequently posted to the SNC website.
- The final public workshop will be located at the Tulare County Board of Supervisors Chambers in Visalia on March 19, 2015, from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

For more information about the meetings, please visit the SNC website at www.sierranevada.ca.gov.

Applicants who are eligible to apply for grants include: public agencies, qualifying 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organizations, and eligible Tribal organizations. Grants can be utilized for on-the-ground projects or for efforts directly leading to on-the-ground projects located within the Sierra Nevada Region, or that have a direct impact on lands or waters within the Region.

Draft grant guidelines are now available for public review. Interested parties can submit comments via email to grants.SNC@sierranevada.ca.gov. Public comments will be accepted through Friday, March 27, 2015.

About the Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Created in 2004, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is a state agency whose mission is to improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region. The SNC has awarded over \$50 million in grants for projects to protect and enhance the health of California's primary watersheds by improving forest health, remediating mercury contamination from abandoned mines, protecting critical natural resources and reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Funding for these projects came from Proposition 84 passed by voters in 2006.

The Sierra Nevada Region spans 25 million acres, encompasses all or part of 22 counties, and runs from the Oregon border on the north, to Kern County on the south. The Region is the origin of more than 60 percent of California's developed water supply.

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