

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

*Sierra Nevada Conservancy Watershed Improvement Grant Program*

**SNC ID Number:** 1067

**Applicant:** Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions

**Project Title:** South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Phase 3 Treatment

**Project Category:** One

**SNC Subregion:** South Central

**County(ies):** Calaveras

**Funding Amount Requested:** \$865,835

**Funding Amount Recommended:** \$865,835

**Total Project Cost:** \$901,835

**Final Score:** 80.75

## **PROJECT SCOPE / DESCRIPTION**

The South Fork Mokelumne Watershed Restoration Project (Project) is a Category One project located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property within the wildland urban interface (WUI) and near the town of Railroad Flat in northern Calaveras County. Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) will be implementing 285 acres of forest restoration.

Ranging from 2000' – 2800' in elevation, the Project site consists primarily of unmaintained and overcrowded ponderosa pine plantations that also contain a heavy manzanita and live oak component. The Project aims to mechanically masticate 285 acres of these pine plantations removing small-diameter trees and ladder fuels and reducing inter-tree competition. The treatments will result in more fire safe and resilient forest stands and will add to the effectiveness of previously completed treatments within the Project area. The Project has been developed collaboratively between many residents, local organizations, and agencies.

This project is part of a larger network of fuels reduction projects and builds on previous SNC investment. This phased Project builds off two previous grants from the SNC: the first funded the NEPA/CEQA compliance for the 912-acre BLM parcel, the second funded the first 217-acres of forest restoration and fuel break work. The Project lies within a WUI and is bordered by private residences, homeowner associations, and Calaveras County Water District lands. The Project fits into a landscape fuels reduction

strategy and aligns with multiple other projects implemented by Calaveras County Water District and CAL FIRE.

Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) is a nonprofit organization in Amador and Calaveras counties. Founded in 2004 with a mission to improve their local economy, CHIPS strives to put local, at-risk youth to work and promote sustainable forest stewardship. CHIPS, along with the SNC, started the successful forest collaborative, the Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG), in 2010 and has been an active partner in promoting the SNC’s vision for the Sierra Nevada. The BLM is a public land-management agency under the Department of the Interior and manages approximately 14,500 acres of scattered, low-elevation parcels in the Mokelumne watershed.

CHIPS is partnering with the BLM and the Cal-Am Forestry Team to complete the Project. The Project was developed with input from the local community and agencies. BLM and the Cal-Am Forestry team will provide in-kind support in assistance with unit layout and oversight throughout the Project.

The South Fork Mokelumne Restoration Project aligns with many of the goals of the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program and Propositions 1 and 68. The plan was developed collaboratively by the local community of Glencoe and Railroad Flat partnering with the BLM and adds a critical piece of fuel reduction infrastructure to the overall fuels management strategy in the region. Furthermore, the project protects and restores forestland within the Mokelumne River Watershed which flows into Pardee and Comanche Reservoirs, owned and operated by East Bay Municipal Utility District, and provides municipal drinking water for millions of Californians living in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

<b>PROJECT TASKS / DELIVERABLES</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
SNC Progress Reports	Every 6 months
Site Prep and Layout	June – November 2019 June – November 2020
Mechanical Mastication (285 acres)	November 2019 – March 2020 November 2020 – March 2021
Site Review	March – June 2021
SNC Final Report	June 2021
<b>Estimated Project Completion Date</b>	June 2021

**PROJECT COSTS**

<b>BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>SNC FUNDING</b>
<b>Project Costs:</b>	
Project Management	\$7,900
Mechanical Mastication	\$600,000
Registered Professional Forester/ Oversight	\$145,000
<b>Administrative:</b>	
Administrative Costs	\$112,935
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$865,835</b>

**PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT / OPPOSITION**

**SUPPORT:**

- Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group
- Bureau of Land Management, Mother Lode Field Office

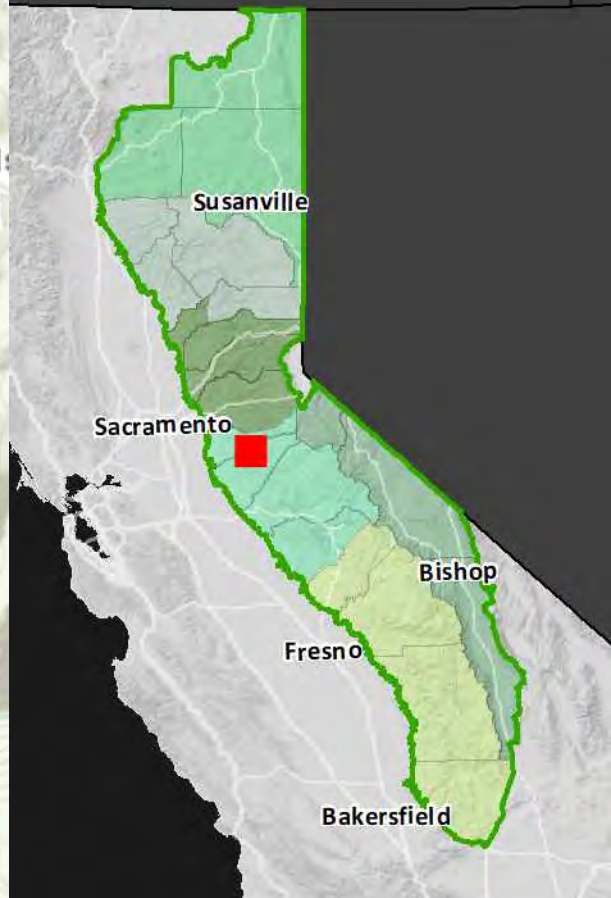
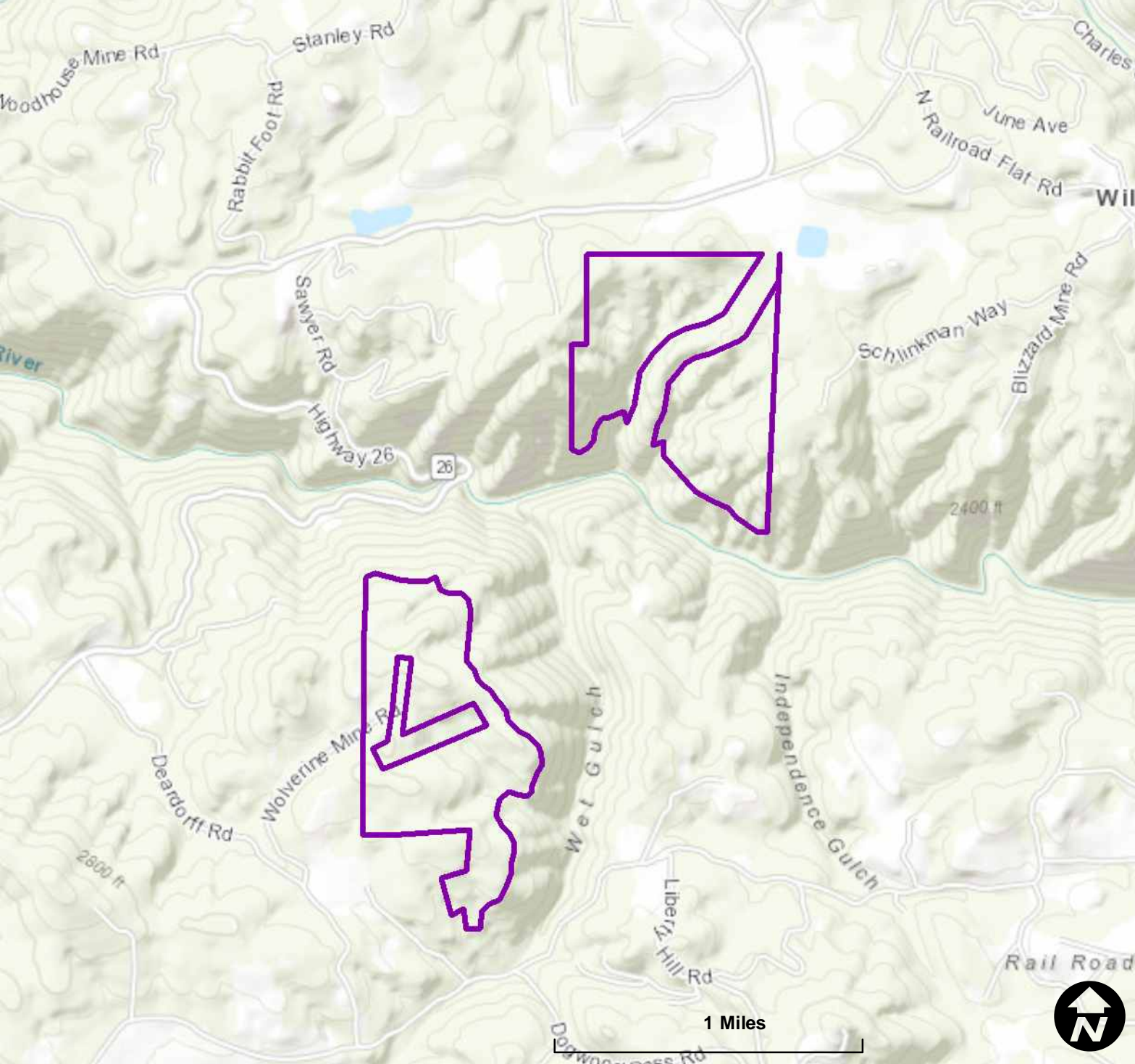
**OPPOSITION:**









- None

**PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

*There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to identify one to three project specific Performance Measures in their application. Please note, Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified before the grant agreement is executed.*

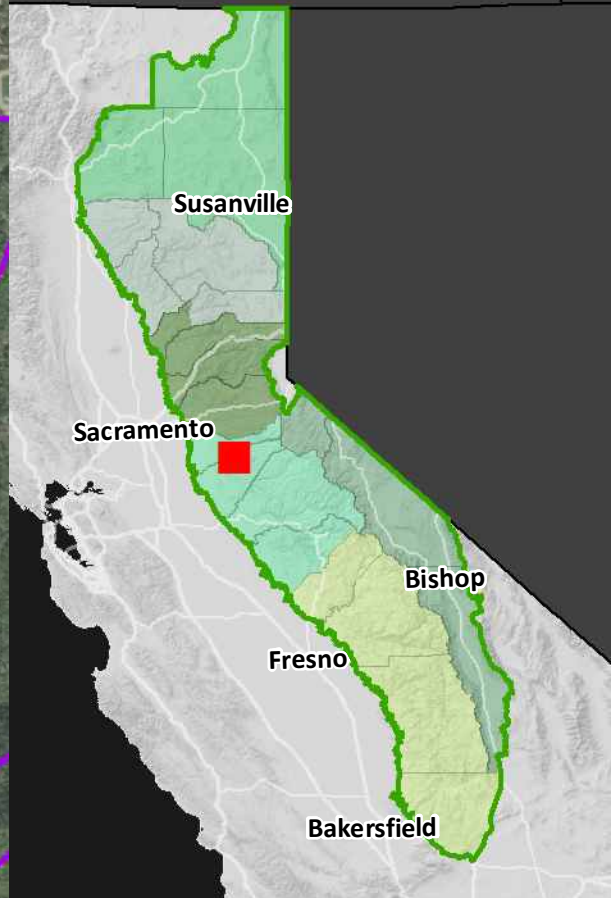
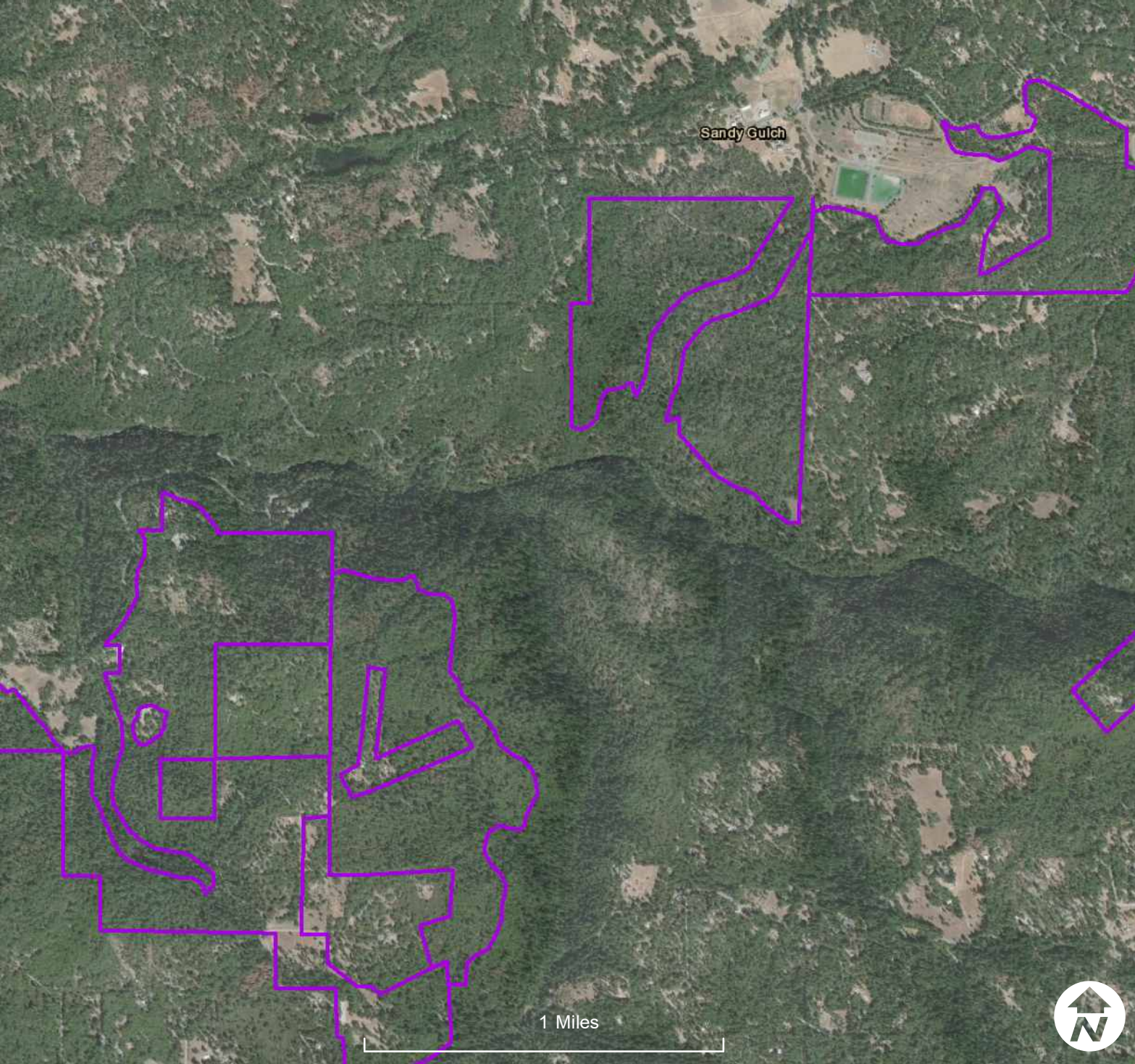
- Acres of Land Improved or Restored











-  Project Location
-  Project Boundary
-  North Subregion
-  North Central Subregion
-  Central Subregion
-  East Subregion
-  South Central Subregion
-  South Subregion

**South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration Phase 3 Treatment  
Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS)**





-  Project Location
-  Project Boundary
-  North Subregion
-  North Central Subregion
-  Central Subregion
-  East Subregion
-  South Central Subregion
-  South Subregion

**South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration Phase 3 Treatment  
Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS)**

## CEQA Documentation

**SNC #:** 1067

**Project Title:** South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration Phase 3 Treatment

**Applicant:** Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions

### **CEQA:**

In June 2018 SNC adopted, as Lead Agency, an Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Monitoring and Reporting Program for an earlier phase of this project (#1030). The SNC may file a Notice of Determination as Lead Agency for this current phase of the project.

- **Notice of Determination:** See Below
- **Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration:** [Click Here](#)
- **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program:** [Click Here](#)

**Notice of Determination****Appendix D****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 U.S. Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk  
 County of: Calaveras \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: 891 Mountain Ranch Road \_\_\_\_\_  
 San Andreas, CA 95249 \_\_\_\_\_

**From:**

Public Agency: Sierra Nevada Conservancy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: 11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Auburn, CA 95603 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact: Shannon Ciotti \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: (530) 823-4689 \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Agency (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

***SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.***

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2018042049 \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration - Phase 3 Treatment (SNC #1067) \_\_\_\_\_

Project Applicant: Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location (include county): Sandy Gulch, Wilseyville, and Railroad Flat, Calaveras County \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Description:**

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide \$865,835 in funding to treat surface and ladder fuels on 285 acres of forested land administered by the Bureau of Land Management within the South Fork Mokelumne River watershed. Project objectives are to enhance watershed health, reduce the risk of wildfire ignition and spread, reduce erosion hazard, protect water quality, and increase forest ecological resilience overall. Treatments associated with the project would include mechanical mastication and hand thinning, as well as chipping and pile burning.

This is to advise that the Sierra Nevada Conservancy \_\_\_\_\_ has approved the above  
 Lead Agency or  Responsible Agency)

described project on March 7, 2019 \_\_\_\_\_ and has made the following determinations regarding the above  
 (date)

1. The project [ will  will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2.  An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.  
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [ were  were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [ was  was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [ were  were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

Sierra Nevada Conservancy, 11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205, Auburn, CA 95603 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Public Agency): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_