



## STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

# Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)

Applicant: Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions

Project Title: South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration

Subregion: South Central

County: Calaveras

**SNC Funding:** \$74,085

Total Project Cost: \$108,335

**Application Number:** 885

Final Score: 87

### PROJECT SCOPE

The South Fork Mokelumne River Watershed Restoration Project takes place on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) parcels within the upper Mokelumne River watershed in Calaveras County. The 912-acre project site lies between the elevations of 2000-2800' and is dominated by both dense Douglas-fir stands, oak forests and manzanita thickets. The site lies within the wildland-urban interface and is bordered by numerous private lots. This location has been identified in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for Calaveras County as a high priority site for fuels reduction. The project is proposed in the context of efforts to complete similar work identified in the CWPP for Calaveras and Western Alpine counties, and the hazards areas are expanding with the impacts of severe tree mortality due to drought and insect infestation.

The Mokelumne watershed is the primary municipal water supply to 1.4 million people in the East Bay and has significant hydroelectric power generation.

Funding will complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation to enable implementation of forest thinning and fuels-reduction work to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires, protect water quality, protect the nearby communities, and improve site conditions to create a more resilient and healthy forest and watershed. For this particular project, the BLM will be lead agency for the NEPA and the Amador Resource Conservation District will be the lead agency for the CEQA portion.

The project site lies within one of the many BLM-managed parcels within the upper Mokelumne Watershed which fall under an administrative umbrella called the Mokelumne Community Forest (MCF). The MCF's ultimate goal is to restore and maintain all BLM parcels within the watershed and allows for local volunteers, like the Cal-Am forestry team, which is providing the in-kind work to complete some of the necessary reports and service for this project. Other project contributions are coming from the BLM and Julia Costello, a local archeologist.

#### **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
6-month Progress Report	December 2016
	June 2017
Final Report	June 2017
Botany/Wildlife Survey	July – October 2016
Cultural Resources Survey	July – October 2016
NEPA / CEQA Analysis	July 2016 - March 2017
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	June 2017

#### **PROJECT COSTS**

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Cultural Resource Study	\$52,000
Botany/ Wildlife Study	\$7,000
NEPA/CEQA Crosswalk Documentation	\$8,000
Printing/ Publications	\$350
Administrative**	
Administrative Costs	\$6,735
GRAND TOTAL	\$74,085

<sup>\*</sup> Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings, and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year. Direct expenses should also include costs directly attributable to the project such as performance measure reporting, project management, billing, signs, etc.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Administrative: Shared expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct costs. Examples of administrative costs include the costs of operating/maintaining facilities, general expenses, general administration, etc.

#### PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
  - Amador Calaveras Consensus Group
  - o William S. Haigh, Mother Lode Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management
  - Chris Wright, Calaveras County Supervisor
  - o Mike Blankenheim, West Point Battalion Chief, CAL FIRE
  - Richard Sykes, Director of Water and Natural Resources, East Bay Municipal Utilities District
  - o H. Richard Roth & Susan McMorris, Residents in Sandy Gulch

#### PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include one to 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 Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

<b>To:</b> Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 212	From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044	Auburn, CA 95603
County Clerk	(Address)
County of Calaveras	
891 Mountain Ranch Road	
San Andreas, CA 95249	
Project Title: South Fork Mokelumn	e River Watershed Restoration
Project Location - Specific:	
•	y; centered at approximately 38°22'20"N and 120°32'16"W
The project is located in sulavorus sound	, somered at approximation of 22.25 Walla 125 62.15 W
Project Location – City: Sandy Gulch	Project Location – County: Calaveras
Description of Nature, Purpose and Benefician	ies of Project:
potential environmental impacts and prepare a and watershed protection project on 912 BLM	de funding to Calaveras Healthy Forests Impact Product Solutions to analyze analyses to comply with NEPA and CEQA for a possible future forest restoration -managed acres on both sides of the South Fork of the Mokelumne River. The on-the-ground fuels treatment project near the commmunity of Glencoe.  Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Proje	Calaveras Healthy Forests Impact Product Solutions
	<u> </u>
Exempt Status: (check one)  Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);	
Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3)	
Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4);	
Categorical Exemption. State type and	section number:
X Statutory Exemptions. State code numl	ber: Section 15262, Feasibility and Planning Studies
Reasons why project is exempt:	
The project is a planning project that involves environm forest management actions. The planning project would	nental analysis, and the preparation of a CEQA and NEPA document to review possible future on the involve ground disturbance or physical alterations to the environment. The proposed planning EQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, which relates to feasibility and planning studies will not have a legally binding effect on future actions.
Lead Agency Contact Person: Patrick Eidman	Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4689
If filed by applicant:  1. Attach certified document of exemption 2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by	n finding.  by the public agency approving the project? Yes No
Signature:	Date: Title:
☐ Signed by Lead Agency	
☐ Signed by Applicant	ate received for filing at OPR: