

# Exhibit A

## Sierra Nevada Conservancy Forest Health Grant Program SNC Project Number 1325

**SNC ID Number:** 1325

**Applicant:** Great Basin Institute

**Project Title:** Twofer Pillikin Fuels Reduction Project

**SNC Subregion:** Central

**County:** El Dorado

**Funding Amount Requested:** \$1,255,225

**Funding Amount Recommended:** \$1,255,225

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,655,225

**Funding Authority:** State of California Budget Act of 2020

### **Project Scope / Description**

The Twofer Pillikin Fuels Reduction Project (Project) will treat 1,300 acres of land managed by the Eldorado National Forest (ENF) along Highway 50. The Project is located between Pollock Pines and Kyburz in El Dorado County, midway between Placerville and Echo Summit. The Project is part of ENF's Crystal Basin Focus Area, a large watershed encompassing Union Valley and Ice House reservoirs, Alder Ridge, and a portion of the South Fork American River. Great Basin Institute (GBI) is partnering with the ENF to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration on public lands.

Work funded through this grant will complement other fuel reduction efforts within the 10,400-acre Twofer Pillikin Project. Separately funded fuels treatment will occur on 748 acres north of Hwy 50 beginning in summer of 2021 through separate contracts with GBI and the National Wild Turkey Federation. Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) funding will thin 900 acres south of Hwy 50. Mastication will target woody shrubs and small trees up to 11 inches diameter at breast height, leaving a mixed species composition of 80-100 trees per acre, and resulting in reduced density of understory and ladder fuels and a more heterogeneous stand structure. In addition, this grant will implement follow-up shrub control (targeted herbicide application) on 400 acres, following the mastication on the north side of Hwy 50. Shrub control soon after mastication will substantially reduce the need for follow-up treatments. Follow-up shrub control on the mastication funded through this grant on the south side of Hwy 50 will be undertaken, along with remaining fuels treatments to complete the larger project, with future funding.

Great Basin Institute is an interdisciplinary field studies organization founded at the University of Nevada and based in Reno. The GBI has successfully managed over \$135 million in grants and contracts in support of conservation initiatives. The GBI collaborates with the United States Forest Service through master participating and stewardship agreements. The GBI has two active SNC grants: one for Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program capacity technical assistance through the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (#945) and the Grant Grove Big Stump Ecological Restoration Project in the South Subregion (#1246).

Match funding of \$400,000 has been secured, with \$200,000 from the Bonneville Foundation and \$200,000 from Eldorado National Forest. This funding will complete a substantial portion of the mastication on the north side of Hwy 50. The Project is a component of the Crystal Basin Focus Area stemming from the South Fork American River (SOFAR) Cohesive Strategy, and is supported by a broad range of partners within SOFAR.

The Project is within the Crystal Basin Focus Area, which covers an important headwaters region within the Tahoe-Central Sierra Initiative and within SOFAR. The Crystal Basin contains major reservoirs, Union Valley and Ice House, as well as the outflow from Loon Lake and other smaller water sources. It is a major input to the South Fork American River, which provides water to the residents of El Dorado County, and flows into Folsom Lake, providing water to farms and other Californians. The Twofer Project will help protect the headwaters of the American River, and millions of dollars of water and power infrastructure managed by the El Dorado Irrigation District and Sacramento Municipal Utility District, from catastrophic wildfire.

## Project Schedule

<b>Project Tasks and Deliverables</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Project management and reporting	August 2021 – December 2024
Mastication on 900 acres	August 2021 – December 2024
Shrub control on 400 acres	July 2022 – December 2024
Project signage	December 2021
<b>Estimated Project Completion Date</b>	<b>January 2025</b>

## Project Costs

<b>Project Costs</b>	<b>SNC Funding</b>
Project management	\$50,000
Mastication (900 acres at \$1,000 per acre)	\$900,000
Shrub control (400 acres at \$350 per acre)	\$140,000
Project signage	\$1,500
Administrative Costs	\$163,725
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,255,225</b>

## Project Letters of Support or Opposition

### *Support:*

- Eldorado National Forest, Supervisor's Office
- GBI Board of Directors, College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, University of Nevada, Reno
- Blue Forest Conservation
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District

### *Opposition:*

- None received

## 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