

Exhibit A

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Forest Health Grant Program SNC Project Number 1327

SNC ID Number: 1327

Applicant: National Wild Turkey Federation

Project Title: Trestle Mastication Project

SNC Subregion: Central

County: El Dorado

Funding Amount Requested: \$370,300

Funding Amount Recommended: \$370,300

Total Project Cost: \$748,700

Funding Authority: State of California Budget Act of 2020

Project Scope / Description

The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) is partnering with the Placerville Ranger District of the Eldorado National Forest on the Trestle Mastication Project, situated south and east of the community of Grizzly Flats. Grizzly Flats is a community in El Dorado County surrounded by National Forest Lands about 15 miles southeast of Placerville. The overall United States Forest Service (USFS) Trestle Project encompasses 16,000 acres. This Trestle Mastication project continues fuels work within the greater project and will complete 790 acres of mastication. This Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) grant will treat 317 acres with an additional 473 acres funded directly by the USFS. The purpose of the project is to improve forest health and wildfire resiliency around the community of Grizzly Flats and to protect surrounding assets.

This grant will fund mastication of brush and small trees on 317 acres within five strategic areas of heavily overgrown forest just south of Grizzly Flats. Trees less than ten inches in diameter (excluding designated 'leave' trees) and all brush greater than six inches in height will be machine masticated (shredded, mulched, or chipped), with the exception of Pacific yews, black oaks, dogwoods, aspen, elderberry, and California nutmeg. The project will retain 20-25 foot spacing between 'leave' trees. Within units designated for mastication greater than 10 acres in size, the NWTF may identify small groups (0.25-0.5 acres) of conifers, hardwoods, and brush to be retained to meet wildlife cover objectives. This project may be completed before the end of 2021.

Activities completed, ongoing, or planned for implementation in the 16,000-acre Trestle project include: 3,586 acres of commercial and non-commercial mechanical thinning,

520 acres of hand thinning and piling (most within 500 feet of private property boundaries), and 790 acres of small tree mastication. In 2018, NWTF completed 270 acres of hand thinning and piling in the Grizzly Flats Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) at a cost of \$475,000 with a grant provided by SNC.

The NWTF is a national nonprofit organization that has engaged in over 90 Stewardship Agreements with the USFS to improve forest health, including current projects with the Eldorado National Forest. The NWTF successfully completed the SNC grant for hand thinning within the Trestle Project (#1034) in 2018. In fact, they completed the project in just a few months after execution of the grant agreement.

The Trestle Mastication project is a joint effort between the NWTF and the Eldorado National Forest. The 790-acre project will be funded jointly by SNC (317 acres) and Eldorado National Forest (473 acres). The community of Grizzly Flats is exceptionally isolated and vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire. The Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council is recognized as one of the most active local Fire Safe Councils in the state and has secured over \$3 million toward completion of multiple fuels reduction projects in and around the community.

Grizzly Flats is a rural community with approximately 1,200 residents and is completely enveloped within the WUI and surrounded on 90 percent of its borders by USFS land. It is considered a Community at Risk. There is only one municipal water supply for the community, the protection of which was the primary focus of the prior SNC grant for the Trestle Project. Additionally, Leoni Meadows, a 1,000-acre private camp and retreat center, lies within the footprint of Trestle Project. Leoni Meadows hosts several thousand youth and adults annually at their facility.

Project Schedule

Project Tasks and Deliverables	Timeline
Project management and reporting	August 2021 – July 2022
Solicit and hire contractor	August 2021
Mastication	September 2021 – June 2022
Estimated Project Completion Date	June 30, 2022

Project Costs

Project Costs	SNC Funding
Project management	\$5,000
317 acres of mastication	\$317,000
Administrative costs	\$48,300
Total	\$370,300

Project Letters of Support or Opposition

Support:

- Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council
- Grizzly Flats Community Services District
- Leoni Meadows Camp
- Great Basin Institute
- Eldorado National Forest, Supervisor's Office

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