

Exhibit A

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Forest Health Grant Program SNC Project Number 1328

SNC ID Number: 1328

Applicant: Mariposa County Fire Safe Council

Project Title: Wagner Ridge Fuel Break Project

SNC Subregion: South Central

County: Mariposa

Funding Amount Requested: \$607,782

Funding Amount Recommended: \$607,782

Total Project Cost: \$608,982

Funding Authority: State of California Budget Act of 2020

Project Scope / Description

The Wagner Ridge Fuel Break Project (Project) is located along the northern boundary of Mariposa County, near the communities of Greely Hill and Coulterville. The applicant, Mariposa County Fire Safe Council (MCFSC), will treat 213 acres across Stanislaus National Forest and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. The Project will expand and widen a current fuel break that ties into the National Disaster Resiliency projects located on the Tuolumne County side of the ridgetop and lies on the watershed boundary between the Merced and Tuolumne River Watersheds.

This Project is result of a Planning Grant (SNC #1004) that was awarded to the MCFSC in 2018. The Project is named in several strategic fuels plans and is a high priority project of the South West Interface Team collaborative (SWIFT). The Project aims to treat 213 acres of Stanislaus National Forest and BLM land using mechanical mastication and hand thinning. Treatment objectives include removal of all surface and ladder fuels and thinning the remaining trees to develop a shaded fuel break. The Project will break up fuel loading and create a more heterogenous and resilient forest system. This will also greatly improve fire suppression operations within the region.

Fuel reduction initiatives throughout Tuolumne and Mariposa counties are coordinated by SWIFT, resulting in a cohesive approach by multiple state, federal, and local agencies. The SNC has funded multiple projects in this region including the planning grant for Wagner Ridge Fuel Break (#1004) and the Gentry Creek Watershed Restoration Project (#911), awarded in 2016, which was a critical anchor point for

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) operations in the 2017 Detwiler Fire.

The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve Mariposa County's natural and manmade resources and by working with local residents to make their homes, neighborhoods, and communities fire safe.

Partners on the Project include all the participating members of the SWIFT; however, Stanislaus National Forest and the BLM will be the main project partners. These partners are expected to provide in-kind support and guidance throughout the implementation of the project and will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the fuel break.

The Project meets the goals of both the SNC Strategic Plan and the State of California Budget Act of 2020. By treating fuels in a strategic location, the Project will improve the abilities of land managers and firefighting agencies to contain and suppress wildfires and protect nearby communities as well as forest and watershed resources. Downstream beneficiaries of these treatments include the Merced Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District and Modesto Irrigation District who manage Lake McClure reservoir on the Merced River and Don Pedro Reservoir on the Tuolumne River.

Project Schedule

Project Tasks and Deliverables	Timeline
Six-month progress report	January, July 2022 January, July 2023
Site preparation and contractor bidding	August – December 2021
Fuel reduction treatments	March – June 2022 October – December 2022 March – June 2023 October – December 2023
SNC sign installed	December 2023
Final report submitted	December 2023
Estimated Project Completion Date	January 1, 2024

Project Costs

Project Costs	SNC Funding
Project management and travel	\$29,719
SNC signage and outreach	\$388
Contractor costs	\$498,400
Administrative costs	\$79,275
Total	\$607,782

Project Letters of Support or Opposition

Support:

- Mariposa County Board of Supervisors
- Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors
- Jason Kuiken, Forest Supervisor, Stanislaus National Forest
- Liz Meyer-Shields, Field Manager, Mother Lode Field Office, Bureau of Land Management
- South West Interface Team
- Mariposa County Fire Advisory Committee
- Mariposa County Fire Department
- Mike van Loben Sels, Unit Chief, Mariposa Madera Merced Unit, CAL FIRE
- Mariposa County Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services
- Turlock Irrigation District
- Merced Irrigation 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