

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program
Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control,
River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)**

Applicant: Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP)

Project Title: Camptonville Forest Biomass Business Center Feasibility Study

Subregion: Central

County: Yuba

SNC Funding: \$ 68,590.00

Total Project Cost: \$112,113.00

Application Number: 781

Final Score: 85

PROJECT SCOPE

The Camptonville Community Partnership (CCP) will contract with consultants to develop a detailed feasibility study for a bioenergy facility in Celestial Valley, Camptonville. This study will identify and evaluate fuel resource availability, siting and infrastructure issues, potential environmental impacts, transportation impacts, energy transmission and conversion technology options, and legislative and regulatory issues (including sale/use of energy and/or heat). The study will also address, financial and economic considerations such as costs and availability of obtaining biomass from forest thinning and hazardous fuel reduction projects on the Tahoe and Plumas National Forests. The feasibility study will assist in determining if there are any upfront “deal-killing” issues or “fatal flaws” with such a project. The study will be conducted in a manner to maximize the opportunity for future investment in a facility.

Completion of this study, and the future project that may result, is strongly aligned with the mission and goals of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) and Proposition 84 by facilitating increased treatment of forested lands to reduce the risks of catastrophic fire and the resulting impacts to water quality, air quality, wildlife habitat, and recreational use of public lands.

The proposed project site is on approximately 20-acres of land located off of State Highway 49 in Celestial Valley, about 2 miles south of the community of Camptonville. The site is the previous location of an operating sawmill, which closed in the 1990s. The site is zoned by Yuba County as “A/RR,” or Agriculture/Rural Residential. Industrial uses are allowed in this zoning designation, subject to a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). The

Yuba County Planning Department has confirmed that a small-scale biomass power plant is considered an allowable use with a CUP. Information gathered and included in the feasibility study would be useful in completing a future California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for a proposed biomass project at this site.

CCP will manage the feasibility study contract, including circulation of the Request For Proposal (RFP), selection and oversight of the vendor, and monitoring of project deliverables. CCP will also provide outreach to surrounding communities about the proposed bioenergy facility and the feasibility study, and coordinate with project stakeholders, including members of the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council. In addition, CCP will perform outreach to new stakeholders and existing and potential project partners, evaluate potential funding sources, publish and circulate the final feasibility study, and ensure detailed reporting of project performance to the SNC.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Select Consultant to Prepare Feasibility Study	October 31, 2014
Conduct Community Outreach	December 31, 2015
Complete and Distribute Final Feasibility Study	November 30, 2015
6-Month Progress Reports	February 1, 2015 August 1, 2015
Final Report	February 1, 2016
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	April 1, 2016

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$64,260.00
Indirect**	\$1,100.00
Administrative***	\$3,230.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$68,590.00

* 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.

** Indirect: Expenses involve ongoing operations, repair or maintenance costs, regardless of whether the repair or maintenance may last more than one year.

*** Administrative: Expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct and indirect costs.

PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - Yuba County
 - Yuba County Watershed and Fire Safe Council

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and 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