

**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: Lassen Land and Trails Trust

Project Title: Upper Stevens Meadow Project

Subregion: North

County: Lassen

SNC Funding: \$115,385.00

Total Project Cost: \$123,000.00

Application Number: 802

Final Score: 90

PROJECT SCOPE

The Upper Stevens Meadow Restoration Project is located in western Lassen County on privately-owned land surrounded by the Lassen National Forest. The Lassen Land and Trails Trust (LLTT) owns a conservation easement on the property and will complete the project to improve the hydrologic function of approximately one mile of Pine Creek and 90-acres of montane meadow. This will be accomplished by removing encroaching lodgepole pine from the meadow to reduce competition for water and nutrients by native meadow species and will lengthen time for availability of groundwater to support natural stream flows. Pine creek is the primary tributary to Eagle Lake and is critical habitat for the Eagle Lake Rainbow Trout.

Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) grant funds will leverage other investments and in-kind work from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Trout Unlimited and the landowner to remove encroaching lodgepole pine. All forest material removed during this project will be used for bio-energy production or for the construction of barrier fencing on the Modoc Line Rail Trail Project, partially funded by a previous grant from the SNC. The project has been included as an element of an approved Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan which includes measures to protect water quality, cultural resources, and sensitive/special status plant and wildlife species on the property.

The USFS Eagle Lake Ranger Station will conduct post-project monitoring to evaluate the effects of conifer removal on understory plant communities over time, and Trout Unlimited will conduct habitat typing surveys. Monitoring data will be used to compare similar projects completed along Pine Creek on National Forest land. The Forest Service prepared a Categorical Exclusion to satisfy National Environmental Protection Act

(NEPA) requirements for work they will complete on this and other nearby related projects.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Establish monitoring protocols and photo points	June-July 2014
Remove encroaching lodgepole pine within the meadow area.	August – November 2014
Final clean-up and removal of lodgepole seedlings by hand-pulling	June – August 2015 August 2016
Conduct post-treatment monitoring	August 2015 August 2016
Progress Reports	February 28, 2015 August 30, 2015 February 28, 2016 August 30, 2016
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	December 31, 2016

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	\$106,000.00
Indirect**	\$5,560.00
Administrative***	\$3,825.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$115,385.00

* 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

- Lassen National Forest, Eagle Lake Ranger District
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Partners for Wildlife
- Rosenberg Trust
- UC Cooperative Extension; Lassen County

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 people reached
- Dollar value of resources leveraged for the Sierra Nevada
- Linear feet of streambank protected or restored
- Acres of land improved or restored