

Background

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is required by statute, Public Resource Code Section 33350, to “make an annual report to the Legislature and to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency regarding expenditures, land management costs, and administrative costs.”

In the early years of the SNC, the annual report was produced as an expanded education and outreach tool. In more recent years, due to budget and operational constraints, the Annual Report has been scaled down in scope while still satisfying legislated requirements and providing an overview of key activities.

Current Status

Staff is in the process of producing another scaled-down, in-house Annual Report for FY 2012-13. The report, which will be four to six pages in length and designed primarily for electronic distribution, will fulfill statutory requirements while highlighting projects and activities that demonstrate and support the need for investment in upper watersheds. The Annual report and the recently released Proposition 84 Report ‘*Investing in California’s Watershed*’ will complement one another and staff can use both reports together in future outreach efforts.

Proposed Outline:

- A word from the Executive Officer – linking FY 2012-13 activities to current outreach and messaging and activities
- Video – Revised ‘Who is the SNC?’
- The Sierra Delta Connection – including
 - Investment in our “natural infrastructure”
 - Great Sierra River Cleanup
 - Abandoned Mine Lands
- Healthy Forests - including
 - Sierra Nevada Forest and Community Initiative
 - Mokelumne River Environmental Benefits Program
 - Forest Bioenergy
- Budget and Fiscal information
- Grant Program Information
 - Awarded amount 2012-13
 - Closed out projects
 - Awarded amount by year

Next Steps

Staff will draft the Annual Report as described above and will complete design, layout, and illustrations in-house. Graphics may include budget charts or graphs and a small number of photos. With Board concurrence, staff will prepare the Annual Report and distribute it appropriately. Anticipated distribution and posting on the SNC Web site is October 31, 2013.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board approve the proposed approach for completing the 2012-13 Annual Report and direct staff to develop and distribute the report.