

# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Pete Dufour  
(530) 823-4668  
[pdufour@sierranevada.ca.gov](mailto:pdufour@sierranevada.ca.gov)



## Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board to Decide on \$4.9 Million in Prop. 84 Grants for Sierra Forest Projects

**(Auburn)** – Approximately \$4.9 million in grant awards for work to restore Sierra Nevada forests to ecological health and prevent damaging forest fires will be up for approval at the June 7 meeting of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's (SNC) Governing Board in Lone Pine (Inyo County). The funding is from Proposition 84, passed by California voters in 2006.

“For this round of funding we received nearly 200 initial requests, which we have painstakingly reduced to 26 recommendations to the board,” said SNC Executive Officer Jim Branham. “The large number of requests is a result of the poor condition of many of our forests throughout the Sierra and the growing threat of catastrophic fire.”

The 26 grant applications to be submitted for board approval include the following cross section of projects:

- Fuels Reduction (twelve projects, \$2.5 million)
- Forest Health/Restoration (seven projects, \$1.48 million)
- Meadow Restoration (four projects, \$473,422)
- Invasive Species Removal (two projects, \$73,867)
- Conservation Easement Acquisitions (one project, \$350,000)

(For a complete list of project names, types, funding amounts and locations, visit: [www.sierranevada.ca.gov](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov)).

The board's agenda also includes a presentation on the SNC's work with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and Inyo County regarding the potential future use and management of the former Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery, which is no longer utilized by DFG. Currently, the Friends of Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery oversee a portion of the facility for educational purposes.

"The historic Fish Hatchery is an icon in the Eastern Sierra and there is growing support for tapping into its economic and community benefits," said Inyo County Supervisor Linda Arcularius, who also serves on the SNC board. "The county, the SNC and DFG are working with the Friends of Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery to begin to identify its most beneficial uses in order to preserve this unique eastern Sierra asset."

The board will also consider approval of guidelines for the 2012-13 round of Prop. 84 grants, which will be focused on the preservation of ranches and agricultural lands. If the guidelines are approved, the request for proposals could go out later in June.

Members of the board and staff will participate in a field trip June 6 to the former Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery and to Lone Pine High School. The field trip will begin at the main parking lot of the Best Western Frontier, 1008 S. Main Street in Lone Pine.

A reception will be held following the field trip at the Lone Pine Film Museum, 701 S. Main Street, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

The board meeting will be held the following day at the Boulder Creek RV Resort, 2550 U.S. 395, in Lone Pine, from 9 a.m. to approximately 1 p.m. The public is invited to all SNC activities and time will be allotted for public comment at the board meeting.

Persons interested in attending the field trip must provide their own transportation. To RSVP for the field trip and reception, visit [www.SierraNevada.ca.gov](http://www.SierraNevada.ca.gov) and look under "Announcements."

### ***About the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Governing Board***

*Created in 2004, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency whose mission is to improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region. In its first five years, the SNC, which receives no general fund tax dollars, has awarded approximately \$40 million in grants for projects including fuels reduction, conservation easements and acquisitions, and watershed and habitat restoration. To view a map of project locations to date, visit the SNC's [Grants Web page](#).*

*The SNC Governing Board meets quarterly around the Sierra Nevada Region, which spans 25 million acres, encompasses all or part of 22 counties and runs from the Oregon border on the north, to southeast of Bakersfield. Of the 13 voting members, six are self-selected county supervisors, one from each of the six Sierra Nevada Conservancy subregions.*

**###**

Agenda Item VIII Exhibit A

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ALL RECOMMENDED PROJECTS UP TO \$5 MILLION - PHASE I JUNE AWARD

June 7, 2012

County	SNC ID #	Organization	Project Title	Amount Requested	Contact Information
Lassen	510	Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (HLVRCD)	<a href="#">Diamond Mountain Forest &amp; Meadow Restoration</a>	\$273,735.00	Leslie Woods (530) 257-7271 leslie.woods@ca.usda.gov
Shasta	578	California Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection	<a href="#">LDSF Fuelbreak/Flat Top Biomass</a>	\$90,000.00	Dave Lovless (530) 225-2505 dave.loveless@fire.ca.gov
Calaveras	489	The Pacific Forest Trust, Inc.	<a href="#">Campstool Ranch &amp; Working Forest</a>	\$350,000.00	Megan Wargo (415) 561-0700 mwargo@pacificforest.org
Lassen	494	Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.	<a href="#">Little Valley Forest and Meadow Watershed Restoration Project</a>	\$349,800.00	Thomas W. Esgate (530)310-0146 twesgate@sbcglobal.net
Nevada	631	Bear Yuba Land Trust	<a href="#">Woodpecker Preserve Forest Restoration Project</a>	\$76,315.00	Marty Coleman-Hunt (530) 272-5994 marty@bylt.org
Calaveras	651	California Department of Parks and Recreation	<a href="#">North Grove Forest Restoration Project</a>	\$349,008.00	Liz Steller (209) 536-5932 lstel@parks.ca.gov
Butte	471	Butte County Fire Safe Council	<a href="#">Forbestown Fuel Break – Phases 3 &amp; 5</a>	\$187,100.00	Calli-Jane Burch (530) 877-0984 firesafe@buttefiresafe.org
Plumas	458	Plumas County Fire Safe Council	<a href="#">La Porte Rd II HFR</a>	\$143,000.00	Jerry Hurley (530) 832-4705 jerry.hurley@sbcglobal.net
Plumas	556	Feather River Resource Conservation District	<a href="#">Heart K Forest Health Project</a>	\$232,750.00	Phil Noia (530) 283-7512 frrcd@hotmail.com
Butte	474	Butte County Fire Safe Council	<a href="#">Little Butte Creek Forest Health Project</a>	\$84,000.00	Calli-Jane Burch (530) 877-0984 firesafe@buttefiresafe.org
Plumas Sierra	509	Sierra Valley Resource Conservation District	<a href="#">Carman Creek Watershed Forest Ecosystem Health Improvement Project</a>	\$350,000.00	Gale Dupree (530) 993-6051 ifish@earthling.net
Mono	520	USDA - Forest Service, Inyo National Forest	<a href="#">June Loop Fuels Reduction Project</a>	\$327,500.00	Ed Armenta (760) 873-2400 earmenta@fs.fed.us
Lassen	463	Pit Resource Conservation District	<a href="#">Kramer Ranch Forest and Meadow Watershed Restoration Project</a>	\$349,692.00	Thomas W. Esgate (530) 310-0146 twesgate@sbcglobal.net
Lassen, Plumas	497	Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc.	<a href="#">Clear Creek Forest and Meadow Watershed Restoration Project</a>	\$349,650.00	Thomas W. Esgate (530) 310-0146 twesgate@sbcglobal.net
Placer	619	Northstar Fire Dept	<a href="#">Northstar Fuels Site Management/Maintenance 2</a>	\$112,967.56	Joe Barron (530) 562-1212 jbarron@northstarcsd.org
Yuba	453	Yuba County Public Works Department	<a href="#">Fuel Reduction Along County Roads</a>	\$144,000.00	Michael Lee (530) 749-5420 mglee@co.yuba.ca.us

Agenda Item VIII Exhibit A

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ALL RECOMMENDED PROJECTS UP TO \$5 MILLION - PHASE I JUNE AWARD

June 7, 2012

County	SNC ID #	Organization	Project Title	Amount Requested	Contact Information
Madera	608	Yosemite-Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council	<a href="#">Upper Chiquito Creek Meadow Restoration Project</a>	\$40,147.42	Steve Haze (559) 855-5840 Stevehaze007@gmail.com
Nevada	512	USDA Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest – Truckee Ranger District	<a href="#">Truckee – Boca Musk Thistle Attack Project</a>	\$33,867.44	Joanne Roubique (530) 587-3558 jroubique@fs.fed.us
Placer, Nevada, Sierra	500	USDA Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest	<a href="#">Weed Treatment on the Westside of the Tahoe NF</a>	\$40,000.00	Genice Froehlich (530) 478-6583 gfroehlich@fs.fed.us
Madera	467	Sierra National Forest, Bass Lake Ranger District	<a href="#">Nelder Grove Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project</a>	\$299,510.34	Luz Vasquez (559) 877-2218 lvasquez@fs.fed.us
Tulare	614	Inyo National Forest	<a href="#">Ground Hog Meadow Watershed Restoration Project</a>	\$71,500.00	Todd Ellsworth (760) 873-2547 tellsworth@fs.fed.us
Placer	488	Placer Land Trust	<a href="#">Harvego Bear River Preserve Improved Forest Management Implementation Project</a>	\$300,000.00	Jeff Darlington (530) 887-9222 jeffd@placerlandtrust.org
Placer	567	City of Auburn Fire Department	<a href="#">American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break</a>	\$146,690.00	Mark D'Ambrogi (530) 823-4211 mdambrogi@auburn.ca.gov
Madera	607	Sierra Freepackers Unit- Backcountry Horsemen of California	<a href="#">Kelty Meadow Campground Restoration and Facilities Improvement Project</a>	\$11,775.00	Joyce Granger (559) 283-4058 cmj@sti.net
Placer	535	Placer County Department of Agriculture	<a href="#">Placer County Department of Agriculture A-Rated Noxious Weed Eradication in the Sierra Nevada</a>	\$60,000.00	Ed King (530) 889-7372 eking@placer.ca.gov
Nevada	656	CA State Parks, Sierra District	<a href="#">Union Hill Fuels Reduction Project</a>	\$150,000.00	Dan Lubin (530) 272-0298 dlubin@parks.ca.gov
<b>Total, All Projects June Award</b>				<b>\$4,923,007.76</b>	