

Table of Contents
American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project

	<u>Pages</u>
Full Application Project Information Form	1 - 2
CCC/Local Conservation Corps Documents	3 - 8
Authorization to Apply/ ARC Board Resolution	9
Narrative Descriptions	
Detailed Project Description	10 - 11
Workplan and Schedule	11 - 12
Restrictions and Regulatory Requirements	12 - 13
Organizational Capacity	13
Cooperation and Community Support	13
Letters of Support Summary	14
Tribal Consultation Narrative	14
Long Term Management and Sustainability	14
Performance Measures	14
Detailed Budget Form	15
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Documentation	16 - 19
Maps	
Project Location Map	20
Parcel Map Showing Placer County Assessor's Parcel Numbers	21
Topographic Maps 1:24,000 scale	22 - 24
Photos of Project Site	25 - 28
Land Tenure Documents	29 - 41
Site Plan	42
Leases or Agreements	43 - 62
Letters of Support	
Northern Sierra Partnership	63
Point Blue Conservation Science	64
The Nature Conservancy	65 - 66
Tahoe National Forest	67 - 69
Western States Trail Foundation	70 - 71
Protect American River Canyons	72 - 73
Placer County Water Agency	74

Appendix B - Full Application Checklist

SNC Reference#: _____

Project Name: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project

Applicant: American River Conservancy

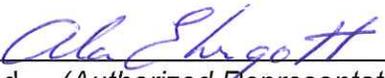
Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. Completed Application Checklist (EFN: Checklist.doc, .docx, .or .pdf)
2. Table of Contents (EFN: TOC.doc, .docx, or .pdf)
3. Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: Siform.doc, .docx, or .pdf)
4. CCC/Local Conservation Corps Document (EFN: CCC.pdf)
5. Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: authorization.doc, .docx, or .pdf)
6. Narrative Descriptions (EFN: Narrative.doc or .docx)
 - a. Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum for section 5a only)
 - Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
 - b. Workplan and Schedule
 - c. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements
 - Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: RestAgree.pdf)
 - Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: RegPermit.pdf)
 - d. Organizational Capacity
 - e. Cooperation and Community Support
 - Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.pdf)
 - f. Tribal Consultation Narrative (EFN: tribal.doc, docx)
 - g. Long Term Management and Sustainability
 - Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf)
 - h. Performance Measures
7. Budget documents
 - a. Detailed Budget Form (EFN: Budget.xls, .xlsx)
8. Supplementary Documents
 - a. Environmental Documentation
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: CEQA.pdf)
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: NEPA.pdf)
 - b. Maps and Photos
 - Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)
 - Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)

- Topographic Map (EFN: *Topo.pdf*)
- Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: *Photo.jpg, .gif*)
- c. Additional submission requirements for Fee Title Acquisition applications only
 - Acquisition Schedule (EFN: *acqSched.doc, .docx or .pdf*)
 - Willing Seller Letter (EFN: *WillSell.pdf*)
 - Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: *Appraisal.pdf*)
- d. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project applications only
 - Land Tenure Documents (EFN: *Tenure.pdf*)
 - Site Plan (EFN: *SitePlan.pdf*)
 - Leases or Agreements (EFN: *LeaseAgmnt.pdf*)

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate, and that I have been authorized to apply for this grant.


Signed (Authorized Representative)

08/24/2015
Date

Alan Ehr Gott
Name and Title (print or type)

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY	
PROPOSITION 1 – Watershed Improvement Program Project Information Form	
SNC REFERENCE #	
PROJECT NAME	
APPLICANT NAME (<i>Legal name, address, and zip code</i>)	
AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUEST	
TOTAL PROJECT COST	
PROJECT LOCATION (<i>County with approx. lat/long, center of project area</i>)	
SENATE DISTRICT NUMBER	ASSEMBLY DISTRICT NUMBER
PERSON WITH MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT	
<i>Name and title</i>	<i>Phone</i>
	<i>Email Address</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ms.	
TRIBAL CONSULTATION CONTACT(S) INFORMATION	
<i>Name:</i>	<i>Phone Number:</i>
<i>Email address:</i>	
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION	
<i>Name:</i>	<i>Phone Number:</i>
<i>Email address:</i>	
NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION	
<i>Name:</i>	<i>Phone Number:</i>
<i>Email address:</i>	

Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details *(Choose One)*

Category One Site Improvement

Category Two Pre-Project Activities

Category One Acquisition

Site Improvement/ Acquisition Project Area

Project Area:

Total Acres:

SNC Portion (if different):

Acquisition Projects Only For Acquisitions Only

Appraisal Included

Select one primary Pre-Project deliverable

Permit

CEQA/NEPA Compliance

Appraisal

Condition Assessment

Biological Survey

Environmental Site Assessment

Plan

6. Narrative Description

a. Detailed Project Description

The American River Conservancy (“ARC”) requests \$500,000 for the restoration of 10,115 acres of forest it owns in fee at the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the American River. The subject land is west of Lake Tahoe and the Granite Chief Wilderness. It is the largest inholding of private land on the Sierra Crest south of Donner Summit. This restoration project is expected to cost at least \$4.5 million. To date, ARC and its partners have secured \$2.3 million in private funding (51% of this total).

We envision this project as a research and demonstration site for landscape-scale, ecologically-based forest management, that could increase the pace and scale of such management throughout the Sierra. ARC will manage restoration and the thinning of 2,400 acres of dense young conifer (500+ trees/ac) through mechanical removal and hand thinning in sensitive areas by California Conservation Corps (“CCC”) and other hand crews with oversight by a forest ecologist and registered professional forester. Woody material will be chipped and distributed on site as mulch with any surplus provided to the biomass plant in Rocklin (or other site) for electrical generation. Thinning operations will protect and separate established groves of larger trees, increase the diversity of conifer species and age classes. The project will decommission/obliterate 25 miles of old logging road, remove 37 culverts on roads crossing headwater streams remove encroaching conifers within 200 acres of mountain meadow. The \$500,000 in SNC grant funds would pay for the thinning of 330 acres (14% of the total) at a cost of approximately \$1,500/acre.

This *American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project* (ARHWIP) meets the goals of the California Water Action Plan, AB685-Human Right to Water, California’s 2012 Bioenergy Action Plan and the Resources Agency’s Safeguarding California by: (1) *reducing wildfire risks* through forest thinning followed by prescribed burning where feasible; (2) *protect watersheds tributary to Placer and Sacramento County water storage* facilities and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta by thinning unnaturally dense, single aged forest to improve fire resiliency, water quality and increase watershed production; and, (3) *promote watershed health* by removing invasive conifers from mountain meadows, reduce erosion by decommissioning old logging roads, remove culverts that interfere with fish passage and eliminate vehicular trespass over and across tributary streams. The project will enhance habitat connectivity between two large roadless areas and enhance forest resilience to climate change.

The ARHWIP project area is located between 5,500’ – 8,500’ in elevation, immediately upstream of French Meadows and Hell Hole Reservoirs which are principal water storage facilities for the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA). This property has been selectively logged over the past 65 years and subject to fire suppression. Selective logging and fire

suppression management have resulted in an ecosystem dominated by dense stands of young lodge-pole pine and fir species interlaced with old logging tracks that contribute to stream sediments.

These dense patches of forests consume more ground water through evapotranspiration and through sublimation from snow intercepted by tree canopy. SNC grant funds will largely be spent on the mechanical thinning of this forest with the intent of improving health and distribution of larger, older trees, and increase the separation between dominant groves of older trees to enhance fire, climate resiliency, improve wildlife habitat and increase watershed function.

A significant benefit from the project comes from a partnership with The Nature Conservancy (“TNC”) and Dr. Roger Bales at UC Merced. Dr. Bales and his team have installed several stream flow and soil moisture measuring devices on project lands. Collected data will allow us to assess forest health, soil and stream quantity *before and after* forest thinning treatments and compare to controls. Preliminary research indicates that thinning dense patches of smaller trees may increase water flow into forest streams by 3-6%. The ARC believes this project could be a “game changer” and lead to improvements in forest management and forest thinning prescriptions throughout watersheds on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada Range that collectively produce over 60% of California’s water supply.

We have already secured funding for CEQA review and required regulatory permits and have additional funding either in hand or being solicited to complete the project. This restoration project is a collaborative effort with financial and staffing resources contributed by ARC, TNC, the Tahoe National Forest (TNF), UC Merced and other UC research labs, CDFW, CalFire, the CCC and the PCWA. The project also has strong community support as indicated by attached letters of support. [4,926 characters and spaces]

b. Workplan and Schedule

This restoration project was initiated in March, 2015 through consultations with participating and permitting agencies. The project’s first phase includes the development of a *Project Description* with: (a) Forest Thinning and Management Plan; (b) Aquatic Habitat Restoration Plan; (c) Road Decommissioning Plan with Trail Layout; (d) Phase 1 Biological and Cultural Surveys; and (e) Maps and Graphics. This project description will be used in preparing and submitting a Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration to satisfy and secure CEQA certification. ARC expects to secure CEQA certification by early February, 2016.

The project’s second phase will be to prepare and secure required permits from: (a) Army Corps of Engineers; (b) Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board; (c) California Department of Fish and Wildlife. ARC expects to secure these permits by June, 2016.

The project’s third phase will be the implementation of all restoration plans including forest thinning, meadow restoration, road decommissioning and trail development. The implementation of all restoration activity is expected to occur during summer and fall periods (due to the high elevation of the project area) from June through October. On-the-ground restoration activity is expected to begin June, 2016 and be completed by October, 2018. Restoration management will be provided by Alan Ehrgott, ARC’s project manager; Ed Smith, Forest Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy and Kevin Whitlock RPF. Forest thinning, road obliteration, culvert removal, meadow restoration and trail building will be conducted by a combination of contractors (forest thinning/mastication and road obliteration), California Conservation Corps crews and ARC employees.

The project’s fourth and final phase will be the implementation of post-restoration monitoring and management. This phase will continue throughout the project period and extend throughout ARC’s ownership of the property, expected to extend over at least 10 years in length. ARC has secured a non-wasting endowment to support on-going management expense which is currently producing \$57,500 in annual investment return. This investment return is guaranteed over the first five (5) years of ARC’s ownership and management of the subject 10,115 acres.

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	COMPLETION TIMELINE
CEQA Compliance	February, 2016
Regulatory Permits	June, 2016
Forest Management Plan	June, 2016
Forest Thinning and Mulch Distribution (2,400 acres of Forest Thinned)	October, 2017
Road Decommissioning/Obliteration (25 miles of Road Decommissioned)	October, 2018
Culvert Removal/Stream Restoration 37 Culverts Removed	October, 2018
Meadow Restoration (200 acres Restored)	October, 2018
4.1 Miles of New Trail Built	October, 2018
Ongoing Forest Management	Through October, 2026

c. Restrictions/Agreements

There are no property restrictions, easements or other encumbrances that could adversely impact project completions.

Regulatory Requirements/Permits

The project will require CEQA clearance through negative declaration or mitigated declaration. Other forest and stream restoration permits are required from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The project will not include any commercial timber harvest and will not require a timber harvest plan.

d. Organizational Capacity

The ARC (and this project's manager) has been actively involved in protecting and enhancing natural habitats within the American and Cosumnes River watersheds since 1989. Over the past 25 years, the Applicant has raised \$91,920,000 to complete 81 conservation projects, acquiring and restoring over 24,800 acres. The vast majority of these conservation projects were completed within the scheduled time frame with very few contract extensions and all within the allowable project budget.

The Applicant has significant management experience including project planning, competitive bid management, contractor supervision and volunteer coordination for a variety of field projects including: (1) the construction and enhancement of reproductive habitat for California red-legged frog, native fish and native plant species; (2) road closures involving the restoration of natural slopes and re-establishing native vegetation; (3) trail construction and maintenance; (4) riparian restoration and stream bank stabilization; (5) fuel reductions within oak and conifer forests; and, (6) operational partnerships with CalFire, California Conservation Corps, National Forest Service, BLM, State Dept. of Parks and Recreation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Army Corps of Engineers, California Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Natural Resources Agency.

e. Cooperation and Community Support

From 2013 to present, the American River Conservancy has developed and maintained cooperation and community support for the acquisition and restoration of project lands from a variety of non-profit and public agency partners including: the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Wildlife Conservation Board; the California Natural Resources Agency, the Tahoe National Forest, the Placer County Water Agency, the Placer County Chamber of Commerce, The Nature Conservancy, the Northern Sierra Partnership, the Western States Trail Foundation, Point Blue Conservation Science, and Preserve American River Canyons. We are working collaboratively with our neighbors to the north, including the 1850 Trust and residents and managers of the Cedars. Cohesive management across land boundaries will improve our chances of being effective land stewards, and will improve synergy of our investments in realizing ecological and social benefits.

f. Letters of Support

Letters of support are attached to this grant application from: the Tahoe National Forest, the Placer County Water Agency, The Nature Conservancy, The Northern Sierra Partnership, The Western States Trail Foundation, and Point Blue.

g. Tribal Consultation Narrative

The subject lands contain a known petroglyph field within its northwest corner (Wabena Point). It is probable that these petroglyphs were established by Native American's that pre-date the regional Washoe and Maidu tribes. This cultural site is remote and has no direct vehicular access. It is the goal and intent of the Applicant to work with both the Washoe Tribe (Darrel Cruz, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer) and the Maidu Tribe (Marcos Guerrero, Preservation Officer) with the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) in the preservation, documentation and monitoring of this important cultural site. There are no forest thinning, road restoration or other project activities planned in or around this cultural site.

h. Long Term Management and Sustainability

The Applicant expects to own, restore, monitor and manage the subject 10,115 acres for ten (10) years or more. To this purpose, a dedicated, non-wasting endowment has been established with a principal balance to date of \$1,150,000 with a guaranteed interest income over the next five years of \$57,500. These stewardship funds will pay for the annual costs of management and stewardship including: property liability insurance; property tax, monitoring costs for two site visits weekly, road, signage and gate management, and project related overhead and administrative expense.

i. Performance Measures

The statistical performance measures the Applicant will use to measure and track progress towards project goals and desired outcomes include the following:

- acre feet per annum of stream flow improved;
- acres of land improved or restored;
- acres of forest thinned;
- # of trees within graduated dbh classes removed and retained;
- miles of road decommissioned;
- number of culverts removed;
- linear feet of stream bank restored;
- miles of recreational trail built;
- number of trailhead kiosks installed;
- number and type of jobs created;
- number and value of new, improved or preserved economic activities;
- number of new recreation access points
- tons of carbon sequestered over time;

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
SNC Watershed Improvement Program - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project

Applicant: American River Conservancy

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>Project Management Costs</i>	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00		\$90,000.00
<i>Forest Thinning Costs</i>	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00		\$320,000.00
<i>Mileage- CrewCab Truck</i>						\$0.00
<i>at \$75/day and \$.575/mile</i>						\$0.00
<i>18 days and 3,000 miles/year</i>	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00		\$12,400.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$102,500.00	\$102,500.00	\$102,500.00	\$102,500.00	\$0.00	\$422,400.00

SECTION TWO PARTIAL INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>Research, Data Collection</i>	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		\$20,000.00
<i>(additional stream guages/U.C.Merced</i>						\$0.00
<i>analysis by staff)</i>						\$0.00
						\$0.00
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$107,500.00	\$107,500.00	\$107,500.00	\$986,250.00	\$0.00	\$442,400.00

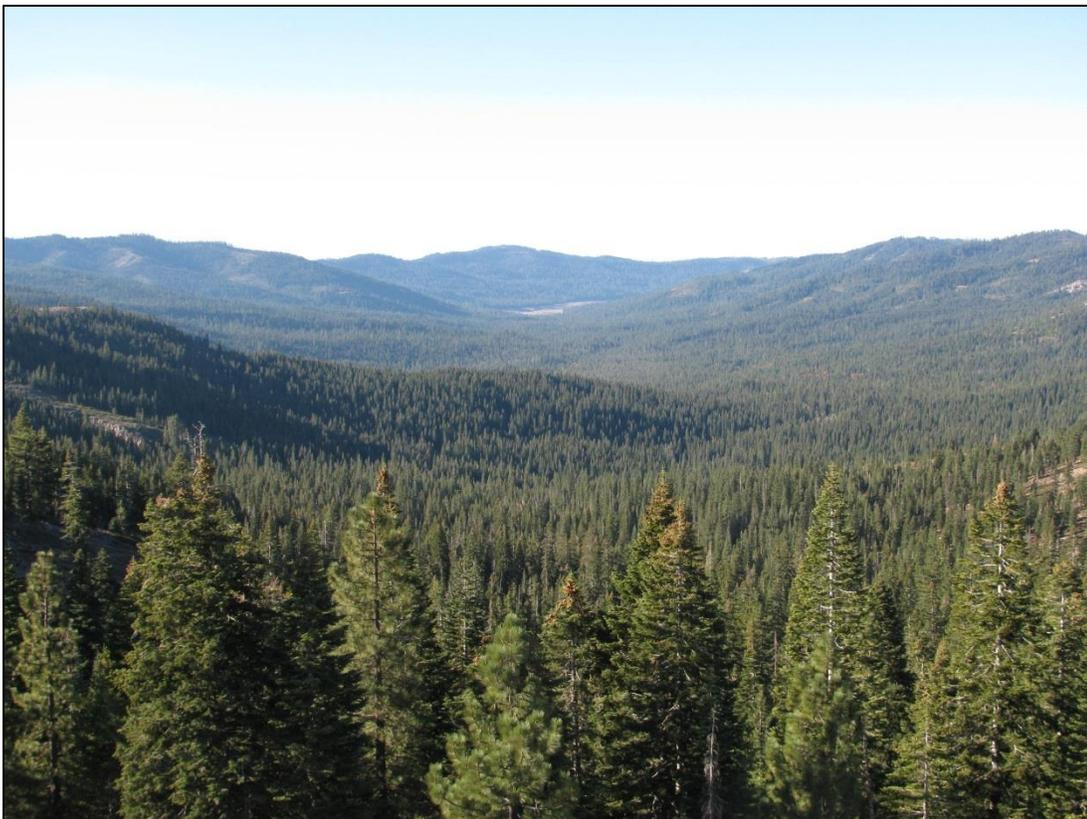
SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not exceed 15% of the above listed Project costs) :						Total
<i>*Organization operating/overhead costs</i>						\$0.00
<i>Applicants operating/overhead costs</i>	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00		\$57,600.00
<i>(office spac and equipment; utilities,</i>						\$0.00
<i>bookkeeping and office manager</i>						\$0.00
<i>(shared in proportion to project exp.)</i>						\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	\$0.00	\$57,600.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>List other funding or in-kind contributors to project (i.e. Sierra Business Council, Department of Water Resources, etc.)</i>						
Jim and Becky Morgan Foundation	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00		\$950,000.00
David and Lucile Packard Foundation	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00		\$475,000.00
The Nature Conservancy	\$96,662.50	\$96,662.50	\$96,662.50	\$96,662.50		\$386,650.00
American River Conservancy	\$89,062.50	\$89,062.50	\$89,062.50	\$89,062.50		\$356,250.00
CDFW Grant (Prop. 1) - pending	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00		\$1,000,000.00
WCB Grant (Prop. 1) - pending	\$208,025.00	\$208,025.00	\$208,025.00	\$208,025.00		\$832,100.00
Total Other Contributions:	#####	#####	#####	#####	\$0.00	\$4,000,000.00

* Administrative Costs equal 13% of listed project costs



Section 29: Photo taken from subject land looking south into Picayune Valley and the upper Middle Fork American River. The upper elevations of project lands above 7,000' are mostly red fir and Jeffrey Pine and do not require forest thinning to improve fire resiliency and watershed protection.



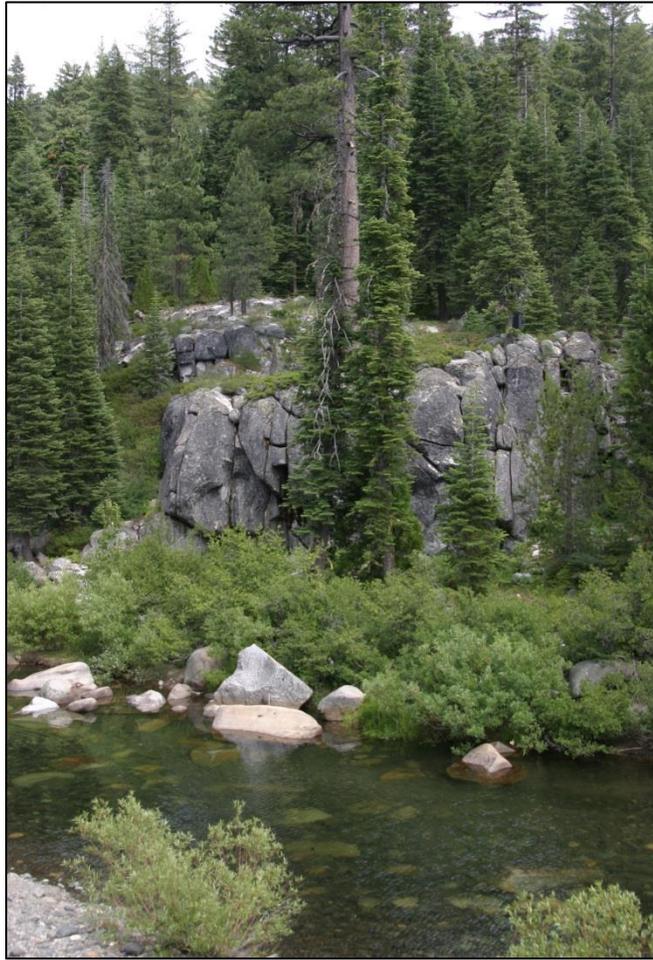
Section 35 & 36: Looking west into the Talbot Creek drainage upstream of French Meadows reservoir (upper take line visible). Red star ridge is on the right and Chipmunk Ridge is on the left. Lower elevations (approx. 5,500') have more unbroken canopy and will be the focus of the project's forest thinning efforts.



Section 1: Looking northeast from a meadow in Section 1 (5,500') to Lyon's Ridge and the upper portions of the subject property (Sections 25,35,36 and 29). The upper Middle Fork American River (upstream of French Meadows Reservoir) runs up the valley from left to right. Project meadows release cold water throughout the summer in support of native, rainbow trout streams producing in excess of 4,200 young-of-the year trout per mile.



Section 1: Project meadows contain quaking aspen, alder and willow provide ideal fawning ground for regional deer herds and nesting habitat for willow flycatcher and yellow warbler. Project funds will be used to remove lodge pole pine and fir that have intruded into meadow systems and threaten the integrity of riparian ecosystems.



Section 1: Upper Middle Fork of the American River. The 10,115 acres of this restoration project are headwater lands. This restoration project would improve connectivity and riparian habitat quality of tributary streams to the Middle Fork American River including Talbot Creek, Rice Creek, Dolly Creek and many unnamed streams. At upper elevations and over steeper slopes, stringer meadows of alder, willow and other riparian plants provide high quality aquatic habitat and connectivity to deeper and wider streams with lower gradients immediately above the Reservoir.

This upper reach of the Middle Fork American River (particularly T.15N, R.14E Section 1) is unimpaired above French Meadows Reservoir and still has an intact spring and summer hydrograph, providing excellent spawning ground for adult rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). These fish ascend from French Meadows Reservoir in the spring, migrating throughout Section 1. This is a highly productive system with 4,200 young-of-the-year trout per mile. Consequently, protection of the forested sections of these headwater streams is very important. Restoration efforts, particularly forest thinning to increase fire resiliency, the obliteration of logging roads and removal of culverts in headwater streams will maintain and improved riparian habitat, decrease sedimentation and improve unimpaired connectivity.





Section 36 (Photos Above): Both photos are taken on Road 51 at about the 7,000' elevation. This logging road runs through Sections 25, 29, 35, 36 and 1. This restoration project would decommission and obliterate the road. Restoration would cultivate and aerate the compacted soil, remove culverts to their natural stream courses, restore slopes to natural gradients, roughen previously roaded surfaces with rock and woody material and allow natural regeneration of native grasses, shrubs and trees. A 4.1 mile hiking and equestrian trail will also be built parallel to Road 51 providing a third and final leg to a 20 mile trail, connecting the Picayune Valley Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail and the Western States Trail allowing for continuous loop travel to and from the Talbot Creek Campground.



Section 2: The photo on the *left* is at the base of Road 51 at a point where it crosses the west fork of Talbot Creek (elev. 5,700'). Currently this road is frequently travelled (in trespass) by motorcycles and 4-wheel drive RVs. This restoration project will install a pedestrian and equestrian bridge over the creek becoming a future barricade to vehicular traffic and a source of erosion over multiple stream crossings. A parking and interpretive area will be placed within a restored landing, used previously for commercial logging, which is approximately 200 feet distant from this stream crossing.

The photo on the right is typical of the many areas in need of forest thinning treatment, where young lodge pole pine and fir exceed densities of 700 trees per acre, where canopy is interlaced and continuous. There is approximately 2,400 acres of forest on the subject 10,115 acres (about 10% of land coverage) where forest thinning would provide significant increases in resiliency to wild land fire and watershed productivity by increasing groundwater absorption.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY

Resolution No: 08-19-2015-01

DATE: August 19, 2015

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE
SIERRA NEVADA WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UNDER THE
WATER QUALITY, SUPPLY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2014

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution certifying the approval of the application by the Applicant's governing body before submission of said application to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, the American River Conservancy has identified the **AMERICAN RIVER HEADWATERS WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT PROJECT** as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the American River Conservancy, that this Board:

- Approves the submittal of an application for the American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project; and
- Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
- Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and Maintain the resources consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application; or will secure the resources to do so; and
- Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
- Appoints Alan Ehrgott, its Executive Director as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to: applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the American River Conservancy on the 19th Day of August, 2015.

 BOARD PRESIDENT

Alan Ehrgott

From: Prop 1@CCC <Prop1@CCC.CA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 9:37 AM
To: Alan Ehrgott; Prop 1@CCC
Cc: inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org; Lussier, Brian@CCC; Mijares, Marie@CCC; Hsieh, Wei@CCC
Subject: RE: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (10,115 acres)

Hi Alan,

Brian Lussier, the Conservation Supervisor at our CCC Greenwood location has responded to the partnership for your project: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (ARHWIP). The CCC is very interested and can assist with the 5 work components described in this project.

Please include this email and the Consultation Review Document below with your application as proof that you reached out to the CCC. Feel free to contact Brian Lussier Brian.Lussier@ccc.ca.gov directly if your project receives funding.

Thank you,



Wei Hsieh, Manager
Programs & Operations Division
California Conservation Corps
1719 24th Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 341-3154
Wei.Hsieh@ccc.ca.gov

California Conservation Corps Proposition 1 - Water Bond Consultation Review Document



Applicant has submitted the required information by email to the California Conservation Corps (CCC):

Yes (applicant has submitted all necessary information to CCC)

After consulting with the project applicant, the CCC has determined the following:

- ✓ It is feasible for the CCC to be used on the project and the following aspects of the project can be accomplished (deemed compliant).
- The CCC is very interested and can assist with the 5 work components described in this project.

APPLICANT WILL INCLUDE THIS DOCUMENT AS PART OF THE PROJECT APPLICATION.

From: Alan Ehrgott [mailto:ehrgott@arconservancy.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 4:51 PM
To: Prop 1@CCC
Cc: inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org
Subject: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (10,115 acres)

Dear CCC and CALCC Representatives,

Please accept this email as a request for consultation to determine the feasibility of the Corps participation in the following project.

- *Project Title:* American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (ARHWIP).
- *Project Description:* The American River Conservancy, a non-profit 501(c)(3) conservation organization recently purchased 10,115 acres of forested land at the headwaters of the Middle and North Forks of the American River (elev. 5,500' – 8,500'). These forested lands are immediately upstream of the French Meadows Reservoir and the Hell Hole Reservoir. The subject lands catch and store snow and rain and release cold, quality water throughout the year. The North and Middle Forks of the American River is a principal source of water for Placer County, Sacramento and 20 million residents in Central and Southern California. These subject lands have been selectively logged over the past 60 years. Fire suppression during this period has resulted in unnaturally dense forests and an overabundance of logging roads producing sediment loading within the 20 miles of river and perennial stream running through the subject 10,115 acres. This project will include the following activities and deliverables:
 1. Thin approximately 1,200 acres of young, single-aged forest where tree density exceeds 500 trees/acre to improve fire resiliency and increase the amount and quality of water flowing into streams and rivers;
 2. Decommission and obliterate approximately 28 miles of logging road restoring the land to natural contours and native vegetation;
 3. Remove approximately 27 culverts within seasonal and perennial streams that represent barriers to native rainbow trout passage and reproduction.
 4. Remove intruding lodge pole pine and white fir from seven mountain meadow systems throughout the subject property to enhance fire resiliency and improve wildlife habitat and wildlife connectivity between the Wild and Scenic North Fork American River and the Granite Chief Wilderness.
 5. Enhance public recreation by building 4.4 miles of new hiking and equestrian trail connecting the Talbot Creek Campgrounds with the Western States Endurance Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail and Picayune Valley Trail.
- *Project Map:* A project location map identifying the 10,115 acres of subject land is attached.

- *Project Implementation:* The estimated project start date is June 1, 2016 with an estimated end date of October 31, 2018.

Please note that I have already consulted with Brian Lussier, Project Coordinator for the Corp's Greenwood Center. He is excited about the project and has assured me that a crew from the Greenwood Center would be available to work during the field seasons (June thru October) of 2016 through 2018. Brian has provided me with an estimated budget for an 8-day 'spike' (14 Corps members on site for 8 days):

Labor: 80 hours x 14 members x \$20/hour	= \$22,400
Food: 8 days x \$14 x 14 corps members	= \$ 1,568
Crew Leader Overtime:	= \$ 1,500
Total for one 8-day Spike	= \$25,468

Thank you for reviewing the above information and preparing a Corps Consultation Review Document. I plan to submit this document with our Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program grant application to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on or before September 1, 2015.

Sincerely,

Alan Ehgott
Executive Director
American River Conservancy
348 Highway 49 – P.O. Box 562
Coloma, CA 95613-0562
Office: (530) 621-1224
Email: ehgott@arconservancy.org

Total Control Panel

[Login](#)

To: ehgott@arconservancy.org [Remove](#) this sender from my allow list
From: prop1@ccc.ca.gov

You received this message because the sender is on your allow list.

Alan Ehrgott

From: Prop1 Community Corps <inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 9:08 AM
To: Alan Ehrgott
Cc: Prop1@ccc.ca.gov
Subject: Re: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (10,115 acres)

Hello Alan

Baldeo of the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps has responded that they are able to assist with the American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project if the city receives funding. Please include this email with your application as proof that you reached out to the Local Conservation Corps.

Additionally, please feel free to contact Baldeo Singh (bsingh@saccorps.org) directly if your project receives funding.

Thank you,

Dominique

California Association of Local Conservation Corps

Proposition 1 - Water Bond

Consultation Review Document

Applicant has submitted the required information by email to the Local Conservation Corps (CALCC):

✓ Yes (applicant has submitted all necessary information to CALCC)

After consulting with the project applicant, the CALCC has determined the following:

✓ It is feasible for CALCC to be used on the project (deemed compliant)

APPLICANT WILL INCLUDE THIS DOCUMENT AS PART OF THE PROJECT APPLICATION.

On Tue, Aug 18, 2015 at 4:51 PM, Alan Ehrgott <ehrgott@arconservancy.org> wrote:

Dear CCC and CALCC Representatives,

Please accept this email as a request for consultation to determine the feasibility of the Corps participation in the following project.

- *Project Title:* American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project (ARHWIP).
- *Project Description:* The American River Conservancy, a non-profit 501(c)(3) conservation organization recently purchased 10,115 acres of forested land at the headwaters of the

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source of water for Placer County, Sacramento and 20 million residents in Central and Southern California. These subject lands have been selectively logged over the past

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river and perennial stream running through the subject 10,115 acres. This project will include the following activities and deliverables:

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2. Decommission and obliterate approximately 28 miles of logging road restoring the land to natural contours and native vegetation;
3. Remove approximately 27 culverts within seasonal and perennial streams that represent barriers to native rainbow trout passage and reproduction.

4. Remove intruding lodge pole pine and white fir from seven mountain meadow systems throughout the subject property to enhance fire resiliency and improve wildlife habitat and wildlife connectivity between the Wild and Scenic North Fork American River and the Granite Chief Wilderness.

5. Enhance public recreation by building 4.4 miles of new hiking and equestrian trail connecting the Talbot Creek Campgrounds with the Western States Endurance Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail and Picayune Valley Trail.

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- *Project Implementation:* The estimated project start date is June 1, 2016 with an estimated end date of October 31, 2018.

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Total for one 8-day Spike	= \$25,468

Thank you for reviewing the above information and preparing a Corps Consultation Review Document. I plan to submit this document with our Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program grant application to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on or before September 1, 2015.

Sincerely,

Alan Ehrgott

Executive Director

American River Conservancy

348 Highway 49 – P.O. Box 562

Appendix F - CEQA/NEPA Compliance Form

(California Environmental Quality Act & National Environmental Policy Act)

Instructions: All applicants must complete the CEQA compliance section. Check the box that describes the CEQA status of the proposed project. You must also complete the documentation component and submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the checked CEQA status.

If NEPA is applicable to your project, you must complete the NEPA section in addition to the CEQA section. Check the box that describes the NEPA status of the proposed project. Submit any surveys, and/or reports that support the NEPA status. For both CEQA and NEPA, submittal of permits is only necessary if they contain conditions providing information regarding potential environmental impacts.

NOTE: Effective July 1, 2015, AB52 compliance is required.

CEQA STATUS

(All applicants must complete this section)

Check the box that corresponds with the CEQA compliance for your project. The proposed action is either Categorical Exempt from CEQA, requires a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA.

Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption

If a project is exempt from CEQA, all applicants, including public agencies that provide a filed Notice of Exemption, are required to provide a clear and comprehensive description of the physical attributes of the project site, including potential and known special-status species and habitat, in order for the SNC to make a determination that the project is exempt. A particular project that ordinarily would fall under a specific category of exemption may require further CEQA review due to individual circumstances, i.e., it is within a sensitive location, has a cumulative impact, has a significant effect on the environment, is within a scenic highway, impacts an historical resource, or is on a hazardous waste site. Potential cultural/archaeological resources must be noted, but do not need to be specifically listed or mapped at the time of application submittal. Backup data informing the exemption decision, such as biological surveys, Cultural Information Center requests, research papers, etc. should accompany the full application. Applicants anticipating the SNC to file an exemption should conduct the appropriate surveys and submit an information request to an office of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for claiming a Categorical or Statutory Exemption per CEQA:

2. If your organization is a state or local governmental agency, submit a signed, approved Notice of Exemption (NOE) documenting the use of the Categorical Exemption or Statutory Exemption, along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The Notice of Exemption must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.
3. If your organization is a nonprofit, there is no other California public agency having discretionary authority over your project, and you would like the SNC to prepare a NOE for your project, let us know that and list any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support the CEQA status. All supplementary documentation must be provided to the SNC before the NOE can be prepared.

-
- Negative Declaration OR**
 Mitigated Negative Declaration

If a project requires a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration per CEQA:

2. Submit the approved Initial Study and Negative Declaration/Mitigated Negative Declaration along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The IS/ND/MND must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.

Environmental Impact Report

If a project requires an Environmental Impact Report, then applicants must work with a qualified public agency, i.e., one that has discretionary authority over project approval or permitting, to complete the CEQA process.

1. Describe how your project complies with the requirements for the use of an Environmental Impact Report per CEQA:

2. Submit the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report along with any Mitigation Monitoring or Reporting Plans, permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this CEQA status. The EIR documentation must be accompanied by a signed, approved Notice of Determination, which must bear a date stamp to show that it has been filed with the State Clearinghouse and/or County Clerk, as required by CEQA.
-

NEPA STATUS

Check the box that corresponds with the NEPA compliance for your project.

Categorical Exclusion

Submit the signed, approved Decision Memo and Categorical Exclusion, as well as documentation to support the Categorical Exclusion, including any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

Environmental Assessment & Finding of No Significant Impact

Submit the signed, approved Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

Environmental Impact Statement

Submit the Draft and approved, Final Environmental Impact Statement, along with the Record of Decision and any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

August 28, 2015

Chris Dallas, Area Representative
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: American River Headwaters Watershed Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Dallas:

I am writing to express The Nature Conservancy's enthusiastic support for the grant application submitted by our partner, the American River Conservancy, for the restoration of the recently-acquired American River Headwaters ("ARH").

The Nature Conservancy, with the Northern Sierra Partnership, worked closely with the American River Conservancy in the purchase of the 10,115-acre ARH property. The ARH acquisition was a high priority for several reasons. First, the property and surrounding watershed have high conservation value for fish and wildlife, water quality and quantity, and recreation. Second, the acquisition allowed consolidation of a checkerboard pattern of land ownership that precluded integrated, ecologically-based management.

Third, and of critical importance, we view the ARH property and surrounding lands as an ideal laboratory for research and demonstration of landscape-scale, ecologically-based forest and watershed management. As you are well aware, Sierra forests are facing a dire situation where wildfires are becoming larger, hotter, and more destructive, a trend that is likely to continue. There is an urgent need to increase the pace and scale of ecologically-based fuels reduction, not only to reduce the risk of megafires, but also to promote forest and watershed conditions that are more resilient to climate change. By working with surrounding private and public landowners, especially the U.S. Forest Service, we can implement ecologically-based practices on a landscape scale, while at the same time identifying any policy or management changes that may be necessary to export these practices to other Sierra watersheds.

Finally, we intend to use the ARH property to research the water supply, water quality, and wildlife habitat impacts of ecologically-based forest management. The Nature Conservancy's recent report, "Estimating the Water Supply Benefits from Forest Restoration in the Northern Sierra Nevada" (March 2015), projects that thinning of overly dense forests to reduce wildfire risk could increase water yield in the American River watershed by up to 3%. The economic value of such an increase could be considerable, potentially funding a significant share of the cost of the forest thinning. The report calls for Sierra-based research to test this hypothesis. As part of the ARH project, we are partnering with researchers at the University of California to assess the water yield and other impacts from the proposed restoration program. This is truly an opportunity to learn lessons that could advance forest restoration not only at this property, but throughout the Sierra. Our goal is first to reduce tree density in strategic locations that will allow

us to safely and effectively reintroduce controlled fire to the landscape. Funding of this proposal by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy will constitute a crucial contribution toward achieving this goal.

The Nature Conservancy is contributing to this project in multiple ways. First, we raised several million dollars towards the purchase price of the property. Second, we have raised and will contribute approximately an additional \$1.9 million towards the restoration of the property. (This includes funds contributions from the Packard Foundation and Morgan Family Foundation on the project budget.) Third, we are prepared to commit significant staff time to this effort over the next several years.

In sum, we believe that the American River Headwaters is a high priority project, not only in its own right, but also as a potential model for demonstrating and exporting ecologically-based forest restoration and fuels reduction practices throughout the Sierra.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David Edelson
Sierra Nevada Project Director



Point Blue Conservation Science
3820 Cypress Drive Suite 11
Petaluma, CA 94954
707.781.2555 pointblue.org

Conservation Science for a healthy planet.

20 August 2015

Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director
American River Conservancy
348 Highway 49
Coloma, CA 95613

Dear Alan,

On behalf of Point Blue Conservation Science, we are offering support for the American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project proposal. This project meets many of Point Blue's climate-smart conservation objectives, including managing for a changing climate and aligning habitat conditions that will be resilient to future conditions.

Ensuring Sierra Nevada forests are able to adapt to more frequent and extreme fires is a critical step to addressing climate change in California. Reducing fuel loads will not only reduce the risk of high severity fire but increase the potential to use managed fire to achieve fuel reduction objectives.

With climate models predicting decreased snowpack and earlier runoff, restoring headwater meadow and riparian systems will become more important for storing water, attenuating floods, reducing soil erosion, and supporting biodiversity.

The American Headwaters area contains many stringer meadows and alder thickets that could support rare and declining species such as the Willow Flycatcher and Swainson's Thrush. Point Blue data shows that meadows are utilized at some point during the year by almost every bird species that breeds or migrates through the Sierra. Most meadows are in a degraded state and their value for critical habitat for wildlife has been greatly reduced. Restoring these impaired habitats would benefit bird species and downstream water users.

Point Blue is committed to working collaboratively with partners in the American River Headwaters region, including the American River Conservancy and Tahoe National Forest, to restore this important land. We would like to thank you for your dedication to protecting and restoring headwater areas in the Sierra Nevada and we look forward to seeing the success of this watershed improvement project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alissa M. Fogg".

Alissa M. Fogg
Central Sierra Project Leader

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan D. Burnett".

Ryan D. Burnett
Sierra Nevada Group Director

Western States Trail Foundation



*Sponsors of the 100-Miles,
One-Day Tevis Cup Ride*

150 A Gum Lane, Suite 103
Auburn, CA 95603
www.TevisCup.org

(530) 823-7282 phone
(530) 823-7901 fax
wstf@foothill.net

Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director
American River Conservancy
348 Highway 49
P.O. Box 562
Coloma CA 95613

July 17, 2014

Dear Alan,

On behalf of the Western States Trail Foundation (WSTF), we wholeheartedly support your organization's acquisition of the 9,955 acres from Simorg Forests West, LLC at the headwaters of the Middle and North Forks of the American River. As we have discussed with you the WSTF sponsors annually The Western States 100 Miles One Day Ride (the "Tevis Cup Ride") on the historic Western States Trail over the Sierra Nevada Mountains. A portion of the Western States Trail passes through the subject property.

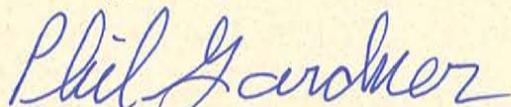
It is our opinion that the purchase of this property by the American River Conservancy will insure permanent passage on the Western States Trail through this property for equestrians, hikers, and runners. Additionally, we support your management goals for the property, which include: protection of old growth forest resources; enhancement of the American River watershed (North and Middle Forks); the support of passive recreation opportunities; and the desire to assist in forest resiliency through catastrophic fire prevention. The Tevis Cup Ride has experienced significant threats in the past (and likely in the future) due to wildfires. In fact, our Ride was cancelled in 2008 due to active wildfires in the Tahoe National Forest, and the American Fire in 2013 damaged a portion of the trail and destroyed an important river crossing bridge. Thus, your understanding of the threat of catastrophic wildfire to this important upland watershed and the impact of these fires to our forested landscape and natural resources aligns with our Foundation's goals.

The 100-mile "Tevis Cup Ride" was formed in 1955 as an international riding competition to create and maintain public interest in the type of equestrian event made famous in California and western history by the Pony Express Riders of 1860-1861 fame. In addition to sponsoring the Tevis Cup Ride, a primary mission of the Western States Trail Foundation is to disseminate information relating to the use of this historic route by Paiute and Washoe Indians, Gold Rush explorers, Comstock hopefuls, and Express Riders of the Wells Fargo and Adams Express Companies. In addition to providing a historical route for pioneers and a historical lifestyle for Native Americans, today this route provides us with rewards of exploration, challenge,

accomplishment, wilderness, nature and a bolstering of spirit for horsemen, hikers, and runners alike.

The Western States Trail is one of only a few east-west trail routes from the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the Sacramento Valley that remains largely untouched by development and, for the most part, is much like what early-day users would have known. The trail follows the direction of the Middle Fork of the American River through the mountains between Squaw Valley near Lake Tahoe and Auburn. Again, our organization views the American River Conservancy's purchase of the 9,955 acres from Simorg Forests West, LLC at the headwaters of the Middle and North Forks of the American River as a means of perpetually preserving this environmentally and historically important portion of the Western Sierra, and the Western States Trail which passes through it. For these reasons the WSTF has committed a minimum contribution of \$200,000 towards the purchase.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Gardner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Phil" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Gardner".

Phil Gardner

President

Western States Trail Foundation

A non-profit public benefit corporation



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Tahoe
National
Forest

631 Coyote Street
Nevada City, CA
95959-2250
530-265-4531
530-478-6118 TDD
530-478-6109 FAX

File Code: 5420

Date: August 31, 2015

Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director
American River Conservancy
348 Highway 40
P. O. Box 562
Coloma, CA 95613

Dear Mr. Enrgott:

Thank you for meeting with Forest Service staff regarding the acquisition and restoration of the 10,000 acres of land adjacent to the Granite Chief Wilderness. We are cautiously, although extremely excited about this project. As requested, I have gathered some information about the resource values of these properties that you can share with your prospective funders.

Climate changes may result in massive geographical shifts in locations of sites that provide environments for native plants and animals. The Sierra Nevada region biodiversity is at increased risk due to alterations in human uses, fire regimes, climatic change and changes brought about by weed invasion. Higher elevation plant communities, such as those in the Granite Chief Wilderness area, can provide stronghold areas for native plant community adaptation. Conservation and management of the biodiversity of these lands in the Sierra Nevada is a priority, since human land uses are considered the most pervasive threats to native plant communities in the Sierra Nevada. The large geographic block of land that would be formed from this potential donation contains naturally functioning ecosystems that provide many valuable services, including watershed protection, carbon storage, nutrient cycling, pest control, pollination, and fish and wildlife habitat.

The higher elevation forests and riparian plant communities on these privately owned lands are currently relatively weed-free. Biological diversity conservation would be enhanced by maintaining these native plant communities in their current wee-free state.

As you know, the Tahoe National Forest contains some of the most fragmented land ownership in the Sierras. The presence of these inholdings affects the current condition and future outlook of Tahoe National Forest. Large geographic areas that are relatively undisturbed by humans (such as would be formed through this donation) are important for native plants and animals, both individually and cumulatively, to help maintain species viability and biodiversity. It is likely (but currently unknown due to lack of surveys of private land) that occurrences of the rare



plants *Lewisia logipetala*, *Veronica cusickii*, and *Erigeron miser* occur in these parcels since there are occurrences known in the general area.

With this acquisition, old forest values would be preserved and provide habitat connectivity for several sensitive species including the American marten, California spotted owl and northern goshawk. Providing habitat connectivity for these wide-ranging, old forest dependent species improves their ability to adapt to climate change and reproduce. Habitat fragmentation suppresses a population's ability to successfully reproduce. State laws governing the timber harvest of private land do not have the same level of habitat protection as federal law, i.e., state laws require that spotted owl nests be protected during timber harvest, whereas, we would provide for 1000 acres of protected habitat.

There are numerous stringer meadows of alder and other riparian-dependent plant species, and the additional of the acquired lands would help to restore the hydrologic connectivity of the stream and meadow systems in the area. The frequent alder patches provide high quality aquatic habitat connectivity for the mountain yellow-legged frog-a species warranted for listing under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

The acquisition would connect several tributaries of the Middle Fork of the American River with National Forest System lands. Tributaries such as Talbot Creek, Rice Creek, Dolly Creek, and many unnamed stream flow into the Middle Fork of the American River which provides domestic water for Folsom, CA. With this acquisition, all of these drainages would become completely within the jurisdiction of the Tahoe National Forest allowing for a comprehensive approach to management of the watersheds.

This reach of the Middle Fork American River (in particular T.15N, R.14E Section 1) is unimpaired above French Meadows Reservoir and still has an intact spring recession limb of the hydrograph, providing the fishery with high spring lows. This flow regime, along with the low gradient nature (no known fish barriers) has created an incredible spawning ground for adult rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). These fish are coming out of French Meadows Reservoir in the spring and migrating all the way up to Section 1, thus providing a nursery for native, young-of-the-year rainbow trout. There are also known unnamed tributaries in Section 1 that provide accretion flows going into the Middle Fork American River and cold water habitat during the summer, providing temperature refugia for the aquatic biota residing there. This is a highly production system with 4,200 you-of-the-year per mile in the Middle Fork American above French Meadows. Consequently, protection of the riparian vegetation along this section of river during timber harvest is very important, and including it in a wilderness area would provide permanent protection of these resources.

There are many known cultural resource sites along the Middle Fork American River east of French Meadows. Although we do not survey private land, we know that there are cultural resource sites in T.15N, R.14E Section 1 and believe that T.16N., R.14E., Sec 35 and 36 have high potential for cultural resources, based on the creeks that bisect them and the many sites we already know about nearby in the wilderness. Likely resources include bedrock mortars, petroglyphs, Basques tree carvings, camps associated with historic grazing, and historic roads and trails. There is a large, significant petroglyph site in T.15N R.14E Section 35.

Wilderness designation is the level of highest protection of federal land. As you know, one of the purposes of wilderness designation is to provide an area untrammelled by man, where natural processes can proceed unfettered by man's influence. Many uses, including timber harvest, vehicular use and mineral entry, are prohibited in wilderness areas. For those uses that are allowed in wilderness areas, such as grazing, the protection of wilderness values is an overriding principle. The Granite Chief Wilderness is one of the smallest wilderness areas in the country. Unlike most of the wilderness areas, in the Sierras, the majority of the Granite Chief is not subject to heavy use by recreationists. Increasing size of the wilderness area, where human impacts are minimal, increases its value in conserving biodiversity. It is likely that large geographic areas will become more and more important as native plant and animal communities are lost and/or degraded.

Finally, acquisition of Section 29 has been a goal for this Forest for decades to provide public access to the Tevis Cup Trail (16E04) in the Middle Fork American River headwaters.

If you have any questions, please contact Fran Herbst at (530) 478-6852. Thank you for your commitment to public land and your leadership in land conservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Quinn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

TOM QUINN
Forest Supervisor



PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY
SINCE 1967

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	BUSINESS CENTER
Gray Allen, District 1	144 Ferguson Road
Primo Santini, District 2	MAIL
Mike Lee, District 3	P.O. Box 6570
Robert Dugan, District 4	Auburn, CA 95604
Joshua Alpine, District 5	PHONE
	(530) 823-4850
	(800) 464-0030
Einar Maisch, General Manager	WWW.PCWA.NET

September 1, 2015

Technical Review Committee
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

SUBJECT: Support for American River Headwaters Improvement Project Grant
Proposal, Submitted by American River Conservancy

Dear Members of the Technical Review Committee:

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) owns and operates the Middle Fork American River Project, providing water supplies, hydroelectric power generation, public recreational opportunities and environmental stewardship for the people of Placer County and the region. The Middle Fork Project includes French Meadows and Hell Hole reservoirs on the upper Middle Fork American River and the tributary Rubicon River, respectively.

The people of Placer County built the Middle Fork Project in the 1960s to develop local water resources for long-term public benefit. PCWA was created to ensure, and remains committed to supporting, diligent management of those water resources.

Because of its commitment to stewardship, PCWA has been involved in the acquisition by American River Conservancy (ARC) of some 10,000 acres in the Middle Fork American River watershed. PCWA's objectives are to work to ensure that these lands, acquired in large part with public funds, are managed to provide the long-term public benefits derived from healthy watersheds.

Chief among the management goals supported by PCWA is the active long-term management of lands in the watershed to reduce the risk of high-severity forest fire, to promote enduring fire resiliency, and to restore damaged areas to healthy forested landscapes. More than a third of the Middle Fork American River watershed has burned since the year 2000, with a trend toward increasing frequency and severity. The effects

of catastrophic wildfire on the beneficial uses of watershed resources - habitat, water supplies and quality, hydroelectric power generation, human and natural infrastructure, recreation – can last for decades, and the soils and forest ecology can be altered for centuries.

For these reasons, PCWA supports the grant proposal submitted by American River Conservancy for your consideration. We understand that funding by the State of California through Sierra Nevada Conservancy will be used to improve fire resiliency on the subject properties by supporting tree thinning and forest restoration activity. We believe that this use of public funds is appropriate for the public benefits to be derived from active long-term vegetation management on the properties.

Other goals supported by PCWA in the acquisition by ARC of lands in the Middle Fork American River watershed include the preservation, continuation and potential expansion of opportunities to gather hydrologic and scientific data.

PCWA supports and partners with California Department of Water Resources, University of California, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US Forest Service, other utilities and land managers in building a network of hydrologic data-gathering locales in the American River watershed which can provide a scientific basis for understanding the response of hydrology to many variable parameters. Such information becomes increasingly important for effective decisions as drought, growing multi-faceted demands, and climatic variability require the ability to adapt watershed management strategies.

For these reasons, PCWA supports ARC in furthering discussions with the University of California and other entities in collecting data on and near the properties which are the subject of this grant, and to promote the development of the American River Hydrologic Observatory. This effort can enlighten understanding regarding the effects of forest management strategies on hydrologic response. PCWA intends to be an active partner in these efforts by assisting in the collection and distribution of precipitation, stream flow, and other pertinent data.

PCWA believes that there is significant public benefit to be derived from a public-private partnership guiding management of the American River headwaters properties acquired by American River Conservancy. We remain committed to participating in the diligent management of these lands, and commend for your positive consideration the American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project grant proposal submitted by American River Conservancy.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and please feel free to contact me if you desire any further information. I can be contacted at afecko@pcwa.net or at 530-823-4490.

Sincerely,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY



Andrew Fecko
Director of Resource Development

AF:MD:vf

cc: PCWA Board of Directors
Einar Maisch, PCWA General Manager



30 August, 2015

Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director
American River Conservancy
348 Highway 49 ~ PO Box 562
Coloma, CA 95613
530-295-2199

Dear Alan,

Congratulations on the American River Conservancy's, ARC's, recent forest acquisition that will in time expand the Granite Chief Wilderness Area by 10,000 more acres. PARC enthusiastically supports your efforts to restore the acquired land to a managed wilderness by thinning forests, protecting streams from erosion and vehicle access and taking measures to decommission roads. These efforts are needed as soon as possible to help protect the North and Middle Forks of the American River and the Rubicon River headwaters area from OHV damage and the possibility of catastrophic wildfire in overgrown forestland –a genuine concern in these times of climate change in 30 years since the Granite Chief Wilderness was originally established. We hope that the Sierra Nevada Conservancy will see the value of preemptive fire and ecological resource conservation work that could result in healthier forests and less risk and cost from suppressing out of control wildfires.

These efforts are in keeping with the existing 19,000-acre Granite Chief Wilderness established in 1984 along the Pacific Crest. Established as a road less wilderness area that includes many historic trails including the Western States/Tevis Cup Trail and the Pacific Crest trails that provide access to the day hiker and backpacker. It is immediately adjacent to the Desolation Wilderness on the southern boundary and the Wild & Scenic North Fork American River on the northern boundary. Adding 10,000 acres of managed wilderness will help connect wildlife passageways and hiking trails.

Over the years PARC has led many fall outings into Picayune Valley in the Granite Chief Wilderness, the exciting tiny glaciated valley that has the same geologic features of Yosemite but on a lesser people-sized scale. Granite spires polished by the glaciers rise from the valley on its northern edge. Old growth fir and pine trees, alpine wildflowers, waterfalls and obscure Indian petroglyphs

tease the high country hiker. The icy-clear streams are highly productive rainbow trout nurseries. Northern goshawk, Clark's nutcrackers. California spotted owls, black bears and coyotes have been sighted in the valley area. The Sierra Mountain wilderness stage is completed by a conglomeration of volcanic lava peaks that snag clouds as they go swirling by.

PARC led excursions into the Granite Chief remain one of our most popular with new and returning hikers each year. We need to protect and expand our opportunities to experience high country wilderness forests. Thank you for taking the lead on this important acquisition and equally important wilderness restoration efforts!

Sincerely,

Eric Peach
PARC Conservation Chairman
530-885-8878



Protect American River Canyons is dedicated to the protection and conservation of natural, recreational, cultural and historical resources of the North and Middle Forks of the American River and its canyons for all to care for and responsibly enjoy.

PARC PO Box 9312 Auburn, CA 95604 www.parc-auburn.org

Northern Sierra Partnership



August 27, 2015

Mr. Chris Dallas
Area Representative
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Dallas:

I'm writing to express the Northern Sierra Partnership's strong support for the American River Headwaters Watershed Improvement Project proposal submitted by the American River Conservancy (ARC).

As you might know, the Partnership recently joined forces with the American River Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy to acquire this critically important property at the headwaters of the American River. In early August, we completed the acquisition, opening the way for the restoration of this watershed. As outlined in ARC's proposal, the restoration will involve:

- thinning overstocked stands of young conifers to reduce the risk of high intensity wildfire and return greater resilience to the forest;
- decommissioning old logging roads and skid trails to reduce erosion and impacts on water quality;
- removing culverts that obstruct fish passage; and
- restoring mountain meadows to enhance wildlife habitat, water quality and late season flows.

After attending your exciting session with the US Forest Service and other partners earlier this year, I know that your agency is intensely -- and appropriately -- focused on making high impact investments to improve watershed health at a landscape scale, investments where your funds are leveraged by funds raised from other sources, including private funders. If ever there were such a project, this is the one.

Thank you for the opportunity to lend support to this important proposal. If you have any questions for me, I can be reached at 650/323-2050 or lblake@northernsierrapartnership.org.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucy Blake".

Lucy Blake
President

Land Tenure Documents

The American River Conservancy (applicant) completed the *fee title* acquisition of the subject 10,115 acres on August 5, 2015. Attached are the two recorded grant deeds for the two subject properties (Luck – 160 acres) and (Simorg – 9,955 acres) which make up the 10,115 acres upon which all restoration work will be conducted

These two grant deeds along with the attached resolution of project support from the Board of Directors of the American River Conservancy should fulfill the land tenure documentation required by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

RECORDING REQUESTED BY
First American Title Company

AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL DOCUMENT TO:
American River Conservancy
P.O. Box 562
Coloma, CA 95613-0562



PLACER, County Recorder
JIM MCCAULEY

DOC- 2013-0098987-00

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE - RECORDING ACCT
THURSDAY, OCT 17, 2013 12:00:00

MIC	\$3.00	AUT	\$2.00	SBS	\$1.00
ERD	\$1.00	RED	\$1.00	REC	\$10.00
ADD	\$0.00				

Ttl Pd \$18.00 Rcpt # 02315710
CLKH1MLFJ1/MB/1-2

Space Above This Line for Recorder's Use Only

A.P.N.: 070-060-009-000

File No.: 0901-4468249 (JT)

GRANT DEED

The Undersigned Grantor(s) Declare(s): DOCUMENTARY TRANSFER TAX \$00.00 Gift R&T Code 11811; CITY TRANSFER TAX \$;
SURVEY MONUMENT FEE \$

- computed on the consideration or full value of property conveyed, OR
- computed on the consideration or full value less value of liens and/or encumbrances remaining at time of sale,
- unincorporated area; City of Forest Hill, and

FOR A VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, **Barbara Luck, Successor Trustee U/D May 20, 1982**

hereby GRANTS to **American River Conservancy, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) California public benefit corporation**

the following described property in the unincorporated area of , County of **Placer**, State of **California**:

THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MOUNT DIABLO BASE AND MERIDIAN, IN THE COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PLAT THEREOF.

A.P.N.: 070-060-009-000

File No.: 0901-4468249 (JT)

Dated: 10/08/2013

Barbara Luck, Successor Trustee U/D May 20, 1982

Barbara Luck, successor trustee
Barbara Luck, Successor Trustee

STATE OF Arizona)SS
COUNTY OF Maricopa)

On October 14, 2013, before me, Tommi A. VonReeden, Notary Public, personally appeared Barbara Luck

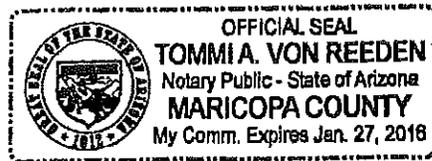
_____ who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature

Tommi A. VonReeden



My Commission Expires: 1-27-2016

This area for official notarial seal

Notary Name: Tommi A. VonReeden
Notary Registration Number: 120251

Notary Phone: 623-974-5811
County of Principal Place of Business: Maricopa

[Handwritten mark]

RECORDING REQUESTED
BY FIRST AMERICAN TITLE



PLACER, County Recorder
JIM MCCAULEY

DOC- 2015-0068231-00

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE - RECORDING ACCT
WEDNESDAY, AUG 5, 2015 15:14:37

MIC \$3.00 | AUT \$10.00 | SBS \$9.00
ERD \$1.00 | RED \$1.00 | REC \$18.00
ADD \$0.00 | UNI\$11,183.70

Ttl Pd\$11,225.70 Rcpt # 02452043
CLKBPMLEJ1/sg/1-10

WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO:

American River Conservancy
P.O. Box 562
Coloma, CA 95613

AND MAIL TAX STATEMENTS TO:

Same as above

0901-3429968JT

(Space above this line for Recorder's use)

The undersigned Grantor(s) declare(s)

DOCUMENTARY TRANSFER TAX IS \$ 11,183.70

Computed on Full Value of the interest or property conveyed, or

Computed on full value less value of liens or encumbrances remaining at time of sale,

Unincorporated Area City of: Placer County

Parcel No.: See attached Exhibit "A" for APNs

GRANT DEED

FOR VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, **SIMORG WEST FORESTS LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company ("Grantor"), hereby grant to **AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY**, a California non-profit corporation ("Grantee"), the real property, together with all improvements, fixtures and other property affixed, and all right, title and interest of Grantor in and to roadways, streets, alleys and rights of way located in the County of Placer, State of California (the "Property"), more particularly described as follows:

See Exhibit "A" attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein.

The conveyance of the Property by Grantor to Grantee is subject to those liens, encumbrances and other exceptions to title more particularly described on Exhibit "B" attached hereto and by this reference.

[Signature and notary acknowledgement on the following page]

SIMORG WEST FORESTS LLC,
a Delaware limited liability company

By: *Charles L. VanOver*
Its: _____

Charles L. VanOver
Vice President

STATE OF GEORGIA)
COUNTY OF ~~FULTON~~ Paulding ^{AL}) ss.

On this 15 day of July, 2015, before me, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared Charles L. VanOver, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, which was/were personal knowledge, to be the person whose name is signed on the preceding or attached document, and acknowledged to me that he signed it voluntarily for its stated purpose(s) as Vice President of Simorg West Forests LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.

Amy Lester
Notary Public
Name: Amy Lester
(Print or Type)
My Commission Expires: 7/16/2017



EXHIBIT "A"

(PROPERTY)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Real property in the unincorporated area of the County of Placer of APN: 069-240-006 (AFFECTS: SECTION 31 OF PARCEL ONE); 069-240-009 (AFFECTS: SECTION 33 OF PARCEL ONE); 069-250-003 (AFFECTS: SECTION 25 OF PARCEL ONE); 069-250-005 (AFFECTS: PARCEL FIVE); 069-250-006 (AFFECTS: PARCEL SEVEN); 069-250-008 (AFFECTS: SECTION 27 OF PARCEL ONE); 069-300-001 (AFFECTS: PARCEL TWO); 070-020-001 (AFFECTS: SECTION 1 OF PARCEL FOUR); 070-020-004 (AFFECTS: PARCEL THREE); 070-020-007 (AFFECTS: PARCEL SIX); 070-020-010 (AFFECTS: LOTS 1 THROUGH 16 OF SECTION 3 OF PARCEL FOUR); 070-060-007 (AFFECTS: PARCEL EIGHT); 070-100-003 (AFFECTS: SECTION 25 OF PARCEL NINE); 070-100-005 (AFFECTS: SECTION 35 OF PARCEL NINE); 070-140-004 (AFFECTS: PARCEL TEN); 070-080-04 (AFFECTS: SECTION 13 OF PARCEL ELEVEN) AND 070-080-06 (AFFECTS: SECTION 23 OF PARCEL ELEVEN), State of California, described as follows:

PARCEL ONE:

IN TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M.; ALL OF SECTIONS 25, 27, 31 AND 33.

PARCEL TWO:

PARCEL A:

ALL OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 15 EAST, MDB&M.

PARCEL B:

AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS OVER A PORTION OF SECTIONS 23 AND 24, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, M.D.M., LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF PLACER, AND DESCRIBED IN JUDGMENT, CASE NO. SCV-2201, AND RECORDED DECEMBER 9, 1994 IN INSTRUMENT NO. 94-084635 AS FOLLOWS:

AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS ALONG THE EXISTING ROADWAY, SOMETIMES DESCRIBED AS HODGSONS ROAD, BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE COUNTY ROAD, SOMETIMES CALLED SODA SPRINGS ROAD, FROM WHICH THE NORTHEAST CORNER TO SECTION 23, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST M.D.M. BEARS N 77 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST 630 FEET MORE OR LESS, THENCE GOING IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE EXISTING ROAD ACROSS SECTIONS 23 AND 24 TO A POINT ALONG THE COMMON BOUNDARY BETWEEN SECTION 24 AND 25 BEING THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF SECTION 24.

PARCEL C:

A NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT FOR ROADWAY PURPOSES, FORTY FEET IN WIDTH, OVER THOSE EXISTING ROADS IN SECTIONS 25 AND 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST WHICH ARE SHOWN ON THE MAP ATTACHED AS EXHIBIT "B" TO EASEMENT GRANT DEED RECORDED JANUARY 26, 1995 IN INSTRUMENT NO. 95-004126.

PARCEL THREE:

LOTS 2 AND 7 OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M.

1 – EXHIBIT A

PDX\121559\196888\MAS\15712122.2

PARCEL FOUR:

IN TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M., ALL OF SECTION 1, LOTS 1 THROUGH 16 OF SECTION 3.

PARCEL FIVE:

IN TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M., ALL OF SECTION 35.

PARCEL SIX:

LOTS 11, 13, 14 AND 20, IN SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M.

PARCEL SEVEN:

ALL OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M.

PARCEL EIGHT:

THE NORTH ONE HALF OF THE NORTHWEST ONE QUARTER AND THE NORTH ONE HALF OF THE EAST ONE HALF OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M.

PARCEL NINE:

IN TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M., ALL OF SECTION 25, AND ALL OF SECTION 35.

PARCEL TEN:

IN TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 15 EAST, MDB&M., ALL OF SECTION 19.

PARCEL ELEVEN:

IN TOWNSHIP 15 NORTH, RANGE 14 EAST, MDB&M., ALL OF SECTION 13, AND ALL OF SECTION 23

END OF EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT "B"

(PERMITTED EXCEPTIONS)

The Following Matters Affect All Parcels:

1. Intentionally deleted.
2. The lien of supplemental taxes, if any, assessed pursuant to Chapter 3.5 commencing with Section 75 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.
3. An easement for roads, trails, telephone lines, pipe lines & fences and incidental purposes, recorded May 31, 1950 as Book 567, Page 598 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcels One, Four, Five, Nine and Ten
4. Intentionally deleted.
5. Intentionally deleted.
6. Intentionally deleted.
7. Intentionally deleted.
8. Intentionally deleted.
9. Any rights, interests, or easements in favor of the public, which exist or are claimed to exist over any portion of said land covered by water.
10. Rights of the public in and to that portion of the land lying within any Road, Street, Alley or Highway.
11. Water rights, claims or title to water, whether or not shown by the public records.
12. Rights of parties in possession.
13. Intentionally deleted.

The Following Matters Affect Parcel One:

14. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded March 09, 1965 as Book 1055, Page 451 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: As described therein

15. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded March 09, 1965 as Book 1055, Page 458 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: As described therein
16. An easement for road, including utility rights and incidental purposes, recorded February 25, 1976 as Book 1705, Page 404 of Official Records.
In Favor of: County of Placer
Affects: As described therein
17. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded August 30, 1977 as Book 1879, Page 382 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: As described therein

Portion of said easement was quitclaimed by deed recorded October 14, 1982 in Book 2535, Page 161.
18. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded August 30, 1977 as Book 1879, Page 389 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: As described therein
19. An easement for road, including utility rights and incidental purposes, recorded August 30, 1977 as Book 1880, Page 124 of Official Records.
In Favor of: County of Placer
Affects: As described therein
20. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded September 01, 1977 as Book 1881, Page 92 of Official Records.
In Favor of: Southern Pacific Land Company
Affects: As described therein
21. A document entitled Notice of Consent to use of Land recorded December 09, 1980 as Book 2333, Page 329 of Official Records.
22. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded March 18, 1982 as Book 2486, Page 161 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: As described therein
23. Any facts, rights, interests or claims that may exist or arise by reason of matters, if any, disclosed by that certain Record of Survey filed in book 12, page 10.
24. An easement for road over existing roads and incidental purposes, recorded January 26, 1995 as Instrument No. 95-004126 of Official Records.

In Favor of: Raymond E. Helm under the Helm Nagel 1986 Trust, ET AL
Affects: As described therein

The Following Matters Affect Parcels Two Through Eight:

25. Reservation of all minerals and mineral rights and right of ingress and egress for extraction or exploration of same as set forth in deed, Alfred Kuhn, et al., to J.R. Hodgson, recorded March 21, 1947 in Book 492, Page 448 of Official Records. (Affects Parcel Two)
26. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded February 07, 1972 as Book 1398, Page 277 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcel Three
27. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded December 09, 1977 as Book 1918, Page 487 of Official Records.
In Favor of: John R. Hodgson, also known as J.R. Hodgson and Ruth V. Hodgson, his wife
Affects: Parcel Eight
28. Intentionally deleted.
29. Intentionally deleted.
30. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded June 02, 1980 as Book 2262, Page 591 of Official Records.
In Favor of: Anderson-Martin Company
Affects: Parcel Three
31. Any facts, rights, interests or claims that may exist or arise by reason of matters, if any, disclosed by that certain Record of Survey filed in book 9, page 73.
32. An easement for a trail and incidental purposes, recorded June 12, 1989 as Book 3646, Page 698 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcel Four
33. An easement for a trail and incidental purposes, recorded May 03, 1990 as Book 3889, Page 503 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcel Four
34. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded October 11, 1990 as Instrument No. 90-066033 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcel Eight

35. An easement for roads and incidental purposes, recorded July 21, 1992 as Instrument No. 92-055924 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: United States of America
 Affects: Parcel Four
36. An easement for roads and incidental purposes, recorded July 21, 1992 as Instrument No. 92-055925 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: United States of America
 Affects: Parcel Four
37. An easement for road over all existing roads and incidental purposes, recorded January 26, 1995 as Instrument No. 95-004124 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: Barbara Luck, as Successor Trustee to John R. Hodgson, deceased, of the Hodgson Trust under Declaration of Trust dated May 20, 1982
 Affects: Parcel Eight
38. An easement for road over all existing roads and incidental purposes, recorded January 26, 1995 as Instrument No. 95-004125 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: John P. Collins Jr., Carol Collins Sebatino and Janis Bruner
 Affects: Parcel Eight
39. Intentionally deleted.
40. Any facts, rights, interests or claims that may exist or arise by reason of matters, if any, disclosed by that certain Record of Survey filed in book 14, page 132.
41. Any easements and/or servitudes affecting easement parcel(s) B and C of Parcel Two herein described.

The Following Matters Affect Parcels Nine and Ten:

42. An easement for right of way of lawful width for any and all existing and lawfully established county road and incidental purposes, recorded November 20, 1928 as Book 262, Page 221 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: Central Pacific Railway Company
 Affects: The Land
43. An easement for roads, trails, telephone lines, pipe lines & fences and incidental purposes, recorded May 31, 1950 as Book 567, Page 598 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: United States of America
 Affects: The Land
44. An easement for public road and incidental purposes, recorded June 21, 1956 as Book 706, Page 405 of Official Records.
 In Favor of: County of Placer

Affects: The Land

45. An easement for road and incidental purposes, recorded April 02, 1981 as Book 2373, Page 188 of Official Records.
In Favor of: Southern Pacific Land Company
Affects: A portion of said land. Refer to said document for full particulars
46. The effect of a map purporting to show the land and other property, filed October 24, 1984 in Book 9, Page 119 of Record of Surveys.
47. Intentionally deleted.
48. Intentionally deleted.
49. An easement for a trail and incidental purposes, recorded May 03, 1990 as Book 3889, Page 503 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America
Affects: Parcel Nine
50. Intentionally deleted.
51. Intentionally deleted.
52. Intentionally deleted.
53. Intentionally deleted.
54. Intentionally deleted.

The Following Matters Affect Parcel Eleven:

55. An easement for right of way of lawful width for any and all existing and lawfully established county road and incidental purposes, recorded November 20, 1928 as Book 262, Page 221 of Official Records.
In Favor of: Central Pacific Railway Company
Affects: As described therein
56. An easement for public road and incidental purposes, recorded June 21, 1956 as Book 706, Page 405 of Official Records.
In Favor of: County of Placer
Affects: As described therein
57. An easement for public road and incidental purposes, recorded February 7, 1975 as Book 1620, Page 640 of Official Records.
In Favor of: United States of America

Affects: Section 13 of Parcel Eleven

58. The lack of a right of access to and from the land.

END OF EXHIBIT B

10

RECORDING REQUESTED
BY FIRST AMERICAN TITLE



PLACER, County Recorder
JIM MCCAULEY

DOC- 2015-0068234-00

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE - RECORDING ACCT

WEDNESDAY, AUG 5, 2015 15:14:40

MIC	\$0.00		AUT	\$0.00		SBS	\$0.00
ERD	\$0.00		RED	\$0.00		*	\$0.00
ADD	\$0.00						

Ttl Pd	\$0.00	Rcpt #	02452043
			CLKBPMLEJ1/SG/1-7

0901-3429968 JJ
RECORDING REQUESTED BY

Placer County Water Agency
No fee pursuant to Gov't Code § 27383

AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

Placer County Water Agency
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604

For internal use only:
T.15N., R. 14 E., SEC. 25 SW/4
A.P. No: 070-100-003& 070-100-005
Miranda Cabin Site (WF0302718)

July 1, 2015

GRANT OF SNOW PACK MEASUREMENT & ACCESS EASEMENT

American River Conservancy, a California Non-Profit Corporation,

(hereinafter called "ARC") hereby grants to the Placer County Water Agency, a public body, (hereinafter called "AGENCY") an exclusive easement to measure snow pack over the real property in the County of Placer, State of California, depicted on Exhibit "A" and a legal description on Exhibit "B" attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference ("SNOW COURSE").

The AGENCY shall have the sole right to manage vegetation within the SNOW COURSE.

ARC shall place no structures or any improvements within the SNOW COURSE. AGENCY reserves the right to maintain all vegetation within the SNOW COURSE in support of gathering accurate information for snow pack.

RIGHT TO INSTALL WATER MONITORING EQUIPMENT

AGENCY reserves the right to establish within the SNOW COURSE: structures (both above and below ground), including but not limited to antennas for communication and other improvements necessary to measure snowfall and snowpack and transmit the data for accurate collection.

Helicopters may land within the easement area, as allowed by federal regulation.

ACCESS TO SNOW COURSE

ARC also grants to the AGENCY a permanent, non-exclusive easement for vehicular access to the SNOW COURSE over an existing road as shown in Exhibit "C" attached.

4 ✓

INDEMNITY

The AGENCY hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the ARC from and against any and all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, losses and liabilities of every kind and nature whatsoever arising out of trespass or in connection with the issuance of this Easement, as granted to the AGENCY or by any wrongful or negligent act or omission of the AGENCY or of its agents or employees in the course of their employment.

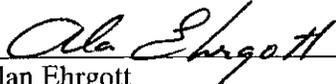
ASSIGNMENT

The provisions hereof shall inure to the benefit of and bind the successors and assigns of the respective parties hereto, and all covenants shall apply to and run with the land.

TERMINATION OF EASEMENT

Easement will terminate if and when AGENCY ceases to operate, manage and collect data from this SNOW COURSE.

AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY



Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director

7/22/2015
Date

Signature must be acknowledge by a Notary Public

EXHIBIT "A"
Miranda Cabin Parcel

All that portion of the tract of land hereinafter referred to as the Miranda Cabin Parcel, located within a portion of Section 25, Township 15 North, Range 14 East, MDBM, County of Placer, State of California, described as follows:

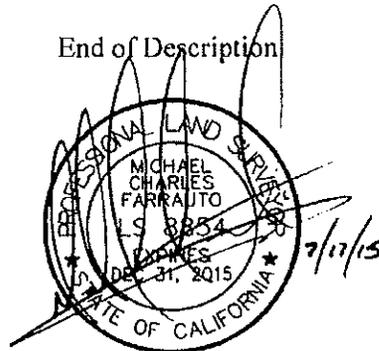
Beginning at a point at the southwest corner of the above described Miranda Cabin Parcel, marked by a 3/4" rebar with copper collar stamped "LS 8854", and from said point the above described southwest corner of Section 25 marked by a 3 1/4" aluminum cap stamped "RCE 29700" on 5/8" rebar the bears South 44°17'40" West, a distance of 2796.29 feet, thence from said **Point of Beginning** along said Miranda Cabin Parcel the following six (6) consecutive courses:

1. North 21°31'13" West, a distance of 536.76 feet
2. North 68°33'53" East, a distance of 100.53 feet
3. South 34°40'18" East, a distance of 260.34 feet
4. South 33°30'31" East, a distance of 148.86 feet
5. South 11°38'00" West, a distance of 164.74 feet
6. South 68°43'50" West, a distance of 100.59 feet to the **Point of Beginning**.

Containing an area of 1.80 acres, more or less.

The bearings shown hereon are based upon the NAD83 California State Plane Coordinate System, Zone 2, (2011). The distances shown hereon are grid distances and U.S. Survey Feet. To convert to ground distances, divide by 0.99966623.

The above described tract of land is shown on Exhibit "B" attached hereto and made a part hereof.



BASIS OF BEARINGS IS THE NAD83 CALIFORNIA
STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM ZONE II, (2011)

N68°33'53"E
100.53'

S34°40'18"E 260.34'

MIRANDA CABIN
PARCEL
AREA=1.80±AC

S33°30'31"E
148.86'

N21°31'13"W 536.76'

S11°38'00"W
164.74'

POB

S68°43'50"W
100.59'

N44°17'40"E
2796.29'

3 1/4" ALUM.
CAP STAMPED
RCE 29700



EXHIBIT 'B'
P.C.W.A.
MIRANDA CABIN
A PORTION OF SECTION 25
T.15N., R.14 E., M.D.B.&M.
PLACER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
SCALE: 1"=100' JULY 17, 2015

LEGEND

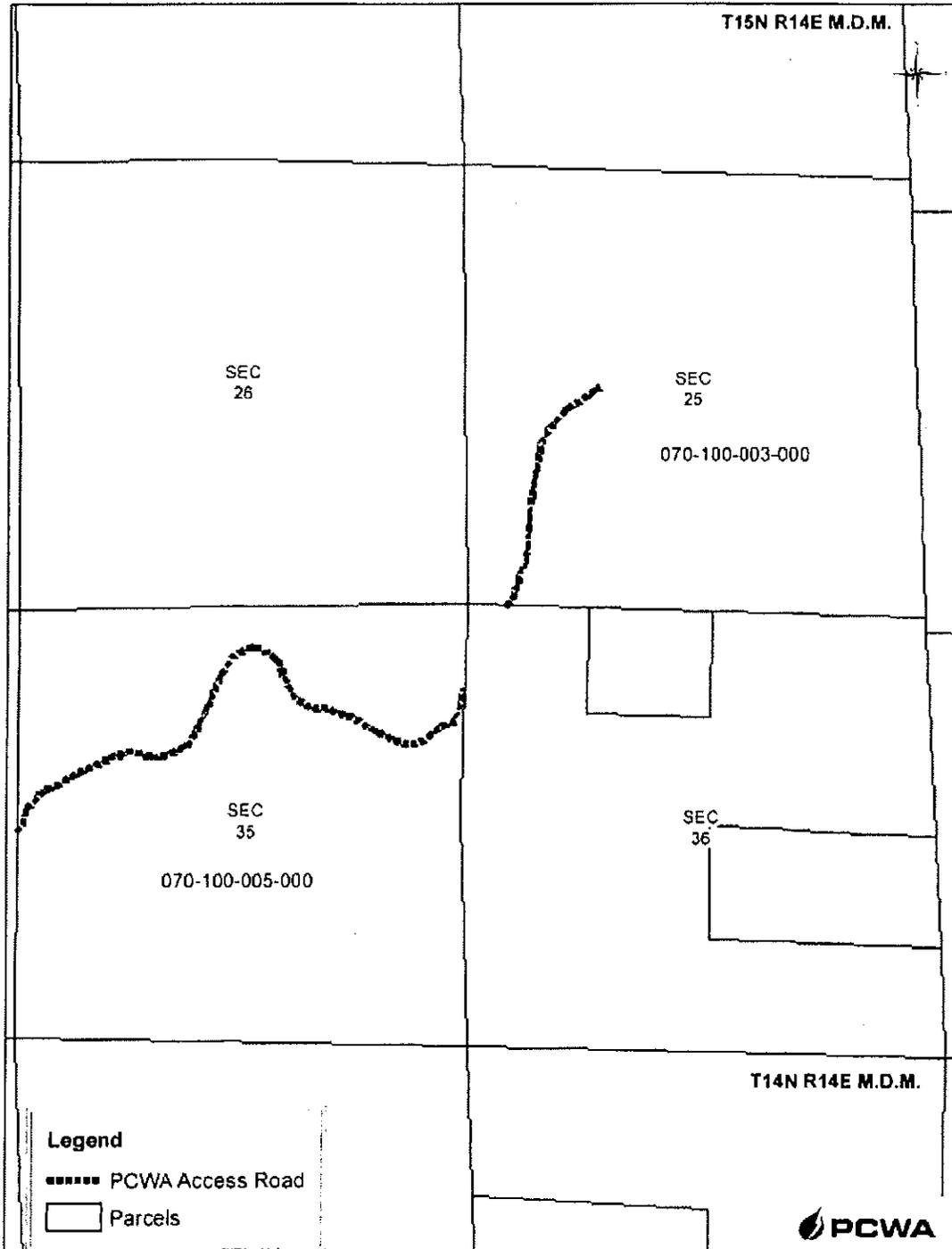
⊘ . . . SET 3/4" REBAR W/COPPER COLLAR
STAMPED LS 8854

**ANDREGG
GEOMATICS**

www.andregg.com
800-400-7072

SHEET 1 OF 1

Exhibit "C"
Location of
ACCESS TO SNOW COURSE



PCWA Access

CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

STATE OF California)SS
COUNTY OF El Dorado

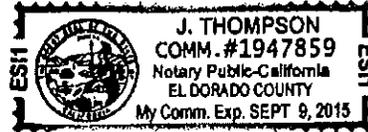
On 7-22-15 before me, J Thompson, Notary Public, personally appeared Alan Ehrigott

who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal:

Signature J Thompson



This area for official notarial seal.

**OPTIONAL SECTION - NOT PART OF NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
CAPACITY CLAIMED BY SIGNER**

Though statute does not require the Notary to fill in the data below, doing so may prove invaluable to persons relying on the documents.

- INDIVIDUAL
- CORPORATE OFFICER(S) TITLE(S)
- PARTNER(S) LIMITED GENERAL
- ATTORNEY-IN-FACT
- TRUSTEE(S)
- GUARDIAN/CONSERVATOR
- OTHER

SIGNER IS REPRESENTING:

Name of Person or Entity

Name of Person or Entity

OPTIONAL SECTION - NOT PART OF NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Though the data requested here is not required by law, it could prevent fraudulent reattachment of this form.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE DOCUMENT DESCRIBED BELOW

TITLE OR TYPE OF DOCUMENT: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES _____ DATE OF DOCUMENT _____

SIGNER(S) OTHER THAN NAMED ABOVE _____

Handwritten mark resembling the number '4'.

RECORDING REQUESTED
BY FIRST AMERICAN TITLE



PLACER, County Recorder
JIM MCCAULEY

DOC- 2015-0068233-00

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE - RECORDING ACCT

WEDNESDAY, AUG 5, 2015 15:14:39

MIC	\$0.00	AUT	\$0.00	SBS	\$0.00
ERD	\$0.00	RED	\$0.00	*	\$0.00
ADD	\$0.00				

Ttl Pd	\$0.00	Rcpt #	02452043
			CLKBEMLFJ1/SG/2-8

0901-3429968JT
RECORDING REQUESTED BY

Placer County Water Agency
No fee pursuant to Gov't Code § 27383

AND WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO:

Placer County Water Agency
P.O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604

For internal use only:
T.15N., R. 14 E., SEC. 25 SW/4
A.P. No: 070-100-003 & 070-100-005
Miranda Cabin Site (WF0302718)

July 1, 2015

**DECLARATION & COVENANT OF PUBLIC USE OF ROAD
&
ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

RECITALS:

- A. The American River Conservancy, a California Non-Profit Corporation ("ARC") is the owner of all or a portion of the fee-title land encumbered by the ACCESS ROAD shown on Attachment "A" ("ENCUMBERED LAND").
- B. Placer County Water Agency, a California Special District ("AGENCY"), is the holder of an easement recorded concurrently herewith ("PCWA ACCESS ROAD"), also shown on Exhibit "A."
- C. PCWA uses the ACCESS ROAD to operate and maintain facilities within the ENCUMBERED LAND; this ACCESS ROAD is critical for the operation and maintenance of these facilities.
- D. ARC and the AGENCY acknowledge that existing roads within the ENCUMBERED LAND are also used by various State and Local agencies for fire control and prevention, and by the public for recreation and access purposes; and that the AGENCY and ARC wish these uses to continue.

- E. PCWA has determined through its relicensing process for the dams located within this watershed that public access to watershed lands is an important component to the visitor experience, and has committed substantial funding in annual budgets to maintain roads that serve the dual purpose of providing access to Agency assets and public recreational destinations.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the mutual benefits derived thereby, PCWA and the ARC hereby agree and declare the following:

1. The ACCESS ROAD shall be used in common by PCWA and the ARC and neither party to this agreement shall prevent or deny reasonable use or enjoyment of this road to the other.
2. The AGENCY shall maintain the ACCESS ROAD to a standard that ensures its employees, invitees, contractors and consultants have continual and uninterrupted access across it.
3. The level of improvement and quality of construction within the ACCESS ROAD shall be at the sole discretion of the AGENCY, based on its needs to operate and maintain its facilities.
4. To assist the AGENCY in its commitment to protect public vehicular access in this region, ARC hereby covenants with the AGENCY that it now allows, and shall permanently continue to allow,
 - a. public vehicular and non-vehicular use over a portion of the existing road, shown in Exhibit "B" ("PUBLIC ACCESS ROAD").
 - b. Federal, State and Local vehicular use over a portion of the existing road, shown in Exhibit "C" ("FIRE CONTROL ACCESS ROAD").
5. ARC may, at its sole expense, make improvements within the ACCESS ROAD that are to a higher standard, after consulting with the AGENCY to confirm that such improvements will not interfere with its rights as easement holder. These improvements may be for its use as property owner or for the permanent vehicular use of the public. While using this easement in its normal course of operation, the AGENCY will not be required to participate in the cost of maintaining or replacing these additional improvements.

6. The AGENCY and ARC mutually agree that if either causes or allows the ACCESS ROAD to be used in any manner which results in unusual wear or damage, the costs and expenses of restoration and repair as their sole and separate cost and expense by the damaging party.
7. This agreement and declaration shall be deemed and is intended to run with the land and is hereby binding upon the undersigned, their heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns.
8. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as limiting or restricting the rights of the undersigned or their successors in interest from pursuing such remedies as may be available under Civil Code Section §845 or other provisions of law, or any other lawful means for the enforcement of all or a portion of the terms of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement.

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

By: 
R. Brent Smith, P.E.
Director of Technical Services

AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY

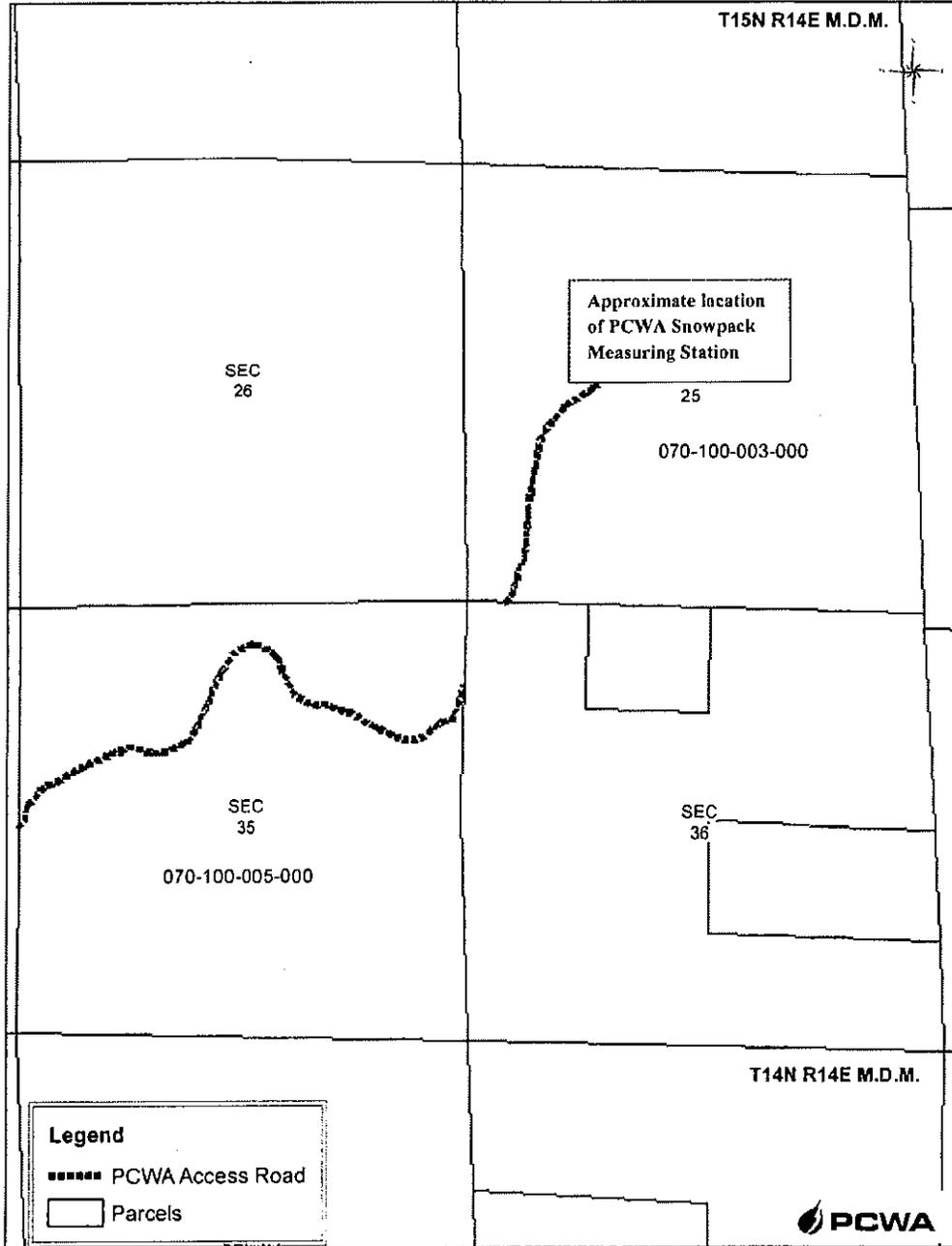
By: 
Alan Ehrgott
Executive Director

Date: 7-1-15

Date: 7/22/2015

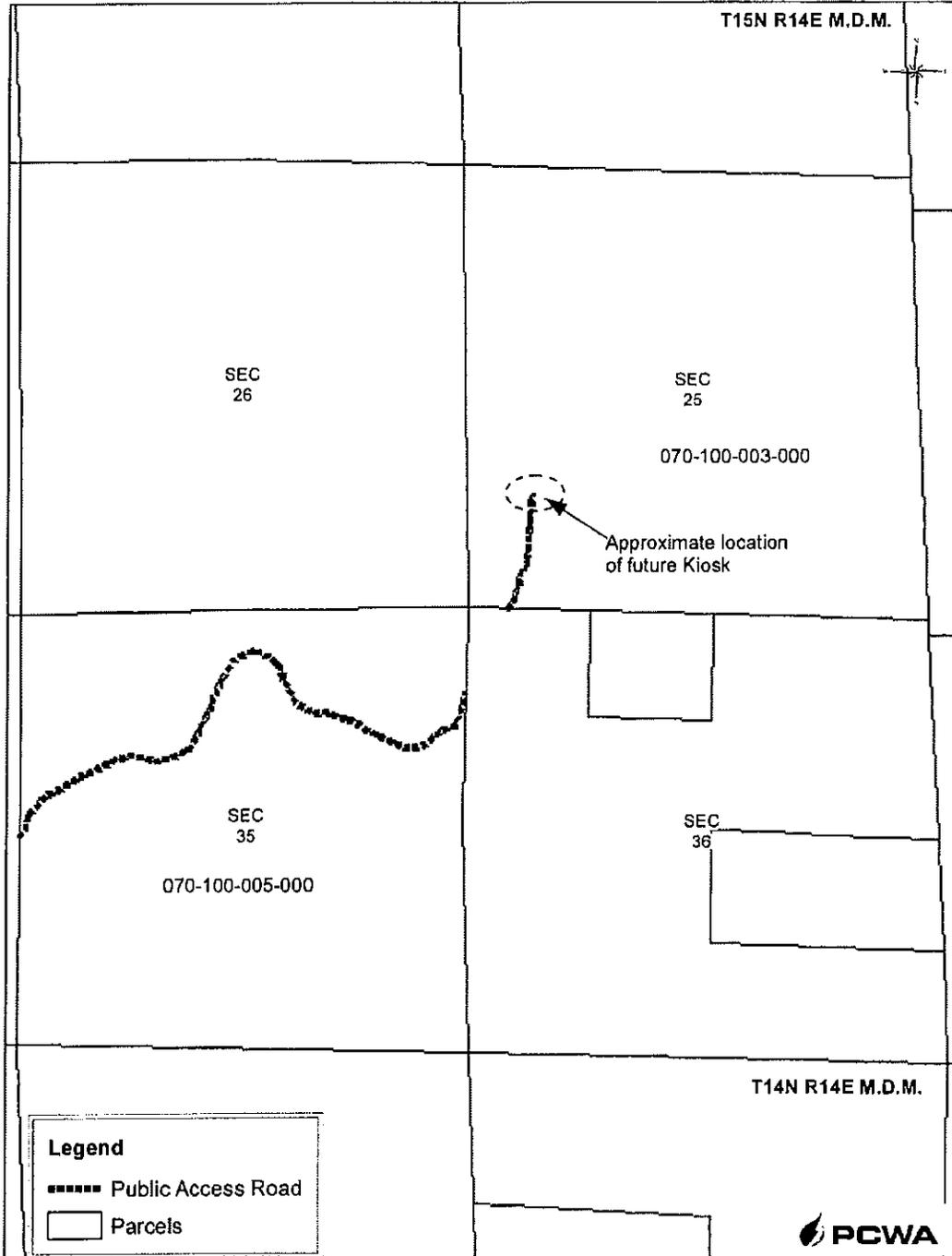
Signatures must be acknowledged by a Notary Public

EXHIBIT "A"
PCWA ACCESS ROAD



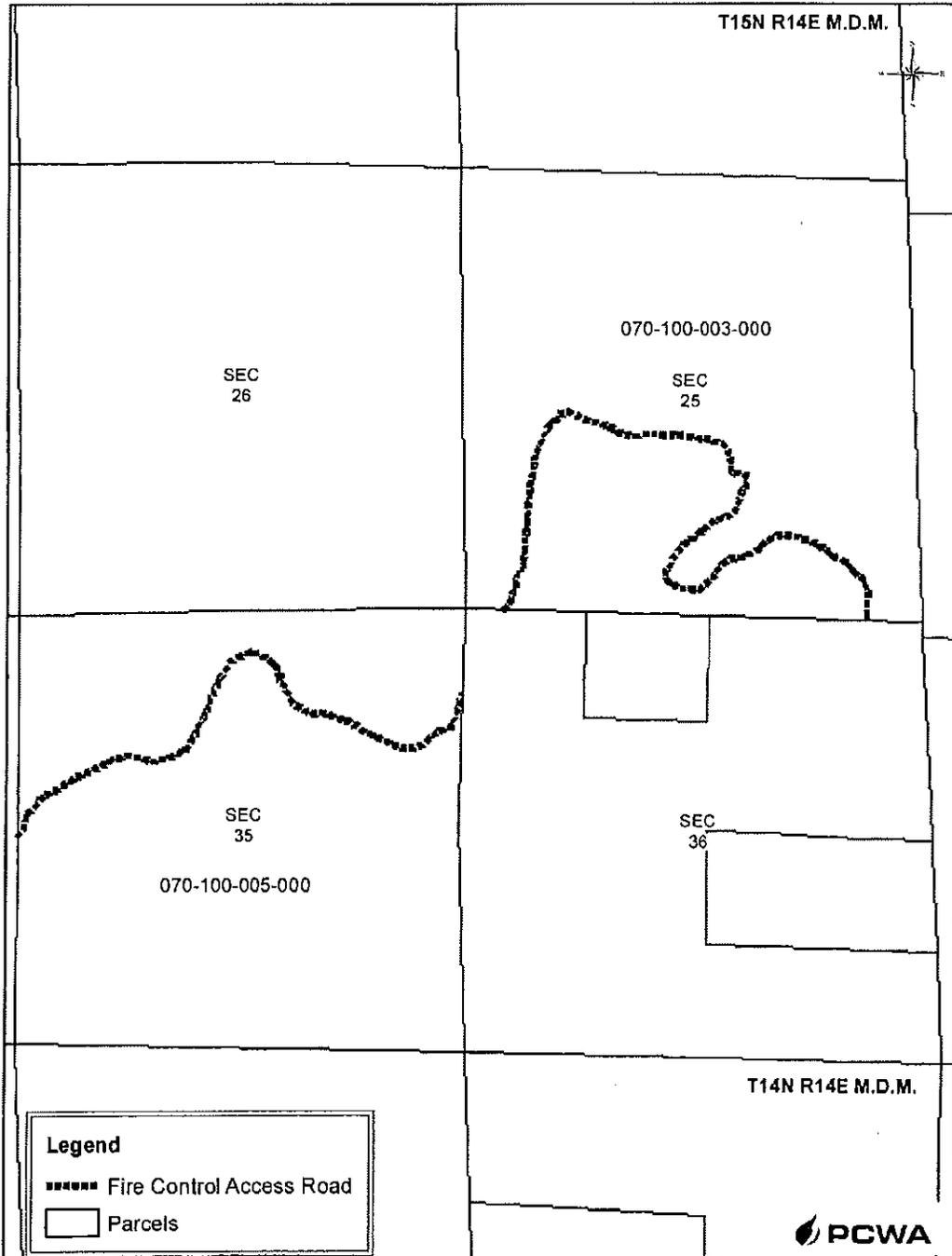
PCWA Access

EXHIBIT "B"
PUBLIC ACCESS ROAD



Public Access

EXHIBIT "C"
FIRE CONTROL ACCESS ROAD



Fire Control Access

California All-Purpose Acknowledgment

Civil Code §1189

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California)

County of PLACER)

On July 1, 2015 before me, Sandra E Hewston, Notary Public,
(here insert name and title of the officer)

personally appeared R BRENT SMITH

who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/~~are~~ subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/~~she~~/~~they~~ executed the same in his/~~her~~/~~their~~ authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/~~her~~/~~their~~ signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.



(place notary seal above)

Sandra E Hewston
Signature

Optional Additional Information:

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT:

Declaration & Covenant of Public Use of Road & Road Maintenance Agreement
(Title or type of document)

Number of Pages 6 Document Date July 1, 2015

Signer(s) Other Than Named Above: Alan Erigott

CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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STATE OF California)SS
COUNTY OF El Dorado)

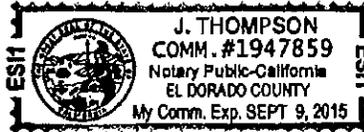
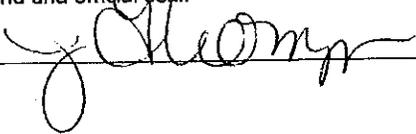
On 7-22-15 before me, J Thompson, Notary Public, personally appeared Alan Ehrigott

who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature



This area for official notarial seal.

OPTIONAL SECTION - NOT PART OF NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CAPACITY CLAIMED BY SIGNER

Though statute does not require the Notary to fill in the data below, doing so may prove invaluable to persons relying on the documents.

- INDIVIDUAL
 CORPORATE OFFICER(S) TITLE(S)
 PARTNER(S) LIMITED GENERAL
 ATTORNEY-IN-FACT
 TRUSTEE(S)
 GUARDIAN/CONSERVATOR
 OTHER

SIGNER IS REPRESENTING:

Name of Person or Entity

Name of Person or Entity

OPTIONAL SECTION - NOT PART OF NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Though the data requested here is not required by law, it could prevent fraudulent reattachment of this form.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE DOCUMENT DESCRIBED BELOW

TITLE OR TYPE OF DOCUMENT: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES _____

DATE OF DOCUMENT _____

SIGNER(S) OTHER THAN NAMED ABOVE _____



**RECORDING REQUESTED
BY FIRST AMERICAN TITLE**

0901-3429968JT
**RECORDED REQUESTED BY AND
WHEN RECORDED, RETURN TO:**

Western States Trail Foundation and Western States
Endurance Run Foundation
c/o Aronowitz Skidmore Lyon
200 Auburn Folsom Road, Suite 305
Auburn, CA 95603



**PLACER, County Recorder
JIM MCCAULEY**

DOC- 2015-0068236-00

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE - RECORDING ACCT
WEDNESDAY, AUG 5, 2015 15:14:42

MIC	\$3.00	AUT	\$4.00	SBS	\$3.00
ERD	\$1.00	RED	\$1.00	REC	\$12.00
ADD	\$0.00				

Ttl Pd \$24.00 Rcpt # 02452043
CLKBPMLEFJ1/SG/1-4

Declaration and Covenant of Easements

Recitals:

- A. The American River Conservancy, a California Non-Profit Corporation ("ARC") is the owner of a portion of the fee-title land encumbered by the Western States Trail and Road 51 shown on Exhibit "A" ("Subject Property").
- B. The Western States Trail and Road 51 are the routes along which are conducted the annual Western States Trail Ride and Western States Endurance Run events, which are authorized by the Chief of the United States Forest Service (USFS) to be conducted through the adjacent Granite Chief Wilderness.
- C. The ARC will conduct restoration activities on the Subject Property that may include the decommissioning of private logging roads, forest thinning and the re-routing of some portion of the existing Western States Trail, Tevis Cup Trail and Road 51; the rerouted trail shall generally follow the trail as it currently exists with relatively minor changes due to the decommissioning work, and be subject to final approval by the Western States Trail Foundation (WSTF) and Western States Endurance Run Foundation (WSER).
- D. Following its completion of said restoration activities, the ARC may transfer the subject land to the USFS or another public agency to be managed as public lands for resource management, wildlife habitat protection, public recreation and other purposes.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the public benefits derived thereby, the ARC records this Declaration and Covenant and dedicates an easement for the benefit of the WSTF and WSER as follows:

- 1. A public trail easement, for the benefit of the WSTF and the WSER over the Western States Trail, the Tevis Cup Trail and Road 51 extending through and across T.16N.,R15E., Section 29; T.16N., R14E., Sections 25, 27, 33, 35 and 36; and, T.15N.,R14E., Sections 1, 2 and 3 to include continued use of the Western States Trail for the annual Western States Trail Ride and Western States Endurance Run as currently authorized by USFS through the Granite Chief Wilderness, as shown on Exhibit "A";
- 2. A road easement for the benefit of the WSTF and WSER, that can be used by the WSTF and WSER support teams for four days each, before, during or after their race events from Road 51 to the Spring Site in Section 29, as shown on Exhibit "A". This road easement shall remain in place for as long as it takes ARC to complete restoration work in Section 36 and 29. This road easement shall terminate upon either the transfer of Sections 36 and 29 to the USFS or another

public agency, or until ARC is required to manage this land as wilderness and wilderness management of Sections 36 and 29 excludes private, motorized vehicular use.

3. A public easement to the Spring Site and water conveyance system bringing water to an area that does not damage riparian or other resources during a four (4) day period on either side of the date of WSTF and WSER race events, with the approximate location of the Spring Site shown on Exhibit "A".
4. With the exception of the road easement described in Paragraph 2 above, this declaration and easement shall terminate upon the transfer of the Subject Property to the USFS or another public agency only if the existence of this declaration and easement is found by the USFS or other public agency to prevent transfer of the Property as wilderness to that agency. If only a portion of the Subject Property is transferred then the declaration and easement will terminate only on the portion transferred.
5. Upon completion of the restoration work, if any of the trails were relocated, this declaration and the easement will be re-recorded and superseded with the correct and final locations.
6. Under no circumstances should the recording of these easements impair the ability of ARC or public agencies from closing these trail and road easements in order to provide for public safety during emergencies such as wild land fire or other conditions that pose a clear and distinct threat to public safety.
7. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as limiting or restricting the rights of the undersigned or their successors in interest from pursuing such remedies as may be available under Civil Code section §845 or other provisions of law, or any other lawful means for the enforcement of all or a portion of the terms of this Declaration and Covenant Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the owner of the Subject Land has executed this Declaration & Covenant of Easements.

AMERICAN RIVER CONSERVANCY

By: Alan Ehr Gott
Alan Ehr Gott, Executive Director

Date: 7/27/2015

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

)
STATE OF Calif
COUNTY OF El Dorado) ss
)

On 7-27, 2015, before me, J Thompson, Notary Public, personally appeared ALAN EHRGOTT, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature J Thompson (Seal)

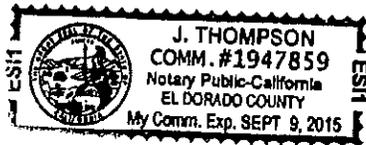
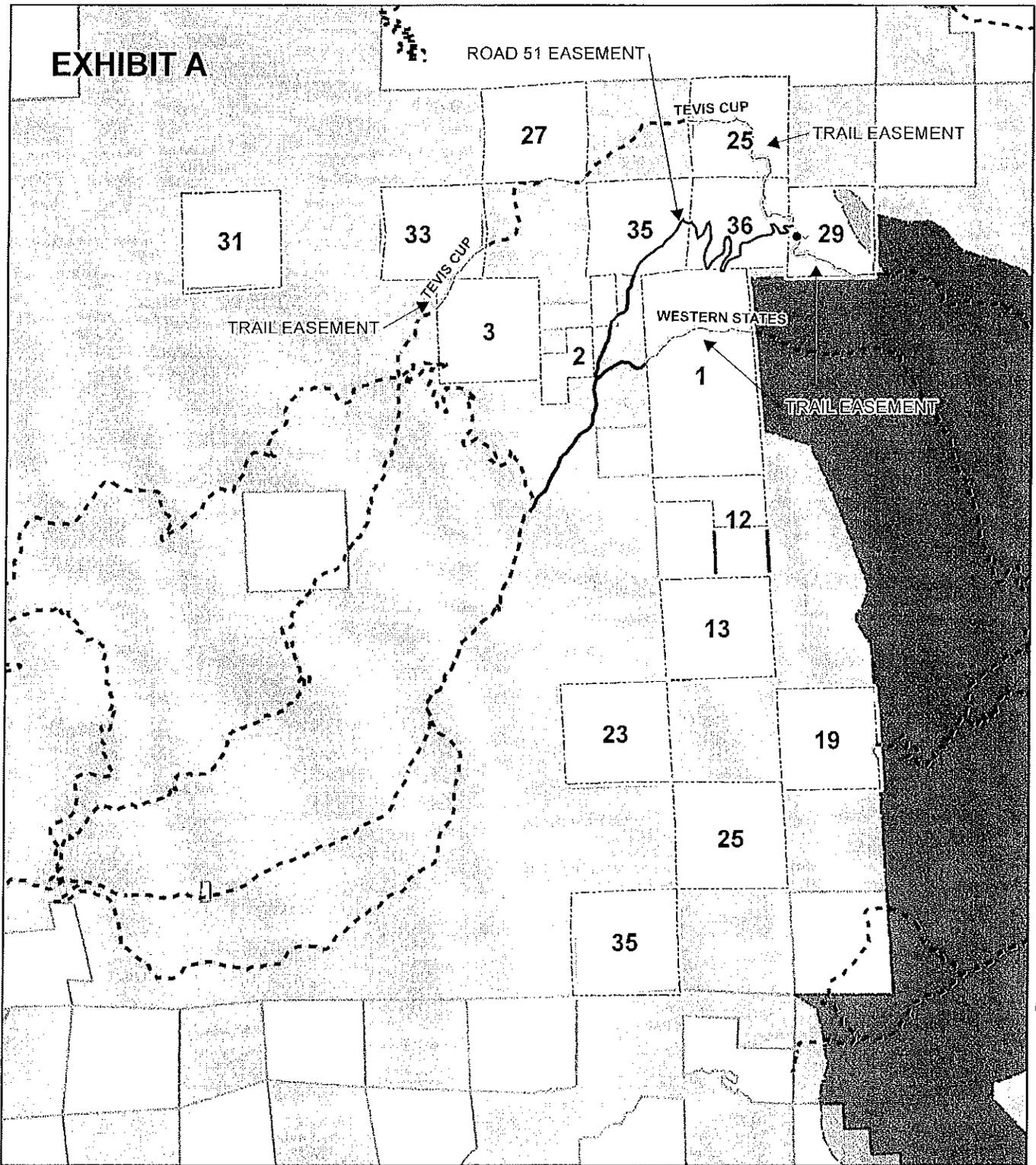


EXHIBIT A



AMERICAN RIVER
CONSERVANCY

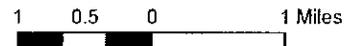


Preserving Rivers and Land for Life

American River Headwaters Project

- N
- Subject Property
- Wilderness Area
- US Forest Service
- spring
- Road
- Trail
- Road 51 Easement
- Trail Easement

Map Date: July 8, 2015
Map Data Courtesy of:
United States Forest Service
United States Geological Survey
CalAtlas



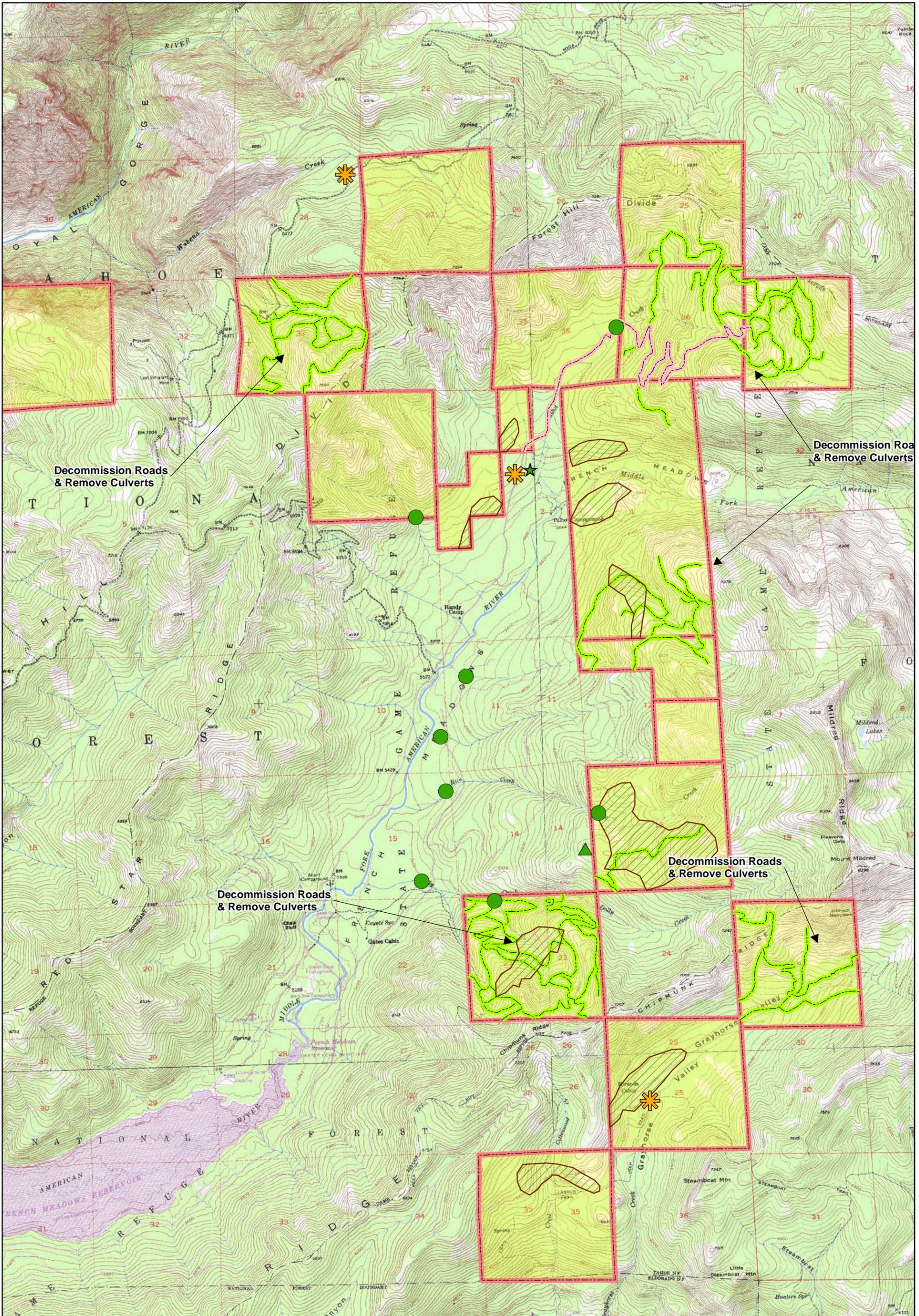
Handwritten initials

Leases or Agreements

There are three agreements of which ARC negotiated prior to the purchase of the subject 10,115 acres that need to be identified within this grant submission. The first is an easement to the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) to maintain a road easement to a snow pack and stream measurement course in Section 25 (Grayhorse Valley). A second easement agreement was also recorded in favor of the PCWA. The Declaration & Covenant of Public Use of Road and Road Maintenance Agreement provides a public road easement into Section 25. A Third easement agreement, Declaration and Covenant of Easements was recorded in favor of the Western States Trail Foundation and the Western States Endurance Run that assures access to and through the Western States Trail for continued operations of the Tevis Cup Endurance Ride and the Western States Endurance Run race events from North Lake Tahoe to Auburn.

These easements will not affect nor restrict the proposed restoration project, although restoration activity will need to be managed on subject lands adjacent to and along the Grayhorse Valley Road and the Western States Trail during public recreation and race event periods.

The three easement agreements referred to above are enclosed and attached herein.

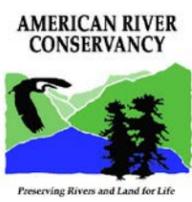


Decommission Roads & Remove Culverts

Decommission Road & Remove Culverts

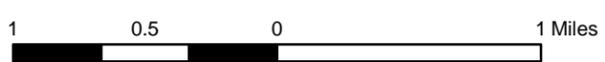
Decommission Roads & Remove Culverts

Decommission Roads & Remove Culverts



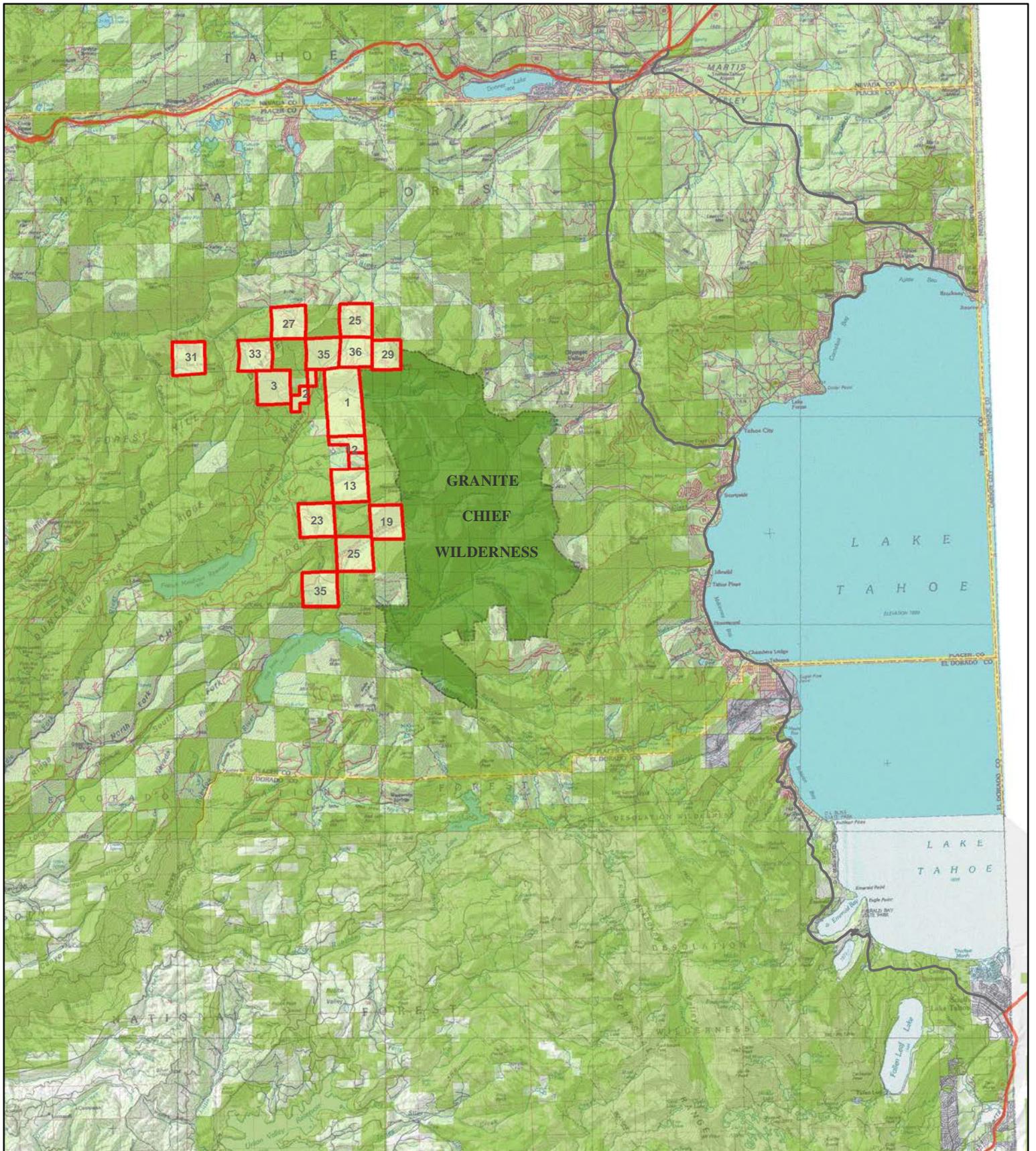
Site Plan - American River Headwaters Improvement

- Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
- Wilderness Area
- US Forest Service
- Forest Thinning Treatment Areas
- Decommission Roads
- Road to Trail Conversion
- ✱ Snow Course Location
- Instrumentation Site
- ▲ Dolly & Rice Creek Sensors
- ★ Talbot Creek Sensors



Map Date: 25 August 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 United States Forest Service
 United States Geological Survey
 CalAtlas

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**AMERICAN RIVER
CONSERVANCY**



Preserving Rivers and Land for Life

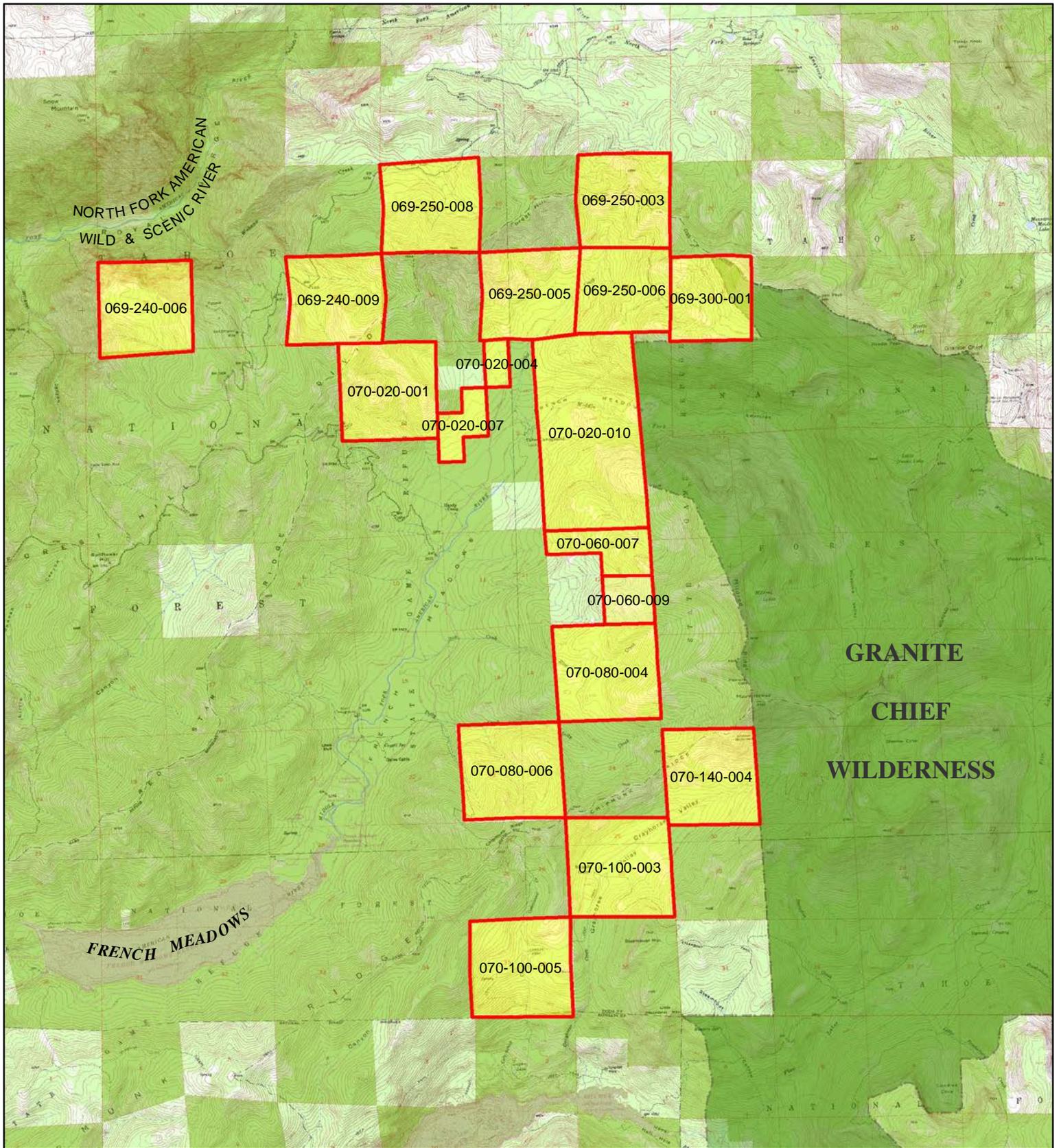
American River Headwaters Project



- Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
- Wilderness Area
- US Forest Service



Map Date: August 19, 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 American River Conservancy
 CalAtlas
 Placer County
 United States Geological Survey
 United States Forest Service



**AMERICAN RIVER
CONSERVANCY**

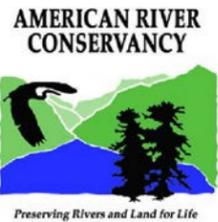
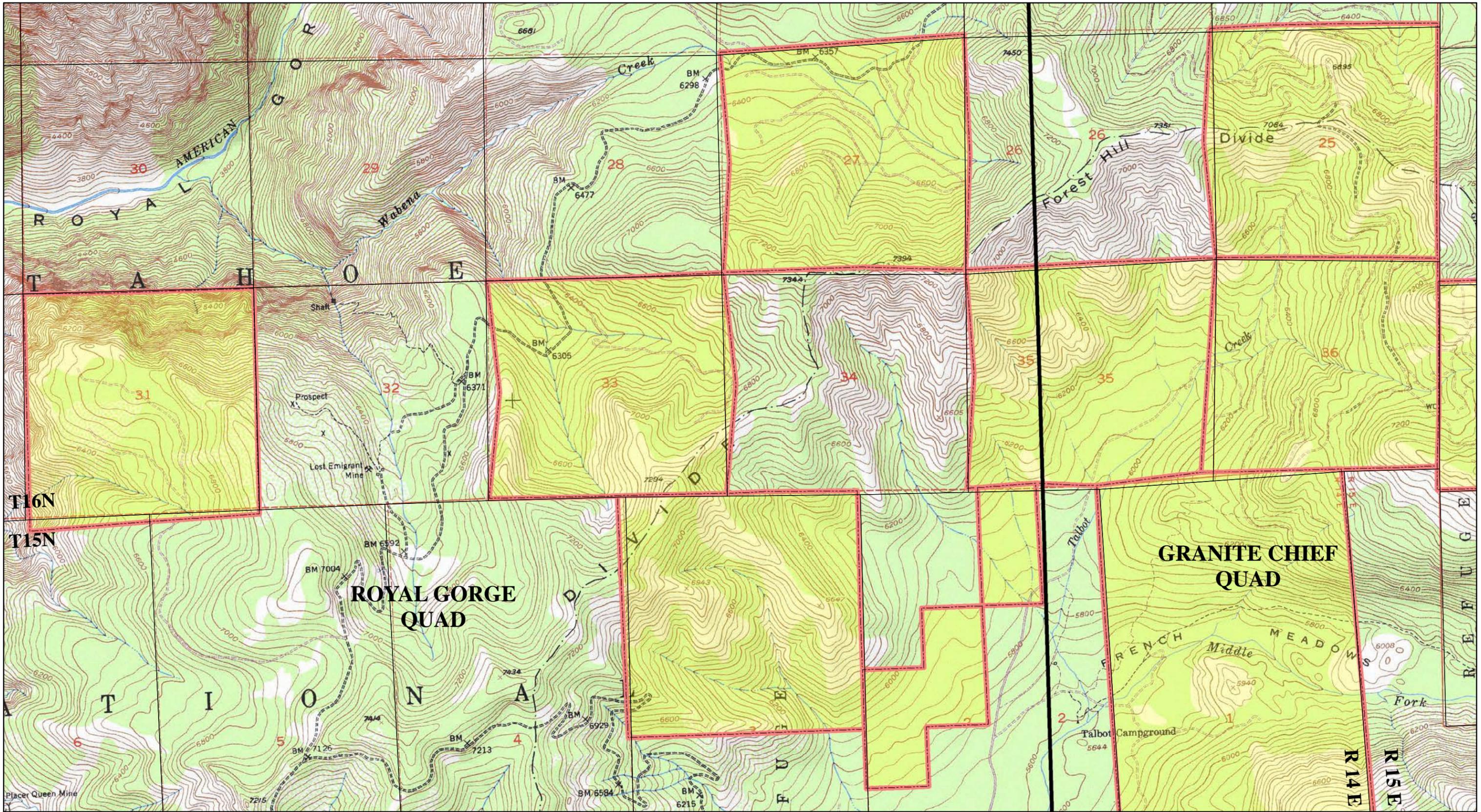


American River Headwaters Project

-  Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
-  Wilderness Area
-  US Forest Service

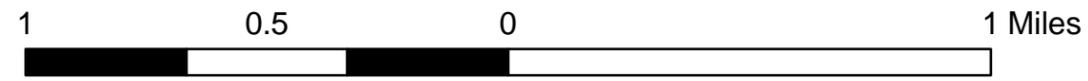
Map Date: 19 August 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 United States Forest Service
 United States Geological Survey
 CalAtlas





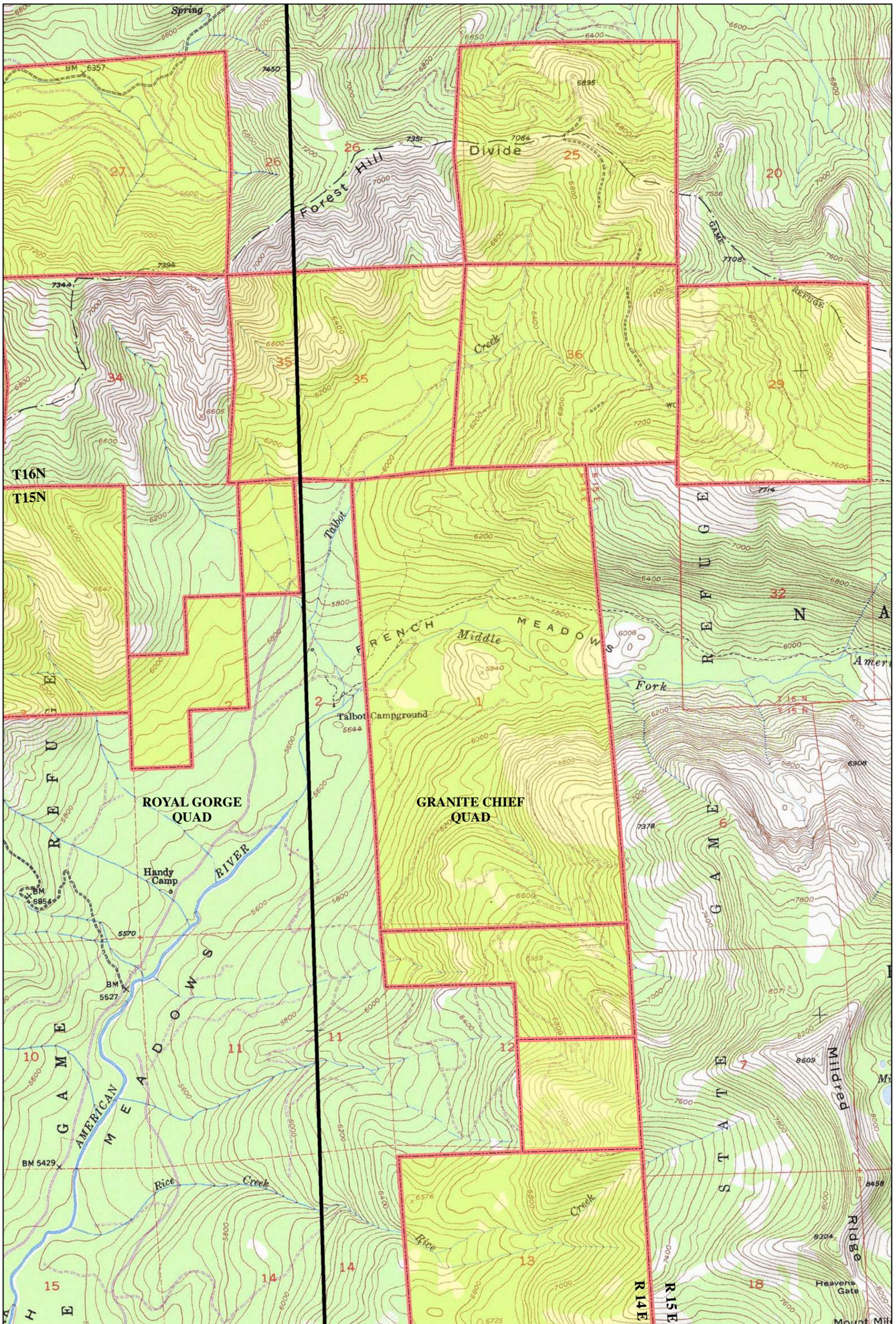
American River Headwaters Project

-  Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
-  Wilderness Area
-  US Forest Service



Map Date: 19 August 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 United States Forest Service
 United States Geological Survey
 CalAtlas

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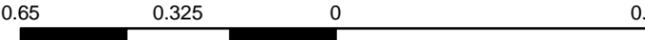




American River Headwaters Project

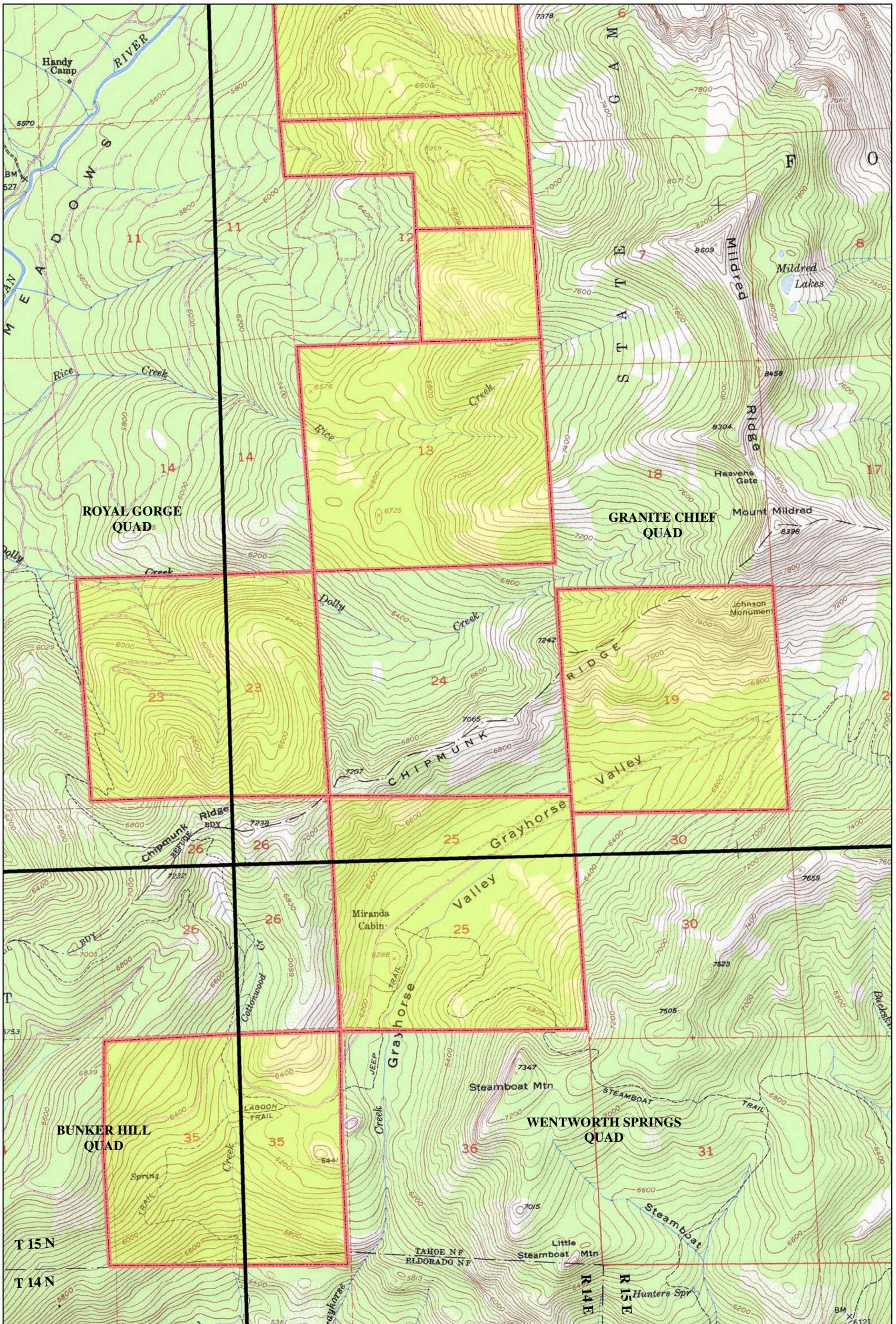
- Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
- Wilderness Area
- US Forest Service

0.65 0.325 0 0.65 Miles



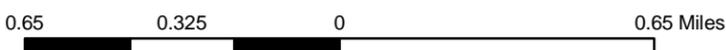
Map Date: 19 August 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 United States Forest Service
 United States Geological Survey
 CalAtlas

1:24,000



American River Headwaters Project

-  Project Parcels (10,115 acres)
-  Wilderness Area
-  US Forest Service



Map Date: 19 August 2015
 Map Data Courtesy of:
 United States Forest Service
 United States Geological Survey
 CalAtlas

1:24,000