

Appendix B - Full Application Checklist

SNC Reference#: 852

Project Name: Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan

Applicant: Truckee Donner Land Trust

Please mark each box if item is included 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 6a 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.

John Swahn
Signed (Authorized Representative)

2/29/16
Date

John Swahn, Stewardship Director
Name and Title (print or type)

Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan Proposal

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Appendices

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 - a. US Forest Service Letter of Support
 - b. Truckee River Watershed Council Letter of Support
- D. Acquisition Checklist

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 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 (for Category One Projects Only)

Total Acres:

SNC Portion (if different):

Acquisition Projects Only For Acquisitions Only

Appraisal Included

Select one deliverable (for Category Two Projects Only)

Permit

CEQA/NEPA Compliance

Appraisal

Condition Assessment

Biological Survey

Environmental Site Assessment

Plan

Appendix E:

As this grant request is for the funding of the Creation of a Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan, there is no on-the-ground project available for either the CCC or the CALCC. Therefore Land Trust staff does not plan to approach either the CCC or CALCC.

Appendix E - California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps

Guidelines Pertaining to Chapter 6, Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds:

Division 26.7 of the Water Code, Chapter 6, Section 79734 requires that: "For restoration and ecosystem protection projects funded pursuant to this chapter, the services of the California Conservation Corps or a local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps shall be used whenever feasible."

Applicants seeking funds from the SNC Watershed Improvement Program to complete Category 1 projects shall consult with representatives of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) AND CALCC (the entity representing the certified community conservation corps) (collectively, "the Corps") to determine the feasibility of the Corps participation. Unless otherwise exempted, applicants that fail to engage in such consultation are not be eligible to receive Proposition 1 funds. The Corps have developed the following consultation process for Proposition 1 projects:

- Step 1: Prior to submittal of an application to the SNC, Applicant prepares the following information for submission to both the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and CALCC (who represents the certified community conservation corps):
- Project Title
 - Project Description (identifying key project activities and deliverables)
 - Project Map (showing project location)
 - Project Implementation estimated start and end dates

- Step 2: Applicant submits the forgoing information via email concurrently to the CCC and CALCC representatives:

California Conservation Corps representative:

Name: CCC Prop 1 Coordinator

Email: Prop1@ccc.ca.gov

Phone: (916) 341-3100

California Association of Local Conservation Corps representative:

Name: Crystal Muhlenkamp

Email: inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org

Phone: 916-426-9170 ext. 0

- Step 3: Within five (5) business days of receiving the project information, the CCC and CALCC representatives will review the submitted information, contact the applicant if necessary, and respond to the applicant with a Corps Consultation Review Document informing them:

(1) It is NOT feasible for CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project; or

- (2) It is feasible for the CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project and identifying the aspects of the project that can be accomplished with Corps services.

Note: While the Corps will take up to 5 days to review projects, applicants are encouraged to contact the CCC/CALCC representatives to discuss feasibility early in the project development process.

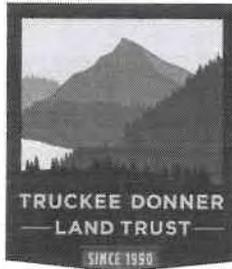
The Corps cannot guarantee a compliant review process for applicants who submit project information fewer than 5 business days before a deadline.

Step 4: Applicant submits application to the SNC that includes the Corps Consultation Review Document.

Step 5: SNC reviews applications. Applications that do not include documentation demonstrating that the Corps have been consulted will be deemed “noncompliant” and will not be considered for funding.

NOTES:

1. The Corps already have determined that it is not feasible to use their services on restoration and ecosystem protection projects that solely involve either planning or acquisition. Therefore, applicants seeking funds for such projects are exempt from the consultation requirement and should check the appropriate box on the Consultation Review Document.
2. An applicant that has been awarded funds to undertake a project where it has been determined that Corps services can be used must thereafter work with either the CCC or CALCC to develop a scope of work and enter into a contract with the appropriate Corps. Unless otherwise excused, failure to utilize a Corps on such a project will result in Funding Entities assessing a scoring penalty on the applicant’s future applications for Proposition 1 funds.



Board of Directors Resolution No. 2016- 02

In the matter of: A Resolution Approving the Application For Grant Funds For the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program, Proposition 1 Grant Program under the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the Board of Directors of the Truckee Donner Land Trust, at a regular meeting held February 23, 2016, by the following vote:

Ayes: 11
Noes: 0
Abstentions: 0
Absent: 0

Signed and approved by:



Jeff Brown, President, Truckee Donner Land Trust

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 application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application(s) 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 Truckee Donner Land Trust has identified the **Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan** as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Truckee Donner Land Trust that this Board:

- Approves the submittal of an application for the Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan 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 resource(s) 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 Perry Norris, or designee, 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 Truckee Donner Land Trust on the 23rd day of February, 2016.

Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan Proposal

Submitted by the Truckee Donner Land Trust to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy
March 1, 2016

A. Narrative:

The Webber Lake property, acquired by the Truckee Donner Land Trust in 2012, consists of approximately 3,000 acres of lake, meadow, and conifer forest habitat. Grants from funding the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, the Wildlife Conservation Board, and the California Natural Resources Agency made this conservation effort in the Sierra Nevada checkerboard possible. The property has significant resource values including Webber Lake, a 220-acre natural lake that is the headwater lake of the Little Truckee River, the riparian system – a largely intact ecosystem that provides clean source water to the Little Truckee River, and Lacey Meadows, a 1,900 -acre meadow system. The Little Truckee River, which flows east from the Sierra into Nevada, is a significant contributor of water to the Truckee River. In addition, a diversion redirects a significant portion of the upper Little Truckee River into the Feather River Basin, through the Sierra Valley. It is unique that the Little Truckee River provides benefit to Californians on both sides of the crest.

The forest in this priority watershed suffers from overstock, disease, and an interruption in the natural fire cycle. Lodgepole pine encroaches into meadow habitat in numerous locations. Upland timber stands need to be thinned to minimize disease and recent increase in tree mortality due to bark beetle infestations, and minimize the threat of catastrophic wildfire.

Management of timber stands has an effect on water quality and quantity. Timber stands that have been denuded by catastrophic wildfire are prone to large episodes of erosion, adversely impacting watercourses. Overstocked forests can consume more groundwater than do forests with normal stocking levels. Functioning headwater meadows are important for spring runoff attenuation and water storage, and their importance as water storage facilities is becoming increasingly recognized. While restoration of the watercourses to re-water desiccated meadows is critical to proper function, so too is reclaiming portions of meadow that have been replaced with dense stands of lodgepole pine. Lodgepole pine is a species with a non-serotinous cone that left unmanaged, can quickly encroach upon meadow systems and other forest openings. Lodgepole encroachment places unnatural demands on groundwater levels, depriving meadows of the moisture needed to maintain their integrity. This continual draw on the groundwater by growing conifers is significant, leading to a gradual drying of the meadow soils, which perpetuates conifer regeneration. Left unmanaged, lodgepole pine is capable of dominating meadow openings, thereby eliminating the benefits to

groundwater supply, water quality, and wildlife once offered by the meadow ecosystems.

If successful in securing SNC funding, the Truckee Donner Land Trust will contract with a Registered Professional Forester (Forester) to create a long-term non-industrial forest management plan (Plan) for the Webber Lake/Lacey Meadows property. Specifically, a “Working Forest Management Plan”, authored by a Registered Professional Forester, subject to interdisciplinary review, and approved by Cal Fire, would be CEQA document that would guide future forest management activities. This document will identify critical areas for treatment, and allow the Land Trust to begin work immediately. The Land Trust respectfully requests the Sierra Nevada Conservancy fund this plan through the Proposition One Grant Program, Category two.

With the completion of the plan, the Land Trust has a small amount of available funding to immediately thin an area of 30-40 acres adjacent to Lacey Meadows and the Webber Lake Campground. This acreage is important because the campground is a likely source of fire ignition, and the acreage contains significant numbers of standing dead trees. In addition, the acreage appears to be former meadow. Larger-scale, landscape level treatments are dependent on securing additional funding. The creation of the Forest Plan will open the project up to additional funding sources.

B. Workplan and Schedule:

As soon as the snow melts, the Forester will survey forest resources of the ownership, developing an assessment of current conditions & determination of management needs. The foresters inventory will include location & assessment of water resources, biological habitats, and other sensitive resource areas. Information gathered during the foresters field reconnaissance will be incorporated into the overall management plan and submitted to Cal Fire by October 2016, with approval anticipated during the fall of 2016.

Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan Proposal

Workplan and Schedule:

June:	Awarding of grants
July:	Grant agreements in place Forester begins assessment of property
August:	Assessment complete Forester drafts report
October:	Report completed and submitted to CalFire Report approved by CalFire

Late October/Early November: Land Trust completes 35-40 acres of management near Lacey Meadows.

C. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements Narrative

Restrictions/Agreements

The property is owned in fee by the Truckee Donner Land Trust. There are numerous grant restrictions put in place by the three State funders, including the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, that restrict certain aspects of ownership of the property. None of these restrictions affects the Land Trust's ability to manage the forest for the stated purposes. These grant agreements are attached in the packet.

Regulatory Requirements/Permits

The document created through this grant serves as the permit in CEQA, and will contain the regulatory requirements.

D. Organizational Capacity Narrative

Over the past 25 years, The Truckee Donner Land Trust has protected over 33,000 acres of threatened open space in the Truckee Donner region. Successful acquisitions have come to fruition over the years not only due to a dedicated donor base, partnerships, and hard working board members and staff, but the ability to act quickly as critical natural lands becomes available. In addition, the Land Trust is actively managing 22,000 acres with an eye towards, recreation, forest health and meadow restoration.

The Land Trust is a small but capable and nimble organization that has the capacity, leadership, and resources to seize upon opportunities that meet the organization's goals and strategic initiatives. A Board of 10 individuals of diverse and dynamic backgrounds guides the Land Trust. The current Executive Director has been at the helm for over 15 years. The staff consists of five full-time employees and several seasonal employees, interns and hundreds of volunteers.

As stated, staff manages numerous properties in the region. This management includes successful fundraising, permitting, and implementation of similar forest plan creation and forest management on several properties. The Forester the Land Trust intends to hire has managed numerous projects for the Land Trust, including the creation of a forest management plan on a property of similar size to Webber Lake/Lacey Meadows.

Fundraising for projects always includes ensuring funds are in place to steward acquisitions by the Stewardship Department. To this extent the Land Trust has committed \$18,500 to begin treatments after the creation of the Plan.

E. Cooperation and Community Support Narrative

The Plan will be the result of the Forester's collaboration with Cal Fire, Sierra and Nevada Counties, the local Native American Tribes, The Nature Conservancy, the Trust for Public Land, and the U.S. Forest Service. There is a large effort involving the Land Trust, the U.S. Forest Service, and The Nature Conservancy, to manage the forests of the Upper Little Truckee River Basin for forest health, wildfire prevention and management, and aspen stand propagation.

Nevada and Sierra Counties, the U.S. Forest Service, Trout Unlimited, and the Truckee River Watershed Council support acquisition and management of the Webber Lake/Lacey Meadows property. There is no known opposition to the project. Letters of Support from the U.S. Forest Service and the Truckee River Watershed Council are contained in Appendix C.

F. Tribal Consultation Narrative

As a part of the Plan, the Forester will contact the following Tribal Representatives for Sierra County, for input:

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
1550 Harbor Blvd., Room 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710
FAX (916) 373-5471
Attn.: Frank Lienert frank.lienert@nahc.ca.gov

Greenville Rancheria of Maidu Indians*
Kyle Self, Chairman
P.O. Box 279
Greenville, CA 95947
Tribal Affiliation: Maidu
(530) 284-7990 / (530) 284-6612 Fax
kself@greenvillerrancheria.com

Maidu Cultural and Development Group
Lorena Gorbet
P.O. Box 426
Greenville, CA 95947
Tribal Affiliation: Maidu
(530) 375-7395 cell
lrgorbet@hotmail.com

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California*
Neil Mortimer, Chairman
Darrel Cruz, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
919 Highway 395 South

Gardnerville, NV 89410
Tribal Affiliation: Washoe
(775) 265-8600 / (775) 265-2254 Fax

G. Long-Term Management and Sustainability Narrative

The Plan will serve as the guiding document for the long-term management of the forest. The initial treatments will likely take ten years; additional treatment and re-treatment will need to occur 20-30 years after the initial treatment. To aid in the future funding of the property's management, the Land Trust leases a portion of the property for the grazing of sheep. In addition the Land Trust will continue to operate the campground on the property. Currently these two generate roughly \$50,000.00 annually. Additional funding will be secured through donations and grants. The Land Trust intends to own the property long-term; the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is available and welcome to monitor the property at any time. Lastly, the property is open to the public for recreation.

H. Performance Measures

The plan created by this grant will apply to two performance measures: Acres of Land Improved or Restored and Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada. The acres of land to be restored will be outlined in the Plan. The initial funds leveraged are \$18,500 of the Land Trust's funds. Additional funds leveraged will likely be the estimated \$500,000 it will take to treat the forest. The actual management of the forest will relate to numerous performance measures including the sequestration of carbon, improved water quality, and economic benefit, as a local timber operator will be used. That said, quantifying these measures will be costly, to the point that the Land Trust will not attempt to quantify them.

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
SNC Watershed Improvement Program - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Timber Management Plan

Applicant: Truckee Donner Land Trust

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>Project Management of Plan with Cal Fire</i>	\$4,000.00					\$4,000.00
<i>Field Surveys of timber, watercourses, roads</i>	\$34,000.00					\$34,000.00
<i>Data Processing</i>	\$15,000.00					\$15,000.00
<i>Writing/Production of Timber Plan</i>	\$14,000.00					\$14,000.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$67,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67,000.00

SECTION TWO PARTIAL INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>Monitoring</i>						\$0.00
<i>Publications, Printing, Public Relations</i>						\$0.00
<i>Reporting, Perf Measures, Invoice Billings</i>						\$0.00
						\$0.00
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$67,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$67,000.00

SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not exceed 15% of the above listed Project costs) :						Total
<i>*Organization operating/overhead costs</i>	\$3,000.00					\$3,000.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
<i>Truckee Donner Land Trust funding for timber management operations. Note: technically not a part of this project, but the Land Trust will begin managing the forest immediately after the creation of the Plan</i>						
	\$18,500.00					\$18,500.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
Total Other Contributions:	\$18,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,500.00

NOTE: The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

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

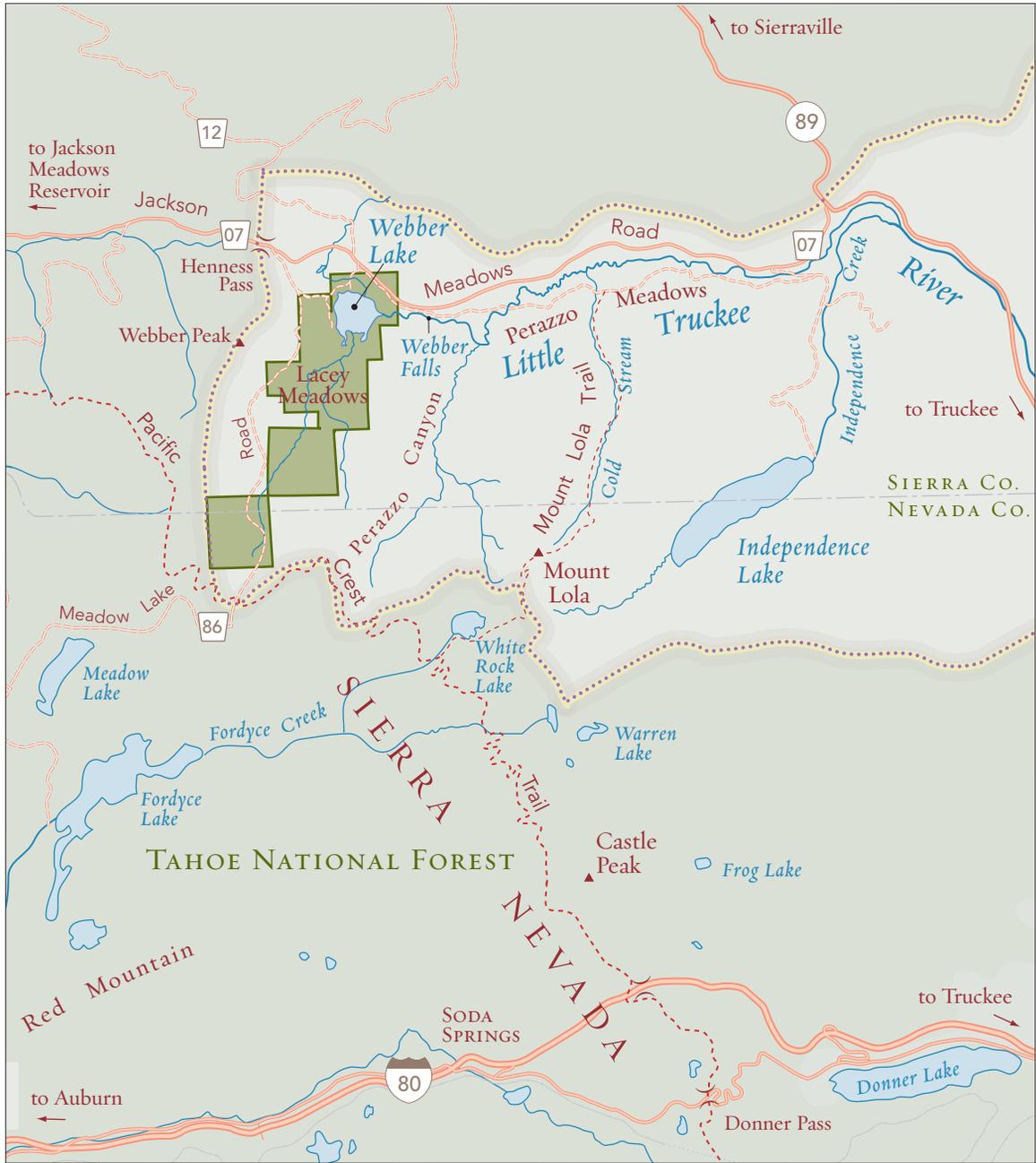
Submit the signed, approved Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact along with any permits, surveys, and/or reports that have been completed to support this NEPA status.

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.

WEBBER LAKE / LACEY MEADOWS

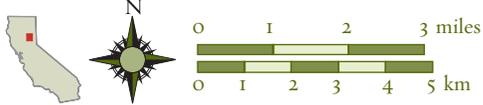
NEVADA & SIERRA COUNTIES, CA



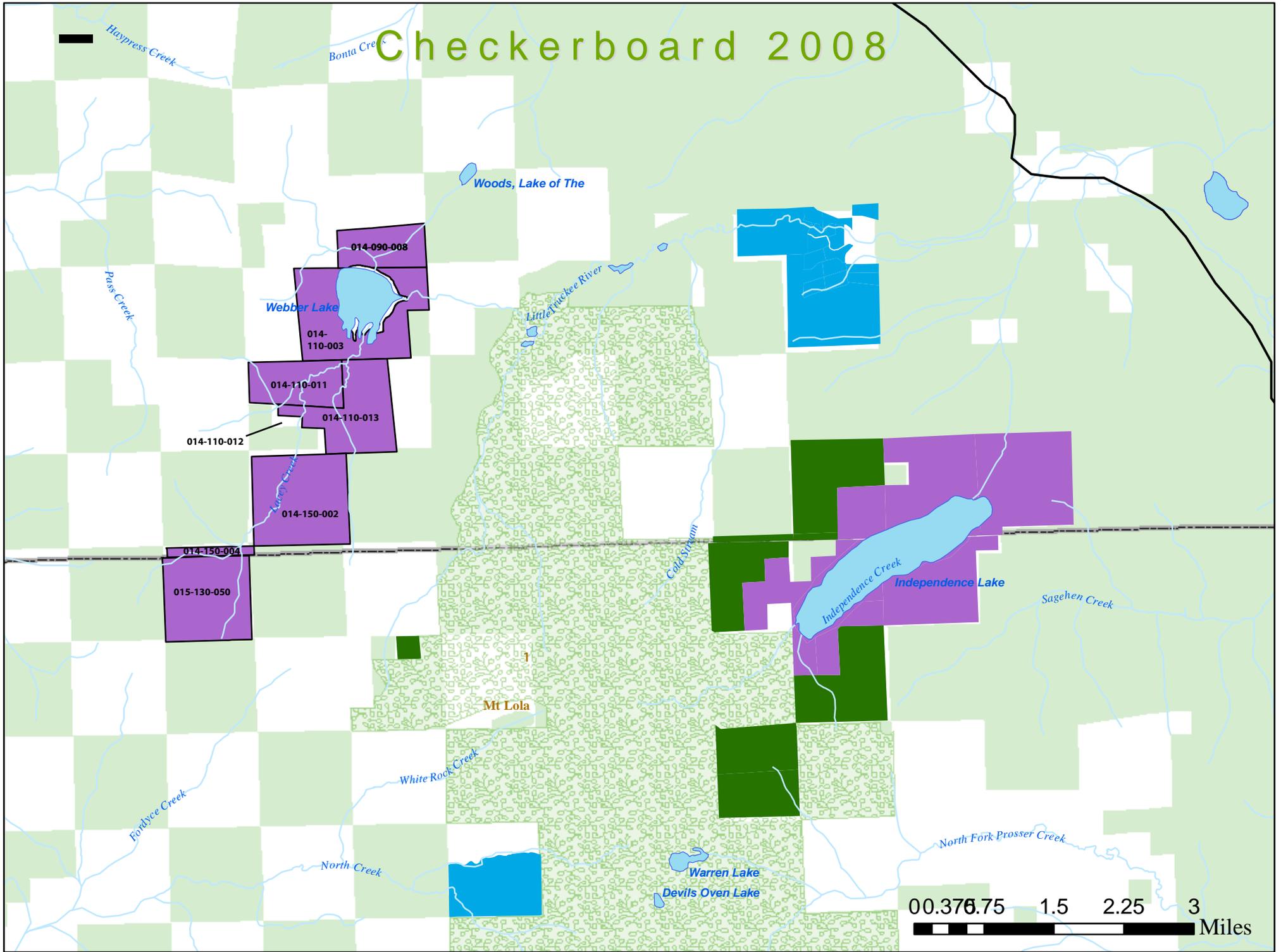
Map by Peace Press Cartography for The Trust for Public Land

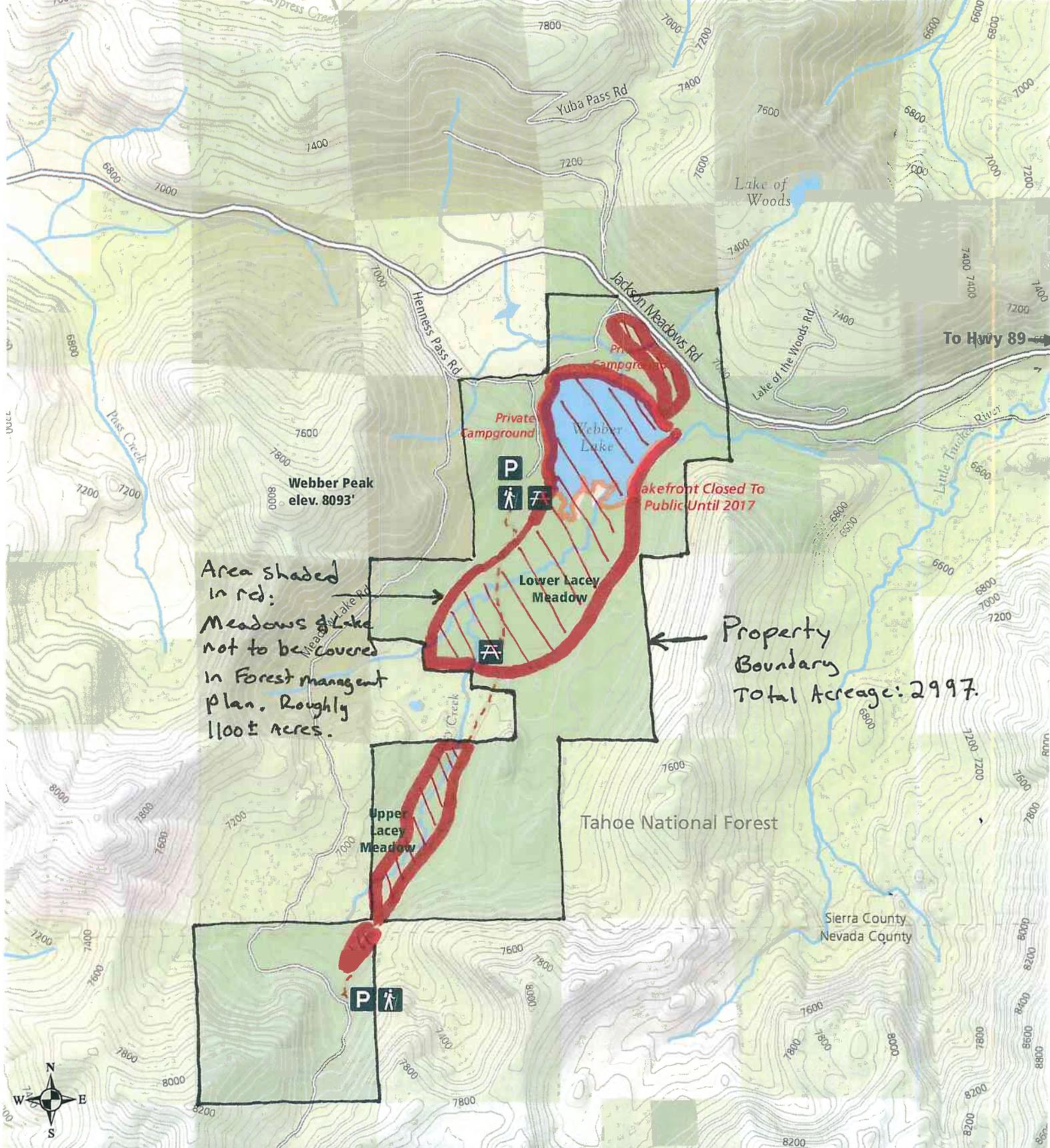
November 13, 2012 v4b

- Completed Project
- Watershed Boundary

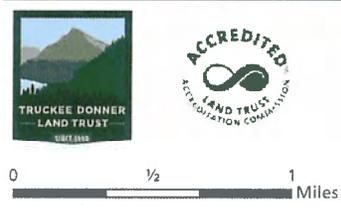


Checkerboard 2008

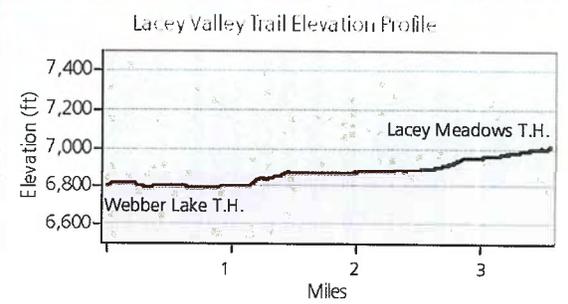




Webber Lake - Lacey Meadows



- Trail
- Trailhead
- Picnic Area
- Parking
- Conservation Easement held by TDLT
- TDLT Property
- US Forest Service Land



Webber Lake, Lacey and Coppins Meadow Photographs



Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows as viewed from the South



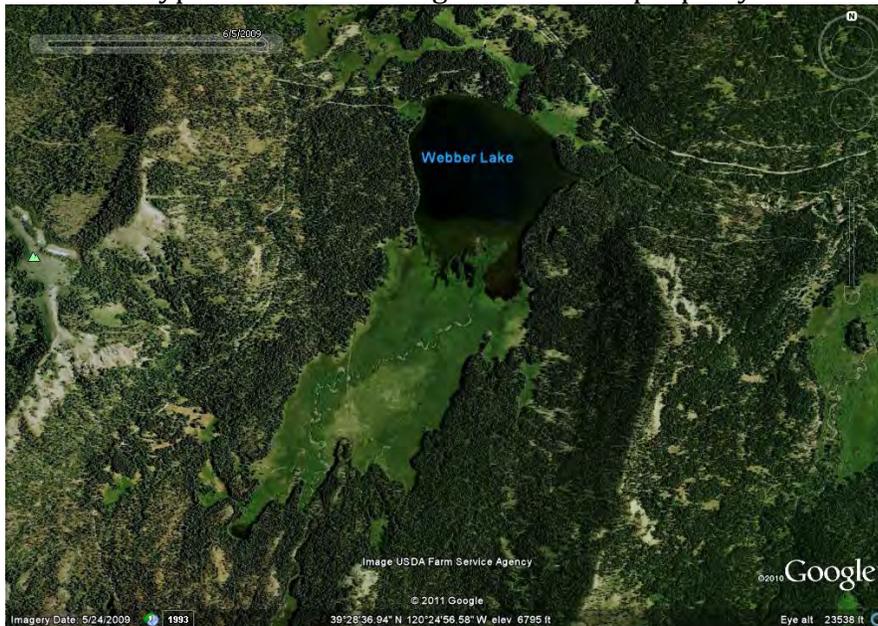
Lower Lacey Meadow. Note lodgepole pine encroachment into the meadow.



Note standing dead pines and distressed fir trees in Lacey Meadow



Typical forest stocking levels on the property



Webber Lake, Lacey and Coppins Meadows form the Little Truckee River.

Webber Lake, Lacey Meadows, and Coppins Meadow Management and Stewardship Plan

**Properties acquired by Truckee Donner Land Trust in December 2012
(Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows) and September 2015 (Coppins Meadow)
DRAFT 10-10-2015 by John Svahn**



INTRODUCTION:

Acquiring lands for preservation, protection and public access is critical to the mission of the Truckee Donner Land trust, as is stewarding these lands post-acquisition. For each property owned, the Land Trust creates a stewardship plan covering potential management issues and needs, as well as monitoring plans and future conveyance to public agencies.

Overview:

The Lacey Meadows/Webber Lake and Coppins Meadow Properties, which constitute the headwaters of the Little Truckee River, consist of approximately 3,200 acres located about fifteen miles northwest of Truckee. The sub-alpine meadows, lake, forested uplands, and ridges on the Sierra Crest that comprise the Webber Lake ‘region’ are literally a landscape itself. The property also has a rich history as an overnight stop along Hennes Pass Road; the original Webber Lake Hotel is well preserved, and serves as a summer residence for the lake’s caretaker.

After a long history of private ownership and exclusive use, the region will soon be permanently protected and open to the public.

Regional Conservation Effort:

- Webber Lake and Coppins Meadow are the centerpiece of nearly 7,000 acres of conserved lands in the Little Truckee watershed
 - Webber Falls, Perazzo Meadows, the Cold Stream Meadow (Mt. Lola Trail) parcels, and all of the Independence Lake basin
 - Exceedingly high conservation and recreational values.
- Total acreage protected in the Henness Pass/Little Truckee River headwaters area to exceed 17,500 through fee title acquisition, and conservation easements

Biological and Hydrological Resources:

- Arguably the most biologically important project pursued by the Land Trust, and The Trust for Public Land in the Sierra Nevada.
- Identified by The Nature Conservancy as a “Portfolio Site” because of the critical habitat it provides for native birds, animals, and plants.
- The riparian System- a largely intact ecosystem that provides clean source water to the Little Truckee River
 - Webber Lake, a natural 220-acre lake, is the headwaters of the Little Truckee River watershed.
 - Lacey Meadow, a 1,500-acre meadow system
 - Upper Lacey Meadow, a 400-acre meadow system
 - Coppins Meadow, a 153-acre property with a significant wet-meadow system and tributary to Webber Lake
 - System has been identified by the USFS as an important tributary targeted for stream restoration to improve fish and amphibian habitat.
 - Restoration would also improve flood attenuation for locations downstream, including Perazzo Meadows and the Little Truckee River mainstem
- Meadow, upland, and riparian habitat for:
 - Western willow flycatcher, raptors including bald eagle and osprey, greater sandhill crane, and waterfowl
 - Large mammals including deer, bear, lynx, mountain lion, Sierra Nevada red fox, and wolverine
 - Small fur-bearing mammals including fishers and martens
 - Fish species including fish native to the Lahontan Basin- although the properties are upstream of the historic barrier to native fish (Webber Falls), the streams and lake on the property are deemed potential habitat for the introduction of Lahontan Basin fish. Several of the Lahontan Basin species have been planted above the falls; several State and Federal agencies are considering introduction of Lahontan cutthroat trout.
- Allows native flora and fauna both vertical and horizontal habitat and migration

Historical Resources:

- The Hennes Pass Road was one of the main routes between the Comstock and the California gold country from the mid-1800's until the completion of the railroad. (*Source: CA State Parks*)
- Webber Lake Hotel was constructed in 1860, and still stands today.
- Historical Johnson Ranch House built with hand-hewn local logs
- Webber Lake is one of several lakes in the area historically referred to as 'Lake Truckee;' Donner Lake and Independence Lake also share the same name in some texts.
- Dr. Webber stocked the lake for fishing in 1865, and the lake is regarded as the birthplace of sport angling in the Sierra Nevada. It has been a private destination for fishermen and campers ever since.

OWNERSHIP:

The following APNs are held in fee by the Land Trust:

Sierra County: 014-090-0110 (Coppins), 14-090-08, 14-110-(03,11,12,13), 14-050-(02,04)

Nevada County: 015-130-050

Legal Description:

All that real property located in (i) Nevada County with Assessor's Parcel Number: 15-130-05; and (ii) Sierra County with Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 14-090-08, 14-110-03, 14-110- 11, 14-110-12, 14-110-13, 14-150-02, and 14-150-04.

MANAGEMENT ISSUES FOR WEBBER LAKE, AND LACEY AND COPPINS MEADOWS:

- Wildlife habitat protection
- Scenic view shed protection
- Management of Camping and Day Use
- Management of the fishery
- Fire fuels reduction/forest health improvement
- Management of historic structures
- Property taxes
- Grazing
- Long-term management strategy, zoning
- Stewardship funding

MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION:

- **Natural Resource and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Management:**

Protection of natural resources and wildlife habitat is a top priority for the Land Trust. As much of the funding for the acquisitions came from the State Wildlife Conservation Board, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, CA Department of Natural Resources, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, all decisions regarding the management of the property will take into consideration preservation and enhancement of natural resources and habitat.

- **Meadow Restoration/Invasive and noxious flora, and invasive fauna:**

Lacey and Coppins Meadows, when compared with other meadows in the Truckee Donner region, are in excellent condition. That said, Legacy uses, primarily logging and grazing, have impacted the meadow negatively, resulting in areas with channel incision and head cutting. This results in areas of desiccated meadows. In 2013 Balance Hydrologics prepared the Lacey Meadows Assessment for the Truckee Donner Land Trust and the Truckee River Watershed Council. The document outlines baseline conditions and provides suggested restoration and mitigation plans to correct legacy impacts to the meadow. Restoration will be implemented under the lead of the Truckee River Watershed Council, as funding is available.

- **Forest Management**

The forest will be managed in a way that preserves late-seral forest conditions and habitat, minimizes the existence of overstocked areas of forest, and minimizes lodgepole pine encroachment on meadows. The Land Trust will contract with a Registered Professional Forester to develop a timber management plan for Webber/Lacey/Coppins. The timber management plan will be added as an addendum to this document. Forestry projects for fuels management and management for forest health and wildlife habitat will be dependent on grant funding.

- **Willow Habitat Management**

The mature willow forests in Lacey and Coppins meadows are some of the highest value habitat on the property. Measures will be taken to promote the expansion of this habitat, and to minimize impacts such as grazing and pets interacting with wildlife.

- **AIS prevention**

A plan to manage aquatic invasive species will be developed. One option is to inspect boats on site, another is to have each boat brought on to the property show proof of having passed inspection at a Truckee Regional Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program (TRAISPP) station. The second option is preferable. An onsite self-serve washing station for waders, float tubes, and swimming toys will be constructed. Lastly, signage explaining the threat of aquatic invasive species and the need to protect against their introduction will be maintained and/or increased. An example of the currently-used monitor form is attached as Appendix 1.

- **Grazing**
As per the previous owner of the property's wishes, grazing of sheep on the property will continue into the foreseeable future. Modifications to the grazing plan are possible to help better manage wildlife habitat, pending recommendations for partners and State agencies. An example of a current grazing lease is attached as Appendix 2
- **Scenic view shed protection**
Protection of the scenic Henness Pass Corridor is a priority and all construction, restoration, forestry, and public use, will take into consideration the protection of the view shed.
- **Recreation Management**
 - **Fishing/hunting**
 - It is the Land Trust's position that the Lake be managed as a quality fishing destination for both size and number of fish. While regulations on tackle and the number of fish allowed for keep are the decision of CA DFW, the Land Trust supports an allowance for the keeping of fish, as well as the allowance for conventional tackle (as opposed to fly-fishing only) to be used.
 - Fish will be stocked and managed by the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (CADFW). This includes species of fish stocked and fishing regulations for Webber Lake, tributary creeks and the Little Truckee River.
 - At present, hunting is not allowed at Webber Lake or on any of the property. In addition Sierra County has an ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms within developed areas. A policy for hunting is being developed based on input from public funders.
 - **Camping**
 - A plan to develop and effectively manage the camping at Webber Lake is being developed for implementation in 2017. It will be added as an addendum to the management plan and will include use of the cabins and Johnson house for camping, as well as what level of staffing and infrastructure are needed. After the campground is developed, it is imperative that it be financially self-sustaining. That is to say, that annual income not just cover annual expenditures but steadily build a reserve for ongoing capital improvements.
 - **Day-use area**
 - A plan to develop and effectively manage day use at Webber Lake is being developed for implementation in 2017. It will be added as an addendum to the management plan and will include use of docks, picnic areas, bathrooms, parking, and accessible amenities. Day-use will be available at no charge to the visitor.
 - **Trails**

- Numerous trails exist on the property. Where possible, trails will be developed to minimize interactions between trail users and automobiles.
 - Trails will be maintained in accordance with Land Trust standards.
 - Connectivity to other regional trails, such as the Pacific Crest Trail will be explored.
 - Future trails may be needed for expanded recreation opportunities.
 - Trail from the day-use area to Webber Falls
 - Viewing platform at Webber Falls
 - Loop trail through Lacey Meadows
- **Winter Use**
 - The property is currently open to snowmobiles and will continue to be open to the public in the winter. The facilities will be closed.
 - Staff will monitor the property on a weekly basis.
 - Potentially a winter hut or the Johnson house will be available for overnight stay in the winter. A plan is being developed for a hut system on Land Trust and adjacent lands. Should it be implemented it will be added as an addendum to this plan.
- **Watercraft use**
 - Private watercraft will be allowed.
 - All watercraft must be inspected by onsite staff for AIS (See AIS prevention above).
 - Boat speeds, requisite safety equipment needed, and types of watercraft allowed are regulated by the State and County.
 - The Sierra County ordinance that places a 5 mph speed limit on Webber Lake will remain in effect.
 - The Land Trust will consider the feasibility and legality of regulating the number of boats on the water at any one time.
- **Restricted use on property**
 - No fires of any kind are permitted outside of designated fire pits within the campground. Campfires are subject to seasonable closure due to fire danger.
 - Open to non motorized vehicles with the exception of the campground and day-use access roads
 - Bicyclists and equestrians must stay on existing trails.
 - Motor vehicles are allowed only on established roads and parking areas.
 - Pets to be under voice command at all times.
 - Use of watercraft subject to all applicable County and State Laws
 - Campground subjected to additional regulations
- **Maintenance of Historic buildings**

The Land Trust considers keeping the historic hotel standing a priority. A plan to manage the onsite historic buildings will be developed. The plan will include an inventory of what historic buildings will be preserved, and outline a plan to preserve them. It is likely some of the buildings will be preserved in their current state, while others, such as the hotel will be at least partially restored. Restoration and preservation is dependent on available funding.

- **Trespass OHV use**

Occasionally vehicles trespass on the property and damage the meadows and roads by crossing them during wet seasons. Restoring OHV-damaged areas is costly and not-always-effective, so staff should monitor for any trespass and continue to block perceived ingresses. In addition, signage warning against OHV trespass will be installed.

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Staff plans to manage this property, when possible, as a bloc of properties including Webber Lake, Coppins, and the SPI Henness Pass working Forest Conservation Easement parcels contiguous with the properties held in fee. This is an effective way of managing for watershed health, public use/access/trails, and forestry.

There is no plan to convey these properties in the future, but it is conceivable that the southernmost section of Webber Lake, located in Nevada County, is conveyed to a public entity.

PROPERTY MONITORING:

It is Truckee Donner Land Trust policy to monitor, and prepare a monitoring report annually for each property held in fee, and properties for which TDLT is the grantee of a conservation easement. The Land Trust will monitor the property annually at a minimum.

TAXES:

The Land Trust currently pays property taxes in Sierra County. The Nevada County parcel is under a welfare exemption. Given the properties are zoned favorable or have Williamson Act contracts placed over them, the tax burden is considered tolerable when balanced against the local politics.

STEWARDSHIP FUNDING PLAN FOR WEBBER LAKE LACEY MEADOWS AND COPPINS MEADOW:

The Truckee Donner Land Trust has a restricted quasi-endowment and Board-designated funds to steward Webber/Lacey/Coppins. Current account balances are reflected in the annual budget. As of 2015 the account contained over \$500,000 restricted to the management of the property, In addition to this account the Land Trust will work with government and private foundations to fund projects that benefit the property and the community.

Maps of the property and copies of the Biological Resource Study, Lacey Meadows Restoration Plan, Phase 1, and Recorded Documents are in the TDLT files.

**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
PROPOSITION 1 – Watershed Improvement Program Pre-Application Form**

PROJECT NAME

APPLICANT NAME (*Legal name, address, and zip code*)

AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUEST

ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT (Limit 5,000 characters including spaces)

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT WORKPLAN AND SCHEDULE

DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

STATUS OF TRIBAL INVOLVEMENT AND CONTACT INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION OF LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN

DESCRIPTION OF REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS/PERMITS NEEDED

DESCRIPTION OF RESTRICTIONS/AGREEMENTS NEEDED/IN PLACE

DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

PROJECT LOCATION (*County with approx. lat/long, center of project area*)

SENATE DISTRICT NUMBER

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT NUMBER

PERSON WITH MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT

Name and title

Phone

Email Address

Mr.

Ms.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Phone Number:

Email address:

NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Phone Number:

Email address:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CEQA STATUS OF THE PROJECT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NEPA STATUS OF THE PROJECT (IF APPLICABLE)	
<p>Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details <i>(Choose One)</i></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Category One Site Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Category Two Pre-Project Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Category One Acquisition </p>	
<p>Site Improvement/ Acquisition Project Area</p> <p>Total Acres: SNC Portion (if different):</p> <p>Acquisition Projects Only For Acquisitions Only</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal Included <input type="checkbox"/> Will submit appraisal by </p>	<p>Select one primary Pre-Project deliverable</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Permit <input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal <input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Plan </p>
<p>ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH PRE-APPLICATION FORM:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Project Location Map <input type="checkbox"/> Parcel Map <input type="checkbox"/> Topo Map <input type="checkbox"/> Photos of Project Site <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Long-Term Management Plan </p>	

To be completed by the applicant:

Date of Application

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Contact Phone Number



File Code: 1500
Date: February 29, 2016

Perry Norris
Executive Director
P.O. Box 8816
Truckee, CA 96162

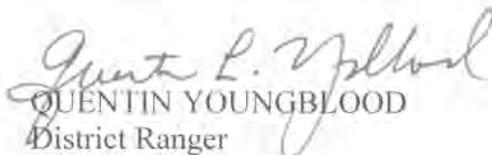
Dear Perry,

The Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows property, acquired by the Truckee Donner Land Trust in 2012, is located within the administrative boundary of the Sierraville Ranger District of the Tahoe National Forest. The property contains Webber Lake, the headwater lake of the Little Truckee River.

The U.S. Forest Service is actively managing Federal Lands in the upper Little Truckee River basin for catastrophic wildfire protection, ecological resilience and recreation. This includes forest management for aspen restoration, watershed restoration, and meadow restoration immediately downstream of Webber Lake, in Perazzo Meadows. Resilient ecosystems have greater capacity to adapt and thrive in the face of natural disturbances and large-scale threats, such as catastrophic fire.

We support the creation of a Non-industrial Timber Management Plan for Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows, which allow future forest management to protect the watershed from catastrophic wildfires.

Sincerely,


QUENTIN YOUNGBLOOD
District Ranger



530.550.8760
P.O. Box 8568
Truckee, CA 96162
truckeeriverwc.org



Truckee River Watershed Council

Collaborative solutions to protect, enhance and restore the Truckee River Watershed

California Department
of Fish and Wildlife

California Department
of Parks and Recreation

California Department
of Water Resources

California Fly Fisher
Magazine

Glenshire Homeowners
Association

DMB/Highlands Group, LLC

East West Partners

Friends of Squaw Creek

KidZone Museum

Lahontan Regional
Water Quality
Control Board

Mountain Area
Preservation

Nevada County

North Lake Tahoe
Resort Association

Northstar California

Placer County

Placer County Water
Agency

Sagehen Creek Field
Station - UC Berkeley

Sierra Business Council

Sierra County

Sierra Watch

Sierra Watershed
Education Partnerships

Squaw Valley and
Alpine Meadows

Tahoe Truckee
Sanitation Agency

Town of Truckee

Trout Unlimited

Truckee Donner
Land Trust

Truckee Donner Public
Utility District

Truckee Meadows
Water Authority

U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers

USDA Forest Service

February 29, 2016

Perry Norris
Executive Director
Truckee Donner Land Trust
P.O. Box 8816
Truckee, CA 96162

RE: Webber Lake Timber Management Plan

Dear Perry,

The mission of the Truckee River Watershed Council is to bring the community *Together for the Truckee*. The Watershed Council was founded in 1996 to protect and restore water quality and the biological resources of the Truckee River watershed. We identify, coordinate, fund and implement restoration projects directly related to the health, beauty, and economy of the watershed. Combining ecological principles and a deep understanding of our region's values, we focus on root causes of threats to the Truckee River watershed.

We have partnered with the Truckee Donner Land Trust for well over a decade on such restoration projects as Gray Creek, Perazzo Meadows, Lacey Meadows, Middle Martis Creek, Truckee Wetlands, Elizabeth Town, and Johnson Canyon. On these projects and others, we have prioritized the restoration of wetlands, meadows, and streams. The Watershed Council prepared a meadow assessment for Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows, in 2013.

One of our highest priorities is the retention and restoration of ecological resilience. Resilient ecosystems have greater capacity to adapt and thrive in the face of natural disturbances and large scale threats. This is especially true with uncertain environmental conditions such as those driven by climate change and increasing human use.

We support the creation of a non-industrial Timber Management Plan for Webber Lake and Lacey Meadows, which will kick off restoration of the meadow, and allow future forest management to protect the watershed from catastrophic wildfires. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Erin Casey
Director of Land Use Compatibility