

## Appendix B - Full Application Checklist

SNC Reference#: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed (Authorized Representative)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Title (print or type)

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



**Resolution Approving the Application for Grant Funds under the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Proposition 1 Grants Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the above-listed program; 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 the necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution, certifying the approval of an application by the Applicant's governing board 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 Sierra Streams Institute has identified the Lowell Fire Restoration Project as valuable towards meeting its mission and goals.

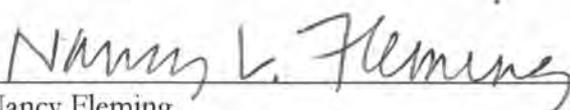
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Sierra Streams Institute that this Board:

1. Approves the submittal of an application for the Lowell Fire Restoration Project; and
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
3. Certifies that Applicant 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
4. Certifies that the Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
5. Appoints Joanne Hild, 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.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by Sierra Streams Institute at a Board meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016 by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: \_\_\_ Absent: \_\_\_

Attested by:



Nancy Fleming  
President, Board of Directors

## **DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION NARRATIVE**

The 2015 Lowell Fire in Nevada County was a high-intensity fire which burned 2,304 acres of mixed conifer forest within the Steephollow watershed (elev. 2400-3400 feet). Steephollow Creek is located one mile up from the confluence of the Bear River, a large tributary to Rollins Reservoir, the Sacramento River and San Francisco Bay. The Bear River is listed under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act for unsafe levels of mercury. Steephollow watershed contains many historical mine tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. Burned soils from the high-intensity fire, past and current mining, and other impacts have created erosive soils with potential to increase heavy-metal laden sediments into the watershed.

This project is offered by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI), in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Red Dog You Bet Community Association. It supports Proposition 1 goals by 1) completing a restoration plan for an implementation project that will promote watershed and forest health after a high-intensity fire in a heavily impacted watershed and 2) creating a model for working with multiple public and private landowners and small businesses to protect and restore forest and watershed health after fire. Catastrophic wildfire can have serious and deleterious impacts on watersheds, particularly in steep, mountain canyons, and can reduce water infiltration into soils and groundwater sources, in turn increasing sediment into waterways. This project is located on the canyon rim, between extensive mining diggings and a 1000 foot steep decent to Steephollow Creek. It is strategically important in minimizing soil erosion, yet has been compromised due to fire. Revegetation of burned areas is essential for soil and slope stability and for forest health.

Numerous springs and waterways, within and surrounding the burned area, flow into Steephollow Creek and add substantially to Rollins reservoir. Sediment is transported from the Bear River and Steephollow Creek and accumulates in the reservoir and has reduced storage capacity by approximately 10,000 acre-feet. (NID, Bear River Sediment Removal Project FEIR, Nov. 2015) A Sediment Removal project plans to restore reservoir capacity through gravel skimming operations. Rollins Reservoir is a popular recreation area for boaters, swimmers, fishermen, and campers, but is listed as impaired under the Clean Water Act due to heavy metal concentrations exceeding EPA and OEHHA thresholds of concern. The reservoir also provides water for irrigation of agricultural crops. Water quality monitoring conducted by SSI in February 2016, showed remarkably high turbidity levels during storm water flows on Steephollow Creek. In addition, the amount of arsenic and lead was over twice the maximum contaminant load (MCL) for California drinking water, and nickel was slightly higher than the MCL.

This restoration project will occur where SSI has been granted land access, which currently includes a minimum of 500 acres on BLM property and 300 acres on private land. Outreach to additional private and public land owners will continue through planning, so the project area may increase. Restoration on private lands within the project area is vital in protecting the public interest in forest health, water quality and quantity in a watershed which contributes heavily to the State's water, forest, timber, irrigation, and recreation resources.

All project survey and site assessment information, restoration recommendations, and community support will be incorporated into the Bear River Watershed Disturbance Inventory and Restoration Plan that SSI is currently preparing, under a Bureau of Reclamation grant. In addition, all information and support will be applied to a needed assessment and restoration plan for the Red Dog Chalk Bluff diggings nearby.

The project will complete planning for restoration of priority burned areas from the Lowell fire. Project goals include:

- Development of a detailed restoration plan for burned areas in the Steephollow watershed;
- Recommendations of best management practices and restoration techniques to improve forest and watershed health after high-intensity fire;
- Increased knowledge of biodiversity and native plant and wildlife habitat restoration potential post-fire in a vitally important, yet heavily impacted, watershed;
- A model for working with multiple public and private landowners and small businesses to protect and restore forest and watershed health after fire, and in turn protect the public interest in watershed storage capacity, water quality, forest resources, and recreation opportunities.

Specific deliverables and outcomes include:

- Restoration plan which includes descriptions of impacts, restoration project design, and prioritization of restoration recommendations with best management practices to minimize soil erosion, promote soil development, protect and restore native plant and wildlife habitat and improve water quality;
- Collaborative relationships with BLM, private and other land owners throughout the identification and prioritization of restoration sites;
- Agency approved reconnaissance level surveys throughout the project area and protocol level surveys where indicated, to inform future environmental analysis in preparation for implementation;
- Education and engagement of land owners, land managers and a small local timber business in supporting forest health and watershed stewardship;

- Programmatic resources (outreach, literature, recommendations) to efficiently employ post-fire restoration efforts and share information regionally with affected communities in the Sierra;
- Collaboration with universities and the scientific community to support research in plant and wildlife ecology as it relates to fire science and restoration.

SSI will complete field surveys and assessments to inform the restoration plan and prioritize restoration needs based on forest and water impact potential. A Restoration Plan will be written with site specific recommendations, and will include design criteria and analysis of the most cost-effective and beneficial projects to implement.

Agency-approved natural resource surveys will occur throughout the project area. These will include: 1) Surveys for seeps and springs, 2) Revegetation trends 3) Water quality monitoring in Steephollow Creek at an existing SSI site, including heavy metal sampling during storm events.

Education and engagement with the public and local community groups is an important component of this project. SSI will work with a local small business owner who is interested in learning and applying sustainable practices to timber extraction in burned areas on private land within the project. We hope this project will lead to a model for working with multiple public and private landowners/stakeholders to protect and restore forest and watershed health.

This project clearly aligns with SNC's mission and addresses SNC's "triple bottom line" of environmental, economic and social well-being. Benefits include reducing sedimentation and heavy metal input into downstream waterways and reservoirs which could result in loss of water storage and heavy metal input into irrigation canals and agricultural land. Restoration within the project area is vital to protect public interest in forest health, water quality and quantity in a watershed that contributes heavily to the State's water, forest, and recreation resources.

This project provides substantive benefits across multiple SNC program areas, including: 1) Protect, conserve, and restore the Region's physical and living resources; 2) Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as mudslides; 3) Protect water quality; and 4) Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public. The project also aligns with the three broad objectives of the California Water Action Plan, particularly the restoration of important species habitat, and a more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system (water quality and environment) that can better withstand inevitable and unforeseen pressures in the coming decades. Finally, the project meets the objectives of the SNC Watershed Improvement Program in restoring and protecting the health of forests, soils, streams, and meadows, and improving habitat in the face of environmental impacts from climate change and other pressures.

## **B. WORKPLAN AND SCHEDULE NARRATIVE**

The work plan outlined below includes specific tasks and subtasks, as well as deliverables and timeline for each task. This schedule assumes a September 1, 2016 start date and a September 1, 2018 end date. The project team is ready to proceed once funding is available. There are no foreseeable factors affecting the project's timeline.

### **Schedule**

#### **Task 1) Project development and management**

SSI will be responsible for maintaining regular communication with BLM and private property owners, and continuing outreach to neighboring landowners and stakeholders.

- 1.1 Convene project team meetings and site visits
- 1.2 Finalize development of work plan and budget
- 1.3 Manage project budget
- 1.4 Develop and distribute project information to community and stakeholders
- 1.5 Coordinate with the SNC grant manager
- 1.6 Draft and submit progress and final reports

#### **Task 2) Project surveys and assessments**

The project team will complete surveys and assessments to provide site knowledge and data to inform the restoration plan. Surveys will occur to assess and monitor plant and wildlife species and habitats, and seeps and springs and waterways in the project area, to identify and inform future environmental analysis in preparation for implementation. Surveys inform the restoration plan and identify impacts from the fire by focusing on high intensity burned areas, roads, staging areas, retardant drops, and dozer lines created during suppression activities. Priority sites will include areas with high wildlife habitat potential, actively eroding soils, minimal native plant re-establishment and high invasive plant establishment.. Agency-approved reconnaissance-level surveys will occur throughout the project area, and protocol surveys will occur where indicated, to inform future environmental analysis in preparation for implementation. Plant and wildlife species and habitat response to the fire will be monitored and used to inform science and management. SSI, working with UC Davis, will survey for endangered and threatened species such as Foothill yellow-legged frogs and their potential habitat. This data will add to current research of fire effects on endangered species. Surveys will identify important wildlife areas such as roosts for owls, eagles and falcons, and nesting cavities and food sources for species such as Black-backed woodpeckers.

- 2.1 Complete ground surveys and assessments for restoration plan in burned areas, roads, staging areas, retardant drops, and dozer lines created during suppression activities

- 2.2 Complete agency-approved reconnaissance-level surveys throughout the project area and protocol level surveys where indicated
- 2.3 Complete surveys to assess and monitor plant and wildlife habitat in the project area and to add to current science

### **Task 3) Develop and Finalize Restoration Plan**

Guided by surveys and site assessments, the project team led by SSI will develop a restoration plan that will guide future restoration and recommend specific tasks and best management for project implementation. A Lowell Fire Restoration Plan will be written with site specific recommendations, and will include design criteria and analysis of the most cost-effective and beneficial projects to implement. Various methods will be analyzed to slow surface water and increase infiltration, thereby promoting soil development and supporting native plant and wildlife habitat re-establishment. Techniques could include use of onsite materials such as using burned trees and rocks to create water bars and sediment traps; placement of silt fences and wattles; revegetation including sowing native seed, installing native plants and controlling non-native invasive plants, and testing of novel treatments, such as mycorrhizal inoculation. Experts will be consulted if advanced technical design is required, i.e. engineers for construction of slope stabilization structures.

- 3.1 Review survey and site assessment information
- 3.2 Prioritize restoration sites
- 3.3 Provide design criteria and analysis of the most cost-effective and beneficial restoration recommendations
- 3.4 Identify required environmental permitting based on implementation recommendations
- 3.5 Draft restoration plan
- 3.6 Work with project partners (BLM, landowners, etc) to develop and approve the plan
- 3.7 Finalize restoration plan

### **Task 4) Education and Program Development**

SSI will assemble and distribute vital ecological and restoration information in a way that can be understood and applied by local land managers, private land owners, small businesses, and the public. We will provide at least two field trips including one on bird and wildlife habitat in post-burn landscapes and a second on the geology and soils of the project area. With these field trips and numerous citizen science and volunteer opportunities, SSI hopes to catalyze interest and stewardship within the local community and Bear River watershed stakeholders, thereby encouraging collaboration for project planning and implementation and protection in perpetuity. The information acquired during all phases of planning will be used to develop outreach materials to

efficiently and effectively respond to future fires by providing post-fire restoration strategies and resources to affected communities.

- 4.1 Develop stakeholder engagement in restoration plan
- 4.2 Organize and advertise educational field trips
- 4.3 Develop programmatic materials (outreach, literature, recommendations) to efficiently employ post-fire restoration efforts regionally
- 4.4 Provide citizen science and volunteer opportunities
- 4.4 Create and complete community survey to improve education and development of post-fire restoration model for other communities.

Detailed Project Deliverables	Timeline
<b>Task 1: Project development and management</b>	
Finalized work plan and budget	November 1, 2016
Financial and performance reports to SNC	March 1, 2017, September 1, 2017, March 1, 2018
Distribute project information to community and stakeholders	Year round throughout the project
Draft Final Report	June 1, 2018
Final Report	September 1, 2018
<b>Task 2: Project surveys and assessments</b>	
Surveys and site assessments for restoration plan	December 1, 2017
Reconnaissance-level field surveys project wide	September 1, 2017
Protocol-level surveys to inform environmental analysis for implementation	July 1, 2018
Water quality and soil sampling	December 1, 2016 and 2017
Consultation for technical work and data gaps	June 1, 2018
<b>Task 3 : Develop and Finalize Restoration Plan</b>	
Prioritize restoration sites	January 1, 2018
Design restoration treatments	March 1, 2018
Draft Restoration Plan	July 1, 2018
Identify lead agency and environmental analysis required for implementation	April 1, 2018
Final Restoration Plan	September 1, 2018
<b>Task 4: Education and Program Development</b>	
Develop stakeholder engagement	Year round throughout the project

Organize and advertise educational field trips	May 1, 2017, 2018
Develop programmatic materials; literature, trainings, partnerships	Year round throughout the project
Provide citizen science and volunteer opportunities	Year round throughout the project
Create and complete community survey to improve education and model development	August 1, 2018

**C. RESTRICTION, TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS, AGREEMENTS:**

There are no restrictions or agreements in place that would adversely impact project completion. The public land is owned by BLM, and the owners of the private parcels are supportive of the proposed work. Most of the land within the burned area is owned by the USFS, BLM, Sierra Pacific Industries, and PG&E, with interspersed private parcels. NID does not own land in the burned area, but a major canal passes through the southern end of the burned area. Letters of support and land access agreements from public and private entities are attached. It is anticipated that additional private landowners will agree to participate in project as outreach continues.

**Regulatory Requirements/Permits:** Work will not occur in waterways so Clean Water Act Section 401/404 or California Streambed Alteration Section 1600 permits are not needed. Water quality monitoring on lower Stepphollow Creek is already permitted. A grading permit will not be required from the county as no grading work is planned.

**CEQA/NEPA:** We expect from communication with SNC, that this planning project will be considered exempt from CEQA, because completing a plan is not a “project”. BLM has been consulted; completing surveys and a plan would not qualify as a project, and therefore need no permitting.

In preparation for future project implementation and anticipated required permits(CEQA/NEPA), SSI will conduct agency-approved reconnaissance level surveys throughout the project to complete restoration planning and information for an initial study. To support future permits, protocol-level surveys will occur where indicated by BLM or the lead agency for private land. Biological, archeological, and other available data from Timber Harvest Plans on private property will also be incorporated into the permitting process. Any studies that SSI is unable to complete in house may be contracted out.

**D. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY NARRATIVE**

SSI is a non-profit watershed science organization, founded in 1995 as Friends of Deer Creek to monitor Deer Creek on behalf of Nevada City during the construction of a road bridge over the creek. Since our founding, we have collected 16 years of monthly

water quality monitoring data and have implemented numerous projects that address the issues affecting the creek, successfully working within time and budget constraints. We have successfully completed many restoration efforts over the years including revegetation work and abandoned mine remediation.

SSI staff includes two hydrologists, two geologists, three biologists, a chemist, and two educational specialists, all with considerable expertise in project management. Among SSI's board members and volunteers are a microbiologist, hydrogeologist, former agency head at the State Water Quality Control Board, and the former manager of Nevada City's wastewater treatment plant. We have successfully completed multiple SNC-funded projects, and are currently implementing two more projects with SNC funding. All projects are on track to complete all deliverables on time and within budget.

SSI's restoration ecologist Denise Della Santina earned her B.S. in Conservation Biology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. With the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denise monitored rare plants and animals throughout California. She worked in natural resource management and designed and led habitat restoration projects at Yosemite, Lassen and Golden Gate National Parks. At Audubon Canyon Ranch in Marin County, she started a volunteer restoration and native plant propagation program. She worked on riparian restoration projects along the Yuba River and Sacramento Delta and surveyed for rare plants throughout the Yuba and American River watersheds with the Tahoe National Forest, including two years of post-fire plant surveys. As the president of the Redbud Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, Denise has worked on native plant restoration and conservation projects throughout Nevada and Placer Counties. Ms. Della Santina will take the lead on the proposed project.

SSI's wildlife biologist Kristen Hein Strohm will support the restoration plan with recommendations based on post-fire wildlife habitat needs and will lead surveys and analyses. Ms. Strohm has 18 years of professional experience and a master's degree in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University. Kristen has developed wildlife science & public outreach components of eight multi-species habitat management and restoration plans in northern California and conducted wildlife field research for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Point Blue Conservation Science. She has performed hundreds of wildlife and vegetation surveys in a variety of ecosystems, including three years of field work in post-fire northern Sierra forests with the Institute for Bird Populations. Ms. Strohm has also contributed her wildlife expertise to five CEQA/NEPA analyses for complex habitat restoration projects in northern California, including EIR/EIS and IS/MND documents for the Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, and California Department of Water Resources.

Additional support will be provided by SSI's water quality lab, SSI's certified Professional Geologist and GIS expert, with overall supervision by executive director/biologist Joanne Hild.

#### **E. COOPERATION AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

There is extraordinary support for this project, even in such an early phase of collaborating and planning.

The community of You Bet approached SSI requesting assistance in dealing with post-fire concerns including reforestation and the release of heavy metals from soil erosion. SSI has begun advising private landowners on restoration techniques and has led an education and demonstration day for the community. This event, in addition to project planning, has created an excellent opportunity to interact with and learn from local land owners about the history of the area and current knowledge and concerns. Letters of support from the Red Dog You Bet Association, the Firewise Committee, other community members, and the County District 5 Supervisor are included (Attachment 6.e).

SSI visited the project site with BLM and reviewed project goals and scope. A letter of support and access agreement from BLM is included (Attachment 6.e). In addition, SSI met with landowners to explain the project goals and scope, and the landowner roles. Project support and land access agreements from private landowners are included (Attachment 8.d). Additional landowners have shown interest in the project, though time was limited in acquiring access agreements for submission. These additional land access agreements will be obtained after the start of the project. The letters of support and land access agreements show a shared commitment to develop a solid plan for restoration and implementation that can be used as a model for future efforts in fire impacted communities.

SSI has the opportunity to work with a local small business owner who is interested in learning and applying sustainable practices to timber extraction in burned areas on private land within the project area. SSI will garner this interest to develop and disseminate the model which uses landowners and local business owners to support sustainable post-fire salvage logging and many other restoration techniques. In addition, the concepts for sustainable timber extraction, including soil erosion mitigation and habitat protection, could be applied to much needed fuels reduction projects in surrounding areas and other restoration sites. Education and employment opportunities support the economically disadvantaged community of Grass Valley and the State's need for job training and creation in the field of sustainable forestry. SSI's strong roots in both science and education make us uniquely qualified to distribute this vital scientific information in a way that can be understood and applied by local land managers, private landowners, and the public.

With this grant, SSI will continue to reach out to other land owners within the burned area, including Nevada County, PG&E, Tahoe National Forest, Sierra Pacific Industries, and other private landowners, for project support and engagement.

Through our stakeholder outreach process, NID revealed that the Lowell Fire Restoration project goal of reduced sedimentation in the watershed is consistent with their goal of reduced sedimentation into Rollins Reservoir, and with currently planned projects including the removal of sediments from lower Steephollow Creek. They look forward to reviewing the restoration plan. They too have concerns with Steephollow Creek watershed post-fire health and hope to see re-planting occur soon. They will arrange entry for us through a locked gate at the southeast portion of Steephollow Creek, which will provide access to a large portion of BLM land.

PG&E has been contacted and have expressed interest in restoring low-growing native plant communities under their powerlines. They have lines running through the south end of the burned area, which may be another restoration site in the Steehollow watershed.

SSI looks forward to also collaborating with universities and the scientific community, to support research, monitoring, and habitat improvement opportunities in our local forests and watersheds. Included is a letter of support from the Institute for Bird Populations (Attachment 6.e) which will be an excellent resource as we plan scientifically sound post-fire restoration projects and work with local logging businesses on sustainable forestry practices. SSI is currently consulting with UC Davis' Center for Watershed Science as we expand our amphibian monitoring program into the Bear River watershed. Foothill yellow legged frogs are present in nearby creeks and the Bear River, and are listed as BLM and USFS Sensitive and CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Species of Special Concern. UC Davis researchers are particularly interested in fire effects on these and other wildlife populations.

## **F. TRIBAL SUPPORT NARRATIVE**

The Nisenan Tribe of the Nevada City Rancheria has been actively engaged with SSI as one of the Bear Watershed Stakeholder group members and has worked with us extensively on a variety of restoration and cultural outreach projects. For example, the tribe has been involved with the development of the Deer Creek Tribute Trail, which was designed to pay tribute to the forgotten voices of the Gold Rush, in particular the Chinese immigrant workers, the displaced native people, and the environment itself. The Nisenan trail also includes a "Gathering Garden", a native plant restoration project focused on providing access for the tribe to native plant species that are culturally significant, for weaving, food, medicine and other uses. For the proposed plan, the project team will continue to consult closely with the tribe for all decisions regarding

plant removal and native plant revegetation. A letter of support is attached (Attachment 6.e).

**G. LONG TERM MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY NARRATIVE**

The detailed restoration plan created through this planning grant is intended to act as a “living document” which will guide future restoration. It will be reviewed regularly and revised as necessary. As with all dynamic natural environments, it is likely that site conditions and plant and wildlife communities will experience change over time. In order to provide the most appropriate management strategies for current conditions, monitoring of the project area will continue. Soil erosion and revegetation will be assessed, and issues will be addressed with landowners, volunteers, or grant requests. Plant and wildlife surveys will continue and information will be shared with the scientific community. Seasonal water quality monitoring will continue on Steephollow Creek and will be added to a long term data set. Upon analysis of these data, we will revise management strategies as needed, to ensure that the ecological integrity of the project area is maintained.

While SSI is primarily responsible, project implementation and long-term management will be overseen by a collaboration of project partners including BLM and private landowners. As such, we plan to work with landowners to adaptively manage the property and we will continue to host restoration work days.

SSI’s work in developing the Bear River Disturbance Inventory and the Bear River Restoration Plan for the Bureau of Reclamation demonstrates excellent knowledge of the watershed and ability to garner support and work with many stakeholders. This involvement in the Bear River provides opportunity for future collaboration and exemplifies SSI’s commitment to long term stewardship within the watershed, including Steephollow. The Lowell Fire Restoration Plan will be added to the Bear River Restoration Plan, with the goal of securing funding for additional implementation projects which will support restoration at a landscape level.

**H. PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

Performance Measure	Target
Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments	Collaboratively develop Restoration Plan for Lowell Fire on BLM and private land. This is a project identified as critically important at meetings of the multi-agency Bear River Watershed Stakeholder Group in its current effort toward a Bear River Watershed Restoration Plan, which will be published in December 2016. This project will aid the implementation of the Steephollow portion of

	<p>the Bear River Watershed Restoration Plan. Data collected through this project will also contribute to future long-term updates of the Bear River Restoration Plan.</p>
<p>Number and Diversity of People Reached</p>	<p><b>Diversity of Participants:</b>                  General public: 800                  Community volunteers: 150                  Conservation groups/individuals: 100                  Landowner groups/individuals: 50                  Resource Professionals: 12                  Government officials: 25</p>
<p>Number and Types of Jobs Created</p>	<p><b>Professional:</b>                  Number of people employed: 4 at 25% FTE                  length of employment: 2 years                  average # of hours/week: 10                  season of employment (winter, spring, summer, fall): All</p>
<p>Number and Value of New, Improved or Preserved Economic Activity</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of products and services provided:</b>                  Total number of new, improved, or preserved products and services: (1) Preserved and improved working landscape with sustainable local timber harvest. (2) Use of partnership with CCC for restoration implementation.                  Estimated annual dollar value of new or improved products and services: Not quantifiable until implementation phase</p>
<p>Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada</p>	<p>Number of volunteer hours: 750                  In-kind contributions: \$17,250</p>
<p>Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation</p>	<p>Percent of land restored for Implementation Project will be determined as a result of this Planning Project. Wildlife species protected: More than 100 bird species have potential to occur within the Lowell Fire area and would benefit from this restoration project. These include special-status species such as the black-backed woodpecker, olive-sided flycatcher, yellow warbler, and several watch-listed raptors. Six amphibian species may inhabit Steepollow Creek and its tributaries, including</p>

	<p>the special-status foothill yellow-legged frog. These species would greatly benefit from the restoration project, as would the several native fish species within Steephollow Creek. Considering the downstream benefits of decreased sediment and heavy metals flowing from Steephollow into the Bear River and Rollins Reservoir, an additional suite of species associated with these larger waterbodies would also benefit.</p>
<p>Mass of Pollutant Reduced</p>	<p>Planning project will lead to erosion reduction from Project Implementation and will reduce sediment and mercury load into water way in perpetuity. Monitoring will establish amounts for pre- and post-implementation.</p>
<p>Measurable Changes in Knowledge or Behavior</p>	<p>Educating and engaging landowners, managers and small businesses in supporting forest health and watershed stewardship. Use lessons learned to inform a model for similar post fire restoration activities.</p>



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Mother Lode Field Office  
5152 Hillsdale Circle  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
[www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode](http://www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode)



**FEB 24 2016**

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

1730  
CA 180.01

To Whom It May Concern:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) expresses its support for the proposal entitled: "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan" led by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI). In the past several years, BLM has worked closely with the project team that is leading this proposal. This project will complete planning and permitting for the restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat.

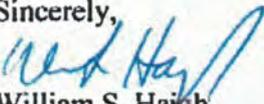
The project is important for many reasons. First, it offers a unique opportunity to develop a single restoration plan for the entire 2,300 acre Steephollow Creek watershed, rather than the piecemeal restoration efforts that would occur if each landowner approached restoration separately. BLM is the largest landowner within the fire perimeter, but our lands amount to less than a third of the total acreage. Without SSI's study, there simply would be no overarching restoration design.

In addition, the area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. Volatilized soils in the burn area, past mining, and other impacts have created highly erosive soils with potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health with an increase in wildlife habitat is imperative for the improvement in water quality through effective application of best management practices. Finally, with the increase in high intensity wildfires in populated areas, lessons learned through this project can be used to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities utilizing the education of communities affected by wildfire and engagement in private and public land restoration.

The project team will be working closely with BLM staff to develop a viable restoration plan for an implementation project. They will have full access to all public lands within the project area; therefore, no additional access agreements with this agency will be necessary.

I strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this critical project.

Sincerely,

  
William S. Haigh  
Field Manager

COUNTY OF NEVADA  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**Richard Anderson**  
Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Email: [richard.anderson@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:richard.anderson@co.nevada.ca.us)  
10879A Donner Pass Road  
Truckee, California 96161  
530.582.7826 | FAX: 530.582.7882

February 22, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to express my support for the application by the Sierra Streams Institute for a Proposition 1 Planning Grant for restoration of land and forest damaged by last year's Lowell Fire. Loss of vegetation and soil damage caused by the fire has increased runoff to and turbidity in both Steephollow Creek and the Bear River. The latter waterway is listed under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act for unsafe levels of mercury, and one of the concerns is that post-fire land erosion and runoff will worsen these levels given the presence of mercury that had been released into the environment decades ago as a result of gold-mining operations.

The grant will finance the planning tasks that are needed to guide restoration. The Sierra Streams Institute expects to use a collaborative process that will involve the federal Bureau of Land Management and local property owners. The work product will be a "shovel ready" project and a monitoring program suitable for adaptive management strategies.

Aside from the reduction of water-quality impacts that would occur through a successful restoration project here, also of importance are the lessons that the restoration planning process and subsequent implementation can teach us. Wildfires in the Sierra are expected to grow in number and intensity; this project has the potential to serve as a model for engaging private landowners and low-density rural communities in land and forest restoration and fire planning. There is also the potential to apply novel restoration treatments that may have utility elsewhere in the Sierra.

Residents of my district have been affected by the Lowell Fire and are requesting assistance in dealing with serious post-fire concerns. I strongly urge the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to restore the Bear River watershed that was severely damaged by the Lowell Fire.

Cordially yours,

Richard Anderson  
Supervisor, District 5  
Nevada County

950 Maïdu Avenue, Suite 200, Nevada City CA 95959-8617  
phone: 530.265.1480 | fax: 530.265.9836 | toll free: 888.785.1480 | email: [bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us)  
website: <http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/bos>

18870 CHALK BLUFF RD  
GRASS VALLEY, CA, 95945  
530-477-8855



## TONEY'S TREE SERVICE

February 28, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

As owners of Toney's Tree Service, a small business adjacent to the Lowell fire, we are pleased to support the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan". This project will complete a restoration plan for priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat re-establishment.

This project is important for many reasons. The area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. The Lowell fire created potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health is imperative for the improvement in water quality.

We support this project as a model for collaboration of multiple public and private landowners and small businesses, to protect and restore forest and watershed health after fire, and in turn protect the public interest in watershed storage capacity, water quality, forest resources, and recreation opportunities. As a local business with a small timber operation, and a user and maintainer of private roads within the community, we support the studies and recommendations for restoration in Steephollow canyon.

We strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to improve the Bear River watershed impacted by the Lowell Fire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Virginia Toney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Virginia Toney



**THE INSTITUTE FOR BIRD POPULATIONS**

P.O. Box 1346

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1346

(415) 663-1436 • FAX (415) 663-9482 • [www.birdpop.org](http://www.birdpop.org)

February 22, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to support the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the “Lowell Fire Restoration Plan.” This project will complete planning and permitting for restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife communities.

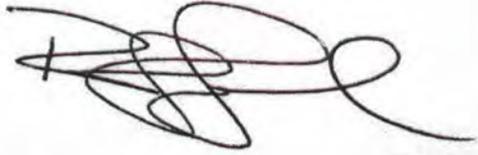
This project is aligned with the conservation and research goals of The Institute for Bird Populations’ Sierra Nevada Bird Observatory, which strives to help land managers safeguard at-risk bird species, ensure continued robust populations of common species, and promote good stewardship of the natural resources that birds require throughout the Sierra Nevada. Post-fire forest ecology is one of our focal areas in the region, and we work closely with diverse partners including the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, private timber companies, and environmental advocacy groups, to help guide scientifically informed management of burned forests. We have become leaders in this area, publishing numerous scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals, and recently receiving national recognition from the US Forest Service – we were awarded the 2014 Wings Across the Americas Conservation Award for research contributing to management of bird populations, for our work on Black-backed Woodpecker ecology and habitat management in California.

Scientifically-sound post-fire restoration at the Lowell Fire site is of special importance due to the historical mining tailings, dredge piles and hydraulic diggings which add potential threats of mercury and other heavy metals eroding into Steephollow Creek. The site’s location within a mosaic of public and private lands also offers an opportunity to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities and community education about fire ecology and land management.

We are confident in the success of this project with Sierra Streams Institute at the helm and look forward to providing technical assistance. SSI’s excellent new wildlife biologist has contracted for us on post-fire bird research projects throughout the Sierra for the past three years, bringing to this project a range-wide perspective on post-fire ecology. She also brings expertise in standardized monitoring protocols for bird populations and forest habitat characteristics that are compatible with region-wide meta-analyses, offering the potential for Lowell Fire results to contribute to the broader state of ecological science in the Sierra.

I strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to improve the Bear River watershed impacted by the Lowell Fire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rodney Siegel, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

**RED DOG-YOU BET ASSOCIATION**

20846 Red Dog Road  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

February 21, 2016

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

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to support the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan". This project will complete planning and permitting for restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat re-establishment.

This project is important for many reasons. First, the area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. The Lowell fire created potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health with an increase in wildlife habitat is imperative for the improvement in water quality. Second, with the increase in high intensity wildfires in populated areas, lessons learned through this project can be used to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities utilizing the education of communities affected by wildfire and engagement in private and public land restoration.

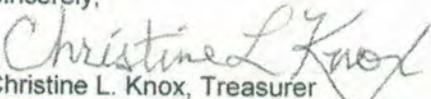
The Red Dog-You Bet Association is one of the oldest neighborhood associations in Nevada County. We are in the process of reinventing ourselves for new generation thinking including supporting to restore our forests and watershed for our neighbors and all who live downstream.

The community of Red Dog-You Bet approached Sierra Streams Institute requesting assistance in dealing with post-fire concerns including the release of heavy metals from soil erosion. SSI has begun advising private landowners on protection measures, and organized and led an education and demonstration day, which myself and members of this organization attended. We hope to see education, engagement and work like this done in our watershed.

This project aligns with the Red Dog-You Bet community's goals in protecting and rehabilitating our community and watershed. Furthermore, as members of the economically disadvantaged and rural community of Grass Valley, California, we do not have the resources to monitor and restore our heavily impacted watershed or to further protect the water source for other disadvantaged communities downstream in Yuba County.

We strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to improve the Bear River watershed impacted by the Lowell Fire.

Sincerely,

  
Christine L. Knox, Treasurer

February 18, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

We are pleased to support the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan". This project will complete planning and permitting for restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat re-establishment.

This project is important for many reasons. First, the area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. The Lowell fire created potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health with an increase in wildlife habitat is imperative for the improvement in water quality. Second, with the increase in high intensity wildfires in populated areas, lessons learned through this project can be used to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities utilizing the education of communities affected by wildfire and engagement in private and public land restoration.

With an aggressive push in our community we have made the homeowners aware of the need to be firewise, and have completed some private roads in compliance with the Firesafe Council of Nevada County. Through the effort we are now waiting for Firesafe Council to accredit us as a Firesafe community, and are passionate to continue to have our community of You Bet, be environmentally aware.

The community of You Bet/Red Dog, and members of this Committee, approached Sierra Streams Institute requesting assistance in dealing with post-fire concerns including the release of heavy metals from soil erosion. SSI has begun advising private landowners on protection measures, and led an education and demonstration day, which members of this committee attended. We hope to see education, engagement and work like this done in our watershed.

I strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to improve the Bear River watershed impacted by the Lowell Fire.

Sincerely



Fayrene Calvillo

Firewise committee Spokesperson for You Bet Community

February 25, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive Ste 205  
Auburn CA 95603

RE: Lowell Fire Restoration Plan Grant Application

To Whom it May Concern:

As a member of the Bear River Watershed Stakeholders Group and a long time resident of the Bear River watershed, I am delighted to have the opportunity to write in support of Sierra Streams Institute's application for a restoration grant.

The Lowell Fire restoration proposal would provide both the near term benefits of a restoration project to address the consequences of the high intensity fire on the environment and the long term benefits of creating a model for broad community involvement in fire prevention and restoration efforts. These benefits are consistent with the goals of Chapter 6 "Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds" of Proposition 1.

Although the Bear River has been heavily impacted by fires, mining (the most intense hydraulic mining in the Sierras occurred in the Steephollow area), water diversions and other natural and man-made impacts, there has been to date very little in the way of community based efforts to address means of mitigating those impacts. Sierra Streams Institute is providing that means through the Institute's Bear River Watershed Stakeholders Group. The Lowell Fire Restoration Project provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the viability of the stakeholders concept and its ability to address the important environmental and economic issues facing the Bear watershed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Allan Eberhart



Nevada City Rancheria Tribal Council

P.O. Box 574 Grass Valley, Ca. 95945

530-265-6563 (Chairman) 530-570-0846 (Secretary)

---

February 26, 2016

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

As a representative of the Nisenan Tribe with the Nevada City Rancheria, I am pleased to support the application by Sierra Streams Institute for the "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan". This project will complete planning and permitting for restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat re-establishment.

This project is important for many reasons. First, the area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. The Lowell fire created potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health with an increase in wildlife habitat is imperative for the improvement in water quality. Second, with the increase in high intensity wildfires in populated areas, lessons learned through this project can be used to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities utilizing the education of communities affected by wildfire and engagement in private and public land restoration.

As original people from this area, we actively seize opportunity to be involved in any restoration and preservation of the land. We support Sierra Streams in consulting about native plants that are also important to the Nisenan culture. I strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this important effort to improve the Bear River watershed impacted by the Lowell Fire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelly Covert".

Shelly Covert, Secretary and Spokesperson  
Nevada City Rancheria Tribal Council

---

Chairman: Richard Johnson

Vice Chair: Virginia Covert

Secretary: Shelly Covert

Treasurer: Lorena Davis

Alt: Sarah Thomas

Mal: Saxon Thomas

**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**  
**SNC Watershed Improvement Program - DETAILED BUDGET FORM**

**Project Name: Lowell Fire Restoration Project**  
**Applicant: Sierra Streams Institute**

<b>SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Total</b>
Task 2: Surveys and reporting	\$12,000.00	\$4,225.00	\$16,225.00
Task 2. Lab fees	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,800.00
Task 2: Contractor design	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$11,800.00
Task 3: Restoration plan development	\$10,100.00	\$4,350.00	\$14,450.00
Task 4: Education and outreach	\$3,350.00	\$5,350.00	\$8,700.00
<b>DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$32,750.00</b>	<b>\$21,225.00</b>	<b>\$53,975.00</b>

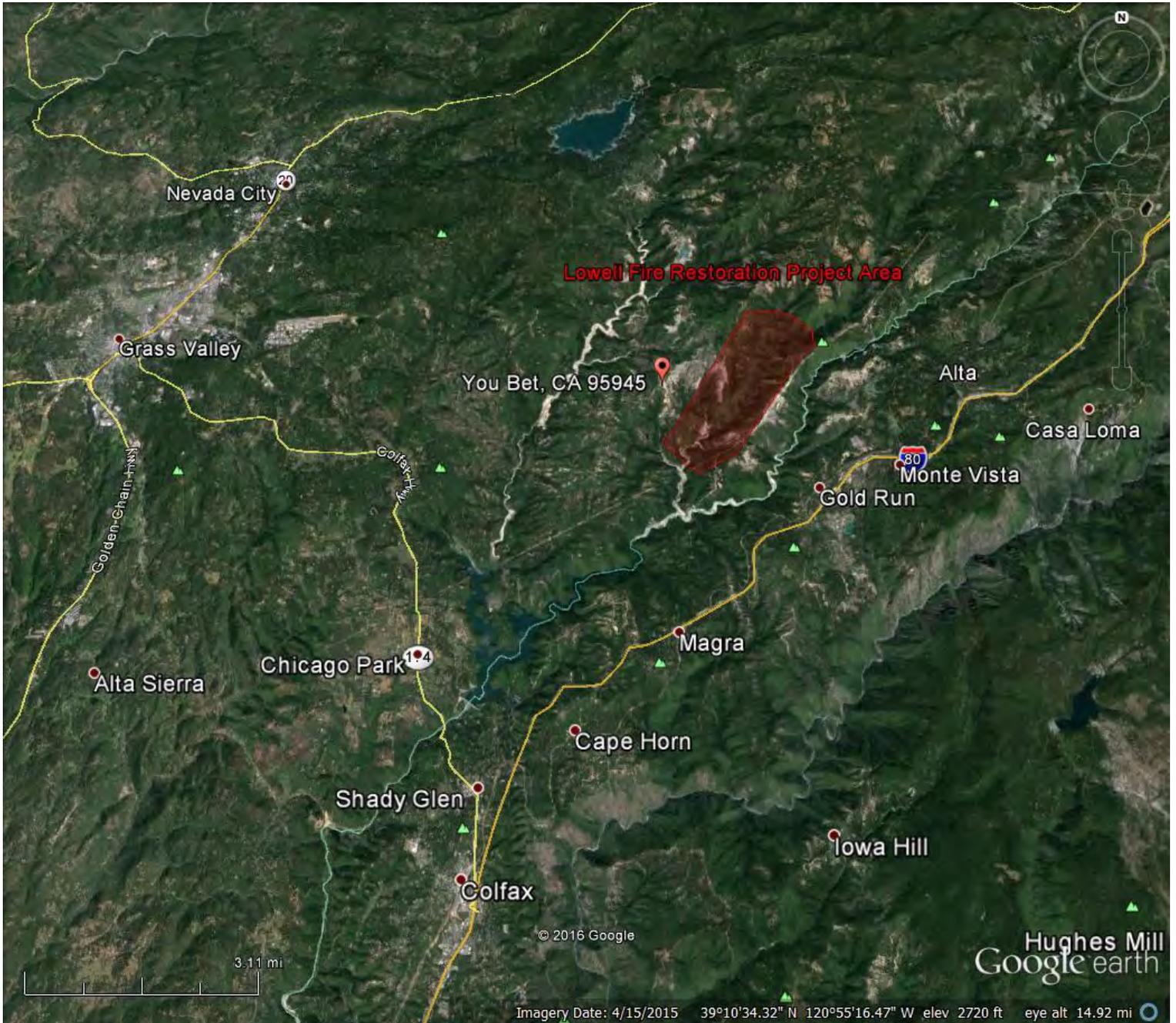
<b>SECTION TWO PARTIAL INDIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Total</b>
Task 1: Project Management Reporting, Perf Measures, Invoicing	\$6,700.00	\$3,800.00	\$10,500.00
Task 2: Project materials	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00
Task 4: Printing outreach materials	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
<b>INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$7,950.00</b>	<b>\$5,050.00</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>
<b>PROJECT TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$40,700.00</b>	<b>\$26,275.00</b>	<b>\$66,975.00</b>

<b>SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not exceed 15% of the above listed Project costs) :</b>	<b>Total</b>		
*Organization operating/overhead costs	\$5,023.13	\$5,023.13	\$5,023.13
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$5,023.13</b>	<b>\$5,023.13</b>	<b>\$5,023.13</b>
<b>SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:</b>	<b>\$45,723.13</b>	<b>\$31,298.13</b>	<b>\$71,998.13</b>

<b>SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Total</b>
List other funding or in-kind contributors to project (i.e. Sierra Business Council, Department of Water Resources, etc.)			
AmeriCorps	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Bureau of Rec: WaterSmart	\$6,450.00	\$0.00	\$6,450.00
<b>Total Other Contributions:</b>	<b>\$10,450.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,450.00</b>

related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

**Location Map**  
**Lowell Fire Restoration Project Area**  
**Sierra Streams Institute**





You Bet, CA 95945 You Bet

Dutch Flat

Alta

Gold Run

Monte Vista

Alan S. Han Fwy

© 2016 Google

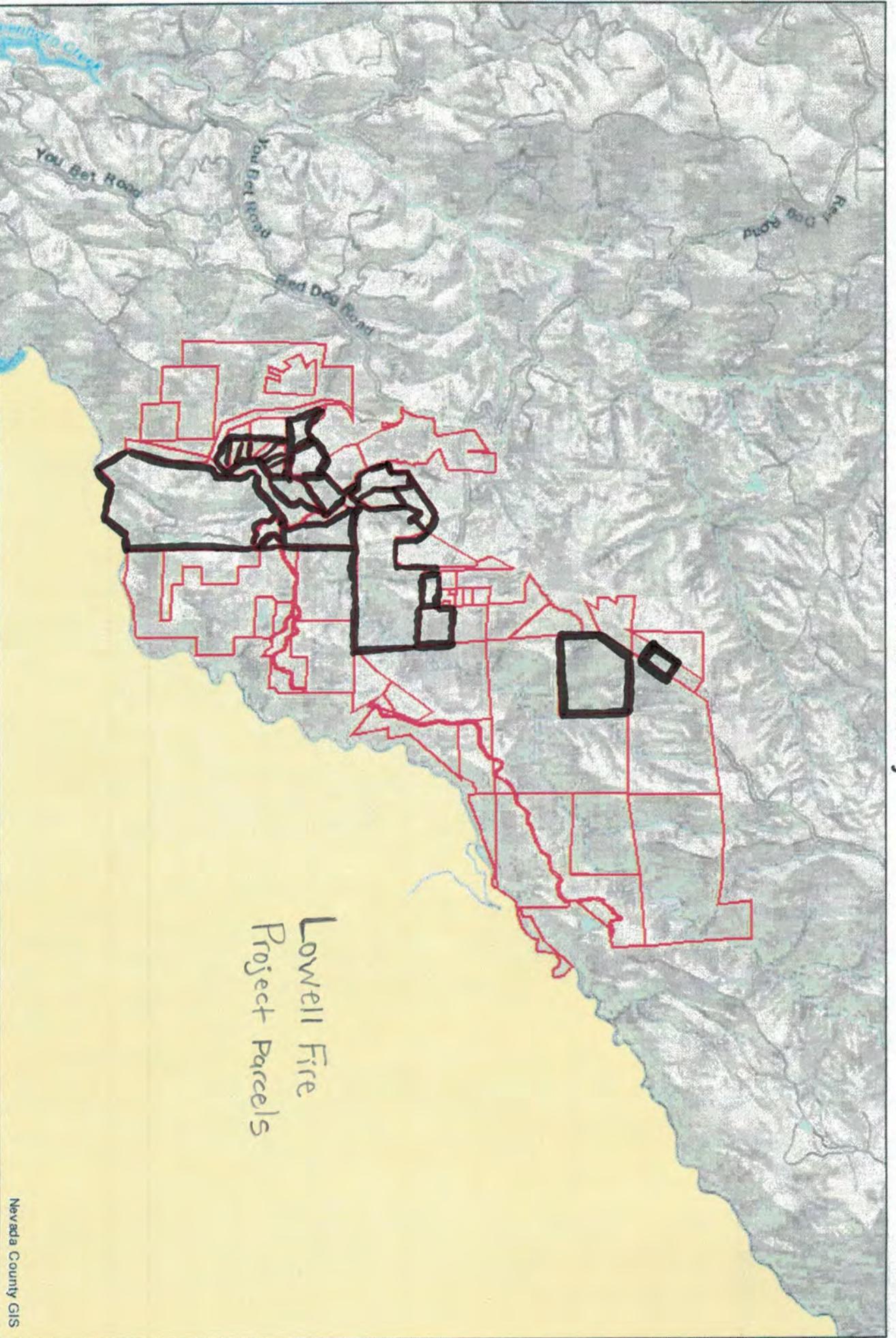
Google earth

Imagery Date: 4/15/2015 39°12'11.78" N 120°52'02.11" W elev 3079 ft eye alt 31967 ft

1993

6734 ft

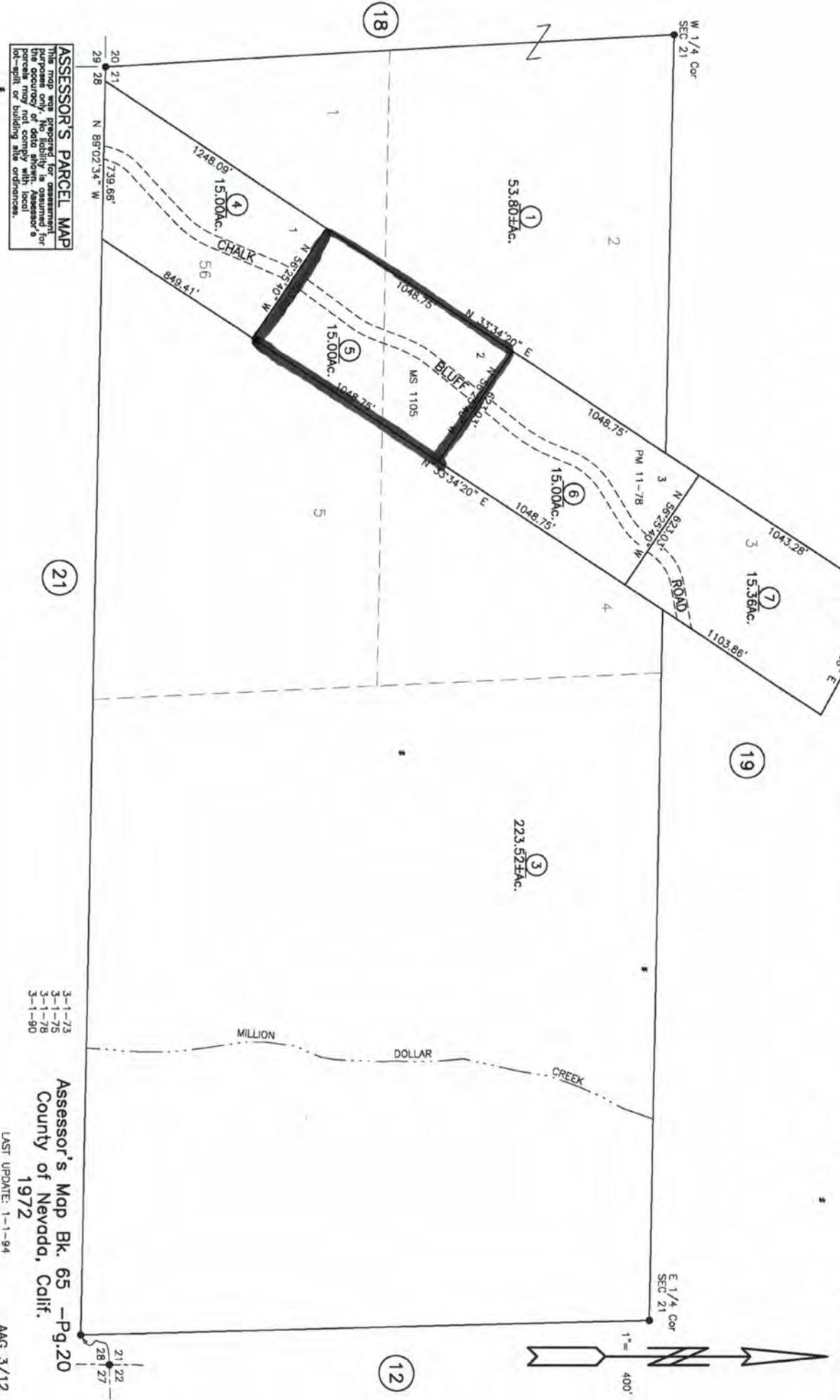
Nevada County



S 1/2 SEC 21, T. 16 N., R. 10 E., M.D.B. & M.

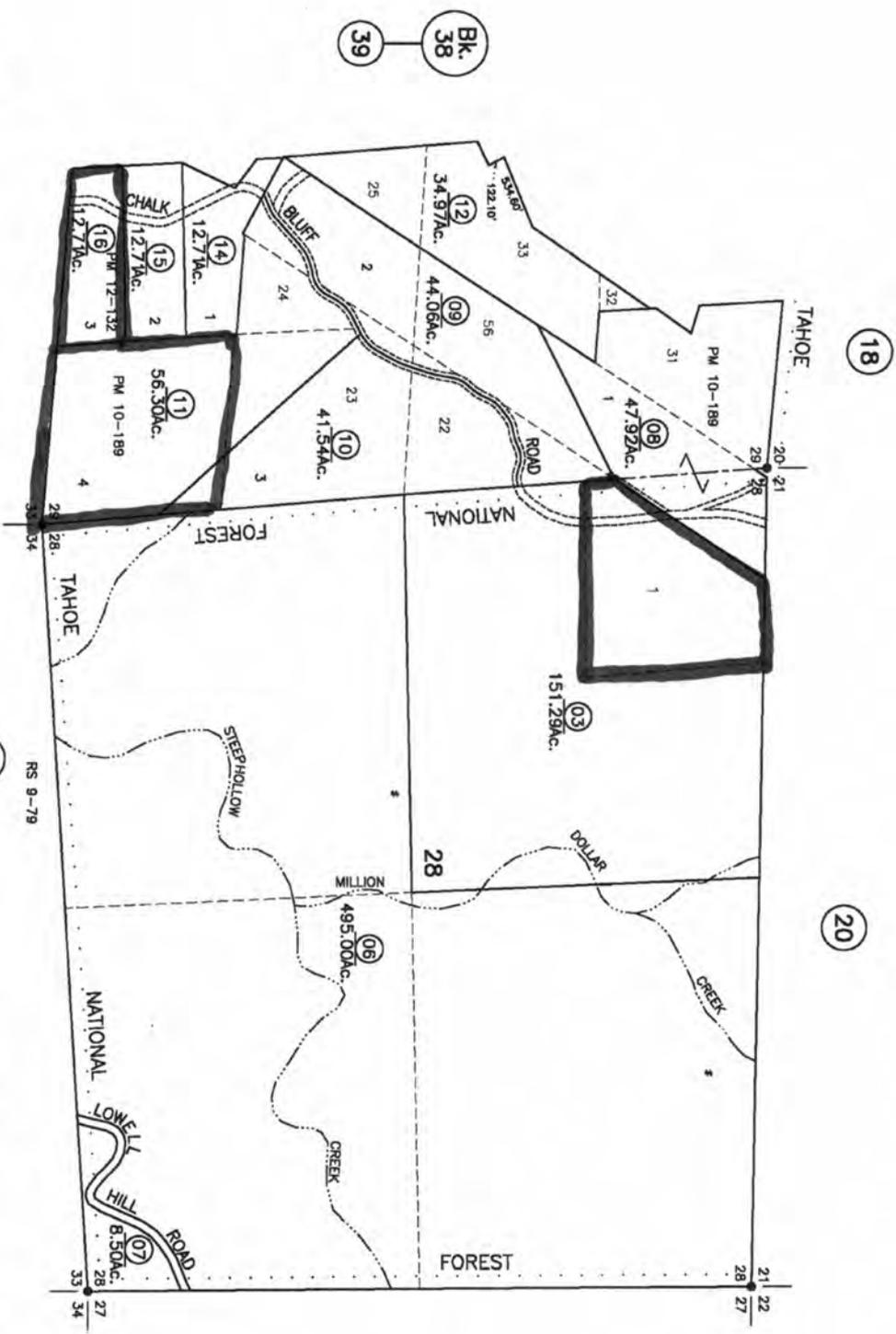
Tax Area Code  
68-007

65-20  
(Form, Ptn. 38-32)



**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
 This map was prepared for assessment purposes only. No liability is assumed for parcels not shown, or for errors in lot-split or building site ordinances.

Assessor's Map Bk. 65 -Pg. 20  
 County of Nevada, Calif.  
 1972  
 LAST UPDATE: 1-1-94  
 AUG 3/12



**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
 This map was prepared for assessment purposes only. It is not intended to show the location of any building or other structure. The location of any building or other structure may not comply with local lot-split or building site ordinances.

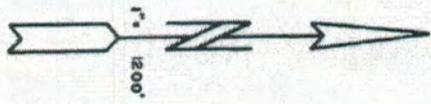
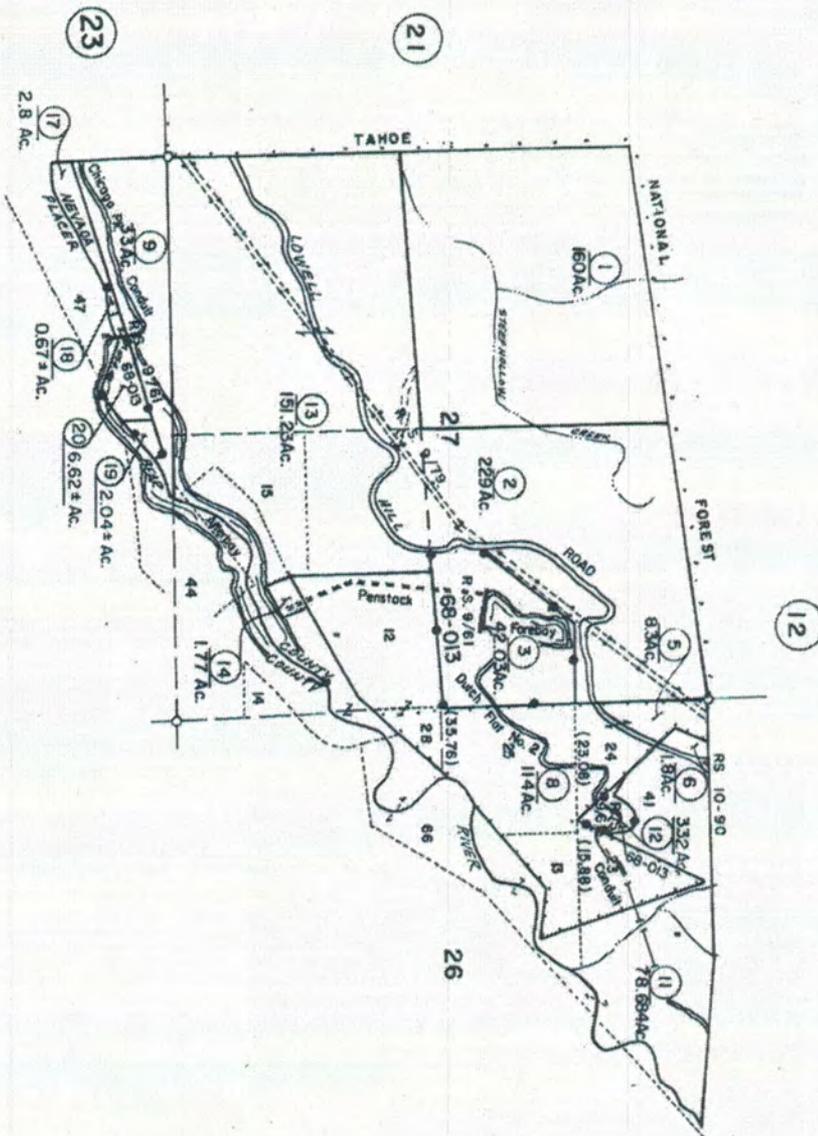
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- 3-1-77
- 3-1-79
- 3-1-80
- 1-1-87

Assessor's Map Bk. 65 - Pg. 21  
 County of Nevada, Calif.  
 1968  
 LAST UPDATE: 1-1-97  
 MAG 6/14

PTN. SECS. 26, 27, & 34, T.16N., R.10E., M.D.B. & M.

Tax Area Code  
68-007  
68-013

65-22  
(FWLY 14-25)



**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
This map is prepared for the Assessor's Office and is not intended for any other purpose. No liability is assumed for the accuracy of data shown. Assessor's parcels may not comply with local fire-escape or building codes.

Assessor's Map Bk. 65 - Pg. 22  
County of Nevada, Calif.

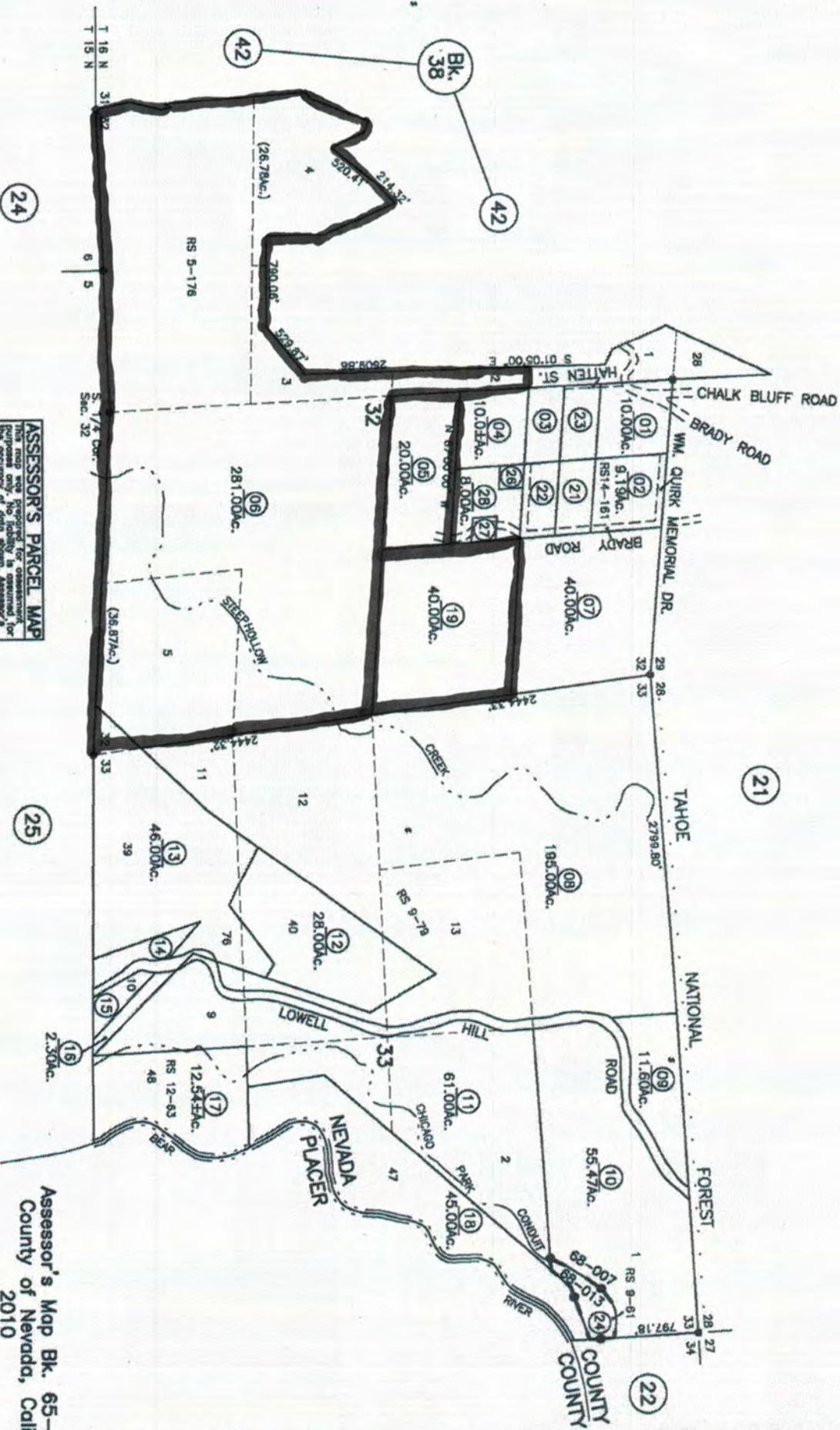
1962 3-1-62  
1963 3-1-63  
1964 3-1-64  
1965 1-1-65

1-61-11

PTN. SEC'S 32 & 33, T.16 N., R.10 E., M.D.B. & M.

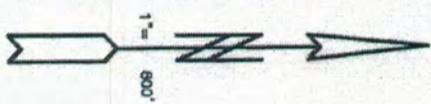
Tax Area Code  
68-007  
68-013

65-23  
(Fmly. Pn. 58-41)



**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
This map was prepared for assessment purposes only. It is not intended to show the location of any building or other structure. The Assessor is not responsible for any error or omission on this map. The Assessor is not responsible for any error or omission on this map. The Assessor is not responsible for any error or omission on this map.

Assessor's Map Bk. 65-Pg. 23  
County of Nevada, Calif.  
2010  
LAST UPDATE: 1-7-11  
MAG 1/11



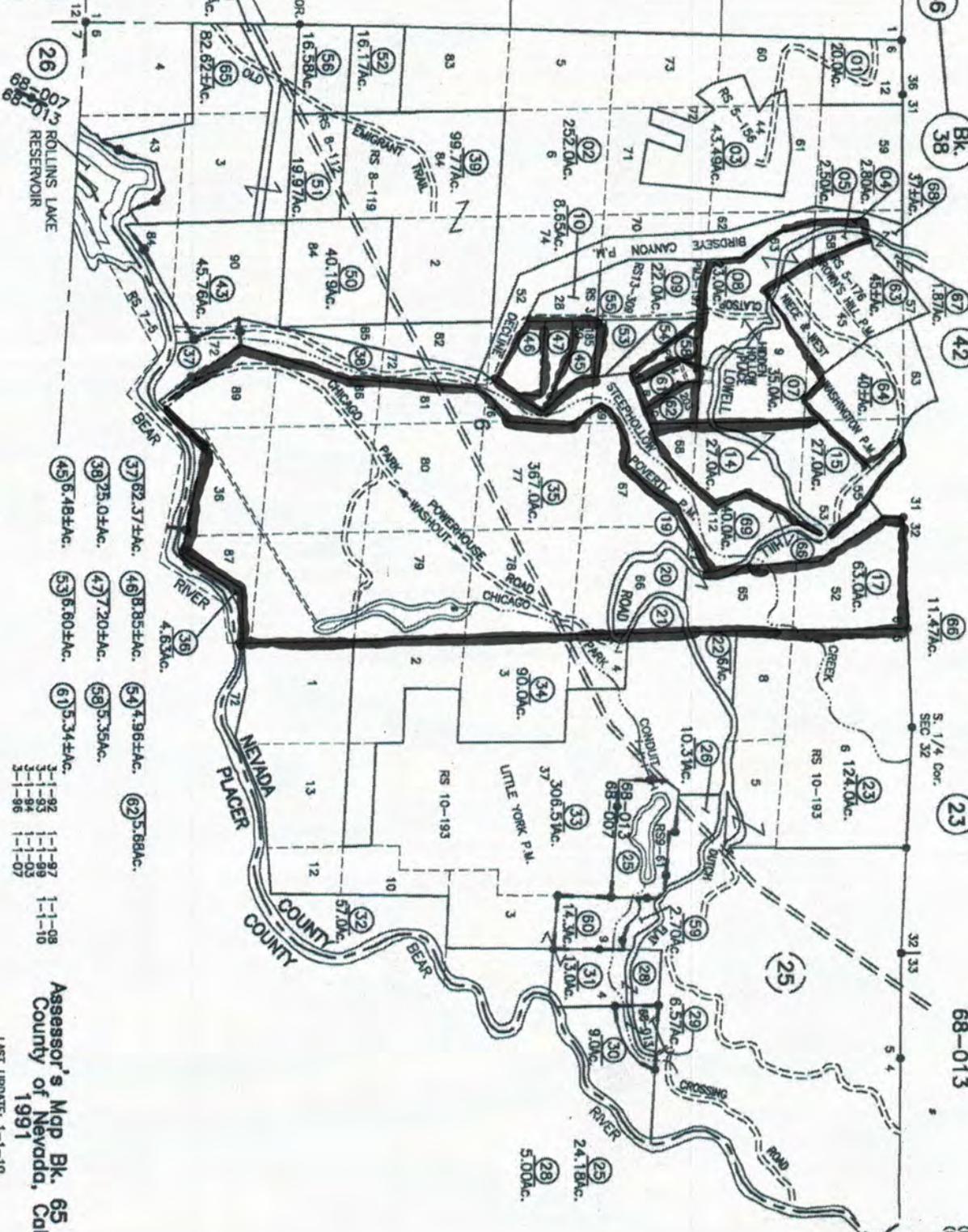
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PTN SECS 4, 5 & 6 T. 15 N., R. 10 E., M.D.B. & M.

Tax Area Code  
68-007  
68-013

65-24  
(From 38-48)  
(From 14-26)

**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
This map was prepared for assessment purposes only. It is not a legal document and does not constitute a warranty of the accuracy of the data shown. Assessor's parcels may not correspond with local lot-split or building data ordinances.



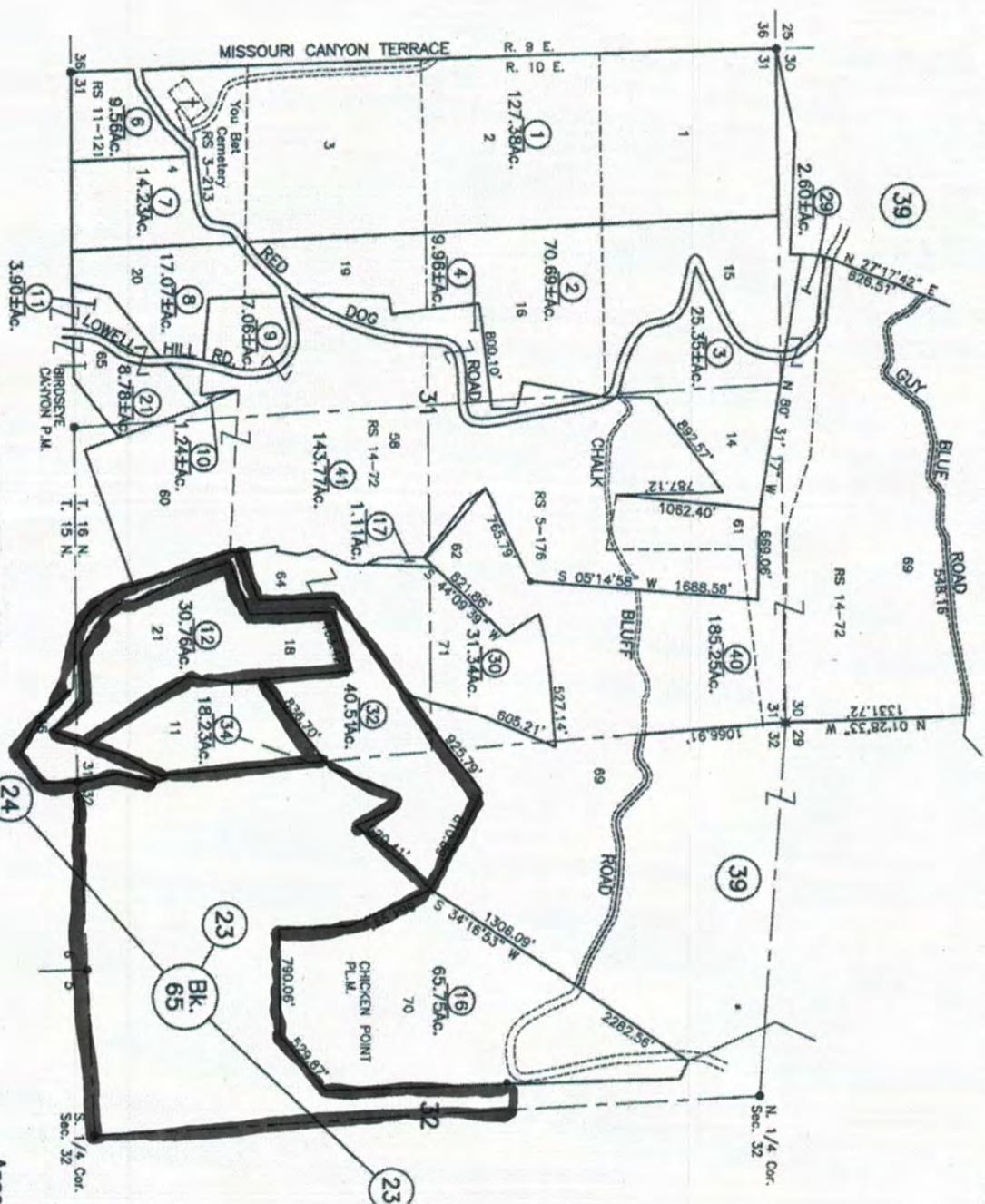
- (41) 4.97Ac.
- (42) 1.87Ac.
- (43) 4.576Ac.
- (44) 4.348Ac.
- (45) 6.48±Ac.
- (46) 8.85±Ac.
- (47) 7.20±Ac.
- (48) 3.96±Ac.
- (49) 5.34±Ac.
- (50) 40.19Ac.
- (51) 19.97Ac.
- (52) 16.17Ac.
- (53) 6.80±Ac.
- (54) 4.96±Ac.
- (55) 5.35Ac.
- (56) 16.58Ac.
- (57) 62.37±Ac.
- (58) 5.35Ac.
- (59) 99.77Ac.
- (60) 24.18Ac.
- (61) 5.00Ac.
- (62) 5.88Ac.
- (63) 4.348Ac.
- (64) 4.348Ac.
- (65) 2.80Ac.
- (66) 2.50Ac.
- (67) 2.20Ac.
- (68) 2.20Ac.
- (69) 2.20Ac.
- (70) 2.20Ac.
- (71) 2.20Ac.
- (72) 2.20Ac.
- (73) 2.20Ac.
- (74) 2.20Ac.
- (75) 2.20Ac.
- (76) 2.20Ac.
- (77) 2.20Ac.
- (78) 2.20Ac.
- (79) 2.20Ac.
- (80) 2.20Ac.
- (81) 2.20Ac.
- (82) 2.20Ac.
- (83) 2.20Ac.
- (84) 2.20Ac.
- (85) 2.20Ac.
- (86) 2.20Ac.
- (87) 2.20Ac.
- (88) 2.20Ac.
- (89) 2.20Ac.
- (90) 2.20Ac.
- (91) 2.20Ac.
- (92) 2.20Ac.
- (93) 2.20Ac.
- (94) 2.20Ac.
- (95) 2.20Ac.
- (96) 2.20Ac.
- (97) 2.20Ac.
- (98) 2.20Ac.
- (99) 2.20Ac.
- (100) 2.20Ac.

Assessor's Map Bk. 65 -Pg. 24  
County of Nevada, Calif.  
1991  
LAST UPDATE: 1-1-10  
AMG 6/14

PTN. SEC. 6, T.15 N. R.10 E. & 30, 31 & 32, T. 16 N. R. 10 E. M.D.B.&M.

Tax Area Code  
68-007

38-42  
(Fmly. Ptn. 14-24)



**ASSESSOR'S PARCEL MAP**  
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1-1-89  
1-1-05  
1-1-10

Assessor's Map Bk. 38 -Pg. 42  
County of Nevada, Calif.  
1998  
LAST UPDATE 3-11-09  
NW 12/98

120°54'W

120°53'W

120°52'W

120°51'W

39°15'N

39°15'N

39°14'N

39°14'N

39°13'N

39°13'N

39°12'N

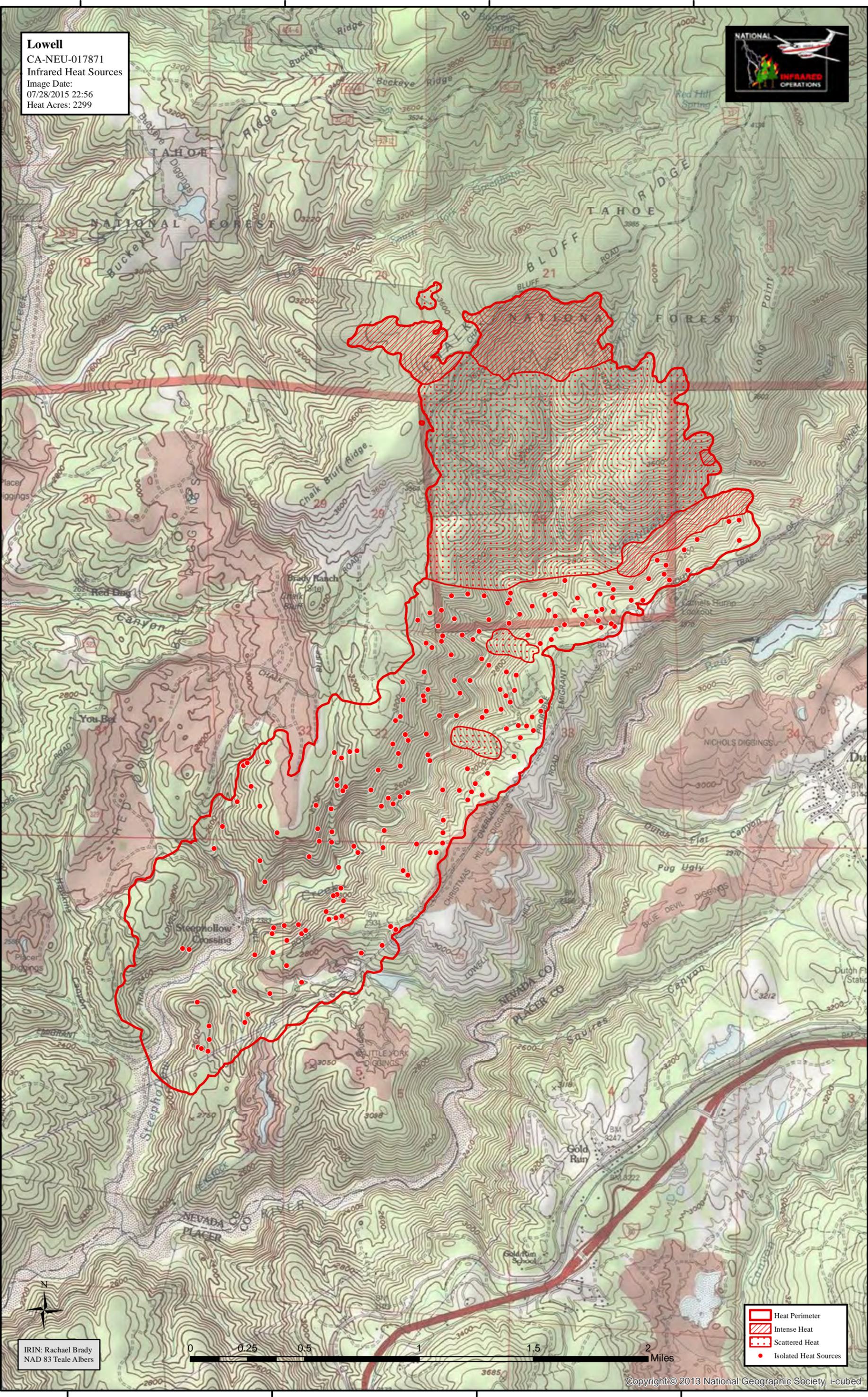
39°12'N

39°11'N

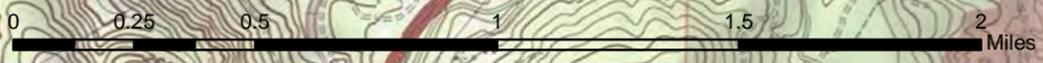
39°11'N

39°10'N

**Lowell**  
 CA-NEU-017871  
 Infrared Heat Sources  
 Image Date:  
 07/28/2015 22:56  
 Heat Acres: 2299



IRIN: Rachael Brady  
 NAD 83 Teale Albers



- Heat Perimeter
- Intense Heat
- Scattered Heat
- Isolated Heat Sources

**Photos of Lowell Fire Restoration Planning Project  
Sierra Streams Institute - SNC Prop 1 Proposal March 2016**



High severity burn area and roadside erosion on Lowell Hill Rd



Eroding dozer lines along roads



Red Dog Chalk Bluff Diggins above Steepollow and Lowell Fire



Erosion on a rainy day



Mulch placed for erosion control



Steepollow Creek just above Chicago Park Powerhouse with PGE powerlines





**United States Department of the Interior**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Mother Lode Field Office  
5152 Hillsdale Circle  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762  
[www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode](http://www.blm.gov/ca/motherlode)



**FEB 24 2016**

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

1730  
CA 180.01

To Whom It May Concern:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) expresses its support for the proposal entitled: "Lowell Fire Restoration Plan" led by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI). In the past several years, BLM has worked closely with the project team that is leading this proposal. This project will complete planning and permitting for the restoration of priority burned areas in the Lowell fire with the greatest potential impact to water quality, forest health, and native plant and wildlife habitat.

The project is important for many reasons. First, it offers a unique opportunity to develop a single restoration plan for the entire 2,300 acre Steephollow Creek watershed, rather than the piecemeal restoration efforts that would occur if each landowner approached restoration separately. BLM is the largest landowner within the fire perimeter, but our lands amount to less than a third of the total acreage. Without SSI's study, there simply would be no overarching restoration design.

In addition, the area impacted by a high-intensity fire includes historical tailings, dredge piles and two major hydraulic diggings. Volatilized soils in the burn area, past mining, and other impacts have created highly erosive soils with potential to increase the volume of heavy metal-laced sediments into the watershed. Improvement in forest health with an increase in wildlife habitat is imperative for the improvement in water quality through effective application of best management practices. Finally, with the increase in high intensity wildfires in populated areas, lessons learned through this project can be used to develop a model for multi-owner restoration activities utilizing the education of communities affected by wildfire and engagement in private and public land restoration.

The project team will be working closely with BLM staff to develop a viable restoration plan for an implementation project. They will have full access to all public lands within the project area; therefore, no additional access agreements with this agency will be necessary.

I strongly encourage the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support this critical project.

Sincerely,

William S. Haigh  
Field Manager

**Permission to Access Private Real Property  
Lowell Fire Restoration Project**

We support a proposal by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI) for the Lowell Fire Restoration Project, an effort to restore forest health within high priority burned areas affected by the 2015 Lowell Fire. We further support SSI in applying for funds from Sierra Nevada Conservancy under its Proposition 1 Watershed Improvement Program for the project. We understand that during the planning phase SSI will collaborate with private landowners and the Federal BLM to plan and create an effective restoration strategy within the Lowell Fire footprint and thus SSI will: 1) complete ground surveys and assessments, 2) acquire necessary permits (CEQA and NEPA) for future ground work, and 3) prepare a ground-based restoration plan.

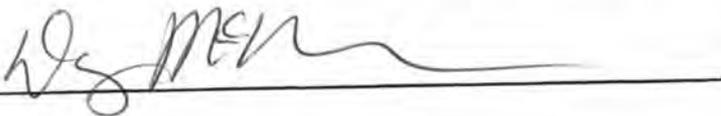
Whereas our real property was a victim of the Lowell Fire, we hereby authorize Sierra Streams Institute, its staff and project partners, to access our property to carry out the planning phase of this project. It is understood that SSI will, on each occasion, contact us prior to entering our real property, in consideration of our privacy.

We understand this project will result in a subsequent implementation phase. If our real property is selected as a high priority site for restoration, we will promptly review the plan and understand that we will have input and control over which areas of our real property will be surveyed and subsequently restored. At that time we will give serious consideration to the execution of subsequent agreements allowing restorative ground work and continued analysis and follow-up research which we understand will require continued access to our real property by SSI and/or Sierra Nevada Conservancy for a minimum of 10 years, with monitoring rights for 25 years.

Attached is the required documentation proving that we have adequate tenure to the real property described as below.

APN: 65-240-58

Site Address: 11646 Hidden Hollow Place C.V. 95945

 \_\_\_\_\_ 2-18-16 \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURES**

**DATE**

Printed Names: Danny Mori MSMellon

Mailing Address: PO Box 955

Phone Number: 530-205-8203

Email: dmellon9@aol.com

**Permission to Access Private Real Property  
Lowell Fire Restoration Project**

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Attached is the required documentation proving that we have adequate tenure to the real property described as below.

APN: 65-240-61-000 AND 65-240-62-000

Site Address: 11680 HIDDEN HOLLOW PL  
GRASS VALLEY, CA, 95945

DAMON DeCROW

*Damon DeCrows*

SIGNATURES

2/18/2016

DATE

Printed Names: DAMON DeCROW

Mailing Address: 11680 HIDDEN HOLLOW PL GRASS VALLEY CA. 95945

Phone Number: 530-574-7394

Email: DAMONGV@GMAIL.COM



## Permission to Access Private Real Property Lowell Fire Restoration Project

We support a proposal by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI) for the Lowell Fire Restoration Project, an effort to restore forest health within high priority burned areas affected by the 2015 Lowell Fire. We further support SSI in applying for funds from Sierra Nevada Conservancy under its Proposition 1 Watershed Improvement Program for the project. We understand that during the planning phase SSI will collaborate with private landowners and the Federal BLM to plan and create an effective restoration strategy within the Lowell Fire footprint and thus SSI will: 1) complete ground surveys and assessments, 2) acquire necessary permits (CEQA and NEPA) for future ground work, and 3) prepare a ground-based restoration plan.

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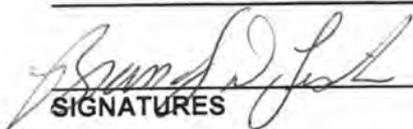
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Attached is the required documentation proving that we have adequate tenure to the real property described as below.

APN: 65-210-03

Site Address:

---

  
SIGNATURES

---

2-25-16  
DATE

Printed Names: Brandy Fisher

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1102 Rough and Ready, CA 95975

Phone Number: (530) 913-1807

Email: gofish2002@gmail.com

**Permission to Access Private Real Property**  
**Lowell Fire Restoration Project**

We support a proposal by Sierra Streams Institute (SSI) for the Lowell Fire Restoration Project, an effort to restore forest health within high priority burned areas affected by the 2015 Lowell Fire. We further support SSI in applying for funds from Sierra Nevada Conservancy under its Proposition 1 Watershed Improvement Program for the project. We understand that during the planning phase SSI will collaborate with private landowners and the Federal BLM to plan and create an effective restoration strategy within the Lowell Fire footprint and thus SSI will: 1) complete ground surveys and assessments, 2) acquire necessary permits (CEQA and NEPA) for future ground work, and 3) prepare a ground-based restoration plan.

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Attached is the required documentation proving that we have adequate tenure to the real property described as below.

APN: 65-200-06

Site Address:

Sue Cervantes

Art + Sue Cervantes

2-16-16

SIGNATURES

DATE

Printed Names: SUE + ART CERVANTES

Mailing Address: 633 Dodds Dr. Woodland, Ca. 95776

Phone Number: Home-530-662-2714

Email: N/A Cell-530-904-1927-sue

**Permission to Access Private Real Property  
Lowell Fire Restoration Project**

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Attached is the required documentation proving that we have adequate tenure to the real property described as below.

APN: 38-420-32, 38-428-34, 38-420-13

Site Address:

24800 Lowell Hill Rd Grass Valley

Randolph Fuller  
SIGNATURES

2-16-16  
DATE

Printed Names: Randolph Fuller

Mailing Address: PO Box 760 Cedar Ridge CA 95924

Phone Number: 530-272-7970

Email: Logos@NEWS.com