

843, Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Project

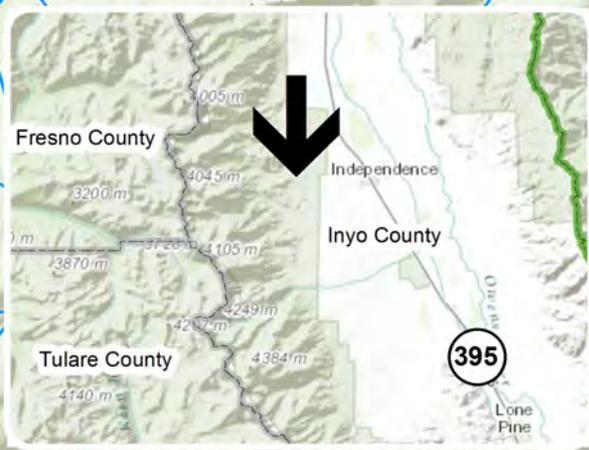
Inyo County, Owens Lake Watershed



Inyo National Forest

Fort Independence Reservation

395



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY**

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)**

Applicant: Trout Unlimited

Project Title: Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Project

Subregion: East

County: Inyo County

SNC Funding: \$47,121

Total Project Cost: \$47,771

Application Number: 843

Final Score: 91

PROJECT SCOPE

The Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Project will fulfill step three of a four-step process that began in 2011 with the development of the Oak Creek Watershed Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) as a response to impacts to the watershed due to a high intensity fire in 2007 and a summer 2008 rain event that moved 1.5 million cubic yards of debris through the system, affecting more than 800 acres in the watershed. Step Three will complete the funding and environmental compliance necessary to begin Step Four which is implementation of the restoration plan and adaptive management of the site.

This project is located on the Inyo National Forest, above the community of Independence and the Fort Independence Native American Reservation, on the eastside of the Sierra Nevada range. Significant pre-planning completed with funding from the Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program and the Lahontan Water Quality Control Board, along with volunteers from local NGOs, has led to the project being ready for environmental review and permitting.

Specific tasks to be delivered with this project include the completion of the CEQA/NEPA analysis necessary to support a NEPA record of decision document, an adopted CEQA review document, and the application and acquisition of the necessary permits for in-channel work as authorized by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Lahontan Water Quality Control Board.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Develop draft restoration proposal – begin field work and data collection to establish design criteria	May 1, 2016
Finalize proposed action and design criteria	June 30, 2016
Initiate public scoping and tribal consultation	September 1 – October 1, 2016
Complete 6-month status report	November 1, 2016
Finalize specialist reports	November 1, 2016
Respond to comments	November 15, 2016
Finalize NEPA/CEQA decision	January 15, 2017
Water quality/stream work permits submitted to agencies	March 1, 2017
Complete 6-month status report	May 1, 2017
Water quality/stream work permits acquired	June 1, 2017
FINAL PAYMENT/FINAL PAYMENT REQUEST	July 30, 2017

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Direct*	
Project manager and stream work permits	\$11,823.06
NEPA/CEQA analysis/documentation	\$15,500.00
TU field work/supplies	\$1,000.00
Inyo NF staff field work/data collection	\$10,500.00
Outreach print materials and media costs	\$500.00
Indirect**	
Project reporting/Invoicing	\$1,651.86
Administrative***	
Administrative expenses	\$6,146.24
GRAND TOTAL	\$47,121.16

* Direct: Direct costs are expenses necessary to acquire, construct, or to adapt property to a new or different use, or to improve property including land, buildings, and equipment. The property/expense must have a useful life longer than one year.

** Indirect: Expenses involve ongoing operations, repair, or maintenance costs, regardless of whether the repair or maintenance may last more than one year.

*** Administrative: Expenses associated with the administration of a project and may not exceed 15 percent of the total SNC grant request for direct and indirect costs.

PROJECT LETTERS SUPPORT/OPPOSITION

- Support
 - Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor, Inyo National Forest

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to include between one and three project-specific measures. Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified through further discussion with SNC staff.

- Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation
- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments
- Number of People Reached

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) _____

County Clerk
County of _____

(Address)

Project Title: _____

Project Location - Specific: _____

Project Location – City: _____ Project Location – County: _____

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: _____

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: _____

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: _____

Exempt Status: **(check one)**

Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);

Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));

Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));

Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: _____

Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt: _____

Lead Agency
Contact Person: _____ Area Code/Telephone/Extension: _____

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Signed by Applicant

Revised 2005

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project (continued):

The subject of the planning and evaluation would be a project (not approved by this action) that would involve: (1) removal of invasive weeds such as Russian thistle in the stream channel, (2) riparian vegetation plantings, (3) stream channel restoration to allow the channels to reach more of the floodplain, and (4) placement of woody debris in the channel. The permits generated from this phase will allow this project to move into the implementation phase. The Inyo National Forest will lead the effort to complete the CEQA/NEPA documents and acquire the necessary permits. Trout Unlimited will fulfill management, coordination, and reporting duties.