



# RESOLUTION No. 23-256

## OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

### RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CDA) DIRECTOR OR THEIR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THIS APPLICATION AND OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada adopted Recreation as a 2023 Board Objective with Resolution 23-068; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Recreation Objective is to promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to enhance recreation access, support public health and safety, realize economic opportunities and preserve national resource assets; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, which provides funds to the State of California for grants to local agencies to acquire, enhance, restore, or develop facilities for public recreation and fish and wildlife habitat protection purposes; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the HCF Program; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the project(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, hereby

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the required match and sufficient funds to complete the project; and
3. Certifies that the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s), and
4. Certifies that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the provisions contained in the contract shown in the grant administration guide; and
5. Delegates the authority to the Community Development Agency Director or their designee to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.
6. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward C. Scofield, Lisa Swarthout, Susan Hoek and Hardy Bullock.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 

  
Edward C. Scofield, Chair

6/13/2023 cc: CDA\*  
AC\*

APPLICATION GUIDE

HCF

Habitat Conservation Fund Program

TRAILS

FINAL  
January 1, 2012



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
Department of Parks and Recreation

*"Creating Community through People, Parks, and Programs"*

## California State Parks Mission

The mission of California State Parks is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

### The Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) Mission Statement

The mission of the Office of Grants and Local Services is to address California's diverse recreational, cultural, and historical resource needs by developing grant programs, administering funds, offering technical assistance, building partnerships and providing leadership through quality customer service.

### OGALS VISION GOALS

- ❖ Proactive in meeting California's park and recreation needs through innovative grant programs and customer service.
- ❖ Committed to providing quality customer service in every interaction and transaction as honest, knowledgeable, and experienced grant administrators.
- ❖ Sensitive to local concerns while mindful of prevailing laws, rules and regulations.
- ❖ Responsive to the needs of applicants, grantees, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and legislative members, who are our partners working to improve the quality of life for all Californians by creating new parks and recreation opportunities.

### HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND (HCF) GRANT ADMINISTRATION

The HCF is a local assistance program of the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Within DPR, OGALS is authorized to administer the program.

Send Applications and Correspondence to:

Street Address for Overnight Mail:

Calif. Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Grants and Local Services  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 918  
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Mailing Address:

Calif. Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Grants and Local Services  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Phone: (916) 653-7423  
Website: [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants)



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## I. HCF CATEGORY CHART

<b>UNIQUE FEATURES</b>	<b>DEER &amp; LION HABITAT</b>	<b>RARE, ENDANGERED, THREATENED, OR FULLY PROTECTED HABITAT</b>	<b>ANADROMOUS SALMONIDS &amp; TROUT HABITAT</b>	
<b>Funding types</b>	Land acquisition	Land acquisition	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	
<b>Cost types</b>	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	
<b>Species impact</b>	Any Deer & Mountain Lions	Any rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected animal and/or plant	Anadromous Salmon Trout	
<b>PROJECT Examples (in alpha. order)</b>	Purchase land	Purchase land	Build access points Create spawning areas Remove barriers, invasives Re-plant areas Re-populate species	
<b>UNIQUE FEATURES</b>	<b>RIPARIAN HABITAT</b>	<b>WETLANDS</b>	<b>TRAILS</b>	<b>WILDLIFE AREA ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>Funding types</b>	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	Land acquisition, enhancement, or restoration	Land acquisition or trail development	Educational or interpretational activities
<b>Cost types</b>	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Capital outlay	Non-Capital outlay
<b>Species impact</b>	Animals or plants growing close to or in a moving fresh water source (e.g., river, stream, creek)	Animals or plants growing in or near a relatively enclosed fresh water, salt water, or brackish water source	A path or track that brings people to a park and/or wildlife environment	No direct species impact
<b>PROJECT Examples (in alpha. order)</b>	Build bridges Clear channels Replant under- and over-stories Re-populate species	Build access points Fence sensitive areas Remove invasives Revegetate surrounding lands	Create and/or install interpretive elements Create or install seating or lighting Develop new trails Rehabilitate existing trails	Conduct multi-day activities Pre and post-activity evaluations Rent/purchase equipment or transportation

## II. HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Competitive Program Intent

Protecting, restoring, and enhancing wildlife habitat and fisheries are vital to maintain California's quality of life. The impacts of the increase in the state's human population results in an urgent need to fund projects that protect rapidly disappearing wildlife habitats that support California's unique and varied wildlife resources.

In response to this need, the people of California voted to enact the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, Chapter 9, Fish and Game Code (FGC) § 2780 through 2799.6, which largely defines the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program. Other legislation that impacts the program includes Fish and Game Code § 2720 – 2729, Government Code § 7550 – 7550.6 and 13340, and Public Resources Code § 5900 through 5903, 5096.310, 21000, and 33216.

The underlying concepts for the program are derived, in part, from the applicable sections of Proposition 117 as enacted in the following Fish and Game Code (FGC) sections:

#### FGC § 2786 (a) through (f):

"...the money in the Habitat Conservation Fund, which is hereby created, shall be used for the following purposes:

- (a) The acquisition of habitat, including native oak woodlands, necessary to protect deer and mountain lions.
- (b) The acquisition of habitat to protect rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected species.
- (c) The acquisition of habitat to further implement the Habitat Conservation Program pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 2721) excepting Section 2722 and subdivision (a) of Section 2723, and § 2724 and 2729
- (d) The acquisition, enhancement, or restoration of wetlands.
- (e) The acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of aquatic habitat for spawning and rearing of anadromous salmonids and trout resources.
- (f) The acquisition, restoration, or enhancement of riparian habitat."

#### FGC § 2787 (a)(3)

"Two million dollars for 50 percent matching grants to local agencies...for the acquisition of wildlife corridors and urban trails, nature interpretation program, and other programs which bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas..."

### Annual Allocation

The HCF Program allocates approximately **\$2 million** per year to the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

### **Application Filing Deadline**

The application must be either delivered or postmarked by no later than 5:00 PM on the application due date, which will be announced annually on the OGALS website, [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants).

OGALS has the authority to award any excess funds via additional funding cycles, which would be announced as needed on the OGALS website, [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants).

### **GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD**

The GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD for each PROJECT is 5 years starting on July 1 of the fiscal year following the application due date, based on final enactment of the state budget. A GRANTEE will have up to three years to encumber the CONTRACT, and an additional two to complete the PROJECT.

### **Maximum and Minimum Grant Request Amounts**

OGALS recommends that grant requests generally do not exceed \$200,000. However, there are no maximum or minimum grant amounts. OGALS will make an effort to provide equitable geographic distribution of funds, provided that sufficient well-qualified proposals exist.

### **Required MATCH**

There is a required non-state dollar-for-dollar MATCH. See page 17 for more information.

### **PROJECT Categories**

- There are seven eligible PROJECT categories: HABITATS for deer/mountain lion, rare, endangered, threatened, or fully protected species, wetlands, anadromous salmonids and trout, and riparian, TRAILS, and WILDLIFE AREA activities.
- All categories are eligible for funding in each annual funding cycle.
- There is a separate application guide for each category

## **This is the “Trails” Application Guide.**

The meanings of words and terms shown in SMALL CAPS are in the Definitions Section, beginning on page 45.

### **III. HCF PROGRAM INFORMATION**

#### **Eligible APPLICANTS**

Cities, counties, the City and County of San Francisco, or DISTRICTS. The State may request documentation of eligibility for DISTRICTS (see page 45 for definitions).

#### **Eligible PROJECTS**

ACQUISITION or DEVELOPMENT of TRAILS which bring urban residents into PARK and/or WILDLIFE AREAS.

#### **Ineligible PROJECTS**

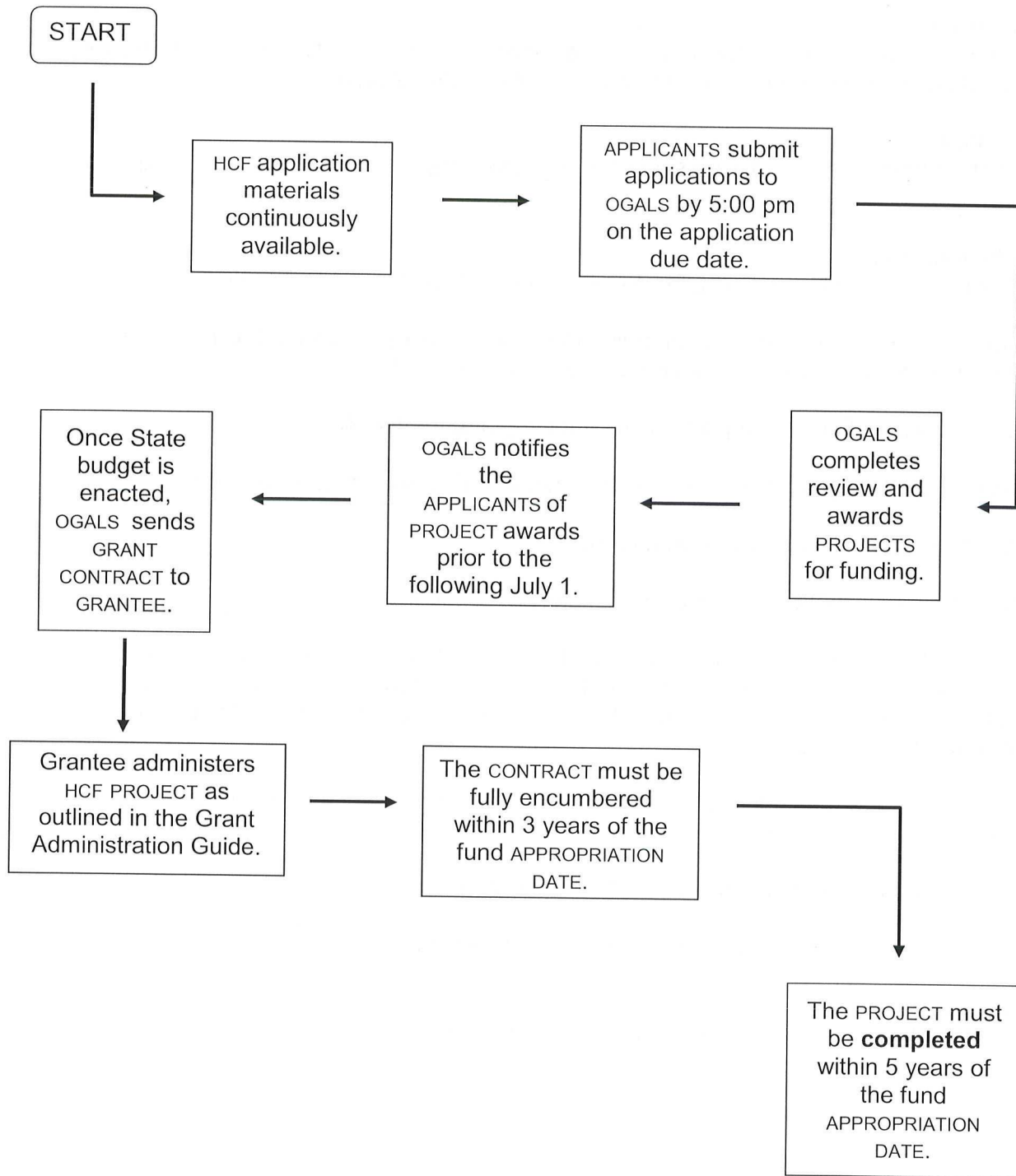
The following is a partial list of ineligible PROJECTS or costs in the HCF Program:

1. ACQUISITION which involves condemnation (eminent domain) or any kind of interest in property or PROJECTS without documentation of a willing seller.
2. PROJECTS arising from a mitigation ruling affecting another location.
3. PROJECTS combining ACQUISITION or DEVELOPMENT with any other HCF category.
4. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS without land tenure.
5. TRAIL PROJECTS without public access to the PROJECT location(s).
6. PROJECTS that do not comply with all applicable current laws and regulations affecting DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, including, but not limited to, legal requirements for construction contracts, building codes, health and safety codes, and laws and codes pertaining to individuals with disabilities.
7. PROJECTS that are not consistent with the APPLICANT's general plan or equivalent planning document.
8. PROJECTS outside the State of California's boundaries.
9. PROJECT costs for normal, routine or reoccurring maintenance.

#### **HCF Program Process**

The complete HCF Program process is on the following page.

# The HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND Program Process



## IV. APPLICATION PROCESS

Instructions for submitting the APPLICATION PACKET

- Each PROJECT must have its own application.
- APPLICANTS may apply for more than one PROJECT.
- All APPLICANTS are required to submit **one, unbound, original** APPLICATION PACKET.
- APPLICATION items should be provided in the order shown in the checklist on the next page.
- Each application **must** include a Table of Contents based on the checklist.
- All pages must be numbered.
- **If an item is not applicable to the PROJECT, the APPLICANT shall respond with “N/A” (not applicable), with an explanation as to why.**
- Send only the items on the checklist. Power point presentations, videos, CDs, or letters of support should not be submitted.
- Directions and forms for each checklist item can be found on the following pages.

## APPLICATION PACKET Checklist

1.  APPLICATION Form..... Page 11
2.  Resolution Form..... Page 13
3.  GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form, MATCH Instructions ..... Page 15
4.  Land Tenure..... Page 20
5.  California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) ..... Page 23
6.  PROJECT COMPLETION Schedule ..... Page 25
7.  Site Plan..... Page 25
8.  Topographic Map ..... Page 25
9.  PROJECT Location Map ..... Page 25
10.  ACQUISITION Schedule..... Page 25
11.  County Assessor's Parcel Map and Willing Seller Letter ..... Page 26
12.  PROJECT Summary..... Page 26
13.  PROJECT Proposal..... Page 26
14.  Leases or Agreements ..... Page 27
15.  Required Regulatory Permits ..... Page 27
16.  Land Management Plan (for PROJECT lands previously acquired  
with HCF funds) ..... Page 27
17.  Photos of the PROJECT site ..... Page 27
18.  Conservation Corps involvement, instructions, and form ..... Page 27



### **Application Instructions and Form**

The application form must be completed and signed by the APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

In the ACQUISITION or DEVELOPMENT PROJECT section, indicate the approximate number of linear feet of the TRAIL.

Any RECREATION FEATURE or MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY should appear in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate form, the topographic map, and the site plan, and should be encompassed by the CEQA document(s).

**CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT OF 1990  
HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND GRANT PROGRAM  
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM**

**TRAILS CATEGORY**

PROJECT NAME	Grant Request Amount    \$ _____ Required Match Amount    \$ <u>0</u> _____ TOTAL PROJECT COST    \$ <u>0.00</u> _____
GRANT APPLICANT (agency and address, include zip code)	COUNTY
	PROJECT ADDRESS (OR NEAREST CITY)
	NEAREST CROSS STREET
APPLICATION CONTACT PERSON	
Name (typed or printed) and Title	E-mail Address                      Phone                      Fax
PERSON WITH DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROJECT IF DIFFERENT FROM AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
Name (typed or printed) and Title	E-mail Address                      Phone                      Fax
GRANT APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORIZED IN RESOLUTION	
Name (typed or printed) and Title	E-mail Address                      Phone                      Fax
For ACQUISITION projects, project land will be _____ Acres to be acquired in fee simple by applicant. _____ Acres to be acquired as permanent easement (explain): _____ _____	For development projects, land tenure is: _____ Acres owned in fee simple by applicant. _____ Recordation number(s) (attach additional sheet if necessary) _____ _____ Acres available under a _____ year lease. _____ Acres other interest (explain): _____
GRANT SCOPE: I represent and warrant that this APPLICATION PACKET describes the intended use of the requested GRANT to complete the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed in the attached GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form. I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the information contained in this APPLICATION PACKET, including required attachments, is accurate.	
SIGNED	DATE
Grant Applicant's Authorized Representative as shown in Resolution	
NAME	

### **Resolution Instructions and Form**

OGALS requires a resolution to ensure that the APPLICANT has reviewed the GRANT application and GRANT CONTRACT and agrees to all language within both documents.

1. The APPLICANT may reformat the resolution as long as the text is unchanged. Additional language may be added to the resolution as long as it does not change the required language. Resolutions with content that differs from the required language will be sent to Departmental legal counsel for review, which may cause a delay in evaluating the application. The resolution may have to be returned to the APPLICANT for changes.
2. The resolution must identify position(s) as the AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE(s). Do not put name(s) in the resolution.
3. The person holding the position named as the AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE in the resolution may delegate that authority by sending a letter to OGALS. A separate letter is required for each CONTRACT.

**Resolution Form**

Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION OF THE (Title of Governing Body/City Council, Board of Supervisors) OF (City, County, District Applicant) APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the people of the State of California have enacted the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990, which provides funds to the State of California for grants to local agencies to acquire, enhance, restore or develop facilities for public recreation and fish and wildlife habitat protection purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the HCF Program, setting up necessary procedures governing project application under the HCF Program; and

**WHEREAS**, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the project(s);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the (Applicant's Governing Body) hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program; and
2. Certifies that said applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the required match and sufficient funds to complete the project; and
3. Certifies that the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s), and
4. Certifies that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the provisions contained in the contract shown in the grant administration guide; and
5. Delegates the authority to (designated position) to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the project.
6. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

Approved and Adopted the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution number \_\_\_\_\_ was duly adopted by the (Grantee's Governing Body) following a roll call vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_

## GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form, MATCH Instructions

The GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form on page 19 has three uses:

1. Establishing the GRANT SCOPE
2. Providing a concept-level cost estimate
3. Providing required MATCH information

### **1. Establishing the GRANT SCOPE:**

The APPLICANT will use the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form to establish the expected GRANT deliverables for PROJECT COMPLETION. The APPLICANT must identify on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES that will be paid for with GRANT funds.

The APPLICANT will use the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form to describe only the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES that will be completed before the end of the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD. All of the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed on the form must be completed before a final GRANT payment can be approved, or 20% of the grant will be retained in the CONTRACT.

### Directions for establishing the GRANT SCOPE

1. Use one of the following phrases to describe the type of work for each RECREATION FEATURE and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY that will be funded by the GRANT. Modify the language as appropriate:
  - “Acquire approximately... acres” (provide the approximate number of acres that will approximate number of acres that will be acquired as the RECREATION FEATURE)  
See the definition of ACQUISITION on page 45.
  - “DEVELOPMENT of approximately ... feet of TRAIL” (provide the approximate number of feet or miles that will be developed as per the GRANT SCOPE).  
See the definition of DEVELOPMENT on page 46 and the definition of TRAIL on page 48.

### Describe the RECREATION FEATURES in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form:

- a) Describe the ACQUISITION or DEVELOPMENT of a RECREATION FEATURE in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form regardless of its estimated cost at the time of application.

### Describe the MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form:

- b) Include a permanently-fixed, stand-alone item of work to improve the appearance or use of the general PROJECT SITE on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form only if its estimated cost at the time of application is \$30,000 or more.

Examples of how (a) would be included in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form:

- A bridge would be an expected GRANT SCOPE deliverable only if the bridge is estimated to cost \$30,000 or more, OR if the GRANT SCOPE deliverable is the only element that GRANT funds would pay for.
- Using decomposed granite on approximately 1,000 feet of TRAIL would be an expected GRANT SCOPE deliverable only if the TRAIL is estimated to cost \$30,000 or more, OR if the GRANT SCOPE deliverable is the only element that GRANT funds would pay for.

**Do NOT include MINOR SUPPORT AMENITIES in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form.**

- Example: GRANT SCOPE is the “DEVELOPMENT of approximately 1,000 feet of TRAIL”.
- The GRANTEE will have the flexibility to add a MINOR SUPPORT AMENITY for the TRAIL DEVELOPMENT, such as placing trash receptacles along the TRAIL.
- If the cost of placing trash receptacles is less than \$30,000, it is a MINOR SUPPORT AMENITY, and would be excluded on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form as an expected GRANT deliverable.
- The APPLICANT would fold the cost of a MINOR SUPPORT AMENITY into the cost of the RECREATION FEATURE.
- The \$30,000 level is based on the estimated cost for each stand-alone MINOR SUPPORT AMENITY and is not based on a cumulative cost of multiple MINOR SUPPORT AMENITIES.

**2. Providing a concept-level cost estimate on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form**

- Use the form on page 19 to provide the concept-level cost estimate for each RECREATION FEATURE and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY described in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form.
- Do not show contingency costs as a stand-alone item. Contingency costs should be included within RECREATION FEATURE and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY cost items.
- The estimated TOTAL PROJECT COST on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form must equal the estimated TOTAL PROJECT COST listed on the application form.
- Although an APPLICANT may wish to utilize additional funding beyond HCF GRANT funds and required MATCH to complete the PROJECT, such additional funding should not be included on the GRANT SCOPE/cost estimate form. OGALS does not provide oversight for such funding.
- If interpretive signage will be part of the GRANT SCOPE, it must be included on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form, regardless of cost.
- If the estimated costs change during the course of the PROJECT, a revised GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form is not required, UNLESS the GRANT SCOPE item’s estimated cost is more than \$30,000.
- The GRANTEE may only claim those costs directly related to the GRANT SCOPE.
- Refer to the ELIGIBLE COSTS Chart (see page 41) when formulating a cost estimate.

OGALS recommends that the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form includes allowances for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sections 12101 et.seq.)

Each RECREATION FEATURE and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY listed in the GRANT SCOPE and their related paths of travel from parking lots and/or roadsides must be designed to accommodate persons with disabilities.

### 3. MATCH Requirement

- The HCF MATCH amount is based on the cost of the amount of HCF funds.
- The APPLICANT is responsible for providing a MATCH amount that is a **dollar-for-dollar** MATCH of the amount of HCF funds.
- List required MATCH funds, sources, and the amount of HCF funds to be used on the GRANT PROJECT on the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form.
- HCF GRANTS may be combined with other eligible grants to fund a PROJECT. To meet the HCF GRANT MATCH requirements, other eligible grant(s) must have adequate costs to be incurred that are the same as the HCF GRANT SCOPE.
- The MATCH funds **must** be committed at the time of application.

#### Eligible MATCH Sources

- Local funds, including local general funds and local bond funds.
- Private funds.
- Donated materials and services (e.g., IN-KIND services, FORCE-ACCOUNT LABOR).
- Value of donated land (for ACQUISITION PROJECTS only).
- Federal funds.

#### Ineligible MATCH Source

- State funds

#### Rules regarding MATCH

- MATCH can only be spent on ELIGIBLE COSTS.
- INDIRECT COSTS cannot be used as MATCH.
- The GRANT and the required MATCH amounts **combined** cannot pay for more than 25% of PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS (See ELIGIBLE COSTS chart on page 41) of the total HCF PROJECT.

#### Important Amounts to Know

<b>GRANT Request Amount</b> (Cannot exceed 50% of TOTAL PROJECT COST)	\$ _____
	+
<b>Required MATCH Amount</b> (Must be a minimum of 100% of GRANT amount)	\$ _____
	=
<b>Total HCF PROJECT Cost</b> (GRANT + Required MATCH = HCF PROJECT)	\$ 0 _____

How to calculate GRANT amount and MATCH amount based on the TOTAL PROJECT COST

Multiply the total cost of the PROJECT by .50 to obtain the maximum GRANT amount and minimum required MATCH amount

Example:

Cost of total PROJECT is \$120,000

Multiply by .50 = \$60,000. This is the maximum GRANT amount and minimum MATCH amount.



**GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form**

GRANT SCOPE:
--------------

GRANT SCOPE items – PRE-CONSTRUCTION costs	HCF Grant	Required MATCH	Total
	Subtotal:		
	\$	\$	
GRANT SCOPE items – ACQUISITION or CONSTRUCTION costs	HCF Grant	Required MATCH	Total
	Subtotal:		
	\$	\$	
	Total:		
	\$	\$	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>			\$

APPLICANT’S MATCH Sources (by name and date committed)	Total
<b>Total of MATCH Sources</b>	

**Notes:**

- This form will be used to establish the expected GRANT deliverables
- All of the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed on this form must be completed and open to the public before final grant payment is approved.
- MATCH **must** be committed at the time of application.

## **Land Tenure Requirements and Form**

The APPLICANT must satisfy one of the following land tenure requirements for the HCF Program at the time of application. The land tenure requirements below do not apply to ACQUISITION PROJECTS.

### Fee-Simple Ownership

If the PROJECT site is owned in fee simple by the APPLICANT, the APPLICANT provides one of the following, indicating that the APPLICANT is the land owner:

- A copy of relevant ownership documents, (Grant Deed, Quitclaim Deed, etc.), indicating the APPLICANT has title to the property.

OR

- Deed recordation number(s) on the application form or on a separate sheet attached to the application form. The recordation numbers are found on the ownership deeds, or may be obtained through the applicable county recorder's office.

### Non-Ownership

If the APPLICANT does not own the PROJECT site in fee simple, the APPLICANT must provide the following:

- A land tenure document (lease, agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, etc) that, at a minimum, addresses all the elements of the Land Tenure Form (see page 22)
- A completed Land Tenure Form (see page 22)

### Alternate Requirements

If the land tenure agreement is an unsigned **draft** at the time of application, the APPLICANT must provide the following:

- A complete Land Tenure Form (see page 22)
- A copy of the draft land tenure document
- A letter from the APPLICANT which confirms the APPLICANT's intention to sign the proposed land tenure agreement should the GRANT be awarded.
- A corresponding letter from the landowner which confirms an intention to sign the proposed land tenure agreement should the GRANT be awarded.

**If a GRANT is awarded, the APPLICANT must send a signed land tenure agreement to OGALS before OGALS can sign the GRANT CONTRACT.**

If the APPLICANT cannot meet the 10 or 20 year-term requirement at the time the application is submitted, the APPLICANT must provide the following:

- A letter from the land owner which:
  - States the land owner's policy prohibiting long-term land tenure documents, if applicable
  - Describes the history of the APPLICANT's use of the property.
  - States a commitment to continue to renew the land tenure document with the APPLICANT in incremental periods to satisfy the 10 or 20 year land tenure requirement, absent any unforeseen circumstances.
- A letter from the APPLICANT, signed by the AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, which states the APPLICANT's intention to renew the land tenure document with the land owner in incremental periods to satisfy the 10 or 20 year land tenure term requirement.

NOTE: For all land tenure documents, if the land owner does not renew the document, and the GRANTEE cannot comply with the time period stated in the CONTRACT, OGALS may hold the GRANTEE in breach of CONTRACT. This is covered in the Use of Facilities section reproduced below. The entire CONTRACT, including all provisions, can be found in the GRANT Administration Guide.

#### Use of Facilities

- The GRANTEE agrees that the GRANTEE shall use any property acquired, enhanced, restored, or developed with GRANT monies under this agreement only for the purposes of the GRANT and no other use, sale, or other disposition shall be permitted except as authorized by a specific act of the legislature in which event the property shall be replaced by the GRANTEE with property of equivalent value and usefulness as determined by the state.
- The property acquired, enhanced, restored, or developed may be transferred to another eligible entity only if the successor entity assumes the obligations imposed under this agreement and with written approval of the state.

## Land Tenure Form

This form is required for development projects. In addition, the applicant must attach a copy of the land tenure document.

- Type of Agreement** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Identify the type of agreement, e.g., agreement, lease, joint powers agreement, easement, memorandum of understanding, etc.
  
- Parties to the Signed Agreement** ..... Page \_\_\_\_
  - Highlight the sections which identify the parties to the agreement.
  - The agreement must be signed by all parties.
  
- Term of the Agreement** ..... Page \_\_\_\_
  - All grant amounts up to and including \$100,000 require at least 10 years of land tenure.
  - All grant amounts greater than \$100,000 require at least 20 years of land tenure.
  - OGALS will start counting the 10 or 20 year land tenure requirement from the date of appropriation.
  
- Renewal Clause** ..... Page \_\_\_\_
  - The renewal clause must include an option, which can be non-binding, for the applicant/grantee to renew the agreement beyond the original 10 or 20 year term requirement.
  
- Termination (Revocability)** ..... Page \_\_\_\_

Any of the following is acceptable:

  - No termination clause - the agreement is non-revocable.
  - The termination clause may specify that the agreement is revocable:
    - For breach of the contract provisions, that is, for cause.
    - By mutual consent.

The following is not acceptable: A termination clause that allows the land owner to revoke the agreement without cause (at will).
  
- Site Control Roles and Responsibilities** ..... Page \_\_\_\_
  - The applicant must have the authority to construct, operate, and maintain the project in accordance with the contract provisions.
  
- Roles and Responsibilities** ..... Page \_\_\_\_
  - The agreement must authorize the applicant to proceed with the construction project. The applicant may delegate construction to other entities.
  - The agreement gives the applicant permission to operate and maintain the project site. The applicant may delegate these roles to other entities.

**CEQA Instructions and Form**

The APPLICANT is required to comply with CEQA. The APPLICANT must check with the local city or county planning agency for more information, prior to submitting the APPLICATION PACKET.

The APPLICANT may demonstrate compliance with CEQA by providing a CEQA Certification Form, signed by the AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, and either:

- a copy of the Notice of Exemption,
- a copy of the Notice of Determination,
- other documentation of CEQA PROJECT approval by the Lead Agency as appropriate.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  
CEQA Compliance Certification Form**

Grantee: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Project Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

When was CEQA analysis completed for this Project? Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**What document(s) were filed for this Project's CEQA compliance:** (check all that apply)

- Initial Study     Notice of Exemption     Negative Declaration     Mitigated Negative Declaration  
 Environmental Impact Report     Notice of Determination     Other (letter, etc.):

Note: If a Master Environmental Impact Report was used to comply with CEQA you are certifying that the project is covered in adequate detail to allow the project's construction or acquisition.

**Attach the Notice of Exemption or the Notice of Determination as appropriate. If these forms were not completed, attach a letter from the lead agency explaining why.**

**Lead Agency Contact Information:**

Lead Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certification:**

I hereby certify that the lead agency listed above has determined that it has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project identified above and that the Project is described in adequate and sufficient detail to allow the project's construction or acquisition.

I represent and warrant that I have full authority to execute this CEQA Compliance Certification on behalf of the lead agency. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing certification of CEQA Compliance for the above named project is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Representative  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Representative  
(Printed Name and Title)

## PROJECT COMPLETION **Schedule**

Provide a PROJECT COMPLETION schedule that includes the proposed PROJECT's key milestones, including the following (as applicable):

- Partner agreements
- Non land-tenure leases or agreements
- Permits
- Construction beginning and end dates

## **Site Plan**

Provide a drawing or depiction indicating scale, PROJECT orientation (north-south), what improvements the GRANTEE will make, where the improvements will be, and the approximate square footage of any buildings that are part of the GRANT SCOPE. The plan should also indicate access points to the site and the location of any interpretive signs.

## **Topographic Map**

Submit a topographic map (APPLICANT to specify scale) that is detailed enough to identify the PROJECT elements as described in the GRANT SCOPE and include all parcels (owned or leased) that are part of the PROJECT site. As applicable, depict the PROJECT in relation to WILDLIFE resources such as vegetated areas, creeks, and other features including archeological sites, and existing roads and TRAILS. See the OGALS website at [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants), and follow the link to "Annual Programs" in the shaded box on the right and then to the HCF Program link. Then click on "Website Links" for the link to the Topographic Map.

**NOTE: An APPLICANT may combine the site plan and topographic map into one document, as long as all the elements mentioned in both the site plan and topographic map instructions above are present on the document.**

## **PROJECT Location Map**

Provide a map (city or county) showing highway and street access to the PROJECT site, and with enough detail to allow a person unfamiliar with the area to locate the PROJECT.

## **Acquisition Schedule**

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, provide an ACQUISITION schedule outlining the acreage and parcel number(s) to be acquired, estimated ACQUISITION date and estimated value of each parcel to be acquired (see sample on the following page). If applicable, include the estimated relocation costs.

**Acquisition Schedule Form**  
(To be submitted with the Application)

Assessor's Parcel No.	Acreage	Estimated Date of Acquisition	Estimated Value of Land to be Acquired (b)	Estimated Value of Improvements to be Acquired (c)	Estimated Cost of Relocation	Total Estimated Cost (d)
(a)						
Total acres:					Total Estimated Cost:	
			<b>Costs other than land (e):</b>			\$
					<b>Grand Total:</b>	\$

- a) Use additional rows if ACQUISITION involves more than one parcel.
- b) "Estimated value of land to be acquired". APPLICANTS should obtain an appraisal of real property before the initiation of negotiations. OGALS cannot pay more for an ACQUISITION than the appraised value. OGALS cannot participate in transactions where property is being purchased at a price that exceeds the appraised value, even when OGALS is only contributing an amount equal to or less than the appraised value (the value of a property as determined by an appraisal that includes a written concurrence from an independent third party appraiser.) Prior to GRANT payment, GRANTEES must provide an appraisal supporting the purchase price and a written concurrence from an independent third party appraiser.
- c) Estimated value of improvements to be acquired refers to buildings or other structures on the land being acquired.
- d) "Total estimated cost" refers to the total estimated value of the land, the estimated relocation costs, and the estimated value of improvements to be acquired.
- e) From GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form. For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, this cannot exceed more than 25% of the GRANT amount.

**County Assessor's Parcel Map and Willing Seller Letter**

- For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, provide a county assessor's parcel map showing the parcel(s) to be acquired. The parcel numbers shown on the parcel map must match those on the ACQUISITION schedule, and



- Provide a letter from the land owner(s) indicating the intent to sell the property or to negotiate. The letter does not need to include legally binding language.

OR

- For permanent easements, provide a county assessor's parcel map showing the parcel(s) to be acquired. The parcel numbers shown on the parcel map must match those on the ACQUISITION schedule, and
- Submit a copy of the proposed easement language. Permanent easement agreements must guarantee the authority to use the property for the purposes specified in the application form.

### **PROJECT Summary**

Provide a synopsis (one-page maximum) in narrative format that explains the PROJECT, including any CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS to be made to the PROJECT site. If appropriate, describe how the proposed PROJECT will be part of a larger project. The summary will not be scored.

### **PROJECT Proposal**

Provide a written proposal which answers each question or responds to each statement in the PROJECT proposal portion of the APPLICATION Guide as it pertains to the PROJECT.

### **Leases or Agreements**

Provide a list of all other leases, agreements, memoranda of understanding, etc., affecting PROJECT lands or the operation and maintenance thereof, excluding those relevant to land tenure (if applicable).

### **Required Regulatory Permits**

Provide a list of existing and additional required permits, the status of each, and indicate when permit approval is expected. Examples include:

- State Lands Commission
- San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- Fish and Game Permits
- Army Corps of Engineers

### **Land Management Plan for PROJECT lands previously acquired with HCF funds**

If the APPLICANT proposes a PROJECT on land that was previously acquired with HCF funds, describe the management plan for those PROJECT lands. The plan should include efforts to reasonably reduce possible conflicts with neighboring land use and landowners, including agriculturalists.

### **Photos of PROJECT Site**

Submit up to four 8½" x 11" pages of photos of the PROJECT site sufficient to show the area(s) to be acquired, or enhanced, or restored, with a caption to describe and identify the photo.

### **Conservation Corps Involvement, Instructions, and Form**

- To the extent practicable, the APPLICANT is required to utilize the services of the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS.
- The APPLICANT is required to contact **both** the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS to obtain feedback on whether either can participate in the PROJECT.

- The participation of both the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS is not required to receive maximum points in Criterion 10 (see page 40).
- The APPLICANT should use two copies of this form to obtain written feedback from both the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS simultaneously.
- The copies must be included in the APPLICATION PACKET.



## V. PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

### PROJECT Proposal Instructions

The APPLICANT must:

- Respond to the criteria in the order listed in this APPLICATION Guide.
- Provide a written response to each question or statement as it pertains to the PROJECT. If a particular question or statement does not apply to the PROJECT, indicate as such with "N/A" (not applicable), and a brief explanation as to its inapplicability.
- Limit the PROJECT Proposal to no more than 15 pages, 8 ½" x 11" paper, single-sided, double-spaced, with 12-point font. It is not necessary to include the questions in your responses. Attachments do not count as part of the 15 pages. Margins should be sufficient for OGALS to easily read the proposal.
- Cite studies, reports or other data that support the responses, where appropriate.

### PROJECT Proposal

#### Introduction

The information provided in the PROJECT proposal will allow OGALS to evaluate the competing GRANT applications. In addition to striving for objectivity and uniformity in evaluating proposals, OGALS will make an effort to provide equitable geographic spread of funds, provided that sufficient well-qualified proposals exist.

All PROJECTS from all seven funding categories compete for the approximately \$2 million dollars available annually.

There are a total of **100 points** possible for each PROJECT proposal.

#### Overview of Criteria and Point Values

1. Threat or Need (20 points/15 points)
2. Meeting the Threat or Need (15 points)
3. Site Access (10 points)
4. Stakeholders (10 points)
5. APPLICANT Capacity (15 points)
6. Connections (10 points)
7. Sustainable Design (10 points)
8. Interpretive Opportunities (5 points)
9. TRAIL Plan (5 points)
10. Conservation Corps Involvement (5 points)

1. **Threat or Need** (20 points/15 points)

**A. Threat (for ACQUISITION PROJECTS) (20 points)**

Legislation requires that, to the extent practicable, PROJECTS be considered for the ACQUISITION of WILDLIFE corridors, urban TRAILS, or nature interpretation programs, which bring urban residents into PARK and/or WILDLIFE AREAS.

Describe any existing or potential harm or danger to the PROJECT site and the overall consequences if the ACQUISITION cannot occur.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS where a significant threat to the PROJECT site exists.*

There is a <b>significant</b> threat.....	20-14 points
There is a <b>moderate</b> threat .....	13-7 points
There is a <b>minimum</b> threat.....	6-1 points
The APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

**OR**

**B. Need (for DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS) (15 points)**

Describe the WILDLIFE AREA which is currently inaccessible to urban residents. This area is either without a TRAIL or TRAIL connection, and needs one, or has a TRAIL or TRAIL connection with major design/construction deficiencies.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS where a significant need exists.*

There is a <b>significant</b> need .....	15-11 points
There is a <b>moderate</b> need.....	10-6 points
There is a <b>minimum</b> need .....	5-1 points
The APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

2. **Meeting the Threat or Need (15 points)**

Describe how the PROJECT will address the deficiencies identified in Criterion #1 by:

- Providing new TRAIL(S) in or to a PARK and/or WILDLIFE AREA that is currently without TRAILS

**OR**

- Reconstructing current TRAIL(S) in or to a PARK and/or WILDLIFE AREA with major design/construction deficiencies to minimize environmental impacts.

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, respond as per the planned TRAIL use.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS which significantly increase TRAIL opportunities for urban residents to experience WILDLIFE, or minimize environmental impacts caused by eroded TRAILS in a PARK and/or WILDLIFE AREA.*

PROJECT will **significantly** increase TRAIL opportunities for urban residents,  
or will minimize environmental impacts..... 15-11 points

PROJECT will **moderately** increase TRAIL opportunities for urban residents,  
or will minimize environmental impacts..... 10-6 points

PROJECT will **minimally** increase TRAIL opportunities for urban residents,  
or will minimize environmental impacts..... 5-1 points

PROJECT will **not** increase TRAIL opportunities, will not minimize environmental  
impacts, or the APPLICANT did not respond ..... 0 points

**3. Site Access (10 points)**

Per the HCF Program legislation, the public should have access to the PROJECT sites except when that access may interfere with HABITAT protection.

Describe the APPLICANT's plans for future access that will occur as a result of PROJECT COMPLETION, providing details on the five items below.

- a) Reasonable entrance fees, parking fees, membership fees, activity fees, or no fees
- b) Onsite or close-by parking
- c) Easily available public transportation, bike lanes, or TRAILS
- d) Flexible hours (hours that accommodate participants)
- e) Solutions to any physical, financial, and/or cultural barriers/obstacles to PROJECT site

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, the APPLICANT's score will be based on a description of the APPLICANT's plans for future user access that will occur after ACQUISITION. If the APPLICANT anticipates a time delay between PROJECT COMPLETION and providing access, address this issue.

*The maximum number of points will be given to PROJECT site(s) that are accessible via all five of the items above.*

The PROJECT site is accessible via <b>all five</b> of the items above.....	10 points
The PROJECT site is accessible via <b>four of the five</b> items above.....	8 points
The PROJECT site is accessible via <b>three of the five</b> items above .....	6 points
The PROJECT site is accessible via <b>two of the five</b> items above.....	4 points
The PROJECT site is accessible via <b>one of the five</b> items above .....	2 points
The APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

4. **Stakeholders** (10 points)

The APPLICANT should focus the response to this criterion on efforts to solicit input, not on the number of interested parties solicited.

Describe the efforts to involve interested parties (community-based stakeholders, potential users, public agency partners, and/or community-based non-profit partners) in PROJECT planning and/or implementation. A concerted effort would include the following descriptions:

- a) Methods used to notify interested parties of the input opportunity
- b) Methods used to obtain the interested parties' ideas
- c) How the interested parties' ideas were incorporated in PROJECT design and/or implementation

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to APPLICANTS which, **within the last two years prior to the application due date**, made a **concerted** effort to involve the broadest representation of interested parties in the PROJECT planning and implementation process.*

The APPLICANT made a <b>concerted</b> effort to involve interested parties .....	10-8 points
The APPLICANT made a <b>moderate</b> effort to involve interested parties .....	7-5 points
The APPLICANT made a <b>limited</b> effort to involve interested parties.....	4-1 points
The APPLICANT made <b>no</b> effort to involve interested parties, or the APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points



5. **APPLICANT Capacity (15 points)**

**For ACQUISITION PROJECTS**

Describe the APPLICANT's ability to complete an ACQUISITION, based on the APPLICANT's knowledge and/or experience of the process to:

- a) Identify the appropriate and available property(ies)
- b) Negotiate terms of sale with the land owner(s)
- c) Secure the appropriate agency/agent(s) to facilitate escrow transactions

**OR**

**For ENHANCEMENT or RESTORATION PROJECTS**

Describe the APPLICANT's ability to complete the PROJECT, based on a comprehensive management process. The APPLICANT will discuss its ability as pertaining to items a – c below:

- a) Design the PROJECT to maximize sustainability
- b) Manage PROJECT COMPLETION schedule to ensure the timely completion of milestones
- c) Monitor PROJECT outcomes to ensure they remain at intended standards

In addition to the information provided for this criterion, OGALS will review its own records and consider the APPLICANT's performance history with OGALS as part of the PROJECT selection process. This includes, but is not limited to, a review of the APPLICANT's ability to:

- Complete previous GRANT-funded PROJECTS within the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD
- Meet all post-award requirements including timely submission of PROJECT STATUS REPORTS and payment requests
- Operate and maintain GRANT-funded sites

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to APPLICANTS that demonstrate significant capacity to complete the PROJECT by addressing items a-c above.*

The APPLICANT demonstrates <b>significant</b> capacity .....	15-11 points
The APPLICANT demonstrates <b>moderate</b> capacity .....	10-6 points
The APPLICANT demonstrates <b>limited</b> capacity .....	5-1 points
The APPLICANT demonstrates <b>no</b> capacity, or the APPLICANT did not respond.....	0 points

**6. Connections (10 points)**

The Legislation encourages bringing urban residents into PARKS and/or WILDLIFE AREAS. The Legislation does not define “urban residents”. Therefore, an APPLICANT can consider population centers involving homes, schools, and workplaces as areas where urban residents congregate, and where a TRAIL can originate in connecting people to WILDLIFE AREAS. Additionally, a TRAIL may go through population centers to provide access to PARKS and/or WILDLIFE AREAS.

Describe how the TRAIL connects people to PARKS and/or WILDLIFE AREAS. Discuss the connection(s) in relation to items a) through c) below.

- a) Neighborhoods
- b) School sites
- c) Employment locations

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, respond as per planned TRAIL use.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS which include all three locations above.*

PROJECT provides connection(s) to <b>all three</b> locations.....	10 points
PROJECT provides connection(s) to <b>two</b> locations .....	7 points
PROJECT provides connection(s) with <b>one</b> location .....	3 points
<b>No</b> connection(s), or the APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

**7. Sustainable Design Features (10 points)**

Describe how the PROJECT will use each of the sustainable design features listed below. Design features which are not applicable to the PROJECT should be so noted and will not have an impact on the score.

- a) Curvilinear design that optimizes the use of appropriate placement of TRAIL alignments following the topographic contours.
- b) TRAIL grades that are designed according to season of use, soil types and user types to minimize tread erosion and the need for steps and complex TRAIL structures.
- c) Minimal use of turnpikes, causeways, puncheons/boardwalks, or other structures, unless needed to accommodate curvilinear design.
- d) TRAIL design that encourages on-TRAIL use and discourages off-TRAIL travel.
- e) TRAIL design that utilizes recycled materials.
- f) TRAILS that are hardened or paved to provide appropriate tread firmness for intended user groups in relation to the soil capability, grade, and season of use and expected wear of the tread surface.
- g) TRAILS that avoid or minimize impacts to protected HABITATS.

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, respond as per the planned TRAIL use.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS which incorporate 100% of the applicable sustainable design features.*

PROJECT will incorporate <b>100%</b> of the applicable design features above .....	10 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>99% - 75%</b> of the applicable design features above .....	8 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>74% - 50%</b> of the applicable design features above .....	5 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>49% - 25%</b> of the applicable design features above .....	3 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>24% - 1%</b> of the applicable design features above .....	1 point
PROJECT will not incorporate any of the applicable design features above, or the APPLICANT did not respond.....	0 points

**8. Interpretation Opportunities (5 points)**

Describe how the PROJECT will encourage participants to interpret the area(s) on or immediately adjacent to the TRAIL. Interpretation opportunities which are not applicable to the PROJECT should

be so noted and will not have an impact on the score. An optimal PROJECT site would include the following interpretation opportunities:

- a) Natural
- b) Cultural
- c) Historic
- d) Scenic

For ACQUISITION PROJECTS, this criterion will be scored on the APPLICANT's statement of what planned points of interest will be on or immediately adjacent to the TRAIL after PROJECT COMPLETION. It is recognized that there may be a time period from PROJECT COMPLETION until a future date when such points of interest can be identified. If so, address this issue.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECT sites encompassing all of the applicable interpretation opportunities listed above, or will at PROJECT COMPLETION.*

PROJECT will incorporate <b>100%</b> of the applicable interpretation opportunities above .....	5 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>99% - 75%</b> of the applicable interpretation opportunities above .....	4 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>74% - 50%</b> of the applicable interpretation opportunities above .....	3 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>49% - 25%</b> of the applicable interpretation opportunities above .....	2 points
PROJECT will incorporate <b>24% - 1%</b> of the applicable interpretation opportunities above .....	1 points
PROJECT will not incorporate any of the applicable interpretation opportunities above, or the APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

**9. TRAIL Plan (5 points)**

Name the adopted applicable plan(s), and describe the PROJECT's priority in the plan(s) (local master plan, site development plan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plan, etc.).

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to PROJECTS which satisfy a high priority need and are discussed in one or more plan(s).*

PROJECT is a high priority need, and is discussed in detail in one or more plan(s).....	5 points
PROJECT is not mentioned in any plan, or the APPLICANT did not respond.....	0 points

**10. Conservation Corps Involvement (5 points)**

**FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ONLY**

The APPLICANT must contact the CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS (C.C.C.) **and** the CERTIFIED CONSERVATION CORPS (CERT. CORPS) and document the practicability of the C.C.C. and CERT. CORPS' involvement with the PROJECT.

Use the form on page 29 to document the above contacts. Include the responses from **both** the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS in the APPLICATION PACKET.

Describe the outcomes of the APPLICANT'S efforts to obtain C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS' assistance with the PROJECT in the criterion response. In addition to notations made on the form (page 29), explain why this assistance can or cannot occur. If the C.C.C. and/or the CERT. CORPS offers to assist, and the APPLICANT denies this assistance, the APPLICANT must provide justification explaining the denial.

*The maximum number of points will be awarded to an APPLICANT which provides completed forms, including contact information and signatures from both the C.C.C. and the CERT. CORPS, and the contact results in Conservation Corps participation.*

The APPLICANT contacted the Conservation Corps and provided completed forms, and the contact will result in Conservation Corps participation.....	5 points
The APPLICANT contacted the Conservation Corps and provided partially completed forms, but the contact will not result in Conservation Corps participation .....	4 points
The APPLICANT contacted the Conservation Corps and provided partially completed forms, with its own agency information and signature only .....	1 point
The APPLICANT did not contact the Conservation Corps or provide forms, or the APPLICANT did not respond .....	0 points

## VI. ELIGIBLE COSTS

This section provides rules and examples of ACQUISITION COSTS, PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS, and CONSTRUCTION COSTS. Only direct costs are eligible in the HCF Program.

### ACQUISITION COSTS

The following provide examples of ELIGIBLE COSTS for ACQUISITION.

<b>ACQUISITION COSTS</b> (Up to 100% of GRANT and MATCH amounts)	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
Purchase price of the property and other activities necessary to complete the ACQUISITION.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appraisals, surveys</b></li> <li>• <b>Preliminary title reports</b></li> <li>• <b>Title Insurance fees</b></li> <li>• <b>Escrow fees and purchase price</b></li> <li>• <b>Relocation costs:</b> costs resulting in displacement of tenants (not willing sellers or GRANTEES) pursuant to Government Code §§7260 – 7277.</li> <li>• <b>PROJECT/GRANT administration and accounting</b></li> <li>• <b>Deed Restriction:</b> costs related to creating and recording the Deed Restriction. For ENHANCEMENT, RESTORATION, or development PROJECTS where the PROJECT site is owned in fee simple by the GRANTEE, <b>the Deed Restriction is required <u>before</u> any payment is approved for construction costs (see GRANT Administration Guide).</b></li> </ul>

### PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Pre-construction is the phase that includes planning, design, construction documents, and permits necessary before construction can begin. No more than 25% of the GRANT and MATCH amounts combined may be spent on PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

For the purpose of the GRANT, PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS occur:

- during the planning, design, and permit phase of the PROJECT, before construction can begin, and
- end when ground-breaking construction activities such as site preparation, grading, or gutting begins.

<b>PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS</b> (Maximum 25% of GRANT and MATCH amounts)	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
Costs incurred during the planning, design, and permit phase of the PROJECT, <u>before</u> construction begins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Public meetings/focus groups/design workshop costs</b></li><li>• <b>Plans, specifications, construction documents, and cost estimates</b></li><li>• <b>Permits</b></li><li>• <b>Insurance:</b> Premiums on hazard and liability insurance to cover personnel or property</li><li>• <b>Bid packages</b></li><li>• <b>PROJECT/GRANT administration</b> (excluding grant writing) and accounting.</li><li>• <b>Conservation Corps costs.</b></li></ul>



CONSTRUCTION COSTS

CONSTRUCTION COSTS start when:

- ground-breaking construction activities such as site preparation, grading, or gutting begins after the necessary pre-construction phase has concluded.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS	EXAMPLES
<p>Costs incurred during the construction phase of the PROJECT when ground-breaking construction activities such as site preparation, grading, or gutting begins.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Site preparation, grading, gutting</b></li> <li>• <b>Foundation work</b></li> <li>• <b>Purchase and installation of permanent equipment: benches, signs, display boards, etc.</b></li> <li>• <b>Construction supplies and materials:</b> may be drawn from central stock if claimed costs are no higher than supplies or materials purchased elsewhere.</li> <li>• <b>Equipment (the cost of equipment or vehicle(s) currently owned by the GRANTEE):</b> such equipment or vehicle(s) may be charged to the GRANT for each use. APPLICANT or GRANTEE shall provide a log that describes the activities conducted and the time that the equipment or vehicle is used, as related to the GRANT SCOPE. The log must be signed by the operator or supervisor. APPLICANT or GRANTEE shall provide this log as part of the documentation for a REIMBURSEMENT payment request.</li> <li>• APPLICANT or GRANTEE may also rent or purchase the equipment or vehicle(s), <b>whichever is the most economical use of GRANT funds.</b></li> <li>• <b>Purchased equipment or vehicle(s):</b> if the equipment is purchased, its residual market value shall be credited to the PROJECT costs upon completion.</li> <li>• <b>Residual market value determination:</b> to determine residual market value, APPLICANT or GRANTEE may consult recognized industry guides for used vehicles such as the “Kelly Blue Book” or a local used vehicle dealer in order to establish a resale price.</li> <li>• <b>Construction management:</b> including site inspections, labor compliance process</li> <li>• <b>PROJECT/GRANT administration and accounting</b></li> <li>• <b>Miscellaneous costs:</b> other costs incurred during the construction phase, such as transporting materials, equipment, personnel, and communications</li> <li>• <b>Conservation Corps costs</b></li> </ul>

Ineligible costs

INELIGIBLE COSTS	EXAMPLES
<p>Cannot be charged to the GRANT.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Outside the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD</b> - costs incurred before or after the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD</li> <li>• <b>Costs associated with CEQA documents prepared prior to application due date</b></li> <li>• <b>Costs associated with master plan development</b></li> <li>• <b>INDIRECT COSTS</b> – overhead business expenses of the GRANTEE’s fixed or ordinary operating costs (rent, mortgage payments, property taxes, utilities, supplies)</li> <li>• <b>Food and beverages</b></li> <li>• <b>Fundraising</b></li> <li>• <b>Grant writing</b></li> <li>• <b>Site maintenance costs</b></li> <li>• <b>Out-of-state travel</b></li> <li>• <b>Projects arising from a mitigation ruling affecting another location</b></li> </ul>

## VII. DEFINITIONS

Capitalized words and terms used in this APPLICATION Guide are defined below.

**ACQUISITION** – to obtain fee simple title of real property or a permanent easement, which gives permanent rights to use the property for the purposes of the GRANT SCOPE. A lease or rental is not considered ACQUISITION.

**APPLICANT(S)** – an entity which does not yet have a fully-executed CONTRACT with OGALS, and is requesting GRANT funding through a COMPETITIVE process.

**APPLICATION PACKET** – the application from and its required attachments listed in the APPLICATION PACKET checklist.

**APPROPRIATION DATE** – when program funding is authorized by the legislature.

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE(S)** – the APPLICANT’S /GRANTEE’S designated position authorized in the Resolution to sign all required GRANT documents. The AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE may designate an alternate by informing OGALS in writing.

**CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS (C.C.C.)** – a State workforce development program that employs 18-25 year-olds for environmental conservation or enhancement PROJECTS, fire protection, and emergency response. See the OGALS website at [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants), and follow the link to “Annual Programs” in the shaded box on the right and then to the HCF Program link. Then click on “Website Links” for the links to the CCC.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS** – PROJECTS that utilize GRANT funds and required MATCH for ACQUISITION, ENHANCEMENT, RESTORATION, or DEVELOPMENT of land and/or facilities to improve the property’s public usage and access for PARK and recreation purposes.

**CERTIFIED CONSERVATION CORPS (CERT. CORPS)** – nonprofit organizations that are certified by the CCC to provide community and conservation work, education, and job training. See the OGALS website at [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants), and follow the link to “Annual Programs” in the shaded box on the right and then to the HCF Program link. Then click on “Website Links” and the link will be for “Local Conservation Corps.”

**CEQA** – the California Environmental Quality Act as stated in the Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.; Title 14 California Code of Regulations §15000 et seq. CEQA is a law establishing policies and procedures that require entities to identify, disclose to decision makers and the public, and attempt to lessen significant impacts to environmental and HISTORICAL RESOURCES that may occur as a result of the entities’ proposed PROJECT. See the OGALS website at [www.parks.ca.gov/grants](http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants), and follow the link to “Annual Programs” in the shaded box on the right and then to the HCF Program link. Then click on “Website Links” for the CEQA link.

**COMPETITIVE** – a process whereby PROJECTS are ranked and selected based upon program specific criteria.

**CONSTRUCTION COSTS** – costs incurred when ground-breaking construction activities such as site preparation, grading, or gutting begins, and continuing to the end of the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD.

**CONTRACT(S)** – an agreement between OGALS and the GRANTEE specifying the performance of the GRANT SCOPE within the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD, and other GRANT obligations between OGALS and the GRANTEE.

**DEVELOPMENT** – including, but not limited to, improvement, construction, reconstruction, and/or protection of permanent or fixed features of the property.

**DPR** – the California Department of Parks and Recreation (also known as California State Parks).

**DISTRICT(S)** – any regional PARK or open-space district formed pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Public Resources Code Section 5500) of Chapter 3 of Division 5 and any recreation and PARK district formed pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Public Resources Code Section 5780) of Division 5. With respect to any community or unincorporated region (which is not included within a regional PARK or open-space district or a recreation and PARK district, and in which no city or county provides PARKS or recreational areas or facilities), “DISTRICT” also means any other district which is 1) authorized by statute to operate and manage PARKS or recreational areas or facilities, 2) employs a full-time PARK and recreation director, 3) offers year-round PARK and recreation services on lands and facilities owned by the district, and 4) allocates a substantial portion of its annual operating budget to PARKS or recreation areas or facilities.

**ELIGIBLE COSTS** – expenses incurred during the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD to complete the GRANT SCOPE approved by OGALS through a fully executed CONTRACT.

**FORCE-ACCOUNT LABOR** – use of the GRANTEE’s employees working on the GRANT SCOPE.

**FUND** – the HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND created by Section 2786 of the Fish and Game Code.

**GRANT** – funds made available to a GRANTEE for completion of the GRANT SCOPE during the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD.

**GRANTEE(S)** – an entity having a fully executed CONTRACT with OGALS.

**GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD** – period of time that ELIGIBLE COSTS may be incurred by the GRANTEE and charged to the GRANT, as specified in the fully executed CONTRACT.

**GRANT SCOPE** – the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form that must be completed prior to final GRANT payment.

**HABITAT(S)** – where a given plant or animal species meets its requirements for food, cover, and water in both space and time; may or may not coincide with a single vegetation type.

**HCF** – also known as Habitat Conservation Fund Program.

**HISTORICAL RESOURCE(S)** – includes, but is not limited to, any building, structure, site, area, place, artifact, or collection of artifacts that is historically or archaeologically significant in the cultural annals of California.

**INDIRECT COSTS** – charges billed as a percentage of PROJECT costs. Such costs are not eligible as MATCH or for REIMBURSEMENT.

**IN-KIND** – donations that are utilized on the PROJECT, which may include local or private funds, materials and/or services. These donations shall be eligible only as MATCH.

**MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITY** – a PROJECT element which is estimated to cost \$30,000 or more at the time of application.

**MATCH** – contributions to the PROJECT which may be monetary from any source other than state funds, including funds from federal and non-state local assistance programs; gifts of real property, equipment, and consumable supplies; volunteer services; FORCE-ACCOUNT LABOR; free or reduced-cost use of land, or equipment; and bequests and income from wills, estates, and trusts. Required MATCH is subject to the same ELIGIBLE COSTS requirements as the GRANT unless otherwise specified. HCF GRANT funds cannot be considered as MATCH.

**MINOR SUPPORT AMENITY** – a PROJECT element which is estimated to cost less than \$30,000 at the time of application.

**OGALS** – DPR's Office of Grants and Local Services.

**PRE-CONSTRUCTION COSTS** – costs incurred subject to the 25% cap on the GRANT during the planning, design, and permit phase of the PROJECT before construction can begin.

**PARK(S)** – means a tract of land with outstanding scenic, natural, open-space, or recreational values, set apart to conserve natural, scenic, cultural, or ecological resources for present and future generations, and to be used by the public as a place for rest, recreation, education, exercise, inspiration, or enjoyment.

**PROJECT** – the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form.

**PROJECT COMPLETION** – when the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed in the GRANT SCOPE /Cost Estimate Form are complete and the facilities are open and useable by the public. With approval by OGALS, PROJECT COMPLETION may occur before the facilities are open and useable by the public.

**PROJECT OFFICER** – an OGALS employee who acts as a GRANT administration contact for APPLICANTS and GRANTEES.

**RECREATION FEATURE(S)** – a GRANT SCOPE element; can either be a part of active or passive recreation. Land ACQUISITION may also be a RECREATION FEATURE.

**REIMBURSEMENT** – GRANT payment made to the GRANTEE after the GRANTEE incurred costs by making a payment to a contractor or vendor.

**STATUS REPORTS** – documents issued by OGALS that require the GRANTEE to provide updates of GRANT SCOPE expenditures incurred and activities undertaken during the GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST** – the combined dollar amount of the HCF GRANT and required MATCH used to complete the RECREATION FEATURES and MAJOR SUPPORT AMENITIES listed in the GRANT SCOPE/Cost Estimate Form.

**TRAILS** – a thoroughfare or track for pedestrians (including assistive mobility devices), equestrian, or bicycling activities to access WILDLIFE AREAS.

**WILDLIFE** – indigenous flora and fauna.

**WILDLIFE AREAS** – locations where indigenous flora and fauna are predominant.

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# Van Norden Meadow Restoration & Recreation Project

## Purpose and Need and Proposed Action



Forest Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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## **Introduction**

The Truckee Ranger (TRD) of the Tahoe National Forest (TNF) is proposing the Van Norden meadow Restoration and Recreation Project (hereafter the Project). The Project will restore 485 acres of meadow and meadow edge habitat and establish a non-motorized trail system that circumnavigates the meadow. The Project is located in both Placer and Nevada counties on Donner Summit at the headwaters of the South Yuba River (Figure 1). The meadow, known as Yayalu Itdeh in Washoe, is at the intersection of three headwater streams, Lytton Creek, Upper Castle Creek, and the Upper South Yuba which supports one of the largest meadows on the west side of the Sierra Nevada. The meadow and surrounding area were utilized extensively by the Washoe Tribe before European colonization.

## **Background**

TNF acquired the Van Norden meadow property from the Truckee Donner Land Trust in 2017. TNF and partners have been working with stakeholders, community members, and the scientific community to collect baseline data, conduct resource surveys, and plan a restoration project for several years. Today, hikers, runners, mountain bikers, fishermen, horseback riders, and cross-country ski enthusiasts utilize the meadow for year-round recreation where they enjoy views of the South Yuba headwaters and Castle Peak. The Royal Gorge Cross County Resort has managed cross-country ski trails on the meadow surface since the early 1970s. The meadow is easily accessible from Highway 80 and Old Hwy 40 along a road that is co-managed by Placer and Nevada counties and is adjacent to the communities of Soda Springs, Sugar Bowl, and Serene Lakes. A small dam at the base of the meadow, built in the 1870s and enlarged by PG&E in 1908 and again in 1916, has led to degradation to the ecosystem of Van Norden meadow, partially flooding the lower meadow and creating a small, shallow reservoir with incised channels in the upper portion of the meadow. In 1976 the reservoir was lowered, reducing the footprint of the reservoir from 5,800 acre-feet to 175 acre-feet. In 2019, the dam spillway was lowered again, reducing the reservoir footprint to under 5 acre-feet (Ascent Environmental 2019). Around 1,000 sheep grazed the meadow until the mid-1990's when the property was sold by PG&E.

## **Purpose and Need**

The Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project aims to rehabilitate the meadow's hydrology and formalize recreation access, thereby restoring its ecosystem function and sustainability under future climatic conditions.

Meadows provide benefits that make them biodiversity and carbon sequestration hotspots, provide late season baseflows, improve water quality and quantity for downstream users, and provide recreational opportunities. Restoration of meadow hydrology, by re-connecting the stream channel to its natural floodplain, is the primary basis upon which other ecological values will be sustained, including restoring historic riparian wet meadow, aquatic habitat, wetland function, within the meadow system.

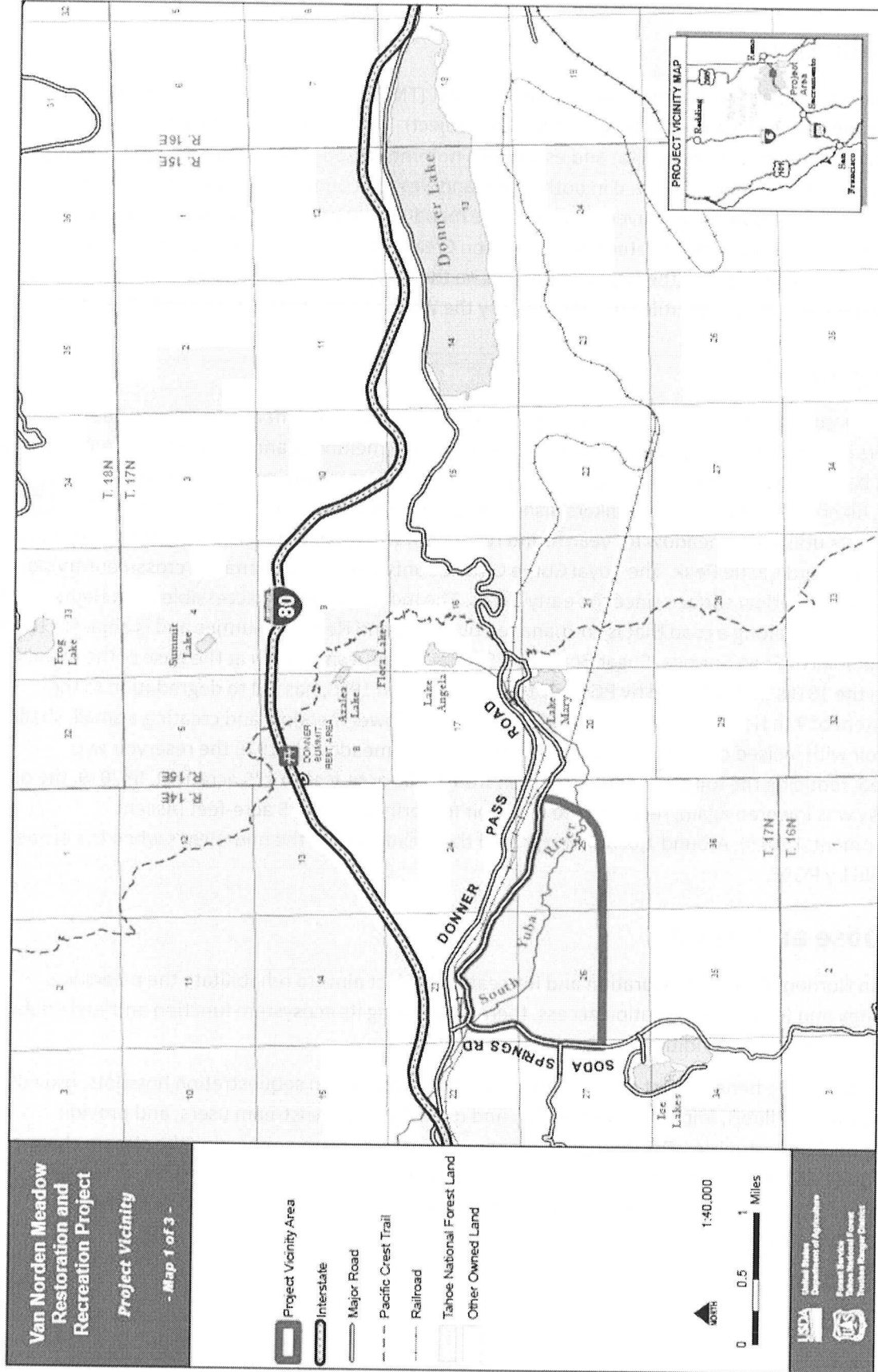


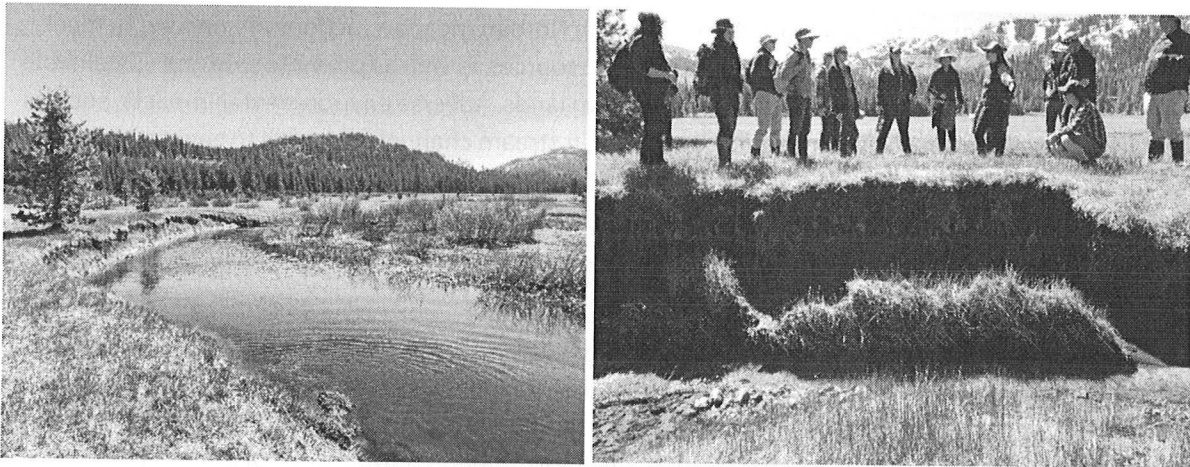
Figure 1: Vicinity map of Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project.

With increasing demand for year-round access to Van Norden meadow, actions are needed to meet our responsibilities to protect and conserve public resources as well as promote safe and sustainable recreational opportunities on National Forest System lands. Adverse environmental impacts, such as accelerated soil erosion, soil compaction, sediment in stream channels, damage to vegetation, disturbance to sensitive wildlife species, and degradation of cultural resource concerns are occurring. Developing trailheads, parking areas, bathrooms, re-routing roads and trails, and a network of trails will mitigate the existing hydrologic and cultural resource damage resulting from unmanaged dispersed use.

The proposed actions are consistent with the 2004 Record of Decision (ROD) from the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment which identifies that the desired condition for meadow habitat should be “hydrologically functional” and where “Sites of accelerated erosion, such as gullies and headcuts are stabilized or recovering. The proposed actions will: improve habitat for a range of mammals, amphibians and reptiles, native fish, macroinvertebrates, raptors, and other important bird species, including willow flycatcher; provide hydrologic benefits such as reduced sedimentation and improved water quality, improved late season baseflow, elevated groundwater tables, expansion of wet meadow vegetation and reduction of invasive plant species and encroaching conifers; replace user-created trails and access features with a designed system that protects water quality and meadow-related resources.

## **Existing Condition**

For over a century, grazing impacts, road-building, dam building, raising, and lowering, and other developments in Van Norden meadow and within the subwatershed have resulted in localized stream incision, wet vegetation loss, hydrologic disconnection, partial conversion from wet to dry conditions and encroachment of lodgepole pine (Balance Hydrologics 2014; Hutchinson and Weisman 2021). Degradation of a meadows hydrologic function can be directly correlated with a decline in key ecosystem services including water filtration (Woltemade 2000), flood attenuation (Loheide et al. 2009, Lowry et al. 2011), headwater storage capacity (Lord et al. 2011), greenhouse gas emissions (Blankinship and Hart 2014; Reed et al. 2020), conifer encroachment, loss of bird and other wildlife populations (McKelvey et al. 1996; Campos et al. 2020), and resilience against invasive plant species (Hammersmark et al. 2009). At present, spring runoff is primarily contained in the incised channels and moves quickly out of the system. Restoring the incised channels will improve water retention within the meadow and allow water to flow through an existing distributed channel network for a longer duration during the spring snowmelt period.



**Figure 2: Spring runoff on the South Yuba River is constrained within the channel (left). Lyton Creek's banks are actively sloughing and eroding (right).**

While considered native in California, Reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), is now recognized as an invasive species of concern in Sierra Nevada meadows (Lavergne and Molofsky 2007; Cal-IPC 2019). It was found to suppress native plant species (Barnes 1999; Lesica 1997; Weichmann 2014) and has been negatively correlated with native amphibian populations (Rowe and Garcia 2014). Reed canarygrass in Van Norden meadow covers nearly 30 acres of meadow habitat, primarily adjacent to the South Yuba River stream channel, extirpating native wetland and riparian plant species, and reducing habitat for ground nesting birds.

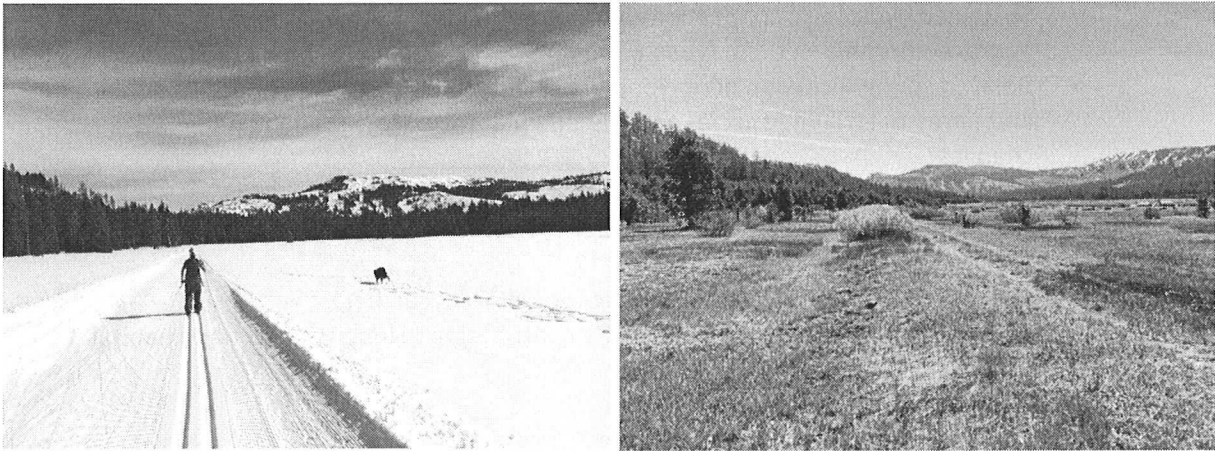
Lodgepole pine has been encroaching on the meadow edge and interior for several decades as a result of the disrupted hydrologic process due to dam raising and lowering, reservoir filling and lowering, channel incision and groundwater depletion, and then the removal of grazing sheep in the early 1990's. Van Norden meadow is at high risk for conifer encroachment due to the prevalence of lodgepole pine forests around the meadow, Van Norden's large snow pack, and raising summer temperatures (USFS 2020; Lubetkin et al. 2017). Historically lodgepole pine forests ringed the meadow and supported an understory of grasses and riparian shrub lined seasonally wet channels that flowed into the meadow. Today these forests are unsustainably dense, shading and suppressing riparian hardwoods and creating a fuels hazard. There is a need to reduce conifer density in these surrounding forests to reduce fuels and restore riparian vegetation.

There is approximately 4.5 miles of road and trail encircling Van Norden meadow that intersect over two dozen, snowmelt fed seasonal and perennial streams. Drainage across these routes creates flow impediments and sediment sources that have water quality impacts on the meadow. Van Norden Dam Road is under joint Placer County/Nevada County ownership and the PG&E Road is on USFS land with a PG&E easement. The cross-meadow road is owned by the USFS with easements held by Sugar Bowl and PG&E.

The meadow is visited year-round by thousands of users and serves as a winter recreation area with over 11 miles of groomed cross-country ski trails managed by Sugar Bowl/Royal Gorge. During rain-on-snow events or because of spring snowmelt, grooming is often suspended. Rain-on-snow weather



events regularly impact snow grooming operations at Van Norden meadow, and along with increasing temperatures due to climate change, will ultimately drive operational impacts in the future. The meadow itself is a popular area in summer with users ranging from mountain bike enthusiasts, horseback riders, fishermen, school groups, and day hikers. Existing trails around the meadow are either user-created trails, county roads, or utility roads. Currently many user-created trails are damaging both ecological and cultural resources. There is an opportunity to formalize access to this popular area in conjunction with the meadow restoration plan.



**Figure 3: Groomed cross-country trail in winter (left). Cross-country trail in summer with user created two-track. This existing trail alignment would become part of the proposed trail network (right).**

## Desired Condition

The proposed actions will restore high functioning headwater wetland habitat and improve hydrologic function while supporting year-round recreational activities in this high elevation meadow. With increasing periods of drought, providing wet habitat for high elevation aquatic species and migratory birds, along with high quality forage for terrestrial wildlife, will become increasingly important to support wildlife adaptation in a changing climate. Restoring incised stream channels will recover surface and groundwater hydrologic processes, including prolonging and expanding meadow surface inundation, dispersing flow to more than a single high flow channel, delaying peak flows at the outlet, improving downstream water quality, and recharging groundwater to improve groundwater levels. The proposed actions will enhance the ecological and aesthetic values of the meadow, mitigate damage from dispersed use, and provide a managed trail system and amenities to support year-round access to the meadow while preventing further resource damage.

Climate predictions for the area show an increase in rain-on-snow events and increasing temperatures due to climate change (USFS 2020). Winter season (November-March) stream flow is characterized as baseflow within Van Norden meadow and is not expected to change because of this project. In considering the degree that the proposed actions may impact snow grooming, 2D hydrologic models demonstrate that surface water may be present under more sections of groomed ski trails during the spring snowmelt period or during rain-on-snow-events. The model also predicts that by spreading

surface water over a larger area, localized sections of groomed ski trails will see reduced surface water depth during the spring snowmelt. If necessary, the proposed action provides for the establishment of reroutes that may be authorized through the special use authorization where sufficient snow-depth exists.

This project aims to achieve the following desired conditions for hydrology, ecology, and recreation:

#### Hydrology

- Sustained hydrologic connection that supports ecological function across distinct hydrogeomorphic wetland types within the 485-acre, high elevation meadow
- Delayed spring recession period and increased groundwater levels to support aquatic and terrestrial wildlife species and wetland plant species, providing refuge as the climate changes
- Preventing erosion risks that would impact downstream water quality

#### Ecology

- Increased willow habitat for birds, like the willow flycatcher
- Increased beaver presence and activity contributing to long term wetland habitat resilience
- Increased carbon sequestration
- Decreased extent of reed canarygrass
- Decreased lodgepole pine encroachment
- An open lodgepole pine forest with a lush understory and functional riparian habitat along seasonal streams.

#### Recreation

- A formalized network of trails that includes trailheads, parking areas, restroom facilities, interpretive panels, and viewing platforms that minimizes damage to resources.
- Sustained groomed cross-country ski trails



## Proposed Action

The project will restore 485 acres of meadow and meadow edge habitat—of which, 335 acres are open meadow and 150 acres are dominated by conifer. There are four categories the proposed actions fall under: stream channel restoration, conifer treatment, road improvements and mitigations and recreation improvements. Table 1 lists the proposed actions associated with each category.

**Table 1: Summary of proposed actions and estimated acres and miles.**

	<i>Proposed Action</i>	<i>Acres/Miles</i>
<i>Stream Channel Restoration</i>	Stream Channel Fill	1.75 mi
	Stream Channel Partial Fill and BDA/PALS	1.5 mi
	Lytton Fan Restoration	0.25 mi
	Reed Canary grass treatment	20 ac.
	Surface Roughness Features	0.1 ac.
	Dam Degrade/Borrow Area	3.5 ac.
<i>Conifer Treatment</i>	Conifer Removal	58.4 ac.
	Conifer Thinning	56.2 ac.
	Aspen Enhancement	0.5 ac.
<i>Road Improvements</i>	Van Norden Dam Road	1.8 mi
	PG&E Road	2.2 mi
	Meadow Bisect Road	0.12 mi
	Meadow Bisect Road Decommissioning	0.27 mi
	Meadow Bisect Road Re-Route	0.22 mi
	Meadow Bisect Bridge Replacement	0.04 mi
<i>Recreation Improvements</i>	Trail Construction	4.65 mi
	Trailheads and Parking Areas	3 ac.
	Rehabilitation of user-created trails	1.0 mi
	Trail Construction	4.65 mi

Equipment used to implement the proposed actions would be chosen to minimize resource impacts. Equipment may include tractors, loaders, excavators, dump/haul trucks, and masticators. Follow-up revegetation will occur along routes, in staging areas, reed canarygrass removal areas, tree removal areas, and within the dam degrade area using available sod mat, seeding, sedge plugs, and willow pole plantings. All disturbed staging areas would be mulched and seeded with native materials. Revegetation is expected to occur in up to 56 acres of the project. The planting palette used for the project site will incorporate both the Climate Smart Restoration Planting tool (Vernon et al. 2019) as well as work completed on the lipid value of specific plants at Van Norden by University of Nevada,

Reno researchers (Vaudo et al. 2020; Vaudo and Leonard, in prep). Additionally, revegetation efforts may include sedge (*Carex utriculata* and *Carex nebrascensis*) plugs and/or mats, and willow (*Salix lemmonii*) staking.

## **Stream Channel Restoration**

Construction is likely to last up to ten weeks per season and is scheduled for the late summer (after August 15) to avoid instream work during the fish spawning season. The South Yuba River commonly has standing pools but is limited to no flowing water during the planned construction period; a dewatering plan will be developed based on these conditions. Upper Castle Creek has perennial water, but instream work would be limited to beaver dam analogs (BDA) and pole assisted log structures (PALS), dewatering will be planned accordingly. Lytton Creek, implementation planned for the second construction season, is anticipated to be dry during the construction period and no dewatering would be necessary. Surveys for fish and other aquatic organisms will be conducted prior to diversion and subsequently removed from the area to be dewatered in accordance with a CDFW approved dewatering plan. Any localized water re-routing would be minimized in both time and space to the greatest extent possible. Temporary diversion construction activities would minimize downstream turbidity according to the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). A post-project erosion control plan would be developed and implemented. Where necessary a downstream siltation structures and sump stations would be placed to control sediment and provide for clear discharge out of the project area during implementation.

### Channel Fill

Fill stream channels along 2.38 miles of the South Yuba, 0.37 miles of Lytton Creek and 0.04 miles of Castle Creek to match floodplain elevations and allow for hydrologic connectivity with existing distributary channel network.

### Partial Channel Fill and Beaver Dam Analog/Pole Assisted Log Structures

Partially fill or place BDA/PALS along 0.82 miles of South Yuba, 0.23 miles of Lytton Creek and 0.23 feet of Castle Creek to match floodplain elevations and allow for hydrologic connectivity with existing distributary channel network.

### Lytton Fan Restoration

Lytton Creek has several small channels that are disconnected from the alluvial fan because of the parking area and areas adjacent to the Van Norden Dam Road. To reconnect the disconnected stream segments on the Lytton Fan actions will include degrading and reconstructing approximately 0.2 miles of the Van Norden Dam Road and degrading and relocating the existing parking area. The degraded areas would be blended with the natural topography and de-compacted to approximately 18" with an excavator, mulched and seeded or otherwise revegetated after project implementation. The existing parking lot would be relocated to a drier area, to the east of Lytton Creek.

### Reed Canarygrass Treatment

Treatment of reed canarygrass will be a multi-year, adaptive management effort that will include the following treatment prescriptions. 1) Reed canarygrass seed heads would be clipped, bagged, and

disposed of for 1-2 years in advance of stream restoration and in the years following stream restoration to reduce future seed availability. 2) During the stream restoration, mechanically scrape the top 3" of soil to remove shoots and roots of reed canarygrass within the inset floodplain and place material in the bottom of to be filled stream segments and buried by additional fill. 3) Scraped areas would be revegetated using available sod mat, seeding, sedge plugs, and willow pole plantings. 4) Select areas would be tarped using thick black or clear plastic soon after snowmelt and left in place for one growing season. Tarped areas would be revegetated using available sod mat, seeding, sedge plugs, and willow pole plantings

#### Surface Roughness Features

Surface roughness features will be added to slow flow and reduce potential for erosion. Surface roughness will be created on top of channel fill and stripped areas by planting vegetation, installing salvaged meadow vegetative mats (harvested sod), installing harvested logs (embedded logs), and by installing select rocky material. Embedded logs are intended to redirect flow to limit potential for channelization in newly placed channel fill. Harvested sod and revegetation are intended to slow flow and to anchor soil via rooting.

#### Dam Degrade/Borrow Area

Approximately 3.5 acres of the existing dam berm will be removed and brought to less than 3 feet above meadow grade. A gently sloping grade will be retained to the highest point to allow for trail construction. Dam material will be sorted, mixed with chips from tree removal efforts (Wolf et al. 2020) and utilized in the project as fill material. Any unusable material will be removed from the site as waste.

## Conifer Treatment

Up to 120 acres of conifers (primarily lodgepole and some white fir) would be removed or thinned to restore the meadow surface, aspen and the surrounding forest. Within the Project area conifers would be removed using hand or mechanized equipment including but not limited to: feller bunchers, skidders, chippers, masticators, end or long lining, tracked and rubber tired machinery, and other typical aerial or ground-based logging machinery. Conifers may be disposed of through: chipping, hand or grapple piling for burning, mastication, decking for public fuelwood cutting, sold as commercial fuel wood, biomass removal, and/ or incorporation into fill material for stream



**Figure 4: Van Norden forested area on edge of meadow (left). An area where forest edge and meadow encroaching conifers meet (middle). Conifers that have encroached into the meadow (right).**

restoration activities. Conifers would be completely severed below the lowest live branch to a maximum height of 8 inches above the surface. The area would be allowed to revegetate naturally.

## Meadow Conifer Removal

Within the “Conifer Encroachment zone” (see maps in Appendix A, Figure 10), all conifers would be removed except in the area of the Royal Gorge cross-country ski trail where the following prescription would be applied.

Conifers along the ski trails would be thinned, rather than removed, to retain desirable shade for cross country ski user groups. Adjacent to the cross-country ski trail alignment to 25 feet from the trail, thin conifers to an average spacing of 10 feet as measured to the bole of the tree. Spacing should be variable and range from 5 – 15 feet to promote a natural aesthetic. Feather the edge away from the ski trail so that conifer density is reduced further away from the trail. In thinned areas adjacent to the Royal Gorge cross-country ski trail, retain the healthiest most vigorous lodgepole pine.

- Retained pines should be vigorously growing and have healthy full crowns with high live crown ratios (>40%) which are not chlorotic or fading. Retain pines which are free of pests, pathogens, and defects
- Equipment exclusion zones: Some conifers would remain where mechanized equipment is not permitted. These are as may be thinned by hand.

### Forest Thinning

Forest thinning would focus on removing smaller conifers (less than 24 inches DBH), however conifers greater than 24 inches may be cut if they are infected with pests or pathogens, have weak chlorotic crowns, or are fading/dying. Tree removal would follow a “thin from below” strategy which progressively removes the smallest diameter trees until desired conditions are met. Tree selection may deviate to encourage spatial heterogeneity or where larger trees are unhealthy, infected with pests or pathogens, have weak chlorotic crowns, and/or are dying. Within 10 feet of the dripline of healthy, vigorous large diameter (>24 inches DBH) trees all trees less than 24 inches would be removed. Within 50 feet of the roads and private property trees should be limbed to 6 feet or ½ the height of the tree, whichever is less. Slash from limbs and boles would be removed to the extent possible. Thin all conifers less than 12 inches DBH to a 25-foot spacing

1. Within 50-75 feet of riparian vegetation including but not limited to: cottonwood, aspen, willows, alder, thin all conifers less than 30 inches DBH
2. Remove trees up to 30 inches DBH which are significantly infected by pests or pathogens, have weak or chlorotic crowns and/ or are in imminent threat of mortality
  - a. Trees which are removed for forest health reasons should be removed if they have a spreadable pest or pathogen such as mountain pine beetle or dwarf mistletoe or will experience imminent mortality (<5 years) if left in the stand.
3. Retain denser clumps of trees around wildlife habitat areas where mechanized equipment is not permitted
  - a. Within wildlife habitat areas thin trees less than 10 inches DBH by hand, do not remove larger material where it cannot be removed from the unit
4. Within 50 feet of roads and property boundaries prune all trees up to 6 feet or no more than ½ the height of the tree, whichever is less.
5. Work may be accomplished using hand or mechanized equipment including but not limited to feller bunchers, skidders, chippers, masticators, tracked and rubber-tired machinery, and other typical logging machinery
6. Conifers cut by hand within the wildlife habitat enhancement areas should be removed from the stand, chipped within the stand, or piled to be burned at a later date
7. Trees greater than 14 inches in diameter would be treated with a borax compound to prevent the Heterobasidion root disease from infecting cut stumps
8. Conifers will be completely severed below the lowest live branch to a maximum height of 8 inches above the surface

### Conifer Regeneration Abatement

Within the meadow area raising the groundwater levels may promote some lodgepole mortality over time, assisting in managing future encroachment. However, a long-term management strategy is

warranted to address future conifer encroachment as it is likely to recur in dryer areas of the meadow where/if the groundwater does not rebound. An adaptive management approach to future conifer encroachment is warranted due to this uncertainty. Abatement of conifer seedlings would be addressed through a combination of hand removal, lop and scatter or broadcast burning.

### **Road Improvements and Staging areas**

All access routes and staging areas utilized would be blended with the natural topography and de-compacted to approximately 18" with an excavator, mulched and seeded or otherwise revegetated after project implementation. The designated temporary access routes and staging areas would be designed to minimize effects to resources in the area (plants, wildlife, etc.). Mitigating measures such as designed access routes that retain existing vegetation and that limit equipment movement into sensitive areas will be the primary means of reducing impact. In areas where more impact may be required to attain stated goals, steps to reduce compaction and restore complementary topography will be employed along with active revegetation. Other methods employed to minimize and mitigate effects to resources on these routes and staging areas will be detailed in permitting and erosion control plans required in association with this action. Repair, maintenance, re-alignment, or decommissioning of existing routes and trails is needed to reduce future resource damage. Decommissioning and realignment activities are designed to promote natural recovery of the road surface by restoring the natural hydrologic function of the soil and reducing runoff and erosion.

#### Van Norden Dam Road and PG&E Road Improvements

Construct low water crossings, install culverts, create drivable dips, out slope the road, and replace bridges at drainages where sediment movement or erosion is present along Van Norden Dam Road and the PG&E Road to improve hydrologic connectivity and reduce sediment delivery from road.

#### Meadow Bisect Road Improvement

Construct low water crossings or install culverts at drainages and add fill along approximately 0.12 miles of road to improve hydrologic connectivity and reduce sediment delivery from road. Decommission approximately 0.27 miles of road within the meadow and replace with a 240-foot bridge and 0.05 miles of road on the meadow to allow for hydrologic connectivity. Re-align/construct 0.22 miles of road on the upland glacial moraine to retain connectivity with PG&E Road and trails system.





**Figure 5: Hikers walking along the meadow bisect road.**

### Temporary Access Routes and Staging Areas

Access routes and staging areas for construction equipment were designated to reduce the distance equipment would need to travel while reducing impacts to resources. In wetter sites designated routes and crossings would adhere to Best Management Practices (BMPs), Management Requirements (MRs) and SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan) to minimize soil and drainage disturbance, the potential for erosion, and enhance restoration success. Equipment would access the project area on the designated access routes illustrated on Figure 10 in Appendix A. Designated temporary access routes cover approximately 2 acres. Equipment staging would be in the parking area at the west end of the meadow and at the current Sheep Pens Parking Area; smaller staging areas will be established within the meadow for the South Yuba bridge replacement on the Meadow Bisect Road.

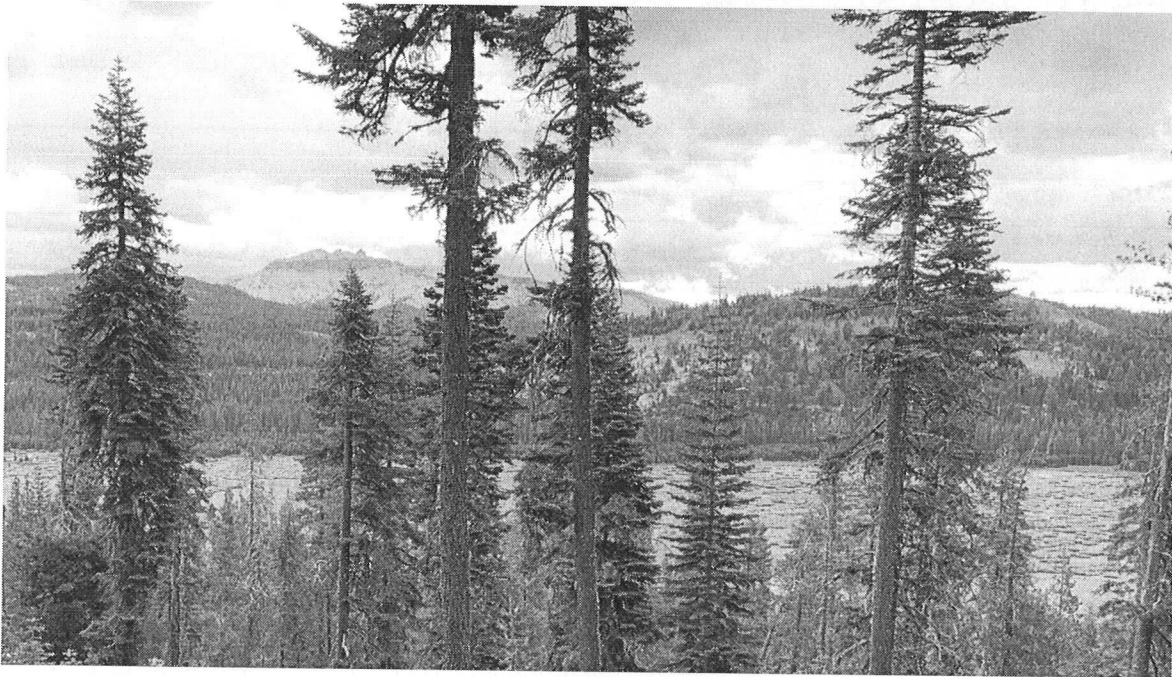
### **Recreation Improvements**

Recreation improvements will be designed to meet the Forest Service Trail Accessibility Guidelines and ensure that all new or altered trails connect directly to a trailhead and comply with the federal and Forest Service access and adhere to Best Management Practices (BMPs), Management Requirements (MRs) and SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan) to minimize soil and drainage disturbance, the potential for erosion, and enhance restoration success.

### Trail Construction

A trail network will be constructed to circumnavigate Van Norden meadow. New trail construction will connect portions of existing user created trails where the alignment does not impact meadow-related resources. User created trails not adopted into the new formalized system will be restored using native materials such as pine needles, rocks, and woody debris. The trail network would include two trailhead access points, one near the old dam and the other near the Sheep Pen area (see maps in Appendix A, Figure 11). Trail users would be able to walk, bike, or horseback ride along the north and east sides of the meadow and have three options to experience the south side of the meadow. They could choose a longer loop that builds in elevation to the ridge along the South side of the meadow,

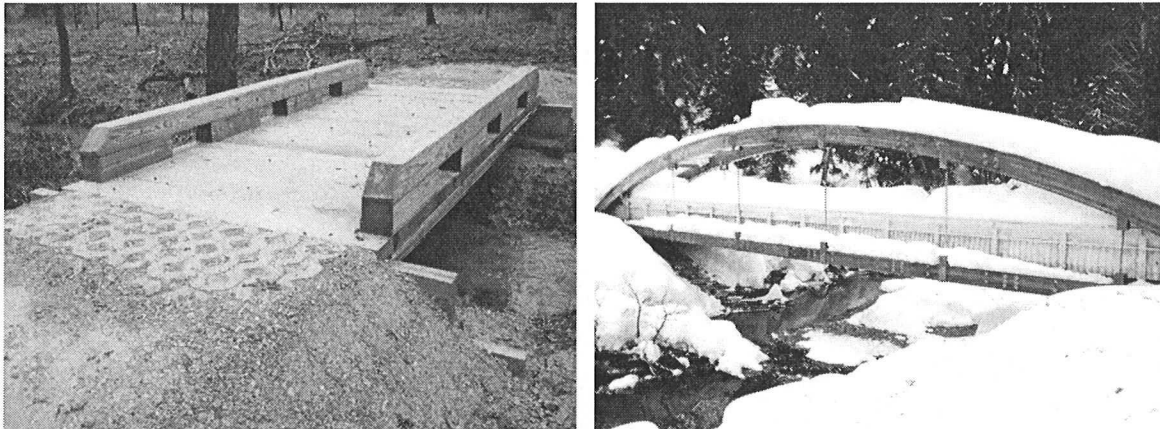
connecting to a proposed section of the Donner Lake Rim Trail/Memorial Overland Emigrant Trail, or a mid-slope red fir forest option with filtered views of the meadow, or choose a shorter, lower gradient route that follows the PG&E powerline road. Providing sustainable trail access to the ridge would reward visitors with an expansive view of the meadow and surrounding mountains.



**Figure 6: View of Van Norden Meadow along the proposed longer loop trail that ascends to the ridge along the Southern boundary.**

Where necessary, user-created trail will be improved to address existing issues associated with drainage and other resource damage. This would include construction of low water crossings, short sections of boardwalks, and bridges. Both minor and major trail bridges will be constructed to meet the Trail Management Objectives developed for each trail. Bridges will be constructed using Forest Service standard trail bridge plans and built to meet snow load standards.

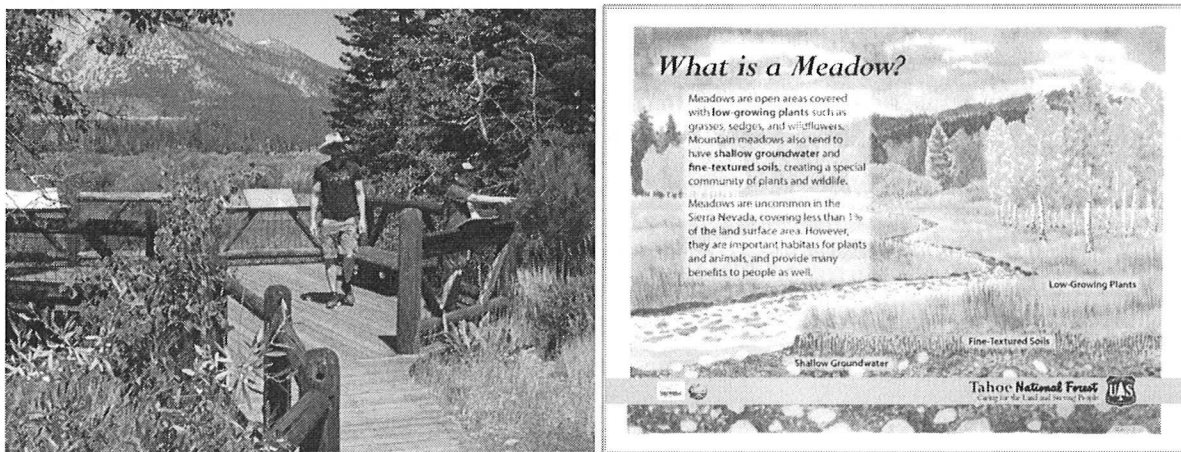




**Figure 7: Example of a minor trail bridge design (left) and a major trail bridge design (right) both designed to be aesthetically pleasing and to withstand heavy snow loads.(photo credit USDA Forest Service, National Technology and Development Program).**

### Viewing Platforms and Interpretive Signage

Viewing platforms with interpretive signage will be incorporated into the trail design to enhance birding and wildlife viewing opportunities that are accessible to a diverse array of recreationists. These platforms will be wood/metal construction and will include a space to sit. The platforms will create a more immersive experience for trail users who will access platforms from the trail and will encourage users to stop, rest, and experience the meadow and surrounding landscape. Viewing platforms will be placed at several locations within the meadow, including: the old dam berm, within the conifer encroachment area on the north side of the meadow, and on the south side of the meadow bisect road (see maps in Appendix A, Figure 11).

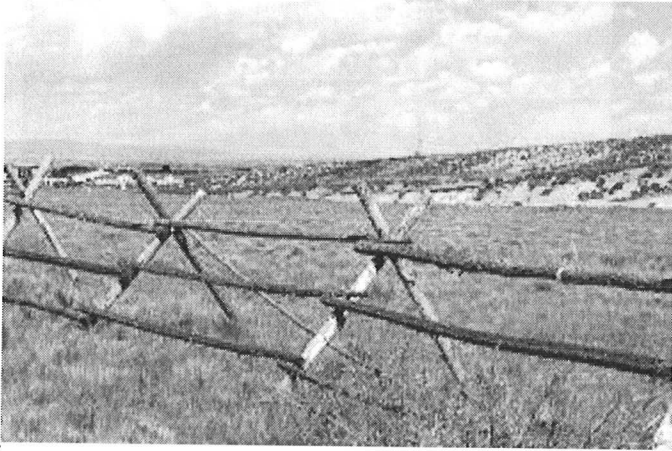


**Figure 8: Example of a viewing platform (left) and interpretive signage (right)**

### Fencing

Fencing that is aesthetically integrated with Van Norden meadow (e.g. buck and rail) may be utilized where necessary to delineate parking limits and serve as a design element to interpret conservation of

resources and sustainable recreation access. Fences will be constructed using natural materials such as lodgepole pine poles harvested onsite, cedar split rails or other wood poles and constructed to withstand heavy snow loads.



**Figure 9: Example of buck and rail- style fencing that is built to withstand snow loads.**

### Trailheads and Parking Areas

Two trailheads and parking areas would be constructed to accommodate public access on the west and north sides of the meadow. Parking lot construction would include spaces for at least 20 vehicles, include a trailer turn-around, trailhead signage, and restroom facilities. The first trailhead, parking area would be located adjacent to the PGE substation where the current dam berm and spillway exists (see maps in Appendix A, Figure 11). The existing berm would be decommissioned, and the material would be used as a fill source for meadow restoration.

An additional trailhead and parking area would be constructed on the north side of the meadow near the old sheep pins area (see maps in Appendix A, Figure 11). This area is currently used as a parking area but in its current location disrupts Lytton Creek's hydrologic flows. Relocating the existing parking lot 1/10 of a mile to the east along the Van Norden Dam Road would reactivate the alluvial fan and meet the meadow restoration goals as described on page 8 and 9.

### Cross Country Ski Groomed Trails

This proposed action provides for the establishment of reroutes that may be needed where groomed trails are impacted by rain-on-snow events that are expected to increase (USFS 2020). Reroutes would be authorized through the special use authorization process. Reroutes would be placed where sufficient snow-depth exists and where grooming operations can resume without causing resource damage.

## **Laws, Regulations, and Other Direction**

All management practices and activities of the proposed action are consistent with management direction, including standards and guidelines, in the Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (June 14, 1990), as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision (January 2004), which were developed in accordance with the National Forest

Management Act of 1976, 16 USC 1604(i) and 36 CFR 219.10(e). This proposed action is designed to meet the Riparian Conservation Objectives, sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, and other relevant Federal and State laws and regulations. This project also aligns with the Region 5 Ecological Restoration Leadership Intent (USDA FS, 2011).

As outlined in the 36 CFS 220.6 and Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, section 30, a proposed action may be categorically excluded from further analysis and documentation in an environmental impact statement (EIS) or environmental assessment (EA) only if there are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposed action. The Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project fits under the following Excluded Categories.

- 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(1) *Construction and reconstruction of trails*
- 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(6) *Timber stand or wildlife improvement activities that do not include the use of herbicides or do not require more than 1 mile of low standard road construction.*
- 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(7) *Modification or maintenance of stream or lake aquatic habitat improvement structures using native materials or normal practices.*
- 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(18) *Restoring wetlands, streams, riparian areas or other water bodies by removing, replacing, or modifying water control structures such as, but not limited to, dams, levees, dikes, ditches, culverts, pipes, drainage tiles, valves, gates, and fencing, to allow waters to flow into natural channels and floodplains and restore natural flow regimes to the extent practicable where valid existing rights or special use authorizations are not unilaterally altered or canceled.*
- 36 CFR 220.6(e)(20) *Activities that restore, rehabilitate, or stabilize lands occupied by roads and trails, including unauthorized roads and trails and National Forest System roads and National Forest System trails, to a more natural condition that may include removing, replacing, or modifying drainage structures and ditches, reestablishing vegetation, reshaping natural contours and slopes, reestablishing drainage-ways, or other activities that would restore site productivity and reduce environmental impacts.*
- 36 CFR 220.6(e)(22) *Construction, reconstruction, decommissioning, or disposal of buildings, infrastructure, or improvements at an existing recreation site, including infrastructure or improvements that are adjacent or connected to an existing recreation site and provide access or utilities for that site. Recreation sites include but are not limited to campgrounds and camping areas, picnic areas, day use areas, fishing sites, interpretive sites, visitor centers, trailheads, ski areas, and observation sites. Activities within this category are intended to apply to facilities located at recreation sites managed by the Forest Service and those managed by concessioners under a special use authorization.*

An extraordinary circumstance is when a 'normally excluded action may have a significant environmental impact (40 C.F.R. 1508.4). Resource conditions that should be considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstance related to the proposed action warrant further

analysis and documentation will be assessed and a determination would be made if this project warrants further environmental analysis in either an EA or an EIS.

### **Responsible Official, Timeline, and Decision to Be Made**

The Van Norden Meadow Restoration Project is located on NFS lands managed by the Truckee Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest. The Truckee District Ranger is the Responsible Official who would be making the decision for this project.

A decision on this project would be made by the Fall of 2021. Construction could begin in late summer 2022 and continue through the dry seasons of 2023 and 2024.

The decision to be made is whether to implement the proposed action as described above, to vary the design of the project to meet the purpose and need while addressing issues raised in public scoping, or to take no action at this time.

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# Appendix A – Maps

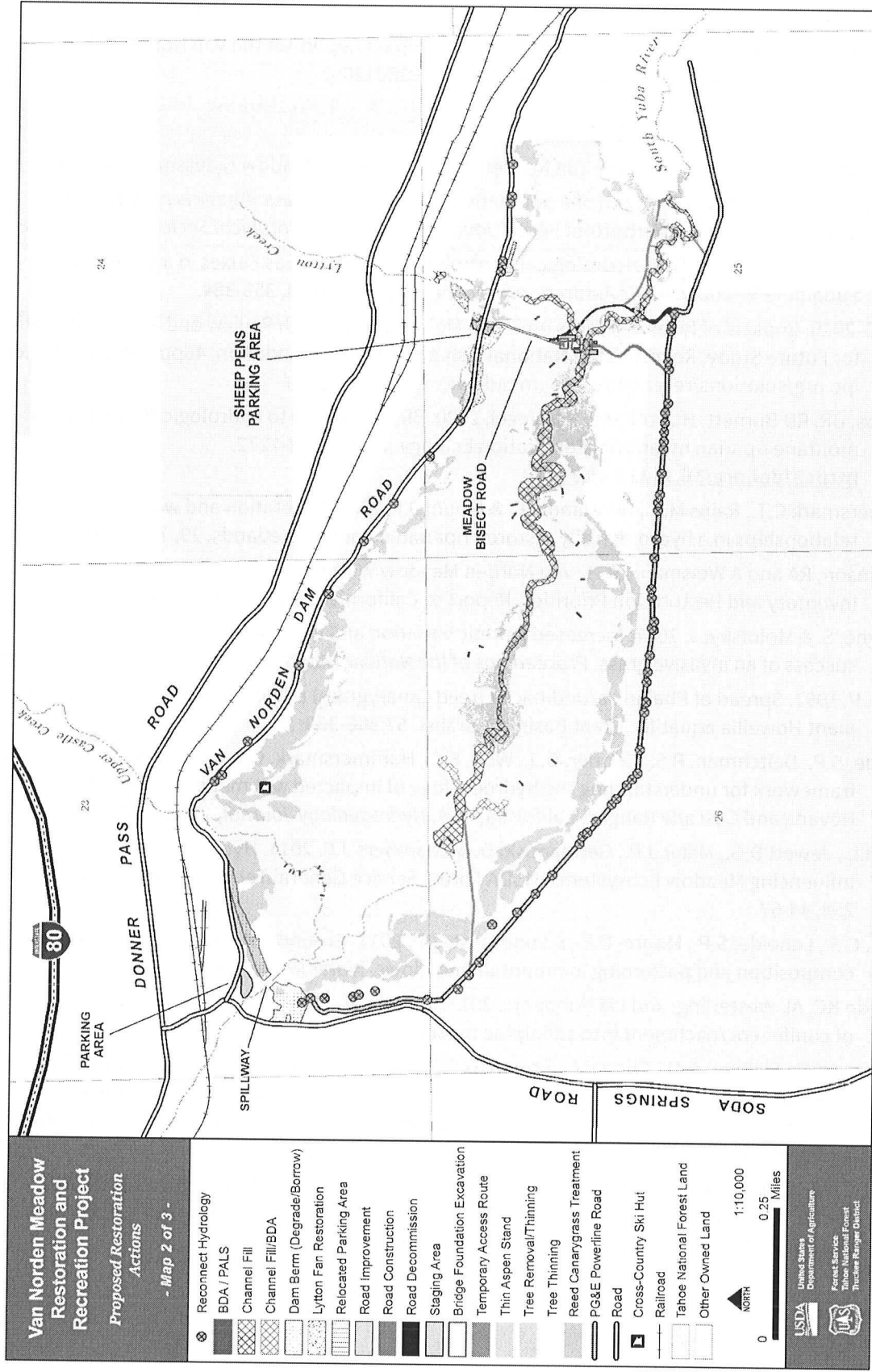


Figure 10: Map of Van Norden Meadow Restoration actions.



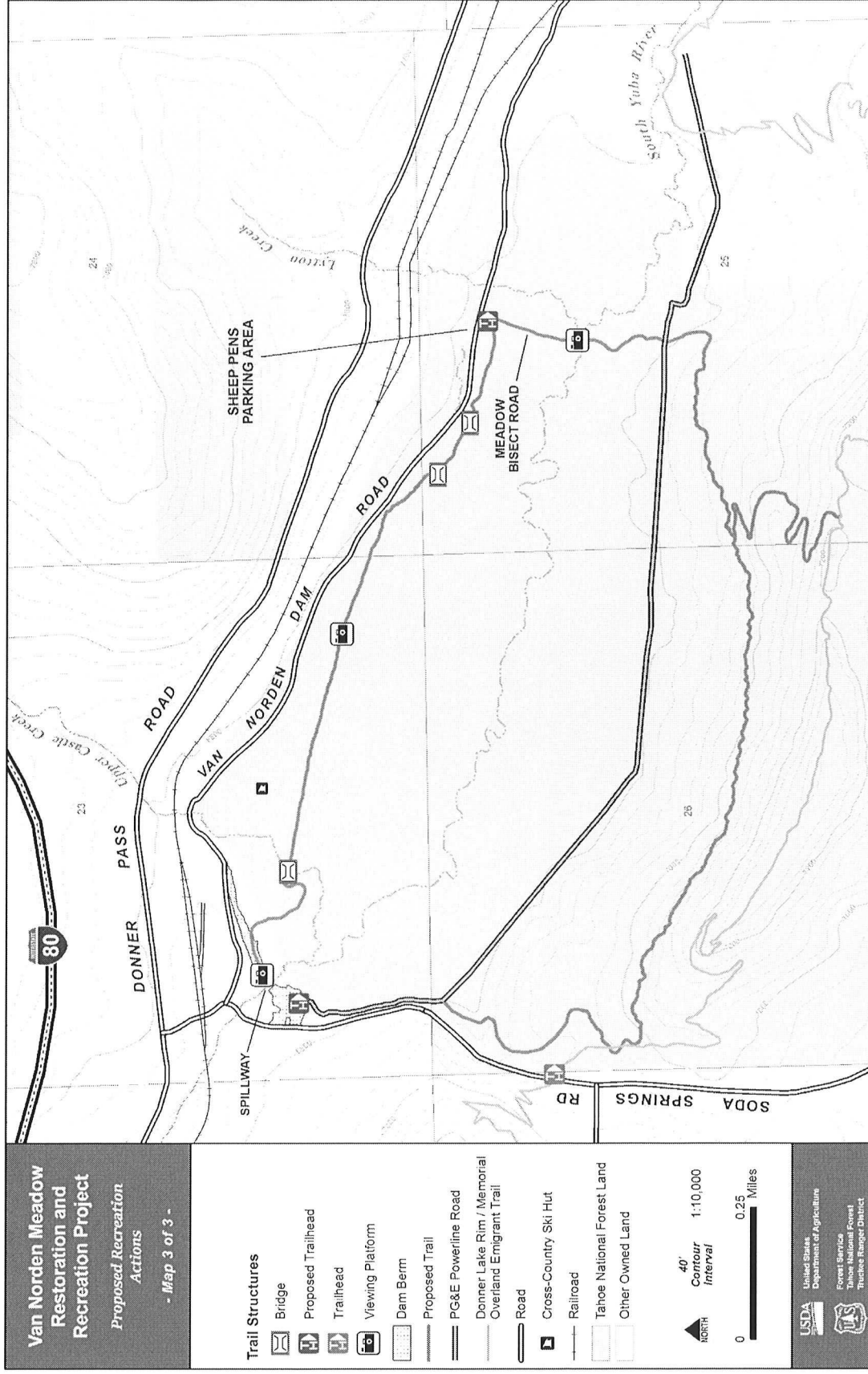









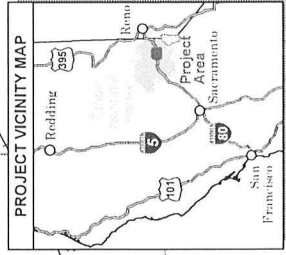
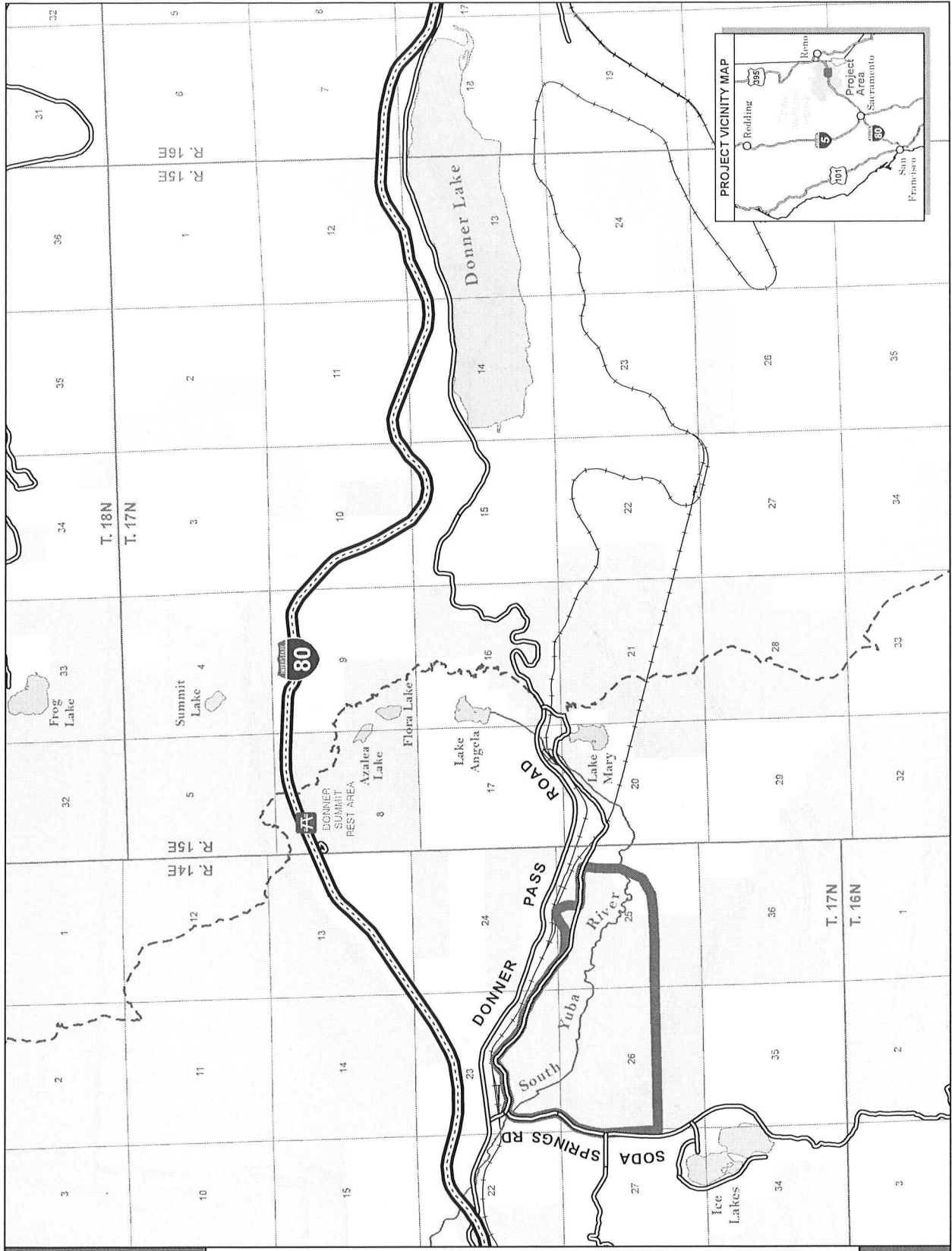
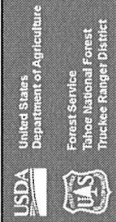
Figure 11: Map of Van Norden Meadow Recreation improvement actions.

# Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project

## Project Vicinity

- Map 1 of 3 -

-  Project Vicinity Area
-  Interstate
-  Major Road
-  Pacific Crest Trail
-  Railroad
-  Tahoe National Forest Land
-  Other Owned Land

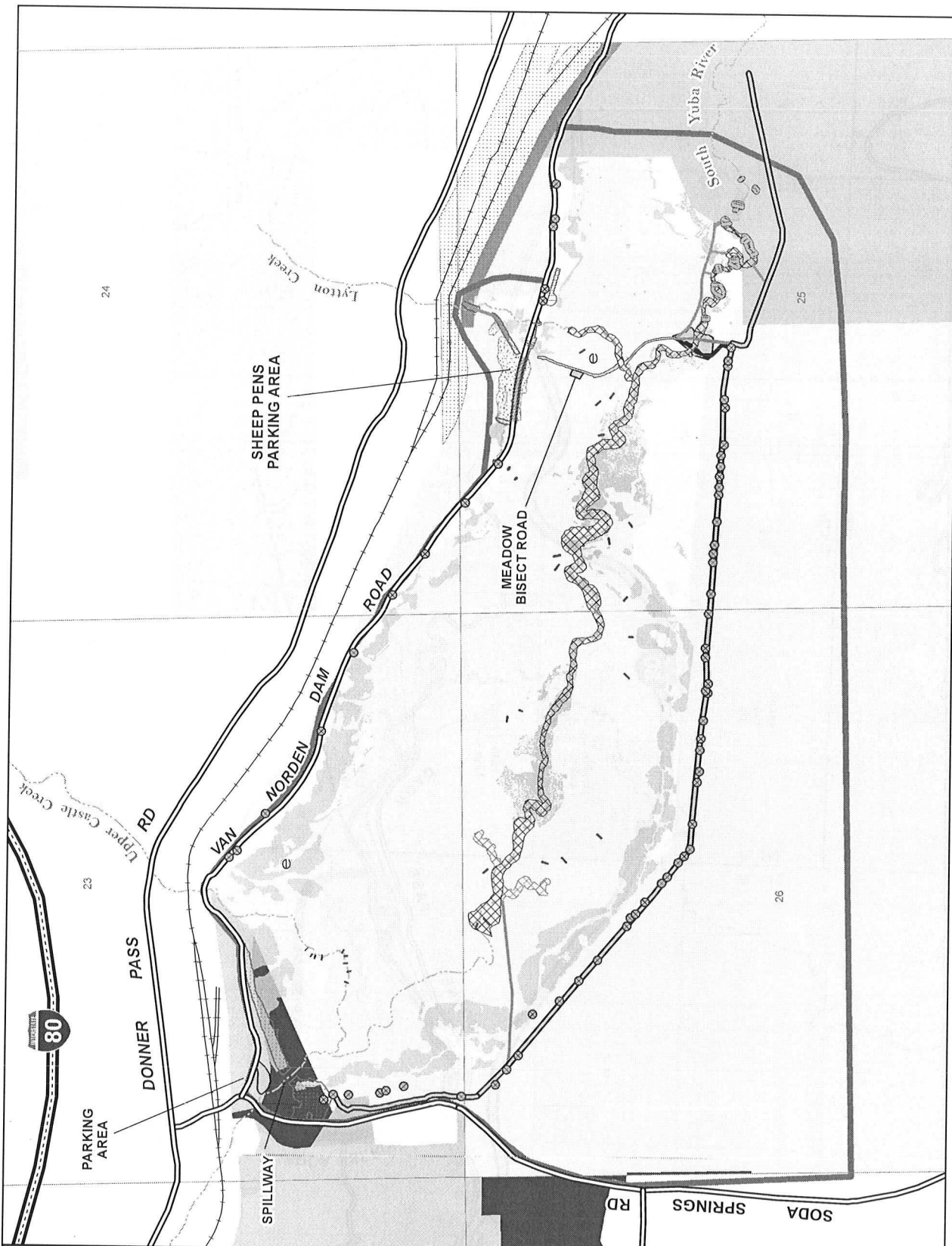




# Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project

## Proposed Restoration Actions

- Project Area
  - Channel Plugs
  - Reconnect Hydrology
  - Culvert
  - BDA/PALS
  - Channel Fill
  - Channel Fill/BDA
  - Channel Fill/Berm
  - Dam Berm (Degrade/Borrow)
  - Lytton Fan Restoration
  - Relocated Parking Area
  - Road Improvement
  - Road Construction
  - Road Decommission
  - Staging Area
  - Temporary Access Route
  - Thin Aspen Stand
  - Tree Removal/Thinning
  - Tree Thinning
  - Reed Canarygrass Treatment
  - PG&E Powerline Road
  - Road
  - Cross-Country Ski Hut
  - Railroad
- LAND OWNERSHIP**
- Tahoe National Forest
  - Boreal Ridge
  - Sugar Bowl
  - Truckee Donner Land Trust
  - PG&E
  - Union Pacific Railroad
  - Norden Cross
  - Other Ownership


















# Van Norden Meadow Restoration and Recreation Project

## Proposed Recreation Actions

- Map 3 of 3 -


### Trail Structures


-  Bridge
-  Proposed Trailhead
-  Trailhead
-  Viewing Platform
-  Dam Berm
-  Proposed Trail
-  Proposed Trail (Existing Roadbed)
-  PG&E Powerline Road
-  Donner Lake Rim / Memorial Overland Emigrant Trail
-  Road
-  Cross-Country Ski Hut
-  Railroad
-  Tahoe National Forest Land
-  Other Owned Land

 NORTH

40' Contour Interval

0 0.25 Miles

 **USDA**  
United States Department of Agriculture

 **US Forest Service**  
Tahoe National Forest  
Traverse Ranger District

