

Appendix B-8

**LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS
ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES & KEY MILESTONE DATES**

Project Name: Tahoe Yellow Cress, private land conservation Agency: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Prepared by: Jane Schmidt (530)543-1501 (101) _____ Phone: EIP #: 10159 _____

SNPLMA Project #: _____

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and

Research Costs (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)

\$ 15,000 11 %

2. FWS Consultation—Endangered Species Act

\$ 15,000 11 %

3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project

\$ 40,000 29 %

4. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)

\$ 10,000 7 %

5. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)

\$ 4,000 3 %

6. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)

\$ 3,000 2 %

7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project

\$ 18,000 13 %

8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor: Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer to do project procurement, COR, Project Inspector, Sec. 106 Consultation if required, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project contracts)

\$ 15,000 11 %
18,000 13

9. Other Necessary Expenses (See Appendix B-11)

\$ _____

TOTAL: \$ 138,000 100 %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
30 conservation plans for Tahoe Yellow Cress on private lands	March, 2010
Final Completion Date:	March 2010

COMMENTS:

**APPENDIX K
LAKE TAHOE CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSAL
ROUND 9**

Consistency with Lake Tahoe nomination criteria:

Project nominations must qualify as an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) project and be the responsibility of the federal government (federal share responsibility); and have a willing and ready federal sponsor.

Project nominations must be consistent with one of the focus areas in the June 2006 Federal Vision (pp. 8-9) (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lbmu/documents/lbtec/revised-FV-Final.pdf>) and fit into at least one category.

Capital Focus Area (as described in the 2006 Federal Vision): Watershed and Habitat Improvement Focus Area. Threatened, Endangered, Sensitive Species Program.

Circle a minimum of one category: (in bold type)

1. Continued emphasis on fuels reduction in coordination with projects funded under the 2006 SNPLMA amendment (the “White Pine” amendment).
- 2. Continued implementation of projects approved in Rounds 5 through 8 which implement the EIP. Project proposal should clearly describe the phase/product being produced along with the consequence of not completing the project phase proposed for Round 9.**

List project(s): Tahoe Yellow Cress – Conservation Plans on Private Lands EIP# 10159.

3. Project is consistent with and contributes toward TMDL pollutant reductions within the four source categories (atmospheric, urban & groundwater, forested uplands, and stream channel).

List category(ies): _____

4. Control of aquatic invasive species and prevention of new aquatic invasive species.

**Project Name: Tahoe Yellow Cress – Conservation
Plans on Private Lands**

EIP #: 10159

**Lead Agency: Natural Resources Conservation
Service**

Contact: Jane Schmidt

Threshold: Vegetation

**Phone Number:
530-543-1501 (101)**

Threshold Standard: V-3 Sensitive Plants

**Email Address:
jane.schmidt@ca.usda.gov**

Funding Requested in this Round: \$138,000

Total Project Cost: \$500,000

Is this a multi-year Project? (If “Yes”, describe in the Detailed Project Description below number of years or phases and which year the requested funding will cover)

YES

Project Summary (maximum 200 words): (applicable ONLY to this Round 9 project):

This project targets the implementation of the Conservation Strategy for Tahoe Yellow Cress, intended to preclude the listing of the species under the Endangered Species Act. This project specially targets the development of conservation plans for private property owners documenting conservation technical assistance provided to help landowners conserve the species. It may include some supplies for signage or examples of temporary fencing measures needed to protect the plant during critical periods when it is subject to human disturbance. Successful implementation of this part of the Strategy will mean that important privately owned habitat will be protected by approved conservation practices, helping to insure protection, enhancement, or recovery of the species.

Detailed Project Description (focuses on what Round 9 is funding; list the number of years or phases the Round 9 requested funding will cover; if phased, briefly describe how this project links into previously phased projects including what remains for Rounds 10 and beyond).

NRCS will provide technical assistance to private property owners identified by the Tahoe Yellow Cress Adaptive Management Working Group (AMWG) that are interested in implementing measures to protect or enhance this species on their land. NRCS will coordinate with the AMWG and USFWS to insure conservation plans are congruent with the goals and objectives of the Conservation Strategy. Thirty conservation plans are targeted for completion in 2009. Materials for signage and to demonstrate temporary fencing options would also be utilized.

This Round 9 project is Year 2 of targeting private land conservation of Tahoe Yellow Cress; funding requested would support the program for one year. Estimate similar funding needs for outyears.

Describe the goals and objectives of the project (those applicable ONLY to this Round 9 project):

This project addresses assistance objectives under the TES program area of the Federal Vision (TES-A1, TES-A2, TES-A3) The project goal is to implement the Conservation Strategy for Tahoe Yellow Cress on private lands around the lakeshore environment of Lake Tahoe. States have confirmed that they will not downlist or de-list the species until a firm commitment for planning and preservation is in place for the private lands portion of the Lakeshore environment.

Describe the anticipated project accomplishments (i.e. products or identifiable environmental benefits being produced or implemented under this project):

To assist a minimum of 30 private property owners with conservation plans aimed at protecting Tahoe Yellow Cress on their private lands. Provide approved signage, and demonstrate the use of temporary fencing options to protect the species. Utilize NRCS Plant Materials Center to grow plant stock for outplanting efforts.

Describe the “readiness” of this project to move forward (urgency, capacity, capability, environmental documentation etc.):

Project ready as funding is secured and private landowners request assistance.

Describe partnerships for this project. (if applicable, project should identify partner funding [committed/secured] and how it is integrated into the project)

A Memorandum of Understanding/Conservation Agreement includes the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Nevada Division of State Parks, Nevada Division of State Lands, Nevada Division of Forestry, Nevada Natural Heritage Program, California Department of Fish & Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Tahoe Conservancy, California State Lands Commission, League to Save Lake Tahoe, and the Tahoe Lakefront Owners' Association. The Tahoe Yellow Cress Adaptive Management Working Group helps to guide and coordinate efforts for the Conservation Strategy for this species. NRCS would work in coordination with this partnership to assist with the private land portion of the project. University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension is actively engaged in an outreach and education effort to private landowners to generate their interest in participating in conservation planning. The Tahoe Lakefront Owner's Association is cooperating with the agencies and playing an active role to engage private landowners in conservation strategy efforts for the Tahoe Yellow Cress.

Describe the project monitoring that will be implemented as part of this project including:

1) The questions the monitoring program is designed to answer

Determine levels of private landowner awareness of the Tahoe Yellow Cress issue and the ability of the outreach efforts to convince the public to take an active role in responding to this issue. Determine if documented conservation plans assist landowners in making beneficial decisions on behalf of Tahoe Yellow Cress.

2) The monitoring approach (describe the methods and strategies [i.e. monitoring, research, or both] that will be used to verify whether the project goals and objectives have been met. A detailed monitoring/research plan is not required, but enough detail must be provided to allow someone that is unfamiliar with the project to understand and evaluate the proposed methods and strategies.)

Follow-up with landowners who receive plans to determine their level of implementation of practices. Document the number of requests for assistance.

3) Whether this project monitoring fits into a larger monitoring or research program (including how information from the monitoring and research will be used to improve the continued performance of the proposed project or improve future similar projects)

Yes, this project is part of a comprehensive Basin-wide effort to protect, enhance, and restore Tahoe Yellow Cress according to the Conservation Strategy for this plant.

Describe these two items which will be considered along with the above project monitoring information by the Tahoe Science Consortium related to research and monitoring resource areas and the effectiveness of environmental restoration activities:

1) Describe the specific goals and objectives of the project and describe how fulfilling those objectives will contribute to the achievement of one or more environmental thresholds.

The project goal is to implement the Conservation Strategy for Tahoe Yellow Cress on private lands around the lakeshore environment of Lake Tahoe. States have confirmed that they will not downlist or de-list the species until a firm commitment for planning and preservation is in place for the private lands portion of the lakeshore environment. This project contributes to environmental threshold V-3, sensitive plants. In most years, depending on lake elevation, about 50% of the occupied Tahoe Yellow Cress sites are on private lands. In 2007, these sites supported 45% of the plant stems counted in the annual survey.

2) Describe the risk to the environment from failure of the proposed project (i.e. if the project fails what is the environmental consequence).

If the project is not implemented, private lands may not become an integral part of the multi-agency efforts to protect and enhance Tahoe Yellow Cress habitat in the lakeshore environment of Lake Tahoe. If meaningful efforts to conserve and restore Tahoe Yellow Cress are restricted to areas of public land only, the population of this plant is expected to remain exceedingly rare, especially in high lake level years, and will remain a conservation concern with no real regulatory relief anticipated.

Describe how the project results will be communicated and made available to the public.

Results will be communicated in a summary of key results, so that other agencies involved in the Tahoe Yellow Cress Adaptive Management Working Group are advised of the results of the project

Include an 8 ½ X 11 map depicting the project.

This project includes private lands along the lakeshore of Lake Tahoe, and specific areas of work will be identified later, during education and outreach activities being conducted by University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension or other partner agencies.