

Appendix B-8

LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES & KEY MILESTONE DATES

Project Name: East Shore Ecosystem Restoration, Hazardous Fuel Reduction Agency: USFS – LTBMU
 Prepared by: Scott Parsons Phone: 530-543-2687 EIP #: 10178.208
 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.)	\$ <u>38,000</u>	<u>10</u> %
2. FWS Consultation – Endangered Species Act	\$ _____	_____ %
3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project	\$ _____	_____ %
4. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)	\$ <u>5,000</u>	<u>1</u> %
5. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
6. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)	\$ <u>22,000</u>	<u>5</u> %
7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project	\$ <u>195,000</u>	<u>49</u> %
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)	\$ <u>100,000</u>	<u>25</u> %
9. Other Necessary Expenses (see Appendix B-9)	\$ <u>100,000</u>	<u>10</u> %
TOTAL:	\$ <u>400,000</u>	<u>100</u> %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
Prepare Contract	8/1/2008
Award Contract	9/1/2008
Complete Contract Work Including Inspections	10/31/2010
Final Completion Date:	12/31/2010

COMMENTS: Estimate 188 acres of hazardous fuels reduction work to accomplish through agency contracts and Fire Safe Council Work.

APPENDIX I

LAKE TAHOE CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Name: East Shore Ecosystem Restoration and Hazard Fuels Reduction
Capital Focus Area: Fuels Reduction and Forest Health
EIP #: 10178.208

Lead Agency: USFS - LTBMU
Contact: Scott Parsons

Threshold: Vegetation
Phone Number: (530) 543-2687

Threshold Standard: Common Veg/Hazardous Fuels
Email Address: sparsons@fs.fed.us

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
Total Project Cost: \$400,000
Funding Request in this Round: \$400,000

Project Summary (maximum 200 words): Conduct hazardous fuel reduction treatments within the Slaughterhouse Canyon area of the east shore as well as other areas on the east shore in need of fuel hazard reduction treatments as identified from the Fireshed Assessment process. Fuel reduction treatments would focus on the Urban Wildland Interface and reduce the level of hazardous fuels within the threat zones. Treatments include the use of mechanical thinning to reduce live tree densities, mechanical chipping and removal to reduce the amount of existing dead and down biomass to reduce fire hazards. Included in project implementation is contract administration and project monitoring.

Detailed Project Description: This project is a continuation of approved SNPLMA Rounds 6 and 7 "East Shore Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration" projects. Starting in 2008 and continuing through 2010 hazardous fuels reduction contracts would be initiated from approved environmental analysis completed under the earlier rounds of this project. Completed contracts would reduce fuel ladders and accumulations by modifying vegetation structure and fuel loads. Contracts would also restore a healthy, diverse, fire resilient forest structure through tree thinning, and introduce prescribed fire to restore fire regimes that were historically part of the ecosystem. Existing forest vegetation and fuel accumulations in the east shore area poses a heightened risk for high intensity wildfire around private property (Lake Tahoe Watershed Assessment, 2002). The US Forest Service is directed to prioritize areas that have significant wildland fire risk to private property, watershed and wildlife habitat for fuel reduction treatments that would restore them to a healthy, diverse, fire resilient forest structure.

Describe the goals and objectives of the project: The *goals* of this project are to restore fire dependent ecosystems, enhance fire suppression capabilities, and protect life and property. The *objectives* of this project focus on Fuels Reduction and Forest Health identified in the Round 8 Request for Project Proposals. The Focus Areas addressed are: FFH-1 and FFH-2, completion of defense, threat, and general forest zone treatments identified through the Stewardship and Fireshed Assessment process and Community Wildfire Protection plans - so that health and vigor of residual trees is maintained or increased to favor the development of large tree forest structure; FFH-4, mechanical, hand thinning and prescribed fire treatment methods will be used to achieve the objectives of returning the forests of the Lake Tahoe Basin to a healthy, fire resistant condition - the existing fuel profile will be modified to reduce fuel ladders, standing and down fuel loads, and vegetation so that treated areas would be able to withstand a wind-driven wildfire event without causing significant damage to residual trees; FFH-5, where possible, biomass and small diameter forest products will be utilized from the thinning of trees; FFH-6, implementation of this project will include Public Affairs staff conducting outreach and education efforts within the Lake Tahoe Basin to help increase public understanding of fuels reduction projects; FFH-7, implementation of this project will include those treatment areas identified in the Lake Tahoe Basin Region of the Nevada Fire Safe Council and the local Fire Protection Districts Community Wildfire

Protection Plans.

Describe the anticipated project accomplishments: Complete hazardous fuels reduction contracts within defense and threat zones to reduce fuel loads and improve forest health over 188 acres of National Forest lands.

Describe the “readiness” of this project to move forward (Environmental documentation, etc.): The environmental analysis for the Slaughterhouse Canyon project was completed in September 2005. Reconstruction of the road access into Slaughterhouse Canyon is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2007 allowing for hazardous fuels reduction contract work to begin in 2008.

Describe partnerships for this project (Include documentation): This project will partner with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District, and the Lake Tahoe Basin Region of the Nevada Fire Safe Council for the implementation of a portion of the Tahoe Basin Wildfire Threat Reduction Program.

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

(1) The questions the monitoring program is designed to answer

A monitoring strategy was presented as part of the NEPA document (Slaughterhouse EA, June 2005). However this monitoring strategy is described in general terms and specific monitoring questions were not identified. However the strategy described implies that the effects of fuels management activities on fuel loading, wildlife habitat/species, archaeological resources, recreational use trends, and soils and water quality would be evaluated.

(2) The monitoring approach

The monitoring approach was briefly described in the NEPA document; however a specific monitoring plan still needs to be completed. The monitoring strategy described in the document states that permanent plots will be established prior to project implementation with monitoring to occur prior to treatment, 1 year after, and again 5 years after treatment. Monitoring plans will be completed by a USFS interdisciplinary team in spring of 2007, to identify the specific monitoring questions, the number and location of plots, specific parameters to be measured, monitoring protocols, analysis techniques, and monitoring budget. The total amount in this proposal to develop and implement project level monitoring is \$38,000.

(3) Whether this project monitoring fits into a larger monitoring or research program?

Current examples of the types of monitoring questions addressed and past efforts initiated related to Fuels Reduction Projects can be found in the LTBMU 5 Year Monitoring Plan. Monitoring for this project is not currently reflected in the Plan, but will be included in the next update scheduled for mid-year 2007.

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

Results and accomplishments will be summarized in the Annual Forest Monitoring Program Report, as well as project specific monitoring reports. Project specific monitoring reports will be 1 to 5 years post project implementation, depending on variables being monitored.

Round 8 SNPLMA Capital Project Supplemental Information:

All projects must have the following minimum criteria to be considered:

1. **Qualify as an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) project and be the responsibility of the federal government:** Project EIP # 10178.208
2. **Have a willing and ready federal sponsor:** Federal sponsor is the USDA Forest Service

Projects must fit (be consistent with) into one of the focus areas and associated programs from the June 2006 Federal Vision: This project fits into the Fuels and Forest Health Focus Area and is further explained under the “Description of the Goals and Objectives of the Project” section of this proposal.

Other Considerations:

Projects that demonstrate a cumulative benefit because they are adjacent to, or enhanced by, other EIP projects: As this project will implement a portion of the Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), there will be cumulative benefits as projects will be proposed and implemented on National Forest land adjacent to work that either will be ongoing or is proposed on adjacent non-federal ownerships. Forest health and hazardous fuels reduction treatments will be accomplished across ownership boundaries so that a seamless desired condition will be implemented.

Projects that include a cost-share component from State, local or private sources: As treatment areas under this project are part of the CWPP, state and local funding obtained from National Fire Plan grants will assist in the treatment of adjacent areas on non-federal lands as described above.

Projects that are continuing phases of previously approved SNPLMA projects: This project is a continuation of approved Round 6 and 7 projects titled East Shore Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration. Approval of this proposal will enable the implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects initiated under the previous Round 6 & 7 projects for the improvement of forest health and the reduction of hazardous fuels conditions around the Lake Tahoe Basin.

East Shore Planning Area

