

Appendix B-8**TAHOE SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PROJECTS
ESTIMATED DIRECT COSTS & KEY MILESTONE DATES**

Project Name: East Shore Furbearer Study
Contact: Susan Spaulding

Sponsoring Agency:
U.S. Forest Service
Phone: 530-543-2738

Date: March 10, 2004
EIP # 933

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------|
| 1. Planning and Research Costs (Specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, etc.) | \$ 0 | 0 % |
| 2. Direct Project Labor (Payroll, fringe benefits, etc. for LTBMU project participants). | \$15,000 | 75 % |
| 3. Equipment (avalanche probes, shovels, snowshoes, Trailmaster cameras.) | \$ 2,000 | 10 % |
| 4. Travel (Travel expenses associated with project) | \$1,000 | 5 % |
| 5. Project Contracts, Grants and Agreements (Contracts, grants, agreements to be awarded) | \$ 0 | 0 % |
| 6. Project Administration (contract admin services, procurement costs, etc.) | \$ 500 | 3 % |
| 7. Other (Explain) | | |
| 8. Contingency Reserve (Not to exceed 10%) | \$1,500 | 7 % |
| TOTAL: | \$ 20,000 | 100 % |

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

| Milestones: | Date: | Estimated Costs |
|--|--------------|------------------------|
| Winter 2005 snowtracking complete | May 30, 2005 | \$ 13,000 |
| Summer/Fall 2005 small mammal tracking and remote camera surveys complete | Oct 30, 2005 | \$ 7,000 |
| | | |
| Final Completion Date | Oct 30, 2005 | |

COMMENTS:

Appendix I-2
TAHOE PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Name: East Shore Furbearers Monitoring

EIP # 933

Lead Agency: U.S. Forest Service,
LTBMU

Contact: Susan Spaulding

Phone Number: 530-543-2738

Email Address: sspaulding@fs.fed.us

Threshold: wildlife

Threshold Standard: Ch. 71 outlines
protections for Forest Service Sensitive
Species.

Total Project Cost: \$20,000

Project Description:

The requested funds will be used for winter snowtracking for furbearers and their associated prey, along two established 2500 meter transects. The control transect is established for a treatment site located within Heavenly Ski Resort's boundaries. Heavenly is proposing to develop a cross-country skiing/snowshoeing trail system in an area within their Special Use Permit boundary, but which is not currently developed. This study will focus on data collection, pre- and post-treatment, as an index of use. In addition to snowtracking, small mammal trapping will be conducted to get a census of furbearer prey status in the snow-free months at the treatment site and at the control site. In addition, the continuation of remote camera surveys in East Shore watersheds is also proposed, to further define suitable furbearer habitat by determining presence/absence. The remote camera study will be conducted in the areas between Incline, Nevada, and South Lake Tahoe, California.

Describe the purpose and need for the project:

The demand for recreational areas is increasing in Lake Tahoe Basin, due to increases in the number of tourists visiting annually, and this is prompting questions about potential effects to wildlife. This project takes advantage of an opportunity to obtain baseline data in an area proposed for recreational development. Information gained by this study will assist land managers in decision making processes in the future. Continuation of remote camera surveys will further define suitable furbearer habitat in East Shore watersheds.

Describe the goals and objective of the project (for Science & Research Projects describe Key Management Questions being addressed):

By collecting baseline data on the status of furbearers and their prey in an area that is to be developed for recreation, important information will be obtained on possible effects of development on wildlife.

Presence/absence surveys will continue to add to our knowledge base of what is deemed as suitable habitat on the East Shore.

Describe the anticipated project accomplishments:

A refined understanding of furbearer movement patterns and foraging behaviors, before and after recreational development, will be obtained. A determination of the effects of over-the-snow activity (due to snow compaction, human presence, etc.) on prey availability to furbearers will be obtained.

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

The snowtracking project commenced in January, 2004, with all permissions and safety considerations approved by Heavenly Ski Resort, and LTBMU. This study is approved under the Heavenly Ski Resort Master Plan, June 1996. Remote camera surveys are ongoing, as funding and availability of personnel allow, and contribute to LTBMU’s annual sensitive species surveys.

Describe partnerships for this project (include documentation):

Heavenly Ski Resort is funding the snowtracking of the treatment site through a collection agreement. (Heavenly Ski Resort Master Plan, June 1996).

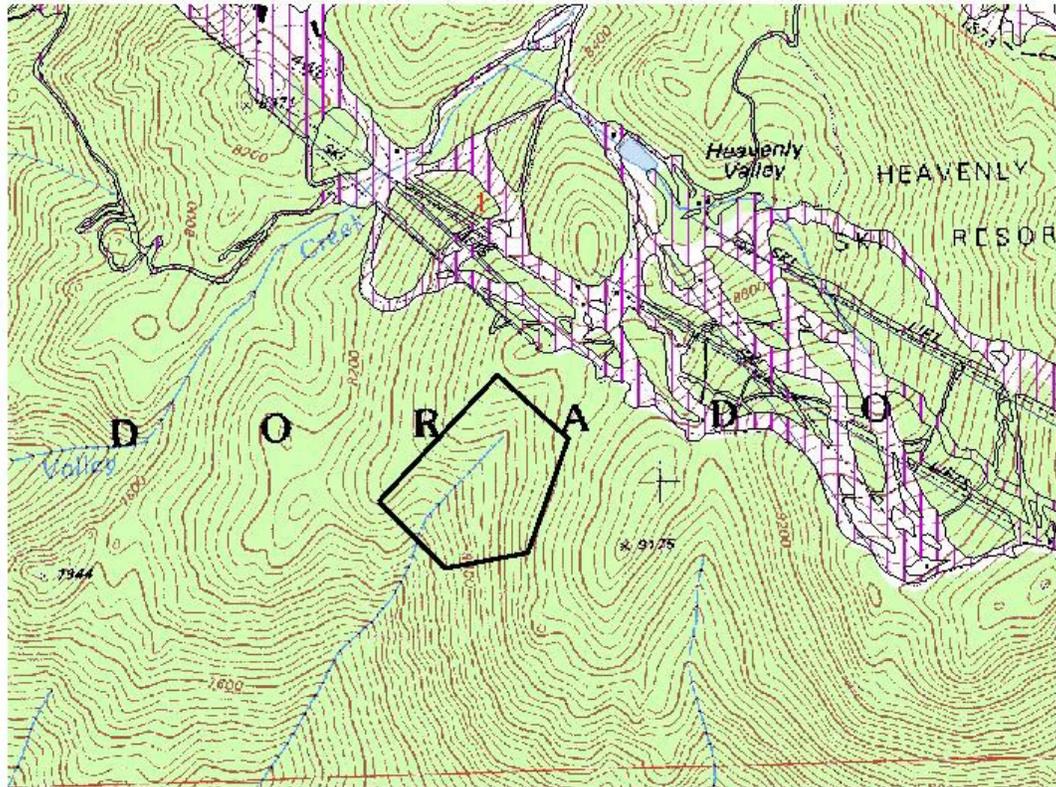
For Science & Research Projects describe how this project will guide future management activities:

This information will be used to guide development of future recreational areas (e.g., guidance on grooming trails in the least disruptive manner to the winter foraging habits of furbearers and their prey, and guidance in determining at what level snow compaction is tolerated by subnivean dwelling prey species of furbearers). The remote camera surveys assist in determining where suitable habitat is located within the boundaries of the LTBMU, and thus outline management recommendations on how to least impact this habitat as the result of project work implementation.

Include an 8 ½ X 11 map depicting the project, or research/study area.

See below.

East Shore Watersheds Furbearer Survey Control Transect Heavenly Ski Resort-2003



0.4 0 0.4 0.8 Miles

 **Heavenly ski runs as of 02**
Heavenly ski lifts as of 99

