

**ROUND 12 CAPITAL PROJECT NOMINATION FORM  
LAKE TAHOE FEDERAL SHARE EIP CAPITAL PROJECTS  
APPENDIX K**

<b>Project Name:</b>	Conservation Technical Assistance	<b>EIP Number:</b> <i>(Required)</i>	525, 10162, 10184
<b>Federal Agency Sponsor:</b> <i>(Required)</i>	USDA-NRCS	<b>Contact:</b>	Woody Loftis
<b>Threshold:</b>	Soil Conservation, Water Quality, Vegetation	<b>Phone Number:</b>	(530)543-1501
<b>Threshold Standard:</b>	WQ4-A, WQ5, V1	<b>Email:</b>	william.loftis@ca.usda.gov
<b>FUNDING REQUESTED IN THIS ROUND:</b>		\$ 115,000	

**Federal Share EIP Consideration**

Select "yes" or "no" for each question. If you have a "yes" response, briefly describe. **Projects must meet one or more of these 5 items.**

1. Does the project involve federal land? Yes No  
 If yes, is the federal land involved important to successful implementation of the project?

2. Is this project identified in the EIP? If yes, please ensure the EIP number is identified in the above project information box. If no, provide a description of the project's contribution to the EIP program. Yes No

This project could satisfy a multitude of EIP needs on non-federal non-urban lands. Several, more generic numbers, are listed above, however many numbers are appropriate based on timing and location.

3. Does the project involve the conservation of a federal or regional threatened, rare, endangered, or special interest species? If yes, identify. Yes No

Depending on location of assistance, efforts and species present, species of special interest could be present.

4. Does the project involve an identified federal interest such as the detection and eradication of non-native invasive species (aquatic or terrestrial)? If yes, identify. Yes No

5. Does the project develop knowledge and/or information to develop future capital projects in the EIP? (such projects that fulfill this function would include technical assistance, data management, and/or resource inventories) Yes No

Conservation Technical Assistance encompasses resource inventories, resource assessments and consultation related to soils and the Soil Survey of the Tahoe Basin, CA and NV and thus has the potential for guiding development of capital projects in the EIP, including Area-wide Conservation Planning.

**Check all Capital Focus Area(s) that apply (as defined in the Federal Vision):**

- 1. **Watershed and Habitat Improvement**
- 2. **Forest Health**
- 3. **Air Quality and Transportation**
- 4. **Recreation and Scenic**

**Check all that apply (must meet a minimum of one category):**

- 1. **Continued emphasis on forest ecosystem health/fuels reduction projects considering the LTBMU Stewardship Fireshed Assessment and Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy.**
- 2. **Continued implementation and/or completion of projects approved in Rounds 5 through 11 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 12.**

*List Previously Approved Rounds and funding(provide project titles):*

Funding includes SNPLMA rounds 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11 and NRCS investment in the Tahoe Field Office

- 3. **Project is consistent with and contributes toward TMDL pollutant reductions within the four source categories (atmospheric, urban & groundwater, forested uplands, and stream channel). NOTE: If “yes”, then please respond to questions in the Accomplishments section of the nomination proposal.**
- 4. **Control of aquatic invasive species and prevention and/or detection of new aquatic invasive species.**

## Project Nomination Proposal Outline

### **Project Summary (a brief summary which clearly describes the proposed project –maximum 200 words)**

- Summarize ONLY the Round 12 project (also summarize scaling of funding to be described in more detail in the “Project Description” section below).

Conservation Technical Assistance would provide resource inventories, resource assessments and consultation related to soils and the Soil Survey of the Tahoe Basin, CA and NV.

### **Project Description**

#### **Introduction**

- Provide project background which explains the situation and state the problem and how it will be addressed.

*Note: Focus needs to be the project in Round 12 not a history of an ongoing project or program.*

Conservation Technical Assistance will augment existing projects and SNPLMA proposals by providing resource inventories, assessments and consultations. These assessments would pull from the knowledge base of the NRCS in terms of soils and soil survey data, geology, watershed information, climate data, and expertise on soil conservation. Assistance would be focused on, but not limited to, projects that are based in area-wide or watershed planning.

Conservation technical assistance is the help NRCS and its partners provide to land users to address opportunities, concerns, and problems related to the use of natural resources and to help land users make sound natural resource management decisions on private, tribal, and other non-federal lands. This assistance can help land users maintain and improve natural resources, protect and improve water quality and quantity, and maintain and improve wildlife and fish habitat.

- Describe what Round 12 is specifically funding; list the number of years the requested funding will cover; briefly describe how this project links into previous projects/rounds (identify and describe other round projects and funding received). Show scaling of project (reduced funding request and associated reduction in accomplishments).

*NOTE: Focus should be on finishing current/phased projects. If project is new in Round 12, clearly identify if the project is for planning or implementation and how it will be completed with Round 12 funds. Identify if other funds will be needed to complete the project. Please identify total non-SNPLMA funds that are being contributed/dedicated to the proposed Round 12 project and the source of those funds.*

Round 12 would specifically provide funding for NRCS to do resource inventories, assessments and consultations over a one year period. It is difficult to estimate the number because it will depend upon the number of requests. Priority will be given to fulfilling the need for these services to the Area-wide planning proposal for RD12.

This proposal is a culmination of work done by NRCS in the Tahoe Basin since the beginning of the Tahoe SNPLMA process. (Funding includes SNPLMA rounds 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11 and NRCS investment in the Tahoe Field Office)

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

This project is ready to move forward and will provide conservation tech. assistance.

- Describe partnerships for this project. (if applicable, project should identify and describe committed/secured partner funding and/or other partner contributions and how it is integrated into the project).

Our partnership with the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District and the Tahoe Resource Conservation District currently provides technical assistance on conservation issues to private landowners within the Tahoe Basin. Cooperative Extension in Nevada and California supports some educational aspects of the program. These partnerships have continued with the initiation of Area Wide Planning as funded in SNPLMA Rd 9. NRCS will continue to develop and expand on partnerships as we move forward. Our partnership with EPA in the Tahoe Basin would continue to develop and these resource assessments could be a significant part of any RD 12 Area-Wide Planning Proposal submitted by the EPA.

*Note: The form requests information about project goals, objectives, accomplishments, and questions the program is designed to answer across several different sections. These issues are closely linked and your individual responses should provide a cohesive description.*

**Goal – Purpose and Need (“larger” statement of future expected outcome – usually not measurable)**

The Goal – Purpose and Need of Conservation Technical Assistance is to continue to provide the knowledge base and resources of the NRCS to the Lake Tahoe Basin.

**Objectives (specific measurable statements of action – Round 12 only - which when completed will move towards achieving the goal)**

*Note: Objectives will form the basis for the milestones/deliverables to be identified in Appendix B-8*

- Describe how fulfilling objectives will contribute to the achievement of one or more environmental thresholds (air quality, water quality, soil conservation, vegetation, fisheries, wildlife, scenic, noise, recreation). Provide measures if applicable. For example: acres treated, miles of stream restored for each objective.

Knowledge provided through resources assessments and consultations will insure that the best available data and information related to natural resources is utilized. Specific resource areas include but are not limited to soil conservation, soil science and vegetation management.

- Describe the estimated environmental risks from unintended consequences of the proposed project (if applicable).

Not applicable

**Accomplishments**

- Describe the anticipated project accomplishments (i.e. products or identifiable environmental benefits being produced or implemented under this project), and how the project results/accomplishments will be communicated and made available to the public.

*Note: Differentiate between direct and/or primary project effects and secondary and/or overall watershed effects.*

This proposal will provide a minimum of 1 full staff year to do resource assessments, inventories and natural resource consultations. These assessments will augment a complete understanding of resource concerns for given areas. These assessments could provide solutions for sediment control, water conservation, invasive and noxious weeds, and other natural resource issues within the assessment areas.

- If you checked “yes” for the project being consistent with and contributing to TMDL pollutant reductions, please consider and integrate the following in the project description:

- a) Describe whether, and how, the project demonstrates advanced, alternative, or innovative practices.

NRCS has a history of using the latest technology and innovative practices. Examples include the Constant Head Permeameter and Heads Up digitizing as used in the update of the Tahoe Soil Survey. The NRCS will continue to use the best available and innovative practices possible.

b) If project includes project level monitoring, describe ability of proposed monitoring strategy to contribute to the state of TMDL knowledge. Also describe if purpose of the capital project is to conduct data collection and/or analysis related to Lake Tahoe clarity.

This project does not include direct project level monitoring.

c) Describe treatment approach for reducing pollutants and/or measures to address connectivity between pollutant sources and Lake Tahoe or its tributaries. Identify target pollutants, and, to the degree feasible, provide quantitative estimates of project effectiveness at reducing pollutant loads (and/or a commitment to provide post-project estimates).

These assessments will identify needs for sediment control, identify infestations of noxious weeds, and provide coordination with other agencies.

d) If appropriate, describe whether, and how, the project can be combined or coordinated with other TMDL implementation projects.

NRCS has a significant amount of knowledge that could contribute significantly to gaps in knowledge within the TMDL and TMDL tools such as the Pollutant Load Reduction Model (PLRM). The bulk of this expertise is in the field of soil conservation, ecological site descriptions and vegetation.

### Monitoring

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

- List the questions the monitoring program is designed to answer.

NA

- Describe any coordination with, or input from, the science community on monitoring and adaptive management that has occurred on the development of this nomination and what changes (if any) to the project were made as a result of this input.

NA

- 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? (*Note: A detailed monitoring plan and/or research plan is not required, however, enough detail must be provided to allow someone that is unfamiliar with the project to understand and evaluate the proposed methods and strategies.*)

NA

- Describe whether the monitoring or research associated with this project fits into or is part of a larger monitoring or research program.

NA

- Describe how information from the monitoring and/or research will be used to improve the continued performance of the proposed project or future similar projects.

NA

**Appendix B-8**

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

Project Name:	Conservation Technical Assistance	Agency:	USDA-NRCS
Prepared by:	Woody Loftis	Phone:	(530) 543-1501 x104
SNPLMA Project #:		EIP #:	10184

**Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:**

<b>1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and Research Costs</b> (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>2. FWS Consultation – Endangered Species Act</b>	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project</b>	\$ 100,000	85 %
<b>4. Project Equipment</b> (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>5. Travel</b> (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>6. Official Vehicle Use</b> (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project</b>	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor:</b> 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 contract(s)	\$ _____	_____ %
<b>9. Other Necessary Expenses</b> (see Appendix B-11): Indirect costs associated with implementing a project, such as support services, budget tracking etc.	\$ 15,000	15 %
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$ 115,000	100 %

**Estimated Key Milestone Dates:**

<b>Milestones/Deliverables:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
A minimum of 1 full staff year to provide resource assessments, inventories, and natural resource consultations.	1/15/2014
Start Date	1/15/2013
<b>Final Completion Date:</b> 1/15/2014	

**COMMENTS:**

