

**2008 - 2013 SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS
PUBLIC LAW 112-141
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE**

Name of Resource Advisory Committee: El Dorado County
Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
Funding Fiscal Year: 2014 - Receipt Year

SRS PROJECT

2. Project Name: King Fire Archaeological Site Restoration

3a. State: California

3b. County: El Dorado

4. Project Submitted by: Jordan Serin,
Archaeologist,
Eldorado NF

5. Date:

6. Contact Phone: 530-621-5269

7. Contact E-Mail: jserin@fs.fed.us

8. Project Location

a. National Forest: Eldorado

b. Forest Service District: Pacific and Georgetown

c. Location (Township-Range-Section):
T. 11N, R. 12E
T. 11N, R. 13E
T. 12N, R. 12E
T. 12N, R. 13E
T. 13N, R. 13E

9. Project Goals and Objectives:

With assistance from local environmental education and job training crews, the project will protect and restore Native American and historic-era archaeological sites that burned in the King Fire area. Removal of dead and fire-weakened trees, ground fuels, and biomass will reduce the threats of natural tree-fall and future wildfire on these already fragile resources. Installation of erosion control features and re-vegetation with culturally significant native plants at these sites will help to restore their historic and ecological integrity.

10. Project Description

a. Brief: (in one sentence): To reduce fuels, control erosion, and re-establish native plants at archaeological sites that burned in the King Fire area.

b. Detailed:

The King Fire burned approximately 64,000 acres on the Eldorado National Forest (ENF), including over 150 archaeological sites on the Pacific and Georgetown Ranger Districts. These sites document over 4,000 years of human activity in the region and possess substantial cultural, archaeological, and historic values to Tribal, scientific, and local community members.

Past studies and observations have demonstrated that natural tree fall within archaeological sites after wildfires can cause considerable damage upon impact to certain classes of cultural resources. There is also a concern for future high severity fires within the sites due to increased fuel loading from downed fire-killed trees and the presence of dense brush fields, which tend to replace timber after stand replacing fire events. The proposed project would provide fuels reduction treatments at approximately 25 archaeological sites with hand falling, hand thinning, hand piling, and chipping. In some locations, an excavator with a specialized attachment would be used to remove felled trees with full-suspension, also known as shovel-logging, to accomplish low-impact mechanical biomass removal.

The proposed project also seeks to address the loss of soil resources and associated threats posed to approximately 10 archaeological sites within the burn area. Site stabilization treatments would include installation of erosion control features and use of related materials, such as straw wattles, log erosion barriers, and landscape fabric to prevent additional displacement and off-site movement of artifacts and cultural features. This project component offers additional benefits to water quality and natural resources.

The proposed project would also build upon the success of the ENF Native Plant Materials Propagation Project by utilizing local seeds and starts of native plants from the Placerville Nursery to re-vegetate approximately 10 Native American archaeological sites in the King Fire area. These efforts will focus on the re-establishment of culturally significant plants, such as berries, medicinals, and sources of basket weaving materials. New botanical collections from the field and the development of new starts at the nursery would also occur as needed. This project component would help to increase native plant species diversity and provide additional habitat for wildlife.

All on-site fuels reduction activities and other treatments described above would be directed and monitored by an ENF Archaeologist or Archaeological Technician. The Forest Service would work with Youth Conservation Corps, Generation Green, and American Conservation Experience crews to accomplish the majority of this work. The project offers a range of job-training and educational opportunities. Local ENF fire suppression crews and ENF construction and maintenance crews would provide staff and equipment to help with implementation as well. The majority of the sites identified for treatment were previously included in the NEPA decision for the King Fire Restoration Project Environmental Impact Statement. Continued engagement with Native American groups, including the Washoe Tribe, Shingle Springs Rancheria, United Auburn Indian Community, and Colfax-Todd Valley Consolidated Tribe would occur to seek input on appropriate treatments, to recruit for the implementation crews, and to coordinate volunteer opportunities. Volunteers would also be recruited from other local groups with interests in history and native plants.

Please note that we realize there are limited funds available and would gladly adapt this project to a smaller budget if necessary.

11. State/Private/Other lands involved?

Land Status: National Forest

If Yes, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (check at least 1)

Implements stewardship objectives; Restores and improves land health

13. Project Type:

a. Project Type: Forest Health Improvement; Wildlife Habitat Restoration; Fuels Management/Fire Prevention; Reestablish Native Species; Other Project Type

b. Primary Purpose: Other Project Type

Describe other project type: Protection of Cultural Resources

14. Project's Accomplishments

#	Quantity	Accomplishment
1	75	Acres of hazardous fuel treatment
2	75	Acres of forest health improved
3	10	Acres of native species established
4	10	Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved
5	1	Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 40 hours per week x 52 weeks
6	50	Number of people reached (for environmental projects/fire prevention)

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 5/2/2016

16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 9/30/2018

17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities:

This project would bring together individuals and groups of diverse backgrounds and ages to learn about and protect the values of cultural resource sites and the broader landscape of the ENF. The following groups will form the basis of our partnership and have collaborated with ENF in the past:

Students and Trainees: Generation Green, Youth Conservation Corps, American Conservation Experience

Tribes: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Shingle Springs Rancheria, United Auburn Indian Community, Colfax-Todd Valley Consolidated Tribe

Volunteers: California-Nevada Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA), El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

18. Identify benefits to communities (max 12 lines):

Conservation and restoration of cultural resource sites affected by the King Fire would benefit communities in the following ways: 1) Demonstrate respect for the cultural values that living descendants of the region's inhabitants attribute to these sites; 2) Provide field-based opportunities (now and into the future) for learning about history, cultures, and people's relationships with the environment; 3) Increase opportunities for traditional plant collection activities by Tribes; 4) Motivate local community members to continue the hard work that former and current volunteers have already invested in the identification and protection of these sites and in the propagation of native plants; and 5) Conserve potential scientific and

historic research values that contribute to the eligibility of these sites for the National Register of Historic Places.

19. How does this project benefit federal lands/resources? (max 12 lines)
 The project would facilitate ecological restoration and resiliency in the King Fire area at locations that may otherwise be avoided during upcoming logging and fuels reduction operations due to the sensitive nature of archaeological sites and the need for low-impact treatments. Within the next few years, fuels conditions and safety concerns due to the presence of hazard trees within archaeological sites will greatly limit land management options in these areas; thus, implementing the proposed fuels reduction and biomass removal treatments now would increase opportunities for long-term maintenance through reforestation, promotion of native plant species diversity, and future prescribed burning. The proposed treatments would also eliminate the appearance of “timber/vegetation islands” across the landscape that would otherwise be easy targets for potential looters whose activities often result in additional resource disturbances. Improved water quality, increased native plant species diversity, and additional habitat for wildlife would be some of the other benefits of the project.

20. What is the proposed method(s) of accomplishment? (check at least 1)
 Americorps; YCC/CCC Crews; Federal Workforce; Volunteers

21. Will this project generate merchantable timber?
 No

22. Anticipated Project Costs:

a. Please fill out a project cost form for each fiscal year the project will be funded.

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
Field Work & Site Surveys				
NEPA/CEQA				
ESA Consultation				
Permit Acquisition				
Project Design & Engineering				
Contract/Grant Preparation				
Contract/Grant Administration				
Contract/Grant Cost				
Salaries	15,000	36,000	50,000	101,000
Materials & Supplies	2,500	5,000	2,500	10,000
Monitoring		5,000		5,000
A. Other		4,000		4,000
B. Other				
C. Other				
Project Sub-Tota	17,500	50,000	52,500	120,000
FS Indirect Costs				
Total Other Funds:	52,500			
Total Title II Funds:	50,000			
Total Fed Funds:	17,500			

Notes:

Field Work & Site Survey reflects Pre-NEPA Costs
Contract/Grant Administration includes Contracting Officer Representative (COR) cost. Excludes Contracting Officer costs.
Salaries - Cost of implementing project.
 Examples for "Other" include equipment rentals, travel, etc.
FS indirect costs including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.

24. Monitoring Plan

a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above

Monitoring Plan: ENF Archaeologists and Archaeological Technicians would direct all activities at cultural resource sites affected by this project and document the changes in site conditions using standard forms and photographs on an annual basis for the duration of the project and the proceeding two years. A project status report would be written each fiscal year with the site monitoring forms attached to be filed at the ENF Supervisor's Office. Summaries of project accomplishments would be shared with the Region 5 Archaeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer as part of the standard ENF Heritage Annual Report procedures. Each annual report would document volunteer hours and treatment acres by type of restoration activity, and all of the above information would be entered into the Forest Service's Natural Resource Manager tracking system (INFRA). Field trips and group volunteer events involving Tribal and other community members would be documented in a similar way. Any reports written to authorize future maintenance activities at these sites (i.e., prescribed burning, reforestation, traditional plant collecting) that are made possible as a result of the proposed project would refer back to the original heritage resource reports documenting this project's accomplishments.

b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring: ENF Archaeologists and Archaeological Technicians

c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks.

Monitoring Costs: 5,000.00

Identify remedies for failure to comply with terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement: Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account

If other is selected, explain:

Monitoring Remedies:

Project Status: Proposed

Project Recommended by:



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eldorado National Forest
Georgetown Ranger District

7600 Wentworth Springs Road
Georgetown, CA 95634
530-333-4312 (Voice)
530-333-5511 (TTY)

File Code: 1560

Date: 22 January, 2016

Route To: Duane Nelson

Subject: District Ranger Support for RAC Projects

To: El Dorado County RAC

I have reviewed the RAC projects listed below, which have been submitted for consideration for funding with Title II funds. These projects fall entirely on Eldorado National Forest lands, and either wholly on the Georgetown Ranger District, or on the Georgetown and Pacific Districts. NEPA has been completed for all projects. All projects will benefit National Forest lands and the surrounding communities. The Georgetown Ranger District has the capacity to implement these projects if they are approved. All projects are scalable, should the RAC decide to fund any of the projects at a lower (or higher) amount than requested.

- 4HPf Big X Mountain Mastication Project
- 4HP6 Big X Mountain Watershed Restoration Road Rocking Project
- 4HNe Georgetown Ranger District Non-Motorized Trail Maintenance Project
- 4HRR King Fire Archaeological Site Restoration Project
- 4HQ4 (4HMR) King Fire Hazard Tree Falling Project
- 4HOD (4HOI) King Fire Invasive Plant Control Project
- 4HMv (4HNA, 4HN5, 4HN0, 4HNy) King Fire Planting Project
- 4HTS King Fire Stream Restoration Project
- 4HNo North Cable Point Ridge Fuelbreak Construction Project

Please note that some projects were inadvertently entered into the database more than once; I have listed all the project numbers to clarify which ones are duplicate entries.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Patricia M. Trimble

PATRICIA M. TRIMBLE
Georgetown District Ranger



OREGON-CALIFORNIA TRAILS ASSOCIATION

REF: KING FIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROJECT

This letter is in support of the Eldorado National Forest King Fire Archaeological Site Restoration Project.

The Oregon-California Trails Association is a national organization whose mission is to protect the Historic Emigrant Trails legacy by promoting research, education, preservation and public awareness of historic trails.

Segments of the historic Johnson's Cutoff and Georgetown Pack Trail located in the Eldorado National Forest were impacted by the recent King fire. Both of these trails were used in the 19th century westward migration and today some 160 years later, evidence of trail use and wagon ruts are still visible.

For the past 8 years, volunteers from the California-Nevada Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association have been locating, mapping and working with the Forest Service to preserve and maintain these historic trails and the legacy that is part of this rich history.

The proposed project to reduce fuels, control erosion and provide ongoing maintenance will continue to protect and preserve the trails for future generations.

The Oregon-California Trails Association strongly supports this project.

Very truly yours,

John Winner, President
Oregon-California Trails Association

3541 Sundance Trl.
Placerville, Ca
95667

swinner@dataentree.com

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Protect, Preserve, Promote Washoe Culture



January 21, 2016
Eldorado County RAC

Subject: King Fire Archaeological Site Restoration Project

Dear RAC Members,

Thank you for consulting with the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California on the proposed King Fire Archaeological Site Restoration Project.

I have been working with Jordan Serin, Archeologist with the Eldorado National Forest and have seen firsthand the devastation from the King Fire. This project has many multi-purpose benefits to the natural and cultural environments and associated flora and fauna.

As the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and a cooperating agency I support this project.

I will be working closely with Jordan as he implements the project.

Thank you and please call me if you have any questions at (775) 265-8600.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrel Cruz".

Darrel Cruz, Director
Tribal Historic Preservation Office