



**PROPOSITION 1 WATERSHED RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM
EASTERN SIERRA PACE & SCALE ACCELERATOR
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER – Q2196015,01**

GRANTOR: State of California, acting by and through
The California Department of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

GRANTEE: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

GRANT AMENDMENT

This Grant **Q2195015**, by and between the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Grantor) and Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (Grantee), originally made and entered into on October 13, 2021, is hereby amended upon Grantor approval, in the following particulars and no others:

1. *Section 2, Term, is amended by deleting reference to, “October 13, 2021 through March 15, 2025” there from and inserting, “October 13, 2021 through December 31, 2026” (an increase of eighteen months).*
2. *Section 6.02, Objectives, is replaced in its entirety with the below Section 6.02, Objectives. The revised Objectives includes the new updated project area of 113,000 acres.*

6.02 Objectives: Specific objectives of this Project are to:

- Streamline environmental planning to ensure more efficient and effective vegetation management implementation in the Eastern Sierra Mts.
- Environmental Assessment for 113,000 acres of project area
- Survey data and associated reports for 10,000 priority acres within the ESCCRP
- Facilitate and complete NEPA
- Create and improve Monitoring Plan for the ESCCRP
- Map priority areas for future implementation work
- Confirm CEQA Lead Agency and prepare total ESCCRP area for CEQA

- Plan for Long term financial security for the ESCCRP

3. *Section 6.03.1, Location, is replaced in its entirety with the below Section 6.03.1, Location. The revised Location includes an additional 58,000 acres, which is a total of 113,000 acres in both Mono and Madera Counties.*

6.03.1 Location: The Project is located on approximately 113,000 acres of privately-owned and publicly-owned land located at 37.639590, -118.966360 in Mono and Madera County, California (Project Site).

4. *Section 6.03.3, Project Implementation, is replaced in its entirety with the below Section 6.03.3, Project Implementation. The revised Project Implementation includes the addition of Subtask 3.8 NEPA Pre-development Tasks and Subtask 3.9 CalVTP Supplemental Studies for CEQA Compliance.*

6.03.4 Project Implementation: Consistent with Grantee's proposal for the Project, Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management who will complete the following tasks in accordance with Section 6.03.6 – Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables:

Task 1 – Project Management and Administration

Grantee will oversee Grantee Personnel staff, including the Grantee Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, and Legal Counsel, & Subcontractor Project Management who will work together to provide technical and administrative services associated with implementation of the Project, including managing this Agreement, assuring all permits are finalized, administering subcontracts, invoicing, and payments, drafting, and finalizing progress and final reports, and data management.

Subtask 1.1 – Data Management

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will coordinate data management activities. Grantee shall submit a Data Management Plan. The CDFW Grant Manager will provide Grantee the Data Management Plan form upon request.

Grantee is responsible for ensuring that Project data are collected using peer-approved methods, undergo a quality control and accuracy assessment process, include metadata that meet CDFW's minimum standards (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Data/BIOS/Metadata>) and include documentation of the methods and quality assessments utilized, and are properly stored and protected until the Project has been

completed and data have been delivered as required under this Agreement.

All scientific data collection efforts are required to include metadata files or records indicating at a minimum:

1. Who collected the data;
2. When the data was collected;
3. Where the data was collected;
4. How the data was collected (description of methods and protocols);
5. The purposes for which the data was collected;
6. Definitions of variables, fields, codes, and abbreviations used in the data, including units of measure;
7. The terms of any landowner access agreement(s), if applicable;
8. References to any related CDFW permits or regulatory actions;
9. Peer review or statistical consultation documentation; and
10. Data licensing and disclaimer language.

All data and associated metadata collected by or created under this Agreement are a required deliverable of this Agreement. All data deliverables should be budgeted for and included in the Project timeline as a part of this Agreement. A condition of final payment on this Agreement shall include the delivery of all related data assets. Geospatial data must be delivered in an industry-standard geospatial data format where applicable and documented with metadata in accordance with the CDFW Minimum Metadata Standards.

Data related to observation, occurrence or distribution of state or federal special status species or California Native Plant Society listed species shall be reported to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) using the online field survey form or other digital method.

Task 2 - Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)

Grantee will oversee the Subcontractor Project Management who will oversee all other subcontractors. An interdisciplinary team (IDT) will be built by the Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning, in partnership with the Inyo National Forest Interdisciplinary Team (USFS). The USFS will mentor and work with IDT to ensure early alignment of Forest Service which will include policies, priorities, as well as resource and local area sensitivities within the project area in alignment with the new Land Management Plan. Federal staff support will include but not limited to the USFS providing content and review of position

descriptions, help recruit, and make hiring recommendations for IDT members, and consult on any questions that arise from performance of NEPA work. USFS through in-kind funds will mentor, help train and support team building, to optimize the new IDT and USFS alignment. Grantee and USFS will ensure that continued collaboration with the USFS occurs.

Task 3 – NEPA & Supporting Documents

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning and the USFS to schedule and conduct surveys. The Subcontractor Environmental Planning will determine applicable Inyo National Forest land and resource management plan components and review for compliance and development of project design features for all assessments and surveys to be conducted. The Subcontractor Environmental Planning will use the data and research gathered to recommend project design features or proposed action modifications or alternatives. The USFS will provide a forester (in-kind) to cover the silvicultural survey and reporting requirements contained within this project scope. Assessments for each discipline will be completed as deliverables to CDFW. Assessments will contain but not limited to the following documents: survey reports, specialist reports, effects analyses, or any other reports required for regulatory agency compliance. Grantee will also submit copies of all necessary permits.

Subtask 3.1 - Botanical Assessment

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will complete the Botanical Assessment. The Grantee will submit the Botanical Assessment to CDFW Grant Manager which will include but not limited to:

- Review known information about at-risk species habitat;
- Conduct vegetation mapping, biological surveys, and habitat assessments in priority areas;
- Prepare a Summary Survey Report and GIS---based maps;
- Prepare an analysis of At-risk Plants including habitat evaluation; and
- Prepare a Weed Risk Assessment Report and determine weed spread mitigations.

Subtask 3.2 - Archaeological Assessment

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will obtain archaeological research permit from the USFS.

Grantee will:

- Survey priority areas that do not have existing up-to-date records. Record sites utilizing “Historic Property Recording Specifications”;
- Record all newly discovered prehistoric, ethnographic, and historical heritage resources encountered within and directly adjacent to the project area(s);
- Re-record or supplement existing site records as needed based on discrepancies, alterations and impacts observed;
- Record all heritage resource sites using State Historic Preservation Office site forms; and
- Use USFS Region 5 standards to record all site boundaries (resource-grade Global Positioning System (GPS)).

Grantee will assign CA State Trinomial numbers for all sites in project area for inclusion in the Final Report. Grantee will complete Archaeological Project Effects Analysis Report. In-Situ Artifact Recording procedures will be followed during both inventory and site recording activities. Grantee will oversee subcontractor USFS who will consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for concurrence on eligibility and effects findings. Grantee will submit proof of the completion of the Archaeological Assessment to the Grant Manager.

Subtask 3.3 - Silvicultural Assessment

Grantee will work with Whitebark Institute Staff who will complete timber stand examinations and summary report of findings. As well as completing fire behavior modeling using fire modeling tools and summarize findings. Develop Silvicultural Project Effects which will include the Silvicultural Prescription based on findings and included in the Silvicultural Assessment. Grantee will submit the Silvicultural Assessment to the CDFW Grant Manager.

Subtask 3.4 - Wildlife Habitat Assessment

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will review known information about at-risk species habitat in the project area. Grantee will conduct habitat mapping, wildlife surveys, and habitat assessments to the level necessary, to include State listed species as necessary preparation for CEQA. Grantee will oversee USFS who

will consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to produce a Biological Opinion for species with Federal status.

The Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager Wildlife Habitat Assessment which will include but not limited to the following:

- Summary Survey Report and Geographic information System (GIS)---based maps.
- Analysis of Species of Conservation Concern, which will include habitat evaluation
- A Biological Assessment for species with Federal status, including threatened, endangered, or proposed threatened or endangered
- Biological Opinion

Subtask 3.5 - Recreation Assessment

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will use existing GIS and other information to identify recreational facilities and activities within the project area. The Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning will identify facilities and/or activities that have the potential for beneficial or adverse effects from wildfire as well as possible effects to the Project. Grantee will submit to CDFW Grant Manager the Recreation Assessment which will include but not limited to the Recreational Effects Analysis for the Project.

Subtask 3.6 – Hydrology & Soils Assessment

Grantee will identify and map waterways, wetlands, meadows, springs, and other water features using GIS, field verifications, air photos, or other methods as needed. This will include: Delineating waterbody buffer zones using Lahontan Water Board definitions; Planning design features and proposed action mitigations or alternatives based on analysis findings.

Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager the Hydrology & Soils Assessment which will include but not limited to:

- Delineate riparian conservation areas using GIS (using definitions in the Inyo National Forest land management plan)
- Review water bodies in analysis area to record any special designations (303d list, special status, designated Wild and Scenic Rivers)
- Determine applicable Inyo National Forest land and resource

management plan components and review for compliance and development of project design features

- Complete Cumulative Watershed Effects analysis using the Equivalent Roaded Area method
- Prepare a Watershed Report that analyzes project effects to water quality, water temperature, stream morphology, soil erosion and productivity, incorporating the results of the previous bullets
- Prepare a Timber Waiver application and consult with the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Subtask 3.7 – Environmental Assessment, Conduct NEPA Scoping & Facilitate Decision Process

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will complete all necessary actions to produce National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documents for review and finalization by the United States Forest Service (USFS) Responsible Official. Grantee will oversee the Subcontractor Environmental Planning team whose work will include facilitation of stakeholder group public engagement, scoping, comment period, and tribal consultation. Public and tribal participation for NEPA compliance is the responsibility of USFS Responsible Official. The Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning will work with the USFS to complete a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document for public comment. USFS Responsible Official will determine if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required. If a FONSI cannot be completed, and an EIS is required, any necessary additional funding needed will be obtained outside this grant and will be an in-kind match for this grant. Grantee will work with the USFS to finalize all NEPA compliance documents and facilitate the public participation and notification process for the final decision.

The Grantee will submit all draft and final copies of NEPA documents to the CDFW Grant Manager.

Subtask 3.8 - NEPA pre-development Tasks

Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager a *Resilient Mono Basin* (ESCCRP Part 2) pre-development documents, NEPA Scoping Document, and Draft Proposed Actions, which will include but are not limited to:

Pre Development

- Review of Existing Environmental Documents

- Development of Environmental Planning Roadmap
- Compilation of Draft Partner List, Including Roles and Responsibilities
- Establishment of Project Goals and Objectives
- Draft Project Boundary
- Draft Prioritization Map
- Compilation of Meeting Summaries and Agendas

Scoping Documents

- The INF will complete Draft Proposed Actions, coordinating with the Whitebark Institute, for one or more NEPA Projects in the Mono Basin.

Subtask 3.9 - CalVTP Supplemental Studies for CEQA Compliance

Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager the Mono Basin ESCCRP Part 2 Draft CEQA documents required by the CalVTP PEIR, which will include but are not limited to:

- Draft CEQA Documents necessary pursuant to the CalVTP for fuels reduction and restoration projects around the communities of Mono City and Lee Vining.
- Draft NEPA Categorical Exclusion documents for Federal partner lands that fall within the State Responsibility Area (SRA) which require both NEPA/CEQA to be positioned for implementation to allow for more rapid response to growing vegetation management concerns.

Task 4 - Prepare Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP) for Implementation

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management who will work with Subcontractor Implementation Preparation, who will ensure the ESCCRP is ready for implementation through preparation of CEQA planning needs, monitoring, education and outreach, local workforce development, and develop finance and marketing plan for when NEPA planning is complete.

Subtask 4.1 - Preparations for CEQA Planning Needs

Grantee will identify private lands for inclusion, as well as to prepare Federal lands to be eligible for future State grant funds, Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning will assess additional CEQA planning

needs, review current legislation to identify CEQA planning needs for Federally owned property, prepare a draft budget for CEQA planning needs for ESCCRP, and identify funding opportunity to support CEQA compliance work. The Grantee will submit to CDFW Grant Manager CEQA Lead Agency documentation, maps of non-federal lands to be included in ESCCRP, and a Draft Scope and Budget for CEQA planning.

Subtask 4.2 - Monitoring Plan

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management who will work with the USFS and the Implementation Preparation, to establish additional baseline monitoring requirements, in addition to the already established monitoring in the USFS Land Management Plan. Grantee will work with partners to maximize the learning opportunity the ESCCRP provides. Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management who will work with USFS to determine how the standard monitoring required covers the project area and develop a Monitoring Plan that will include but is not limited to:

- Identify established protocols and monitoring efforts by partners, adjacent landowners, and collaborating agencies.
- Work with Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Project Implementation and USFS to implement Monitoring Guidance.
- Ensure the monitoring developed is within technical, financial, and staffing capability of the USFS and partners.
- Develop performance measures to be included with Monitoring Plan.

The Subcontractor Project Management will work with the USFS and Subcontractor Implementation Preparation to determine what additional monitoring specific to this project will be required under the terms of the USFS Land Management Plan. The Subcontractor Project Management will work with United States USFS (in-kind) and Subcontractor Implementation Preparation develop monitoring protocols.

Subtask 4.3 - Education & Outreach

Grantee will ensure public outreach regarding recreational facilities and activities within the project area. Public outreach will include local communities and visitors to the project areas. Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Implementation Preparation who will work with the Education & Outreach Coordinators (paid through with in-kind) prepare and implement the Ad Hoc team workplan. This coordinator will also

work with Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Planning (RFFC) Program (in-kind) and ESCCRP stakeholders to develop outreach and education strategy for the ESCCRP. Grantee will create printed materials and media content which will include but not limited to:

- Fliers and mailings
- Dedicated project social media and web content
- All content will be translated into Spanish
- The Education and Outreach staff including in the Implementation Team budget will prepare an Outreach and Education workplan during Phase 1 of the project that will be submitted to CDFW

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Environmental Planning who will hold real time group chats adapted for various target audiences and scientific lectures focused on forest restoration aimed at both residents and visitors. Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager all final copies of Education and Outreach documents.

Subtask 4.4 Local Workforce Development

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Implementation Planning who will meet with local contractors and community leaders to identify business opportunities to meet the pace and scale needs of the ESCCRP. Grantee will develop a Local Workforce Matrix that will but is not limited to:

- Identify State and local assistance programs to aid in business expansion.
- Develop, with Subcontractor USFS long term fuels contracts to incentivize investments by local businesses.
- Work with local tribes to develop workforce programs.
- Identify contractors for implementation work based on the ESCCRP

Grantee will submit to the CDFW Grant Manager a copy of the finalized Local Workforce Matrix.

Subtask 4.5 - Finance & Marketing Plan

Grantee will oversee Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Implementation Preparation who, will develop a Long Term Financial and Marketing Plan for ESCCRP. Subcontractor Project Management and the Subcontractor Implementation will oversee Subcontractor USFS and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) (in-kind) to expand ecosystem services pilot project to include the Upper Owens River Watershed fuels work

within the ESCCRP. The Subcontractor Project Management and Subcontractor Implementation Prep will work with local water district, fire district and Town Council to identify development of local measures or similar tools which will be used to support fuels management. Grantee will identify funding support ESCCRP long term by working with the Chamber of Commerce to create a program from which local businesses can support implementation of the ESCCRP. In addition, the Subcontractor Project Management, and the Subcontractor Project Implementation will work with Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (in-kind) and Southern California Edison) (in-kind) to identify appropriate investments from those entities based on benefits received. Grantee will submit Long Term financial and Marketing Plan for ESCCRP to CDFW Grant Manager.

5. *Section 6.03.4, Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables, is replaced in its entirety with the below Section 6.03.4, Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables. The revised Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables includes new deliverables for subtask 3.8 and 3.9 and new estimated completion dates consistent with the term extension.*

6.03.4 Schedule of Due Dates and Deliverables:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Deliverables</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Dates</u>
1	Project Management and Administration	Quarterly Progress Reports	Due within 30 days following each calendar quarter (March, June, September, December) following grant execution.
		Quarterly, Invoices	Due within 30 days following each calendar quarter (March, June, September, December) after grant execution.
		Copies of Executed Subcontracts	With following Quarterly Progress Report upon completion

Q2196015,01
EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

<u>Task</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Deliverables</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Dates</u>
		Submit Data Management Plan	2/15/2023
		Submit Project Description Data to EcoAtlas Project Tracker	12/15/2022
		Submit Project Data	2/15/2025
		Project Close-out Summary Report	3/15/2025
		Final Invoice	12/30/2026
2	Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)	IDT Position Descriptions	3/1/2022
		IDT training material	12/30/2022
		IDT Staff CVs	6/15/2022
3	NEPA and Supporting Documents	Copies of Permits	12/30/2024
		Botanical Assessment	12/30/2024
		Archaeological Assessment	12/30/2024
		Silvicultural Assessment	12/30/2024
		Hydrology & Soils Assessment	12/30/2024
		Wildlife Habitat Assessment	12/30/2024
		Recreation Assessment	12/30/2024
		GIS Based Maps	12/30/2024

Q2196015,01
EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

<u>Task</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Deliverables</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Dates</u>
		Draft and Final NEPA Documents	3/1/2025
		ESCCRP Part 2_ Pre-Development Documents	6/1/2026
		ESCCRP Part 2 Mono Basin NEPA Scoping Draft Proposed Actions	6/1/2026
		ESCCRP Part 2 Mono Basin CalVTP CEQA Documents and supplemental federal Categorical Exclusions or equivalent.	6/1/2026
4	Prepare Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP) for Implementation	CEQA Lead Agency documentation	1/15/2024
		Maps of non-federal lands to be included in ESCCRP	1/15/2024
		Draft Scope and Budget for CEQA planning	1/15/2024
		Monitoring Plan	4/15/2023
		Outreach and Education Plan	11/15/2023
		Local Workforce Matrix	12/15/2024
		Long Term financial and Marketing Plan for ESCCRP	12/15/2024

6. Section 9.01, Budget Details and Funding Summary, is replaced in its entirety with the below Section 9.01, Budget Details and Funding Summary. The revised Budget Details and Funding Summary includes line item shifts to move \$205,000 from

Environmental Planning and \$5,000 from Indirect Costs to USFS and \$5,000 from Legal Counsel to Executive Director. In addition, the "Project Management" and "Implementation Planning" subcontractor line items are being combined into a single new "Project Management and Implementation Planning" line item.

SECTION 9 – BUDGET AND PAYMENT

9.01 Budget Details and Funding Summary: Grantor will provide an amount not to exceed \$3,384,269 as detailed in the Line Item Budget Detail (Budget) below. Grantee will provide \$0 in funds or in-kind services as cost share to complete the tasks described in Section 6 – Project Statement. Other funders will provide up to \$2,222,230.in funds or in-kind services as cost share to complete tasks described in Section 6 - Project Statement. Grantee will provide Grantor accurate records of all cost share with the Final Invoice.

Line Item Budget Detail	
A. PERSONNEL SERVICES	
Administrative Assistant	\$48,000
Executive Director	\$74,750
Legal Counsel	\$1,040
Subtotal Personnel Services	\$123,790
Staff Benefits	\$0
Subtotal Personnel Services	\$123,790
B. OPERATING EXPENSES: GENERAL	
Field Supplies	\$0
Travel (Not to exceed State reimbursement rates)	\$0
Subtotal Operating Expenses: General	\$0
C. OPERATING EXPENSES: SUBCONTRACTORS	
Project Management and Implementation Planning	\$475,654
Environmental Planning	\$2,306,375
USFS	\$438,692
Subtotal Operating Expenses: Subcontractors	\$3,220,721
D. OPERATING EXPENSES: EQUIPMENT	
Equipment item	\$0
Subtotal Operating Expenses: Equipment	\$0
E. INDIRECT COSTS	
Indirect Charge Rate 20% (Applies to Sections A + B, and the first \$25K of each subcontractor)	\$39,758
F. GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	\$3,384,269

Q2196015,01
EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

All other terms and conditions shall remain the same.

Q2196015,01
EASTERN SIERRA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of Grantor date set forth below the signature.

AUTHORIZED AGENT FOR GRANTEE

By:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: Elaine Kabala

Title: Executive Director

Date: _____

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

By:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: Matt Wells

Title: Chief, Watershed Restoration Grants Branch

Date: _____

This agreement is exempt from DGS-OLS approval, per SCM 4.06.