

# TRUCKEE RIVER FUND

Enhancing and protecting our water resources

## TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

Friday, February 18, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

### Meeting Via Teleconference ONLY

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA THE WEB LINK, OR  
TELEPHONICALLY BY CALLING THE NUMBER, LISTED BELOW.  
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION IS BEING PROVIDED FOR THIS MEETING  
**(Be sure to keep your phones on mute, and do not place the call on hold)**

Please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8785686516?pwd=K29WZlN1a0Q2Wm1YbnpIR111SzJUUT09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 568 6516

Password: CFNN

#### NOTES:

1. The announcement of this meeting has been posted in compliance with NRS 241.020(3) at: Truckee Meadows Water Authority (1355 Capital Blvd., Reno), at <https://truckeeriverfund.org/meetings/>, and NRS 232.2175 at State of Nevada Public Notice Website, <https://notice.nv.gov/>.
2. In accordance with NRS 241.020, this agenda closes three working days prior to the meeting. We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for persons who are disabled and wish to attend meetings. If you require special arrangements for the meeting, please call (775) 834-8002 at least 24 hours before the meeting date.
3. Staff reports and supporting material for the meeting are available on the Truckee River Fund website at <https://truckeeriverfund.org/meetings/> or you can contact Sonia Folsom at (775) 834-8002 or [sfolsom@tmwa.com](mailto:sfolsom@tmwa.com). Supporting material is made available to the general public in accordance with NRS 241.020(6).
4. The Committee may elect to combine agenda items, consider agenda items out of order, remove agenda items, or delay discussion on agenda items. Arrive at the meeting at the posted time to hear item(s) of interest.
5. Asterisks (\*) denote non-action items.
6. Public comment is limited to three minutes and is allowed during the public comment periods. **To request to speak, please use the "raise hand" feature or press \*9 to "raise your hand" and \*6 to unmute/mute your microphone.** Pursuant to Directive 006, public comment, whether on action items or general public comment, may be provided without being physically present at the meeting by submitting written comments online by email sent to [lrenda@nevadafund.org](mailto:lrenda@nevadafund.org) prior to the Committee opening the public comment period during the meeting. In addition, public comments may be provided by leaving a voicemail at (775)834-0255 prior to 4:00 p.m. on August 19th. Voicemail messages received will either be broadcast on the telephone call during the meeting or transcribed for entry into the record. Public comment is limited to three minutes and is allowed during the public comment periods. The Committee may elect to receive public comment only during the two public comment periods rather than each action item. Due to constraints of the videoconference system, public comment must be provided by voicemail, email, or online comment as indicated above.

1. Roll Call\*
2. Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker)\*
3. Approval of the agenda (**for possible action**)
4. Approve the November 2021 summary meeting minutes (**for possible action**)
5. Fund balance report\*
6. Hear presentation from Kim Rigdon of Western Regional Water Commission on work and priorities of the organization\*
7. Review grant proposals to Truckee River Fund and select projects to be recommended for funding (**for possible action**)
8. Review completed projects\*
  - a. **#249 Great Basin Outdoor School:** Lower Truckee River Snapshot Day, Spring & Summer Day Camp Watershed Education Initiative, \$15,925.36 (Jim)
9. Discussion of Candice Elder's resignation and vacancy on TRF Advisory Committee\*
10. Discuss the desirability/allowability of funding long-term projects\*

11. Committee and staff comments\*
12. Next meeting: May 20, 2022 at 8:30am (**for possible action**)
13. Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker)\*
14. Adjournment (**for possible action**)

## MEETING MINUTES (TRANSCRIPT SUMMARY)

### TRUCKEE RIVER FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2021

(Meeting via Zoom and teleconference)

The following meeting minutes is a summary of the certified transcript for the Truckee River Fund Advisory Committee meeting held at 8:30 a.m., Friday, November 19, 2021, via Zoom and teleconference.

**Those Present:** Committee Members: Brian Bonnenfant, Vice Chair; Don Mahin; Mike Brisbin; Bill Bradley; and Terri Svetich\*. Also: Lauren Renda, Community Foundation of Western Nevada; John Enloe and Sonia Folsom, both with TMWA. Members of the Public: Theresa Jones with City of Reno; Iris Jehle-Peppard with One Truckee River; and Lisa Wallace with Truckee River Watershed Council.

\* Committee member arrived after roll call

\*\* Committee member left meeting before adjournment

**Agenda Item #1: Roll Call:** A quorum was noted after Terri Svetich was able to join the meeting after having computer problems.

**Agenda Item #2: Public comment:** There was no public comment at this time.

**Agenda Item #3: Approval of the agenda (for possible action):** The agenda was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item #4: Approve the August summary meeting minutes (for possible action):** The Meeting Minutes (Transcript Summary) for August 20, 2021 was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item #5: Hear presentation from Theresa Jones on Truckee Meadows Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee (SWPCC) activities:** Theresa Jones presented a slide show regarding the Stormwater Committee, which included her information as the coordinator, a description of the Stormwater Committee and what it does, including touching on the 7 program elements that they implement administratively, plus watershed management as it applies to water quality. She reviewed the new logo, trends analysis, watershed management and protection plan and watershed assessments for tributaries to the Truckee River, Chalk Creek and its 319 funding. She talked about their partnerships with

OTR to provide HOAs training, with Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation and the dog waste bags, with KTMB regarding stenciling, and with TMWA to create an informational pamphlet to insert into their water bills. She went over various programs and management plans and added that their website is [tmstormwater.com](http://tmstormwater.com). She answered Committee questions.

**Agenda Item #6: Hear presentation from One Truckee River on priorities and**

**progress:** Iris Jehle-Peppard gave a slide show presentation regarding OTR and its mission to ensure a healthy and thriving river connected to its community, a nonprofit that coordinates a coalition of public and private partners who work together to strive for that mission. She described the makeup of OTR and how it was founded with Truckee River Fund fund support and how it completed the OTR management plan, and described its focus areas, stating that OTR seeks to coordinate existing agency efforts and documents to implement its plan rather than create a new agency. She also summarized what was accomplished after the plan and work were approved by all three jurisdictions. She discussed a few of the 9 prioritized action items, including public restrooms along the river, focusing on a way to track success of the plan that evolved into the new Truckee River dashboard under Truckee Meadows Tomorrow, and the development and implementation of a coordinated vegetation management plan along the river. She closed by saying that OTR strives to be a circuit to support the implementation of the management plan and that if they always collaborate with their partners, many regional agencies, and work on what they prioritize that comes directly from the management plan, they are within the spirit and mission of OTR. She answered Committee questions.

**Agenda Item #7: Hear presentation from Truckee River Watershed Council on priorities and progress:**

Lisa Wallace first noted that there's a thread between her presentation and Theresa's and Iris's presentations, an element of comprehensiveness in the amount of work to address water quality and working with a wide number of partners, which needs to be reinforced through financing. She thanked the Truckee River Fund for its vision and passion for over a decade and highlighted how much the Truckee River Fund has supported headwaters protection, which has allowed them to leverage that with additional funding that helped achieve TMDL sediment load reduction and more qualitative impact in water supply protection and ecofunction system, which directly has benefit to water supply and water quality, adding that the Nevada portion of the Truckee River is the receiving water from the California portion of the Truckee River. She reviewed the strategies for addressing impairment of the headwaters, including restoration and a lift in ecosystem function and addressing root causes from historic land uses, protecting what's functioning now, and engagement with the theme that no one organization can address water quality and water supply, that it really does take a collaboration. She briefly went over what's coming up, including launching an increase in supporting forest health, conservation, and then continuing work in the 89 South corridor, all of which are headwaters protection that has a direct connect here in Nevada. She described the forest health assessment development and facilitation by TRWC. Work is already underway on many projects, and the assessment can amplify that work. She answered Committee questions.

**Agenda Item #8: Review completed projects**

- a. **#192 Truckee River Watershed Council:** Truckee River Tributaries Sediment Reduction Project \$65,000 (Mike). Mike Brisbin reviewed the goal of the outcomes and what they actually did. He reported that they did what they said they were going to do, but that it was a little confusing in that they didn't line up the results with the measured outcomes that they were going to use, and the final report didn't specify the decommissioning work they did.
- b. **#209 Truckee River Watershed Council:** Restoration Projects: Donner Creek & Dry Creek Meadows, \$92,000 (Bill). Bill Bradley reported that Dry Creek was the area that was restored and that due to the drought they weren't sure how the restoration was going to perform, but that Lisa indicated it outperformed their expectations. The planning is now going on for Donner Creek, and because of the good results with Dry Creek, the Council, its stakeholders, and its partners are anxious to get that underway. And he expects that we'll be seeing another funding request.
- c. **#240 Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space:** Truckee River Parks and Open Space Weed Management and Revegetation, \$45,000 (Michael). Lauren Renda stated that Michael Cameron had submitted his report, which indicated he marked it as completed and exceeded activities for the proposal, that they met expectations as far as deeming the project a success, and that they met their stated goals in their original proposal. He had an added note that additional work was completed compared to what was proposed in the original proposal because of additional public grant funds that were able to be raised.
- d. **#241 Truckee River Watershed Council:** Restoration: Coldstream Canyon and Bear Creek, \$86,500 (Mike). Mike Brisbin reported that it looks like they did the work that they said they were going to do, and maybe more, but that, again, it's confusing as the metrics that they said they were going to do didn't really match up with what they did. He said that it's his fault for not staying on top of the quarterly reports and doing his homework early where he could have gone back to them and said he didn't understand it.
- e. **#244 Washoe County:** Encampment Clean-up and Unsheltered Individual Data Collection, \$179,932 (Brian). Brian Bonnenfant reported that they did return \$56,000 and change that they did not spend, and that they had another \$100,000 from other sources. They did what they said they were going to do. They collected names from river camp persons. So about 250 people are on that, in that database, that they're tracking now. It's sort of that Built for Zero where now they can start tracking these individuals on services and where they're going and how they're doing. The cleanup went very well. They collected 8,881 trash bags through this process. Also, they picked up 430 pounds of material out of the sharps containers

along the river over the year. And then there's the river steward program, with Grant Denton going around and enlisting some of these camp residents into that program, kind of lifting them out and providing them with hope and a job and an income. They have success stories in their final report of people getting out of the river and getting a job and being approved. So it's all good work.

- f. **#245 Sierra Nevada Journeys:** Watershed Education Initiative for the Urban Truckee River Corridor, \$31,035 (Michael). Lauren Renda stated that Michael Cameron had submitted a report and that he marked that they concluded their activities specified in the proposal, they met expectations, so deeming their project a success, met their stated goals. And he noted that classes were held virtually due to COVID.
- g. **#249 Great Basin Outdoor School:** Lower Truckee Snapshot Day, Spring & Summer Day Camp Watershed Education Initiative, \$15,925.36 (Jim). Lauren Renda stated that she doesn't have a report for this one, and we can add it to the next agenda.

**Agenda Item #9: Review and approve 2022 calendar (for possible action):** The 2022 calendar was approved.

**Agenda Item #10: Discussion and possible updates to Spring 2022 RFP (for possible action):** Lauren Renda stated that there should be around \$160,000 available for spring RFP, that we'll keep it the same unless there's any recommendations on the scope of the RFP; otherwise, it will go out probably January with a close date of early February. There was discussion regarding the TMWA Board meeting that Janet Phillips, Terri Svetich, Lauren Renda, Sonia Folsom and Jim Smitherman attended. Feedback was provided as to the Board being supportive of our recommendation, and that Member Brekhus wasn't there but that her sentiments don't carry throughout the rest of the Board. The RFP for spring was approved.

**Agenda Item #11: Committee and staff comments:** None.

**Agenda Item #12: Next meeting: February 18, 2022 at 8:30am (for possible action):** The next meeting, set for Friday, February 18, 2022, at 8:30am, was approved.

**Agenda Item #13: Public comment (limited to no more than three minutes per speaker):** There was no public comment.

**Agenda Item #14: Adjournment (for possible action):** The meeting was adjourned at 9:53am. No action was taken.



**Cover Sheet**

**Date: January 20, 2022**

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Sierra Nevada Journeys		
<b>Type:</b>	501(c)(3) EIN# 01-0881587	<b>Governmental entity? N</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	190 E. Liberty Street, Reno NV 89501		
<b>Project Name:</b>	Watershed Education Initiative for the Urban Truckee River Corridor		
<b>Amount requested: \$30,055</b>	<b>Website: <a href="http://www.sierranevadajourneys.org">www.sierranevadajourneys.org</a></b>		
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b>	Deliver high-quality, experiential watershed education programs based on water quality issues and invasive species along the urban Truckee River corridor to empower youth to take action for the protection and enhancement of the water quality of the Truckee River. To meet schools' needs in case of restrictions, we have several distance learning/hybrid programs in place that will significantly engage students, teachers and parents with watershed education.		
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b>	Eaton Dunkelberger, CEO	
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Dan Klaich	
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Alyssa Wagner
		<b>Position:</b>	Program Director
		<b>Phone:</b>	775-848-6628
		<b>Fax:</b>	775-329-1689
		<b>Email:</b>	alyssaw@sierranevadajourneys.org
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	To deliver innovative, outdoor, science-based education programs for youth to develop critical thinking skills and to inspire natural resource stewardship.		
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund?</b> <b>Yes X No</b> (use additional page if necessary)	If yes,		
	<b>Date awarded:</b>	September 2021	
	<b>Project title:</b>	Watershed Education Initiative	
	<b>Amount of Award:</b>	\$30,055	
	<b>Date awarded:</b>	March 2021	
	<b>Project title:</b>	Watershed Education Initiative	
	<b>Amount of Award:</b>	\$31,035	
	<b>Date awarded:</b>	September 2020	
	<b>Project title:</b>	Watershed Education Initiative	
<b>Amount of Award:</b>	\$32,041		

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☐ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☐ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☐ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☐ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.<sup>3</sup> ☒ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria.

<sup>3</sup> For proposals related to weed control/eradication, contact Lauren Renda at the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada for additional criteria. [lrenda@nevadafund.org](mailto:lrenda@nevadafund.org); 775-333-5499.



### 1. Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.

During the past 13 years, Sierra Nevada Journeys' (SNJ) Watershed Education Initiative (WEI) has impacted approximately 14,000 students and 650 educators. This has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Truckee River Fund. WEI educates students about the local watershed, including human impacts on the watershed, water quality, and watershed protection. While in-class and field-based lessons reach students and educators, WEI's additional outreach components serve to engage families and community volunteers. With the specific focus of impacting the urban Truckee River corridor this Fall 2021 through WEI, we will successfully meet the following objectives:

Outputs	Outcomes
<p>Deliver WEI to 750 K-8th grade students specifically from along the urban Truckee River corridor.</p> <p>All students receive first-hand experience with the local watershed through a field-study on the Truckee River or one of its tributaries, or, in the case of a distance learning model, a virtual field trip or case study of the Truckee River.</p> <p>Provide 28 teachers with WEI extension lessons.</p>	<p>90% of students will be able to draw, describe and discuss the Truckee River Watershed.</p> <p>90% of students will be able to use knowledge of storm drains to describe how individuals and communities can protect watersheds and reduce human impact on them.</p> <p>90% of students participating in "Hands in the River" curriculum will complete a Truckee River issue case study on water quality in the watershed.</p> <p>95% of teachers will report that the program is helping to build critical thinking skills among their students.</p>

Methods to measure outcomes: Pre- and post-assessments are completed by each participating student. Each teacher completes a survey. Both are scored and compiled by SNJ staff. A third-party consultant from the NV Department of Education's assessment office consulted on the development of the assessment tools used in this program.

Methods to measure outputs: SNJ's Education Department manages an internal database that tracks details on participating students, schools, parents and volunteers.

We anticipate doing in-person learning this Spring. However, if Sierra Nevada Journeys WEI has to move to a hybrid and/or virtual platform due the COVID-19 crisis, we still anticipate reaching 28 teachers and 750 students with our Virtual Classrooms Unleashed. To achieve this programming, we continue to design online programs so that teachers can implement STEM and WEI lessons directly into their distance learning curricula, if needed.

Even with hybrid learning restrictions last year requiring great flexibility to serve teachers and students, we reached 500+ teachers and 20,000 students. Early in the year, we provided our programming through live Zoom lessons, pre-recorded videos of demonstrations in the field, interactive slideshow presentations and hands-on activities, ensuring that WEI inspired students to learn about our watershed and non-point source pollution. During the Fall, our educators personally reached out to each school and classroom to determine how SNJ could support them. As a result, we tailored our Watershed Education Initiative, appropriately, to meet their needs. Sierra Nevada Journeys continues to being committed to





filling any unexpected education gaps created by the pandemic. We will deliver a successful education model, whether through traditional or virtual platforms, with the blend of fundraising dollars, program fees and community support, especially with the generous funding of the Truckee River Fund.

**2. Project location.** During Spring 2022, the two main field sites for this program will be located through and downstream of the urban corridor of the Truckee River; Oxbow Nature Study Area and the McCarran Ranch Preserve. These locations are convenient and close to home for local students, increasing their sense of ownership, awareness and comfort with accessible nature areas, and they highlight regions along the Truckee River that are impacted by urban growth and development. In instances of distance learning programming, students will be guided through a “Virtual Field Trip” to the McCarran Ranch Preserve.

**3. Project Description.** A study from The Nature Conservancy reveals that students who have had a personal experience in nature are:

- Significantly more likely to express concern about water pollution, air pollution, climate change, and the condition of the environment;
- More than twice as likely to “strongly agree” that protecting the environment is “cool;”
- More than twice as likely to consider themselves a “strong environmentalist;” and
- Substantially more likely to express interest in studying the environment in college, working in a job related to nature, or joining an environmental club at their school. <sup>1</sup>

Also, a study from the North American Association for Environmental Education showed that feelings of connectedness to nature are important predictors of environmental behaviors, and that connectedness for children was significantly enhanced through field trips. As children become increasingly alienated from the outdoors it is imperative to create opportunities for them to connect to nature.<sup>2</sup>

Through WEI, SNJ provides local youth with opportunities to have an interactive experience outdoors, increasing their likelihood to cherish nature, engage with it and become stewards of their natural resources.

With this funding, SNJ will serve 750 students in 28 classrooms within 10 miles of the urban corridor of the Truckee River. Conducted over a four-week period, WEI includes two in-class lessons, one field-study experience, pre- and post-assessments, classroom extension lessons for teachers, and family and community engagement. Curriculum developed and delivered by SNJ’s team of credentialed teachers aligns to state and national standards and the North American Association for Environmental Education’s Guidelines for Excellence.

### SNJ’s Watershed Education Initiative Overview

The **school-based** component includes two in-class lessons (three) hours of engaging instruction. Students participate in hands-on lessons that incorporate the Truckee River watershed, point and non-point source pollution, invasive species, sources and impacts of erosion, water conservation and stewardship.

The **field-based** component includes approximately one day of outdoor science education as students hike along the Truckee River. Students seek clues related to the health of the watershed and determine water quality by collecting and identifying macro-invertebrates or conducting chemical tests such as pH, dissolved oxygen, or turbidity. Students use evidence to make a conclusion about the health of the Truckee River Watershed.

SNJ provides five ready-to-use classroom **extension lessons for teachers** that help students prepare for and review learning objectives, as well as extend and reinforce each SNJ-directed lesson. By explicitly

<sup>1</sup> The Nature Conservancy, Connecting America’s Youth to Nature, 2012 Retrieved from: <http://www.nature.org/newsfeatures/kids-in-nature/youth-and-nature-poll-results.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> NAAEE, The Importance of Age and Duration of Exposure in Outdoor Education Programs, 2017 <https://naaee.org/eepr/research/library/connecting-students-nature-%E2%80%93-how>



modeling teaching methods and reinforcing with SNJ's classroom lessons, we strive to support educators and multiply the effects of our student programming.

To encourage **family engagement**, SNJ provides teachers with a template to email parents with a summary and pictures of their child's experience after each unit along with information for family-based discussion of the curriculum. This increases parent involvement, which allows individuals within families to reinforce the attitudes, motivations, skills and behaviors learned, and to foster parent-student communication about watershed-related topics.

The **volunteer component** of the program builds our capacity to involve the local community and broadens accessibility to our programming for low-income schools by helping to keep costs low. Volunteers, who are primarily comprised of retired educators, naturalists, and parent chaperones, also consistently report learning tremendously in their participation with WEI.

**4. Grant priorities.** WEI is an education program that addresses water, water quality and watershed protection for K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students, directly aligning with grant priority VI: *Stewardship and Environmental Awareness*. Students gain first-hand experience determining water quality, explore human impacts on their water source, and obtain skills, knowledge and a field experience to connect them to their local river. The overall long-term program impacts include:

- Students understand important science concepts related to the Truckee River watershed and can articulate how their actions affect the Truckee River watershed and local ecosystems.
- Teachers use extension lessons and implement more hands-on exploration of the watershed. Parents and community members engage in watershed education directly through WEI volunteer.
- Health of the Truckee River watershed and local ecosystems improves as students and their families adopt environmental stewardship practices that help reduce water pollution and human impacts.

**5. Permitting.** - N/A

**6. Future land use.** - N/A

**7. If future phases of the project will be needed, identify anticipated sources of funding.** - N/A


**8. Principals involved:**

Credentialed science educators on the SNJ staff will be directly responsible for coordination and delivery of watershed education programs. Alyssa Wagner is a former elementary school teacher and holds a Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from Concordia University, Portland, Oregon.

**9. Number of staff positions involved** in project: Fulltime **5** Part-time **1**

**10. Number of volunteers involved:** If the project runs in-person, approximately **50** volunteers (including field educators and parent volunteers) will donate **time** during WEI's field-study portion of the program, increasing parents and community member access to watershed education.

**11. Time Line of Project.**

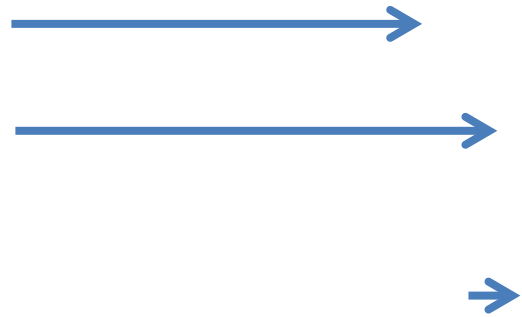
Deliverables	2022					
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	J
<b>Recruitment/Scheduling:</b> SNJ outreach efforts are continuous. Outreach is now underway for the spring semester. SNJ targets schools that participated in watershed programming in the past and new schools that have not received WEI.						



**Program Delivery:** SNJ instructors will deliver engaging watershed education lessons to 750 students through school-based and field-based programs.

**Evaluation:** SNJ staff will compile student assessment data throughout the grant period. These results will inform any changes to the curriculum to ensure effective programming in the future.

**Final Report:** Submit the final report to the Community Foundation of Western Nevada. This report will include a summary of the work completed, student assessment data, and a budget update.



## 12. Success.

Outputs	Tracking
<p>Deliver watershed education to 750 K-8th grade students from throughout northern Nevada.</p> <p>All students receive first-hand experience with the local watershed through a field-study on the Truckee River or one of its tributaries, or, in the case of a distance learning model, a virtual field trip or case study of the Truckee River.</p> <p>Provide 28 teachers with WEI extension lessons.</p>	<p>Internal SNJ database – Updated regularly throughout the year</p>
Outcomes	Tracking
<p>90% of students can draw, describe and discuss the Truckee River Watershed.</p> <p>90% of students can use knowledge of storm drains to describe how individuals and communities can protect watersheds and reduce human impact on them.</p> <p>90% of students participating in “Hands in the River” curriculum will complete a Truckee River issue case study on water quality in the watershed.</p> <p>95% of teachers will report that the program is helping to build critical thinking skills among their students.</p>	<p>Pre- and post-assessments – reviewed after the end of each program and presented in report at end of grant period</p> <p>Teacher surveys</p>

## 13. Grant Match

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>		<b>\$7,513 (25% of requested funds)</b>
<b>Match details:</b>	Match is:	
	Cash	<b>\$7,513</b>
	In-kind	Note: Volunteer and in-kind hours may be calculated at a maximum rate of \$20/hour per individual. Indirect cost may not be counted as match.
	For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes __ No <u>X</u>	
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	<b>\$7,513 from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection</b>	



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
*of Northern Nevada*

**TRUCKEE RIVER FUND**  
Enhancing and protecting our water resources



02-18-22 TRF Agenda Item 7  
#258

#### 14. Project Budget Watershed Education Initiative (WEI) Budget

Program Budget for Classrooms Unleashed: Nevada					
Item	Description	Per Student Expense	WEI Spring 2022 Expenses	SNJ Match	TRF Request
Education Personnel	Education Instructors, Program Directors and Coordinators	\$ 40.01	\$ 30,007.50	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,007.50
Direct Program Expenses	Direct program expenses, including: program and field day supplies, printing and paper, uniforms, etc.	\$ 6.73	\$ 5,047.50		\$ 5,047.50
Occupancy Expense	Rent and utilities	\$ 2.72	\$ 2,040.00	\$ 2,040.00	
Administration Expense	Marketing, office supplies, postage, outside printing services, internet and telephone	\$ 4.73	\$ 3,547.50	\$ 3,547.50	
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 54.19</b>	<b>\$ 40,642.50</b>	<b>\$ 10,587.50</b>	<b>\$ 30,055.00</b>

**Donner Creek Confluence and Boca Unit Restoration**

<b>Organization Name:</b>	<b>Truckee River Watershed Council</b>																				
<b>Type: Non-Profit</b>	<b>501(c)(3)</b> EIN# 91-1818748	<b>Governmental entity?</b> No																			
<b>Address:</b>	P.O. Box 8568, Truckee, CA 96162																				
<b>Project Name:</b>	Donner Creek Confluence and Boca Unit Restoration																				
<b>Amount requested: \$55,700</b>	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.truckeeriverwc.org">www.truckeeriverwc.org</a>																				
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b>	Fill critical funding gaps in two restoration projects, the Donner Creek Confluence Project and the Boca Unit Restoration Project. Both projects will support the Truckee River TMDL by reducing excess sedimentation and improving hydrologic connectivity and watershed function.																				
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b>	Lisa Wallace																			
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Jake Hudson																			
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Michele Prestowitz																		
		<b>Position:</b>	Project Director of Restoration																		
		<b>Phone:</b>	530-550-8760																		
		<b>Fax:</b>	NA																		
		<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:mprestowitz@truckeeriverwc.org">mprestowitz@truckeeriverwc.org</a>																		
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	We bring the community together for the Truckee to restore, protect, and enhance the Truckee River watershed.																				
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund?</b> Yes X No (use additional page if necessary)	If yes, <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>September, 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Prosser Basin Sediment Reduction</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount</td> <td>\$44,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>March, 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Bear Creek Lower Meadow Restoration Project</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount:</td> <td>\$51,250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>September 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Coldstream Canyon Sediment Reductio Project</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount:</td> <td>\$86,500</td> </tr> </table> Please see Attachment A for a full list of awarded grants			Date awarded:	September, 2021	Project title:	Prosser Basin Sediment Reduction	Amount	\$44,000	Date awarded:	March, 2021	Project title:	Bear Creek Lower Meadow Restoration Project	Amount:	\$51,250	Date awarded:	September 2020	Project title:	Coldstream Canyon Sediment Reductio Project	Amount:	\$86,500
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**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☒ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☒ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☒ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☐ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.<sup>1</sup>
- ☐ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria.

**Donner Creek Confluence and Boca Unit Restoration**

1. **Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.** The goal is to reduce erosion and excess sedimentation to the Truckee River by restoring impaired floodplain and aquatic systems along the mainstem of the Truckee River. To that end, this funding request is to close critical funding gaps on two projects: one in the planning phase, the **Boca Unit Restoration Project**, and the other in implementation, the **Donner Creek Confluence Project**.

The Middle Truckee River is listed under the Clean Water Act (303)d as impaired for sediment by the U.S. EPA, with an approved TMDL (Lahontan Water Board, 2008). The Truckee River is the primary water supply for the Reno/Sparks metropolitan area via the Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

The goal of the **Donner Creek Confluence Project** is to reduce transfer of sediment into the Truckee River and improve water quality by increasing riparian habitat and establishing a buffer zone at the confluence of Donner Creek and the Truckee River. To achieve this, we will implement the following:

- 1) Reintroduce and incorporate riparian and native vegetation within the project site;
- 2) Manage recreational access to prevent continued degradation and erosion; and
- 3) Restore compacted soils to improve infiltration of stormwater runoff.

Specific outcomes of the proposed project will be to implement restoration actions in a heavily impacted site that is contributing high sediment loading to the Truckee River. We will accomplish this through the following work tasks:

- Restore ½ acre of riparian habitat and erosive soils;
- Incorporate riparian and native plantings and seed, and install erosion control blankets to enhance habitat and reduce erosion;
- Reduce direct transfer of stormwater runoff from roadways adjacent to the Truckee River;
- Provide sustainable recreational access to reduce user impacts and prevent erosion

The goal of the **Boca Unit Restoration Project** is to reduce sediment delivery and improve water quality by addressing significant historical impacts on the mainstem of the Truckee River. The following performance outcomes will be measured by a pre- and post-project monitoring program:

- Improve water quality and riparian habitat by creating a ½ acre inset floodplain bench;
- Restore hydrologic function by re-engaging 2,500 feet of original high-flow channels;
- Reduce excess sedimentation by stabilizing the channels as they return to the Truckee River;
- Reconnect natural drainage by removing 3,500 feet of dirt roads and ¾ acre of parking; and
- Reduce stormwater inputs from I-80 by creating a 3,300 sf stormwater basin from a former borrow site.

With the requested grant funding, the project outcomes are completion of resource surveys, preparation of an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and submitting project permits. These can easily be reported quarterly to the Truckee River Fund.

2. **Project location.** Both projects are located on the mainstem of the Truckee River. See attached maps.
3. **Project description.** The **Donner Creek Confluence Project** and the **Boca Unit Restoration Project** share a common goal of reducing erosion and excess sedimentation to the Truckee River and improving water quality. The Truckee River has long been a focal point of development in the region, and historical urban-land uses were concentrated along the river. As a result, much of the historic

**Donner Creek Confluence and Boca Unit Restoration**

floodplain and sections of channel were heavily altered or filled. Additionally, both sites experience heavy recreational use, including unauthorized vehicle access, which leads to soil erosion, reduced riparian regeneration, compacted soils, and unmitigated stormwater pollution to the Truckee River. Both projects will establish a balance of environmental restoration and sustainable public access.

In 2020, the Truckee River Watershed Council (TRWC) completed project design plans for the **Donner Creek Confluence** site. Project design details a process to re-establish riparian habitat and restore compacted soils at the confluence of Donner Creek and the Truckee River.

The Donner Confluence project is being implemented in partnership with the Town of Truckee as part of the Truckee Legacy Trail-Phase 4 planned for construction in 2022. Monies provided by the Truckee River Fund will close a \$32,500 funding gap for the revegetation and soil restoration slated for fall of 2022. If the project is awarded, monies from the Truckee River Fund will leverage \$37,000 from the Town of Truckee for implementation of sustainable recreational access components, establishing designated parking, grading and stormwater management project elements.

The project is designed to restore floodplain function and habitat through planting and incorporating riparian and native vegetation, restoring natural infiltration processes and reducing erosional and stormwater impacts to Donner Creek and to the Truckee River. Management actions will be implemented to ensure that vehicles are restricted from accessing the site, and that recreational use is managed to minimize detrimental impacts. Grading will remove existing gullies and rills and will direct stormwater runoff away from Donner Creek and the Truckee River, minimizing direct transfer of stormwater runoff and sediments into the Truckee River.

The **Boca Unit Restoration Project** will reduce sediment delivery to the mainstem Truckee River by restoring and enhancing 11 acres of floodplain at a heavily degraded site. The site contains an historic railroad spur that disconnected the floodplain and confined the river to a straight channel, exacerbating erosion. Vehicle access compacted soils and intensified erosion. Runoff from I-80 conveys pollutants directly to the Truckee. The project will remove a portion of the railroad spur to reintroduce flows to the floodplain surface, slowing flows and reducing erosion. Unused roads will be decommissioned. A former borrow site will be converted to a stormwater treatment basin.

Hydrologic modeling shows that the restoration will successfully reconnect the river to its historic floodplain in a 2-year or greater precipitation event. This will have positive effects on sediment reduction, flood attenuation, and other floodplain functions. The project will also have significant benefits for riparian habitat acreage, quality, connectivity, and function. All of which promote greater climate change resiliency and adaptive capacity in this headwater system.

This project was identified by the Truckee River Revitalization Assessment (2018) and prioritized by a technical advisory committee for its likelihood to improve water quality, habitat, and hydrologic function. The landowner, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), is an active project partner and formally approves the project.

This request is to fill a critical funding gap of \$23,200 for environmental compliance and permitting. If awarded, these monies will leverage \$309,000 from the California Wildlife Conservation Board for restoration design and planning.

***Design documents for both projects are available for review upon request.***



4. **Grant priorities.** The project addresses:
  - **Watershed Improvements:** The projects will decrease sedimentation and support attainment of the TMDL for the Truckee River. They also improve watershed function and habitat by increasing floodplain connectivity and enhancing riparian vegetation.
  - **Local Stormwater Improvements:** The projects will mitigate stormwater coming from Highway 80 (Boca Unit) and West River Street (Donner Confluence) by targeting on-site infiltration.
  - **Support to Rehabilitation of Local Tributary Creeks and Drainage Courses:** The Donner Confluence project will restore habitat on a key tributary of the Truckee River and reduce sediment transfer to Donner Creek, as well as to the mainstem of the Truckee River.
  - **Meet Multiple Objectives:** The projects meet the objectives listed above, and benefit meadow, riparian, and in-stream habitat, native fish and wildlife species, and carbon sequestration.
  - **Leverage Stakeholder Assets and Participation:** The projects leverage significant stakeholder participation and cost share from the Town of Truckee and CDFW.
5. **Permitting.** Work at both sites will require Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board Section 401 Certification, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement, and US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Nationwide 27 permit. The Town of Truckee has secured all necessary permits for the **Donner Confluence** project. The **Boca Unit** project will also need CEQA and California State Water Resources Control Board Construction General Permit and will be completed through this funding request.
6. **Future Land Uses.** The **Donner Confluence** site is owned by the Town of Truckee. The Town will maintain and manage the land for multiple-use benefits including recreational access, habitat preservation and ecosystem functionality. No additional re-zoning or development plans are anticipated to affect the multi-use management objectives for this site. The **Boca Unit** project is part of the Truckee River Wildlife Area, designated by the California Fish and Game commission in 1996 to preserve the trout fishery and access to the river. CDFW manages the area for compatible uses, and there are no zoning, land use, or development plans that will affect the project.
7. **If future phases of the project will be needed, identify anticipated sources of funding.** Funding is provided by the Town of Truckee to ensure the **Donner Confluence** site is maintained and managed in accordance with applicable land-use management guidelines and requirements. Future project phases for the **Boca Unit** project include construction, post-project monitoring, and adaptive management. TRWC is currently applying for implementation funding from the State of California; however, these funding sources require CEQA to be complete for eligibility.
8. **Principals involved.** Eben Swain, Project Director with TRWC, will be the lead for the **Donner Confluence** project. Michele Prestowitz, Project Director with TRWC, will lead the **Boca Restoration** project. These principals will handle grant administration tasks jointly.
9. **Number of staff positions involved in project:** (Part-time) Eben Swain, Michele Prestowitz, and Lisa Wallace (TRWC) will each dedicate a portion of their time to this project.
10. **Number of volunteers involved in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours.** Volunteers will assist with revegetation components at the **Donner Confluence** including re-seeding and mulching. 10 volunteers will contribute a total of 45 hours of volunteer time.



**Donner Creek Confluence and Boca Unit Restoration****11. Time Line.**

Task	Start Date	Completion Date
<b>Donner Confluence Restoration</b>		
Stakeholder Coordination	March 2022	December 2022
Contractor Hiring/Bid Documents	July 2022	August 2022
Construction/Restoration	September 2022	November 2022
<b>Boca Unit Restoration</b>		
CEQA	March 2022	July 2022
Permits	March 2022	September 2022
<b>Project Management and Reporting</b>	March 2022	December 2022

12. **Success.** Project success for the **Donner Confluence Project** will be determined by growth, vigor and density of established vegetation, as well as by decreased presence of erosional features including rills and/or gullying that would otherwise convey sediments and stormwater pollutants to the main-stem of the Truckee River and to Donner Creek. Project success for the **Boca Unit** will be confirmed by completion and acceptance of all environmental compliance and permits.

**13. Grant match.**

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>		<b>\$13,925</b>
<b>Match details:</b>	Match is:	
	Cash	\$13,925
For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes		
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	<p>The \$8,125 in matching funds for the Donner Confluence project are from the Town of Truckee. Matching funds are allocated for the implementation of recreational access, established parking and stormwater management components.</p> <p>The \$5,800 in matching funds for the Boca Unit project are from the California Wildlife Conservation Board. Matching funds are allocated for restoration design and planning.</p> <p>TRWC will manage all allocated project funds to ensure maximum project efficiency and cost effectiveness.</p>	

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Extended list of past TRWC projects funded by the Truckee River Fund.
- B. Donner Creek Confluence Project Location Map
- C. Boca Unit Restoration Project Location Map

Documents noted below are available and can be submitted upon request.

**Nonprofits submit:**

- ☒ Last audited financial statements if your organization has been audited
- ☒ List of Board of Directors
- ☒ Copy of agency's IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Determination Letter
- ☒ Copy of the agency's most recent IRS Form 990

**BUDGET**

ITEM	TRF \$	OTHER FUNDING NAME	MATCH \$	TOTAL
<b>Donner Confluence Restoration</b>				
Project Management & Reporting	\$2,800			\$2,800
Project supplies (Plants, seed, amendment, etc)	\$3,400			\$3,400
Construction/Restoration	\$26,300	Town of Truckee	\$8,125	\$34,425
<b>Boca Unit Restoration</b>				
CEQA and permitting	\$23,200	California Wildlife Conservation Board	\$5,800	\$29,000
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$55,700</b>		<b>\$13,925</b>	<b>\$69,625</b>

**Attachment A**  
**Complete list of grants to TRWC from the Truckee River Fund**

Date awarded:	September, 2021
Project title:	Prosser Basin Sediment Reduction
Amount of Award	\$44,000
Date awarded:	March, 2021
Project title:	Bear Creek Lower Meadow Restoration Project
Amount of Award	\$51,250
Date awarded:	September 2020
Project title:	Restoration for Coldstream Canyon
Amount of Award	\$86,500
Date awarded:	October 2019
Project title:	Truckee River Invasive Species Control Project
Amount of Award	\$19,250
Date awarded:	March 2019
Project title:	Mclver Dairy Meadow Restoration Project
Amount of Award	\$161,000
Date awarded:	October 2018
Project title:	Truckee River Water Quality Monitoring Program
Amount of Award	\$25,000
Date awarded:	October 2018
Project title:	Restoration Projects: Donner Creek and Dry Creek Meadow
Amount of Award	\$92,000
Date awarded:	March 2018
Project title:	Truckee Meadows Restoration Project – Phase 2 Construction
Amount of Award	\$30,000
Date awarded:	October 2017
Project title:	Truckee River Tributaries Sediment Reduction Project
Amount of Award	\$165,000
Date awarded:	March 2017
Project title:	Big Chief, F4M Restoration Culvert Outflows
Amount of Award	\$50,000
Date awarded:	September 2016
Project title:	Donner Creek Bank Stabilization Downstream of Railroad Culvert Final Design
Amount of Award	\$90,000
Date awarded:	March 2017
Project title:	F4M Restoration Culvert Outflow
Amount of Award	\$50,000
Date awarded:	September 2016
Project title:	Donner Creek Concept Designs
Amount of Award	\$40,000
Date awarded:	September 2016
Project title:	Donner Creek Bank Stabilization
Amount of Award	\$92,000

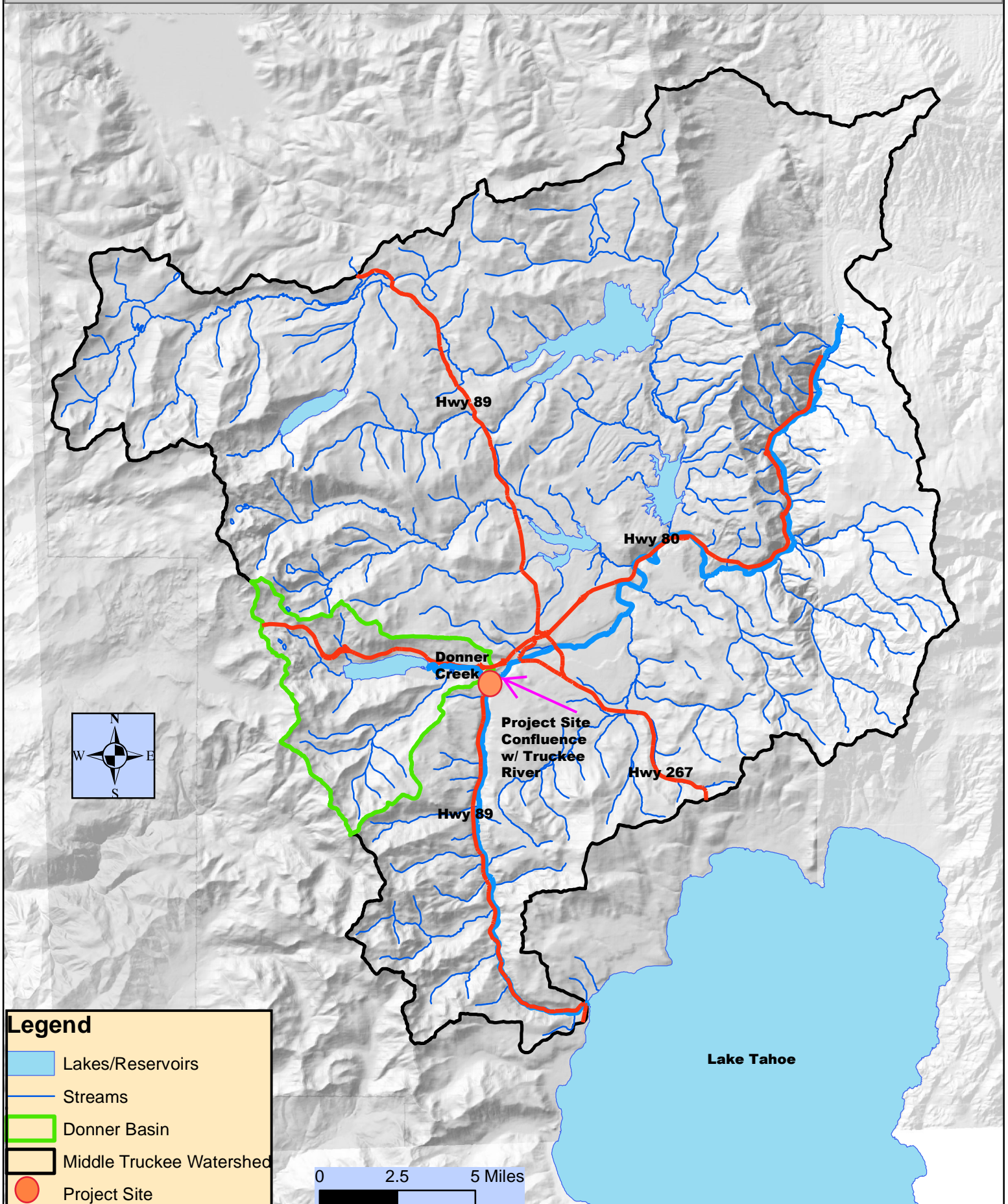
Grant application to the *Truckee River Fund*  
from the Truckee River Watershed Council

Date awarded:	April 2016
Project title:	Johnson Canyon West #2
Amount of Award	\$67,000
Date awarded:	October 2015
Project title:	Johnson Canyon West #1
Amount of Award	\$25,000
Date awarded:	September 2014
Project title:	Donner Lake Watershed Assessment
Amount of Award	\$70,000
Date awarded:	March 2014
Project title:	Truckee Wetlands Restoration – Phase 3,4, & 5 – Design
Amount of Award	\$50,000
Date awarded:	October 2013
Project title:	Truckee River Big Chief Corridor –Restoration
Amount of Award:	\$150,000
Date awarded:	March 2013
Project title:	Truckee River Big Chief Corridor – Implementation
Amount of Award	\$11,000
Date awarded:	March 2013
Project title:	Middle Martis Wetland Restoration – planning and design
Amount of Award:	\$120,000
Date awarded:	August 2012
Project title:	Phase 2 Coldstream Canyon Floodplain Restoration
Amount of Award:	\$196,000
Date awarded:	March 2012
Project title:	Lacey Creek and Meadow Assessment
Amount of Award	\$50,000
Date awarded:	March 2012
Project title:	Negro Canyon Restoration – pre-project monitoring
Amount of Award:	\$25,000
Date awarded:	October 2010
Project title:	Coldstream Canyon Floodplain Restoration Project
Amount of Award:	\$135,000
Date awarded:	August 2010
Project title:	Truckee Wetlands Restoration Project – Phase 2
Amount of Award:	\$40,000
Date awarded:	July 2006
Project title:	“This Drains to the Truckee River” Storm Drain Stenciling Pilot Project
Amount of Award:	\$9,300

# Attachment B: Donner Creek Confluence Project Location Map

## Truckee River Fund - Spring 2022

02-18-22 TRF Agenda Item 7  
#259





Attachment C

Boca Unit Restoration Project Location Map

Community Foundation of Northern Nevada, Truckee River Fund – Spring 2022 RFP





**Cover Sheet**

**Date: 2/4/2022**

<b>Organization Name:</b>	National Forest Foundation		
<b>Type:</b>	<b>501(c)(3) EIN# 52-1786332</b>	<b>Governmental Entity: N</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	National Forest Foundation, Bldg 27, Ste 3, Fort Missoula Rd, Missoula, MT 59804		
<b>Project Name:</b>	Carson District Forest Ambassador Project		
<b>Amount Requested:</b> \$96,680.50	<b>Website:</b> nationalforests.org		
<b>This funding will be used to:</b>	Requested funding will support the hiring of two seasonal forest ambassadors on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest – Carson Ranger District for one field season. These forest ambassadors will address the much needed, recognizable on-the-ground Forest Service capacity and associated land stewardship and educational needs on federal lands that overlap with TMWA watersheds of interest.		
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>President:</b>	Mary Mitsos	
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Rob Leary	
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Trevor Seck
		<b>Position:</b>	Program Coordinator – Sierra Nevada Program
		<b>Phone:</b>	530-760-7419
		<b>Fax:</b>	406-542-2810
		<b>E-mail:</b>	tseck@nationalforests.org
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	The National Forest Foundation, chartered by Congress, engages Americans in community-based and national programs that promote the health and public enjoyment of the 193-million-acre National Forest System, and administers private gifts of funds and land for the benefit of the National Forests.		
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund?</b> <b>Yes                      No</b> (use additional page if necessary)	<b>No.</b>		

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☒ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☐ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☒ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☐ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.
- ☒ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria



## Project Narrative:

### 1. Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.

The Forest Ambassador scope of work falls into three distinct program areas: public education and outreach, resource stewardship, and data collection. The primary goal of public education and outreach is to engage with National Forest visitors to provide education related to responsible and sustainable recreational use while visiting the HTNF Carson District. Outreach activities include tabling and roving at high-use areas, trail patrols, resource monitoring, event staffing, and educational events.

Forest Ambassadors will also work with the HTNF to complete stewardship activities including on-the-ground improvements such as trail maintenance and restoration, signage improvements, habitat protection, fencing, litter patrols, and vegetation rehabilitation. The Ambassadors work both autonomously and alongside project partners to accomplish objectives established by the U.S. Forest Service and NFF. Land stewardship activities will directly benefit TMWA watersheds of interest by promoting watershed health and restoration, reducing litter, and decreasing erosion and subsequent sedimentation into TMWA water supplies within the project area.

While on rounds throughout the TMWA watersheds of interest on HTNF lands, the Forest Ambassadors will conduct tablet data collection of user-related resource impacts. The primary forms this takes includes dispersed campsites, social trails, and trail maintenance locations and needs. Forest Ambassadors will document the location and intensity of these features, identify associated resource impacts, and provide the data needed to improve long-term management of high-use areas. These surveys will provide perspective on the spatial distribution/density of use across a broad region (district, watershed, etc.) and can better refine understanding of locations and intensity of use. This information will guide efforts to better distribute use, direct use away from sensitive areas, increase use in hardened or otherwise appropriate sites, and provide critical prioritization data sets. Additionally, this info may be shared with partners to improve their understanding of visitor use and potential future project needs.

### 2. Project location.

The HTNF Carson District encompasses 406,292 acres of public land. Overlying this District are important watersheds in the care of the Truckee Meadows Water Authority. The City of Reno – Truckee River and Steamboat Creek Watersheds encompass 307,997 acres, much of which directly overlaps the Carson District (see map). Within this overlap area are 16 recreation sites including two developed CGs, three high-use dispersed camping areas, five trailheads, four OHV staging areas, one interpretive site, one visitor center, 112 miles of National Forest System trails, and numerous undocumented user created trails and dispersed campsites.

The geographic scope of the project will directly align with watersheds that feed into downstream TMWA infrastructure. The intent of the project is to tailor the geographic focus of the project to align with TMWA's priority watersheds on HTNF lands. Initial drainages identified include Thomas, Whites, Bronco, Grey, and Hunter Creeks, as well as areas in Dog Valley and the Mt. Rose Wilderness. TMWA representatives will be included in HTNF and NFF collaborative efforts to identify and prioritize watersheds of interest throughout the 2022 field season. For specific project location please refer to attached project map.

### 3. Project description.

Heavy visitation to public lands in the Eastern Sierra occurs during all four seasons of the year and continues to increase significantly, year after year. Of special concern, the Carson District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (HTNF) is experiencing extremely high levels of visitor use from the surrounding cities of Reno, Carson City, the Tahoe Area, and visitors from across CA and NV. This sustained, high level of visitation is resulting in unmitigated and detrimental impacts to recreational and natural resources across the District. Notably, recreational impacts pose a risk to TMWA infrastructure and watersheds of concern from erosion and subsequent sedimentation of streams, increased risk of high severity wildfire and following water quality impacts, and litter and waste from irresponsible recreation.

The resulting negative impacts are greatly outpacing the capacity of the local HTNF recreation staff to respond. In addition to the negative impacts of extremely high use in these areas, many visitors lack information and education on





how to recreate responsibly. The NFF requests funding to support the hiring of two seasonal Forest Ambassador positions for one season to steward lands, conduct public outreach and education activities, and collect valuable resource data on HTNF lands that overlap with TMWA watersheds of interest. Forest Ambassadors will be utilized for a range of recreation management tasks (public outreach and education, trail stewardship and maintenance, data collection, waste management, restoration, etc.) that support the HTNF recreation program priorities on the Carson District and improve overall watershed health and sustainability.

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) will partner with local organizations such as American Conservation Experience (ACE) to hire two Forest Ambassadors that will integrate into the HTNF recreation program of work on a daily basis. Forest Ambassadors will be deployed at trailheads, trails, campgrounds, and recreation areas on National Forest System lands that have a direct nexus to TMWA infrastructure and watersheds of interest.

Forest Ambassadors will work independently or in small teams as required by task. The Forest Ambassadors will work full-time (40 hours/week) for one 6-month term. The work schedule will be designed so Forest Ambassadors are on the ground during peak usage - weekends and holidays. The HTNF and NFF will collaborate to develop an annual work plan for Forest Ambassadors, that includes a diversity of high priority recreation projects on National Forest System lands that have a direct nexus to TMWA infrastructure and watersheds of interest. TMWA input is welcomed and encouraged during the development of Forest Ambassador annual work plans.

The goals of the Forest Ambassador program are to:

- I. Provide much-needed, recognizable, on-the-ground USFS capacity,
- II. Perform outreach, education, and interpretation to the public,
- III. Provide resource stewardship and recreation infrastructure maintenance,
- IV. Support long-term forest management through data collection activities,
- V. Provide local employment opportunities related to the public land and recreation management sector.

Funding requested is scalable and may be reduced to meet the funding limitations and interest of TMWA. NFF's initial ask is for funding to support two Forest Ambassadors for one season; HTNF Recreation staff have voiced the need for two employees to increase safety while working within the project area. While preferable to attain funding for two Forest Ambassadors for two seasons, the NFF understands the high cost may be not feasible at this time.

#### 4. Grant priorities.

The proposed project directly addresses grant program priorities II. Watershed Improvements, V. Rehabilitation of Local Tributary Creeks and Drainage Courses, and VI. Stewardship and Environmental Awareness. Position responsibilities will include, but is not limited to, 1. conducting trail maintenance and restoration to reduce erosion and sedimentation into stream courses; 2. conducting public education and outreach for responsible recreation, watershed health, and to increase public awareness of fire risk; 3. conducting watershed clean-up and litter removal activities; and 4. quantifying recreation and watershed impacts via mapping and quantitative and qualitative data collection.

Priorities II and V will be directly targeted by Forest Ambassadors through trail maintenance and restoration efforts. These efforts will include, but may not be limited to, bolstering and improving drainage and runoff structures following Best Management Practices (BMP's), litter and waste removal, and restoration of user created trails and dispersed campsites; trail maintenance activities will decrease trail erosion and subsequent sedimentation of water supplies that feed into downstream TMWA infrastructure. User created trails are numerous in the project area, typically do not exhibit proper drainage structures and align with BMP's, and overall exhibit high levels of erosion, degradation, and overall poor alignment and construction. By restoring these areas, a major contributor to water quality degradation will be mitigated.

Forest ambassadors will also be responsible for collecting trail and recreation site qualitative and quantitative data via geospatial mapping software recently developed by the HTNF through previously awarded other grant sources. Dispersed campsites and social trails are often located near water sources/drainages, including motorized traffic in sensitive riparian areas, that can go unnoticed because dispersed campsites and non-system trails are not officially monitored. Data collection activities will provide land managers and TMWA a resource to both identify and prioritize efforts to enhance watershed health, restore degraded trails and other recreational infrastructure that pose a detriment to water quality, and quantify restoration needs within the TMWA and HTNF watersheds of interest. Data collection efforts by Forest Ambassadors will allow both HTNF and TMWA to fully understand the impacts to these priority watersheds and identify



areas of concern to target and prioritize resource protection efforts, and mitigate major sources of sedimentation into stream courses.

Largely spurred by the pandemic, land managers are witnessing a spike in recreation use and associated resource damage, degradation, and misuse. Forest Ambassadors will address grant program priority VI. Stewardship and Environmental Awareness through targeted public outreach and education efforts. Ambassadors will actively make public contact while on watershed patrols, sharing responsible recreation principles including topics such as fire safe behavior, the importance of protecting water quality, leave no trace principles, and how to minimize negative impacts to resources while recreating. Efforts may also include attending local trail work volunteer events and conducting litter removal activities. The detrimental effects of high severity wildfire on water quality and quantity to downstream users are well documented; Ambassadors will engage with the public to enhance knowledge of detrimental behavior on public lands and act as “boots on the ground” to patrol critical watersheds within the project area. The need for “boots on the ground” staffing has been voiced repeatedly by HTNF District Ranger Matt Zumstein; Ambassadors will directly address this need, increasing public knowledge of best practices on public lands and acting as oversight for public recreation.

## **5. Permitting.**

The NFF and HTNF entered into a Master Challenge Cost Share Agreement on March 17, 2021. This agreement permits the NFF to work on HTNF managed lands for a duration of 5 years, with HTNF intent to renew the agreement at the time of expiration. If awarded funding, the NFF and HTNF will modify our Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) to include the Forest Ambassador scope of work; modifying the SPA is a straightforward and relatively expedient process. No additional environmental planning, including CEQA or NEPA, is required for this project.

## **6. Future land use.**

There are no foreseeable zoning, land use, or development plans that may affect the proposed project. All lands associated with this project will continue to be managed by the HTNF in perpetuity.

## **7. Future Phases.**

This application may be viewed as a crucial pilot project for the HTNF Forest Ambassador Program. Our vision is to continue this program indefinitely, with intent to fundraise from local organizations, agencies, and corporate partners. The NFF has had success with a similar Forest Ambassador program in our Colorado program; the NFF intends to match tactics and strategies learned from Colorado to support this program in the Eastern Sierra Nevada. Successes from this proposed pilot project may be leveraged to other funding sources and corporate partners, showcasing the needs and benefits of the program. Following success of the pilot project, we envision the program scaling up to target all HTNF – Carson Ranger District lands. Unfortunately, the needed initial investment is difficult to attain with the current focus on hazardous fuels reduction in the Western US. If awarded funding, we envision the program growing on its success, with additional interest and funding opportunities rapidly increasing through targeted communications efforts. The NFF intends to expand this program beyond the TMWA watersheds of focus, to the entirety of the HTNF Sierra Zone to address the dire need for additional recreation staff capacity identified by HTNF-Carson Ranger District leadership.

## **8. Principals Involved.**

Principal organizations involved in leading and coordinating the project include the HTNF-Carson Ranger District and the NFF. If awarded funding, the NFF intends to partner with ACE to hire and manage the administrative needs of the Forest Ambassadors. HTNF Recreation staff will supervise the Forest Ambassadors throughout the season, including outlining specific work plans. The NFF will act primarily in an administrative capacity, managing grant funding and acting as a liaison between project partners. If awarded funding, TMWA will be provided an opportunity to play an active role in outlining priority projects and areas of interest; we view the Forest Ambassador program as a crucial collaborative effort to ensure all partners may attain their specific goals and needs within the identified project area.



## 9. Number of Staff Positions involved.

### Forest Ambassadors (2 Full-time, 6-month positions):

Two Forest Ambassador positions are proposed. These positions will be full-time for a 6-month period (seasonal). Requested funding will directly support staff time for Forest Ambassador positions.

### NFF Program Coordinator:

An NFF Program Coordinator will actively manage and coordinate project activities and administrative needs. The NFF Program Coordinator will manage the program as needed in a part time capacity; Program Coordinators are a salaried, year-round position managing multiple projects in their geographic area of focus. No grant funds will be requested to support NFF Program Coordinator project management.

### HTNF Recreation Staff:

HTNF Recreation Staff will provide daily supervision and direction to the Forest Ambassadors. HTNF staff time is outlined in the included project budget as in-kind matching contributions to funds requested. HTNF recreation staff involved in the project will include multiple employees at varying levels of leadership; currently the HTNF has numerous vacancies in the process of being hiring. No grant funds will be requested to support HTNF staff time.

## 10. Number of volunteers involved in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours.

Currently, the NFF cannot accurately estimate potential volunteer hours associated with this project. However, Forest Ambassadors will have the capacity to host volunteer and public outreach events during throughout the duration of the proposed project.

## 11. Timeline of Project.

The scope of work is anticipated to occur between May 1 and November 1, 2022 (6 months). We have opted to utilize this timeline due to snowpack and limited access in winter and spring months, and to align with the traditional USFS summer seasonal work timelines. If awarded funding, we anticipate beginning the Forest Ambassador advertisement and hiring process in March 2022. This allows two months for the onboarding process and administrative steps necessary to launch the pilot project. We anticipate finalizing the geospatial and quantitative recreation resource and restoration needs data set by November 2022.

## 12. Success.

Success will be measured via both subjective and quantitative measures. All education and public outreach scopes of work will be reported in a narrative format. Recreational outreach and engagement is typically measured by number of encounters with the public and events. Quantitative reporting will include number of events attended and hosted, number of encounters on trails and watersheds, and number and type of restoration and maintenance projects completed. Additionally, the aforementioned geospatial resource inventory will be a final marker of season success. Geospatial data collected may include, but is not limited to, linear feet and locations of user created trails, locations and type of trail maintenance needs, dispersed campsites, campfire rings, and other restoration locations and needs. All data collected will include qualitative fields to further catalogue the above data sets. Collected field data will aid in guiding future management decisions and priority areas in need of restoration both for HTNF and TMWA objectives within the project area.

## 13. Collaboration.

Key entities involved in the proposed Forest Ambassador program include the HTNF, the NFF, and ACE. If awarded funding, TMWA will be included within this collaborative process. The NFF values TMWA's input to help guide project watersheds of focus and priority needs.



## Grant Match

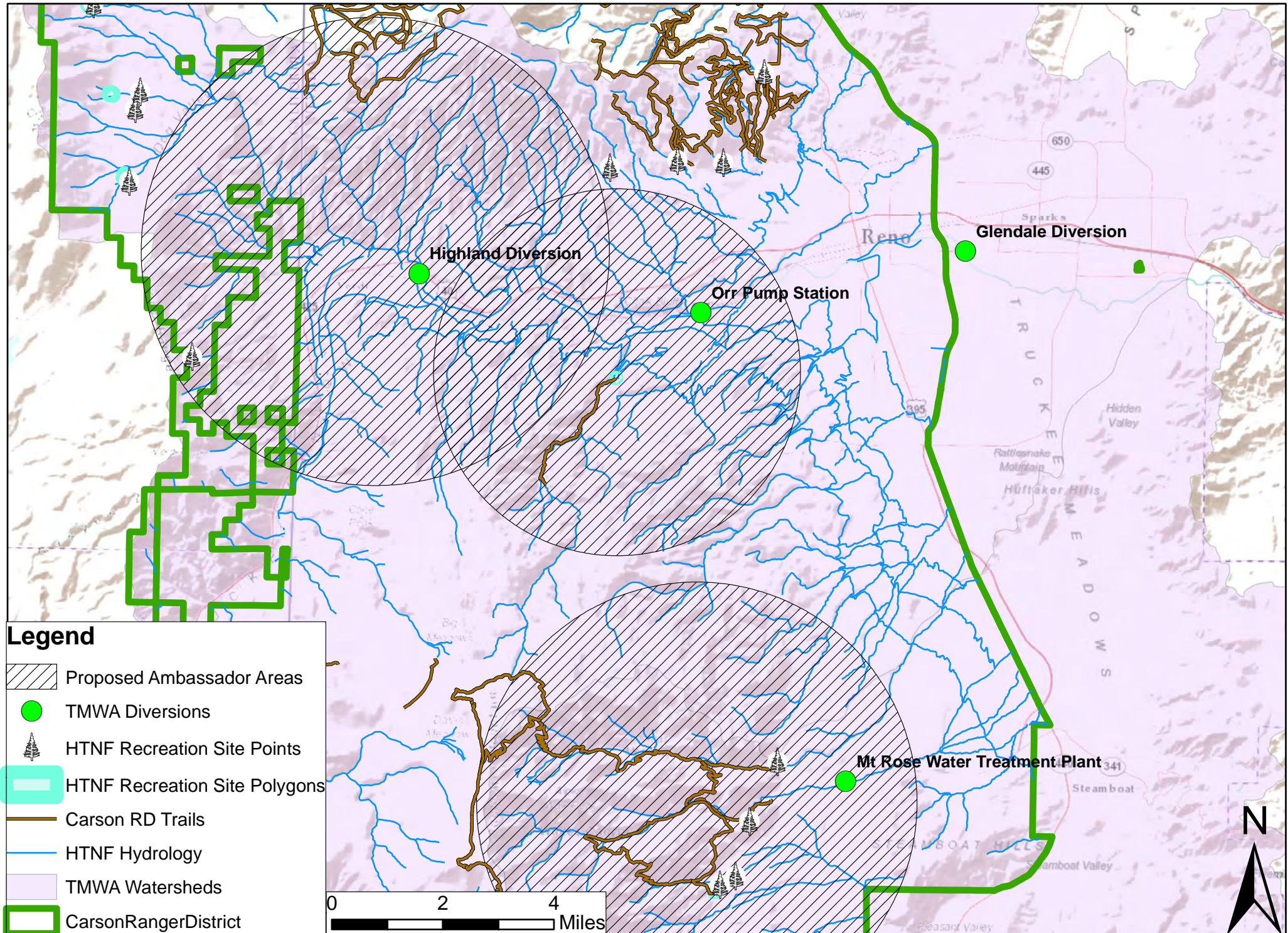
<b>Match Amount to be Provided:</b>	\$24,780.00	
<b>Match Details:</b>	Match is:	
	Cash	\$0.00
	In-kind	\$24,780.00
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind contributions:</b>	HTNF Recreation Staff will provide daily supervision and direction to the Forest Ambassadors. HTNF staff time is outlined in the included project budget as in-kind matching contributions to funds requested. HTNF recreation staff involved in the project will include multiple employees at varying levels of leadership; currently the HTNF has numerous vacancies in the process of being hiring. No grant funds will be requested to support HTNF staff time.	

NFF 2022 Truckee River Fund Grant Proposal Budget

Budget Item	Expected Subcontractor	TMWA Funding Request	Cost/Day	Match \$	Additional Information
2 x Forest Ambassador - 6 month season	American Conservation Experience	\$ 81,070.00	-	\$ -	Funds will support the hiring of two Forest Ambassadors for one six-month season, likely through ACE.
Supplies	-	\$ 1,000.00	-	\$ -	\$500 for each Ambassador. Funds to support purchasing PPE
Training	-	\$ 2,000.00	-	\$ -	\$1,000 for each Ambassador. Training may include interpretive/sustainable recreation, first aid/medical, trail maintenance skills, etc.
Project Oversight (USFS In-Kind)	HTNF GS-11	-	\$ 450.00	\$ 2,700.00	GS-11 Recreation Officer - 1 day per month
	HTNF GS-9	-	\$ 300.00	\$ 14,400.00	GS-9 Deputy Recreation Officer - 2 days per week
	HTNF GS-5	-	\$ 160.00	\$ 7,680.00	GS-5 Seasonal Recreation Technician - 2 days per week
NFF Indirect (15%)	-	\$ 12,610.50	-	\$ -	
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 96,680.50</b>		<b>\$ 24,780.00</b>	

<b>Total Requested</b>	\$ 96,680.50
<b>Match (25%)</b>	\$ 24,780.00
<b>Match %</b>	26%







FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

Cover Sheet

Date: 02/04/2022

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Friends of Nevada Wilderness			
<b>Type:</b>	501(c)(3) EIN# 88-0211763	<b>Governmental entity?</b> N		
<b>Address:</b>	1360 Greg St. #111 Sparks Nevada 89431			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Mount Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring, Treatment, and Re-seeding #10			
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$25,575	<b>Website:</b> www.nevadawilderness.org			
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b> Remove noxious weeds from the Hunter Creek watershed and reseed treated areas with native seeds to protect the water quality of the Truckee River and its watershed. We will host 6 removal projects, 3 reseed projects, and monitor known weed sites.		Friends of Nevada Wilderness will treat and re-seed approximately 75 acres of noxious weeds on Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest lands within the Truckee River Watershed.		
<b>Key People:</b> Nora Richter Chris Cutshaw Meg Tait Darcy Shepard	<b>Director:</b>	Shaaron Netherton		
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Roger Scholl		
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Nora Richter	
		<b>Position:</b>	Grants and Operations Manager	
		<b>Phone:</b>	775-324-7667	
		<b>Fax:</b>	775-324-2677	
<b>Email:</b>		nora@nevadawilderness.org		
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	Friends of Nevada Wilderness is dedicated to preserving all qualified Nevada public lands as Wilderness, protecting all present and potential Wilderness from ongoing threats, educating the public about the values of and need for wilderness, and improving the management and restoration of wild lands.			
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund?</b> <b>Yes X No _</b> (use additional page if necessary)	If yes,			
	Date awarded:	March 2021		
	Project title:	TRF #248 Mount Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring, Treatment, and Re-seeding #9		
	Amount of Award:	\$16,445		
	Date awarded:	March 2020		
	Project title:	TRF #234 Mount Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring, Treatment, and Re-seeding #8		
	Amount of Award:	\$28,549		
	Date awarded:	March 2019		
	Project title:	TRF #219- Mt Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment #7		
	Amount of Award:	\$24,094		
	Date awarded:	March 2018		
	Project title:	TRF #196- Mt Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment #6		
	Amount of Award:	\$23,500		
Date awarded:	March 2017			





FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

	Project title:	TRF #185- Mount Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment #5
	Amount of Award:	\$22,405
	Date awarded:	April 2016
	Project title:	TRF #168- Mount Rose Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment #4
	Amount of Award:	\$21,002

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☐ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☐ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☐ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☒ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.
- ☐ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria.

**NARRATIVE**

**1. Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.**

The goal of the 2022 Mount Rose Wilderness Noxious Weed Monitoring, Treatment, and Re-Seeding project is to remove noxious weeds from the Hunter Creek watershed and reseed treated areas with native seeds to protect the water quality of the Truckee River and its watershed. With the help of volunteers, we will battle the spread of the noxious weed Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*), monitor known weeds sites for changes and growth, and identify any new infestations. In 2020, we expanded our weed treatment program to include re-seeding efforts as directed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). We look forward to continuing the re-seeding in 2022 and monitoring it's efficacy.

Our methods include monitoring/scouting in the spring, direct removal with significant support from local volunteers, and re-seeding with native seeds in the fall. During the spring, Friends of Nevada Wilderness (FNW) staff will monitor known weed sites to assess outcomes and monitor changes in known populations. We will also monitor for native plants whose seeds we spread in 2020 and 2021 to monitor for the efficacy of our reseeding efforts. Weed removal will take place during May and June before plants have gone to seed. We will use shovels and clippers to pull Musk Thistle which is listed on the state noxious weed list. Mechanical removal is the most appropriate way to treat these weeds in Wilderness. Re-seeding will take place in the fall throughout 10 acres of the affected watershed with a USFS Botanist- approved graminoid mix, purchased by FNW, with pollinator-attracting perennial forbs.

FNW staff and volunteers will treat noxious weeds throughout an area of approximately 75 acres, monitor existing weed sites and surrounding areas, re-seed approximately 10 acres where weeds have been removed, and monitor areas where reseeding have occurred to look for native plants from seeds spread in 2020 and 2021. With funding from the Truckee River Fund we will host six volunteer weed removal events, three monitoring trips, and three re-seeding volunteer projects. Our project sites have been identified from years of monitoring and direction from the Carson Ranger District. We anticipate removing 10-000-15,000 invasive weeds that each have the potential to germinate and create thousands more plants. On each weed removal project, we plan to average 6 volunteers for about 6 hours of on-the-ground work each, and on each re-seeding project we plan to average 4 volunteers for about 6 hours of on-the-ground work each. We will also





use matching funds to complete at least two additional weed removal projects with 6 volunteers for 6 hours each, and we anticipate removing at least another 5,000 weeds.

These projects will not only engage and educate volunteers but will give citizens a chance to take part in the stewardship of their watershed. To date we have removed over 225,000 weeds from the Truckee River Watershed, resulting in a decrease in density of noxious weeds, and we hope to continue our momentum by augmenting these weed treatments with the reseedling of native bunch grasses and perennial forbs.

2. **Project location:** Project locations are in or adjacent to the northern section of Mount Rose Wilderness and are located within Hunter Creek and Belli Front drainages of the Wilderness into the Truckee River. All of the identified noxious weed locales are within the Truckee River Watershed and are 1-4 miles from the Truckee River. Most locations are directly adjacent to the heavily used and highly impacted Hunter Creek Trail and Steamboat Ditch Trail. Areas of concern for monitoring are the helicopter loading points used by the Carson City Ranger District to fight the Hunter Falls Fire of 2014 and the Hunter Creek Fire of 2017, which we will continue to monitor closely for any further invasive weed developments. Musk Thistle can easily spread downstream so treatment of these locations directly improves water quality downstream.
3. **Project description.**  
Staff will monitor known weed sites during April tracking spread of plants and efficacy of the previous year's treatment and reseedling. During May and June, staff will lead volunteers to noxious weeds sites and remove them with shovels and by hand. If plants have produced flowers, we will clip the seed heads and pack them out to be safely disposed of. In the fall, staff will lead volunteers to previously identified sites to disperse native seeds by hand. Some snacks, additional water, training, education, and all necessary tools and personal protective equipment will be provided by FNW. Please see map, included on page 7.
4. **Grant priorities.**  
Our projects are in line with multiple grant priorities, specifically priority #2 (Watershed Improvements), priority #4 (Re-Forestation and Re-Vegetation Projects:) priority #6 (Stewardship and Environmental Awareness), and priority #7 (Meet Multiple Objectives). Noxious weeds, specifically Musk Thistle, pose a significant threat to the health of the Truckee River Watershed. Through volunteer removal projects, we will improve the health of the Truckee River Watershed by removing noxious weeds and replacing them with seeds of native plants. Reducing the number of weeds in the Hunter Creek area (a main tributary to the Truckee River) will improve the water quality, reduce soil erosion, and slow the spread further downstream, as well as enhance the recreation qualities of the Hunter Creek Trail - the most popular trail within the Reno/Sparks urban interface. Our long-standing treatment program actively engages and educates the public on the importance of noxious weed management. After just one project, volunteers have a basic understanding of the negative effects of noxious weeds and the importance of controlling them as related to the habitat and greater watershed. By educating the public on these issues, we can inspire more stewardship and awareness of the entire watershed and our water supply.
5. **Permitting.** This project does not require any special permits, and we will be taking direction from our Carson Ranger District contacts with the U.S. Forest Service.
6. **Future land use.** Our program sites are all within public land managed by the US Forest Service and the majority of the sites are within the Mt Rose Wilderness. There are no foreseeable zoning or development plans that will affect this project.
7. **Future Phases:** The danger of Musk Thistle is that these plants create dense monocultures, drive out native plants and animals, disrupt the local ecology, degrade the soil, and increase erosion. A single Musk Thistle flower can produce over 1,200 seeds and can stay dormant in the soil for up to 15 years, resulting in a need for continued management. For these reasons, the success of invasive weed management in the Truckee River



corridor is dependent upon continued annual removal and monitoring. In 2022, we will work with the Cason Ranger District to continue our removal and reseedling efforts and continue the battle against invasive plants in the Truckee River Watershed.

At sites we have treated for many years, we are seeing a reduction in the annual number of plants and some of these sites now only require annual "maintenance." We hope to build on this success through continued treatment and re-seeding efforts. Friends of Nevada Wilderness has consistently outperformed our goals, using funding from the Truckee River Fund to effectively leverage volunteers to help control invasive weeds at these sites and slowly reducing numbers. Our institutional knowledge of this portion of the watershed is invaluable to its long-term health. We will continue working with the USFS Carson Ranger District to build upon our successes and move the program forward.

To make our program more sustainable, we have been pursuing matching funds to supplement the Mount Rose Invasive Weed program. These matching funds, included in the overall budget, allow us to increase the impact and sustainability of the program as we continue to leverage funds and volunteer labor to fight invasive weeds in the Wilderness and watershed. The Truckee River Fund has generously supported these efforts in past years and, hopefully, will continue to be a part of this program for years to come.

8. **Principals Involved:** Stewardship Coordinators and GIS Mapping Technician. We will be taking direction from the USFS Carson District Botanist, and Rangeland Management/Invasive Weeds Specialist.
9. **Staff Positions Involved:** Fulltime 0 Part-time 4
10. **Volunteers Involved:** We anticipate involving 48 or more volunteers, who will donate approximately 288 hours of volunteer time. We will host 6 volunteer weed removal projects with an average of 6 volunteers per project, and 3 re-seeding projects with an average of 4 volunteers per project using Truckee River Fund funding. We will host 2 additional weed removal projects with an average of 6 volunteers per project using matching funds. Pre-pandemic, we had great success working with Patagonia Inc. employees, REI employees, and the Midtown Rotary Club. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic we did not work with any of these groups in 2020 or 2021, however, many of our partners have already expressed interest in returning to in-person volunteering in 2022. We will also reach out to other businesses, UNR clubs, local Meetups, the Reno Hiking Group, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, and the Truckee Meadows Weed Coordinating Group during our quarterly meetings. We use a variety of outreach methods to recruit volunteers including our monthly e-newsletter, tabling, flyer placement, social media, and volunteer recruitment websites such as [www.volunteermatch.com](http://www.volunteermatch.com) and [www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org). We also have a large number of dedicated volunteers eager to join these projects already.
11. **Timeline:** Volunteer recruitment and outreach to partner groups will start immediately upon project approval. Scheduling of projects will begin in March and monitoring will begin in April. Our first weed treatment project will be part of the Great Community Clean Up with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful on April 30th, 2022. The other weed removal projects will be held May-June. We will host 3 re-seeding projects in October & November. The native seed mix is most effective when spread before a rain or snow with freezing overnight temperatures, so the projects will be scheduled a week or two beforehand when the weather is looking favorable. Any additional monitoring will be completed by December 2022. Final reporting will occur in early 2023.
12. **Success:** We will inform the Truckee River Fund committee of our successes with written quarterly reports, high quality photographs, and copies of any earned press. We consider our program successful if deliverables are completed safely, we reach our target number of weeds removed, and the volunteers finish the projects with an understanding of the importance of invasive weed management and its relation to the Truckee River Watershed. We will communicate the work of the volunteers and funding from the Truckee River Fund to the general public and our more than 10,000 supporters through press releases, bi-annual newsletters, monthly E-newsletters, and social media.



13. **Collaboration:** Each year, we collaborate with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) to accomplish 1 to 2 weed removal projects. They assist with volunteer recruitment; provide extra tools, and some management support for these projects. Partners who provide employees or members as volunteers include Patagonia Inc., REI, International Gaming Technologies (IGT), Midtown Rotary, NV Energy, UNR, and TMCC. Imbibe Brewery, Eclipse Pizza, and Nature Valley Bars have provided free or discounted food products as part of our volunteer appreciation efforts. And of course, the US Forest Service collaborates with us to accomplish all of these projects. They provide guidance, oversight, approval, and on-going monitoring.

14.

**Grant Match**

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>	<b>\$10,760</b>				
<b>Match details:</b> We have secured a grant from the Charles H Stout Foundation to support and enhance the Mt. Rose Wilderness noxious weed program. We will also contribute \$5,760 in-kind from on-the-ground volunteer labor.	<p>Please provide the form of your matching funds. If match is made up of both cash and in-kind, fill in both sections.</p> <p>Match is:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Cash</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In-kind</td> <td>\$5,760</td> </tr> </table> <p>Note: Volunteer and in-kind hours may be calculated at a maximum rate of \$20/hour per individual. Indirect cost may not be counted as match.</p> <p>For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes <u>X</u> No <u>  </u></p>	Cash	\$5,000	In-kind	\$5,760
Cash	\$5,000				
In-kind	\$5,760				
<b>Description of matching funds/in-kind donations:</b>	<p>Cash match from the Charles H Stout Foundation will be used to support and enhance the Mt. Rose Wilderness noxious weed program. This includes planning and volunteer recruitment, staff time, transportation costs, tools, and other volunteer supplies.</p> <p>The in-kind match will be met with volunteer labor donations during on-the-ground weed removal and re-seeding projects.</p>				



## BUDGET

Budget Item Description	Truckee River Fund	Match Source	Match Amount	Total
Payroll Expenses	\$18,000	Charles H Stout Foundation	\$4,045	\$22,045
Volunteer Labor (288 hrs at \$20/hr)		In-Kind Volunteer Labor	\$5,760	\$5,760
Project Supplies	\$4,500			\$4,500
Training Expenses	\$450	Charles H Stout Foundation	\$500	\$950
Vehicle Travel (170 miles at \$0.585/mile)	\$100			\$100
Volunteer Food	\$200			\$200
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$23,250</b>		<b>\$10,305</b>	<b>\$33,555</b>
Overhead (at 10%)	\$2,325		\$455	\$2,780
		<i>Cash Match Total</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,575</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,760</b>	<b>\$36,335</b>

## BUDGET NARRATIVE

**Payroll Expenses:** Payroll expenses include all project planning, facilitation, data entry, program oversight, as well as follow up, volunteer recruitment, outreach and communications, GIS, and Truckee Meadows Weed Coordinating Group meetings.

**Volunteer Labor:** 6 volunteer weed removal projects with 6 volunteers each for 6 hours at \$20 in-kind/hr; 3 volunteer re-seeding projects with 4 volunteers each for 6 hours at \$20 in-kind/hr. Total 288 volunteer hours.

**Project Supplies:** Used to purchase native seed mix from Comstock Seed and help cover costs of routine gear replacement for first aid kits, tool/supply updates and maintenance, etc.

**Training Expenses:** This will cover relevant classes and conferences, possibly the Weed Warrior class hosted by the University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension, and a portion of the Wilderness First Aid training for our staff. In addition, we will continue to update our invasive weed reference materials for staff/volunteers.

**Vehicle Travel:** This portion accounts for the use of a company vehicle as well as mileage reimbursement for distances driven with personal vehicles.

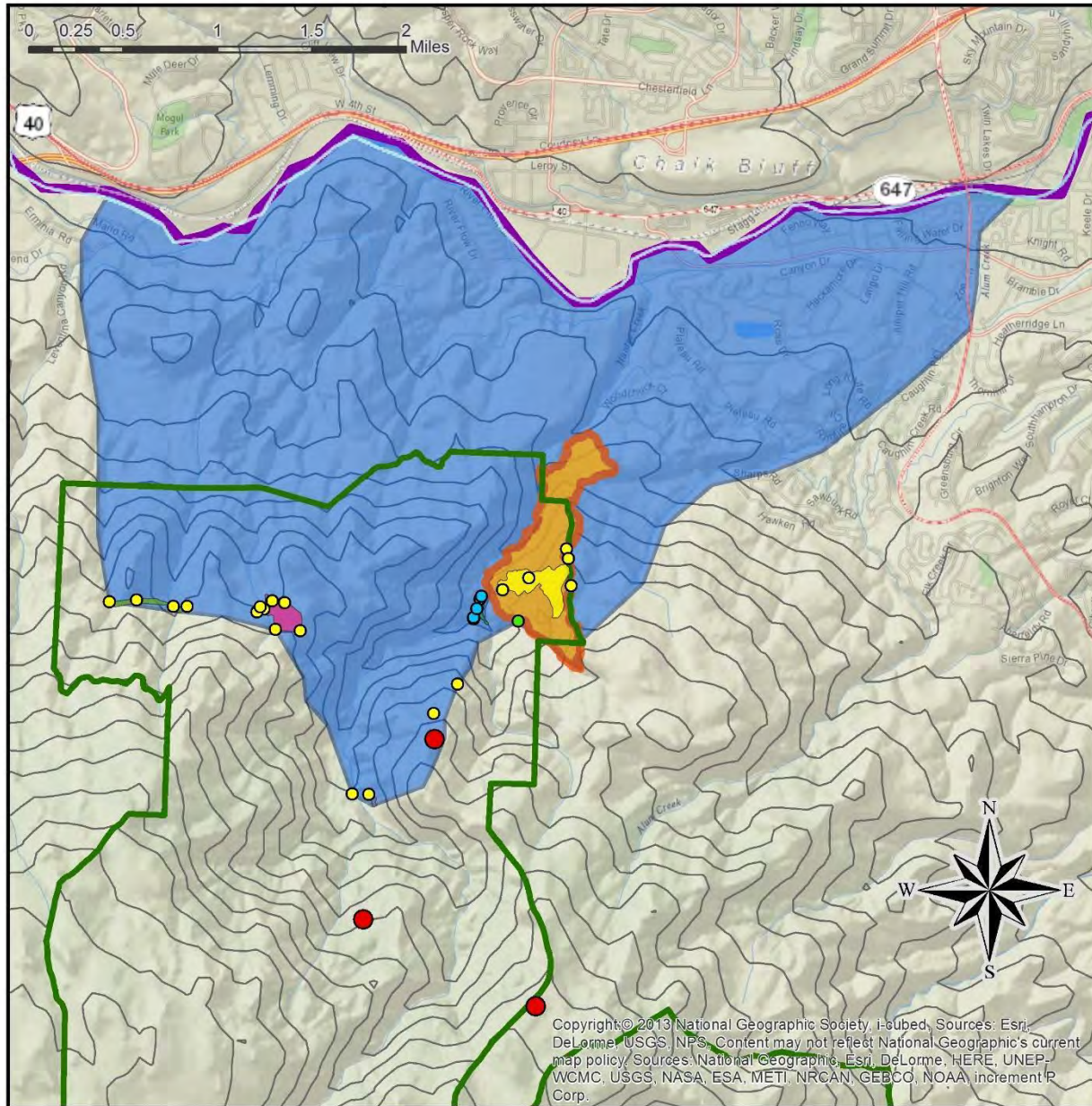
**Volunteer Food:** Accounts for volunteer food such as trail snacks and our end of season volunteer appreciation event.





FRIENDS of NEVADA WILDERNESS

## Mt. Rose Wilderness Noxious Weed Monitoring and Treatment Project: Impacted Watershed





**File Code:** 1580  
**Date:** January 31, 2022

Truckee River Fund  
Community Foundation of Western Nevada  
50 Washington St Suite #300  
Reno, NV 89503

To whom it may concern,

On Behalf of the Carson Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, I am expressing my support of Friends of Nevada Wilderness' (FNW) proposed projects in and around the Mt. Rose Wilderness. FNW has been working closely with the Carson Ranger District for over 10 years to treat invasive plants. As a result of this work, we have seen a reduction in musk thistle, and they have recently expanded restoration efforts to include broadcast seeding post treatment using pollinator-friendly native species. Their work is of direct benefit to the habitat and ecosystem of the Truckee River Watershed. I highly value our partnership which goes beyond invasive weed treatment and monitoring to include education projects, solitude monitoring, impact monitoring, trail maintenance, and many other projects. FNW has a track record of effectively executing a multitude of grants from a variety of sources. I am confident that FNW will do the same with this funding.

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed projects, and we thank you for your generous consideration and support of these important restoration efforts. If you have additional questions, please contact Brian Hansen, Recreation Officer, at [brian.c.hansen@usda.gov](mailto:brian.c.hansen@usda.gov) or 775-224-9960.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW D. ZUMSTEIN  
District Ranger





**Cover Sheet**

**Date: 2/04/2022**

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Truckee Donner Land Trust																				
<b>Type:</b>	501(c)(3) EIN# 68-0245327	<b>Governmental entity?</b> No																			
<b>Address:</b>	11073 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161																				
<b>Project Name:</b>	Caltrout Truckee River Access Improvement and Bank Stabilization																				
<b>Amount requested:</b> \$31,500	<b>Website:</b> www.truckeedonnerlandtrust.org																				
<b>This funding will be used to (complete this sentence with a max of 2 sentences):</b>		The funding will be used to construct a sustainable river access point with a series of log/boulder terraces leading to the Truckee River. The terraces will also stabilize and revegetate an eroding bank and provide an opportunity to connect the public with the river.																			
<b>Key People:</b>	<b>Director:</b>	John Svahn																			
	<b>Board Chair:</b>	Aparna Reddy																			
	<b>Project Contact:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	Dan Joannes																		
		<b>Position:</b>	Forest and Restoration Coordinator																		
		<b>Phone:</b>	414-731-4177																		
		<b>Fax:</b>	530-582-5528																		
<b>Email:</b>		Daniel@tdlandtrust.org																			
<b>Organization Mission:</b>	To preserve and protect scenic, historic and recreational lands with high natural resource values in the Truckee Donner region and manage recreation activities on these lands in a sustainable manner.																				
<b>Has your organization received other grants from the Truckee River Fund?</b>	If yes, <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>3/30/2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Cold Stream Meadow Road Decommissioning and Restoration Project</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$65,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td>9/23/2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td>Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Management</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td>\$75,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date awarded:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project title:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount of Award:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			Date awarded:	3/30/2018	Project title:	Cold Stream Meadow Road Decommissioning and Restoration Project	Amount of Award:	\$65,000	Date awarded:	9/23/2016	Project title:	Webber Lake Little Truckee River Headwaters Management	Amount of Award:	\$75,000	Date awarded:		Project title:		Amount of Award:	
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**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Indicate the description that best fits the project you are proposing. Mark no more than three categories:

- ☒ A. Projects that improve bank or channel stabilization and decrease erosion.
- ☐ B. Structural controls or Low Impact Development (LID) projects on tributaries and drainages to the Truckee River where data supports evidence of pollution and/or sediments entering the Truckee River.
- ☐ C. Projects that remove pollution from the Truckee River.
- ☐ D. Projects that remove or control invasive aquatic species or terrestrial invasive plant species that are adverse to water supply.<sup>3</sup>
- ☐ E. Other projects that meet the evaluation criteria.





1. **Specific project goals and measurable outcomes and how you will measure and report them.**

**The specific goals of this project are twofold:**

**Goal 1:** Stabilize an eroding riverbank on Truckee River (303d listed for fine sediment) at the Truckee River Canyon conservation easement with naturalized terraces, currently managed by Truckee Donner Land Trust. This will improve riparian quality and create a sustainable access point on this heavily impacted section of the Truckee River.

**Goal 2:** The second goal is to improve ease of public access to the Truckee River at this site for recreational users (boat pull-out access, anglers, and general river access).

With improved access routes there will be less random entry and bank erosion, and the engineered terraces and boat entry point design itself will help stabilize the bank. Overall, this project supports the TRF's Grant Priority II. Watershed Improvements.

**The Truckee Donner Land Trust will measure our outcomes in achieving these two goals in multiple ways:**

- Restore 85 feet of eroded streambank. This will Reduce sedimentation from the currently eroding streambank.
- Obtain permits for the project through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act (HREA: §1652 or §1653) program.
- Obtain and place between 60 and 80 boulders, which will be used to build the terraces up to the boat entry/exit point and also create an eddy that will slow water down at this point for easier access (see Fig. 1).
- Obtain and place between 20-30 logs, which will also be used for stair construction and boat access (see Fig. 1).
- Obtain and place between 50-100 willow stakes and/or other native plants from the area which will help strengthen the streambank. Over time, their growth will deter public meandering from the designated stairs. Willows will also further reduce erosion and create habitat for fish, birds, and other species.
- Remove trash and debris from existing site over two (2) volunteer days, each day composed of a 2.5-hour volunteer shift utilizing 10-15 volunteers.
- The project team will qualitatively report on our progress using before and after photos of the site clean-up construction, volunteer days, and eventual recreational use.

2. **Project location.**

The project is located on the left (north) bank of the Truckee River near a large pullout on eastbound Interstate 80, roughly 1.4 miles east of the Farad exit in Nevada County, California.

3. **Project description.**

The project proposes to stabilize a steep eroding bank along the Truckee River with a series of small terraces comprised of logs and boulders, backfilled with native material generated from on-site. The site is easily accessed from a pullout along eastbound I-80 and the banks have been impacted by heavy recreation use. The terraces will not only stabilize a source of sediment to the Truckee River, but will also provide an access point for a variety of user groups (anglers, raft put-in/put-out, general recreation). Terraces will be comprised of logs and boulders to form a series of long steps down to the river. The side slopes will be graded between 2:1 and 3:1 and revegetated with willow pole plantings. The goals of this project are consistent with goals and



objectives of previously-completed studies including: The Truckee River Flood Management Authority, Nevada County's Recreation Master Plan, and although located downstream of the Placer County reach of the Truckee, the Truckee River Corridor Access Plan.

4. **Grant priorities.** Explain how the proposed project advances the TRF's grant priorities (page 2 of the coversheet); refer to the priorities by number in your narrative.

The proposed project advances TRF's Grant Priority II. Watershed Improvements. Specifically, this project is going to reduce erosion on a popular bank of the Truckee River and stabilize a source of fine sediment of the 303d listed River. The terraces successfully constructed with this funding will concentrate users on a durable surface and improve convenience of entry and exit to the River. This will stop entry from multiple sites and reduce erosion associated with its current use. This erosion, which is currently leading to sedimentation, would otherwise affect water quality and habitat quality for fish and other species.

5. **Permitting.** Provide a permitting schedule for your project along with your plan for getting the required permits. Be sure to include the cost of permitting as a line item in your budget. Permits for the project will be obtained through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act (HREA; §1652 or §1653) program. The HREA streamlines the permitting process for small restoration projects that qualify for a categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and meet the criteria for a §401 Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Project.
6. **Future land use.** List any known or foreseeable zoning, land use, or development plans that may affect your proposed project.

The land is held in Conservation Easement by Truckee Donner Land Trust, therefore land use, development, or zoning is not expected in the foreseeable future.

7. If **future phases** of the project will be needed, identify anticipated sources of funding.

No future phases of this project are planned at this moment. However, we hope this project can be a model for stabilizing future access points on the Truckee River, reducing erosion, improving water quality, or other projects of a similar scope.

8. **Principals involved** in leading or coordinating the project or activity.

**Peter Kulchawik will be the project lead/Principal.** Peter is a civil engineer in Balance Hydrologic's Truckee office. He works on fixing damaged rivers with cutting-edge engineering materials (dead trees, boulders, and the occasional beaver dam analog). Peter enhanced his engineering education with training in geomorphology, hydrology, and stream ecology. This interdisciplinary background has given him a diverse knowledge base to work on a variety of stream, wetland, and meadow restoration projects.

LinkedIn profile for Peter Kulchawik:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/peter-kulchawik-p-e-1b347894/>

9. Number of **staff positions involved** in project:      **Fulltime:** 0      **Part-time:** 3

- Michael Wier (Caltrout): Part time, project management 02-18-22 TRF Agenda Item 7
- Peter Kulchawik (Balance Hydrologics): Part time, design and permitting #262
- Daniel Joannes (Truckee Donner Land Trust): Part time, conservation easement manager

10. Number of **volunteers involved** in project and an estimated number of volunteer hours.

A volunteer day before and after the project is planned and will be led by CalTrout. The first volunteer day will be a site trash clean-up lasting 2.5 hours. The second is for a 2.5-hour site clean-up following completion of the construction. Approx. 10-15 volunteers will be utilized for each event, which would result in between 25 and 37.5 volunteer hours for each day of volunteering. Therefore, we anticipate a total of between 50 to 75 volunteer hours completed and up to 30 volunteers participating.

11. **Timeline** of Project. List key dates and include project milestones. *Note:* Be realistic in your estimate of dates and milestones. List any factors that may cause a delay in implementing and/or completing the project.

- **Planning:** This stage was completed in early February 2022, therefore we are moving forward with the permitting process.
- **Permitting:** This is underway as of February, and could take time to complete through June 2022.
- **Construction:** We plan to begin our first volunteer day, followed by construction, in Summer 2022, or approx. June/July 2022.
- **Project Completion:** This is dependent on the date that approved grant funds are received. With funds in hand, the current plan is to complete this project by October 2022 (end of season).

12. **Success.** Tell the committee how we will know you succeeded in what you proposed to do.

We will know when we have succeeded in this project when the access terraces, made from logs and boulders, are completely installed, cleaned up, and ready for use by the end of the summer season, i.e., following the second/final volunteer clean-up day. Further, we will immediately begin to see improvements in water quality, reduced erosion and creating sustainable recreational use along the Truckee River.

13. **Collaboration.** List partnership and collaborations with other entities in relation to your proposal, if any.

TDLT is partnering with Caltrout and Balance Hydrologics to complete this project. TDLT has also been in communication with the landowner Bill Black on the project and its details.

14. **Grant Match**

<b>Match amount to be provided:</b>		<b>\$58,000</b>
<b>Match details:</b>	Please provide the form of your matching funds. If match is made up of both cash and in-kind, fill in both sections. Match is:	
	Cash	<b>\$58,000</b>
	In-kind	<b>\$1,500</b>
	Note: This is the maximum in-kind match with up to 75 volunteer hours. Note: Volunteer and in-kind hours may be calculated at a maximum rate of \$20/hour per individual. Indirect cost may not be counted as match.	
For the cash portion of your match, is the funding already being held by the applicant for this project? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		





### 15. Project Budget:

Budget Item	TRF	Caltrout (Match)	TDLT (Match)	TOTAL
Project design and engineering	\$0	\$5,140	\$0	\$5,140
<b>Permitting</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$5,172</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$8,672</b>
Construction	\$23,000	\$47,424	\$3,720	\$74,144
<b>Overhead</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$264</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$6,264</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,500</b>	<b>\$58,000</b>	<b>\$4,720</b>	<b>\$94,220</b>
<b>% TOTAL</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>100%</b>