

611632

COVER SHEET (PAGE 1 OF 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Proposed Title: Granite Watershed Restoration Pilot Project

Applicant Name: County of Tuolumne, California

Mailing Address: 2 South Green Street, Sonora CA 95370

Telephone: (209) 533-5611

Fax: (209) 533-5616

Amount of funding requested: \$ 1,000,000.00 for 1 years.

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box). Note that this is an important decision: see page ____ of the Proposal Solicitation Package for more information.

- Fish Passage Assessment
- Floodplain and Habitat Restoration
- Fish Harvest
- Watershed Planning/Implementation
- Fish Screen Evaluations - Alternatives and Biological Priorities
- Fish Passage Improvements
- Gravel Restoration
- Species Life History Studies
- Education

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal (check only one):

- Sacramento River Mainstem
- Delta
- Suisun Marsh and Bay
- San Joaquin River Mainstem
- Landscape(entire Bay-Delta watershed)
- Sacramento Tributary: _____
- East Side Delta Tributary: _____
- San Joaquin Tributary: _____
- Other: East San Joaquin Basin
- North Bay: _____

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses(check no more than two):

- San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributaries fall-run chinook salmon
- Winter-run chinook salmon
- Late-fall run chinook salmon
- Delta smelt
- Spittail
- Green sturgeon
- Migratory birds
- Spring-run chinook salmon
- Fall-run chinook salmon
- Longfin smelt
- Steelhead trout
- Striped bass

COVER SHEET (PAGE 2 OF 2)

May 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | State agency | <input type="checkbox"/> | Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Public/non-profit joint venture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-profit |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Local government/district | <input type="checkbox"/> | Private party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | University | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ |

Indicate the type of project (check only one):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> | Implementation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> | Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Research | | |

By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- (1) the truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- (2) the individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if applicant is an entity or organization); and
- (3) the person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section II.K) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.



Larry Rotelli, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
MAY 1998 CALFED ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROPOSAL SOLICITATION

APPLICANT: County of Tuolumne, California

ADDRESS: 2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370

PROJECT DIRECTOR: Bev Shane, Planning Director

Telephone: (209)533-5611 **Fax:** (209)533-5616

PROJECT TITLE: Granite Watershed Restoration Pilot Project

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:

County Government: Resolution 7-98 of the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors is attached.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY: The watershed areas within the Granite Project site are tributary to the Tuolumne River, which is tributary to the San Joaquin River. The project will reduce dense forest understory; restore upland meadows; and repair stream channels improve/restore riparian habitat; and improve overall forest health by reducing the potential severity of wildfires.

The biological/ecological objectives to be met by the project are based on the Upper Watershed Processes, including Programmatic Action 1A: Reduce excessive fire fuel loads in upper watersheds; and Programmatic Action 1B: Improve forest management practices, including timber harvest, road building and maintenance, and livestock grazing practices; under the heading of Target 1: Restore upper watershed health (Pages 426 and 427, Vol. II: ERPP, East San Joaquin Basin Ecological Zone Vision, Draft: March 1998).

FISCAL SUMMARY: Total Funds Requested \$1,000,000.

SUMMARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project area is a concentrated site amenable to a variety of restoration projects such as timber stand thinning, riparian and meadow revegetation, and selective road maintenance or obliteration of old logging roads. Immediate watershed protection benefits will be gained from project implementation, as existing soils will be stabilized, and future erosion/sedimentation problems avoided as the wildfire hazard is reduced.

TITLE PAGE

- a. Project Name: Granite Watershed Restoration Pilot Project
- b. Lead Agency: Tuolumne County Planning Department
Address: 2 South Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370

Project Director: Bev Shane, Planning Director
County of Tuolumne, California Phone: (209)533-5611
- c. County Government
- d. Tax Identification Number and/or Contractor license - (Not applicable)
- e. Participants/Collaborators: Stanislaus National Forest

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

A. (1) The Granite Burn occurred in August, 1973 and consumed 17,000 acres in the eastern portion of the Stanislaus National Forest near Yosemite National Park. That portion of the Stanislaus National Forest is located within the Tuolumne River watershed. The Granite Burn encompassed a mosaic of National Forest Land and private timberland, and significant portions of the burn were involved in reforestation efforts shortly after the fire. However, post-fire conditions resulted in erosion/sedimentation problems and degraded riparian zones. In addition, reforestation planting was designed to overstock the pine plantations with non-commercial thinning planned during tree growth. Because of the budgetary limitations that resulted since the original plantations, much of the thinning was not accomplished. The resultant stands are overstocked and prone to devastation from another fire. The possibility of another stand-replacing fire is significantly high, which would cause a loss of the reforestation effort, and provoke another sequence of accelerated soil erosion and watershed degradation.

In years after the fire, the Stanislaus National Forest (SNF) reforested significant portions of the burn with 6,000 +/- acres of ponderosa pine plantations. These stands are now 20+ years of age and in most cases significantly overstocked. The overcrowded conditions result in dense canopies of pine with ladder fuels reaching the ground and surrounding brush, which creates an extremely high potential for wildfire. Thinning of the pine plantations would result in prevention of stunted growth by releasing the remaining trees from the competition for light and water. In addition, the selective thinning would create breaks in the canopies and fuel ladders to reduce the potential for devastating stand-replacing fires. The original plan was for the SNF to budget for precommercial thinning, which is a thinning effort during the early stages of pine maturation that would not produce timber of enough market value that would make the thinning effort economical. However, budgetary limitations during that time and today have prevented enough thinning to reduce the hazards and improve the forest health. This project would allow the precommercial thinning efforts to be subsidized to the point that the private timber harvesting companies could bid the jobs and complete the work without losing money. Whatever market value the removed trees may have, particularly if the market for biomass for electrical generation is good, will be factored into the equation.

In addition, the reforestation efforts were designed with "deer delay" areas. These areas of exclusion from the pine plantations were intended to act as habitat for deer and other wildlife during the early stages of pine reforestation. When the pine becomes more mature, and other tree and brush species invade to improve the wildlife habitat values of the plantations, the deer delay areas would be subject to reforestation. This was not done to any great extent, and some of the deer delay areas today are nearly impenetrable brushfields, of limited value to wildlife. The need for the deer delay areas has, for the most part, declined. Therefore, this project proposes to eliminate some of the existing deer delay areas by treating the area for brush removal, and actively planting these with a mix of tree species, including ponderosa pine intended for later harvest.

The project area includes approximately 35 miles of native surface (dirt) roads constructed during past fire suppression, reforestation, timber harvest, and other forest activities.

Some of these roads no longer serve useful purposes, and are themselves sources of erosion and sedimentation problems. The project will define which of the roads should be improved, and which should be removed. Roads to be improved will be rocked and problem stream crossings fixed for creation of a stable surface with less potential for erosion/sedimentation problems. Roads to be eliminated will be ripped and/or graded and planted.

Surrounding the pine plantations are 2,000 +/- acres of commercial timberstands that need to be thinned to reduce the fuel loads and potential for wildfire. The thinning and fuelbreaks to be created will buffer the plantations from large-scale wildfires that might otherwise approach the scale of the original Granite Burn, or the larger Stanislaus Complex Fire of 1987.

In the aftermath of the Granite Burn, significant volumes of sediment were lost from the upper watershed, and the transported sediment clogged the streambeds immediately downstream. The loss of stream channel and accompanying riparian zones was significant. Subsequent streamflows during later seasons then downcut the stream channels into the sediment. As the sediment flows included boulders, trees, and other debris, the result is stream channels incised into the sediment deltas that are clogged with logs and debris and with little riparian or wildlife value. The SNF acted in the late 1970's to establish projects to grade some of the sediment, remove or alter the location of snags, construct small "check dams" to elevate the stream channel and resultant water table, and reestablish riparian vegetation. This effort shows fruit today, with improved meadows and riparian zones for the portions of the stream channels that were altered. However, the funding was not available for more than a few of the channels impacted after the fire, and more work needs to be done. The location and types of streambed/meadow restoration work to be done under this project will be determined during the project planning and review process.

The properties involved in this project are administered by the SNF. The SNF staff includes foresters, hydrologists, and various resource scientists who have been monitoring the success and problems associated with the Granite Burn from the beginning. Fire behavior and silvicultural models have been run using data collected in the field. Other field assessments and professional judgement by these staff specialists have been synthesized to create the project addressed by this proposal. Outside private foresters and others have assessed the health of the forest in the project area, and have reached the same conclusions.

(2) The proposed project is still in the formative stages, and the details of the program are subject to review during the planning and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Preliminary discussions between interest groups and interested parties include a site visit coordinated by the SNF, and involved any representatives or private individuals who wished to attend. Most relevant agencies, including Tuolumne County and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), as well as the local Congressional staff representatives, were in attendance. Interest group involvement ranged from timber and grazing interests to a wide range of locally-involved environmental groups. During the planning and NEPA review process, this high level of public involvement will be

maintained. As this project will include a high level of cooperation between the County of Tuolumne and the SNF, this application has been prepared with a joint effort between staff members of the two agencies.

(3) The problems of the Granite project area are not in some cases exclusive to the project site. These types of problems are documented in the SNF Land and Resource Management Plan, and accompanying supporting documentation such as the Environmental Impact Study (EIS), completed in 1990. Policies and directions for addressing or rectifying these problems are discussed in this documentation, and the proposed project is consistent with these directions.

(4) The NEPA review process that will begin as part of project planning and implementation will include numerous resource studies and other analyses to identify the problem areas that need the greatest attention, as well as the environmentally sensitive areas, areas that should be excluded from project activities, etc. These information deficiencies will be corrected, and should not impair the project.

(5) As mentioned in section (2) above, a site visit involving all interested parties who cared to attend was coordinated by the SNF. This high level of public involvement will be maintained throughout the project planning, review, implementation and monitoring efforts. In addition, the County and SNF have a signed Memorandum of Understanding supporting watershed restoration projects, and anticipate that further joint documents will be completed during the initial phases of this project. The planning and NEPA review processes by the SNF will be coordinated with the County to assure that all interested parties are included in the process, and their concerns and comments are accepted and addressed.

(6) The SNF will closely follow all applicable State and Federal laws applicable to this project. All necessary permits will be secured, and the process will be conducted in a manner open and conducive to public comment and scrutiny. The SNF is committed to implementing this project after the full review process, and will maintain it's commitment to stewardship of the land. The intent is that the actual construction work will be done by contract, including probable subsidies for precommercial thinning and early stream/meadow restoration work. Later the contractor, with a long term contract administered and monitored by the SNF, will be responsible for performing work that is not economically productive in turn for being allowed to conduct commercial timber harvesting. The incentive to perform the restoration work will come from the market value of the timber. The SNF will ensure that both jobs are being accomplished in accordance with the plan and the applicable legal and regulatory framework.

(7) The attached maps (Attachments B and C) show the area of the proposed project. The activities will be planned for those areas most in need of attention within the public lands administered by the SNF.

(8) The drinking water contaminants produced from the site are primarily produced by the erosion problems on the site, and the potential erosion problems that could evolve if another stand-replacing wildfire event occurs. Downstream sedimentation results in

downgraded water quality from suspended sediment and mineral content, significant loss of water capacity by the reservoir and transport system, and increased maintenance and water treatment costs. This project will reduce the sediment loads being produced by the watershed at this time, and reduce the significant sediment loads that could be produced after another fire.

B. Monitoring Success

The County and the SNF will cooperate in drafting and approving a monitoring plan to accompany this project and to be used to determine success of the various project activities. This plan will be subject to full public scrutiny and review, and representatives from various agencies and interest groups will be used to assist in the drafting of the plan, whenever and wherever that would be applicable. Ultimately, the SNF, as the land stewards, will oversee the monitoring activities, whether they be conducted by SNF staff or through a contract. As this project is considered a pilot project, successful determination of whether the project is a success is necessary to determine whether the pilot should be copied, modified, or rejected, prior to wider implementation. The SNF is fully cognizant of this responsibility and prepared to maintain their commitment for the long term. The long term monitoring goals are to ascertain that forest health and watershed productivity is improved, wildlife habitat is improved and increased, water quality and sedimentation rates within and downstream of the project site are improved, and the threat of another stand-replacing wildfire is reduced.

C. Relationship to Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs Objectives.

Other sections of this application explain in detail the various elements of the proposal, and this section will explain how the Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Programs Objectives have been addressed in those sections. The pertinent objectives are outlined on pages 426 and 427 of Volume II: ERPP which addresses the Upper Watershed Processes for the East San Joaquin Basin Ecological Zone (Draft: March 1998). Those Watershed Processes Objectives would be met by the resultant restoration of ecological processes in the subject watershed, which would serve to improve the quality and quantity of water flowing into the tributaries (Cherry River and Tuolumne River) of the San Joaquin Delta. Specifically, the proposed project clearly meets Programmatic Action 1A: Reduce excessive fire fuel loads in upper watersheds; as well Programmatic Action 1B: Improve forest management practices, including timber harvest, road building and maintenance, and livestock grazing practices; under the heading of Target 1: Restore upper watershed health.

D. Cooperating Agencies: Identify any formal agreements with other organizations cooperating on this project.

Agency Name: Stanislaus National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

Role/Contribution to Project: Jurisdictional responsibility, funding, NEPA review, contract administration and monitoring

Contact Person: Rob Finch Phone: (209)532-3671

This relationship is formally acknowledged with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Stanislaus National Forest and Tuolumne County (a copy is attached to this application labeled Attachment A).

E. Project phasing.

This project is the first phase of a larger effort to restore the watershed of the Granite Burn to a stable condition. The first phase will consist of specific meadow and stream restoration, and the most critical areas of forest thinning on a pre-commercial basis. Later phases will continue those efforts until the riparian and meadow areas are improved and the fire hazard reduced to acceptable levels. Eventually, tree growth will allow commercial harvesting to be used as economic basis for continuing maintenance and monitoring programs. In addition, the success of this pilot project will help direct other watershed and subwatershed restoration efforts elsewhere in the forest. This project is of absolute highest priority for beginning the actual fieldwork prior to the losing this area to devastating wildfire and erosion/sedimentation problems that would certainly result. No other source of funding is presently available.

The County of Tuolumne and the SNF have a Memorandum of Understanding (Attachment A) that defines the mutual goals and commitments relative to this project. A Joint Powers of Agreement document will be prepared and is anticipated to be signed in the near future further defining the relationship between the two agencies and the mutual commitment to this and similar projects.

F. Proposed Starting and Ending Dates for the Proposed Project:

Project Start date: September 1998 End date: September 2001

G. Summary actions that have been accomplished to date to address the problem.

As described in the above Project Description, streambed and riparian zone restoration did occur after the Granite Burn, however not enough funding was available to the SNF to continue this program on all meadow/streambed areas that required attention. Also described above, thinning was identified as necessary during the growth of the plantation trees, but not accomplished also because of funding limitations. However, in more recent times, the SNF has used Hot Shot crews and other in-house labor to begin critical thinning and limbing along the most frequently traveled roads, in order to reduce the fire hazards from human activities. However, the amount of fuels management completed is far short of what is needed. In addition, the SNF has continued to monitor the health of the forest and watershed over the years, which has contributed substantially to this effort to identify the problems and propose solutions.

H. Description of the educational and outreach elements of the project.

As addressed in Section 2 above, a preproject field visit was held involving a wide range of interests and the local media. It is anticipated that this level of involvement of divergent viewpoints will be maintained. It is important that interested parties as well as the general public become aware of forest health and watershed protection issues related to this project. Through the federal planning and NEPA review process, all sides and various viewpoints will be encouraged to comment, and their comments aired and considered. The local media, highly interested in forest issues, will be encouraged to disseminate news of the status of the project through the final implementation and monitoring stages. Any further use of the pilot aspect of this project would go through similar scrutiny, and inclusion of the press and mailings for education and solicitation of divergent viewpoints. Since the interested agencies and groups have been included from the beginning, the outreach will use the media to contact the general public whose current level of interest in forest issues is not as acute. Additional tours and public information opportunities will be incorporated throughout the lifespan of the project, and the feedback from the public will be considered.

I. Volunteer monitoring element of the project.

No official volunteer monitoring element has been established. However, due to the significant amount of interest generated in the local environmental community during the preliminary field visit to the watershed, it is anticipated that an opportunity to become part of the monitoring effort will be extended to representatives of several local groups. It is likely that a form of qualitative monitoring by these representatives will be established to oversee the efforts during implementation.

J. Outline of the milestones of project progress and how the project will be evaluated.

As this project takes place on Federal lands, under the stewardship of the SNF, the milestones are presented in steps the SNF must take to plan, administer, and monitor this project.

1. Scope and identify Federal "project" (includes public input).
2. Organize team to plan and administer the project.
3. Identify and obtain funding (This assumes this proposal is only the first phase of the project. This action includes possible legislation at the Federal level, which is fully supported by the local Congressional representative)
4. Analyze project in accordance with NEPA, includes public input.
5. Completion and approval of the environmental analysis document.

concerning grant-funded projects, and has experience in overseeing and monitoring the success of large projects. The commitment by the Stanislaus National Forest is documented by the attached Memorandum of Understanding, as well as their investment of time and personnel into the project so far, indicating that they take their stewardship responsibilities very seriously, and are fully behind this project. Although the project is conceived as being accomplished through a single contract for all elements of the work required in the watershed project area, this requires legislative action by Congress to allow the Forest Service budgeting and funding mechanisms to change. Congressman Doolittle fully supports this effort, and is proposing just such legislation. Without such legislation, the SNF is required to break the project into its individual elements and let separate contracts for each job, which they are prepared to do if necessary. In either case the SNF is committed to the full implementation of the project.

M. Description of anticipated future work and description of commitments for project implementation.

Additional work would be necessary to fully implement the plan within the watershed, and elsewhere in the Forest where similar conditions prevail. Further work in the project site will include additional precommercial and commercial thinning, as well as meadow/riparian and streambed restoration projects. As other funds become available, the non-economic portions of the work will be completed. It is anticipated that within five years, the watershed management program should provide for adequate volumes of commercial thinning and harvest to pay the contractor to complete the restoration efforts. The SNF is committed to seeing that this project is completed, and that if the pilot project proves successful, that other similar programs are instituted elsewhere in the Forest. The County of Tuolumne is similarly committed to seeing that forest health is improved, watersheds are protected, and that the threat of stand-replacing wildfires is reduced.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST
USDA FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION
AND
TUOLUMNE COUNTY
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STANISLAUS N.F.
1997 MAR 28 PM 12:47
RECEIVED

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into between the Stanislaus National Forest, hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Service" and Tuolumne County, hereinafter referred to as the "County."

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a framework upon which the parties may cooperatively plan mutually beneficial work projects and activities envisioned by the State of California Proposition 204, California Water Code, Division 24, Safe, Clean, Reliable Water Supply Act, Article 5, Delta Tributary Watershed Program. See Exhibit No. 01.

II. INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, both parties have a mutual interest in developing watershed rehabilitation projects to protect regional water quality and corresponding watershed properties for the public good; and

WHEREAS, both parties have the public responsibility to identify and take corrective actions where water quality may become degraded; and

WHEREAS, both parties administer properties that are eligible for grants provided under the Delta Tributary Watershed Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises, the parties hereto agree as follows:

III. BOTH PARTIES AGREE TO:

1. Actively pursue opportunities for mutually beneficial work projects or activities that fit under the Delta Tributary Watershed Program.
2. Enter into supplemental agreements or other legal instruments with each other to implement any grant funding received under the auspices of this program.

Supr.	_____
Secy.	_____
Asst. Secy.	_____
Adm. Serv.	_____
Ext. Aff.	_____
Fin. & Pers.	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
Ident. & Rec. Mgmt.	_____
Int. Aff.	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Off. of Cong. & Public Affairs	_____
FILE	_____
S4	_____
S3	_____
S2	_____
S1	_____

IV. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. This agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this instrument will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for Government procurement. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This instrument does not give that authority.
2. Modifications within the scope of this instrument shall be made by the issuance of a bilaterally executed modification prior to any changes being performed.
3. This instrument in no way restricts either party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations and individuals.
4. Either party, in writing, may terminate the instrument in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration.
5. The principal contacts for this instrument are:

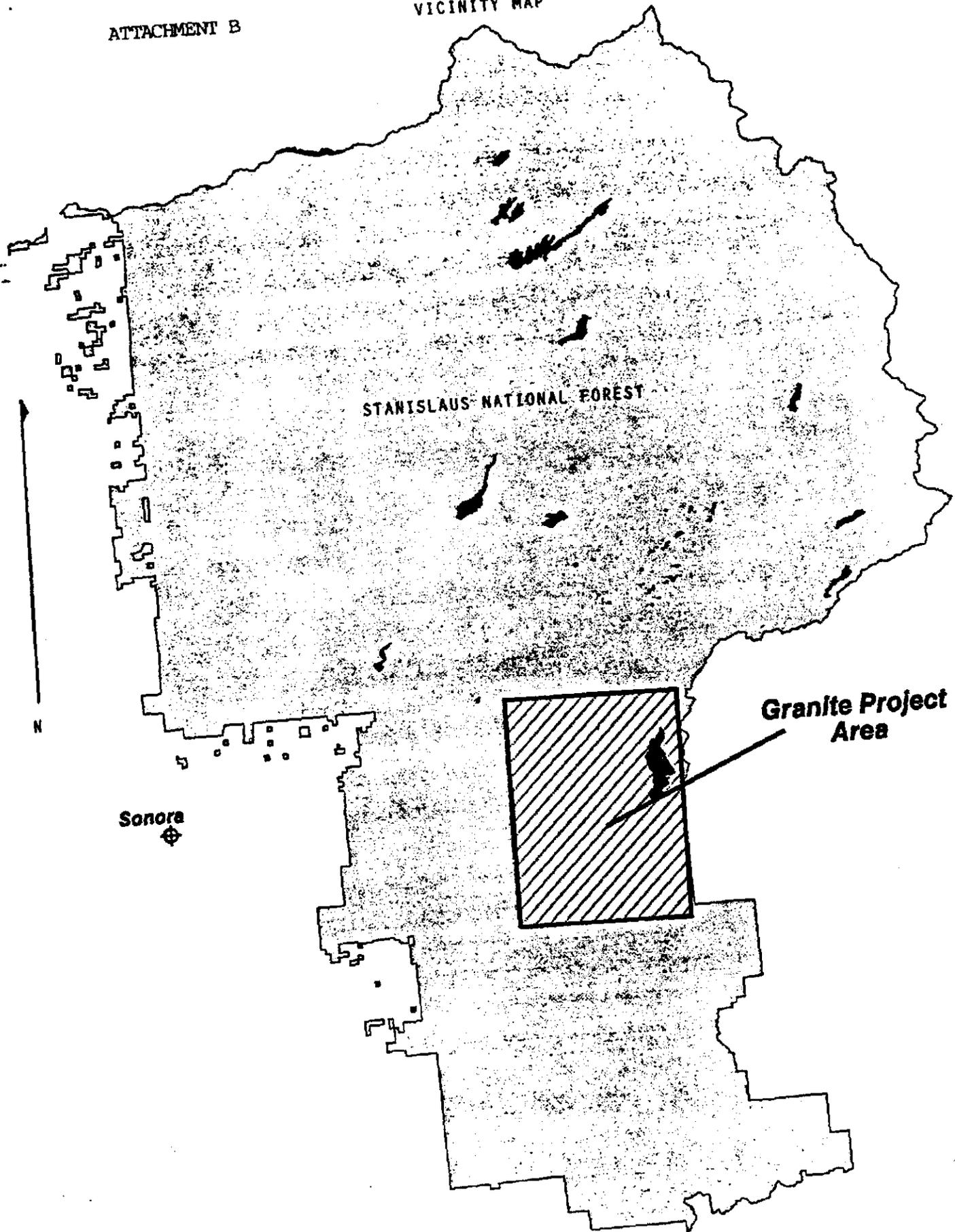
Stanislaus National Forest	County of Tuolumne
U.S. Department of Agricultural	Board of Supervisors
19777 Greenley Road	2 South Green Street-
Sonora, CA 95370	Sonora, CA 959370
6. This instrument is executed as of the last date shown below and expires on N/A, at which time it will be subject to review, renewal, or expiration.

Stanislaus National Forest
 Organization
Janet Wild Forest Supervisor
 Name Title
4/15/97
 Date

County of Tuolumne
 Organization
Larry A. Rotelli
 Name Title
 Larry A. Rotelli Chairman
3/25/97
 Date

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:
 County Counsel
 County of Tuolumne
 BY: [Signature]
 Patrick B. Greenwell
 County Counsel Date: 3-24-97

Approved as to Risk
 Management Form:
 BY: [Signature]
 Mark A. Mitton
 Risk Manager Date 3-25-97



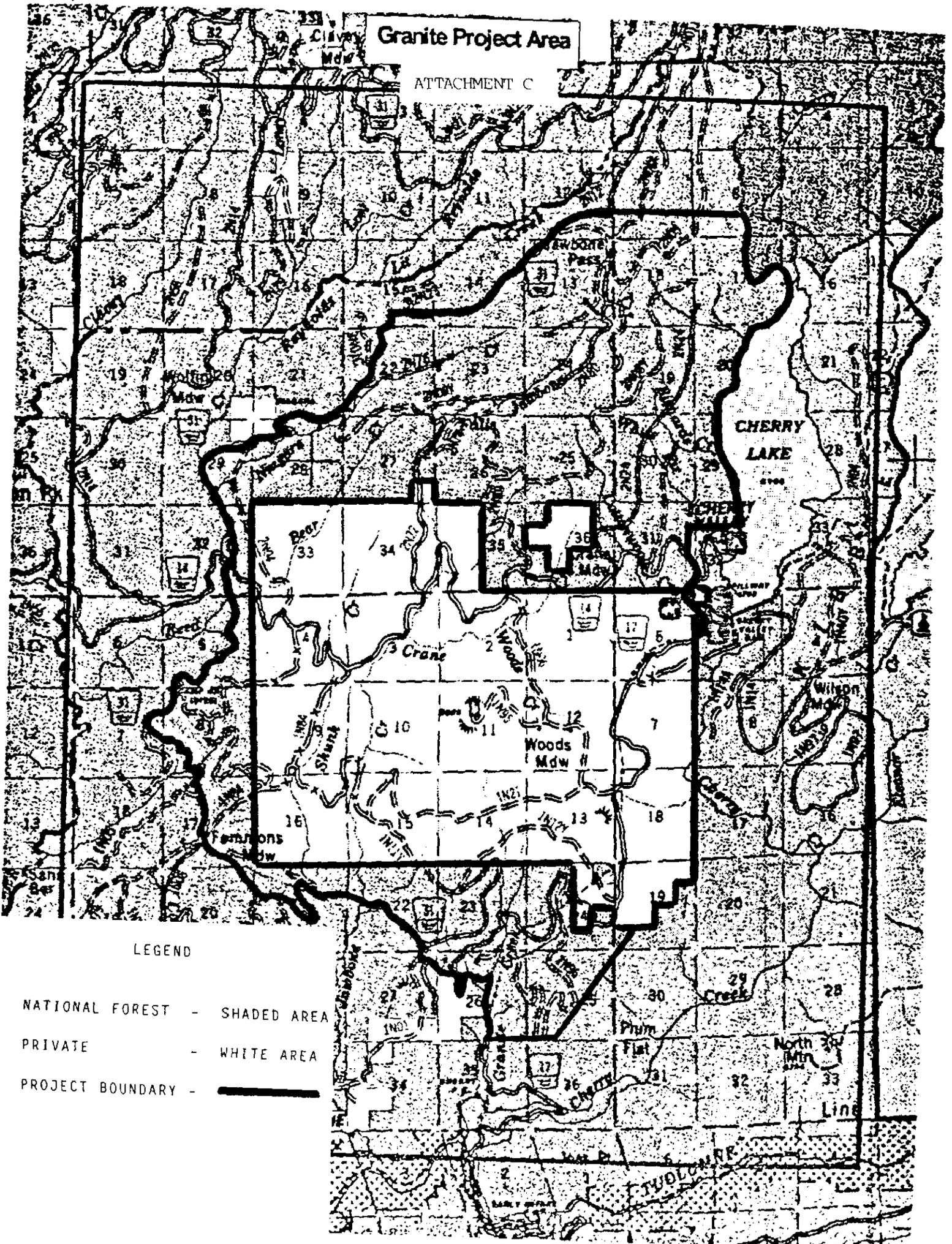
STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST

Granite Project Area

Sonora

Granite Project Area

ATTACHMENT C



LEGEND

- NATIONAL FOREST - SHADED AREA
- PRIVATE - WHITE AREA
- PROJECT BOUNDARY - 

Filed Jan 6 1998By Edmund Bowcutt
Clerk of the Board of SupervisorsNo. 7-98

R E S O L U T I O N

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

WHEREAS, the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors adopted a comprehensive update to the Tuolumne County General Plan on December 26, 1996; and

WHEREAS, policies and implementation programs in the Water Resources Section of the Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan specifically address Watershed Rehabilitation Projects (Implementation Program 4.L.n), Formulation of Watershed Rehabilitation Programs (Implementation Program 4.L.o), Funding for Watershed Improvement (4.L.p), and Coordination Among Agencies (4.L.q); and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has requested proposals for watershed rehabilitation projects pursuant to Proposition 204, Delta Tributary Watershed Program (Delta Program); and

WHEREAS, the Request for Proposals for the Delta Program grants require the applicant to be a county, or another local public agency after the county containing the project watershed has declined to apply, based on an action by the county to certify by resolution the approval of the application; and

WHEREAS, the Water Resources Section of the Conservation and Open Space Element of the General Plan states that the Tuolumne County Planning Department will be responsible to serve as the primary administrator at the direction of the Board of Supervisors to implement the water resource programs; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on March 25, 1997 by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and by the Forest Supervisor for the Stanislaus National Forest, agreeing to actively pursue opportunities for mutually beneficial work projects or activities that fit under the Delta Tributary Watershed Program and to enter into supplemental agreements to implement any grant funding received under this program; and

WHEREAS, the Tuolumne County Planning Department has met with representatives of the Stanislaus National Forest (SNF) to visit, investigate, and target watershed areas of the County that are in need of restoration efforts that meet the goals and purposes of the Proposition 204 Delta Tributary Watershed Program, and have worked in coordination with the SNF to prepare a proposal involving the area burned in 1973 and known as the Granite Burn which requires watershed rehabilitation efforts; and

WHEREAS, approval of the proposal and acceptance of the proposal by the SWRCB would result in beginning the implementation of a watershed rehabilitation pilot project that will reduce the chances and hazards of another wildfire, improve forest health, restore wildlife and fisheries habitat, and protect the watershed for downstream water users;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve and adopt the following resolution:

SECTION 1: The Board of Supervisors has reviewed and hereby approves an application for a grant assistance for a \$1,000,000. project, which would implement programs in Chapter 4, the Conservation and Open Space Element of the Tuolumne County General Plan, and would involve administering and coordinating a pilot program to rehabilitate the watershed of the Granite Burn; and

SECTION 2: Appoints the County Planning Director or her authorized representative as the agent to coordinate, process, and execute all contracts, agreements amendments and ancillary documents related to the Granite Watershed Restoration Pilot Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the signatures of the members of this Board of Supervisors on this resolution shall constitute the endorsement of the resolution.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE ON Jan 6, 1998.

AYES:	1st Dist <u>Rotelli</u>	NOES:	Dist <u> </u>
	2nd Dist <u>Rantree</u>		Dist <u> </u>
	3rd Dist <u>Myers</u>	ABSENT:	<u>4</u> Dist <u>Shawton</u>
	4th Dist <u> </u>	ABSTAIN:	Dist <u> </u>
	5th Dist <u> </u>		Dist <u> </u>

Larry A. Rotelli
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Attest: Edmund Bowcutt No. 7-98
Clerk of the Board

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUMENT IS A CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.



ATTEST: 1/6/98

Edmund M. Bowcutt
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Tuolumne