

99C-134

Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

April 15, 1999

CALFED Bay-Delta Program Office
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposal for the American River (Middle and South Forks) Integrated Watershed Stewardship Strategy, El Dorado County

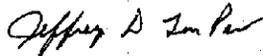
To Whom It May Concern:

The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District is pleased to submit a proposal for a community-based watershed stewardship program for the South and Middle Forks American River, El Dorado County. The goal of this project will be to develop a watershed stewardship plan and strategy for watershed restoration on the South and Middle Forks of the American River.

This project will complement the currently funded stewardship planning program for the North and Middle Fork (in Placer County) of the Placer County RCD. In fact this proposal is modeled on the proposal they submitted in the last round of funding. If this proposal is funded, the two projects together will result in a watershed stewardship plan for the entire American River watershed above Folsom. The programs will be fully coordinated. We envision that the outcome will be a stewardship plan, laying out future actions and priorities, and providing overall guidance for restoration efforts in the watershed.

Please contact me at 530/295-5630 if you have any questions regarding the proposed work plan or require additional information. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Jeff Ten Pas
Project Manager, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

Attachments: 1

Proposal Title: American River (Middle and South Forks) Integrated Watershed Stewardship Strategy

Applicant Name: Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

Mailing Address: 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA 95667

Telephone: (530) 295-5630

Fax: (530) 295-5635

Email: jtenpas@hotmail.com

Amount of funding requested: \$ 203,250 for 3 years

Indicate the Topic for which you are applying (check only one box).

Local Watershed Stewardship

Does the proposal address a specified Focused Action? yes no

What county or counties is the project located in?

El Dorado County

Indicate the geographic area of your proposal:

Sacramento Trib: South and Middle Forks American River

Indicate the primary species which the proposal addresses (check all that apply):

Fall-run chinook salmon

Steelhead trout

Specify the ERP strategic objective and target (s) that the project addresses. Include page numbers from January 1999 version of ERP Volume I and II:

Restore fall-run Chinook salmon to Central Valley streams (ERP Vol. 1, p.222, Feb. 99 revision)

Restore self-sustaining steelhead to Central Valley streams (ERP Vol. 1, p. 229, Feb. 99 revision)

Indicate the type of applicant (check only one box):

Local government/district

Indicate the type of project (check only one box):

Planning

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 the 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 2.4) 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.

Jeff TenPas, Program Manager, Georgetown Divide RCD

Jeffrey D TenPas April 16, 1999
Signature of applicant

**AMERICAN RIVER (SOUTH AND MIDDLE FORK)
WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

Submitted by: Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667
(209) 931-2587

Primary Contact: Jeff TenPas, Project Manager
Georgetown Divide RCD, 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 295-5630 Fax (530) 295-5635
jtenpas@hotmail.com

Participants and Collaborators:

Georgetown Divide RCD
El Dorado County RCD
American River Watershed Group
South Fork Dialogue Group
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
California Department of Fish and Game
El Dorado County
El Dorado National Forest
Placer County RCD
USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

Type of Organization: Local government/district
Tax Status: Tax exempt
Tax Number: 946000511

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 1 |
| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | 3 |
| Project Description and Approach | 3 |
| Proposed Scope of Work | 3 |
| Geographic Boundaries of the Project | 5 |
| ECOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL BENEFITS | 6 |
| Ecological/Biological Objectives | 6 |
| Linkages | 7 |
| System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits | 8 |
| Compatibility with Non-Ecosystem Objectives | 8 |
| TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND TIMING | 9 |
| MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY | 10 |
| Biological/Ecological Objectives | 10 |
| Monitoring Parameters and Data Collection Approach | 10 |
| Data Evaluation Approach | 10 |
| LOCAL INVOLVEMENT | 12 |
| COST AND SCHEDULE | 13 |
| COST SHARING | 15 |
| APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS | 16 |
| COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS | 16 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

a. **Project Title:** American River (Middle & South Forks) Watershed Stewardship Project

b. **Applicant Name:** Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

c. **Project Description and Primary Biological/Ecological Objectives:**

The project will produce a Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy for the South and Middle Forks of the American River. The plan will address a wide range of environmental, institutional, social, and economic issues in an integrated manner at a watershed scale. A major emphasis will be on improving the ecological functioning of the watershed, including protection and restoration of riparian and aquatic habitats, protecting watershed integrity, improving water quality and flows, reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire, avoiding and mitigating growth-related watershed impacts, and addressing factors such as connectivity with the mainstem Sacramento River.

As a result of this project, a Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) will be developed for all three forks of the American River. This proposal is for the Middle (El Dorado County part) and South Forks of the American River. The Placer County Resource Conservation District has already begun work on the CRMP for the North and Middle Forks. We will thoroughly integrate the efforts of these programs.

Approach/Tasks/Schedule:

Over a 36-month period, a CRMP committee will work with agency staff and a team of biological and socioeconomic planning consultants to:

1. Conduct a preliminary public scoping process for the overall project;
2. Collect relevant biophysical, social, economic, and institutional data;
3. Develop these data, to the extent possible, within a central geographic information system (GIS), accessible to all interested parties;
4. Prepare a report integrating data and information collected and providing a holistic understanding of watershed conditions, functions, and processes;
5. Develop a Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy, using a the Coordinated Resource Management Plan process and using extensive community participation;
6. Prepare a monitoring assessment and volunteer monitoring plan;
7. Conduct an evaluation of the overall project, including monitoring of pilot implementation. Prepare a final evaluation and monitoring report for CALFED, CRMP members, and other interested parties.

Justification for Project and Funding by CALFED:

Development of this Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy will be the foundation for local implementation of watershed restoration under CALFED and CVPIA programs. The CRMP committee and its members from federal, state, and local government, environmental, and business are the best vehicle for developing local responses to CALFED goals and objectives.

d. Budget Costs: \$203,250, of which \$50,000 is in-kind labor from cooperating entities.

e. Third Party Impacts: No third party impacts are expected.

f. Applicant Qualifications:

The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District staff will administer this proposal. Member agencies implementing this strategy include El Dorado County, Natural Resource Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. These agencies have extensive natural resources planning and implementation backgrounds and are well qualified to execute this proposal. The American River Watershed Group (which is already working on a stewardship plan for the North Fork and Middle Fork in Placer County) and the South Fork Dialogue Group will provide the members for a CRMP committee for development of the stewardship plan and strategy.

g. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The project will develop extensive biophysical, socioeconomic, and institutional data. Much of this data will serve as baseline data on watershed condition. Task 7 of the project will also identify suitable indicators of watershed condition, and will collect existing data or develop new data on these indicators, eg. miles of unsurfaced road, number of water control problems on a sample of forest roads, and riparian condition inventory. The Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy will also include a monitoring component so that monitoring of watershed condition is an ongoing element of the CRMP process, including after the end of the three-year Category III support. Evaluation and monitoring results will be used as part of an adaptive management process to update data inventories, GIS data layers, the Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy, and will guide the choice of watershed restoration activities.

The success of the community-involvement objective will be monitored by evaluation questionnaires given to community members involved at different points in the project. As the CALFED CMARP program is developed, this project will work to incorporate its monitoring approaches.

h. Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Compatibility with CALFED objectives:

Local support/coordination is provided for in the American River Watershed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The signatories include a variety of federal, state, and local agencies, private landowners, and business/industry representatives. Water quality monitoring, wildlife habitat improvement, and fuel load reduction projects provided for with Proposition 204 funding will complement this project, and results from those projects will provide feedback into this planning process. This project also will incorporate results from the US Forest Service Category III (proposed) project to study cumulative watershed effects on the American and Cosumnes River watersheds.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Description and Approach

This project will create a Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy for the South Fork and Middle Fork of the American River. The plan and stewardship strategy will be developed by the Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) process under the auspices of the American River Watershed Group and South Fork Dialogue Group. The planning committee will include representatives of the broad array of stakeholders in the watershed, and the plan will be community-based and will rely on voluntary support and cooperation.

The watershed plan will provide environmental data, management guidelines, project priorities, and an action plan to guide future watershed restoration activities. The community-based planning process will be used to build support and consensus on the plan as it is being developed. The plan will focus on improving the ecological functioning of the watershed; including protection and restoration of riparian and aquatic habitats, protecting watershed integrity, improving water quality and flows, reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire, avoiding and mitigating growth-related watershed impacts, and addressing factors such as connectivity with the mainstem Sacramento River.

The proposed project includes compiling biophysical, institutional, social, and economic data; developing these data in a central geographic information system (GIS); preparing an integrated study of watershed conditions, functions, and processes; preparing a Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy; establishing a volunteer monitoring program; and evaluating and monitoring project outcomes. Stakeholder representation and community involvement will be emphasized in the plan development.

Proposed Scope of Work

The scope of work for this proposal includes eight tasks to be carried out over a three-year period. Table 1 shows the schedule for completion of tasks and deliverables. Table 2 shows the project budget.

Task 1 - Scoping

The project will begin with a scoping task to gather community, stakeholder, and agency input on goals and objectives for the watershed, and issues and opportunities for watershed restoration. The task will include outreach to established community organizations and stakeholder groups with an interest in watershed and resource management (e.g., agricultural commission, Fire Safe Councils, environmental groups, Builder's Exchange, chambers of commerce, municipal advisory councils, etc.); meetings with agency and special district staffs; and two public forums. At these meetings, presentations will be made on the watershed planning effort, and comments will be invited. Also, an Internet forum will be used to gather additional scoping comments.

The scoping step will be used to identify: key watershed resource issues; which resource issues may be best addressed through this watershed planning and stewardship project and those best addressed through other ongoing venues; potentially critical actions; critical areas; and potential solutions.

Deliverables: Draft "Watershed Issues and Opportunities" report, Schedule of meetings, Meeting sign-in records.

Task 2 - Biophysical Data Inventory and Collection

Concurrently with Task 1, staff collect relevant information on the biophysical characteristics, condition, functions, and processes of the South Fork and Middle Fork watersheds. Information will be drawn primarily from existing agency, landowner, and commercial databases. Examples include databases of the US Forest Service, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Department of Fish and Game, and Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project (SNEP). Data in geographic information system (GIS) format will be sought in particular. Limited new information will be collected on an as-needed basis.

Examples of watershed biophysical data to be sought will include: hydrology, water quality, flows, riparian condition, vegetation, soils, slopes, sediment sources, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and habitat. This step will also identify existing monitoring data, ongoing monitoring programs, and monitoring gaps so that monitoring needs can be included in the plan.

Deliverable: GIS database of biophysical data for the watershed.

Task 3 - Social, Economic, and Institutional Data Inventory and Collection

Concurrent with Tasks 1 and 2, staff and subcontractors will compile a social, economic, and institutional database for watershed management and planning from existing data sources and limited new data collection. This assessment will be used to develop baseline data on community demographics, level of knowledge about issues, and attitudes/perceptions/beliefs. The communication channels within/among agencies, communities, business owners and private citizens will also be identified. The resulting database will provide a foundation for more effective communication and partnership development regarding watershed-wide resource issues, programs, goals, and objectives.

The database will form the basis for a socioeconomic understanding of watershed management – how the social and economic life of the community affects the watershed, how the community views its watershed, and ultimately what educational or institutional changes must be effected to restore the watershed.

Deliverables: Draft plan for public education and public involvement in watershed stewardship. Directory of the institutional, social, and economic data information.

Task 4 - Information Management

The data developed in Tasks 2 and 3 will be compiled and made publicly accessible. To the extent possible, the data will be in a geographic information system (GIS), and will be made available for public access. There will be a directory of the biophysical, institutional, social, and economic data information available for the project area, including detailed metadata. The information will be made available to resource conservation groups and agencies without compromising the confidentiality of respondents.

Task 5 - Integration Study

This task is three-fold: 1) to develop an understanding of watershed processes, the affects of society on resources, watershed element sensitivity, and land use and management practices specific to the SF/MF

watershed area; 2) to develop an understanding of the present stewardship environment in the SF/MF area; and 3) to evaluate the relationship between stewardship practices and values and conditions of the resources. This task will result in an understanding of the natural watershed processes in the SF/MF area, the affect of land use practices on the watershed, and how land use and management practices are influenced by institutional or social means. This material will support the development of a watershed plan and stewardship strategy that complements existing watershed management with a voluntary cooperative program.

Task 6 - Watershed Plan and Stewardship Strategy

The CRMP committee will develop a Watershed Plan and Stewardship Strategy that will lay out a plan for watershed restoration. Organizational work for this task will be completed in Year 1, during which the CRMP committees will be organized. The overall organization will include a steering committee for each of the major watersheds, and technical committees to address particular watershed and resource issues. Potential members of these committees will be identified during the course of the community outreach in Task 1.

In Year 2 the committees will take up the planning effort. The initial foundation for the effort will be the draft "Watershed Issues and Opportunities" report that will be a product of Task 1. It will outline the goals and objectives for the watershed, and the issues and opportunities for watershed management that were identified in public and stakeholder comments. The steering committee will begin work by creating technical committees to deal with specific issues.

In Year 3, the steering committee will complete a draft watershed management plan and circulate it for agency, stakeholder and public comment. Staff will present the draft at meetings of stakeholder groups, and at public forums. Comments will be collected and considered by CRMP committees and included as appropriate in a watershed management plan.

Task 7 - Watershed Monitoring

The Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy will include a volunteer monitoring component. During Year 3 of the project, an inventory of existing watershed monitoring efforts will be conducted. The data from the various sources will be organized, and geo-referenced to a GIS database. This will be followed by a technical committee assessment of the existing monitoring, and identification of monitoring gaps. The technical committee will be used to design a volunteer monitoring strategy, and staff will contact stakeholder groups, civic organizations, schools, and clubs, to enlist volunteer monitoring help.

Task 8 - Project Management

Project management will be provided by staff of the Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District. Management will be coordinated with the Placer RCD's management of the sister project being carried out the the American River watershed in Placer County.

Geographic Boundaries of the Project

This project includes the South Fork American River Watershed and the Southern half of the Middle Fork of the American River (Figure 1).

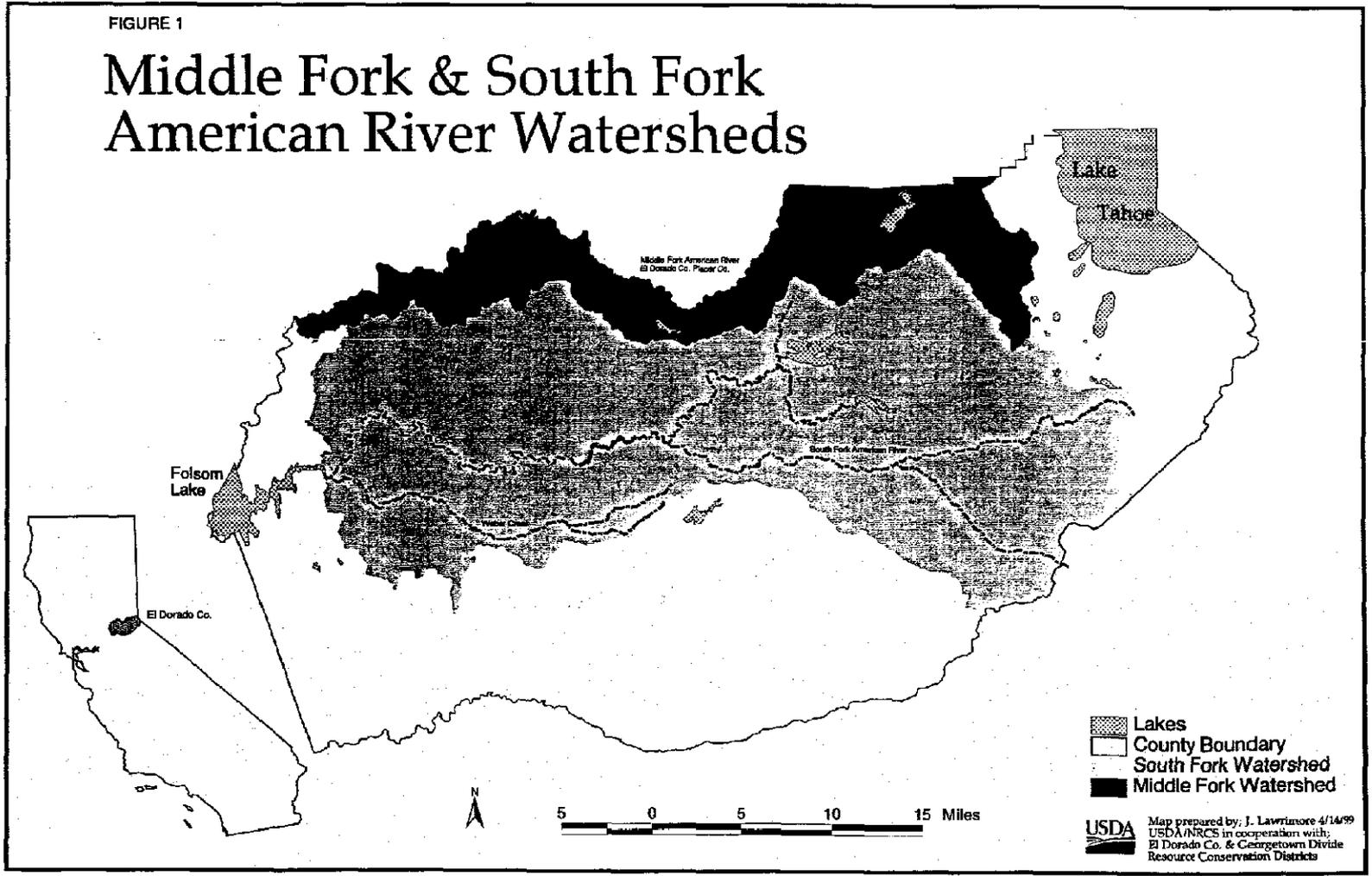
Table 1. Task Schedule

| Task | Oct-Dec 99 | Jan-Mar 00 | Apr-Jun 00 | Jul-Sep 00 | Oct-Dec 00 | Jan-Mar 01 | Apr-Jun 01 | Jul-Sep 01 | Oct-Dec 01 | Jan-Mar 02 | Apr-Jun 02 | Jul-Sep 02 |
|------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | ██████████ | | | ██████████ | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | | | | |
| 4 | | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | | |
| 6 | ██████████ | | | | | | | | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ |
| 7 | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ |
| 8 | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ |

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FIGURE 1

Middle Fork & South Fork American River Watersheds



1-018073

- Lakes
- County Boundary
- South Fork Watershed
- Middle Fork Watershed



Map prepared by: J. Lawrinsore 4/14/99
USDA/NRCS in cooperation with:
El Dorado Co. & Georgetown Divide
Resource Conservation Districts

1-018073

ECOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL BENEFITS

Ecological/Biological Objectives

The proposed project will help alleviate the principal stressors of anadromous fish in the lower American River: excessive late-summer and fall water temperatures, inadequate spring pulse flows, and elevated sediment deposition. Watershed management will help overcome a long-term trend toward higher winter-spring and lower summer-fall inflows to Folsom Reservoir, which has undermined the reservoir's water supply yield. The proposed project will help protect the American River water supply, upon which downstream water developments and the ecosystems of the lower American River and Delta depend.

The proposed project will facilitate watershed restoration activities by providing the necessary background information, management guidelines, project priorities, and environmental data for their implementation. The main types of activities it will facilitate are road restoration projects (i.e., realignment, reconstruction, and abandonment) and fuel reduction projects (i.e., tree and underbrush removal and prescribed burning). By providing environmental data for commercial timber operations focusing on fuel reduction, the project will substantially increase the economic feasibility of fire hazard reduction projects throughout the project area in the foreseeable future.

The proposed project will promote:

- increased community and landowner support and involvement;
- reduced incidence of excessive soil heating and vegetation mortality from wildfires, which will reduce soil erosion, enhance soil water retention, and protect spring flows;
- reduced landsliding and surface erosion related to forest roads that are unneeded or poorly designed or maintained; and
- reduced impact of rural community interface and intermix through land use policy.

Reducing road and fire hazards in the upper American River watershed will enhance anadromous fish habitat and productivity in the lower American River through the following mechanisms.

- Reducing the incidence of severe wildfires will increase the watershed's soil water-holding capacity; this means that the watershed's hydrology will be less "flashy", with greater discharge of cold, clean water into streams during late summer and fall periods. Such discharges will increase Folsom Reservoir's cold water pool during late summer and fall and its year-to-year carryover volume. Increasing the cold water pool will alleviate excessive summer-fall water temperatures in the lower river, the most important limitation on its steelhead productivity. Increasing the reservoir's carryover volume will increase the water supply available for spring pulse flows in the lower American River to promote emigration of chinook salmon, particularly during droughts. The project will also increase usable inflows to Folsom Reservoir by reducing the potential for upper watershed flooding related to catastrophic wildfire hazard.
- Reducing sediment discharge to Folsom Reservoir will slow the decline in reservoir storage capacity due to sediment deposition. A catastrophic wildfire in the project area followed by major storms could generate millions of tons of sediment; each million tons of sediment deposited in

Folsom Reservoir reduces its capacity by nearly 0.1%. Maintenance of reservoir storage capacity is essential for providing spring pulse flows to promote salmon emigration.

When reservoir inflows have extreme suspended sediment loads, as caused by a severe wildfire followed by large storms, reservoir outflows may also have high sediment loads. Under such conditions, spawning habitat degradation and high embryo mortality may result from sediment deposition and siltation of reeds.

- Reducing sediment discharges to upper-watershed streams will reduce reservoir turbidity levels. Juvenile salmon and steelhead released to the lower American River from Nimbus Hatchery typically grow rapidly; the high productivity of the river below Nimbus Dam depends on the high productivity of Folsom Reservoir for plankton and macroinvertebrates, which, in turn, depends on the reservoir's clarity. Elevated turbidity in Folsom Reservoir, as caused by fires and landslides, could adversely affect the reservoir's primary productivity and reduce food availability and growth rates for salmon and steelhead rearing in the lower American River. Delta and estuary productivity also depend on the input of organic matter from tributaries.
- The data from this project helps to consolidate planning already underway regarding natural resources and hazards in the watershed.
- it will be used to promote community support of specific watershed projects and stewardship promotions in high risk areas of the watershed
- it will assist in increasing the level of local participation and leadership
- It provides a watershed level perspective on the relationship between natural resource and stakeholder issues
- it provides baseline data which can be used to monitor change, and in future projects or in nearby areas

Linkages

While fire and road hazard reduction, and other water quality projects can be implemented in the absence of a basin-wide watershed management plan, the main benefit of preparing the proposed strategy is providing increased assurance that projects will be effective, economically feasible, environmentally sound, and mutually supportive. Implementing watershed enhancement projects piecemeal, without an overarching plan, greatly reduces the likelihood that the most beneficial projects will be implemented first or that projects that need to be implemented in combination with each other to maximize their effectiveness (e.g., to construct fuel breaks effective in changing wildfire behavior) will in fact be implemented.

In addition to providing a basin-wide vision for watershed restoration, the proposed project will promote implementation of subsequent projects by providing a process through which affected landowners cooperatively develop a strategy for meeting their mutual objectives, and will provide a substantial incentive for implementing subsequent projects by increasing their economic feasibility.

Effective resource management of both private and public property requires active, voluntary, participation of its owners and the local communities. The results of traditional approaches to developing such participation have been spotty at best. Landowners and small businessmen typically fear and resist government involvement with their property and their affairs. In order to achieve the critical mass of

property owner and community participation needed to produce noticeable momentum, a more cooperative relationship is needed.

System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits

In addition to the primary benefits of the proposed project for anadromous fisheries, it will serve as model for similar projects throughout the Sierra Nevada. Excessive fire and road hazards are among the most important watershed problems throughout the region. Demonstrating the effectiveness of a watershed management plan in the American River basin will encourage other CRMP groups and watershed conservancies throughout the Sierra to adopt similar approaches to promote implementation of watershed enhancement projects. For example, the benefits of the proposed project will be transferred throughout the Sacramento River basin through the American River Watershed Group CRMP's active participation in the Sacramento River Watershed Program.

Integrating local perspectives and issues will promote support of this project and may provide helpful guidance for generating public involvement in subsequent projects. Pre- and post-project economic and social indicators will also be monitored to better understand the risks/benefits for affected communities and individuals, and the influences which determine their willingness to maintain the improvements. The trend in resource agency planning is increasingly to recognize that problems of non-point source pollution, hazardous fuels, insect damage, and erosion do not respect property boundaries. There is increased interest in addressing environmental issues by strengthening property owner and community reliance on local networks and resources.

Compatibility with Non-Ecosystem Objectives

There are no expected conflicts with any CALFED objectives. But the project will promote the CALFED principles of community involvement, and voluntary cooperation.

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY AND TIMING

This project is very appropriately timed – putting watershed planning at the beginning of overall watershed restoration efforts, including the CALFED efforts. We expect that the plan will be an invaluable resource and guide for future work. It is also appropriately timed to mesh with the existing (already funded) Placer RCD project of watershed planning in the North Fork and Middle Fork (Placer County part). This project will profit from the experiences of the Placer RCD which will begin with a small lead. These projects will be closely joined, and together will result in a watershed plan for the whole upper American River watershed.

The project cooperators/ participants will include the signatories to the American River Watershed Group, and thus will have the support of the major landowners and land management agencies in the watershed. They will join with other stakeholders in using the CRMP process (a tested and effective community-based resource management process) to work on the watershed plan and to reach consensus on land management issues of mutual concern. Non-landowning stakeholders will be well represented in the planning group so that their issues and ideas will be included in planning, and so that their support will be enlisted for the plan. We expect that the plan and the CRMP group will prove to be invaluable in guiding future restoration actions, that it will continue to function, monitor the program, process feedback, adapt management, and revise the plan.

The project will benefit greatly from the land management experience and resource planning expertise of the major landowners and land managers of the watershed (including the El Dorado National Forest and major private landowners). Their support and contributions will be highly valuable in the resource inventory and GIS tasks, and we intend to draw on this expertise.

The first year of the project will be devoted primarily to public outreach, scoping, data gathering, resource inventory, and GIS database development. Year 1 will also be used to recruit CRMP committee members and to organize the committee and adopt bylaws. Years 2 and 3 will be devoted to analysis and planning, along with implementation of pilot projects in Year 3.

MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY

Biological/Ecological Objectives

The objectives of the project are to create a community-based watershed management plan, with the goal of improving overall watershed conditions. The project also includes data collection, and an assessment of monitoring needs.

Monitoring Parameters and Data Collection Approach

The monitoring will measure these parameters:

- Task 1 – Community involvement in planning process.
- Task 2 – Completeness of data, quality of data.
- Task 3 – Completeness of data, quality of data.
- Task 4 - Report on database.
- Task 5 – Completeness and quality of integration study.
- Task 6 - Stakeholder satisfaction in CRMP planning process.
- Task 7 – Completeness of watershed monitoring inventory, quality of monitoring data.
- Task 8 – Project administration.

In addition there will be numerous deliverables written into a contract to provide a track record of progress on the individual tasks over time.

Data Evaluation Approach

Data will be evaluated by the RCD contract manager, scientific or technical peer review groups, or consultants depending on the task.

The results of the monitoring and review will be included in the final report to the contract administrator.

| Table 2. Monitoring and Data Collection Information | | | |
|--|--|---|--------------------------|
| Hypothesis/Question to be Evaluated | Monitoring Parameter(s) and Data Collection Approach | Data Evaluation Approach | Comments / Data Priority |
| 1) To increase community involvement in watershed management | | | |
| That landowner support for a watershed management can be advanced by the CRMP planning process | Landowner expressions of support/ questionnaires | Comparison of pre and post test results | |
| That public involvement in watershed management can be enlisted | Public involvement/ attendance at public meetings, visits to website | | |
| 2) To increase stakeholder awareness of watershed condition and indicators of condition | | | |
| That landowner awareness of watershed condition can be increased | Landowner response/ questionnaires | Pre and post comparison | |
| 3) To increase monitoring of watershed condition | | | |
| That our knowledge of watershed condition is incomplete | Interagency review of monitoring programs | Technical committee review | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

The goal of this project is to produce a Watershed Management Plan and Stewardship Strategy by following the Coordinated Resource Management Planning process. The CRMP process is designed for and based on community and stakeholder involvement in planning. Its philosophy is that stakeholder involvement is essential to resource management planning where multiple interests and multiple properties are involved. The objective is to reach a consensus on the solutions to management issues, and only in this way will there be a base of support for future actions.

Because our project has adopted the CRMP approach, community involvement is at the base of the planning process. Already, landowners, agencies, and stakeholders are represented in the two watershed groups that will contribute to the CRMP committee, the American River Watershed Group and the South Fork Dialogue Group. Stakeholder participation and community involvement will be advanced further by the outreach activities in Task 1, where the project will be publicized in local papers and public forums will be held to scope the project. During this task, representatives will also be recruited from stakeholder groups.

Broad community input will also be sought at later stages, to review drafts of the "Watershed Issues and Opportunities" report, and to review and comment on the draft Watershed Management Plan and Strategy.

Another important point for community involvement will be in the development of a watershed monitoring and assessment plan in Task 7. In this task we intend to interest local groups of all kinds in contributing to a volunteer monitoring program. We hope to include a broad range of interests and hope that all stakeholder groups will begin to recognize indicators of watershed health such as riparian condition, road water control problems, and to gain an understanding of such things as macroinvertebrate surveys.

COST AND SCHEDULE

The total proposed CALDED funded cost of this project is \$203,250, to be distributed over 3 years. The funds would be expended approximately \$73,000 in the first year, \$88,000 in the second year, and \$42,000 in the third year.

Total Budget (CALFED funds only)

| Task | Direct Labor Hours | Direct Salary and Benefits | Service Contracts | Materials and Acquisition Costs | Misc and Other Direct Costs | Overhead and Indirect Costs | Total Costs |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Scoping | 200 | 6,000 | | | 500 | 1,500 | 8,000 |
| 2. Biophysical Data | 800 | 24,000 | 3,000 | | | 6,000 | 32,400 |
| 3. Socio-economic Data | 80 | 2,400 | 20,000 | | | 600 | 23,000 |
| 4. Data Management | 800 | 25,000 | | 3,000 | | 6,250 | 34,250 |
| 5. Integration Study | 300 | 10,000 | 10,000 | | | 2,500 | 22,500 |
| 6. Watershed Plan | 170 | 5,000 | 40,000 | | 5,000 | 1,250 | 51,250 |
| 7. Monitoring Program | 300 | 10,000 | | | | 2,500 | 12,500 |
| 8. Project Management | 500 | 15,000 | | | | 3,750 | 18,750 |
| Totals | 3,150 | 97,400 | 73,000 | 3,000 | 5,500 | 24,350 | 203,250 |

Table 3. Quarterly Budget

| Task | Oct-Dec 99 | Jan-Mar 00 | Apr-Jun 00 | Jul-Sep 00 | Oct-Dec 00 | Jan-Mar 01 | Apr-Jun 01 | Jul-Sep 01 | Oct-Dec 01 | Jan-Mar 02 | Apr-Jun 02 | Jul-Sep 02 | Total Budget |
|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | | | | | | | | | 8,000 |
| 2 | | 8000 | 8000 | 8000 | 8400 | | | | | | | | 32,400 |
| 3 | | | 5000 | 6000 | 6000 | 6000 | | | | | | | 23,000 |
| 4 | | 4250 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | | | | | 34,250 |
| 5 | | | | | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 7250 | | | | | 22,500 |
| 6 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 5000 | 6250 | 51,250 |
| 7 | | | | | | | | | 3000 | 6000 | 3250 | | 12,500 |
| 8 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 2250 | 18,750 |
| Total | 6000 | 18250 | 24000 | 25000 | 30900 | 22500 | 16500 | 18750 | 9500 | 12500 | 9750 | 8500 | 203,250 |

COST SHARING

Project participants/collaborators will provide significant matching support with an estimated value of \$50,000. This will be provided in the form of data contributions, data management, GIS support, in the provision GIS layers, and in the contribution of employee time. Employee time contributions will be extensive in the data collection tasks, and in volunteer time on the CRMP committees. There will also be significant in-kind contributions of office space, computer use, and significant vehicle mileage.

One reason to move on this project now is that it will then coincide with efforts on watershed planning for the North Fork and Middle Fork by the Placer County RCD. This will enable employee time and other contributions to be utilized more effectively. It will double the area covered without doubling the time and effort to provide data or attend meetings.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

The Georgetown Divide RCD has successfully managed several watershed-based planning and implementation projects at various scales over the past five years. The USDA Forest Service, El Dorado National Forest (ENF), currently has highly skilled GIS specialists working on various planning and monitoring functions of the Forest. The ENF played an active role in GIS innovations as part of the SNEP process, especially in topical areas related to this proposal (fuel conditions & road networks).

The project will be administered by Jeff Ten Pas, Project Manager, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District. Mr. Ten Pas earned a BBA in Accounting in 1977, and an MS in Soil Science in 1997. He has a combination of experience in business management, and in land use planning and resource analysis that is very well-suited to management of this project. He has worked in land use and resource management with the U S Forest Service, the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, Jones and Stokes Associates in Sacramento, and in private consulting practice. He is currently managing a significant Prop 204 grant for the El Dorado County Resource Conservation District.

Additional project work will be carried out by staff of various local, state, and federal agencies. These staff are highly competent and are leaders in their areas of work. The involvement of these staff is fully supported by their agencies.

No applicant conflicts of interest have been identified.

COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The terms and conditions specified are agreeable and will be complied with by the applicant.

Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

April 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

**RE: Proposal for American River (Middle and South Forks) Watershed Stewardship Project,
El Dorado County**

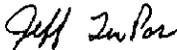
Dear Chairman Nielsen, Chairman County Board of Supervisors:

The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District is submitting this letter to inform the Board of Supervisors of a proposal they are submitting to CALFED. The RCD is submitting a proposal for support of a community-based watershed stewardship planning project for the South and Middle Forks American River, El Dorado County. The goal of this project will be to develop a watershed stewardship plan and a strategy for watershed restoration on the South and Middle Forks of the American River.

The project, if funded, will rely upon a community-based and volunteer effort to create a watershed stewardship plan and strategy for the South and Middle Fork American River watersheds. The stewardship planning effort would seek a high degree of community involvement and input. The plan would be developed by the efforts of landowners, land management agencies, resource agencies, and stakeholder groups from the County. Carrying out the plan would depend entirely on the voluntary cooperation of willing landowners. It is hoped that the stewardship plan would guide future watershed management and restoration actions in these watersheds in a positive way.

Please contact me at 530/295-5630 if you have any questions regarding the proposal.

Sincerely,



Jeff Ten Pas
Project Manager, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95667

April 15, 1999

County Planning Department
El Dorado County
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667

**RE: Proposal for American River (Middle and South Forks) Watershed Stewardship Project,
El Dorado County**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District is submitting this letter to inform the Planning Department of a proposal they are submitting to CALFED. The RCD is submitting to CALFED a proposal to prepare a community-based watershed stewardship project for the South and Middle Forks American River watersheds, El Dorado County. The goal of this project will be to develop a watershed stewardship plan and strategy for watershed restoration on the South and Middle Forks of the American River.

The project, if funded, will rely upon a community-based effort to create a watershed stewardship plan and strategy for the South and Middle Fork American River watersheds. The stewardship planning effort would seek a high degree of community involvement and input. The plan would be developed by the efforts of landowners, land management agencies, resource agencies, and stakeholder groups from the County. Carrying out the plan would depend entirely on the voluntary cooperation of willing landowners. It is hoped that the stewardship plan would guide future watershed management and restoration actions in these watersheds in a positive way.

Please contact me at 530/295-5630 if you have any questions regarding the proposal.

Sincerely,



Jeff Ten Pas
Project Manager, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District