ROUND 12 CAPITAL PROJECT NOMINATION FORM
LAKE TAHOE FEDERAL SHARE EIP CAPITAL PROJECTS
APPENDIX K

Project Name:	Upper Truckee River Reach 6 Restoration	**EIP Number: (*Required*)**	908, 948
Federal Agency Sponsor: (*Required*)	Forest Service, LBTMU	**Contact:**	Joey Keely
Threshold:	WQ, SC, V, F, W	**Phone Number:**	530-543-2661
Threshold Standard:	F2 through F4 SC2 V1 WQ1 through 6 W1 and 2	**Email:**	jkeely@fs.fed.us
FUNDING REQUESTED IN THIS ROUND:	**$** 1,000,000		

Federal Share EIP Consideration

Select "yes" or "no" for each question. If you have a "yes" response, briefly describe. ***Projects must meet one or more of these 5 items.***

1. **Does the project involve federal land? If yes, is the federal land involved important to successful implementation of the project?** — ***Yes*** ☒ ***No*** ☐

Restorations of Reach 6 (this proposal, for CTC land / non-federal) and Reach 5 (mixed CTC and Forest Service lands, funded by Rounds 6, 8, and 10) are inextricably linked, immediately adjacent portions of the same watershed; the floodplain meadow present in the project area is fully connected to that present in the federal land immediately downstream of the project area. Consequently, the federal land will be directly impacted (positively) by the restoration of the nonfederal land. The channel construction and channel resting phases of these restorations will be interconnected, as both the federal land and the state land are critical habitat for which restoration is needed, to ensure success of ongoing efforts to return sediment and nutrient loads to clarity-goal supportive levels and to ensure success of reintroduction and conservation efforts for Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT).

2. **Is this project identified in the EIP? If yes, please ensure the EIP number is identified in the above project information box. If no, provide a description of the project's contribution to the EIP program.** — ***Yes*** ☒ ***No*** ☐

Upper Truckee River contributions of sediment and nutrient loading to Lake Tahoe must be reduced by restoration of the River to proper ecological and hydrologic function, if water quality goals for Lake Tahoe are to be met.

3. **Does the project involve the conservation of a federal or regional threatened, rare, endangered, or special interest species? If yes, identify.** — ***Yes*** ☒ ***No*** ☐

The project is critical habitat improvement needed to ensure success for reintroduction and conservation efforts for Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT) due to the extent of floodplain meadow present in the project area and on federal land immediately downstream of the project area. Additionally, willow flycatcher has been detected in the project area.

Yes ***No***

4. **Does the project involve an identified federal interest such as the detection and eradication of non-native invasive species (aquatic or terrestrial)? If yes, identify.** ☒ ☐

Improvement of this critical aquatic habitat will enhance survival of LCT and improve opportunities for removal of nonnative fish.

	Yes	***No***
5. **Does the project develop knowledge and/or information to develop future capital projects in the EIP? (such projects that fulfill this function would include technical assistance, data management, and/or resource inventories)**	☒	☐

Yes, this project will provide useful information to adjacent channel and SEZ restoration projects, and others further downsteam along the Upper Truckee River. This will be accomplished by discussing project information through the Upper Truckee River Watershed Advisory Group (UTRWAG) and in a Design Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Project information will also be provided to the StormWater Quality Interagency Committee (SWQIC) and the Tahoe Science Consortium (TSC) for consideration in discussing related water-quality issues and for dissemination of lessons learned regarding design, implementation, and impact/effectiveness.

Check all Capital Focus Area(s) that apply (as defined in the Federal Vision):

☒ 1. **Watershed and Habitat Improvement** (benefits Lake Tahoe clarity and LCT)
☐ 2. **Forest Health**
☐ 3. **Air Quality and Transportation**
☒ 4. **Recreation and Scenic** (creates "natural" river characteristics / aesthetics)

Check all that apply (must meet a minimum of one category):

☐ 1. **Continued emphasis on forest ecosystem health/fuels reduction projects considering the LTBMU Stewardship Fireshed Assessment and Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy.**

☒ 2. **Continued implementation and/or completion of projects approved in Rounds 5 through 11 which implement the EIP. Project proposal should clearly describe the phase/product being produced along with the consequence of not completing the project phase proposed for Round 12.**

List Previously Approved Rounds and funding(provide project titles):

Round 10 awarded $4,5000,000 to Forest Service to restore Reach 5 of Upper Truckee River, immediately downstream of this proposed restoration of Reach 6. If the Reach 6 project is not designed and constructed, this disturbed reach of the river will not be restored, and will continue to contribute sediment and nutrients to downstream restored reaches and into Lake Tahoe.

☒ *3.* **Project is consistent with and contributes toward TMDL pollutant reductions within the four source categories (atmospheric, urban & groundwater, forested uplands, and stream channel).** ***NOTE: If "yes", then please respond to questions in the Accomplishments section of the nomination proposal.***
☒ 4. **Control of aquatic invasive species and prevention and/or detection of new aquatic invasive species.**

Project Nomination Proposal Outline

Project Summary (a brief summary which clearly describes the proposed project –maximum 200 words)

- Summarize ONLY the Round 12 project (also summarize scaling of funding to be described in more detail in the "Project Description" section below)**.**

With the requested Round 12 funds, a Participating Agreement with California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC) would be prepared by the Forest Service under the Wyden Amendment permanently authorized by PL 111-11. The final design for restoration of Reach 6 of the Upper Truckee River would be completed, the necessary permits would be obtained from TRPA, Lahontan and ACOE, and remaining funds would contribute to construction/implementation of the overall stream restoration identified in the final design. It is anticipated that during construction/implementation there will be cost efficiencies realized with coordination efforts with Reach 5 implementation and staging area development etc. Full construction/implementation of Reach 6 would subsequently occur with funding pledged by CTC ($2,000,000) and additional funding from ACOE ($4,800,000 through the Tahoe 108 Program, under an agreement with CTC).

Project Description

Introduction

- Provide project background which explains the situation and state the problem and how it will be addressed.

Note: *Focus needs to be the project in Round 12 not a history of an ongoing project or program.*

The Upper Truckee River is Lake Tahoe's largest inflowing stream and has been identified as a major source of sediment and nutrients to Lake Tahoe. The lower portion of the watershed has been extensively modified since the 1860's by logging, grazing, roads, stream channelization, urban development, recreation, and an airport. This reach within the lower watershed of the UTR is significantly incised and affords little opportunity for the occurrence of overbank flows that might otherwise deposit sediments and nutrients onto the adjacent floodplains and thereby prevent them from entering Lake Tahoe. This project will complete the 100% design plans and permitting for the restoration of Reach 6, purchase construction materials, and begin project implementation. The design for this reach will reflect a more natural channel form and function of the river.

- Describe what Round 12 is specifically funding; list the number of years the requested funding will cover; briefly describe how this project links into previous projects/rounds (identify and describe other round projects and funding received). Show scaling of project (reduced funding request and associated reduction in accomplishments).

NOTE: *Focus should be on finishing current/phased projects. If project is new in Round 12, clearly identify if the project is for planning or implementation and how it will be completed with Round 12 funds. Identify if other funds will be needed to complete the project. Please identify total non-SNPLMA funds that are being contributed/dedicated to the proposed Round 12 project and the source of those funds.*

The $1 million of Round 12 funding requested for the proposed restoration of Reach 6 of the UTR will be used for the completion of final restoration design plans, project permitting, and initiation of construction/implementation. The LTBMU will complete a Participating Agreement under Wyden Amendment authority, between Forest Service and CTC, and Round 12 funds will be used to complete the 100% design of the Reach 6 restoration, obtain the necessary permits from TRPA, Lahontan, and ACOE, with remaining funding being contributed to project construction/implementation.

- Describe the "readiness" of this project to move forward (urgency, capacity, capability, environmental documentation, interagency agreements, etc).

The 50% design for the Reach 6 restoration and the associated CEQA/NEPA have been accomplished through the funding associated with the Reach 5 restoration (SNPLMA Rounds 6, 8, and 10) and California State bond funds. The Forest Service and CTC are committed to working together to complete restoration of the contiguous Reach 6 – Reach 5 portion of the UTR watershed. Their mutual commitment to this goal is exemplified by the completed joint development of the 50% designs and the joint CEQA/NEPA Environmental documents. A Participating Agreement for the Reach 6 restoration will be developed between the Forest Service and CTC under the authority of the Wyden Amendment permanently authorized by PL 111-11, section 3001.

- Describe partnerships for this project. (if applicable, project should identify and describe committed/secured partner funding and/or other partner contributions and how it is integrated into the project).

SNPLMA funding from Round 10 ($4,500,000) is being utilized by the Forest Service partnering with CTC to complete restoration of Reach 5, which is approximately ¾ National Forest System Lands and approximately ¼ CTC lands. Previous SNPLMA Rounds (6 and 8) included joint development of the 50% design and CEQA/NEPA documents covering both Reaches 5 and 6. The proposed project extends our partnering to complete the final designs and permitting for restoration of Reach 6.

Our other collaborators include (i) the City of South Lake Tahoe, who manages Reach 4, immediately downstream of the Forest Service property in Reach 5, (ii) the CA Department of Parks and Recreation who manage Reach 7, just upstream of the CTC property boundary in Reach 6, and (iii) the South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District who have utility lines that pass through the Sunset Reach meadow. Each of these agencies also participate in the UTRWAG group, along with several other interested Lake Tahoe Basin agencies and individuals.

Note: *The form requests information about project goals, objectives, accomplishments, and questions the program is designed to answer across several different sections. These issues are closely linked and your individual responses should provide a cohesive description.*

Goal – Purpose and Need **("larger" statement of future expected outcome – usually not measurable)**

Restoration of Reach 6 will improve the ecologic and hydrologic function of the stream-meadow complex in Reach 6 of the UTR, such that a more natural setting is re-established that is capable of frequent overbank flows (every one to two years, instead of every five) which will carry UTR's sediment load onto the floodplain (meadow) and retain it there instead of allowing it to be delivered to Lake Tahoe; it will simultaneously afford much better habitat for Lahontan cutthroat trout, which are being aggressively managed in the UTR watershed.

Objectives (specific measurable statements of action – Round 12 only - which when completed will move towards achieving the goal)

Note: *Objectives will form the basis for the milestones/deliverables to be identified in Appendix B-8*

- Describe how fulfilling objectives will contribute to the achievement of one or more environmental thresholds (air quality, water quality, soil conservation, vegetation, fisheries, wildlife, scenic, noise, recreation). Provide measures if applicable. For example: acres treated, miles of stream restored for each objective.

Once the full restoration project is constructed, the environmental thresholds for water quality, soil conservation, vegetation, wildlife, scenic and recreation will all be positively affected.

- Describe the estimated environmental risks from unintended consequences of the proposed project (if applicable)**.**

There is a potential for sediment delivery to downstream reaches and to Lake Tahoe from the proposed restoration project if the following circumstances arise: 1) a large storm event is encountered during project implementation and temporary construction BMPs are rendered ineffective, 2) dewatering or diversion structures fail or are compromised, or 3) the season immediately following occupation of the new channel segments exhibits larger than average precipitation and minor bank failures occur because channel seasoning was insufficient to stabilize the banks for the sustained higher flows. These risks will be minimized by using accepted BMPs and dewatering and diversion methods, and by allowing 1-2 years for seasoning of the new channel.

Accomplishments

- Describe the anticipated project accomplishments (i.e. products or identifiable environmental benefits being produced or implemented under this project), and how the project results/accomplishments will be communicated and made available to the public.

Note: *Differentiate between direct and/or primary project effects and secondary and/or overall watershed effects.*

Final designs for Reach 6 restoration will be completed based on final NEPA. The final design plans will be reviewed by a Technical Advisory Group consisting of several local agency representatives, and will be shared with the UTRWAG group when completed. In addition, permits for construction of the Reach 6 project will be obtained, and remaining funding contributed towards the construction/implementation. Construction/implementation will be coordinated with CTC closely in order to achieve cost efficiencies in development of joint Reach 5 and 6 staging areas, and in full construction. Full funding for construction/implementation will come from contributions from both CTC and the ACOE.

- If you checked "yes" for the project being consistent with and contributing to TMDL pollutant reductions, please consider and integrate the following in the project description:

  a) Describe whether, and how, the project demonstrates advanced, alternative, or innovative practices.

The innovative design will focus on restoring natural geomorphic function to the stream channel, via appropriate channel sizing and sinuosity, so that it will quickly attain and enjoy dynamic equilibrium with the natural range of streamflows (e.g., resists further channel incision, promotes floodplain deposits, and allows for lateral channel changes).

  b) If project includes project level monitoring, describe ability of proposed monitoring strategy to contribute to the state of TMDL knowledge. Also describe if purpose of the capital project is to conduct data collection and/or analysis related to Lake Tahoe clarity.

The Project-level monitoring of the Reach 6 restoration and monitoring identified in the UTRWAG Monitoring guidelines will be included in separate funding accomplishments. No monitoring is proposed with this SNPLMA project.

  c) Describe treatment approach for reducing pollutants and/or measures to address connectivity between pollutant sources and Lake Tahoe or its tributaries. Identify target pollutants, and, to the degree feasible, provide quantitative estimates of project effectiveness at reducing pollutant loads (and/or a commitment to provide post-project estimates).

The operative principle is one of improving the ecosystem function and hydrologic function of the stream channel, by changing its shape (shallower and narrower) and increasing its sinuosity so that overbank flows occur more frequently and carry much more sediment out onto the floodplain to be trapped and unavailable for loading to Lake Tahoe. The effectiveness of sediment trapping and load reduction will be evident through the planned monitoring, included under separate funding accomplishments.

  d) If appropriate, describe whether, and how, the project can be combined or coordinated with other TMDL implementation projects.

As discussed previously, the implementation of this restoration will be interconnected and managed conjunctively with the restoration of Reach 5; its activities will also be discussed at UTRWAG and TAC meetings to ensure maximum project-to-project interactions with the other restorations of UTR reaches.

Monitoring

- Describe the project monitoring that will be implemented as part of this project including:

  - List the questions the monitoring program is designed to answer.

This project does not propose any monitoring, as it will complete final designs, permitting, staging area preparation and construction material purchasing only.

- Describe any coordination with, or input from, the science community on monitoring and adaptive management that has occurred on the development of this nomination and what changes (if any) to the project were made as a result of this input.

- Describe the methods and strategies (i.e. monitoring, research, or both) that will be used to verify whether the project goals and objectives have been met? (*Note: A detailed monitoring plan and/or research plan is not required, however, enough detail must be provided to allow someone that is unfamiliar with the project to understand and evaluate the proposed methods and strategies.*)

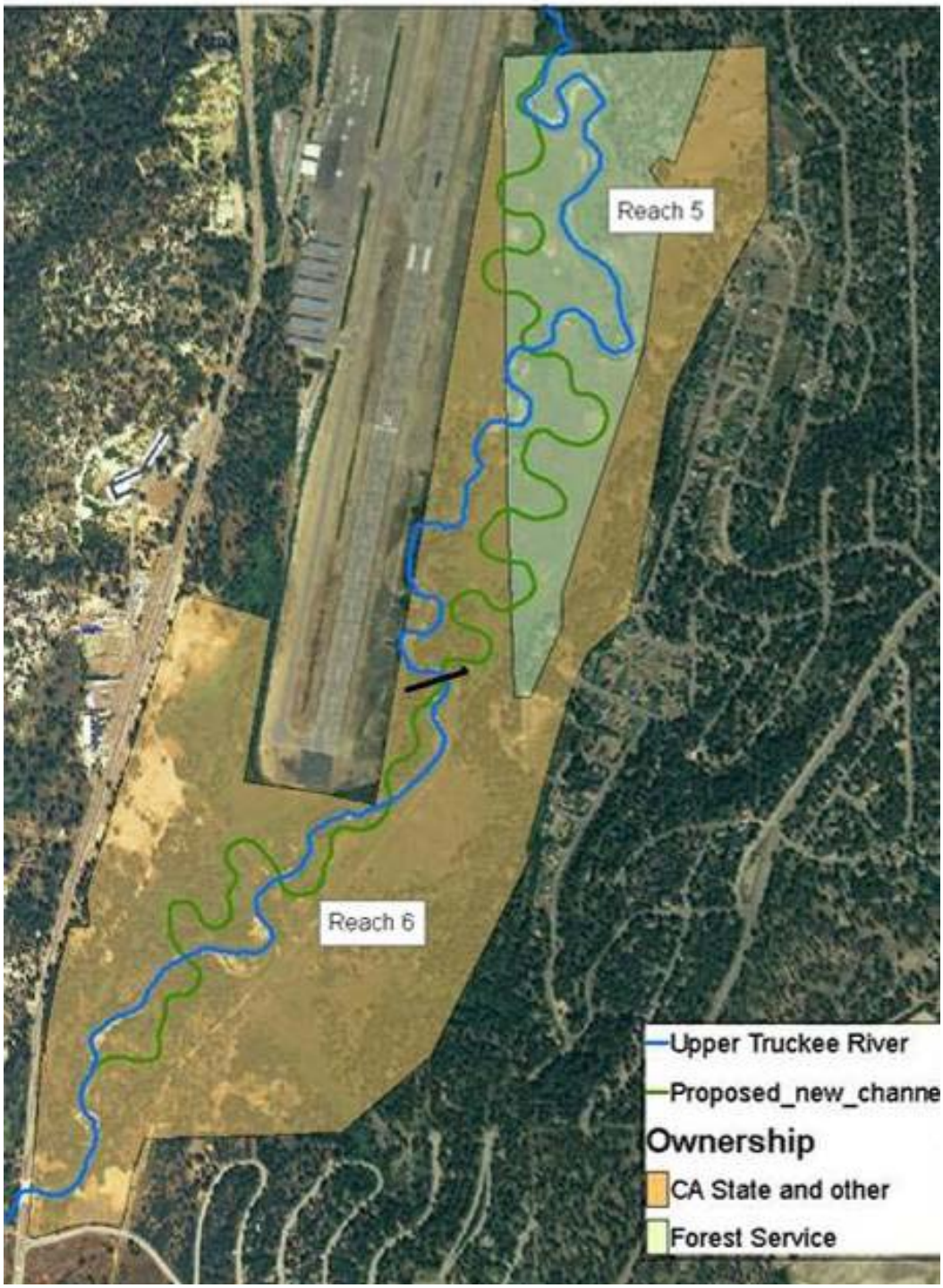
- Describe whether the monitoring or research associated with this project fits into or is part of a larger monitoring or research program.

- Describe how information from the monitoring and/or research will be used to improve the continued performance of the proposed project or future similar projects.

The dissemination of project information, and information gained during the development of the final design plans for Reach 6 will be discussed with and coordinated through UTRWAG and TSC.

Attachments

- If applicable, include 8 ½ X 11 map depicting the project


Reach 5
Reach 6
Upper Truckee River
Proposed_new_channe
Ownership
CA State and other
Forest Service

Appendix B-8
LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS
ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES & KEY MILESTONE DATES

Project Name:	Upper Truckee River Reach 6 Restoration	Agency:	Forest Service, LTBMU
Prepared by:	Joey Keely	Phone:	530-543-2661
SNPLMA Project #:		EIP #:	908, 948

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and Research Costs (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)	$		%
2. FWS Consultation – Endangered Species Act	$		%
3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project	$	80,000	8 %
4. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)	$		%
5. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)	$		%
6. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)	$		%
7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project	$	700,000	70 %
8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor: Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer to do project procurement, COR, Project Inspector, Sec. 106 Consultation if required, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project contract(s)	$	100,000	10 %
9. Other Necessary Expenses (see Appendix B-11): Indirect costs associated with implementing a project, such as support services, budget tracking etc.	$	120,000	12 %
TOTAL:	$	1,000,000	100 %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
Project Start-Up	12/31/2012
Wyden Participating Agreement completed	03/31/2013
Preparation of joint Reach 5 & 6 staging areas completed	06/30/2013
100% design for Reach 6 completed	06/30/2014
Construction permitting completed for Reach 6	6/30/2014
Initiate construction of Reach 6 with remaining funds	
Final Completion Date:	12/31/2015