

**State and Private Forestry
 FY 2010 Western Competitive
 Resource Allocation
 Single-State Project Proposal**

| Filename | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 2010_CA_YMCA_9-28-09.doc | |
| Administration Information | |
| Dollar Amount Requested: | \$300,000 |
| Matching Share: | \$580,000 |

| Applicant Information | |
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| State Forestry Agency: | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection |
| Contact Person: | Jeff Calvert |
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| Project Information | | | |
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| Descriptive Title of Project: | YMCA Camp Jones Gulch Forest and Range Wildland Project | | |
| Names of Partnering Agencies / Organizations: | San Mateo County Office of Education; U.C. Berkeley; U. C. Cooperative Extension; Humboldt State University; California Polytechnic University-San Luis Obispo; Big Creek Lumber; California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Vegetation Management Program; Puente de la Costa Sur; Natural Resource Conservation Service; Fire Safe San Mateo County; Forest Guild; San Mateo County Resource Conservation District; San Mateo County Department of Parks; H.T. Harvey & Associates; Kent & Associates. | | |
| State(s): | California | Congressional Districts: | 14 |
| Counties: | San Mateo | Forest Service Regions: | 5 - Pacific Southwest Region |

| Total Leverage | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----|-----|------------------|
| Please specify each 3 rd party contributor (partnering organizations and agencies, including other Federal) and the dollar value of each contribution. Please DO NOT show grant requested funds in this table. | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Contributors: (Please specify by name) | Big Creek Lumber Company | YMCA of San Francisco | CalFire Vegetation Management | Other Collaborators | | | TOTAL |
| | Value of Contributions: | \$450,000 | \$85,000 | \$20,000 | \$25,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$580,000 |

| Project Budget | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Grant Share (\$ requested) | Applicant | Non-Federal Contributors | TOTAL | |
| | | Cash ¹ | In-Kind ² | | |
| 4 | Personnel / Labor: | \$0 | \$45,000 | \$85,000 | \$130,000 |
| | Fringe Benefits: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| | Travel: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| | Equipment: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| | Supplies: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| | Contractual: | \$280,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$280,000 |
| | Construction: | \$0 | \$0 | \$450,000 | \$450,000 |
| | Other: | \$20,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$20,000 |
| | Indirect Costs: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| | TOTAL: | \$300,000 | \$45,000 | \$535,000 | \$880,000 |

| Project Duration | |
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| 5 | What is the duration of this project? <input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three Years |

| National Relevance | |
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| 6 | Conserve Working Forest Landscapes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| Project Description | |
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| 7 | <p>Maximum 5500 Characters Including Spaces – Clearly summarize the proposed project, including goals, objectives, measurable outputs, outcomes, and how grant funds will be used towards successful completion of the project.</p> <p>The YMCA of San Francisco (“YMCA”) seeks funds to support a forest and range wildland project (“Project”) for: 1) creation of a model stewardship plan (“Plan”); 2) expansion of environmental education programs; and 3) creation of opportunities for research and restoration field studies, experiential education and internships. The YMCA does not have a comprehensive stewardship plan. Surveys have identified these problems that need to be addressed via the proposed Project: 1) very high fire risk to the Property, neighboring residences and wildlands due to fuel levels; 2) encroachment of invasive non-native species; 3) recreational uses degrading habitat for endangered species; 4) an unstable road system and problems affecting fisheries habitat.</p> <p>The Property consists of 930 ac located in unincorporated San Mateo County. It includes mature second growth redwood forest (250 ac), mature 2nd growth Douglas fir (100 ac), non-native pine forest (42 ac), coast live oak woodland, coastal scrub, and grasslands (500 ac). A number of sensitive habitats occur, including old-growth redwoods (35 ac), riparian/stream channel habitat, and seasonal wetlands. Old-growth redwood provides habitat for marbled murrelet and the creeks support steelhead.</p> <p>The Property is used as a YMCA resident camp and conference facility (8,600 visitors/year), and an outdoor</p> |

¹ ‘Cash’ is the value of any qualifying match the applicant pays for such as cash, staff time, supplies, or equipment.

² ‘In-Kind’ is the value of any qualifying match contributed by a non-federal 3rd party contributor such as donated time, supplies, or equipment.

education facility (10,000 visitors/year) by the education departments of San Mateo and San Joaquin counties (“O.E. Collaborators”). Second-growth redwood forest has been selectively harvested twice over the past 40 years.

The primary goal is to restore forests and grasslands to conditions similar to those that existed pre-settlement through active management guided by restoration science

Goal 1: Reduce risk of catastrophic fire to Property, neighbors and region by restoring natural disturbance regime to the extent practicable

- Reduce fuel loads and flammability in adjacent areas
- Reduce ladder and crown fuels in forests and flammable brush in adjacent grasslands
- Create shaded fuel breaks in strategic locations
- Manage a working forest to provide a sustainable production of forest products

Goal 2: Restore biodiversity of native habitats and special-status fish and wildlife species

- Increase habitats dominated by native plant species
- Speed development of old-growth redwood characteristics in 2nd-growth redwood stands
- Decrease soil compaction and erosion caused by educational and recreational use
- Improve habitats for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species
- Decrease turbidity in creeks from soil erosion due to roads, trails, and culverts

Goal 3: Develop Plan to guide restoration process to achieve Project goals

- Plan serves as a model for restoration management of private and public lands in the region
- Utilize results of Project’s ecological monitoring to modify on-going restoration and management approach

Goal 4: Integrate basic concepts of wildland stewardship into existing environmental education programs

- Expand existing on-site outdoor education programs to include basic concepts of wildland stewardship
- Involve program participants in hands-on ecosystem restoration, research, and ecological monitoring

Project Approach:

Phase 1 – Plan Development: Consultants in restoration forestry, ecological restoration, fisheries and wildlife ecology will prepare the Plan. Plan will address existing problems, simulate forest restoration outcomes and prepare prescriptions for the working forest plan, determine fuel management prescriptions, and prepare a long-term road improvement plan. YMCA will involve Collaborators in Plan development.

Phase 2 – Plan Implementation: Conduct restoration and management actions developed and prioritized in the Plan. Integrate community outreach and environmental education efforts during implementation. Prescribed fire efforts will be implemented by CalFire’s Fire Protection Vegetation Management Program. Forest restoration, thinning and road stabilization will be done by local contractors. Manual labor for much of the trail and dirt road modifications, as well as revegetation, will be provided by California Conservation Corps, project interns, job-training program participants, and volunteers from the YMCA and Project Collaborators.

Phase 3 – Outreach, Environmental Education, and Ecological Monitoring: YMCA will coordinate Plan implementation with on-going environmental education and ecological monitoring, including hosting workshops and seminars to showcase stewardship and restoration work performed on the property for the local community, foresters, ecologists, and wildlands managers. YMCA will create seasonal internship positions to oversee this effort with input from Project Collaborators.

Project Outcomes

- Wildland restoration plan and demonstration forest that can be a model for timberland owners, ranchers, open space trusts and public park managers with goals of reducing fire hazards through environmental restoration, attaining sustainable production from working landscapes, and increasing biodiversity.
- Forest and wildland stewardship educational program that can be integrated into existing recreational and educational programs.
- Field station and research opportunities for universities on restoration science and management, and a

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| | <p>demonstration forest for wildland restoration and stewardship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experiential education, job training and internships in restoration management. |
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| Program Integration | |
| 8 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The Project integrates education, research and restoration management under the guidance of a stewardship plan that incorporates goals of a diverse but united cadre of collaborators. The Project achieves S&PF goals of conserving and protecting working forests, and enhancing public benefits through implementation of a scientifically based stewardship plan. The YMCA runs a resident camping program and O.E. Collaborators run experiential outdoor education programs at the site during the school year. Staff and volunteers from Collaborators participate in trail maintenance and mitigation of fire hazards. The YMCA will host volunteer days to work on winter storm clean-up, trail maintenance, fire hazard mitigation and other projects. Organizations that will work specifically on trail repair and restoration, fire mitigation, wildland restoration and stream restoration are Conservation Corps, Americorps and Puente de los Costa Sur, a nonprofit that provides safety net services for local farm workers. Academic collaborators from institutions such as UC Berkeley, Cal Poly and Humboldt State will assist in the preparation of the Plan and will help establish graduate and undergraduate level research projects and internship programs.</p> |

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| Collaboration | |
| 9 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The YMCA has worked closely with the following organizations (“Project Collaborators”) to gain guidance and input for the proposed Plan. The YMCA will continue to engage these and other partners to implement the Plan.</p> <p>Plan development, youth education, staff volunteers: San Mateo County Office of Education.</p> <p>Plan development, internships and on-going monitoring and research: U.C. Berkeley; U. C. Cooperative Extension; Humboldt State University; California Polytechnic University-San Luis Obispo</p> <p>Plan implementation and related job training: Big Creek Lumber, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Vegetation Management Program; Puente de la Costa Sur</p> <p>Public input, outreach and communication: Natural Resource Conservation Service Fire Safe San Mateo County Forest Guild – national outreach and workshops San Mateo County Resource Conservation District San Mateo County Department of Parks: Property neighbor on three sides; their second growth forests would benefit from restoration management.</p> |

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| | Professional Plan Consultants: H.T. Harvey & Associates; Kent & Associates: Ecosystem restoration and management planning, and restoration forest planning. |
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| Leverage | |
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| 10 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The Project leverages support from a variety of constituencies, particularly from the above partners and collaborators that already have established relationships with the YMCA and are eager to see the property preserved as a working forest. We will leverage additional support through monetary grants, in-kind donations and volunteer (or below market) labor from our collaborating organizations and from the following additional Project supporters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Joaquin County Office of Education - Committee for Green Foothills - Big Creek Lumber Company - Peninsula Open Space Trust - Save the Redwoods League - California Forest Foundation - outreach <p>We will leverage additional support through effective use of the media and public opinion by highlighting our success at implementing the Project and drawing on the growing reputation of the YMCA as a leader in environmental education.</p> |

| Meaningful Scale | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 11 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>In addition to its other 13 branch locations in the counties of Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo, the YMCA has managed the Property for 75 years and is capable of preparing and implementing the Plan by drawing on its internal resources (\$55 million annual budget) along with the guidance and involvement of its Project Collaborators. While the actual work by the YMCA and its Collaborators will be localized, the model, experiences and research generated by the Project will be both regionally and nationally relevant through replication. The recent fires in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties have focused national and regional attention on the risk of catastrophic fire when wildlands in close proximity to residential neighborhoods are not sustainably managed to improve forest health and reduce fire hazard.</p> <p>As a consequence, we fully expect that the example we set through the development and implementation of this proposed Project will have a direct and lasting impact on neighboring properties, forests, and wildlands.</p> |

| Sphere of Influence | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 12 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The Property is adjacent to county parks (Pescadero Creek, Sam McDonald, and Memorial) providing an opportunity for collaboration on forest and rangeland restoration. The site harbors significant resources and has the infrastructure to educate future generations about working forests and ecological stewardship through education programs. Many opportunities exist to utilize forestry and ecological restoration techniques to increase the biodiversity of wildlife, reduce catastrophic wildfire threats, speed old growth characteristics and restore natural disturbance processes. Restoration forestry will create forest stand structures that are more resistant to catastrophic crown fires that threaten forests in this area. The Property's position at the headwaters of Pescadero Creek provides an opportunity to manage the landscape to enhance downstream water quality and aquatic resources. The use of the facility by over 16,000 youth and teens annually affords an educational opportunity from a broad socio-economic base and influence future natural resource managers. The addition of research and intern programs from universities such as UC Berkeley, Cal Poly and Humboldt State will expand the influence of this Project to an even wider area.</p> |

| Sustainability of Outcomes | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 13 | <p>Maximum 1250 Characters Including Spaces</p> <p>The Project, through Plan preparation and implementation, will have a long-term and wide ranging impact and will provide a foundation for sustainability for generations to come. The Project will enrich the relationships among the YMCA and its Collaborators, and will draw on the strengths of all entities to sustain the directives of the Plan. By setting a foundation for preserving the Property's resources, we will enhance collaboration among our neighbors, leading to successful land management and practices in the entire region. The educational aspect of the Project in particular will have long-lasting effects as the Property will be a living classroom for the future generations of forest and wildland ecologists and administrators. By engaging youth in sustainable practices, we will instill in them a deep appreciation for the environment, an appreciation that will remain with them regardless of where they live or the profession they choose. The Plan will be updated based on monitoring results on a 5 year interval, and at 10 year intervals objectives will be reviewed and may be updated to better meet overall restoration goals using adaptive management. The Plan will also serve as a model to be replicated in other regions and states.</p> |