



Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council

LAND STEWARDSHIP PROPOSAL

**For Parcels in the Bear River Planning Unit: 11 Parcels
(#827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845)**

THE BEAR VALLEY HERITAGE LANDS PROJECT

**Submitted by proposed fee title recipient
Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe
July 29, 2011**

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council

APPLICATION FOR DONATION OF LANDS IN FEE TITLE

**For Parcels in Yuba-Bear River Watershed Planning Unit:
Bear River Planning Unit: 11 Parcels**

THE BEAR VALLEY HERITAGE LANDS PROJECT

**Submitted by the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe
July 29, 2011**

PART 1: ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

- a) Primary Proposal Contact
Don Ryberg, Executive Director
Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe
1239 East Main Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-274-7497
Tsi-Akim_Maidu@att.net

- b) Secondary Proposal Contact
Elizabeth "Izzy" Martin
The Sierra Fund
432 Broad Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
530-265-8454 x 11
Fax: 530-265-8276
Izzy.martin@sierrafund.org

- c) Executive Director/Board President
Roberto Garcia
18956 Sanctuary Road
Penn Valley, CA 95946
530-432-4465
syubarj@juno.com

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1) *Our experience, interests and objectives in owning and managing these lands.*

The actions outlined in the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* are the first steps toward long-term restoration of what is a special and sacred place to the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe.

The Maidu subsistence pattern has been one of intimate knowledge and understanding of the ecosystem of which we are a part. Being almost entirely dependent upon the lands we inhabit to provide us with life resources the Maidu are aware of all options ranging from fungi to Sugar Pines, grasshoppers to grizzlies, and acorns and salmon, to name but a few. We not only know how to benefit from these resources but also act as stewards utilizing what has come to be known as traditional ecological knowledge to enhance ecosystem health and resource abundance. The use of fire, as well as pruning, digging and seed distribution are some of the techniques we can employ to maintain sustainable foods and other resources which are available within our homeland since time immemorial.

Maidu culture epitomizes a place-based culture whereby language, song, dance, material production, and thought patterns are all based in the ecosystem of the homeland. The living culture perpetuates the ancestral traditions. However, one of the greatest challenges facing us in terms of cultural survival is the inability to enact self-determination in relation to stewarding land and culturally important resources.

The *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* will serve as a cornerstone for the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe to re-establish our presence on our heritage lands and to restore these lands as a ceremonial and sacred site and to ensure that the inherent human element will once again become the key factor of a viable, self-sustaining, and evolving culturally sensitive human presence in Bear Valley. At the same time, we will use the lands as a demonstration and educational site, while welcoming recreationists to enjoy the beauty and variety of this special place.

Anticipating this opportunity for acquiring these lands we have spent many years increasing our capacity and experience in managing and owning land and building our organization and partnerships with others, so that we are prepared to accept the responsibility of once again caring for and restoring our heritage. We will undertake this project working in strong partnership with the Nevada Irrigation District who fully supports our proposal and many other organizations with whom we have developed strong working relationships.

2) *Our financial and organizational capacity to achieve these interests and objectives.*

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of indigenous American Indians dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of our people's language culture, history, and heritage. Our seven-member Tribal Council and eight-member non-profit Board of Directors have extensive experience planning and managing watershed-based restoration efforts through special projects such as *Indigenous People's Days*, the annual *Bringing Back the Salmon* and

ongoing mining toxic remediation projects in the Yuba-Bear River watershed. Thousands of people a year participate in these efforts, which are designed not only to achieve land and water restoration goals, but also to bring Native and non-native people together to heal intergenerational wounds that began in the Gold Rush era.

Along with the more traditional funding sources, such as public support through tax deductible membership donations, we have diversified our revenue stream with local fundraising events, foundation grants, and income from a commercial gift store located in downtown Grass Valley. It is anticipated that a portion of these resources will serve as seed funding, and additional income, such as future net timber revenues, will be used to pay for the expenses of administering the property (including taxes, insurance and maintenance) and for some initial restoration and rehabilitation work. It is anticipated that future foundation income will help finance ongoing restoration work and that educational programs and camps instituted on the property will generate income to support these programs and others.

In addition, our work has received support from a wide variety of community and governmental entities, and we have strong partnerships with local non-profit organizations, government agencies and community groups that contribute to the achievement of our goals.

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

3. The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is a nonprofit conservation organization exempt from federal taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
4. *Attachment 1:* Internal Revenue Service Determination Letters. Our legal name is Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe Inc.
5. *Legal Name:* Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe.
6. *Common Name:* Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe.
7. *Attachment 2:* Letter from the executive director approving the submittal of the LSP and the organization's participation in the Stewardship Council's land conservation process.

8. RATIONALE FOR APPLYING

The tribal people of the Bear, Yuba and Feather River basins (*Maidu* is our word for *people*) experienced near total elimination during the Gold Rush, with our cultural traditions surviving in fragments carried quietly through seven generations before emerging once again at the turn of the 21st century

One of our primary goals is to find opportunities to regain self-determination and return tribal inherent values to the stewardship of land and other culturally important resources within our homeland. The Tribe has a specialized and ancestral interest in protecting lands in the Bear

Valley meadow region, which are historic and sacred to us. Many village sites have been documented throughout the Yuba and Bear watersheds. For thousands of years our people migrated during the summer from these villages to the high country meadows of Bear Valley.

Our goals for the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* include:

- ensuring that the inherent human element will once again become the key factor of a viable, self-sustaining, and evolving culturally sensitive human presence in Bear Valley;
- ensuring that management practices are instituted to restore and sustain the Beneficial Public Values of Bear Valley;
- using Bear Valley as an “outdoor classroom,” which will provide easily accessible demonstration sites for integrated restoration to inspire and inform other such actions throughout the Sierra Region; and
- establishing ongoing youth programs joined with cultural and environmental restoration activities to instill a place-based ethos in our children and our non-Native partners.

The Tsi-Akim Maidu have worked closely with a number of partners to put in motion our interest in these lands. Over the last several years we have, with permission from PG&E, the current landowners, joined with The Sierra Fund, American Rivers, Restoration Design Group, the Stockholm Environment Institute, the South Yuba River Citizens League, and the Cosumnes, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management Team to study this high Sierra meadow in order to measure and better understand its ecological function, cultural resources, and environmental challenges. We have also worked with partners including both federally recognized and informal tribes in developing our programs.

Thanks to financial support from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and Bella Vista Foundation, this intensive research, documentation and mapping is now complete, resulting in a comprehensive plan for stewarding these lands and developing appropriate long-term management actions for Bear Valley well into the future.

9. ORGANIZATION’S MISSION

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of our people’s language, culture, history and heritage. While members of our organization that are part of informal tribes continue to seek federal recognition, the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is not and cannot become a federally recognized tribe as we are already incorporated as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization based in Grass Valley, California. Founded in 2001, we have become known as a leader and highly respected partner in conservation and cultural preservation activities in the Northern Sierra.

Our Board members represent a diverse range of local community interests who support long-term cultural restoration of the indigenous people of the central Sierra Nevada. Current board members include Andrew Cassano, CEO of Nevada City Engineering Inc; Michael Funk, Board Chair of United Natural Foods; Letty Lichfield, attorney, and Roberto Garcia, former North San

Juan Fire District firefighter EMT and former elected Penn Valley Fire District Director – none of whom are Maidu people (see Attachment 3 for a full list of Board members.)

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe has increased its organizational capacity and carefully cultivated a variety of community partnerships, leading to official support of the Tribe by four local Boards of Supervisors (Nevada, Plumas, Sierra and Yuba counties) as well as the Nevada Irrigation District and more than 30 community, government and religious organizations. We are featured regularly on local radio stations and in newspapers and have established a Gift Store to provide core support for our operations.

The Tribe is working to re-secure land in our indigenous region in order to steward that land and to foster our own tribal traditions and community. Integral to this effort has been building relationships with the “new inhabitants” of this area, and we are now working with many non-profit and government organizations, such as Nevada Irrigation District, Nevada County Land Trust, YMCA/Yuba Sutter, American Rivers, South Yuba River Citizens League, Granite Bay FlyCasters, CalFire, UC Berkeley, CABY, The Sierra Fund, and the Yuba Watershed Institute, to achieve this goal. The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe’s work reflects the Stewardship Council’s **Beneficial Public Values**. For example:

- **Protection of the natural habitat of fish, wildlife, and plants through:**
 - *Cultural preservation work and restoration planning in Bear Valley.*
 - *Cultural and restoration planning of Deer Creek in Nevada City.*
 - *Cultural and restoration planning at the Burton Park Project in Nevada County.*
- **Preservation of open space through:**
 - *Working to preserve open space through an easement with Western Aggregates and the South Yuba River Citizens League along the lower Yuba River.*
- **Outdoor recreation by the general public through:**
 - *Holding youth summer camps at the Burton Park project.*
 - *Planning and producing the annual Salmon Run and Calling Back the Salmon Day on the Yuba River.*
 - *Planning and producing Indigenous People’s Day events in Nevada County.*
- **Sustainable forestry and agricultural uses through:**
 - *Model forestry management practices at the Maidu Active Cultural Center.*
 - *Expert forestry advice to multiple private landowners in the region.*
- **Historical values and cultural resources through:**
 - *Cultural survey of Bear Valley lands.*
 - *Writing Cultural Preservation Plan for Bear Valley lands.*
 - *Planning and producing Indigenous People’s Day events in Nevada County.*
 - *Planning and producing a series of workshops “Our People, Our Fish and Mercury.”*

10. GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

The people of the Tsi-Akim Maidu have been actively managing land in this region for thousands of years. Our indigenous lands stretch from Mount Lassen on the north, the

Cosumnes River to the south, the Sierra Crest on the east, and the Sacramento River on the west. Unfortunately, as part of the Gold Rush, nearly all of our members were killed.

Over the last 10 years we have steadily built our capacity to regain land in our indigenous region in order to both steward that land and sustain our own tribal traditions and community. The lands in the Bear Valley are historic and sacred sites for the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe, and many cultural sites were identified in the Cultural Preservation Plan that we have recently completed. Examples of the Tsi-Akim's work on owning and managing lands, preserving and enhancing BPVs and working with others are mentioned above in Question 9 and include:

- ***PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL HABITAT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PLANTS***

Bear Valley Stream Management Plan: Over the last several years we have worked with The Sierra Fund, American Rivers and others to study this high Sierra meadow in order to measure and better understand its ecological function, cultural resources, and environmental challenges.

- ***PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE***

Open space easement in the Goldfields: The Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe has been working with SYRCL and Western Aggregates Inc. on an open space easement in the Yuba Goldfields. The tribe has been concentrating on culturally appropriate restoration for salmon habitat and a native plant restoration plan, while maintaining accessibility for the public.

- ***OUTDOOR RECREATION BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC***

Tribute Trail: The Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe has been working with a large number of partners in the development of a wheel-chair accessible Tribute Trail through downtown Nevada City, which leads onto public land held by the Bureau of Land Management. Our role is to assess cultural resources and to direct culturally appropriate informational signage.

- ***SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY AND AGRICULTURAL USES***

Model Forestry Demonstration: We have been working with the Nevada County Land Trust to plan and demonstrate Model Forestry Management Practices at the Maidu Active Cultural Center outside Nevada City. This experimental forest will demonstrate traditional sustainable forestry practices, including controlled burning, reintroduction of native tree and plants, removal of noxious weeds and re-establishing wildlife habitat.

- ***HISTORICAL VALUES AND CULTURAL RESOURCES***

Cultural Preservation Plan for Bear Valley: The investigation into cultural resources and the plan that followed were designed by Grayson Coney, Cultural Resources Director for the Tsi-Akim Maidu. The result of this intensive research, documentation, and mapping is a comprehensive plan that serves the Tsi-Akim and our partners in developing an appropriate long-term management plan for the Bear Valley.

11. ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND CAPACITY

The Tsi-Akim Maidu have developed increasing capacity over the last decade to own and manage important resource lands, and to preserve and enhance the public values associated with those watershed lands. In addition to the work in the Bear Valley described earlier, we have been involved in the following land management activities that also illustrate the Tsi-Akim Maidu's relevant experience and capacity.

Tsi-Akim Maidu Active Cultural Center

16200 Lake Vera Purdon Road, Nevada City California

These lands, located on Lake Vera Road outside of Nevada City, are owned in fee title by the Nevada County Land Trust (NCLT). Three years ago NCLT signed an agreement with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe allowing four acres of the parcel to be used for cultural activities. Over the last several years we have done extensive restoration to the lands we now steward, including removal of invasive species, improvement of wildlife habitat, and identification and protection of cultural resources on the site. In addition, we have opened the Center for many public educational activities including language classes, youth camps and cultural celebrations.

Sycamore Ranch Park & Campground, Yuba County

5390 Highway 20, Browns Valley California

This approximately 10-acre park, owned by Yuba County, is on Highway 20 on a small creek that is a tributary to the Yuba River. Yuba County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution of support of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe in June 2010 by unanimous vote. We have used the camp for the last two years for hunters preparing for the annual Salmon Run. We have also signed an agreement with Yuba County to work on environmental restoration and protection of its important wildlife, open space, watershed, and cultural values.

Cultural Site, South Nevada County

17272 Perimeter Road, Auburn California

This ½-acre parcel of land in southern Nevada County with significant cultural resources was given in fee title to the Tsi-Akim Maidu in 2001 by the Nevada County Historical Society. Because of its important and fragile on-site cultural resources, this particular ancient village site has not been opened to the public in an effort to protect the cultural resources on-site. We are currently managing the site to reduce invasive species, protect wildlife, restore ecological function to the small creek running through the property, and preserve the cultural artifacts on site.

12. LOCATION, LENGTH SIZE ETC OF PROPERTIES HELD AND MANAGED

Tsi-Akim Maidu Active Cultural Center

LOCATION: 16200 Lake Vera Purdon Road, Nevada City, California

SIZE: 4 acres

LENGTH OF TIME MANAGED: 4 years

USES: Ceremony, education and restoration.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDES:

- An agreement to manage the property for healthy wild animal habitat.
- Returning the land to a fire-safe landscape with appropriate habitat.
- Wildlife management measures to restore the meadow to native meadow habitat.
- Water quality monitoring.

- Conducting vegetation analysis and proposed management steps for aquatic and meadow habitats.
- Developing a Maidu Tribute Trail to join the Deer Creek Tribute trail.
- Youth education programs about Maidu culture and history.

Sycamore Ranch Park & Campground, Yuba County

LOCATION: 5390 Highway 20, Browns Valley, California

SIZE: 40 acres

LENGTH OF TIME MANAGED: 1 year

USES: Salmon Ceremony, education and restoration.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDES:

- Protection and restoration of cultural sites.
- Measures to improve environmental and ecological values, such as riparian vegetation and traditional medicinal and edible plants.
- Restoration of overgrazed meadows with native oaks, basket-making plants and traditional medicinal and edible plants.
- Management of the campground for low-impact recreation.
- Removal of trash.
- Youth education programs about the cultural importance of salmon and traditional salmon ceremonies.
- Construction of traditional bark houses.
- Upgrading of all sanitation facilities.

Cultural Site, South Nevada County

LOCATION: 17272 Perimeter Road, Auburn, California

SIZE: 1 acre

LENGTH OF TIME MANAGED: 10 years

USES: Ceremony, education and restoration.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDES:

- Protection and restoration of cultural sites.
- Restoring ecological function to the creek.
- Measures to improve environmental and ecological values, such as riparian vegetation and traditional medicinal and edible plants.
- Invasive species reduction plan.
- Returning the land to a fire-safe landscape with appropriate habitat.

13. ORGANIZATIONAL FINANCES

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe’s financial statements for fiscal years 2007 – 2008, 2008 – 2009, and 2009 – 2010 are attached as Attachment 1 in a separate confidential file. We have also attached an Income Statement and Balance Sheet as Attachment 2 in separate confidential file.

As mentioned earlier, the Tribe has developed a diversified portfolio of regular income, and has an operational budget that runs around \$50,000 per year.

The financial statement for 2009 – 2010 reflects a net loss of income. A no-interest loan from a Board member was accepted as an investment in the development of a strategic and business plan for the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe. This loan will be paid back through income from four activities that are mandated by the by-laws: Winter Gathering, Annual Big Time Celebration, Annual Elders Dinner and Indigenous People’s Day.

The financial records of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe are maintained by accountant, Nicholette Granholm.

14. SOURCES OF FUNDING

As the attached budget for 2010/2011 demonstrates, the Tribe has been successful in attracting funding for several activities, including:

- Development of a Cultural Resources Management Plan for the Bear Valley, in partnership with The Sierra Fund, American Rivers, and a large number of partners. This plan will identify cultural resources and develop strategies to protect them. \$13,700
Funding sources: National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and Bella Vista Foundation
- Development of a Youth and Elders Camp held in the summer of 2010 in the Bear Valley, with Maidu language workshops on Bear Valley species, ecosystems, and traditions. \$15,000
Funding Sources: Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Deer Creek Assessment: Identifying cultural resources and developing a plan to protect and manage them in the Deer Creek watershed. \$30,000
Funding sources: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to work with our partners to raise far more income than currently.

15. PENDING GRANT FUNDS

None

16. N/A

17. KEY PERSONNEL

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe carries out all its activities with help from a large number of volunteers. We will mobilize these volunteers to help with all aspects of the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* from trail building to educational camps and noxious weed removal.

Key Personnel involved with the project will be:

Don Ryberg, Executive Director: Don is an experienced forest manager, an indigenous Maidu and Chair of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribal Council. Don has also served as Tribal Chairman of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe since 1997. Don will administer the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*. As Executive Director he will be providing project oversight, as he does for the Tribe's other main land-based projects, the Maidu Cultural Center and the Sycamore Ranch Park and Campground.

Elizabeth Martin, Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project Liaison: Elizabeth "Izzy" Martin is the CEO of The Sierra Fund, which is serving as the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe's primary partner on the Bear Valley acquisition team. Izzy brings years of experience as a project planner, fundraiser and advocate, as well as contacts developed while on the Board of Supervisors in Nevada County. Izzy has served as the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* liaison since 2007 and will be the lead in managing the fee title and conservation easement process for the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.

Farrell Cunningham, Cultural Heritage Educational Program Manager: Farrell speaks Maidu fluently, and has been teaching Maidu language classes in Nevada, Placer and Plumas Counties for several years. He also led the Youth & Elder Bear Valley Cultural Restoration camps over the summer of 2010. These camps brought urban youth and Maidu elders to the Bear Valley to learn about and practice Maidu cultural activities. The students also worked with project partners to identify cultural resources in the Bear Valley. Farrell will take the lead on all education projects related to the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.

Grayson Coney, Cultural Resource Conservation Program Manager: Grayson developed the cultural resource protection plan for the Bear Valley, working with registered professional archeologists to ensure appropriate practices and documentation. Grayson's past experience includes managing large-scale land development projects in the Sierra foothills. He is the cultural director for the Tsi-Akim Maidu and he will be the overall manager of the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.

Steve Rotherth and Elizabeth Soderstrom (American Rivers): American Rivers will be leading the team to restore environmental integrity to the Bear Valley meadow. American Rivers led the work on the *Bear Valley Stream Management Plan* and has worked on multiple similar projects around the region. Dr. Soderstrom, senior staffer, is in charge of river conservation and management for American Rivers in California. Her responsibilities include major donor fundraising, development and management of a California Advisory Council, grant writing, and project management around acquisition of water rights for instream flows, corporate water footprinting, salmon restoration in coastal watersheds, and green infrastructure approaches, such as meadow and floodplain restoration. Mr. Rotherth has served as Director of American Rivers' California Regional Office since 2002. In addition to overseeing office operations, he manages American Rivers' programs in California related to hydropower reform, anadromous fish restoration, dam removal, climate change and water supply.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

18. BEST COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Describe collaborative efforts your organization has been engaged in with organizations and stakeholders either in the geographic region where the subject watershed lands are located or elsewhere.

Nevada Irrigation District	Includes collaboration on Scotts Flat cultural restoration project. Mr. Ryberg has spent two years identifying cultural sites on Scotts Flat Reservoir and developing a management plan to protect important sites. Also collaboration on all aspects of <i>Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project</i> .
American Rivers	Collaborated on development of Bear Valley Stream Restoration Plan and Cultural Preservation Plan.
South Yuba River Citizens League	Collaborated on Sycamore Ranch Park and Campground, Indigenous People's Day, Annual Salmon Run, Yuba Goldfields open space easement project.
Placer Land Trust	Collaborated on interpretive recreational opportunities on PLT held lands
United States Forest Service/Tahoe National Forest	Collaborated in Abandoned Mines presentations
Yuba County Water Agency	Collaborated on Sycamore Ranch Park and Campground project.
Yuba County	Collaborated on Sycamore Ranch Park and Campground project.
Western Aggregates	Collaborated on Yuba Goldfields open space easement project.
Nevada County Land Trust	Collaborated on Burton Homestead project and other projects.
City of Nevada City	Collaboration in Maidu Monument in Nevada City
The Sierra Fund	As a partner in multiple projects including the Tribute Trail and the Bear Valley Stream Restoration Plan, workshops on mining toxins, as well as the annual Bringing Back the Salmon Ceremony.
Sierra Nevada Conservancy, NFWF, Bella Vista Fdtn	As funders of the Bear Valley Meadow restoration project

19. RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN SOLICITING STAKEHOLDER INPUT

- The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe sponsored a series of meetings with The Sierra Fund in 2008 and 2009 about legacy mining impacts on fish and water quality.
- Helped to produce the “Mining’s Toxic Legacy Conference in 2010,” of which an entire day was dedicated to getting stakeholder input into mechanisms for managing the legacy impacts from historic mining uses in the Sierra region.
- Ran “Meadow Forums” with American Rivers to solicit input about Bear Valley restoration.
- Involved in public meetings concerning FERC relicensing process for the Drum-Spaulding project to seek public input on the process, specifically about Bear Valley restoration.
- Ran meetings with SYRCL to get public input about the open space project in the Yuba Goldfields.

Current and Planned Solicitation for Stakeholder Input on PG&E Lands

In preparation for this application we have conducted a series of meetings to brief stakeholders and ask for participation in planning, endorsement and partnering to develop a strategy for maintaining and enhancing the BPVs. We have conducted outreach to the following groups:

Nevada Irrigation District	On all aspects of this project
Nevada County Land Trust	As a conservation easement holder and trail construction.
The Sierra Fund	As part of the project management team
American Rivers	As a conservation partner for wetlands and stream restoration plans.
South Yuba River Citizens League	As stream monitoring experts.
United States Forest Service/Tahoe National Forest	As a partner for trails connectivity and collaboration on contiguous forest management practices.
Placer Land Trust	As a possible recreational partner
Bicyclists of Nevada County	As a recreation partner.
Gold Country Trails Council	On equestrian trails construction
Nevada County Planning Department	To incorporate the new trails as a part of the County’s General Plan.
Gold Country Fly Fishers	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the fishery.
Granite Bay Flycasters	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the fishery.
Nevada Irrigation District	On all aspects of this project including fundraising.
Nevada County Land Trust	As a conservation easement holder and trail construction.
The Sierra Fund	As part of the project management team
American Rivers	As a conservation partner for wetlands and

	stream restoration plans.
Nevada County Fire Safe Council	To develop and manage a fuels reduction plan.
Sierra Nevada Conservancy, NFWF, Bella Vista Fdtn	As potential funding partners.
California Native Plant Society	For species inventory, noxious weed plan.
Ca. Native Heritage Commission	To document traditional cultural properties.
Yuba Sutter YMCA	For youth recreation coordination.
CABY	For coordination with downstream users.

Moving forward, the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe will widen our communications to involve residents in a more public way. In addition to the groups mentioned above, we will reach out and build partnerships with other local user groups that have an interest in the forest - hikers, foresters, birders, mountain bikers, and other outdoor recreation groups. We will do this in a variety of ways including:

- Holding individual meetings with identified groups.
- Getting on the agendas of other groups to make presentations about the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.
- Regular updates on the project on our website.
- Posting alerts when important management activities are planned or when educational programs and camps are happening.
- Sending out regular e-newsletters to interested organizations and individuals.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE AND BEST PRACTICES

20. BEST PRACTICES AND STANDARDS

The Tsi-Akim Maidu takes its fiduciary and administrative responsibilities very seriously. In order to comply with best legal practices, the Board's by-laws are rigorously followed to ensure that current laws are met. The by-laws call for quarterly board meetings where financial and program activities are reviewed and approved. Monthly meetings of the Executive Committee can be called between Board meetings to provide staff direction. Insurance and legal reviews are conducted on an annual basis, and financial accounts are handled by a certified accountant.

The Board includes professionals and community members that bring an important set of skills to the organization. The Board includes a professional land use planner, business owners, educators, and a retired Catholic priest and an attorney with expertise in liability cases. Our written conflict of interest policy is attached (see Attachment 4.)

21. OTHERS ASSUMING OWNERSHIP

We are confident that TAM will exist in perpetuity and remain able to manage these lands in all circumstances. However, if we are awarded the lands we will immediately put in place a specific agreement with a qualified potential successor organization that would be effective in the event that TAM is unable to uphold our agreement with the Stewardship Council. Our top choice at this time for that successor would be the Nevada Irrigation District (NID), a close partner in this project. NID currently operates several facilities in conjunction with PG&E in the Bear Valley and is supporting our acquisition of these lands. In the event that NID would not be considered adequate by the Stewardship Council, we would consider the Sierra Nevada Conservancy as a successor.

22. CURRENT VIOLATIONS

There are no violations of law associated with Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe, current or past.

23. LAWS PRECLUDING TSI-AKIM MAIDU TRIBE FROM ACCEPTING A CONSERVATION EASEMENT.

No applicable law or policy precludes Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe from accepting a conservation easement on the watershed lands for which we are seeking fee title.

24. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is not aware of any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise as a result of any personal or financial connection between the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe and its members, trustees, directors, or officers; or with a member of the Stewardship Council's Board, family members, or the Board member's constituent organization.

PART 2 – LAND STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

LAND INTERESTS SOUGHT

25. The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is applying to receive in fee title donation 11 parcels in the Bear River Planning Unit totaling 2044 acres, of which approximately 649 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E, leaving an approximately 1395 acres available for donation.

- ID #827 is 3 acres of which approximately 1 acre is located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #836 is 82 acres
- ID #837 is 163 acres, of which approximately 41 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #838 is 167 acres, of which approximately 74 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #839 is 997 acres, of which approximately 498 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #840 is 34 acres, of which approximately 2 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID#841 is 1 acre
- ID#842 is 4 acres
- ID#843 is 11 acres of which approximately 1 acre is located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #844 is 97 acres of which approximately 2 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E
- ID #845 is 485 acres, of which approximately 30 acres are located within FERC Project boundaries and will be retained by PG&E

26. *Please indicate if the transfer of the watershed lands identified above would require a lot line adjustment, boundary survey, or legal parcel split.*

We anticipate that lot line adjustments, boundary surveys and legal parcel splits will all need to be completed for parcels 827, 837, 838, 839, 840, 843, 844 and 845.

27. *The following Policies pertain to the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe Board of Directors transaction approvals:*

- 1. Board Approval Required:** All offers for the purchase of a fee title interest in property shall be approved by the Board of Directors and signed by the President.
- 2. Title and Lien Research Required:** The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe shall require a preliminary title search for each property for which it intends to acquire to ensure that it is

negotiating with the legal owner(s) of the property and find any liens, mortgages or other encumbrances or matters of record that affects the property.

All mortgages and liens shall be discharged or subordinated prior to accepting an easement or fee title.

Title insurance shall be acquired on all fee title properties and on easements.

- 3. Due Diligence Required:** All land transactions shall require a review by legal counsel experienced with real estate law appropriate to its complexity. As dictated by the project, appropriate expertise shall be secured in biological, geological, financial, hazard assessment, real estate and other reviews as necessary of all land transactions.
- 4. Land Transaction Approval Process:** The Board of Directors must approve the expenditure of staff time on all lands acquisition projects at the beginning of the project. Once the agreement nears closure, the Executive Director recommends to the Board of Directors that the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe enter into a final transaction negotiation. The project staff then presents the full project documentation to the Board including baseline documentation and land stewardship plan and budget. The Board approves and delegates to staff to complete the transaction. Staff and Board Officers execute the final transaction agreement.

BASELINE AND ENHANCED LAND MANAGEMENT

28 a) HOW PROPOSED ACTIVITIES WILL ACHIEVE BASELINE AND ENHANCED MANAGEMENT OF WATERSHED LANDS

The goal of the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* is to manage these parcels to restore a balanced ecological system, while protecting and restoring traditional cultural properties. We anticipate that this work will continue for many decades. The actions outlined here are the first steps toward long-term restoration of what we, the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe, consider to be a special and sacred area. Much work has been done in recent years to lay the groundwork for the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*. Specifically we will build on the recommendations included in two important documents: The *Bear Valley Meadow Stream Management Plan* which was completed in December 2010 by American Rivers in conjunction with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe and others and *The Bear Valley Cultural Preservation Plan* published in June 2011 by the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe.

In order to achieve our objectives we will work with partners to develop the following Plans:

➤ **Watershed Restoration Plan**

The overarching objective of ongoing and future restoration, management, and monitoring actions in Bear Valley Meadow is to return the hydrologic and cultural integrity to this iconic meadow ecosystem. Hydrologically, the goal is to re-establish hydrological processes and function in order to raise the groundwater table in the meadow and sustain riparian systems

and hydric vegetation communities across a much larger area than occurs under current conditions. Watershed and meadow restoration will be pursued in collaboration with American Rivers, who spearheaded the *Bear Valley Meadow Stream Management Plan*. This innovative project will provide the first model of how to restore both cultural and ecological integrity to Sierra Nevada meadows while simultaneously integrating climate change predictions into the restoration design process and restoring habitat and native plants. A technical restoration design is currently being completed by American Rivers who have many years of experience in restoration design and implementation. The plan will be ready for permitting by the time any land transfers are made so that on-the-ground restoration actions can proceed as soon as possible. This design will include all elements of a Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan (see below.)

➤ **Cultural Preservation Plan**

For thousands of years the Maidu, the original People of this valley came up from the foothills during the late spring to begin harvesting the unique medicine plants and materials from this region. As part of our Cultural Preservation Plan we evaluated the valley including the meadow floor, forest areas and rocky outcroppings, uncovering numerous traditional cultural properties including 5,000-year-old petroglyphs, a village site, a kitchen site and a medicine site. The traditional cultural properties in Bear Valley are both ancient and rare. Currently, rock hounds and others are using pry bars and winches to remove petroglyphs and other rocks from the area. Grinding rocks and pestles are being vandalized. These traditional cultural properties need much greater protection, which our recently completed Cultural Preservation Plan addresses.

The Bear Valley Cultural Preservation Plan recommends multiple baseline and enhanced management activities including:

- Rerouting trails and establishing new recreational destination sites screen by native plants, to avoid traditional cultural properties.
- Establishing outdoor classrooms for traditional stewardship training, traditional ecological knowledge and traditional cultural property preservation.
- Posting signs in all parking areas that inform the public about use policy, codes pertaining to cultural site vandalism and as an informational resource, informing people about past and present uses of the valley.
- Using native materials from the region and positive messaging for signage.
- Educational Programs to be planned, implemented and led by indigenous people in cooperation with other partners, including activities such as an Indigenous Youth Summer Camp (with special emphasis on bringing urban Indian youth to Bear Valley and Maidu Language and Culture classes.)

As part of our plan the Tsi-Akim Maidu will hire a seasonal land manager to monitor all types of use in the Bear Valley and to ensure baseline maintenance (e.g. fence and trail maintenance, trash clean-up, etc.) as well as providing an on-site presence to ensure the preservation of traditional cultural properties.

➤ **Forest Management Plan**

The Forest Management Plan will integrate with both the Watershed Restoration Plan and the Cultural Preservation Plan and will include a Forest Inventory, Fuels Management Plan and a Fire Management and Response plan. Our Executive Director, will use his experience as a retired professional forester to work with a professional forestry consultant to prepare a forest inventory and write a non-industrial timber management plan, using PG&E's industrial timber management plan as a foundation.

Our goal will be to develop a demonstration forest that shows how to bring back native trees and plants that played a part in the lives and wellbeing of the indigenous people of the Bear Valley.

➤ **Recreation Management Plan**

The Tsi-Akim Maidu will open the properties to the general public consistent with the recommendations of the Cultural Preservation Plan. We will develop a Recreation Management Plan which will be integrated with the Nevada County Master Trails Plan as a part of the County's General Plan. Components of the Recreation Plan will include developing a recreation monitoring program, and developing a dispersed recreation use management component. The plan will also coordinate law enforcement and seek to reduce illegal and unauthorized uses. Our Recreation Management Plan will include:

- Coordinating with Tahoe National Forest to ensure connectivity with their trails and also with parties to the ongoing FERC relicensing effort to avoid duplication of effort.
- Partnering with Nevada County Land Trust, who is the leading trail designer and builder in Nevada County, to redesign and expand the trail network throughout these lands.
- Providing access to streams for fishing in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Partnering with local fishing clubs, such as the Granite Bay Flycasters and Gold Country Fly Fishers, to develop a day use area with fishing access and a wildlife viewing platform.

Another important part of the Recreation Management Plan will include educational programs for youth as mentioned above in the Cultural Preservation Plan. We anticipate that group camping will be administered by the Tsi-Akim Maidu, and we will build bark houses and brush houses and then dismantle them when the summer season is over.

➤ **Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan**

The lands in the Bear Valley are well-known to be especially diverse. The Watershed Restoration Plan noted above will identify priority objectives including ensuring the increased diversity and sustainability of plants and wildlife communities in the valley and identifying wildlife corridors within the valley lands. Buffers will be identified to enhance species recovery and reduce impacts of habitat fragmentation. Important characteristics to monitor and plan for include; species and community richness; woody riparian species recruitment; tree condition indicators such as crown die-back, density, and mortality ; spread of invasive and other non-native plant species; habitat characteristics essential for target or indicator wildlife species; and trends in the health and distribution of culturally significant plants. The Watershed Restoration

Plan will also include a resource inventory, site-specific habitat improvement recommendations, a schedule for conducting management practices, monitoring activities, record-keeping policies and evaluation of management efforts and their impacts on wildlife habitat.

Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project Management Committee

As part of the development of these management plans, we will create a volunteer *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* Management Committee to work with the professional forester, watershed restoration experts and recreation partners to implement the plans. Nevada Irrigation District will be a significant partner in this endeavor and will be an important part of this committee. The Management Committee will consist of members with expertise in botany, forest ecology, wildlife, fisheries, traditional cultural properties, recreation and forestry and will set general direction for the completion of the plans and the future of the project. We will invite USFS, YMCA, American Rovers and NID to serve on the committee.

Community Involvement

We will sustain community involvement through working with our existing partners, as well as other local watershed, community and recreation-based organizations with volunteer programs, events on the land, and regular communication through meetings and social media to strengthen and build a constituency of ongoing support and understanding of the values of this important area. We plan to use volunteers to help with monitoring traditional cultural properties, controlling invasive weeds, taking soil or water samples, conducting wildlife surveys, inventorying trees and building bark and brush houses. Special effort will be made to welcome both federally recognized and informal tribal organizations to participate in the development and implementation of the plans.

b) How do the proposed enhanced management activities contribute to the management objectives and Recommended Priority Measures listed in the Land Conservation Plan?

Protection of Natural Habitat of Fish, Wildlife and Plants

All Potential Measures will be addressed in the Watershed Restoration Plan (see p.16)

Preservation of Open Space

The Nevada County Land Trust has agreed to hold the conservation easements on these properties ensuring the preservation of open space.

Outdoor Recreation by the Public

All Potential Measures will be addressed in Recreation Management Plan (see p.18) and Cultural Preservation Plan (see p.18).

Sustainable Forestry

All Potential Measures will be addressed in Forest Management Plan which will include a Forest Inventory, Fire Management and Response Plan and Fuels Management Plan (see p.18).

Preservation of Historic Values

All measures addressed in Cultural Preservation Plan (see p.17).

c) How do the proposed enhanced management activities differ from current management by PG&E?

Fish, Plant and Wildlife Habitat: Current management practices by PG&E are very simple and are dictated by the nearly expired FERC permit for Spaulding Dam, although PG&E has supported the work of organizations such as American Rivers, the CA Dept of Fish and Game, the Tsi-Akim Maidu and Granite Bay Flycasters, to improve riparian habitat along Bear River.

- The Watershed Restoration Plan and Cultural Preservation Plan will direct recommendations that will significantly expand management activities to return this iconic meadow ecosystem to full hydrologic and cultural integrity and promote and enhance wildlife and habitat values. American Rivers, together with the Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe, has already received funding to carry out this work. We anticipate working with many other stakeholder organizations and volunteers to coordinate these efforts.

Open Space: Currently, the land is managed for its open space values.

- We plan to manage these properties with a primary goal to preserve open space and conservation values. The Nevada County Land Trust has agreed to hold the conservation easements on these properties ensuring the preservation of open space. No permanent buildings, roads or other improvements will be built except as may be allowed or required by current use by Nevada irrigation District and PG&E. We will abandon timber roads which are no longer utilized and will restore them using native plant materials.

Outdoor Recreation: Currently recreation uses within the FERC boundary are managed under the existing Recreation Plan for the Drum-Spaulding Project, which may be updated as part of relicensing. However there is no management guidance for recreation occurring on lands outside the FERC boundary.

- We plan to manage outdoor recreation through the development of a Recreational Management Plan which will complement our existing Cultural Preservation Plan. Our plans will coordinate with the Sierra Discovery trail and we will work with the established YMCA camp (who we have already contacted) that exists in the Valley and the USFS who has a trailhead proposed for the Valley. Details of the Recreational Management Plan are shown above on page 4. Expanded recreation management activities incorporated into the plan include developing a monitoring program; evaluating recreation needs; developing a dispersed recreation component; coordinating law enforcement and reducing illegal and unauthorized uses.; developing a day-use area; increasing fishing access and building a wildlife viewing platform; expanding trails and developing educational opportunities and a youth education camp.

Sustainable Forestry: Currently these lands are managed under both Multiple-Use and Sustainable Timber Management prescriptions, and the majority of these lands have been harvested within the last 15 years.

- We plan to manage the timber in a manner which will enhance the sustainability and diversity of the forest with particular interest in growing a more ecologically sensitive forest stands and to restore native trees for habitat and food for humans and animals. Harvesting will utilize the best scientific practices in a way and at a rate that maintains biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and will not damage other ecosystems. Best practices, such as uneven age harvesting and harvesting by horses or mules in certain sensitive areas, will reduce environmental impact. Our goal is to develop a demonstration forest bringing back native trees that once played a part in the lives and wellbeing of the indigenous people of the Bear Valley.

Preservation of Historic Values: Currently, PG&E has been supportive of the Tsi-Akim Maidu developing a Cultural Preservation Plan for Bear Valley.

- We and our partners will work to implement the recommendations of the Plan (see page 17). The recommendations and actions outlined in the Plan are the first steps toward restoration and protection. Future activities will be developed as the results of these first steps are studied and understood.

Agricultural Uses: Currently, the property of the Bear Valley Meadows is owned by PG&E. PG&E discontinued 60-year-old grazing leases at the close of the 1991 season and has since been focused on restoring the meadow in the absence of grazing.

- There will be no changes to these practices.

Water Conveyance:

- There will be no changes to current practices, and the Tsi-Akim Tribe will abide by all conditions of the new FERC license.

d) How will proposed baseline and enhanced land management activities potentially impact public use of the watershed lands and existing economic uses:

The activities proposed in the Recreation Master Plan and the Cultural Preservation Plan will increase public use of the Bear Valley land through increased trails and signage; educational opportunities; a youth camp; new recreational destination sites; outdoor classrooms for traditional stewardship training, traditional ecological knowledge and traditional cultural property preservation. In addition we will be carefully monitoring illegal activities such as the use of motorized vehicles and removal of artifacts.

e) Timeline for when costs will be incurred associated with proposed management activities

The Forest Management Plan, Master Public Recreation Plan, Watershed Restoration Plan will be developed concurrently, and will follow the following timetable:

Phase One: Zero to Six Months

- Due Diligence and Transaction Management: transfer of property to Tsi-Akim Maidu, assess plans and studies owned by PG&E, conduct survey, property line adjustments, conservation easement, secure partner agreements, etc.
- Baseline Assessment: mapping, biological, habitat and timber inventories; to be done in conjunction with establishing the conservation easement and determining conservation values to be monitored.

- Funding Plan: funds for management and enhancement including timber revenue, fee services, public support, fundraising, grants, and partnerships.

Phase Two: Six to Eight Months

- Formation of *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* Management Committee
- Develop funding for a Forest Management Plan, Recreation Management Plan and Watershed Restoration Implementation Plan.
- Input and Feedback: community engagement and publicity.
- Formation of volunteer stewardship group.
- Priorities and Strategies determined through an open, transparent process, to guide the overall direction and uses for the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.

Phase Three: Eight to Eighteen Months

- Hiring caretaker.
- Forest, Watershed, Cultural and Recreation Plan implementation.

Phase Four: Eighteen Months and ongoing

- *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project* delivery: promotion, organized activities, youth educational programs.
- Management and Stewardship: fuels management; volunteer stewardship; regular outreach activities; continued implementation of management plans.
- Continued fundraising and grant writing.

f) How the proposed management activities will reflect applicable land management best practices.

All the above plans will reflect applicable land management Best Management Practices wherever possible.

Physical Enhancements/Capital Improvements

29. All physical improvements would take place during Phase 3: Month eight through month eighteen. In general, hardscape physical improvements (e.g. trail construction or improvement) will only be undertaken to support the overall goals of the Plans listed above. Any other facilities, such as camp lodging, are intended to be seasonally removable.

Recommended Priority Measure: Fish, Plant, and Wildlife

Conduct surveys outside the relicensing study are to identify biological resources and enable their protection; develop a wildlife and habitat management plan in coordination with adjacent landowners; support efforts to restore meadow and riparian areas of Bear Valley in coordination with interested stakeholders; develop a noxious weed management plan in coordination with noxious weed abatement efforts including noxious weed management plan

- The Watershed Restoration Plan will provide direction on any permanent features that must be made to manage soil retention and erosion, fencing of special or sensitive habitat areas, etc. This will be developed in coordination with adjacent landowners and will include recommendations about noxious weed eradication.
- It is likely that CEQA documents will be required.

Recommended Priority Measure: Open Space

Apply permanent conservation easements to ensure a higher level of open space protection

- Ensure that Conservation Easements on all parcels are established with Nevada County Land Trust and PG&E.

Recommended Priority Measures: Recreation

Develop a recreation management plan for lands outside the FERC boundary; identify and disclose unauthorized uses and develop strategies to address future management and/or eradication; develop a day use area with fishing access and a wildlife viewing platform in Bear Valley; expand and integrate the trail network throughout the planning unit in coordination with the USFS, assess the potential for youth program opportunities.

- The Recreation Management Plan will provide the roadmap for recreational improvements. It is anticipated that these will include:
 - i. Trails construction for mixed use (non-motorized except for motorized wheelchairs): hiking, equestrian, ADA. This will include wayfinding signage, footbridges and benches.
 - ii. Parking areas for recreation amenities.
 - iii. Campground.
 - iv. Fishing and Wildlife viewing platform.
 - v. Restrooms.
 - vi. Informational signage.
 - vii. Caretaker's residence (seasonal): mobile home, camper or yurt.
 - viii. Small outdoor classroom for educational programs (capacity about 50).
- Improvements will be required for increased public impact, including fencing or gates for site security, waste management
- Workshop or shed for tools for general clean up and repairs.
- It is likely that CEQA documents will be required.

Recommended Priority Measures: Sustainable Forestry

Evaluate existing timber inventory data and supplement as appropriate; Develop a forest management plan to promote natural forest development and promote structural and physical diversity in forests for long-term ecological, economic, social, and cultural benefits; develop a fuels management plan to ensure long-term forest health and reduce fuel loading and fire hazard; Develop a fire management and response plan for the planning unit in coordination with adjacent landowners to ensure fire preparedness; assess the potential to develop a demonstration forest for sustainable forestry research and management.

- Physical or capital improvements related to the Forest Management Plan are difficult to delineate at this time. It is assumed that most of the infrastructure for timber harvesting already exists, since PG&E has an established industrial timber operation. We have not had access to the property, due to winter weather constraints to make a full assessment of this infrastructure.
- It is likely that CEQA documents will be required.

Recommended Priority Measures: Preservation of Historic Values

Conduct surveys outside the relicensing study area to identify cultural resources and enable their protection; develop a cultural resources management plan; coordinate with Native American entities when conducting cultural resources measures.

- We will implement all aspects of the existing Cultural Preservation Plan recommendations.

TIMELINE FOR INCURRING ONE-TIME AND ONGOING COSTS SHOWN ON BUDGET

Phase One: Zero to Six Months

All transaction costs, conservation easement costs, baseline assessment

Phase Two: Six to Eight Months

Basic maintenance (trails, weeds etc)

Phase Three: Eight to Eighteen Months

Caretaker costs; First year of implementation of Forest, Watershed, Cultural and Recreation Plans; Basic Signage; Viewing Platform; Trail extension; First year’s picnic tables and benches, native plants.

Phase Four: Eighteen Months and ongoing

Youth educational costs—development of camp and camp staff.
Ongoing management and stewardship costs and enhancements

LAND CONSERVATION PARTNERS AND YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

30. Has your organization identified any potential land conservation partners to be involved in any of the proposed management or enhancement activities, including youth-related activities.

The following is a list of organizations the Tribe will target as potential collaborative partners on the *Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project*.

Nevada Irrigation District	On all aspects of this project.
Nevada County Land Trust	As a conservation easement holder and trail construction.
The Sierra Fund	As part of the project management team
American Rivers	As a conservation partner for wetlands and stream restoration plans.
South Yuba River Citizens League	As stream monitoring experts.
United States Forest Service/Tahoe National Forest	As a partner for trails connectivity and collaboration on contiguous forest management practices.
Bicyclists of Nevada County	As a recreation partner.
Gold Country Trails Council	On equestrian trails construction
Nevada County Planning Department	To incorporate the new trails as a part of the County’s General Plan.
Gold Country Fly Fishers	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the fishery.

Granite Bay Flycasters	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the fishery.
Nevada County Fire Safe Council	To develop and manage a fuels reduction plan.
Sierra Nevada Conservancy, NFWF, Bella Vista Fdtn	As potential funding partners.
California Native Plant Society	For species inventory, noxious weed plan.
Ca. Native Heritage Commission	To document traditional cultural properties.
Yuba Sutter YMCA	For youth recreation coordination.
CABY	For coordination with downstream users.

We have already held a summer camp with children and encourage youth activities at our Cultural Center and at the Bring Back the Salmon Ceremony.

31. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH THE PROPOSED LAND CONSERVATION PARTNER ORGANIZATION(S)

The Tsi-Akim Maidu have long-standing working relationships with the following organizations:

Nevada Irrigation District	Includes collaboration on Scotts Flat cultural restoration project. Mr. Ryberg has spent two years identifying cultural sites on Scotts Flat Reservoir and developing a management plan to protect important sites. Also collaboration on all aspects of <i>Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project</i> .
Nevada County	As a partner in documenting sacred lands sites
Nevada County Land Trust	Collaborated on Burton Homestead project and other projects.
Placer Land Trust	Interpretive Recreational Opportunities in the region
American Rivers	Collaborated on development of Bear Valley Stream Restoration Plan and Cultural Preservation Plan.
South Yuba River Citizens League	Collaborated on Sycamore Ranch Park and Campground, Indigenous People’s Day, Annual Salmon Run, Yuba Goldfields open space easement project.
The Sierra Fund	As a partner in multiple projects including the Tribute Trail and the Bear Valley Stream Restoration Plan, workshops on mining toxins, as well as the annual Bringing Back the Salmon Ceremony.
CABY	As a partner in the Bear Valley Stream

	Restoration Plan
United States Forest Service/Tahoe National Forest	As a partner in Abandoned Mines presentations
Sierra Nevada Conservancy, NFWF, Bella Vista Fdtn	As funders of the Bear Valley Meadow restoration project

32. Please see Attachment 5 for letters of support from partner organizations

PUBLIC INPUT

33. How We Have Considered Public Input Provided To The Stewardship Council To Date In The Development Of This Proposal.

The Tsi-Akim Maidu have been following all public input provided to the Stewardship Council and have incorporated all constructive input into this proposal. We have attended Stewardship Council meetings where disposition of these properties were discussed and have reviewed written comments about the disposition of the properties before writing this proposal.

In preparation for this application we have conducted a series of meetings to brief stakeholders and asked for participation in planning, endorsement and partnering to develop a strategy for maintaining and enhancing the BPVs. Some of the groups met with and topics discussed include:

Nevada Irrigation District	On all aspects of this project and their role in its success.
United States Forest Service/Tahoe National Forest	As a partner for trails connectivity and collaboration on contiguous forest management practices.
Nevada County Land Trust	As a conservation easement holder and trail construction.
American Rivers	As a conservation partner for wetlands and stream restoration plans.
South Yuba River Citizens League	As stream monitoring experts.
The Sierra Fund	As part of the project management team
Bicyclists of Nevada County	As a recreation partner.
Gold Country Trails Council	On equestrian trails construction
Nevada County Planning Department	To incorporate the new trails as a part of the County's General Plan.
Gold Country Fly Fishers	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the fishery.
Granite Bay Flycasters	To assist in establishing and/or enhancing the

	fishery.
Nevada County Fire Safe Council	To develop and manage a fuels reduction plan.
University of California	
California Native Plant Society	For species inventory, noxious weed plan.
Ca. Native Heritage Commission	To document traditional cultural properties.
Yuba Sutter YMCA	For youth recreation coordination.

ATTACHMENT 1

IRS DETERMINATION LETTER

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **SEP 26 2003**

TSI-AKIM MAIDU CORPORATION
C/O LOUELLA GIORDANO
152 MILL ST STE A
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945

Employer Identification Number:
68-0466850
DLN:
603265047
Contact Person:
ARIEANE H. BARRS ID# 52662
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
june 30
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

Based on information supplied, and assuming your operations will be as stated in your application for recognition of exemption, we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3).

We have further determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code, because you are an organization described in section 509(a)(2).

If your sources of support, or your purposes, character, or method of operation change, please let us know so we can consider the effect of the change on your exempt status and foundation status. In the case of an amendment to your organizational document or bylaws, please send us a copy of the amended document or bylaws. Also, you should inform us of all changes in your name or address.

As of January 1, 1984, you are liable for taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (social security taxes) on remuneration of \$100 or more you pay to each of your employees during a calendar year. You are not liable for the tax imposed under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Since you are not a private foundation, you are not subject to the excise taxes under Chapter 42 of the Code. However, if you are involved in an excess benefit transaction, that transaction might be subject to the excise taxes of section 4958. Additionally, you are not automatically exempt from other federal excise taxes. If you have any questions about excise, employment, or other federal taxes, please contact your key district office.

Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(2) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the

Letter 947 (DO/CG)

TSI-AKIM MAIDU CORPORATION

part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(2) organization.

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code sections 2055, 2106, and 2522.

Contribution deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions, depending on the circumstances. See Revenue Ruling 67-246, published in Cumulative Bulletin 1967-2, on page 104, which sets forth guidelines regarding the deductibility, as charitable contributions, of payments made by taxpayers for admission to or other participation in fundraising activities for charity.

In the heading of this letter we have indicated whether you must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. If Yes is indicated, you are required to file Form 990 only if your gross receipts each year are normally more than \$25,000. However, if you receive a Form 990 package in the mail, please file the return even if you do not exceed the gross receipts test. If you are not required to file, simply attach the label provided, check the box in the heading to indicate that your annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, and sign the return.

If a return is required, it must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of your annual accounting period. A penalty of \$20 a day is charged when a return is filed late, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. However, the maximum penalty charged cannot exceed \$10,000 or 5 percent of your gross receipts for the year, whichever is less. For organizations with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 in any year, the penalty is \$100 per day per return, unless there is reasonable cause for the delay. The maximum penalty for an organization with gross receipts exceeding \$1,000,000 shall not exceed \$50,000. This penalty may also be charged if a return is not complete, so be sure your return is complete before you file it.

You are required to make your annual information return, Form 990 or Form 990-EZ, available for public inspection for three years after the later of the due date of the return or the date the return is filed. You are also required to make available for public inspection your exemption application, any supporting documents, and your exemption letter. Copies of these documents are also required to be provided to any individual upon written or in person request without charge other than reasonable fees for copying and postage. You may fulfill this requirement by placing these documents on the Internet. Penalties may be imposed for failure to comply with these requirements. Additional information is available in Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, or you may call our toll free number shown above.

Letter 947 (DO/CG)

ATTACHMENT 2

**LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPROVING SUBMITTAL OF
THE LSP**



Tsi-Akim Maidu Corporation

1239 East Main Street Grass Valley, CA 95945
(530) 274-7497

July 26, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **Submitting the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project**

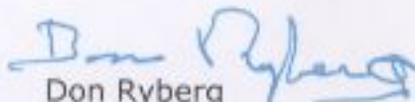
Dear Chairman Art Baggett,

Enclosed you will find a copy of a proposal for the "Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project" by the Tsi-Akim Maidu, Inc. This proposal is submitted to the Stewardship Council seeking acquisition of parcels in the Bear Valley Planning Unit of the Land Conservation Plan.

The Board the Tsi-Akim Maidu, a non-profit, tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, has authorized me to submit this proposal for your consideration. We have made every effort to include the information requested by the Stewardship Council. Please notify me if you need additional information to evaluate our proposal.

Thank you for this opportunity to apply for ownership of lands in the beautiful and culturally rich Bear Valley. If we are awarded ownership we will collaborate closely with our partners in the conservation community and local government to manage the lands to support and protect its identified beneficial public values. We will work with the youth and the elders, the blue jays and the beavers, toward cultural and ecological restoration of the Bear Valley where our people lived and worked for thousands of years.

Sincerely,


Don Ryberg
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT 3

LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS

Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe
Current Board of Directors

Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe, Inc.

Roberto Garcia, President

Roberto is a former Catholic priest and a former elected member of the Penn Valley Fire Protection District

Nikki Granholm, Treasurer

Nikki owns Arrow Business Solutions, a tax and accounting business in Grass Valley, California. She has served as the Treasurer of the non-profit Board since the organization was founded.

Clara Jean DeLuca, Secretary

Clara Jean is a successful business woman that lives in Nevada City. Clara Jean and her family are Maidu. Clara Jean is an enrolled member in the non-federally recognized Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe.

Joel Clark

Joel is a professional non-profit development consultant with expertise in working with tribal communities. Joel lives in Berkeley, California.

Ed Kappila

Ed is a retired business man who has worked for decades in the non-profit world as an administrator and project manager. Ed lives in Nevada City.

Andy Cassano

Andy is the CEO of Nevada City Engineering Inc. and a professional land use planner. He is former President of the Nevada County Land Trust and has decades of experience in developing complex and environmentally sensitive projects in the Sierra foothills.

Micheal Funk

Michael is the founder and Chair of United Natural Foods, Inc., an international, publically traded organic food shipping company. Michael lives on the Yuba River with his family.

Letty Litchfield

Letty is an attorney that practices out of Marysville, California. Letty is an accident and injury attorney with years of litigation experience.

ATTACHMENT 4

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Section 8. Conflict of Interest. In considering matters of the Tsi-Akim Maidu, Board and committee members must announce and disclose significant involvement with institutions, grantees or properties under discussion.

Those making such disclosure may participate freely in discussions but will abstain from voting on related decisions. "Significant involvement" is defined as: (a) serving as an elected or appointed member of a governing board or major committee, (b) receiving compensation as an employee or consultant, (c) be related to an individual grantee or to a staff member of a grantee institution, (d) owning interest in property whose value may be affected by a transaction or grant.

The interests of the Tsi-Akim Maidu, Inc. are considered paramount in the review and selection of all policy and procedural options, including grants, investment decisions, property transactions, insurance and personnel benefits, consultation services and other professional and corporate/business relationships and services."

ATTACHMENT 5

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945-5424 ~ www.nidwater.com
(530) 273-6185 ~ Fax: (530) 477-2646 ~ Toll Free: (800) 222-4102

July 20, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Chairman Baggett,

On behalf of the Nevada Irrigation District, I am pleased to write in support of the "Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project" application to the Stewardship Council by the non-profit Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe. We believe that the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe will be important partners in the Bear Valley over the long run for our District.

The Nevada Irrigation District provides water services to customers in both Nevada and Placer County, and has facilities in the Bear Valley. We have worked closely with PG&E in the Valley for many years to manage our shared facilities. The South Yuba Canal and the Lower Drum Canal, both facilities utilized by our District, run across some of the properties in the Bear Valley that are up for disposition. Water is moved through those facilities to our downstream customers via the Bear River that courses through the center of the Valley. It is important to our District that we have access to our facilities year-round in the area, and that land uses in that area remain compatible with water resource management goals and good stewardship principles.

We have worked with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for several years, and believe that they are the best choice as long term stewards and landowners of the parcels that PG&E will be disposing of in the Bear Valley. We have reviewed their proposal and support its objectives.

The Nevada Irrigation District will collaborate closely with the Tribe to ensure that their project thrives, protecting both our water management resources and the ecological and cultural treasures in the Bear River Valley.

Stewardship Council – Support Letter
July 20, 2011
Page 2 of 2

We hope to continue working on cultural and ecological restoration of the Valley with our partners at the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Nevada Irrigation District



Ron Nelson
General Manager
(530) 273-6185

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, California 95959-8617
Ph. (530) 265-1480 • FAX: (530) 265-9836

Ted S. Owens
Supervisor, 5th District
e-mail: ted.owens@co.nevada.ca.us
<http://mynevadacounty.com/boardofsupervisors>

Truckee Office
10183 Truckee Airport Road, Suite 213
Truckee, California 96161
Toll Free: (888) 785-1480 or (530) 582-7826 • FAX: 582-7882

July 27, 2011

Art Baggett, Chairman
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project / Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Chairman Baggett:

As the Supervisor representing District 5 where the PG&E lands to be acquired are located, I wish to express my sincere support for the cultural and environmental restoration plan proposed by the Tsi-Akim Maidu tribe and their application to the Stewardship Council.

The Cultural Preservation Plan outlines plans for meadow and watershed restoration, identification and preservation of cultural resources, educational opportunities for future generations, trails and public access. In my judgment, the plan, when fully implemented is in the public's best interest and benefit.

It is my further belief that the Tribe is genuinely dedicated to being exceptional stewards of these lands and has demonstrated organizational skills and has developed collaborative relationships that will ensure their success for many generations.

Bear Valley is an exceptional place, rich in history and beauty. It deserves the care as proposed and by those who endeavor to love the land for the benefit of their own culture as well as the general public. I trust you will strongly consider support for the application as made by the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for the Bear Valley Heritage Lands.

Sincerely,

Ted Owens
Supervisor, District 5

Cc: Board of Supervisors



**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Fran Cole
President

Joe Byrne
Vice-President

Jason Muir
Secretary

Jim Bair
Rebecca Coffman
Brent Fraser
Sue Hoek
Dave Palley
Jack Stillens
Bill Trabucco

Jim Ward
Interim Treasurer

STAFF

Marty Coleman-Hunt
Executive Director

Jean Gilbert
Operations Manager

Bill Haire
Trails Coordinator

Luci Wilson
Stewardship Coordinator

Kaye Wedel
Outreach Coordinator

Melony Vance
Treks Coordinator

Chris Gee
AmeriCorps Member

July 20, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project from the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Chairman Baggett,

Nevada County Land Trust (NCLT) is grateful that PG&E will protect the Yuba-Bear River Watershed by making lands available for donation to qualified conservation organizations. We are in favor of the conservation of lands for the benefit of our community and for Sierra watershed health.

NCLT supports the "Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project" application of the non-profit Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe seeking to acquire lands for donation in fee title in the Bear Valley. We have reviewed their proposal and believe their intended plans are commendable and they are capable of executing them.

Nevada County Land Trust has worked closely with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for many years on several projects. We have a long-term lease with the Tribe on our land just outside of Nevada City where the Tribe offers language and cultural workshops as well as stewarding their acreage using traditional management methods. In fact, we have gained knowledge of great value from them and expanded our view of stewardship as a result of our partnership on this parcel. Our collaborative work over the last decade has demonstrated their ability to manage ongoing and complex projects and activities.

Nevada County Land Trust is prepared to assist and advise the Tribe's development of recreation amenities such as a trail in the Valley with connectivity to the Pioneer Trail, and also to the west along the Bear River. In addition, we hope to hold the conservation easement on these Bear Valley parcels.

The Land Trust believes that the Tsi Akim's proposal will benefit not only our local community, but all Californians. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for their proposal.

Sincerely,

Marty Coleman-Hunt
Executive Director
Nevada County Land Trust
530-272-5994



175 Joerschke Drive, Suite R • Grass Valley, CA 95945

Phone: 530.272.5994 • Fax: 530.272.5997

Website: www.NevadaCountyLandTrust.org • Email: info@NevadaCountyLandTrust.org



432 Broad Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
P: 530.265.8454
F: 530.265.8176
E: info@sierrafund.org
www.sierrafund.org

July 22, 2011
Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project

Chairman Baggett,

I am writing to urge support for the “Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project” application to the Stewardship Council by the non-profit organization, Tsi-Akim Maidu, Inc. The Sierra Fund has been working with the Tsi-Akim Maidu on this proposal for several years to prepare for acquiring the parcels up for disposition by PG&E in the Bear Valley near Donner Summit.

The Sierra Fund alongside partners at American Rivers, South Yuba River Citizens League, Nevada Irrigation District and other partners, has been working with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for several years in developing a plan for the ecological and cultural restoration of the Bear Valley. As a result there is already a Stream Management Plan, a Cultural Resources Management Plan, and other materials describing how to achieve keystone conservation goals in the Bear Valley. These goals reflect exactly the priorities laid out in the Stewardship Council’s Land Conservation Plan. The Sierra Fund helped raise the funds needed for this work from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

We are prepared to continue helping to fundraise for the effort to implement the plans for cultural and ecological restoration of the Valley with our partners at the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe, and are committed to making this project work. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth “Izzy” Martin
CEO



July 26, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Chairman Baggett,

I am pleased to write a letter of support for the “Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project” application to the Stewardship Council by the non-profit Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe. American Rivers staff in the Nevada City, California office has helped to develop this proposal and stand ready to support it in any way that we can.

American Rivers has been working with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for several years in developing a plan for the ecological and cultural restoration of the Bear Valley. We have built a model of the dynamics of the meadow ecosystem using creating contour, base, and restoration design maps. We have taken aerial photographs, conducted ground surveys, and developed extensive data about the wildlife, vegetation and water quality in the Valley. We have developed diverse future weather/precipitation scenarios to enable development of a set of meadow design parameters to accommodate these predictive flows.

We are hoping to work to implement the Stream Management Plan that we have developed for the Bear Valley, alongside the Cultural Resources Management Plan developed by the Tribe. The proposal by the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe to acquire this property will enable us to implement our designs on this beautiful site.

We are prepared to continue working on cultural and ecological restoration of the Valley with our partners at the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for many decades, and are committed to making this project work. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Soderstrom
Senior Director of Conservation



SOUTH YUBA RIVER CITIZENS LEAGUE

July 22, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support the Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project of the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe

Chairman Baggett,

I am writing on behalf of the South Yuba River Citizen's League (SYRCL) to ask that the Stewardship Council support the "Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project" application of the non-profit Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe seeking to acquire lands in the Bear Valley. We have reviewed their proposal and support their vision for this meadow and river valley. We believe that this organization has the capacity to manage these lands for both cultural and ecological restoration, and urge the State of California to approve their application.

SYRCL has worked closely with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for more than 5 years, and have been actively involved in the planning for the Bear Valley ecological and cultural restoration activities. Specifically, we will advise and support the stream monitoring program that is part of this proposal.

The Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of the Maidu people's language culture, history, and heritage, and to using traditional methods for managing the Sierra landscape. We believe that their proposal to acquire lands in the Bear Valley region for ecological and cultural restoration will bring enormous benefits to all Californians. Their work with conservation groups, youth organizations, local government and other tribal organizations has demonstrated their ability to manage ongoing and complex projects and activities.

SYRCL stands ready to assist the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe in ecological and cultural restoration efforts in Bear Valley. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for their proposal.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Milligan
SYRCL Interim Executive Director
(530) 265-5961 x 207



Natural Wonders Forever

Placer Land Trust

11661 Blocker Drive #110
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 887-9222
Fax (530) 888-7720
info@placerlandtrust.org
www.placerlandtrust.org

Board of Directors

Fred Yeager, President

Patricia Callan-McKinney
Rich Ferreira
Robert Gilliom
Jim Haagen-Smit
Gregg McKenzie
Thomas McMahan
Skip Outman
Mehrey Vaghti
Larry Welch

Executive Director

Jeff Darlington

Placer Land Trust works with willing landowners and conservation partners to permanently preserve natural and agricultural lands in Placer County for future generations.



Placer Land Trust is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization incorporated in 1991, accredited by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Federal Tax Identification Number: 68-0223143.

July 20, 2011

Art Baggett, Chair
Stewardship Council
1107 9th Street, Suite 501
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe's Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project

Dear Chairman Baggett,

Placer Land Trust supports the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe's "Bear Valley Heritage Lands Project" application to the Stewardship Council.

Placer Land Trust has worked with the Tsi-Akim Maidu Tribe for several years on providing interpretive recreational opportunities to the public, and we believe that their approach to cultural and ecological restoration will be vital to the development of a sensitive project in the Bear Valley that protects and stewards this beautiful high sierra meadow.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about our support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Jeff Darlington
Executive Director

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan
[Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845](#)

PROJECT BUDGET - TRANSACTION COSTS

A. Document Preparation Costs

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Title Report	Report	11	500	5,500	5,500	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
Legal review	Transaction	11	-	-	-	Pro Bono Lawyer
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>						
A. Total Document Preparation Costs				5,500	5,500	

B. Closing Costs

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Title Insurance	Transaction	11	500	5,500	5,500	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
Escrow	Transaction	11	1,000	11,000	11,000	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
Recordation	Transaction	11	500	5,500	5,500	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>						
B. Total Closing Costs				22,000	22,000	

C. Other

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Boundary Survey		120	140	16,800	16,800	Estimated per info provided by NC Engineering
Office Reduction of Survey & Tentative Maps		80	90	7,200	7,200	Estimated per info provided by NC Engineering
Applications & Processing		40	100	4,000	4,000	Estimated per info provided by NC Engineering
Preliminary Legal Descriptions & Plats		60	135	8,100	8,100	Estimated per info provided by NC Engineering
Updated Title Reports		11	600	6,600	6,600	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
County Processing Fees		11	1,500	16,500	16,500	Estimated per info provided Placer Title
Survey Map & Property Corners			34,200	34,200	34,200	Estimated per info provided by NC Engineering
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>						
C. Total Other				93,400	93,400	

TOTAL TRANSACTION COSTS **120,900** **120,900**

Additional Notes:

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan
 Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845

PROJECT BUDGET - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES (SEE NOTE 1)

PROJECT REVENUES

Source	Description	Non- SC Sources of Funding		Comments
		One-Time Grants	Ongoing Funding	
Committed Funds (cash received or award made)				
Fundraising	Portion of Event Income		25,000	Minimum amount anticipated in 2011-12 devoted to Baseline Land Ownership. If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to increase this figure substantially.
General Fund/Reserves			15,000	Board of Directors allocation to staff time for management supervision and administration. Minimum amount anticipated in 2011-12 devoted to Baseline Land Ownership.
Total Committed Funds		-	40,000	
Pending Funds (no award made to date)				
Lease Revenues	YMCA Camp		1,000	Estimated YMCA camp revenue per year
Timber Revenues			8,000	Minimum estimate for net timber income per year
Additional General Fund/Reserves			15,000	Anticipates increased membership and donations. If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to increase this figure substantially.
Total Pending or Potential Funds		-	24,000	
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>				
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES		-	64,000	

PROJECT EXPENSES

A. Baseline Management Activities

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time		Ongoing		Comments
					Costs	Annual Costs	Costs	Annual Costs	
Land Manager	Seasonal project oversight	person	1	20,000			20,000		Full-time resident person for 6 months with periodic winter monitoring. Trailer provided.
Existing Trail Maintenance	Grading, Gravel	year	1	2,500.0			2,500		For materials e.g. gravel. Volunteer labor will be used
Weed Management		year	1	5,000			5,000		Volunteer labor will be used
General Maintenance		year	1	5,000			5,000		Supplies, Tools, Rentals for fence repair etc
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>									
A. Total Baseline Management Activities					-		32,500	-	-

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan
 Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845

B. Baseline Land Ownership Costs

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments	
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs		
Property Taxes		Per Acre	1,395	5		6,975				
Overhead/Admin		Hour	100	25		2,500				
Property and Liability Insurance		Per Lot	11	1,000		11,000			Estimated amount of insurance on unimproved land	
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>										
B. Total Baseline Land Ownership Costs						-	20,475	-	-	

C. Other

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments	
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs		
Baseline Biological Assessment	For Conservation Easement	Assessment	1	10000	10000	-	10000			
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>										
C. Total Other						-	-	-	-	

TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	10,000	52,975	10,000	-
NET REVENUE/(EXPENSE) - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	(10,000)	11,025	10,000	-

Additional Notes:

[Redacted area]

Note 1: According to the Stewardship Council's Land Conservation Program Funding Policy, the Stewardship Council will require future land owners to demonstrate that they have the funding and other capacity to maintain that property interest so as to preserve and/or enhance the beneficial values on the Watershed Lands. Exceptions to this guideline will be rare and considered only in circumstances where,

- 1) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities will clearly lead to enhancement of the beneficial public values on the lands; and/or,
- 2) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities is only temporary (≤5 years).

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council									
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan									
Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845									
PROJECT BUDGET - ENHANCEMENTS TO BENEFICIAL PUBLIC VALUES									
PROJECT REVENUES									
Source	Description				Non- SC Sources of Funding				Comments
					One-Time Grants	Ongoing Funding			
Committed Funds (cash received or award made)									
Grant Awards									
Fundraising									
Matching Funds									
Lease Revenues									
Timber Revenues									
General Fund/Reserves					15,000	15,000			Minimum amount committed by Board of Directors for BPV enhancement per annum. Minimum amount anticipated in 2011-12. If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to increase this figure substantially through increased fundraising.
Education Programs	Summer Camp and other				10,000	10,000			Minimum amount anticipated in 2011-12 devoted to Baseline Land Ownership.
Total Committed Funds					25,000	25,000			
Pending Funds (no award made to date)									
Grant Awards	For Watershed, Forestry, Cultural Preservation, Recreation Plans and Education Programs				150,000				Minimum amount anticipated in 2011-12 to be raised with partners for watershed restoration, forestry planning, recreation planning and educational and cultural programs. If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to increase this figure substantially.
Fundraising					20,000	50,000			Event Income
Educational Programs					10,000	30,000			If Fee Title to these lands is acquired, we will be able to increase this figure substantially. We estimate that each attending child will pay \$600 camp fees.
Total Pending or Potential Funds					180,000	80,000			
<i>To add a row, right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>									
TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES					205,000	105,000			
PROJECT EXPENSES									
A. Enhanced Land Management Activities									
Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Watershed Implementation Plan		Plan	1	100,000	100,000				Estimated Cost

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council									
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan									
Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845									
Forest Management Plan		Plan	1	200,000		20,000			Estimated Cost
Recreation Management Plan		Plan	1	20,000		20,000			Estimated Cost
Forest Management		Forester	1	10,000		10,000	10,000		Estimated Cost
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>									
A. Total Enhanced Land Management Activities						150,000	10,000		-
									-

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council									
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan									
Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845									
B. Capital Improvements									
Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Trail Construction	According to Cultural Plan	linear feet	500	11.5	5,750	5,750			Minimum of 500 feet new trail per annum; first year trail will lead to fishing access. Much of the labor involved will be volunteer labor.
Trail Signage	According to Cultural Plan	Sign	1	1,500	1,500	2,000			Anticipated \$10,000 over first three years; \$1500 in first year
Viewing Platform	According to Rec Plan	Viewing Platform	1	2,000	2,000				
Picnic Tables	According to Rec Plan	Table	10	1,500	3,000	3,000			A minimum of 2 new picnic tables pa for first 5 years
Benches	According to Rec Plan	Bench	10	500	1,000	1,000			A minimum of 2 new benches pa for first 5 years
Native Plant Purchase and Planting	According to Watershed and Forestry Plans	Plants/Trees			2,000	2,000			
Educational Camp	Annual in the summer for 30 children	Camp	1	25,000		25,000			Expenses include the cost of bark houses at \$1000 each plus rentals such as portapotties and other seasonal structures to maintain the camp. Much of the labor involved in building the camp will be volunteer labor.
Camp staff	Counsellors/Elders	Staff	12	500		6,000			Counsellors will be hired at \$100 per day for 5 days per week. Tribal elders will receive the same stipend.
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>									
B. Total Capital Improvements					15,250	44,750			
C. Other									
Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
CEQA					10,000				
Program Management		Annual	500	25		12,500			
<i>To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells</i>									
C. Total Other					10,000	12,500			
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES					175,250	67,250			
NET REVENUE/(EXPENSE) - ENHANCEMENT OF BENEFICIAL PUBLIC VALUES					29,750	37,750			
Additional Notes:									

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council									
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan									
Bear Valley Planning Units 827, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845									