

1. Red Clover Poco Restoration Project Environmental Permitting

2. **County:** Plumas
3. **Project Number:**
4. **Project Sponsor:** Plumas Corporation (contact Leslie Mink); USDA- Plumas National Forest
5. **Date:** 3-30-09
6. **Sponsor's Phone Number:** 530-283-3739

Applicant Capability: Plumas Corporation is the fiscal agent for the Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group (FR-CRM). The FR-CRM has completed environmental review work for projects of similar scale on Red Clover Creek upstream and adjacent to this project area, as well as a similar project on Last Chance Creek. The FR-CRM is highly qualified to complete the project. The FR-CRM has completed environmental documentation for more than 50 smaller-scale on-the-ground projects throughout the Feather River watershed.

7. **Sponsor's Email:** leslie@plumascounty.org
8. **Project Location:** See Project Location Map and Project Plan View Map at the end of this application.
- 9a. **National Forest:** Plumas
- 9b. **Forest Service District:** Beckwourth
- 9c. **State/Private/Other Lands Involved?** This project occurs on solely on Plumas National Forest lands along Red Clover Creek and in Poco Meadow.
- 9d. **Legal Location:** T.24N. R.13E. Sections 4, 9, 10, 32 & 33
- 9e. **Justification, Goals and Objectives:** The goal of the implementation of this project is elimination of the gully, and restoration of the full function of the floodplain/channel system. Implementation funding has been awarded by the CalFed Watershed Program, pending completion of NEPA/CEQA. The goal of this request is completion of NEPA/CEQA. The implemented project is justified because it will result in restored floodplain function, thus attenuating flood flows, and improving summer releases, water quality and riparian area ecosystem productivity.

11. Project Description: This grant request is for \$12,600 in match funding to complete the NEPA and CEQA work and three permits required for implementation of the Red Clover Poco Restoration Project, as well as to continue project coordination. The Forest Service has funded Plumas Corporation with \$12,000 in a Challenge Cost Share Agreement that requires \$8,600 in match. Due to the state bond money freeze, Plumas Corporation does not have any funding for this match at this time. However, it is imperative to complete the environmental permitting work for this project this spring. Updated information from the state continues to push the release of bond funding further into the future (now potentially one year). Because of the uncertainty of state funds, and the continuing possibility of federal stimulus funds, timely completion of environmental clearance work will ensure that the project is eligible for implementation with either funding source. The additional \$4,000 request would cover coordination with project partners so that all aspects of the project can be adequately fleshed out for smooth implementation. This coordination includes summer 2009 monitoring with Calif. Dept. of Water Resources and Trout Unlimited, grazing management with the permittee, and road work with Plumas Co. Dept. of Public Works.

Implementation of the project would involve eliminating the gully and restoring floodplain function of 198 acres on Red Clover Creek, downstream and adjacent to the Red Clover/McReynolds Restoration Project.

At this time, the Forest Service has completed the environmental field survey work and preliminary design. The FR-CRM has just been informed of the awarding of a \$1.169MM implementation grant agreement from the CalFed Watershed Program, pending bond money availability, and completion of environmental clearance work.

12. Coordination with other related projects on adjacent lands? The on-the-ground implementation of this project would extend three miles of similar floodplain/channel restoration work on upstream and adjacent private land. The environmental work requires cumulative effects analysis of this work, as well as any future planned projects. Similar work is also planned on Red Clover Creek on private land in Dotta Canyon, and will also be incorporated into the environmental analysis.

13. How does project meet purposes of the Monterey Settlement?

- 1) **Improve retention of water for augmented base flow in streams:** The implemented project would eliminate the gully and restore floodplain function (including infiltration, which contributes to base flow release).
- 2) **Improve water quality and streambank protection:** The implemented project would eliminate the gully, which now contributes sediment from unvegetated vertical walls. The design includes using existing remnant channels on the surface of the meadow, where roots of riparian plants can access the water, filter run-off and hold stream banks in place. Some of the work would take place within existing riparian pastures, and includes extending riparian pasture fencing.
- 3) **Improve upland vegetation management:** The project would maintain moisture levels in the valley bottom, minimally affecting valley slope moisture levels.
- 4) **Improve groundwater retention in major aquifers:** Elimination of the gully would restore the groundwater storage capacity of the meadow floodplain by eliminating the draining effect of the gully. Precipitation would be allowed to infiltrate into the floodplain, the major aquifer in this priority sub-watershed (Red Clover), enabling it to release flows later in the season.

14. Project Type: First Tier Type 1; Projects treat headcutting in priority streams of upper watershed.

15. Measure of project accomplishments/expected outcomes: The measure of accomplishment for this funding would be completion of a signed Environmental Analysis, as well as permits from the Calif. Dept of Fish and Game, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. These signed documents are also the expected outcome of this permitting project.

16. Estimated Start Date: 2-1-09 (already started with PNF Challenge Cost-Share funds)

17. Estimated Completion Date: 8-31-2009

18. Proposed Methods of Accomplishment: Plumas Corporation staff will complete all of the documentation and coordination work, in collaboration with the Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District.

19. Anticipated Project Costs: \$44,994 for project environmental review & permit documentation, \$52,460 for project coordination, \$17,000 for project design, \$1,397,546 for construction, \$77,649 for monitoring and follow-up maintenance. Total project costs are \$1,589,694.

20. Identify other sources of funding:

Plumas National Forest	\$ 311,340
CalFed Watershed Program	\$1,169,650
Plumas County Dept Public Works	\$ 12,000
Calif. Dept. Water Resources	\$ 28,000
Todd Swickard, permittee	\$ 53,295
Trout Unlimited	\$ 2,809
Plumas Watershed Forum	<u>\$ 12,600</u>
Total	\$1,589,694

21. Monitoring Plan: No monitoring is associated with permitting, however, the implemented project will be monitored for three years in collaboration with project partners. Parameters to be monitored include: avian populations, macroinvertebrates, fishery catch-per-unit-effort, stream flow, and water temperature. Annual project monitoring results will be included in the annual monitoring report produced by the FR-CRM staff at Plumas Corporation for FR-CRM partners.

22. Failure to comply with the terms of the agreement. If the environmental work is not completed, unexpended funds would be returned to the Watershed Forum.

23. Landowner Agreement: The project is located entirely on National Forest lands. One of the purposes of the environmental analysis is to outline management of the lands in association with the project. The grazing permittee is fully supportive of the project, and has agreed to three years of rest after construction, and the additional fencing. Project maintenance would be the responsibility of the FR-CRM, in partnership with the Plumas National Forest.

Status of Project Planning Worksheet

a. NEPA* and/or CEQA* Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Needs review
b. If no, give est. date of completion: Documents completed spring 2009, review period completed in August 2009			
c. NMFS* Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
d. USFWS* Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
e. RWQCB/CDFG* Permits for In-stream Work Obtained: expected July 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
f. RWQCB/COE* 401/404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained: expected July 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
g. SHPO* Concurrence Received: expected July 2009	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
h. Project Design(s) Completed: preliminary design completed, final design not completed until environmental review is completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
i. FEMA/NFIP Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
j. Local/Regional Permits & Regulatory Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
* NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act, CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act, NMFS = National Marine Fisheries Service, USFWS = United States Fish & Wildlife Service, RWRCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board, CDFG = CA Dept. of Fish & Game, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer, FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency; NFIP = National Flood Insurance Program			

Project Cost Analysis

Item	<i>Column A</i> Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	<i>Column B</i> Requested Watershed Forum Funds	<i>Column C</i> Other Contributions	<i>Column D</i> Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys	\$7,000		\$10,000	\$17,000
b. NEPA/CEQA & Sec 7 ESA Consultation	\$36,394	\$4,100		\$40,494
c. Permit Acquisition		\$4,500		\$4,500
d. Project Design & Engineering ¹	7,000		\$10,000	\$17,000
e. Contract Preparation			\$2,000	\$2,000
f. Contract Administration	\$7,505		\$20,040	\$27,545
g. Contract Cost	\$122,736		\$983,500	\$1,106,236
h. Workforce Cost		\$4,000	\$32,000	\$36,000
Materials & Supplies	\$159,810		\$95,500	\$255,310
i. Monitoring			\$77,649	\$77,649
j. Other				
k. Indirect Costs			\$5,960	\$5,960
Total Cost Estimate	\$340,445	\$12,600	\$1,236,649	\$1,589,694

Attachment: Project Work Plan

FRCRM staff at Plumas Corporation will be responsible for completion of all work:

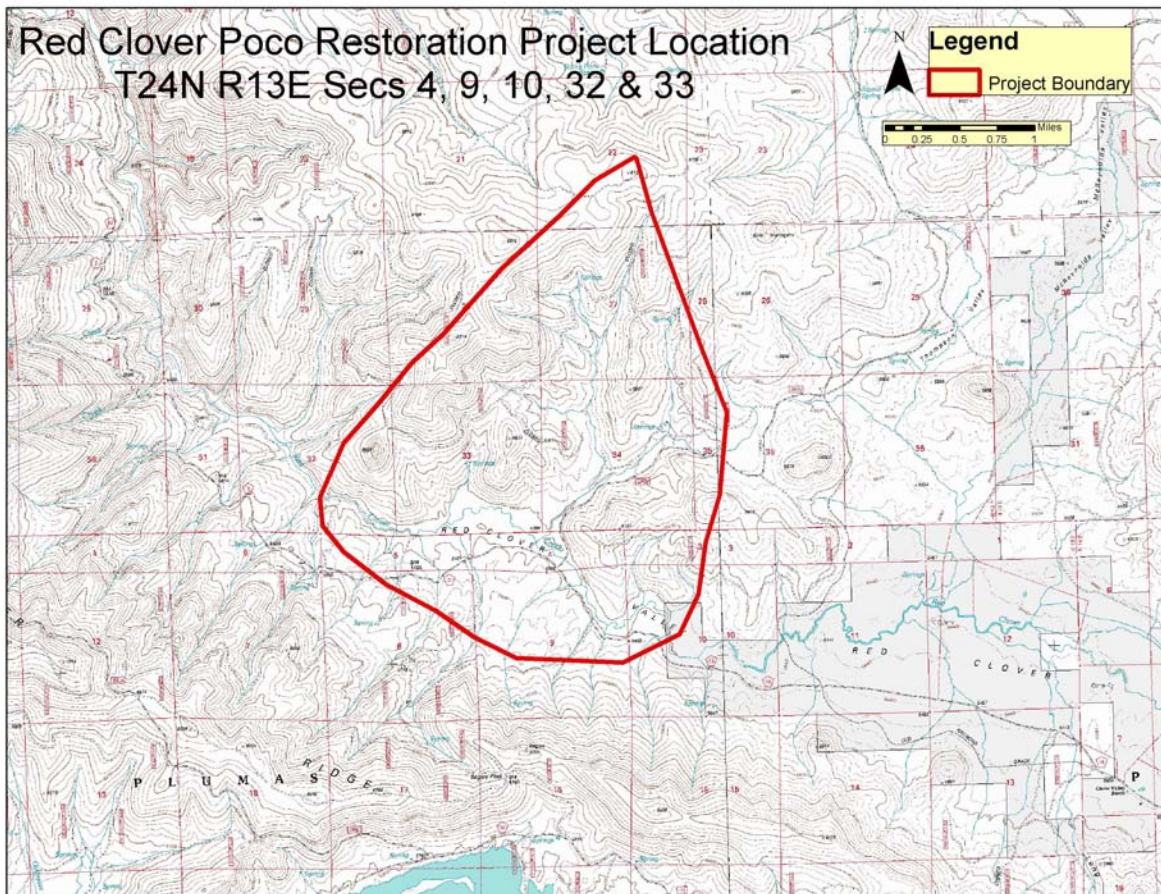
Milestone:

Execute this agreement contract w/Plumas County
Complete documents
Beckwourth District Ranger signs EA
Permits received

Date:

May 2009
June 2009
June 2009
August 2009

Project Location Map:



Project Plan View Map.

