

## South Fork Trinity River Watershed Road Decommission (FINAL)

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Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700504

### A. List of Restoration Activities

This project will implement 10 miles of road decommissioning in the South Fork Trinity River watershed on US Forest Service lands.

This project is located in an area with steep slopes and erodible soils, but will result in reduced potential of stream crossing failure leading to sedimentation of anadromous fisheries habitat. Decommissioning involves excavation all road fill at stream, swale and spring crossings; correcting hydrologic flow patterns along entire length of roadway. The roads identified for decommission will be restored to pre-road conditions. These roads are listed for treatment, as recommended in Watershed Analyses. This project will excavate culverts from stream crossings, removing a significant amount of road fill that could be delivered. Following decommissioning all disturbed areas will be seeded with native grass seed, mulched and the stream crossing revegetated with riparian species. The objective of the project is to reduce sedimentation risks to downstream anadromous fish habitat within SFTF and to eliminate unauthorized OHV use. This project is consistent with Federal, State and Local goals to protect high value refugia for anadromous fisheries in the South Fork of the Trinity River.

This project proposes to decommission high aquatic risk roads utilizing heavy equipment (hydraulic excavator, dozer, loaders or dump trucks) at stream, swale and spring areas that will be excavated and the spoil material stored in stable areas. Following road decommissioning, critically disturbed areas will be treated with native seed and mulch and revegetated with container native riparian species.

### B. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and how OHV Recreation caused the damage:

Public motorized use of roads adversely affects natural resources, including soils, water quality and aquatic habitat, especially through the effects of sedimentation in anadromous streams when there are more roads than can be maintained. Unauthorized motor vehicle use, particularly OHV recreational users, has been a significant contributor in the South Fork Trinity River Watershed, because there is an extensive road network in a highly erodible watershed that is listed as impaired due to sediment (South Fork TMDL, EPA 1998). The USFS has little funding for management and maintenance of such an extensive road system (Motorized Travel Management Plan, EIS/ROD, 2010). This proposed project will assist in achieving sustainable management of recreational access and will lead to an overall improvement of National Forest infrastructure for multiple uses including OHV and will help the Forest Service meet sediment load limits identified in the TMDL. This project will eliminate unauthorized OHV access by decommissioning approved roads.

### C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

South Fork Trinity River is 932 square miles. 90% of the South Fork Trinity River Watershed is on US Forest Service lands. This project will address 10 miles of road that needs to be removed from the transportation system to reduce sediment delivery to the South Fork of the Trinity River and to improve the anadromous fisheries in the watershed.

### D. Monitoring and Methodology

Project implementation and effectiveness monitoring methods will be used to measure short and long-term project success.

Measures of ecosystem management goals and objectives.

The objectives are to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of the treatments that were prescribed for road decommissioning and to evaluate if Federal and State BMP and water quality objectives are met. It will also attempt to measure the long-term improvement to watershed condition.

These objectives can be met by monitoring the following;

- Photo Points: before, during, after implementation, and after large storm event
- Void measurement: California Department of Fish and Game California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual

(length width and depth)

The Best Management Practices Evaluation Program (BMPEP) will be used to detect and measure the impacts of implementation. The project will be visited during and after implementation. Post project monitoring will occur one and three years after project completion and/or after a large storm event. The monitoring will be used to detect and identify the needed corrections for long-term project success. The TCRCDD has an excellent record of success with the Department of Fish and Game, State Water Quality Control Board, and US Forest Service regarding our past restoration projects. US Forest Service also does BMP monitoring of our work on their lands.

This project is expected to be implemented during the summers of 2010 -2012. Monitoring will take place over the summers following implementation.

#### **E. List of Reports**

This project is for restoration implementation, however, progress reports will be submitted quarterly or with invoices and a final report will be submitted at the completion of the project documenting all work with data tables, photos, and maps.

#### **F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews**

The objective of the project is to decommission roads that have been identified by the US Forest Service through Watershed Analysis and NEPA process in order to reduce sedimentation risks to downstream anadromous fish habitat within SFTR and to eliminate unauthorized OHV use.

Methodology for this project includes 1) decommission high aquatic risk road crossings utilizing heavy equipment (hydraulic excavator, dozer, loaders or dump trucks) at stream, swale and spring areas that will be excavated and the spoil material stored in stable areas, 2) Treat critically disturbed areas with native seed and mulch and revegetate with container native riparian species, 3) Install signage as appropriate, 4) Monitor project effectiveness.

This project does not include scientific and cultural studies and thus will not require peer review, but the US Forest Service and Trinity River Watershed Council will be interested in the results of this work.

#### **G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area**

Signs will be posted and volunteers will be requested to report any illegal activity to the USFS. USFS employees regularly patrol this area to check for illegal OHV activity. The roads that are being addressed by this project will be recontoured to pre-road condition and made inaccessible to illegal OHV use, unless otherwise approved. Rock barriers will be used where necessary.

## Additional Documentation

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Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700504

**1. Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Restoration Map](#)

**2. Project-Specific Photos**

Attachments:

[Decom photos](#)

**Project Cost Estimate**

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<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	Trinity County Resource Conservation District		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	South Fork Trinity River Watershed Road Decommission (FINAL)	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	G09-07-02-R01
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>This project will implement 10 miles of road decommissioning in the South Fork Trinity River watershed on US Forest Service lands. This project is located in an area with steep slopes and erodible soils, but will result in reduced potential of stream crossing failure leading to sedimentation of anadromous fisheries habitat. Decommissioning involves excavation all road fill at stream, swale and spring crossings; correcting hydrologic flow patterns along entire length of roadway. The roads identified for decommission will be restored to pre-road conditions. These roads are listed for treatment, as recommended in Watershed Analyses. This project will excavate culverts from stream crossings, removing a significant amount of road fill that could be delivered. Following decommissioning all disturbed areas will be seeded with native grass seed, mulched and the stream crossing revegetated with riparian species. The objective of the project is to reduce sedimentation risks to downstream anadromous fish habitat within SFTF and to eliminate unauthorized OHV use. This project is consistent with Federal, State and Local goals to protect high value refugia for anadromous fisheries in the South Fork of the Trinity River.</p> <p>This project proposes to decommission high aquatic risk roads utilizing heavy equipment (hydraulic excavator, dozer, loaders or dump trucks) at stream, swale and spring areas that will be excavated and the spoil material stored in stable areas. Following road decommissioning, critically disturbed areas will be treated with native seed and mulch and revegetated with container native riparian species.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Other-Project Coordinator II	320.000	51.350	HRS	11,400.00	5,032.00	16,432.00
	Other-Project Coordinator I	320.000	34.000	HRS	7,548.00	3,332.00	10,880.00
	Other-Restoration Technician III	290.000	30.000	HRS	5,550.00	3,150.00	8,700.00
	Other-Restoration Technician II	290.000	21.000	HRS	3,885.00	2,205.00	6,090.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: Trinity County Resource Conservation District  
 Application: South Fork Trinity River Watershed Road Decommission (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-GIS Manager	100.000	44.000	HRS	3,256.00	1,144.00	4,400.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				31,639.00	14,863.00	46,502.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
	Heavy Equipment Operator Notes : Excavator	300.000	150.000	HRS	33,300.00	11,700.00	45,000.00
	Heavy Equipment Operator Notes : Dozer	300.000	100.000	HRS	22,200.00	7,800.00	30,000.00
	Heavy Equipment Operator Notes : Dump truck	300.000	90.000	HRS	19,980.00	7,020.00	27,000.00
	Heavy Equipment Operator Notes : Water truck	60.000	200.000	HRS	8,000.00	4,000.00	12,000.00
	<b>Total for Contracts</b>				83,480.00	30,520.00	114,000.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Signs	18.000	10.000	EA	133.00	47.00	180.00
	Other-Soil Stabilization	1.000	4000.000	MISC	2,960.00	1,040.00	4,000.00
	Other-GPS Rental	60.000	30.000	DAY	1,332.00	468.00	1,800.00
	Other-printing	1000.000	0.100	EA	74.00	26.00	100.00
	Other-Field supplies	1.000	2000.000	MISC	1,480.00	520.00	2,000.00
	Other-Office supplies	1.000	1000.000	MISC	740.00	260.00	1,000.00
	<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>				6,719.00	2,361.00	9,080.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	4x4 Vehicle	75.000	50.000	DAY	2,775.00	975.00	3,750.00
	Other-equipment rental- whacker	75.000	35.000	DAY	1,943.00	683.00	2,626.00
	Other-chainsaws	10.000	25.000	DAY	185.00	65.00	250.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: Trinity County Resource Conservation District  
 Application: South Fork Trinity River Watershed Road Decommission (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-mileage	4000.000	0.500	MISC	1,480.00	520.00	2,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Use Expenses</b>				6,383.00	2,243.00	8,626.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-Truck (1/2 purchase)	0.500	26000.000	EA	13,000.00	0.00	13,000.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
	Other-Per Diem	60.000	35.000	DAY	1,554.00	546.00	2,100.00
	Insurance	36.000	100.000	MOS	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
	Postage	25.000	1.600	EA	0.00	40.00	40.00
	<b>Total for Others</b>				1,554.00	4,186.00	5,740.00
<b>7</b>	<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
	Indirect Costs-Indirect costs	157050.00	0.100	MISC	14,277.00	1,428.00	15,705.00
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				157,052.00	55,601.00	212,653.00
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				157,052.00	55,601.00	212,653.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>157,052.00</b>	<b>55,601.00</b>	<b>212,653.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010  
 Agency: Trinity County Resource Conservation District  
 Application: South Fork Trinity River Watershed Road Decommission (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	31,639.00	14,863.00	46,502.00	
2	Contracts	83,480.00	30,520.00	114,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	6,719.00	2,361.00	9,080.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	6,383.00	2,243.00	8,626.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	13,000.00	0.00	13,000.00	
6	Others	1,554.00	4,186.00	5,740.00	
7	Indirect Costs	14,277.00	1,428.00	15,705.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>157,052.00</b>	<b>55,601.00</b>	<b>212,653.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		<b>157,052.00</b>	<b>55,601.00</b>	<b>212,653.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>157,052.00</b>	<b>55,601.00</b>	<b>212,653.00</b>	

## Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700504

### ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

#### ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)

#### ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

### ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

### ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

None

### ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

These projects are designed to reduce the cumulative impacts on the watershed. Taken along with other road decommissioning projects in the same general area, there will be no adverse cumulative impacts as described in the Northwest Forest Plan and South Fork TMDL.

### ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

There will be short term soil disturbances during construction, but BMPs will be followed. Long term impacts of the project will protect soils from eroding.

### ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

None

### ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

- Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

None

**ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

None

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

Attachments:

[Westside EA](#)

## Evaluation Criteria

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### 1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points)  
 51% - 75% (5 points)  
 26% - 50% (3 points)  
 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

### 2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Domestic water supply (4 points)  
 Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points )  
 Stream or other watercourse (3 points)  
 Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)  
 Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats [1]  
 Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species [5]  
 Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

Coho, Spring and Fall Chinook, Winter and Summer Steelhead

Sediment adversely affects these species as identified in the Sediment TMDLform the South Fork Trinity River Dec. 1998

### 3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 1

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)  
 Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)  
 OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)  
 Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)  
 Management decision (1 point)  
 Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)  
 Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

South Fork Trinity TMDL, EPA 1998  
Northwest Forest Plan Aquatic Conservation Strategy, USFS 1994  
Westside EA

**4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.**

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 10

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- Use of native plants and materials
- Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- Educational signage
- Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

Site monitoring will take place following project, barriers will be installed where needed to keep out unauthorized OHV activity, native plants and mulch will be used to stabilize project areas, BMP will be utilized for road decommission activity, and educational signage will be installed

**5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.**

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points)  Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

South Fork TMDL, EPA, 1998  
USFS Motorized Travel Management Plan, 2010  
Northwest Forest Plan Aquatic Conservation Strategy, USFS 1994

**6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.**

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 2

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
- Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
- Other Grant funding (2 points)
- OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

**7. Public Input - Q 7.**

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

NEPA and extensive public outreach for transportation management plan

**8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.**

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points)  2 to 3 (2 points)  
 1 (1 point)  None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

US Forest Service, Trinity County Resource Advisory Committee, Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group, Trinity River Restoration Program, Trinity County Resource Advisory Committee

**9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.**

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)  
 Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)  
 Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)  
 Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

**10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.**

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points)  Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

Road-related sediment will be greatly diminished by decommissioning roads and re-establishing natural contours.

**11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.**

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- Greater than 10 acres (5 points)  
 1 – 10 acres (3 points)  
 Less than 1 acre (1 points)  
 No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)