

Yuba IRWMP – BYLT-03
Project Short Form¹

Please fill out the following information to the best of your ability/knowledge. Contact Keri Rinne with questions: keri.rinne@gmail.com

PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

Lead Agency/Organization	Bear Yuba Land Trust
Name of Primary Contact(s)	Kate Gazzo
Mailing Address	PO Box 1004 Grass Valley, CA 95945
Email Address	kate@bylt.org
Phone (###) ###-####	530 272 5994 ext 201
Project Partners/Collaborators	Western Rivers Conservancy, South Yuba River Citizens League, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
YWA Liaison	JoAnna Lessard

GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Timbuctoo Acquisition and Restoration
Project Total Budget (Attach detailed budget, if available)	\$3,000,000
Budget Breakdown	Planning/Design Budget: \$40,000 Implementation Budget: \$2,960,000
Project Funding Match, if any	\$7,000,000 (potential CNRA and WCB)
Total Project Funding Need	\$10,000,000
Project Location (Attach map if available)	South side of lower Yuba River above Parks Bar/Hwy 20 crossing that includes 3 miles of Yuba River
Watershed/subwatershed	Yuba River (HUC 10)/Foothill Mountain subarea
Groundwater Basin (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> North Yuba Subbasin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South Yuba Subbasin <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Supports Yuba Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Measurable Objective(s) Benefit (Answer If 'Yes' above) (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chronic lowering of groundwater levels <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduction of groundwater storage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Degraded water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Land subsidence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depletions of interconnected surface waters
Project Priority (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low

¹ Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Keri Rinne at keri.rinne@gmail.com

Project Type (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Conceptual <input type="checkbox"/> Feasibility Study <input type="checkbox"/> Study/Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/Design <input type="checkbox"/> Permitting <input type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Construction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Best Management Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration/Pilot Project
Legal Authority	

Please select the *status* of the CEQA/NEPA/Permitting for this project:

CEQA (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Study <input type="checkbox"/> EIR <input type="checkbox"/> Determination <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
NEPA (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt <input type="checkbox"/> Not Started <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Record of Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required
Permitting (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not started <input type="checkbox"/> Identified <input type="checkbox"/> Consultations Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Application Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown if Required

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Write a narrative briefly describing the project components and/or characteristics (Suggest ~ 300 words).

The Timbuctoo Acquisition and Restoration Project includes protection of three miles of the Lower Yuba River containing documented Chinook salmon and steelhead spawning habitat and 700 acres of surrounding bufferlands with intact blue oak woodlands. Protection of open space within the blue oak woodlands along this stretch of the Yuba River is a particularly unique opportunity due to high development pressure within this area and the opportunity to safeguard water resources and documented salmonid habitat. Additionally, the property is located in a disadvantaged area listed in the Yuba IRWMP. The property is currently privately owned and is under threat of subdivision and conversion to a housing development project. BYLT is seeking funding to cover part of the property acquisition and to passively restore three miles of lower Yuba River for aquatic habitat through revegetation.

This project supports the Yuba IRWMP in several ways. It will encourage groundwater recharge and protect existing groundwater levels through preventing home construction and well drilling on 700-acres along the Lower Yuba River. It will protect surface water quality of tributaries flowing directly into the Lower Yuba River and protect river flows and river surface water quality along three miles of the Lower Yuba River. It also supports the Lower Yuba River Accord through protection of documented Chinook salmon and steelhead spawning areas and habitat improvements along the Lower Yuba River. In addition to salmonid species, the federally-listed foothill yellow legged frog is also documented in this stretch of river. Numerous other blue oak woodland-dependent species reside in the oak woodlands located on the property. Due to the sensitivity of salmonid spawning

areas and to limit disturbance to these species, public access to the property will likely be limited, however, there will still be opportunities for education and recreation.

PROJECT RATIONALE/ISSUES STATEMENT

Briefly describe the need for the project and the desired outcomes/deliverables (Suggest ~ 200 words). Include an explanation of benefits and how they would be evaluated.

Issues Statement

The blue oak woodlands where the project is located is under continuous residential development pressure and parcelization of open space. A tentative map has been approved for the 700-acre project area. Conversion of this currently forested area located along the Lower Yuba River would lead to increased construction and residential home-related water runoff and decline of groundwater levels in this area and for downstream users.

If this property was acquired by Bear Yuba Land Trust (BYLT), the project would directly safeguard three miles of Lower Yuba River and protect 700 acres of bufferland important for maintaining in-stream flows and water quality of Lower Yuba River. BYLT would own and manage the land in perpetuity ensuring that no development or extraction of water resources occurred onsite to protect groundwater levels in this area. Long-term management of the land would include protection of the native plant communities and open space areas to prevent erosion and sedimentation and road and residential runoff into the Yuba River. BYLT would manage invasive vegetation and animal species to limit their impacts to water resources such as unnecessary water uptake and decreased water clarity. Lastly, vegetation communities located in the project area would be continually managed to minimize the threat of wildfire, which could lead to high erosion and sediment inputs directly into the Yuba River.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Task based budget
- Map of project location

