

## Yuba IRWMP – YWPFSC-04 Project Short Form<sup>1</sup>

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

### PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

Lead Agency/Organization	Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council
Name of Primary Contact(s)	Allison Thomson
Mailing Address	PO Box 966, Marysville, CA 95901
Email Address	allison@yubafiresafe.org
Phone (###) ###-####	(530) 913-4058
Project Partners/Collaborators	Yuba Water Agency
YWA Liaison	JoAnna Lessard

### GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Forest Business Alliance: Capacity & Peer-learning for Yuba Forest Health
<b>Project Total Budget</b> (Attach detailed budget, if available)	\$599,854
<b>Budget Breakdown</b>	Planning/Design Budget: Implementation Budget:
<b>Project Funding Match, if any</b>	\$499,854
<b>Total Project Funding Need</b>	\$100,000
<b>Project Location</b> (Attach map if available)	Yuba watershed
<b>Watershed/subwatershed</b>	Yuba watershed
<b>Groundwater Basin</b> (Select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> North Yuba Subbasin <input type="checkbox"/> South Yuba Subbasin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
<b>Supports Yuba Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Measurable Objective(s) Benefit</b> (Answer If 'Yes' above) (check <i>all</i> that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic lowering of groundwater levels <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of groundwater storage <input type="checkbox"/> Degraded water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Land subsidence <input type="checkbox"/> Depletions of interconnected surface waters
<b>Project Priority</b> (Select one)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
<b>Project Type</b> (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

<sup>1</sup> Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Keri Rinne at [keri.rinne@gmail.com](mailto:keri.rinne@gmail.com)

	<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Best Management Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Demonstration/Pilot Project
<b>Legal Authority</b>	

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

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

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

This project will support healthy, resilient forests and the people and ecosystems that depend on them. The proposed project includes three pillars by building the capacity of 1) organizations through technical assistance, 2) individual and organizations through training, and 3) regions through peer learning. This project will focus on professional training and skills development. The project is designed to be implemented in two phases. The first phase will be implemented in the Yuba watershed, as a pilot that will inform a larger-scale effort. The second phase will build on lessons learned during the first phase and will be implemented across northern California, with some tasks likely implemented in the southern Sierra Nevada region.

The project will foster both short and long-term capacity building. In the short term, we will provide direct technical assistance to entities using a triage approach (identifying and then assisting those most in need first). With an equity focus, we will assist organizations and business entities with lower capacity to apply to grant programs and build partnerships, thereby addressing implementation and grant management needs. The long-term strategy will create and sustain regional expertise and collaboration through trainings and peer-learning.

The Forest Business Alliance project was designed and will be implemented by a team of experts in critical fields such as forestry, business development, and grant writing. The team structure and approach allow for flexibility so that additional expertise can be added during the project, according to need. The project will focus on four interconnected tasks:

- Task 1: Proposal and Business Development Triage
- Task 2: Workshops
- Task 3: Peer-learning Network
- Task 4: Management, Reporting, and Communications

**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.

Significant portions of the rural population across California, including Yuba County, do not have the technical, programmatic, and financial capacity to obtain grant funds and complete projects that are most successfully implemented through robust partnerships of businesses, agencies, and nonprofits. A recent study showed that low-capacity communities across the United States often face the highest climate risks, such as increased wildfire frequency and occurrence ([Headwaters Economics, 2022](#)). Additionally, Tribal communities have particular needs, knowledge, and

skills related to forest management and business development. For example, there are Tribal-specific resources related to different types of businesses, partnerships, and grants, and access to this information is often limited or not broadly shared. This project is designed to address these gaps. Long-term positive impacts are more likely to be achieved through strategic endeavors that build broad capacity and promote collaboration toward a shared purpose.