

## Yuba IRWMP – SYRCL-02

### Project Short Form<sup>1</sup>

Please fill out the following information to the best of your ability/knowledge. Once the project has been received, and a preliminary review completed, the project team will work with you to develop additional information.

#### PROJECT SPONSOR INFORMATION

Lead Agency/Organization	South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL)
Name of Primary Contact(s)	Ashley Overhouse
Mailing Address	313 Railroad Avenue, Suite 101, Nevada City, CA 95959
Email Address	<a href="mailto:ashley@yubariver.org">ashley@yubariver.org</a>
Phone (###) ###-####	530-265-5961 x215
Project Partners/Collaborators	
YWA Liaison	JoAnna Lessard

#### GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>Project Title</b>	Watershed Conservation Education
<b>Project Total Budget</b> (Attach detailed budget, if available)	\$136,000
<b>Budget Breakdown</b>	Planning/Design Budget: Not available at this time. Implementation Budget: Not available at this time.
<b>Project Funding Match, if any</b>	Agency cost shared TBD
<b>Total Project Funding Request</b>	\$136,000
<b>Project Location</b> (Attach map if available)	Nevada and Yuba County Schools
<b>City/Community</b>	Various cities
<b>Watershed/subwatershed</b>	Yuba
<b>Groundwater Basin</b>	Yuba Groundwater Basin
<b>Funding Area</b>	SRFA
<b>Project Priority</b> (Select one)	<b>High</b> /Medium/Low
<b>Project Type</b> (highlight in gray <i>all</i> that apply)	Conceptual Feasibility Study Study/Assessment Planning Engineering/Design Permitting CEQA/NEPA Facility Construction Restoration Monitoring <b>Best Management Practices</b> Acquisition Demonstration/Pilot Project

<sup>1</sup> Completed Project Short Forms should be sent via email to Katie Burdick at [admin@burdico.net](mailto:admin@burdico.net) **and** Elizabeth Herrera at [Elizabeth.herrera@fishsciences.net](mailto:Elizabeth.herrera@fishsciences.net)

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

<b>CEQA</b> (Select one)	Exempt
<b>NEPA</b> (Select one)	Exempt
<b>Permitting</b> (Select one)	Not Required

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

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

SYRCL’s Water Conservation Education Program consists of three sub-programs:

1. **“Great Water Mystery” School Assemblies**
2. **Technical Support for Yuba Water Agency’s (YWA) Yuba Watershed Experience Center & Program**
3. **Salmon Expeditions**

1. **The “Great Water Mystery” Assembly** is an interactive in-school assembly program that uses an engaging mystery story to teach children about water conservation. It also teaches California State Science Standards, and the presentations are adapted for different grade levels, so that they teach age-appropriate science concepts for kindergarten through eighth grade students. The presentation uses hilarious audience participation, dramatic slides, exciting demonstrations and fun stories to keep students and teachers engaged while teaching them to understand the effects that their actions have on our water supply.
2. **YWA’s Yuba Watershed Experience Program** is a multi-year effort to create opportunities for Yuba County residents, and especially youth, to better understand and develop a sense of stewardship for the Yuba River watershed. SYRCL has joined a collaborative of organizations that support the two projects couched within this initiative: a K-12 Yuba County Science Curriculum, and an experiential learning center for field trips as an enhanced learning capstone to said curriculum. SYRCL continues to offer curriculum design expertise, advocacy efforts, resources, and overall technical support to both projects, to ensure high-quality and comprehensive youth & community Yuba Watershed engagement opportunities put forth by these initiatives.
3. **SYRCL’s Salmon Expeditions** provide on-river raft trips for school groups each fall to have the opportunity to see threatened salmon spawn in their natural habitat. Through curriculum designed to meet Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and California Social Studies Standards (CSSS), students learn about the Yuba River ecosystem, how mining has impacted the river, SYRCL’s work to protect salmon, and restoration efforts underway to restore their habitat. This experiential learning opportunity presents information in a fun and engaging way that allows students meaningful takeaways.

## PROJECT RATIONALE/ISSUES STATEMENT

Briefly describe the need for the project and the desired outcomes/deliverables (maximum of 200 words).

1. The goal of the “Great Water Mystery” assembly program is to change the attitudes and behaviors of participants toward incorporating water conservation techniques into their daily lives. Comparisons of pre- and post-assembly student surveys have shown a marked increase in students’ knowledge about water and their commitment to conserving it. We aim to provide virtual or in-person assemblies (depending on COVID-19 regulations) to at least 10 Yuba County schools over the course of the 2020-2021 school year.
2. The Yuba Water Agency’s website states: “The goal of the Yuba Watershed Experience Program is to improve Yuba County’s quality of life and economic prosperity through enhanced education and provide residents a better understanding of the critical importance of water and fostered appreciation for natural resources in their own community. In 2019-2020, the collaborative will reach out to community partners & further understand needs and how best to use this model to accomplish collective goals.” SYRCL has been a partner in this effort since 2019. SYRCL’s staff has extensive expertise regarding Yuba history and ecology, as well as Yuba-specific remediation, restoration, and educational best practices and place-based knowledge in alignment with Common Core Standards. Resourcing SYRCL as a partner will be vital to ensuring the success of the program’s mission over the next several years.
3. The goal of SYRCL’s Salmon Expeditions is to educate the next generation of local youth about the importance the Yuba River plays in their lives and in the community, and the complex and delicate nature of the ecosystem, and how human decisions can impact the needed resource. We aim to create lifelong stewards of the Yuba River watershed through this immersive program.

## ATTACHMENTS:

- Task based budget – Not available at this time.
- Map of project location – Not available at this time.