

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From:
Public Agency:
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603
Mary Akens
(530) 450-5177

Lead Agency (if different from above):
Nevada County Planning Department
950 Maidu Avenue, Ste 170
Nevada City, CA 95959-8617
Brian Foss, Planning Director
(530) 265-1222

SUBJECT: *Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code*

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2023010202

Project Title: WIP Capacity Subgrant – CHIRP Nisenan (SNC 1722RFFCP)

Project Applicant: California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project

Project Location (include county): Assessor's Parcel Number 005-101-002 (no situs address) in Nevada City, CA, accessed via Old Downieville Highway. Approximately one mile southwest of the Highway 49 and Highway 20 intersection in Nevada City.

Project Description: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) would provide funding to the California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project (CHIRP) to utilize Nisenan traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) forest-management practices to restore culturally important species, reduce hazardous fuels, return cultural burning, and plant native species on approximately 10 acres of a CHIRP-owned property closely associated with the Nisenan tribe located just outside Nevada City. This project is part of a larger effort to adopt restoration-, conservation-, and education-based management plans for the 32-acre property and will provide an opportunity for knowledge transfer and TEK practice for Nisenan tribal members. The management plans for the overall property include construction of approximately 3,700 feet of trail, installation of interpretive signage, fencing, retaining walls, a well and water storage tank, a native plant garden with irrigation, as well as removal of non-native, invasive plant species, fuel reduction, and the return of cultural burning throughout the subject parcel. Funds will be used to develop a TEK Cultural Restoration and Monitoring Plan, support partnership building and TEK knowledge sharing, prepare pre-burn areas, hire subcontractors (preferably tribal crews) as necessary, and provide stipends to compensate tribal members for their time and participation in the burn, as well as invasive plant removal and native plantings.

This is to advise that the **Sierra Nevada Conservancy (Responsible Agency)** has approved the above-described project on **September 5, 2024**, and has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

1. The project **will not** have a significant effect on the environment.
2. A **Negative Declaration was** prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures **were** a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan **was** adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations **was not** adopted for this project.
6. Findings **were not** made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Negative Declaration and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

Nevada County Planning Department, 950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 170, Nevada City, CA 95959

Signature (Public Agency): _____

DocuSigned by:

Angela Avery

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Title: _____

Executive Officer

Date: _____

9/6/2024

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code
 Reference Section 21000-21174, Public Resources Code