



**AGENDA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010
Shady Rest Park, Rotary Shelter, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546**

NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (760) 932-5534. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (See 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).

Full agenda packets are available for the public to review in the Office of the Clerk of the Board (Annex I - 74 North School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517), and in the County Offices located in Minaret Mall, 2nd Floor (437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes CA 93546). Any writing distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the Board (Annex I - 74 North School Street, Bridgeport, CA 93517). **ON THE WEB:** You can view the upcoming agenda at www.monocounty.ca.gov. If you would like to receive an automatic copy of this agenda by email, please send your request to Lynda Roberts, Clerk of the Board: lroberts@mono.ca.gov.

11:15 a.m. Call meeting to Order

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD on items of public interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. (Speakers may be limited in speaking time dependent upon the press of business and number of persons wishing to address the Board.)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE (Mary Booher)

- 1a)** Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant to be used to potentially expand the activities at Conway and Mattly Ranches.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve resolution approving two applications for Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant funding for the Conway Ranch and Mattly Ranch projects from the Proposition 84 grant program.

FISCAL IMPACT: Each grant application is for \$250,000 which, if awarded, would be used to conduct pre-development activities.

ADJOURNMENT

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COUNTY OF MONO

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David Wilbrecht
County Administrative Officer

Mary Booher
Financial Analyst

Rita Sherman
Deputy County Administrative Officer

September 9, 2010

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Booher, CAO Financial Analyst

Subject: Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Resolution

Recommended Action:

Approve Resolution approving two applications for Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant funding for the Conway Ranch and Mattly Ranch Projects from the Proposition 84 grant program.

Discussion:

In August, Supervisor Peters, in meetings with Inland Aquaculture Group and other stakeholders in Conway and Mattly Ranches, identified the Sierra Nevada Conservancy as a possible source of grant funds to possibly expand the activities at these sites. Supervisor Peters was referred to our contract grant writer, David Nelson, who recommended applying for pre-development grant funds at this time, to further develop a plan. These two grant applications must be postmarked by Monday, September 13, 2010.

Attached you will find Mr. Nelson's summary of the grants, as well as the resolution of approval.

Fiscal Impact:

Each grant application is for \$250,000, which, if awarded, would be used conduct pre-development activities.

If there are any questions regarding this item, please contact Mary Booher at 932-5583.

Thank you,

Submitted by: _____ Date: 9/7/10
Mary Booher, County Administrative Office Financial Analyst

RESOLUTION No. R 10-_____
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO A RESOLUTION APPROVING
TWO APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CONWAY RANCH AND
MATTLY RANCH PROJECTS FROM THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY (SNC)
PROPOSITION 84 GRANTS PROGRAM, FUNDED BY THE SAFE DRINKING
WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND
COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the SNC has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the SNC require a resolution certifying the approval of applications by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said applications to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the projects; and

WHEREAS, the County has identified the Conway Ranch and Mattly Ranch projects as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mono, State of California, that this Board:

Approves the submittal of two applications to the SNC of up to \$250,000 each, one for the Conway Ranch project and one for the Mattly Ranch project; and

Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the applications; and

Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resources consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the applications; or will secure the resources to do so; and

Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and

Appoints the Mono County Administrative Officer, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to: applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of September, 2010, by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors, County of Mono:

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

**BYNG HUNT, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNT OF MONO**

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

**LYNDA ROBERTS
CLERK OF THE BOARD**

COUNTY COUNCIL

Mono County Agenda Item: Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Applications

BOS Meeting: 9-7-10

Topic: Request for approval to submit two grant applications to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) to develop the Conway Ranch Property aquaculture projects.

Discussion: The Conway Ranch Property is historically comprised of two properties, the original Conway Ranch and the Mattly Ranch. The original Conway Ranch is 831 acres and is located 10 miles north of Lee Vining. Mattly Ranch is located Southwest of the original Conway Ranch by ½ mile and is 160 acres. Additionally, 40 acres in the Southeast portion of the original Conway Ranch is a residential subdivision. The total acreage is 1,031. The Western Region of the nonprofit, Trust for Public Lands (TPL), located in San Francisco, purchased the Conway Ranch Property and then sold it in phases to the County and the Bureau of Land Management in 1998 and 2000. Mono County purchased its phases using a variety of grant funds, including transportation related grants. These transportation grants carried development restrictions, with the overall intent to keep the properties in an undeveloped state, with the exceptions for usages at the time of purchase.

The current usages for Conway Ranch Property are aquaculture and sheep grazing. Aquaculture operations are conducted by an agreement between the County and Inland Aquaculture Group (IAG). These operations are located in the Southern section of the original Conway Ranch. The operation currently raises rainbow and brown trout from fingerlings to trophy size. At the appropriate time, the trout are stocked in local bodies of water. The agreement between IAG and the County is that annually IAG will stock local bodies of water with 10,000 pounds of trout. Generally, sheep grazing occurs in all other portions of the Conway Ranch Property, with the exception of the subdivision.

Proposed Grant Application: It is proposed to apply to the SNC for two applications, one for the original Conway Ranch, and one for the Mattly Ranch. These applications will fund the required preliminary development actions so as to develop new, and also expand the existing, aquaculture operations. These actions include, but are not necessarily limited to, investigating and establishing the purchase (and fair market value) of the development rights from Caltrans to develop these properties, conducting the engineering for the various buildings and infrastructure improvements, conducting the required environmental reviews, securing the required permits, creating the appropriate partnership liaisons, and preparing the grant applications to secure funding for the increased development of these ranches.

If successful, it is anticipated that the development of the original Conway Ranch will be to expand the existing aquaculture operations by adding a barn-like structure that will include a fish hatchery. Additionally, the Mattly Ranch, which is currently only being used for sheep grazing, will be developed into a complete fish rearing operation for the endangered Lahonton Cutthroat trout. The US Department of Fish and Wildlife has expressed preliminary interest in assisting the County develop the facilities for the Lahonton Cutthroat trout, and if this grant application is successful, this preliminary interest will be pursued and codified.

DN: 9-6-10