



2010 SAGEBRUSH CHAPTER CONSERVATION GRANT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All applicants must complete and submitted the current funding year Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Application; no substitutions are permitted. For current grant program information or to obtain help completing the grant application contact the Program Ambassador at Ambassador@sagebrushtu.org. Please read the following sections carefully prior to completing the grant application.

I. ELIGIBILITY

The Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Program accepts applications submitted by non-profit and for-profit organizations and individuals. Applicants submitting the application younger than 18 years of age must be sponsored by an individual who is 18 years or older. The sponsor cannot be a consultant or contractor receiving funds from the grant award.

II. TYPES OF PROJECTS AWARDED FUNDING

The Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Program annually considers funding a variety of projects such as; protection, restoration and conservation projects, feasibility studies, applied research, assessment, conservation planning and education outreach activities that demonstrate a benefit to northern Nevada coldwater fisheries. In addition, the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Program considers funding for projects that propose: i) land acquisitions, water rights, and easements, ii) graduate student stipends and contractors or consultants salaries and iii) the design, development or purchase of tools. In each instance, however, applicants must demonstrate that these are substantially required to complete project objectives. Awards will not be provided for: i) salary expenses for government agency personnel or non-profit organizations staff, ii) reimbursements of expenses for partially or fully completed projects.

III. REVIEW PROCESS

Applicants are encouraged to review the current Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Activities Calendar at www.SagebrushTU.org prior to preparing and submitting the grant Application.

Important Dates:

November 1, 2010: Grant applications due by midnight.

January of 2011: Award notifications are provided.

Before submitting your application, and as time permits prior to the submission date, the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Program Ambassador is available at Ambassador@SagebrushTU.org to answer any question you may have and, if you like, review your application for completeness.

Once all applications are submitted they are reviewed by the Sagebrush Chapter Project Committee using scoring criteria that evaluate projects in the following four (4) weighted areas:

- a) Conservation impact.
- b) Public education and outreach.
- c) Technical merit.
- d) Opportunities for Sagebrush Trout Unlimited members to participate.

Although a proposal may not address every area completely, it is important to communicate the strengths of your proposals in each of these areas. The applicant should consider the following when preparing the application:

I. CONSERVATION IMPACT (25% OF POINTS): address conservation issues that benefit northern Nevada that may include:

- a. Improvements for in-stream, riparian restoration, or watershed habitat, fishery health, water quality and flow regimes.
 - b. Filling in critical knowledge gaps in water and stream management, and aquatic scientific discovery.
 - c. Building or strengthening constituency for coldwater conservation.
 - d. Management of water resources.
- II. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (20% OF POINTS):** consider increasing the awareness of your project's conservation impact to the broader community by:
- a. Proposing a program that educates the general public about the importance of water quality, conservation, and coldwater fisheries.
 - b. Increasing visibility of conservation to local and regional media (e.g. radio, TV, news, interest magazines).
 - c. Speaking to audiences about how your project benefits the coldwater fisheries of northern Nevada.
 - d. Inviting, when possible, a diverse set of individuals from differing community groups and non-profit and for-profit organizations to participate in your project.
- III. TECHNICAL MERIT (40% OF POINTS):** demonstrate the feasibility and quality of your project by:
- a. Basing the project on good science and acceptable best practices.
 - b. Proposing an appropriate work plan for the size and scope of the project.
 - c. Providing a budget that is reasonable to achieve the project goals.
 - d. Proposing a plan to measure and evaluate project outcomes.
 - e. Listing contributions and support from experts (e.g. teacher, biologist, restoration engineer, watershed planner, policy expert, training coordinator, landowner, and government agency) needed, or have provided contributions, to successfully complete the project.
 - f. Listing and providing details of efforts and resources made available by additional stakeholders needed to successfully complete the project (e.g. conservation groups, local business, universities, lenders).
 - g. Providing letters of support from experts and stakeholders.
 - h. Defining the roles and responsibilities of the project manager and other individuals participating in the project.
 - i. Listing projects and providing details as to the size and scope of projects that the applicant, sponsor and/or principle participants have previously completed.
- IV. TROUT UNLIMITED PARTICIPATION (10% OF POINTS):** provide details, if appropriate, of opportunities that Trout Unlimited may have in planning, and/or participating in the project.
- V. OVERALL IMPRESSION (5% OF POINTS):** discretionary points for overall importance and professionalism in preparing the application.

The Ambassador may contact the Applicant by electronic mail during the review process to clarify issues regarding the Application. Once the Sagebrush Chapter Project Committee has reviewed and ranked all submitted projects, they are presented to the general Sagebrush Chapter membership for consideration. Although the Sagebrush Chapter may not fund all projects submitted within a single funding year, an attempt will be made to fund projects from a diverse set of project types and applicants. If a project is not funded, the applicant may elect to resubmit the project proposal in the next funding year; however, it is the applicant's responsibility to re-submit the project proposal using the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Application for the funding year that the grant is submitted. All applicants are notified by electronic mail of the project funding status. In addition, a brief description of funded projects and funding levels are published on the Sagebrush Chapter website.

Proposals selected for funding will receive and require a signed Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Contract prior to the release of funds. Please obtain a current Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Application from SagebrushTU.org. If you have any questions in completing the Application please contact the program ambassador at Ambassador@SagebrushTU.org.



Trout Unlimited Sagebrush Chapter 2010 Conservation Grant Program Application

CONTACT INFORMATION & SIGNATURES FORM

Applicant Name: Trout Unlimited Truckee Chapter

(first and last name)

Applicant Signature: Lass, David _____

Address: 10356 Donner Pass Rd. STE B

(street, city, state, zip)

Phone / Cell Number: (530) 388-8261 **Email Address:** dlass@tu.org

Sponsor Name: _____

(if under the age of 18, provide sponsor first and last name, sponsor cannot be a paid consultant)

Sponsor Signature: _____

Address: _____

(street, city, state, zip)

Phone / Cell Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Little Truckee River Fish Habitat Improvement Project

Little Truckee River Tailwater – Location (Township-Range-Section) The Little Truckee Fish Habitat Improvement Project is located in Nevada County, California, in the Truckee Ranger District, adjacent to the Little Truckee River about 2 miles south of Stampede Reservoir at the northern boundary of Nevada County, 1.5 miles northeast of Russell Valley, at T19N, R17E, Section 32, Mount Diablo Base Meridian. This project covers approximately 2 miles of the Little Truckee River.

Project Location: _____

(e.g. stream, river, lake, watershed, city, state, GPS coordinates)

Requested Amount: \$5,000

(from budget worksheet)

Project Start Date: February 2011 **End Date:** December 2011

Please check the conservation strategy that best fits your project:

- Protect** (*Public lands policy, land trust partnership, Defense from unwise development etc.*)
- Reconnect** (*Passage barrier removal, In-stream flow enhancement etc.*)
- Restore** (*Watershed and habitat restoration projects etc.*)
- Sustain** (*Conservation education, trout in the classroom etc.*)

Have you previously received Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant funding? No.

| | Project Title | Year Funded |
|----|---------------|-------------|
| 1. | | |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 2. | | |
| 3. | | |

PROPOSAL *(Reference and electronically append to the application any additional information, maps, pictures, diagrams, contracts and letters of intent and support. Contract or expand each section below as needed.)*

I. SUMMARY – *(In 350 words or less, provide a concise summary that includes the name and description of the project, purpose of the project, goals, objectives, proposed actions or methods, anticipated scope of impact, partners, project exceptional merits, matching funds, and amount requested.)*

Pre-Project Planning – monitoring, watershed assessment, preliminary project design and CDFG and ARCE permitting - to implement an on-the-ground project to improve trout densities by thinning a stand of burned and dead timber and strategically placing harvested trees in a two-mile stretch of the Little Truckee River to add structure, encourage souring and pool generation, and improve and create additional spawning and rearing habitat for wild trout.

This proposal is part of a larger funded project by the Placer/Nevada Resource Advisory Committee and Title II Federal money that Trout Unlimited has pursued. The Trout Unlimited Truckee Office along with Trout Unlimited Truckee River Chapter is asking the Sagebrush Chapter to fund the design portion of this larger project, an element we consider the most important in the pre-project planning phase and one that will ultimately improve the final goals of the restoration project if done thoroughly. We will need to use the money to pay a local hydrologist/geomorphologist to present an analytical study/report with vetted alternatives to direct a final on-the-ground project.

II. BACKGROUND – *(Describe the issue or opportunity being addressed. If applicable, describe the project location, body of water and species affected. If this project has received funding previously, provide a brief progress update.)*

THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER BETWEEN STAMPEDE AND BOCA RESERVOIRS HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR PLACES TO FISH IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND IS GAINING A REPUTATION AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO PURSUE TROPHY-SIZED TROUT IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY. THE RIVER HAS TAKEN ON A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SHAPE AFTER THE INSTALLMENT OF SPECIAL FISHING REGULATIONS IN 1999. ANGLERS COME FROM ALL OVER CALIFORNIA TO FISH THIS RIVER AND IT IS TYPICAL TO SEE LICENSE PLATES FROM 4-5 DIFFERENT STATES IN THE VARIOUS PARKING AREAS USED TO ACCESS THE RIVER ON ANY GIVEN DAY. MOST ANGLERS THAT FISH HERE RESIDE IN NEVADA, PLACER COUNTIES AND RENO, NV. THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER PROVIDES A VERY SPECIAL RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCE THAT MANY ANGLERS FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT PROTECTING, AND ANY ON-THE-GROUND WORK ACCOMPLISHED TO HELP PROTECT THIS EXPERIENCE, WILL GO VERY FAR WITHIN THE HUNTING AND ANGLING COMMUNITIES. A FINISHED PROJECT HERE WILL GET MORE THAN SUFFICIENT POSITIVE EXPOSURE LOCALLY, REGIONALLY AND EVEN NATIONALLY.

THE MAJORITY OF THE USE ON THE LITTLE TRUCKEE PRESENTLY OCCURS IN THE UPPER PORTION OF THE MEADOW, AND IS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY VISITED AND FISHED PLACES IN THE ENTIRE STATE. IMPROVING THE HABITAT IN THE LOWER MEADOW WILL INCREASE FISH POPULATIONS AND INDIRECTLY HELP MANAGE AND DISPERSE THIS HIGH-DENSITY USE THROUGHOUT A MUCH LARGER AREA. THIS PROJECT WILL ALLOW ADDITIONAL QUALITY FISHING OPPORTUNITIES THAN CURRENTLY EXIST, ALLOW FOR MORE PEOPLE TO FISH THE RIVER AND WHICH WILL PRODUCE MORE REVENUE COMING TO LOCAL ECONOMIES AND MORE PEOPLE VISITING THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST. THIS PROJECT WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE OUTFITTERS AND BUSINESSES THAT OPERATE UNDER A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR COMMERCIAL GUIDING ON THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST.

THIS PROJECT WILL PROVIDE TANGIBLE OUTCOMES OF INCREASED REVENUE AND IMPROVED RECREATION THAT DIRECTLY BENEFITS RESIDENTS OF PLACER AND NEVADA COUNTIES. MULTIPLE STUDIES DEMONSTRATE THAT ANGLERS CONTRIBUTE IN THE MILLIONS TO LOCAL ECONOMIES LIKE TRUCKEE, AND SPEND MORE THAN MOST OF

THEIR RECREATIONAL COUNTERPARTS. A THRIVING LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER ALSO MEANS THRIVING HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND RETAILERS IN NORTH LAKE TAHOE COMMUNITIES, ESPECIALLY DURING THE SHOULDER SEASONS.

FROM PREVIOUS FIELD SURVEYS, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND FOREST SERVICE BIOLOGISTS IDENTIFIED THE LOWER LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER MEADOW AS A HIGH PRIORITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INSTREAM STRUCTURE AND LARGE WOODY DEBRIS, TO INCREASE COVER AND REARING HABITAT FOR WILD TROUT. LARGE WOODY DEBRIS, WHICH WAS HISTORICALLY PRESENT THROUGH NATURAL RECRUITMENT, IS ABSENT FROM THIS REACH OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE BECAUSE OF STAMPEDE RESERVOIR, LOCATED JUST UPSTREAM. WILD TROUT THRIVE WHERE THIS STRUCTURE CURRENTLY EXISTS IN THE SYSTEM, AND CONVERSELY, WHERE IT IS ABSENT FISH NUMBERS ARE LOW OR NON-EXISTENT. ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE FROM ANGLERS DEMONSTRATES THAT FISH POPULATIONS THROUGH THE LOWER EXTENT OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE MEADOW ARE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED FROM POPULATIONS OCCUPYING THE UPSTREAM HABITAT BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF LARGE WOODY DEBRIS INSTREAM. THIS IS ADDITIONALLY EVIDENT BY THE AMOUNT OF ANGLERS THAT USE THE UPPER PARKING LOT TO ACCESS THE RIVER, WHICH IS EXPONENTIALLY GREATER THAN THE PRESSURE OBSERVED IN THE LOWER MEADOW ACCESS POINTS. FURTHER MORE, FISH CREEL DATA AND E-FISHING DATA FROM CDFG SHOWS THAT CATCH-PER-HOUR SIGNIFICANTLY DECREASES IN THIS SECTION OF THE RIVER.

TROUT UNLIMITED HAS PURSUED TITLE II MONEY TO LAUNCH PHASE 1 OF A MULTI-PHASED FISH HABITAT AND FOREST HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FOR THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER BETWEEN STAMPEDE AND BOCA RESERVOIRS. WE ARE ASKING THE SAGEBRUSH TU CHAPTER TO SUPPLEMENT THIS LARGER COST BY FUNDING THE DESIGN PORTION PHASE 1. THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL TREE-KILL IN A STAND OF TIMBER ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER JUST SOUTH OF THE SIERRA/NEVADA COUNTY LINE, BECAUSE OF A CONTROLLED BURN, THAT NEEDS ACTIVE MANAGEMENT AND THINNING. THIS AREA CURRENTLY POSES A FIRE THREAT BECAUSE OF THE HIGH DENSITY OF DRY AND DEAD TIMBER. TROUT UNLIMITED AND THE TRUCKEE RANGER DISTRICT OF THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST BELIEVE THAT THIS AREA CAN BE USED AS SOURCE MATERIAL FOR A FISH HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, WITH MULTIPLE CO-EQUAL GOALS OF FUEL REDUCTION, WATERSHED RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE, FISH HABITAT RESTORATION, FOREST HEALTH IMPROVEMENT AND WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT.

THE PRIMARY GOAL OF PHASE 1 IS TO COMPLETE PRE-PROJECT PLANNING, SO THAT A WATERSHED ASSESSMENT PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESIGN, AND MONITORING CAN BE COMPLETED TO PROVIDE THE BLUEPRINT FOR A PHYSICAL ON-THE-GROUND PROJECT, PROVIDING MULTIPLE BENEFITS TO THIS PART OF NEVADA COUNTY. THE MAJORITY OF PHASE 1 WILL BE REALIZED FROM A VOLUNTEER LABOR FORCE USING GPS TECHNOLOGY TO CONDUCT FIELD SURVEYS TO OBSERVE SPAWNING FISH AND ACTIVE REDDS IN THE SPRING AND FALL, RECORD SITES ALONG THE RIVER WHERE ADDING DEPTH, CHANNEL AND COMPLEXITY WILL IMPROVE HABITAT IN REDUCED FLOWS, AND WITH THE DIRECTION OF THE FS FISHERY BIOLOGIST, MAP AREAS WHERE ADDING LARGE WOODY DEBRIS AND SPAWNING GRAVELS WOULD INCREASE TROUT DENSITIES AND SUBSEQUENTLY ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES. WE WILL THEN HIRE A HYDROLOGIST/GEOMORPHOLOGIST BY MEANS OF A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT TO TAKE ALL THE DATA COLLECTED DURING FIELD SURVEYS AND ASSESS THE FINDINGS, AND DESIGN THE BLUEPRINT FOR A FINAL PROJECT THAT INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF LARGE WOODY DEBRIS AND INTRODUCES NEW SPAWNING GRAVEL, RESULTING IN NEW, IMPROVED AND MORE COMPLEX HABITAT WITH HIGHER TROUT DENSITIES. COMPLEX MODELING WILL BE COMPLETED THROUGH THIS ASSESSMENT SO THAT EACH PLACED INSTREAM STRUCTURE CAN WITHSTAND HIGH, MEDIUM AND LOW FLOWS.

THE PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO THE PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF RIVERS, STREAMS, THEIR WATERSHEDS, AND ASSOCIATED LAND, WATER, AND FISH AND GAME VALUES. ONE OF THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS WITH THIS AREA OF THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST IS HIGH USE CONCENTRATED IN A RELATIVELY SMALL AREA. MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE PROJECT WILL REDUCE AND PREVENT EROSION AND DEPOSITION OF SEDIMENT INTO

STREAM CHANNELS FROM OVER-USE UPSTREAM; RESTORE DEGRADED TERRESTRIAL SURFACES AND IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH FROM A CONTROLLED BURN SO THAT INDIGENOUS PLANTS CAN RE-GROW, WHICH IMPROVES HABITAT FOR LARGE GAME ANIMALS TO GROW LARGER, LIVE LONGER, AND BREED MORE; IMPROVE AND STABILIZE STREAM BANKS AND STREAM CHANNEL STRUCTURE TO BE MORE "FISH-FRIENDLY;" IMPROVE WATER QUALITY AND INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD OF WATER TEMPERATURES BEING SALUBRIOUS FOR NATIVE TROUT; AND RESTORE AND IMPROVE SCENIC VISTAS AND LANDSCAPES.

THE PROJECT PROVIDES DIRECT, INDIRECT, AND LONG-TERM BENEFITS, INCLUDING RESTORATION OF SCENIC VIEWS AND LANDSCAPES; EXPANSION OF POTENTIAL HABITAT FOR NATIVE TROUT RESTORATION EFFORTS; IMPROVEMENT OF CURRENT HABITAT OCCUPIED BY WILD TROUT; IMPROVEMENT IN WATER QUALITY, TEMPERATURES, AND FLOWS; PRESERVATION OF VISITOR ACCESS TO AREAS THAT MIGHT OTHERWISE NEED TO BE CLOSED WHILE THEY ARE ALLOWED TO RECOVER NATURALLY BECAUSE OF HIGH USE; AND DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS THAT CAN BE LEVERAGED FOR OTHER TYPES OF CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE. THE PROJECT AVOIDS ADVERSE IMPACTS, AND ADDRESSES EXISTING OR POTENTIAL THREATS TO WATER QUALITY, FISH AND GAME, AND HABITAT, THROUGH REQUISITE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND PLANNING IN PHASE 2 AND THROUGH PROPER MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN AND MECHANICAL RESOURCES DURING PHASE 3.

PHASE 2 OF THIS PROJECT WILL COMPLETE REQUISITE NEPA PERMITTING.

PHASE 3 OF THIS PROJECT IS IMPLEMENTATION AND AN ON-THE-GROUND PROJECT.

TROUT UNLIMITED ANTICIPATES THIS MULTI-PHASED PROJECT TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE 2012 FIELD SEASON.

III. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – *(Describe the project purpose, objectives, goals and benefit to northern Nevada.)*

PROJECT GOALS ARE INCLUDED IN THREE (3) PHASES OF A FOREST HEALTH AND FISH HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. TROUT UNLIMITED IS REQUESTING FUNDING FOR ONLY THE FIRST PHASE THROUGH THIS APPLICATION. PHASE 1 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- GOALS: FUEL REDUCTION, FOREST HEALTH IMPROVEMENT, WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

OBJECTIVES: USE PROFESSIONAL STAFF FROM THE TRUCKEE DISTRICT OF THE TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST, TO TAKE FIELD SURVEYS OF A STAND OF TIMBER THAT WAS BURNED AND IS NOW DEAD DUE TO A CONTROLLED BURN ALONG THE WEST BANK OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS OF WHICH AND HOW MANY INDIVIDUAL TREES SHOULD BE HARVESTED.

OBJECTIVES: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT TO LAY THE GROUND WORK FOR NEPA COMPLIANCE TO PHYSICALLY REMOVE PROBLEMATIC, DEAD TREES FROM THE STAND AND REDUCE FIRE THREAT.

- GOALS: WATERSHED RESTORATION AND MAINTENANCE, FISH HABITAT RESTORATION

OBJECTIVES: PRE-PROJECT PLANNING, WATERSHED ASSESSMENT, PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESIGN AND MONITORING, AND CDFG AND ARCE PERMITTING TO PROVIDE THE BLUEPRINT FOR A PHYSICAL ON-THE-GROUND PROJECT.

SOME METRICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MILES OF STREAM/RIVER RESTORED/IMPROVED: 1.5 MILES

MILES OF FISH HABITAT RESTORED/IMPROVED: 1.5 MILES

ACRES OF WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORED/IMPROVED: THIS HARD TO QUANTIFY, BUT THINNING THE FOREST HERE WILL RESULT IN BENEFITS FOR THE LOYALTON/VERDI DEER HERD, THAT HEAVILY USE THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER DURING THEIR SUMMER AND WINTER MIGRATION PERIODS.

PEOPLE REACHED (FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROJECTS): 20,000+ WILL BE CONTACTED ABOUT THIS PROJECT VIA ELECTRONIC MAILINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE AND ANOTHER 500 WILL BE REACHED THROUGH PRESENTATIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS. TU WILL INCORPORATE THIS PROJECT WITH THE NORTH TAHOE TROUT-IN-THE-CLASSROOM PROGRAM AND THE TAHOE TRUCKEE FLY FISHERS CLIFF FRAZIER MEMORIAL YOUTH PROGRAM BY GETTING KIDS TO THE SIGHT OF THE PROJECT TO FISH AND PLANT NATIVE LAHONTAN CUTTHROAT TROUT.

DIRECT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY BENEFIT: IMPROVING FISH HABITAT IN THE LOWER MEADOW OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER WILL RESULT IN INCREASED TOURISM TO THE TRUCKEE AREA AND IMPROVED RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR RENO RESIDENTS, PROVIDING DIRECT ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES AND INDIRECT REVENUE TO NEVADA COUNTY AND SMALL BUSINESSES LIKE THE RENO FLY SHOP. AS IS THE CASE WITH MANY FAMOUS TROUT FISHING DESTINATIONS IN SKI-BASED ECONOMIES, A HEALTHY PRODUCTIVE FISHERY PROVIDES INCREASED REVENUE DURING THE OFF-SEASON AND KEEPS PEOPLE EMPLOYED AND DOORS OPEN. THIS SECTION OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE RIVER HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME ONE OF THE TOP FISHING DESTINATIONS IN THE COUNTRY. TROUT UNLIMITED HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CAPITALIZE ON THE POPULARITY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF THE LITTLE TRUCKEE FROM A BRANDING LEVEL, WHERE RECREATIONISTS CAN CONNECT GOOD TU WORK TO ONE OF THEIR FAVORITE PLACES TO FISH.

IV. WORK PLAN – *(Describe in detail the activities and/or technical or scientific methods used to complete the project. Provide a project schedule detailing project activities and milestones - include timeframes for planning, obtaining permits, permission for land access, etc. Describe the role and qualification of volunteers, consultants and contractors. Describe the role and matching efforts of partners and stakeholders. Include a methodology and indicators to objectively measure project outcomes. Provide a plan to disseminate the benefits of the project to the general public).*

The Little Truckee Fish Habitat Improvement Project is broken down into three (3) separate categories. These categories are as follows and are listed in ascending order of start/completion time (some overlap):

1) Research/Monitoring/Field Surveys – February 2011 through December 2011

Total Time Dedicated to task: 50%

A primary goal of this project is reviewing and analyzing past CDFG and FS fish data on this section of the Little Truckee River and overlaying this data with new data (scientific and anecdotal) collected by volunteers throughout the 2011 calendar year. Material to review are past CDFG creel census data, e-fishing population count data, historic dam release data and flow rates, and past restoration work (1970's). The majority of the review work will be completed by Deborah Urich, Fishery Biologist for the Tahoe, Roger Bloom, Wild and Heritage Trout Program Director, and David Lass, Trout Unlimited Northern California Field Director. The review will be completed by March of 2011.

Monitoring will be conducted throughout the calendar year and completed by a volunteer force of TU and Tahoe Truckee Fly Fishers volunteers. Two volunteers at a time will check out equipment and go to collect data along the 2-mile stretch of the LT. The goal of this monitoring is to document the reach of the Little Truckee River from Boyington Mills to the Sierra/Nevada County line at four (4) seasonal flow rates – 30cfs, 100cfs, 200cfs and 350+cfs – and measure stream channel width, max/min/and average depth, and document viable Spring and Fall spawning habitat. This work will begin in February and end in December. Volunteers will be trained by TU Northern California Field Director and FS Fishery Biologist, will use Forest Service GPS devices, one journal and map, to map, measure and document specific sites at each flow.

All Field survey work will be completed by volunteers and the primary purpose of this work will be to document and record actual fish population surveys by fishing and to observe and document active spawning and construction of redds and also record the flow. The majority of this work will be done during the months of March-May and September-November. This work is directly related to the Watershed Assessment portion of the project described next.

The goals of the research/monitoring/field survey work is to see where fish are, where they are not, where good habitat is, where it is not, and how that all varies during different times of the year under different flows. A secondary benefit of this work can take this new data use it to recommend a more advantageous flow level for different times of the year to support better spawning and rearing habitat in the Little Truckee River in a Post-TROA management environment.

2) Watershed Assessment – September 2011 through December 2011

Total Time Dedicated to task: 20%

Most of the salient information used to complete the watershed assessment will be collected by volunteers and compiled by Forest Service, CDFG and TU staff during the first phase of this project as described above. The actual watershed assessment will be completed by a hydrologist/geomorphologist firm and contracted on the merits of the best bid/cost. We are not proposing a complete watershed assessment in this part of the Little Truckee River, instead an assessment with a very narrow focus to design a project to enhance trout densities, rearing habitat

and spawning habitat where they currently do not exist. This part of the project will look at the habitat in places where fish currently occupy and replicate these habitats in places where they do not exist. This assessment will study the effects of adding large woody debris to the Little Truckee and make recommendations on where this debris would be most successful to creating more spawning and rearing habitat and promoting higher trout densities. The majority of the cost associated with this assessment is incurred in the design and placement of the large woody debris and the review of historic and forecasted flows that might adversely affect placement/introduction of such material. A final product of this watershed analysis is a project design blueprint, map and small report on how these findings were reached. This report is the blueprint for the final restoration project.

3) Environmental Permitting – October 2011 through December 2011

Total Time Dedicated to task: 10%

Environmental permitting is a necessary means in an instream project in California. Permitting is the last phase of phase 1, and will be completed by the end of 2011, once the final design for the project is completed. ACOE 404 permit, CRWQCB 401 permit, CDFG 1600 streambed alteration agreement applications will be filed by the TU Northern California Field Director and funded under Title II RAC money and the Truckee-Tahoe Wild Trout Fund.

V. BUDGET- (Using the Sections below, be as specific as possible when describing your project expenses. Include the project total amount and the amount that is being requested from the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Program. Projects requesting grant funding for more than \$1000 must be matched with in-kind funding or effort. These include, cash gifts, personnel costs and costs of materials and services. Identify all other contributors and indicate type and amount of matched funding. Please expand or contract each section as needed.)

| Description & Use In Project | A | B | C | D | E |
|---|-------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | *Rate | Total | Cash Matched | In-Kind Matched | Grant Amount Requested |
| Section 1 Material & Equipment (Identify and provide justification for specific materials and/or equipment necessary to complete the project. Costs are estimated according to materials and equipment average market value. If cost effective, rentals should be considered.) | | | | | |
| Materials | | | | | |
| \$1,000 Trout Unlimited equipment such as waders, boots, gloves | | | | \$1,000 | |
| \$1,000 – GPS handhelds and tape measurers to map locations stream width and channel depth, and spawning redds, provided by Truckee District of the Tahoe National Forest. | | | | \$1,000 | |
| Total | | | | \$2,000 | |
| Section 2 Volunteer and Professional Labor (Provide a description and role in the project of all sources of volunteer and professional services. The hourly rate for volunteers is \$20.75, the professional hourly rate can be donated at market rates.) | | | | | |
| Field Work and Site Surveys | | | | | |
| \$1,000 Fishery Biologist time and Forestry Technician committed to project | | | | \$1,000 | |
| Truckee/Sagebrush TU/TTFF volunteers using Forest Service GPS units and tape measurers – estimated equivalent of 60hrs @ \$20.85/hr = \$2,151.00; | | | | \$2,151.00 | |
| Total | | | | \$3,151.00 | |
| Section 3 Personnel / Consultant Fees (Provide a detailed description of the work to be performed by personnel/consultants, basis for their fees, time spent on the project and total fees. Salary expenses for Government agency personnel or non-profit organization staffs are not eligible for funding.) | | | | | |
| Watershed Assessment/Design | | | | | |
| \$5,000 – Hire Hydrologist/Geomorphologist to conduct flow study, modeling and design of instream structure placement. | | | | | \$5,000 |
| RAC Grant funding for Project Design | | | \$13,000.00 | | |
| Truckee/Sagebrush TU/TTFF volunteers will map channel width at low, medium and high flows and record data - estimated equivalent of 30hrs @ \$20.85/hr = \$625.50 | | | | \$625.50 | |
| \$2,500 Fishery Biologist time and Forestry Technician committed to project | | | | \$2,500.00 | |
| TU staff time dedicated to project | | | | \$3,000 | |
| Total | | | \$13,000.00 | \$6,125.50 | \$5,000 |
| Section 4 Contracts (Provide a detailed description of all work to be completed by contract, include selection criteria, type of contract, deliverables, time frame and costs.) | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Section 5 Other Expenses (Provide a detailed description and costs of all other expenses associated with the project.) | | | | | |
| Monitoring | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Truckee/Sagebrush TU/TTFF volunteers will observe spawning fish and record by way of GPS data points - estimated equivalent of 50hrs @ \$20.85/hr = \$1,042.50 | | | | \$1,042.50 | |
| \$1,000 – Forest Service Fishery Biologist review of CDFG monitoring data | | | | \$1,000 | |
| Total | | | | \$2,042.50 | |
| Section 6 Funding (Include totals for; Section Totals, Cash Matched, In-Kind Matched, and Grant Amount Requested) | | | | | |
| | Sum Column B | Sum Column C | Sum Column D | Sum Column E | |
| Totals | \$31,319 | \$13,000 | 13,319 | \$5,000 | |
| Total Project Costs (Sum of column B) = | | | | \$31,319 | |
| **Amount Qualified for 1 to 1 Matched Funding (Sum of Column C + Sum of Column D) = | | | | \$26,319 | |
| Funding Requested (Sum of Column E) = | | | | \$5,000 | |
| **Amount Qualified should be equal or greater than the Funding Requested | | | | | |

SUBMITTING APPLICATION

- The applicant should review the Application Checklist to verify that the Application has been completed correctly; all reference materials attached and original signatures provided.
- This Application and all support materials **MUST** be submitted electronically to the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Program Ambassador at Ambassador@SagebrushTU.org by midnight October 1, 2010 (as indicated by the electronically mail time stamp).
- Late applications will not be accepted.
- The Contact Information and Signatures Form (first page) with original signatures **MUST** be faxed to 1-866-611-9240. Upon receipt of the Application all applicants will be notified by electronic mail within three (3) days that the Sagebrush Chapter Conservation Grant Application and Contact Information and Signature Form have been received.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Contact the Conservation Grant Program Ambassador if any additional information is needed.
- Complete the Contact Information & Signature Form and provide signatures for applicant and sponsor if under the age of 18.
- Complete each section of the grant application emphasizing the qualities of your project.
- Complete the grant budget – provide realistic dollar amounts that represent the size and scope of your project.
- Follow the Submitting Application Instructions (above) to submit your application.
- Fax the Contact Information & Signature Form prior to the application deadline.

The Sagebrush Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank you for your effort and time in preparing and submitting this project application. Projects like this can make a difference in the world we live in today and for generations to come. We look forward to reviewing your proposal and giving it the highest consideration.