



# PROPOSAL


## ONE TRUCKEE RIVER VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION PLANNING

*Expanding, Diversifying, and Engaging the One Truckee River Partnership to Address Vegetation Management in the Truckee Meadow's Urban Core*



### SUBMITTED TO

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 581  
Denver, Colorado 80225



**November 13, 2019**

**Funding Opportunity:** BOR-DO-19-F010  
WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants

**Applicant:** One Truckee River  
**Project Manager:** Alicia Reban, Executive Director, Nevada Land Trust  
PO Box 20288, Reno, Nevada 89515  
a.reban@nevadalandtrust.org  
(775) 851-5180



**TECHNICAL PROPOSAL ..... 1**

- 1. Executive Summary ..... 1**
- 2. Background Data ..... 2**
  - Watershed ..... 2
  - Water Rights ..... 2
  - Water Issues ..... 2
  - Past Work with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation ..... 3
- 3. Project Location ..... 4**
- 4. Technical Project Description ..... 4**
  - Applicant Category ..... 4
  - Eligibility of the Applicant ..... 6
  - Goals ..... 6
  - Approach ..... 8
- 5. Evaluation Criteria ..... 12**
  - Evaluation Criterion A — Watershed Group Diversity and Geographic Scope ..... 12
  - Evaluation Criterion B — Addressing Critical Watershed Needs ..... 16
  - Evaluation Criterion C — Implementation and Results ..... 21
  - Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance ..... 25
  - Required Permits or Approvals ..... 25
- Project Budget ..... 26**
  - Budget Proposal ..... 26
  - Budget Narrative ..... 27
  - Funding Plan ..... 29
- Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management ..... 30**

**APPENDIX A: MANDATORY FEDERAL FORMS**

**APPENDIX B: LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

**APPENDIX C: OFFICIAL RESOLUTION**



# TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Date:** November 13, 2019

**Applicant:** One Truckee River

**Location:** Cities of Reno and Sparks, Washoe County, Nevada

**Project Summary:** The One Truckee River Partnership (OTR) will expand its efforts as a collaboration of public and private partners to support sustainable management of the Truckee River, addressing the OTR Management Plan (OTRM Plan) goals to: ensure and protect water quality; sustain a safe, beautiful, and accessible river; build an aware and engaged community; and ensure measurable, sustainable, and collaborative management of the river. The proposed project will address two goals: 1) Expand, diversify, and engage OTR’s partnership base, and 2) Advance vegetation management and riparian restoration planning within the project area segment of the Truckee River (the urban stretch of the river). The project will actively engage key partners and build collaboration to develop a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan for the project area to meet the OTR’s action item 1.4.c): *Develop and implement a coordinated vegetation management plan along the river.* Funding will include support from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Cooperative Watershed Management Program and third-party in-kind contributions. To be completed in 2 years, the project will create new collaborations, engage new and existing partners, and create a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan to guide sustainable river practices. The efforts will advance the OTRM Plan goals to achieve OTR’s mission to “ensure a healthy, thriving, sustainable river connected to the hearts and minds of its community.”

**Located on a Federal facility?** The proposed project is not located on a Federal facility.

## 2. BACKGROUND DATA

### WATERSHED

The Truckee River is a terminal river system that flows for 121 miles in a northeasterly direction. The river flows from Lake Tahoe through wooded and canyon areas in California, through an urban stretch in Nevada before terminating in Pyramid Lake (within the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Reservation).

The Truckee River has been an important resource for humans for more than 10,000 years. Historically, the Paiute and Washoe Tribes traveled along the Truckee River and its tributaries to camp, live, gather plants, hunt, and fish. The Truckee River continues to serve as an important traditional cultural property for many tribes of Nevada. During the Gold Rush in the 1840s and 1850s, Reno/Sparks served as the preferred Truckee River crossing point for travelers on their way to California. Use of the river's water increased in 1859 to support the growing mining and agricultural needs after the discovery of the Comstock Lode. In 1903, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) began work on the Newlands Project, which controlled flow from Lake Tahoe (via the Lake Tahoe Dam) and diverted water from the Truckee River watershed to the Lahontan Valley (Carson River Watershed) for agricultural use.

Today the Truckee River provides valuable drinking and municipal water for residents and businesses in the Truckee Meadows area, generates hydroelectric power, supplies irrigation water, provides recreational experiences, and serves as an important ecosystem for fish and wildlife (including threatened and endangered species).

### WATER RIGHTS

The Truckee River has historically been one of the most heavily litigated and managed river systems in the United States. The Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) was finalized in December 2015 to increase flexibility in water management between the TROA parties, including Nevada, California, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The Federal Water Master administers the TROA, which governs management of a series of complex water rights, decrees, and case law, which ultimately controls flow of the river. TROA increased efficiency of reservoir storage, allowing users to time the releases of water to meet demands for municipal supply, irrigation, and instream flows for fish and aquatic habitat. TROA's implementation has alleviated many prior water operations and supply concerns within the watershed. While extended droughts and climate change may prove challenging for water quantity, TROA supports collaboration and flexibility for many users along the Truckee River, including Reclamation's Newlands Project.

### WATER ISSUES

Each segment of the Truckee River has unique environmental characteristics and issues impacting the river's health. The upper reaches of the river (within California) emanate from Lake Tahoe and descend into Truckee River Canyon, passing through resort communities and wilderness areas where recreational use, development, and historical grazing, logging, and mining impact water quality. The middle reaches of the

river in Truckee Meadows (Nevada) house the urban cores of the cities of Reno and Sparks, which are impacted by urban development, industrial use, recreation, use by currently homeless populations, and urban run-off. The lower reaches of the Truckee River and Pyramid Lake (reservation lands governed by the sovereign nation of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe) are wilderness areas where upstream hydrological modifications, grazing, agriculture, railroad/highway expansion, and recreation impact water quality. While the TROA has addressed many water supply issues along the river, other critical watershed issues remain (as detailed in Section 5. Evaluation Criteria):

- **Water Quality:** Water quality has been impacted from urban development, stormwater runoff, agriculture, and a legacy of historical and current changes to vegetation and hydrologic modification throughout the watershed. Stretches of the Truckee River within and downstream from the urban core are listed as impaired waters (under Nevada's 303(d) list) for temperature and turbidity.
- **Ecological Resiliency:** Historical and current human activities, including development, logging, recreation, rail and highway expansion, grazing, and mining, have led to bank hardening and channelization, loss of native vegetation, and proliferation of noxious and invasive species. Aquatic and riparian habitats within many reaches of the river have degraded ecological function.
- **Noxious and Invasive Weeds:** Even with the efforts of local agencies and organizations to eradicate noxious (designated in Nevada Revised Statutes 555) and invasive (other undesirable non-native) weed species, these common species out-compete natives, degrade habitat function, and increase fire risk.
- **Endangered Species:** Pyramid Lake, the terminus of the Truckee River, is home to an endemic, federally endangered fish species, the cui-ui (*Chasmistes cujus*), and a large population of federally threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii henshawi*). Cui-ui are culturally very important for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. Both fish species swim up the Truckee River to spawn and are impacted by degraded water quality and low flows.
- **Flooding:** The Truckee Meadows Flood Management Project addresses flooding in the region. Climate change is expected to intensify the hydrologic cycle, leading to more extreme droughts and flooding.

## PAST WORK WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

OTR has not worked directly with Reclamation through any funded projects, nor is Reclamation a current OTR partner. Reclamation is involved with management of the Truckee River through its administration of the Newlands Project and in accordance with the TROA. In addition, one of OTR's partners, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority, is currently updating its Drought Contingency Plan, which is funded by a Reclamation WaterSMART: Drought Contingency Planning grant. This plan will provide comprehensive strategies to address drought under various climate scenarios.

### 3. PROJECT LOCATION

The Truckee River watershed is located in California and Nevada within Nevada, Placer, and Sierra Counties, California, and Washoe County, Nevada. The Truckee River is approximately 121 miles long and flows in a northeasterly direction, beginning at Lake Tahoe and terminating at Pyramid Lake. The proposed project area is within a portion of the Truckee River (Figure 1) which corresponds to the United States Geological Survey 8-digit hydrological unit code (HUC) 16050102 in the city of Reno, the city of Sparks, and Washoe County, Nevada.

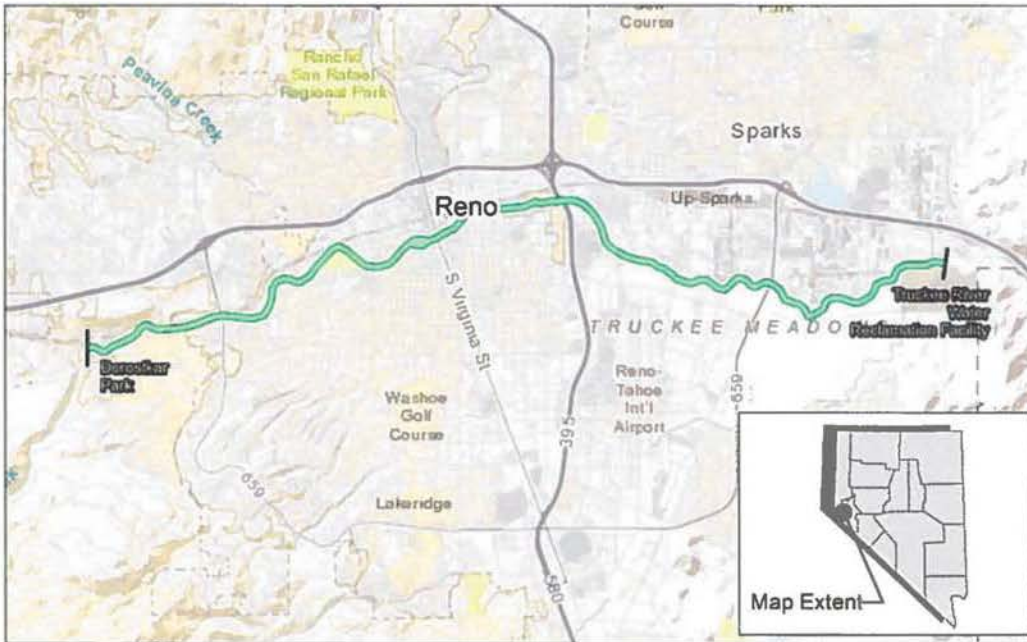


Figure 1. Project area location (shown in green highlight).

### 4. TECHNICAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### APPLICANT CATEGORY

The One Truckee River Partnership is seeking funding as an Existing Watershed Group. Established in May 2015, OTR has been working to encourage education, recreation, and celebration of the Truckee River. Specifically, OTR has been teaming with local jurisdictions to implement Phase 1 of the OTRM Plan, which identifies more than 100 action items. Since 2017, OTR has focused on several priority action items (see below) and building OTR's long-term capacity.

#### HISTORY

The OTR was born through collaborative efforts of Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful and Nevada Land Trust (NLT), which had been collectively working on and along the Truckee River since 1998. Knowing that individual programs could be stronger by working together, and that traditional sectors and boundaries must be crossed to

address all the issues affecting the Truckee River, OTR was formed in 2015. Confirming that many excellent but separate plans already existed for specific river issues or areas, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful and NLT (with support from major players, including the Cities of Reno and Sparks, Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP]) sought to develop a single, comprehensive and coordinated document that better reflected an interconnected river system. Through collaboration this group developed Phase 1 of the OTRM Plan, described below. To date, OTR includes 22 active key partners and more than 130 stakeholders and continues its success through collaboration. OTR consists of interdisciplinary experts, including professionals in water quality, social services, natural resources, conservation, recreation, hydrology, vegetation, and education.

### ONGOING EFFORTS AND PREVIOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Finalized in 2016, the OTRM Plan identifies nine emerging issues: water quality, social issues, stewardship, ecosystem, quality of life, public safety, funding, recreation, and education. The OTRM Plan addresses these nine emerging issues through four goals:

- **Goal 1:** Ensure and protect water quality and ecosystem health in the Truckee River.
- **Goal 2:** Create and sustain a safe, beautiful and accessible river connecting people and places.
- **Goal 3:** Build an aware and engaged community that protects and cares for the river.
- **Goal 4:** Ensure the measurable, sustainable and collaborative management of the river for today and into the future.

To date, OTR has succeeded in completing or establishing over 40 of more than 100 action items to address these four goals, including these select highlights:

**1.2.a. Develop the Truckee River Watershed Management Plan through stakeholder coordination and consensus.** OTR received funding from the NDEP to work with consultant Resource Concepts, Inc., on the Truckee River Coordinated Watershed Management Plan. The Truckee Meadows Stormwater Permit Coordinating Committee approved another management plan for major tributaries feeding the river.

**1.3.c. Ensure adequate public restrooms along the Truckee River.** A four-phased River Restroom Project plans to install nine new public restrooms along the Truckee River. Focusing primarily on the Reno-Sparks urban core, the project is designed to improve water quality and community wellbeing. Funding for Phases 1 and part of 2 is secured. OTR is working with the Downtown Reno Partnership to hire an Ambassador to work with the currently homeless population at the park where the first restroom will be installed. Community outreach efforts are underway to increase positive use of the park.

**2.1.e. Enhance Truckee River visitor safety, access, public facilities, and education.** Since 2018, OTR has been leading the annual "One Truckee River Month" in May, which includes 31 days of events in, on, around, and about the Truckee River. Events include walking tours, running races, pilates and yoga, learning opportunities, art

activities, history talks, community clean-ups, food, and more. The 2019 event included 103 events, involving 14,547 attendees (an 88.92% increase from 2018).

**2.2.b. Complete a multi-jurisdictional signage plan including standards for maps, directions, rules, stewardship, and interpretive signs.** A final signage plan is being circulated and is expected to be adopted by the Cities of Sparks and Reno and Washoe County by early December 2019. Installation plans are currently underway.

**2.4.a. Conduct a baseline mapping inventory of public amenities along the Truckee River.** Mapping was performed to identify the current availability of amenities and resources along the urban stretches of the Truckee River. Deliverables include an amenities map, recreation map, and signage map.

**3.1.c. Create a watershed education plan.** The OTR AmeriCorps staff created a [Watershed Education Plan](#) for watershed education opportunities in the Truckee Meadows to encourage adults and students to learn and care for their local watershed.

**4.2.b. Create metrics for measuring success and achievements of the plan.** OTR's consultants have led the Partnership Council to define key indicators of OTR's four goals. Ongoing efforts are identifying data to track progress toward these goals.

## ELIGIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT

The OTR meets the eligibility requirements, as described in Section C.1 and as defined in Section A.2, as an Existing Watershed Group. OTR does not identify as a Federal Government entity, an institute of higher education, a 501(c)(4) (6) organization, or an individual; the partnership consists of stakeholders from these categories. OTR has a fiscal agent, 501(c)(3) Nevada Land Trust, managing all project funding.

OTR was formed in 2015 as a grassroots collaboration of public and private partners working together to work towards its collective vision, *"to realize a Truckee River that flows clear and clean, quenches our thirst, sustains the river's natural ecology, cultural resources and wildlife, and connects residents and visitors to unparalleled opportunities for recreation and regeneration."* OTR is overseen by its [Partnership Council](#), which meets two to four times a year to monitor implementation, measure results, and ensure adequate funding is secured to carry out the long-term elements of the OTRM Plan. Partnership Council members represent their entities and are not funded by OTR. This diverse group includes representatives from the three local jurisdictions (Cities of Reno and Sparks, and Washoe County), the local water authority, two local Tribes, private citizens, and many non-profit organizations focused on conservation, education, recreation, and preservation.

## GOALS

OTR seeks funding to implement Task A (Watershed Group Development) and Task B (Watershed Restoration Planning) from this funding opportunity within the Truckee River Watershed. OTR is currently implementing Phase 1 of its OTRM Plan, which covers the Truckee River corridor within the Reno-Sparks urban core. The project area includes select urban stretches of the Truckee River, to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners. The proposed work will increase and diversify partner engagement to address vegetation management and riparian restoration planning in the project area.





OTR's mission is to “**ensure a healthy, thriving, sustainable river connected to the hearts and minds of its community.**” To address its mission and to implement Phase 1 of the OTRM Plan, OTR has four primary goals (see *Applicant Category* section above), which all will be supported through the proposed work, specifically addressing:

- **OTRM Plan Goal 1:** Ensure and protect water quality and ecosystem health in the Truckee River.
  - **OTRM Plan Objective 1.4:** Create a rich and diverse vegetative ecosystem.
    - **OTRM Plan Objective 1.4.b:** Create an approved vegetative species list to increase biodiversity and shading on lands along the Truckee River.
    - **OTRM Plan Objective 1.4.c:** Develop and implement a coordinated vegetation management plan along the river corridor.

To guide the trajectory of the proposed work, OTR has identified the following project goals and objectives for this funding opportunity:

**Proposed Project Goal 1: Expand, diversify, and engage OTR's partnership base.** OTR will expand to include new groups and increase engagement of current partners to further advance the goals of the OTRM Plan within the project area:

**Objective 1A: Expand and diversify OTR's partnership base to include new partners with a vested interest in riparian vegetation management within the project area.** OTR will begin engaging with the Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, Washoe/Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area, and private residents or business representatives who own land along the Truckee River. OTR will reengage current partners with an interest in vegetation management.

**Objective 1B: Engage new and current OTR partners to identify riparian vegetation management issues and potential solutions within the project area.** OTR will form a Technical Working Group (TWG) to address vegetation management along the Truckee River, which will work to include (but will not be limited to): the City of Reno (current partner), the City of Sparks (current partner), Washoe County (current partner), Truckee Meadows Water Authority (current partner), Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (current partner), Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, Nevada Land Trust (current partner), Washoe/Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation (current partner), The Nature Conservancy (current partner), recreational groups (new and current partners), Nevada State Lands, and private resident or business representatives who are familiar with vegetation issues.

**Objective 1C: Conduct preplanning activities to support riparian vegetation management and restoration for the project area.** Engage the TWG to identify and research existing plans, documents, and the regulatory framework controlling riparian vegetation management and restoration within the project area.

**Proposed Project Goal 2: Advance vegetation management and riparian restoration planning within the project area of the Truckee River.** OTR will engage the TWG to advance riparian vegetation management and restoration within the project area, through the following:

**Objective 2A: Compile and synthesize information regarding the regulatory requirements, goals and objectives, and acute needs for vegetation management and restoration within the project area.** Compile the results of Objective 1C to summarize the needs and requirements for vegetation management and restoration within the project area.

**Objective 2B: Engage members of the TWG to prioritize vegetation management and restoration needs and to identify best management practices.** Through a series of TWG meetings and interviews with individual TWG members, OTR will develop a list of needs and best management practices to address vegetation management and restoration.

**Objective 2C: Develop consensus around a framework vegetation management and restoration plan for the project area.** Building on the progress of Objective 2B, OTR will coordinate with the TWG members to develop a framework plan for vegetation management and restoration; if feasible, OTR will gain consensus for and adoption of the framework plan by TWG members.

**Objective 2D: Identify next steps for restoration and vegetation management planning and implementation.** Develop a report that summarizes the outcomes of Objectives 2A, 2B, and 2C and identify next steps to integrate and implement riparian vegetation management and restoration plans.

## APPROACH

OTR is currently implementing Phase 1 of its OTRM Plan, which covers the Reno-Sparks urban core. The proposed project area will align with the Phase 1 area to include select urban stretches of the Truckee River, which will be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners. OTR is seeking funding to address the OTRM Plan Objective 1.4, *“to create a rich and diverse vegetative ecosystem.”*

For this funding opportunity, OTR is proposing two primary project tasks to address the proposed project goals. These project tasks include the following: **1) expand, diversify, and engage OTR’s partnership base, and 2) advance vegetation management and riparian restoration planning.**

There is a strong need for vegetation management and restoration planning along the Truckee River that will require strong partner collaboration. The Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District (District) is the Local Sponsor of the 1970 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Martis Creek Lake O&M Agreement to maintain the 14,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) capacity of the Truckee River above the Glendale Bridge. The State of Nevada Department of Water Resources must maintain the 6,000 cfs capacity of the river downstream of the Glendale Bridge according to the 1964 USACE O&M Manual for the Truckee River and Tributaries, California and Nevada.

These flow capacity requirements have the potential to restrict the presence of debris, certain types of vegetation, and structures at or below the 14,000 cfs and 6,000 cfs river flow levels within the project area. Restricting vegetation cover within and along the river challenges efforts to address the habitat needs of the federally endangered fish, the cui-ui, and the federally threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout. The project area segment of the Truckee River is also listed as a 303(d) impaired for water temperature, which is

affected by the loss of vegetative shading along the river. In addition, the various municipalities with jurisdiction along the river have specific vegetation management needs, goals, and ordinances, which must be accounted for in development of a coordinated vegetation management and restoration plan.

### **TASK 1: EXPAND, DIVERSIFY, AND ENGAGE OTR'S PARTNERSHIP BASE**

Task 1 will involve **three major activities** (detailed below):

**Activity 1A: Expansion and Diversification of OTR's Partnership Base.** OTR's Partnership Coordinator (Iris Jehle-Peppard) will reach out to engage existing partners and invite new partners to contribute to riparian vegetation management and restoration planning efforts. In her outreach efforts, Ms. Jehle-Peppard will request a commitment from each partner to actively participate in these planning efforts as a TWG member.

As a first step, OTR will identify current and new partners who have an interest, stake, or responsibility in vegetation management within the project area. While additional entities may be added, OTR will work to engage the following groups in the TWG:

- **Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District** (<http://ctwcd.org/>) is a new partner, which will be directly engaged throughout Tasks 1 and 2 to ensure all vegetation management and restoration plans developed comply with applicable Federal agreements. The District is a Nevada State political subdivision formed in 1958 under the Nevada State Statue 541, comprising six counties and four water management organizations. As detailed above, the District is responsible for maintaining a minimum 14,000 cfs capacity of the Truckee River above the Glendale Bridge. The District and the USACE review river channel encroachment permit applications to ensure conveyance capacity. The District funds river restoration and weed abatement within its waterways.
- **Washoe/Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area** (Washoe/Storey CWMA, <http://www.washoeweeds.com>), is a new partner to be engaged throughout Tasks 1 and 2, to ensure vegetation management plans complement and adhere to the organization's best practices. The Washoe/Storey CWMA includes Federal, state, and local agencies and concerned residents. The newly formed group is proactively addressing weed issues in Reno, Sparks, southern Washoe County, and Storey County in Nevada. The group is focused on finding and managing noxious weeds (designated in Nevada Revised Statutes 555) on public properties. The Washoe/Storey CWMA's partners are working to secure grant funding for weed survey, mapping, management, and restoration.
- **Private resident and business representatives who own land along the Truckee River and recreational groups**, will include new partners identified through outreach activities in Activity 1A, who will be engaged through the pre-planning and planning activities of Tasks 1 and 2. A large portion of the lands along the Truckee River are owned by private residents and businesses and are used by diverse recreational groups. These groups play an important role in vegetation management within the project area and their input will be critical to developing a coordinated and sustainable vegetation management plan.

- **Local municipalities and government entities**, including the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, and Washoe County, have all been strong OTR partners actively involved in the planning and implementation of vegetation management projects along the Truckee River. If they agree to participate, Nevada State Lands, a new partner with jurisdiction over portions of the river channel and stream banks, will be engaged. Participating municipalities will be engaged throughout Tasks 1 and 2, to ensure vegetation management and restoration plans are consistent with each entity's current plans, guidance documents, and ordinances.
- **Non-profit organizations** which the project will work to engage will include (but not be limited to) the following strong OTR partners: Nevada Land Trust, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy.

***Activity 1B: Engagement of New and Current OTR Partners and Stakeholders.***

Ms. Jehle-Peppard, with support from OTR's contractors, will form a Technical Working Group composed of the partners detailed for Activity 1A. All TWG members will have an explicit stake in riparian vegetation management and restoration planning with the project area and will be committed to playing a constructive role in developing consensus plans. A kick-off meeting will be held to introduce the TWG and formalize its mission, goals, and approach to implement Activity 1C and all Task 2 Activities.

***Activity 1C: Restoration and Riparian Vegetation Management Pre-planning.***

During the kick-off meeting, OTR's contractors will engage with the TWG to research existing plans, documents, and the regulatory framework related to riparian vegetation management and restoration within the project area. If needed, the contractors will solicit documents and information from other entities not yet identified as partners. These entities may be added to the TWG, if their involvement would enhance the planning process. All information will be compiled in a centralized location, such as the OTR website, where it may be accessed by all partners.

**TASK 2. ADVANCE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION PLANNING**

While many of OTR's partners listed in Task 1 have been involved with vegetation management, no comprehensive restoration and vegetation management plan has been developed for the project area segment of the Truckee River. The City of Reno Public Works Department has been testing Integrated Vegetation Management techniques (i.e., approaches that promote stable, compatible vegetation and control non-compatible vegetation through biological/ecological methods) on city dams and stormwater conveyance structures. In addition, Washoe County has expressed interest in developing Integrated Vegetation Management techniques for its parks and open spaces along the Truckee River. Building on the City's progress and interests of Washoe County and other entities will be key to implementing the Task 2 Activities.

Task 2 will focus on advancing vegetation management and riparian restoration within the project area. Because the project area covers urban stretches of the Truckee River, restoration opportunities are limited to vegetation management, as the alignment of the stream is constrained by dense development. There are important opportunities to impact water quality through vegetation management, especially to 1) improve habitat

for threatened and endangered species, 2) address impaired water temperature and turbidity, and 3) restore areas impacted by noxious and invasive weeds.

Over the last 20 years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe have worked to restore the Lahontan cutthroat trout in Pyramid Lake and the lower Truckee River. Spawning was first documented in the lower Truckee River in 2016, and the fish are now higher in the reaches of the Truckee River than they have been since the 1930s. In 2020, Reclamation will construct a fish screen at Derby Dam which will prevent fish from being diverted to the Carson River. The Lahontan cutthroat trout will be able to safely migrate upstream of Derby Dam through the project area. The ultimate goal of these conservation efforts is to reestablish migration of the Lahontan cutthroat trout from Pyramid Lake to Lake Tahoe through the Truckee River. Restoring vegetation cover through the project area will provide structure and shade for the Lahontan cutthroat trout along its historic migration corridor.

With stakeholder support, OTR plans to apply an Integrated Vegetation Management approach to vegetation and restoration planning. This approach would increase the presence and diversity of native species and control noxious and invasive species and be tailored to meet the unique needs of the stakeholders within the project area. Integrated Vegetation Management approaches benefit riparian systems by reducing the need for pesticides and supporting healthy ecosystem structure and function.

Task 2 will include **four major activities** (detailed below):

**Activity 2A: Compile and Synthesize Requirements, Goals, Objectives, and Needs for Riparian Vegetation Management and Restoration.** OTR's contractors will create a summary document that outlines the specific requirements or guidelines from all plans, documents, or regulations and the needs and goals of the partners (identified in Activity 1C). This summary document will guide the development of and be integrated into the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (Activity 2C).

**Activity 2B: Identify Priorities and Best Management Practices for Vegetation Management and Restoration.** OTR and its contractors will engage with the TWG through 1) interviews with each TWG member and 2) a follow-up meeting with the entire TWG. To support consensus and a greater understanding of the TWG member needs, OTR and its contractors will distribute a questionnaire "Thoughtsheet" that solicits input on vegetation management and restoration requirements, needs, and goals. After completing their Thoughtsheet, each TWG member will be interviewed to gain clarity on their input. A group TWG meeting will be held to identify areas of agreement and inconsistencies in the needs of the TWG members. OTR and its contractors will then develop a list of priorities and best management practices (BMPs) for vegetation management and restoration. Only those BMPs that are compatible with current goals and objectives and that meet the regulatory constraints will be recommended.

**Activity 2C: Develop Consensus around a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan.** Building on Activity 2B, OTR's contractors will develop a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan for the project area, with direct input from and in coordination with the TWG. This plan will focus on appropriate Integrated Vegetation Management approaches and will include (but not be limited to): 1) background and historical information, 2) regulatory framework and guidance from

existing plans and stakeholder needs (Activity 2A), 3) BMPs for riparian vegetation management, 4) noxious and invasive weed management techniques, 5) desirable plant lists for restoration, and 6) outstanding issues not addressed by the framework plan. If requested by the TWG members, the plan may include sections with management measures focused on each jurisdiction's specific needs. During a final TWG meeting, OTR will formally present the draft framework plan and solicit feedback on the document. A final plan will be developed to address TWG member input. OTR will work to gain consensus for and adoption of the final framework plan by the TWG members.

**Activity 2D: Identify next steps for restoration and vegetation management planning and implementation.** OTR's contractors will develop a final report that summarizes the results of Activities from Task 1 and Task 2, with a special focus on next steps to implement vegetation management and restoration plans. This report may identify future tasks such as: strategies to integrate the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan into local municipality plans or guidelines, pilot projects for implementation, strategies to engage the public (i.e., development of a river-friendly landscaping program), regulatory requirements, potential funding sources, etc.

## 5. EVALUATION CRITERIA

### EVALUATION CRITERION A — WATERSHED GROUP DIVERSITY AND GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

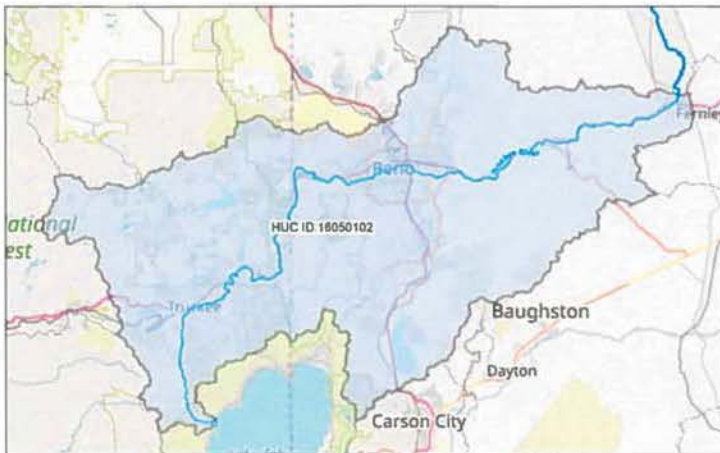
#### SUB-CRITERION NO. A1. WATERSHED GROUP DIVERSITY

*"Please describe the efforts that you will undertake to ensure that the watershed group will include a diverse array of stakeholders, including outreach to stakeholders or collaborating with other groups or partners."*

As described above, OTR is an existing watershed group working to achieve the goals outlined in its OTRM Plan. The OTRM Plan is organized into four geographically defined phases, covering all three Truckee River-affected HUCs (16050101 [Lake Tahoe], 16050102 [Truckee], and 16050103 [Pyramid Lake]) (Figures 2 and 3). OTR's current and proposed partner and stakeholder engagement efforts focus on select urban stretches of the Truckee River within Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County, which are described in the evaluation criteria responses below. Ongoing efforts to implement the OTRM Plan have included a diverse team of partners, many of which will be actively engaged through the proposed activities. See below for details on OTR's partners.



**Figure 2.** The OTRM Plan and this project will address the most heavily used section of the Truckee River corridor, passing through the cities of Reno and Sparks, Nevada. Project area highlighted in green.



**Figure 3.** The proposed work will address HUC 16050102.

*“A description of the stakeholders within the watershed that affect or are affected by the quantity or quality of water within the watershed (“affected stakeholders”)”*

The Truckee River and the Truckee River corridor is managed and regulated by Federal, state, and local agencies. OTR seeks not to create a new regulating agency but to weave together existing efforts in a way that better reflects the interconnectedness of the entire river system. Current OTR stakeholders include entities located within all three Truckee River-affected HUCs (16050101 [Lake Tahoe], 16050102 [Truckee], and 16050103 [Pyramid Lake]), but the majority of OTR’s active partners are located within HUC 16050102.

The proposed project will impact HUC 16050102 (see Figures 2 and 3) within the Truckee Meadows, home to approximately 415,000 residents, 85% of whom depend on the Truckee River’s water quality as a drinking water source. Affected stakeholders within the watershed include local municipalities, Tribes, local residents and businesses, and the various non-profit and other organizations that work in the region (detailed below).



*“For Existing Watershed Groups, an explanation of the current membership of the watershed group and whether the current membership is representative of the affected stakeholders within the watershed. In other words, if the watershed group is already diverse, please provide support demonstrating the diversity of the group.”*

As described previously, OTR has involved diverse private and public entities since 2015 including 22 active partners (entities meeting together in different forms to support the implementation of the OTRM Plan) and 130 stakeholders (entities supportive but not directly engaged with OTR work). The OTR partners listed below are experts in water quality, social services, ecosystem health, public safety, stewardship, recreation, education, quality of life, and funding:

**Government:** Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Washoe County Human Services Agency, Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space, Western Regional Water Commission, City of Reno Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, City of Reno Public Works, Reno Police Department, University of Nevada, Reno, Truckee River Flood Management Authority, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

**Nonprofit sector and consultants:** Nevada Land Trust, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, The Nature Conservancy, Community Foundation of Western Nevada, Truckee Meadows Park Foundation, Resource Concepts, Inc., Renown Health, Citizen Susan Lynn, and Citizen Tracy Turner. Some key stakeholders are the National Park Service, Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, and the Sun Valley General Improvement District.

The proposed project will work to engage many partners, as detailed below.

**OTR partners confirmed to engage with in developing the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (demonstrated through support letters, Appendix B):** Nevada Land Trust, Washoe-Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area, Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy.

**OTR partners who have expressed interest in the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan and which the project will work to engage:** City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District.

**Other regional entities the project will work to engage in the vegetation management planning efforts (but not limited to):** Nevada State Lands, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, State of Nevada Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, Waste Management, Great Basin Bird Observatory, and the Tahoe-Pyramid Trail.

*“Details on how you plan to target affected stakeholders to ensure that your group will represent a diverse set of stakeholders within the watershed, such as engaging in outreach to include new*



*members, or collaborating with different groups or partners (e.g., outreach or partnership activities, public meetings, newsletters, marketing materials, or recruitment of new members)."*

Through its work to address Proposed Project Goal 1 (*Expand, diversify, and engage OTR's partnership base*), OTR will expand to include new groups and increase engagement of current partners. Engagement will be initiated by individually calling and meeting with these new partners by OTR's Partnership Coordinator, and continued engagement will be tailored to meet the needs of the stakeholders. New partners may include (but not be limited to): Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, Washoe/Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area, Nevada State Lands, and private resident or business representatives who own land along the Truckee River. OTR will also reengage with current stakeholders who have an interest in vegetation management with the project area to form a TWG. All of these partners will be actively engaged through the work of the TWG to develop a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan for the project area (see *Approach* section).

*"Any other support demonstrating that the watershed group will include a diverse membership."*

See the previous evaluation criteria responses (above) for details on the diversity of membership.

#### **SUB-CRITERION NO. A2. GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE**

*"Provide a map illustrating the geographic boundaries of the area in which the watershed group will work. The map should also identify the location or boundaries of the stakeholder groups within the area and indicate which stakeholders are currently involved in the group and which will be targeted through outreach. If a map of stakeholder location cannot be provided, please describe the geographic scope of the area to the best of your knowledge."*

OTR is currently implementing the OTRM Plan, which is focused on the urban stretches of the Truckee River (see Figures 2 and 3). This project will focus on the jurisdictions covered by the project-specific partners, with locations/coverage to be determined during Task 1 of the project.

*"Describe the extent to which the planned membership of the watershed group will represent the full geographic scope of the area in which the group intends to work. If applicable, describe the extent to which the watershed group already represents the geographic scope of the area."*

OTR has previously worked to engage partners within the entire course of the river and will continue to do so through its other efforts. The efforts proposed here are focused most heavily on engaging within select segments of the urban stretches of the Truckee River within Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County (see Figures 2 and 3).

*"Describe the efforts that you will undertake to ensure that the watershed group will target stakeholders that represent the full geographic scope of the area in which the watershed group will work."*

The proposed project scope and proposed project area will engage partners within the entire OTRM Plan Phase 1 area (urban core of Truckee Meadows) but will be limited to the jurisdiction of those partners who agree to participate in the activities proposed here. OTR anticipates that partners throughout the project area will be actively engaged, and all interested parties will be encouraged to participate as appropriate.

## EVALUATION CRITERION B — ADDRESSING CRITICAL WATERSHED NEEDS

### SUB-CRITERION NO. B1. CRITICAL WATERSHED NEEDS OR ISSUES

*“Please describe in detail the critical issues or needs occurring within the watershed including, for example: declining ecological resiliency, water shortages, flooding, structural impairments, water supply, water quality issues (e.g., addressing Total Maximum Daily Loads, or targeting high priority activities in your state’s “Measure W” watersheds), endangered species issues, conflicts over water supply, and other related issues faced by affected stakeholders. Endangered species issues may focus on, but are not limited to, activities prioritized by resource agencies.”*

The Truckee River watershed has been impacted by a wide range of human activities, but the river and its tributaries remain a critical resource for a variety of stakeholders. The upper reaches of the watershed in California are impacted by highways, railroads, historic grazing, mining, and logging, and development. The middle portion of the watershed in Nevada has been heavily impacted by urban development and housing, industrial use, recreation, and urban run-off. The lower portion of the watershed is less developed, but water quality has been heavily impacted by upstream activities and hydrological modifications, grazing, agriculture, and railroad/highway expansion.

The Truckee River was historically one of the most heavily litigated and managed systems in the United States in terms of water supply. As detailed in Section 2, *Background Data*, the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) supports flexible water management to alleviate many water operations and supply concerns in the area. While TROA has addressed many water supply issues, other critical issues within the watershed remain:

**Water Quality and Supply:** The project area in the Truckee Meadows directly provides 85% of the of the drinking water to approximately 415,000 residents. The health and resiliency of the river and its watershed is critically important in maintaining a clean and reliable source of drinking water in the project area.

The NDEP has designated beneficial uses of the river from the Nevada state line to Pyramid Lake, including irrigation, livestock watering, water contact recreation, non-water contact recreation, industrial supply, municipal or domestic supply, wildlife propagation, and propagation of aquatic life. According to the 303(d) list, sections of the Truckee River are impaired use by aquatic life for temperature and turbidity. While Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) have not been developed for those impairments, NDEP developed a TMDL in 1994 at Lockwood, Nevada (downstream of the proposed project area) to protect instream beneficial uses and the quality of Pyramid Lake. The TMDL includes total dissolved solids, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus. As the Truckee River is essential to local communities for municipal water supply, irrigation, recreation, and aquatic life, water quality concerns are one of the top issues throughout the watershed. These water quality issues have resulted from urban development, stormwater runoff, agriculture, hydrologic modification, removal of riparian vegetation, bank erosion, and more. The Truckee Meadows (which include Reno and Sparks) continues to urbanize and expand impermeable surfaces that increase stormwater runoff and non-point source pollutants. Residential landscaping practices can contribute

high inputs of sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorus to urban runoff. These non-point source pollutants from residential landscaping are not currently regulated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit but have significant impacts on the watershed.

**Ecological Resiliency:** Historical and ongoing development, logging, wildfires, recreation, railroad and highway expansion, grazing, and mining have caused acute changes, including bank hardening and channelization of some stretches, loss and removal of native riparian vegetation, and proliferation of noxious and invasive weeds. There have been extensive river, riparian, and wetland restoration efforts in the California portion of the watershed and downstream of Truckee Meadows by the Truckee River Watershed Council and The Nature Conservancy, respectively. These efforts to restore instream habitat, rebuild natural geomorphology, reconnect the river to its floodplain, and restore native plant communities have improved water quality. However, the project area includes degraded aquatic and riparian habitat where restoration work is needed to improve ecological functions and water quality. While current development has constrained the alignment and morphology of the Truckee River within the project area, there are strategic opportunities to restore the structure and function of native and adapted vegetation.

**Noxious and Invasive Species:** Noxious and invasive weeds are common throughout the Truckee River watershed and compete with native species, increase fire risk, and are a nuisance for recreation, grazing, and agriculture. Species of high concern in Washoe County include medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), tall whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium*), and yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), among many others. Noxious and invasive weeds are easily spread along the Truckee River corridor via the freeway, railroads, trails, and the river itself. There are several organizations and local government agencies working to manage and eradicate weeds in the watershed, including volunteer and public outreach efforts to identify and remove these species. Even with these efforts, noxious and invasive weeds continue to proliferate throughout the watershed, and cooperative Integrated Vegetation Management is needed to address these issues.

**Threatened and Endangered Species:** Pyramid Lake, the terminus of the Truckee River, is home to an endemic, federally endangered fish species, the cui-ui, and the federally threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout. Because Pyramid Lake is a terminal lake, the Truckee River's water quality is critical to these sensitive species because any constituents in the river water have no outlet once they enter the lake. Both fish species swim up the Truckee River to spawn and are impacted by high river temperature and low flows. Aquatic habitat conditions in the Truckee River (particularly shading from vegetation within the project area) will become more important for the fishery, as the Lahontan cutthroat trout eventually begin migrating upstream to Lake Tahoe.

**Flooding:** Following devastating floods in the Reno-Sparks area in 1997, the Truckee Meadows Flood Management Project was formed to address flooding in the region. The Truckee River Basin Study, completed by Reclamation in 2016, indicates that climate change will likely impact the hydrology of the Truckee River watershed, by intensifying the hydrologic cycle and possibly leading to more extreme droughts and flooding. Flooding remains a concern in the region; however, the Truckee Meadows Flood



Management Project continues to create flood protection infrastructure, protect flood-prone lands from development, and restore ecosystem functions within the river.

### **SUB-CRITERION NO. B2. DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS CRITICAL WATERSHED NEEDS OR ISSUES**

*Please describe in detail how the group plans to positively contribute to the management of the issues and needs of the watershed through the proposed activities. Only address those Task Areas that you propose to complete with this grant funding.*

The *Approach* (Section 4) includes two primary tasks: 1) expand, diversify, and engage OTR's partnership base, and 2) advance vegetation management and riparian restoration planning. These tasks will address the critical watershed issues:

**Water Quality and Supply:** Water quality issues, specifically temperature, total dissolved solids, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus will be addressed through Tasks 1 and 2. Increased coordination with additional partners and stakeholders (Task 1) will support future planning of projects to address water quality along the entire course of the Truckee River, especially those involving vegetation management and restoration planning. The Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan developed in Task 2 will guide improvements to vegetation structure and function, directly addressing impaired water quality along and downstream of the project area.

**Ecological Resiliency:** Tasks 1 and 2 will advance efforts to improve ecological resiliency of the Truckee River through: increased coordination among partners (Tasks 1 and 2); identification of best management practices and methods for restoration and vegetation management; and serving as a first step towards comprehensive restoration planning along the entire river to enhance habitat structure and function.

**Noxious and Invasive Species:** Best management practices (including Integrative Vegetation Management strategies) to address noxious and invasive plant species along the river will be assembled in the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (Task 2) and will build on collaboration developed in Task 1.

**Endangered Species:** Efforts to address water quality (see above) will benefit the federally endangered cui-ui and federally threatened Lahontan cutthroat trout. Likewise, efforts to address ecological resiliency, especially restoration, vegetation management, and noxious and invasive species management (see explanations above) will benefit these species (Tasks 1 and 2).

**Flooding:** OTR's continued partnership and stakeholder engagement will involve flood management agencies (Task 1) and gather best management practices for restoration and vegetation management that will be compatible with flood management requirements, such as those administered by the Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District (Task 2).

#### **Task A – Water Group Development**

*“Describe the stakeholder outreach and partnership building that will be conducted and explain how it will contribute to the management of the critical watershed issues and needs?”*

Continued partner and stakeholder engagement and public outreach will address the critical watershed issues described in Sub-criterion No. B1. See section above for details on how each issue will be addressed through this project.

*“If the watershed group will build on previous partnership building efforts, describe these efforts and how the watershed group will expand upon them through this grant.”*

Established in May 2015, OTR’s Partnership Council has included individuals with backgrounds ranging from health, law enforcement, and social services to recreation, wildlife, and water quality. The team has provided project leadership and technical expertise to ensure engagement of the collective knowledge of the Truckee River community at all levels. The Partnership Council contributed to the development of the OTRM Plan, sharing expertise and/or financial and in-kind resources. The Council continues to work cooperatively to address challenges to OTR achieving its vision and goals, participates in public outreach and engagement, and serves as the liaison between the OTR and various agencies and partners.

Shortly after its inception, the Partnership Council collaboratively identified nine emerging issues and a framework for what would become the OTRM Plan. The Council led a day-long forum (attended by more than 130 stakeholders) to discuss top concerns, challenges, opportunities, and solutions for each issue area. The forum compiled a list of technical experts to develop plan strategies. In January 2016, nine subcommittees were established, one for each of the issue areas. The subcommittees gathered technical experts and stakeholders to identify two to four clear priorities to be included in the plan related to the issue area. Subcommittee meetings led to the creation of 33 objectives and more than three times as many strategies and corresponding action items. The nine emerging issues were structured into four planning goals, which were presented to nearly 100 people at a public open house on June 7, 2016. Feedback was sought for the goals and objectives through conversations with the team members, via comment cards, and through an exercise where participants could indicate challenges and opportunities directly on the wall-sized river maps.

The OTRM Plan draft was completed in July 2016 and finalized in August 2016. The Reno City Council, Sparks City Council, and the Washoe County Commission all formally and unanimously adopted the plan in September 2016, ensuring a shared commitment. Moving forward with the recommendations contained in the OTRM Plan, the OTR is establishing a long-term coalition structure to implement this plan.

Continued engagement efforts will build upon OTR’s 22 active partners and more than 130 stakeholders. Active partners include governmental and nonprofit representatives implementing the OTRM Plan. This project will focus on engaging relevant representatives from government, Tribes, interagency organizations, and non-profits, residents, businesses, and recreational groups to support vegetation management and restoration planning (see Tasks 1 and 2 in the *Approach*).

*“Will the group establish relationships with conservation organizations advocating for balanced stewardship and use of public lands, or advocating for increased access to the Department lands for hunting, fishing, and other recreation? If so, how?”*

The proposed work will indirectly include discussion of land use planning, as it pertains to restoration and vegetation management planning. Expertise from one of OTR’s

founders and fiscal agent, Nevada Land Trust, and The Nature Conservancy (a current OTR Partner) will be incorporated into land use planning processes and designations. Local municipalities will be also be engaged in land use designation discussions.

### **Task B – Watershed Restoration Planning**

*“Describe the process the watershed group will use to develop a watershed restoration plan and how completing the plan will contribute to management of critical watershed issues and needs.”*

Because urban development physically constrains the project area stretch of the Truckee River, the *Watershed Restoration Planning* element of this project will develop an overarching framework plan for restoration that will primarily focus on strategies and BMPs for vegetation management, applying Integrative Vegetation Management concepts. As described in Tasks 1 and 2 of the *Approach*, OTR will engage relevant stakeholders through a series of meetings and one-on-one interviews to solidify the regulatory framework, needs, objectives, and constraints to vegetation management. This information will be incorporated into the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan that will be the consensus of all stakeholders (to the extent possible). The processes and partnerships garnered will be a steppingstone for restoration discussions as OTR shifts focus to more rural and less constrained river stretches.

*“How does the group plan to gather information regarding the critical issues and needs of the watershed (e.g., contacting government agencies, talking to stakeholders, literature research, monitoring and modeling activities)? Will the group use science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment? If so, how?”*

OTR continues to engage with its more than 130 governmental and nonprofit partners and stakeholders, which will continue through Tasks 1 and 2. OTR, its contractors, and TWG members will apply current science and research to identify the most critical issues and needs to be addressed by its Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan. The plan will identify scientifically defensible BMPs and management methods that consider adaptation and ecological response to environmental changes.

*“Will the group identify opportunities to resolve conflicts? If so, how?”*

OTR’s approach to partner engagement is one of building consensus, which will continue through this project. While OTR recognizes that not all conflicts can be resolved immediately, its leaders will identify any potential conflicts or competing interests between partners and work with all parties to come to workable solutions.

*“Will the group complete an analysis to prioritize issues within the restoration plan?”*

The Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (Task 2) will analyze and prioritize issues to be addressed within the project area.

*“If the watershed group will build on previous efforts, describe these efforts and how the watershed group will expand upon them through the proposed work.”*

Task 1 of the *Approach* details how OTR will build on its existing partnerships to expand and diversify its partnership base. Task 2 will include a collaborative partner engagement effort to develop a Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan for the project area. Efforts will be made to build consensus among stakeholders, such that the plan can eventually be adopted by the various municipalities within the project area and integrated into their individual plans. Task 2 will identify next steps to

further advance vegetation management and restoration planning, implementation for the project area, and to extend these efforts upstream and downstream.

**Task C – Watershed Management Project Design**

*“Describe the process that the watershed group will use to design projects and how completing the project design will contribute to the management of the critical watershed issues and needs.”*

The Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan will not include any project engineering design but will identify next steps to further restoration planning.

**EVALUATION CRITERION C — IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS**

**Sub-criterion No. C1—Understanding of and Ability to Meet Program Requirements**

*“Applicants should describe their plan for implementing the proposed scope of work. Please include an estimated schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work.*

*Applicants may refer to their Technical Proposal if this information is provided there and do not need to provide duplicate information in addressing this sub-criterion if it exists elsewhere in the applicant’s proposal. The schedule should include: major tasks (e.g., stakeholder outreach; development of bylaws, a mission statement, and articles of incorporation; or development of a watershed restoration plan and project design), milestones for each task, start and end dates for each task and milestone, costs for each task.”*

A description of the project tasks and activities are provided in the *Approach* section. Table 1 provides the schedule, milestones, start/end dates, and costs for each task.

**Table 1. Proposed Milestones, Activities/Tasks, Timeline, Deliverables, and Costs**

YEAR, MILESTONES	ACTIVITY/TASK, DESCRIPTION	TIMELINE	OUTCOMES & DELIVERABLES	RECLAMATION COSTS*
<b>Year 1 Project Management and Administration</b>	<b>Support all activities/tasks</b>			<b>\$17,042</b>
Project management time	General project coordination	Months 1–12	Project emails/notes	\$4,390
Financial reporting Year 1	Financial administration and reporting	Months 3, 6, 9, 11	4 financial reports (SF-425)	\$8,020
Interim performance report preparation	Track and report performance	Months 3, 6, 9, 12	4 interim performance reports	\$2,558
270-day sufficiency report	Track and report performance	Month 9	1 sufficiency report	\$2,074
<b>Year 1 Stakeholder Engagement and Preliminary Planning</b>	<b>Task 1: Activities 1A, 1B, 1C Task 2: Activities 2A, 2B</b>			<b>\$21,929</b>
Kick-off meeting	Initial coordination of project team (including contractors)	Month 1	Meeting notes, attendance list	\$673
Partner/TWG member coordination	General coordination and follow-up with stakeholders throughout Year 1	Months 1–12	Partner/TWG member emails/notes	\$378
Initial partner contact	OTR makes initial contact with potential partners to confirm their commitment to participate in the Technical Working Group (TWG)	Month 2	Partner/TWG member emails/notes	\$683
Meeting logistics (initial TWG meeting)	OTR coordinates logistics for TWG meeting venue, timing, attendees	Month 2	Meeting venue secured and attendees confirmed	\$130
Initial TWG meeting	Initial TWG meeting (3 hours) to solidify project needs, goals/objectives, and constraints	Month 3	Meeting notes, attendance list	\$2,407
TWG member interviews	Preparation of a “Thoughtsheet” for TWG members; one-on-one interviews with each member	Months 4–6	Interview notes, attendance list	\$6,292

Research regulations/documents	OTR and contractors to review/research all regulations and documents and prepare a summary report of needs, goals/objectives, and constraints	Months 7–8	Summary document	\$8,610
Meeting logistics (TWG meeting before plan developed)	OTR coordinates logistics for TWG meeting venue, timing, attendees	Month 7	Meeting venue secured and attendees confirmed	\$130
TWG meeting (before plan developed)	Initial TWG meeting (3 hours) to identify and work through issues and needs for the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	Month 9	Meeting notes, attendance list	\$2,626
<b>Year 1 Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan Preliminary Development</b>				<b>\$10,987</b>
Preliminary development of Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	Begin initial steps to develop the draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (to be completed in Year 2)	Months 9–12	Draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan under development	\$10,987
<b>Year 2 Project Management and Administration</b>				<b>\$17,627</b>
Project management time	General project coordination	Months 13–24	Project emails/notes	\$4,391
Financial Reporting Year 1	Financial administration and reporting	Months 15, 18, 20	4 financial reports (SF-425)	\$8,020
Interim performance report preparation	Track and report performance	Months 15, 18, 21	3 interim performance reports	\$1,828
Final Performance Report	Track and report performance for the entire project (Years 1 and 2); report will address future tasks (as described for Activity 2D)	Months 22–24	Final Performance Report	\$3,388
<b>Year 2 Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan Development and Stakeholder Consensus</b>				<b>\$32,404</b>
Partner/TWG member coordination	General coordination and follow-up with partners/TWG members throughout Year 2	Months 13–24	Partner/TWG Member emails/notes	\$378
Development of draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan (Year 2)	Complete draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	Months 13–18	Draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	\$24,601
Meeting logistics (TWG meeting to present plan)	OTR coordinates logistics for TWG meeting venue, timing, attendees	Month 18	Meeting venue secured and attendees confirmed	\$130
TWG meeting to present draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	TWG meeting (3 hours): present and solicit feedback from TWG members on the draft Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	Month 19	Meeting notes, attendance list	\$2,625
Prepare Final Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	Prepare Final Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan and circulate with TWG members to gain consensus around the plan	Months 19–22	Final Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan	\$4,670
<b>Total Estimated Project Costs</b>				<b>\$99,989</b>

\*Costs shown here are only those costs requested from Reclamation and exclude third-party contributions.

### **Sub-criterion No. C2—Building on Relevant Federal, State, or Regional Planning Efforts**

*“Please describe how the proposed activities of the watershed group will complement or meet the goals of relevant Federal, state or regional planning efforts. Such plans may include but are not limited to: water conservation plans, drought contingency plans, plans that meet the criteria identified in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Nonpoint Source Management*



*Program, plans that meet the EPA's criteria for Watershed-Based Plans, and other relevant plans or planning efforts. Applicants should describe how the proposed activities of the watershed group will complement or meet the goals of applicable Federal, state or regional water plans. Reclamation suggests that groups contact Federal, state, or local agencies in your area to identify existing goals and plans relevant to the watershed group. Please reference any relevant plans, but do not include these plans as part of this application."*

There are many previous and current state and regional planning efforts in the Truckee River watershed. The proposed activities would complement many other plans related to water resources, as the goal of this effort is to improve water quality and ecological resiliency through collaborative engagement. These plans include:

- **Watershed Management Plan (WMP) for the Tributaries to the Truckee River:** The Truckee Meadows Storm Water Permit Coordinating Committee is currently working on a WMP for the tributaries to the Truckee River in Nevada, which will be provided to the NDEP and the EPA for approval in 2020. This plan will update a previous WMP created in 2003 and will be the first of its kind for the Nevada portion of the Truckee River watershed. The plan will include the nine critical elements as defined by the EPA's *Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect our Waters*. Upon completion, the region may compete for the NDEP 319-program grant funds.
- **Drought Contingency Plan:** The Truckee Meadows Water Authority, the primary water purveyor for the Reno-Sparks area, is completing an update to its Drought Contingency Plan, funded by a Reclamation WaterSMART: Drought Contingency Planning grant. This plan will provide comprehensive strategies for the region to address drought under various climate scenarios. A diverse group of stakeholders was engaged in a Drought Planning Task Force to identify issues and strategies for drought situations. The plan will be finalized in 2019, pending Reclamation approval.
- **One Truckee River Management Plan (OTRM Plan):** The OTRM Plan (Phase 1) was completed and approved by local entities in 2016. This plan covers the urban area of the mainstem Truckee River through Reno and Sparks in Nevada. The plan identifies four goals and dozens of action items to improve water quality, ecology, human services, and more. The OTRM Plan identifies action items such as developing a comprehensive vegetation management plan for the river and creating an NDEP 319-approved watershed management plan.
- **Washoe County Integrated Source Water Protection Plan:** In coordination with the NDEP Source Water Program, a group of stakeholders from the Truckee Meadows area is creating the Washoe County Integrated Source Water Protection Plan. This plan will be completed in mid-2020 with the goal of protecting both surface water and groundwater supply sources from contamination. Water quality is a key component of the Source Water Protection Plan, and therefore the work proposed here will complement the plan.
- **Truckee River Flood Management Authority Protection Plan:** This plan was developed in coordination with the USACE to identify projects to decrease flooding by enhancing and working with the river's dynamic natural functions. The

plan focuses mainly on the urban core of Reno and Sparks where low bridges and outdated floodwalls cause flooding during high river flows. This plan also fits under the requirements to maintain water capacity in the river, which will be an important consideration in developing the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan.

### **EVALUATION CRITERION D—U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR PRIORITIES (10 POINTS)**

*“Up to 10 points will be awarded based on the extent that the proposal demonstrates that the project supports the Department priorities. Please address those priorities that are applicable to your project.”*

**Note, only those priorities that are applicable to OTR’s proposed work are detailed below. Any priorities not addressed have been omitted.**

*1a. Utilize science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment;*

This project will identify best management practices for vegetation management and restoration that will support management of water quality. Scientifically defensible BMPs will include practices to adapt to a changing environment.

*1b. Examine land use planning processes and land use designations that govern public use and access;*

This project will address land use planning through its collaborative efforts to develop a consensus Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan, which will outline recommended management approaches for the project area. This work will strive to meet the needs of multiple municipalities and jurisdictions and will speak directly to implementation of the specific public use and access goals and objectives that are identified in the OTRM Plan.

*1c. Revise and streamline the environmental and regulatory review process while maintaining environmental standards.*

This project will help streamline environmental review processes by developing a consensus Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan to meet the needs of multiple municipalities and jurisdictions. This plan will help streamline park planning, operations and maintenance, and resolve between-jurisdictional conflicts because local planning departments will have the assurance that their individual regulations have been adequately considered in the framework plan.

*1d. Review DOI water storage, transportation, and distribution systems to identify opportunities to resolve conflicts and expand capacity;*

The proposed work will comply with the TROA. The Framework Plan will develop vegetation management strategies that promote ecological resilience that also meet the minimum flow conveyance requirements and regulatory framework (as detailed in the Approach Tasks 1 and 2).

*1e. Foster relationships with conservation organizations advocating for balanced stewardship and use of public lands;*



This project will actively foster relationships among conservation organizations to ensure balanced stewardship of private and public lands in the project area, through collaborative development of vegetation management and restoration strategies, benefiting a spectrum of natural resources, public access, and recreation opportunities.

*1f. Identify and implement initiatives to expand access to DOI lands for hunting and fishing;*

This project will actively engage the fishing community to ensure vegetation management and restoration strategies support healthy fisheries and create better opportunities for public access to fishing opportunities.

*1g. Shift the balance towards providing greater public access to public lands over restrictions to access.*

Greater access to public lands along the river will be considered in the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan. Use of healthy native vegetation structure may provide safer access to the water's edge and will be an important component to the plan.

*3b. Expand the lines of communication with Governors, state natural resource offices, Fish and Wildlife offices, water authorities, county commissioners, Tribes, and local communities.*

This project will actively engage and foster relationships among agencies, organizations, Tribes, water authorities, and municipal leaders to ensure balanced stewardship of private and public lands within the project area, by collaboratively developing immediate and future strategies for vegetation management and restoration.

*4. Striking a regulatory balance:*

*4a. Reduce the administrative and regulatory burden imposed on U.S. industry and the public;*

This project will ensure the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan meets the regulatory framework requirements through sustainable management planning. Striking a strong regulatory balance requires engagement and collaboration with regulators and partners throughout this proposed project. Ensuring regulators are invested and involved in the planning process will reduce the regulatory burden for future projects because potential obstacles will be resolved early with all stakeholders at the table. The true benefit of these efforts may be realized in the future when the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan is integrated into local municipality plans and projects are being implemented on the ground.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE**

The Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan developed through the proposed project will strictly comply with the requirements and regulations of those jurisdictions covered in this proposal.

## **REQUIRED PERMITS OR APPROVALS**

No special permits or approvals (such as easements, land use authorizations, or special permits) will be required for execution of the proposed project.

## PROJECT BUDGET

### BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Total Project Cost is summarized in Table 2 below and further detailed in Table 3. A narrative with detailed information for all project costs is provided in the following section (*Budget Narrative*).

**Table 2. Total Project Cost**

SOURCE	AMOUNT
Costs to be reimbursed with the requested Federal funding	\$99,989
Costs to be paid by the applicant	\$0
Value of third-party contributions	\$7,100
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$107,089</b>

**Table 3. Budget Proposal**

BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION	\$/UNIT	QUANTITY TYPE	QUANTITY	RECLAMATION REQUEST	VALUE OF THIRD-PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL COST
<b>Salaries and Wages</b>						
NLT Executive Director	\$60.00/hour	hours	100	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
NLT Accountant	\$40.00/hour	hours	100	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>						
NLT Executive Director	\$30.00/hour	hours	100	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
NLT Accountant	\$20.00/hour	hours	100	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
<b>Travel</b>						
Mileage	\$0.535/mile	miles	200	\$107	\$0	\$107
<b>Equipment</b>						
None				\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Supplies and Materials</b>						
Food for meetings	\$145.00/meeting	meetings	3	\$435	\$0	\$435
<b>Contractual</b>						
Partnership Coordinator	\$65.00/hour	hours	136.0	\$8,840	\$0	\$8,840
Principal Investigator and Technical Meeting Facilitator	\$ 120.52/hour	hours	242.0	\$29,166	\$0	\$29,166
Senior Restoration Ecologist	\$ 109.48/hour	hours	283.0	\$30,983	\$0	\$30,983
Principal Hydrologist/Ecologist	\$150.00/hour	hours	83.0	\$12,450	\$0	\$12,450
Technical Editor/Formatter	\$100.28/hour	hours	30.0	\$3,008	\$0	\$3,008



Other						
Meeting Facility (donated by partner)	\$500.00/event	events	3.0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500
TWG Member Participation	\$40.00.00/hour	hours	140	\$0	\$5,600	\$5,600
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>				<b>\$99,989</b>	<b>\$7,100</b>	<b>\$107,089</b>
Indirect Costs						
None				\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Project Costs</b>				<b>\$99,989</b>	<b>\$7,100</b>	<b>\$107,089</b>

## BUDGET NARRATIVE

OTR does not employ any staff directly, so its contracted Partnership Coordinator (Iris Jehle-Peppard) and other contracted consultants will execute the majority of OTR's proposed work. OTR's fiscal agent (Nevada Land Trust [NLT]) will provide a project manager, will administer the grant, and will be responsible for financial management, reporting, and direct communication with Reclamation. The following sections detail individual budget line items. Estimated costs requested from Reclamation by task/activity and for each stage of the project timeline are provided in Table 1. Total costs are detailed above in Tables 2 and 3.

**Personnel and Fringe:** OTR's fiscal agent is NLT, who will be paid directly through this grant. NLT's Executive Director (Alicia Reban) and Accountant (Kim Pezonella) will be responsible for all grant administration, accounting, financial reporting, and direct communication with Reclamation. Ms. Reban will also serve as the Project Manager for the proposed project. The total cost for salary and fringe for these two staff will be \$7,500 in Year 1 and \$7,500 in Year 2 (\$15,000 total). Salary plus fringe for Ms. Reban will be \$90.00/hour for 100 hours (\$9,000 total). Salary plus fringe for Ms. Pezonella will be \$60.00/hour for 100 hours (\$6,000 total).

**Travel:** Most work will be completed within the Reno-Sparks city limits. The total cost of mileage (to be charged in Year 1) is \$107 (200 miles at \$0.535/mile)

**Equipment:** No equipment purchases will be necessary to complete the proposed work.

**Supplies:** Supplies needed for this effort will include food for three meetings at a total cost of \$435 (3 meetings at \$145.00/meeting). In an effort to advance environmental sustainability, it is assumed that all reports and documents will be circulated in digital format. Therefore, no printing costs are requested.

**Contractual:** The majority of the project cost will be contractual labor (\$84,447). OTR's contracted Partnership Coordinator bills at \$65.00/hour. The costs for other contracted labor have been estimated by soliciting preliminary quotes from local consulting firms. All contracts will be solidified at the beginning of the project, after OTR completes its formalized competitive bid process, according to its official procurement policy. Estimated contracted labor is as follows:

1. **OTR's Partnership Coordinator (Iris Jehle-Peppard):** A total of \$8,840 at a rate of \$65.00/hour for 136 hours (Year 1: 76.5 hours; Year 2: 59.5 hours). The role of the Partnership Coordinator will be to solicit engagement of new and existing stakeholders and to solidify their commitment to serve and engage in the TWG activities and will participate in all TWG meetings. She will oversee all project activities in cooperation with other contracted consultants. She will also oversee development of all performance reports and will engage with Reclamation staff as needed to execute this grant project.
2. **Principal Investigator and Meeting Facilitator:** A total of \$29,166 at a rate of \$120.52/hour for 242 hours (Year 1: 128 hours; Year 2: 114 hours). The Principal Investigator and Meeting Facilitator will oversee all technical aspects of the project in coordination with the OTR Partnership Coordinator. He/she will lead all TWG meetings and stakeholder interviews and will guide and contribute to the development of the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan and other documents. He/she will contribute to the development of all performance reports.
3. **Senior Restoration Ecologist:** A total of \$30,983 at a rate of \$109.48/hour for 283 hours (Year 1: 138.5 hours; Year 2: 144.5 hours). The Senior Restoration Ecologist will participate in all technical aspects of the project in coordination with the OTR Partnership Coordinator. He/she will participate as a technical expert in all TWG meetings, participate in all stakeholder interviews, and be the lead author on the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan and will contribute to development of other documents.
4. **Principal Hydrologist/Ecologist:** A total of \$12,450 at a rate of \$150.00/hour for 83 hours (Year 1: 39 hours; Year 2: 44 hours). The Principal Hydrologist/Ecologist will provide high-level technical oversight for the entire project. He/she will participate in all TWG meetings as a subject matter expert and will provide senior review of all documents, including the Framework Vegetation Management and Restoration Plan.
5. **Technical Editor/Formatter:** A total of \$3,008 at a rate of \$100.28/hour for 30 hours (Year 1: 7 hours; Year 2: 23 hours). The technical editor and formatter will copy edit and format all documents and performance reports produced for this project, ensuring all documents are reliable, visually appealing, and accurate.

**Cost-share match (Other):** A meeting facility for all three TWG meetings will be provided by one of the TWG members/partners. The value of this cost-share match is \$500.00/meeting for three meetings for a total of \$1,500.

It is also anticipated that individual TWG members would donate their time to participate in the proposed project activities. With an anticipated minimum of seven TWG members donating at least 20 hours of time, it is expected that at least 140 hours of time (valued at \$40.00/hour) will be provided as in-kind match, totaling \$5,600.

**Environmental permitting and compliance:** Because no on-the-ground implementation work will be completed for this project, no additional funding is needed for environmental compliance or permitting.



## FUNDING PLAN

As detailed in Table 2, the project will be funded through a combination of support from Reclamation through WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase 1 Grants and third-party contributions. OTR is requesting a total of \$99,989 from Reclamation. Third-party contributions are expected to total \$7,100. The total project cost from these two sources will be \$107,089.

OTR has not received written confirmation of third-party contributions at this time. Therefore, the levels of support have been estimated. It is expected that a meeting facility for all three TWG meetings will be provided by one of the TWG members/partners. The value of this cost-share match is \$500/meeting for three meetings for a total of \$1,500. It is also anticipated that individual TWG members would donate their time to participate in the proposed project activities. With an anticipated minimum of seven TWG members donating at least 20 hours of time, it is expected that at least 140 hours of time (valued at \$40.00/hour) will be provided as in-kind match, totaling \$5,600.



## UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT

Nevada Land Trust will serve as the fiscal agent for One Truckee River for the proposed project. Nevada Land Trust will provide the unique entity identifier and current SAM registration within 30 days.



---

**APPENDIX A:**  
Mandatory Federal Forms

---

**APPENDIX B:**  
Letters of Support



**Washoe Storey  
Cooperative Weed Management Area**

November 1, 2019

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)

Dear Ms. James:

I am pleased to express Washoe Storey Cooperative Weed Management Area's (WSCWMA) support for the One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of the WSCWMA, and we would be pleased to participate as an engaged stakeholder and partner in this effort.

The WSCWMA is dedicated to the management and control of noxious weeds within the boundaries of Washoe and Storey County in the State of Nevada. The primary function of the WSCWMA is to provide partners, entities and agencies technical assistance in the areas of weed control methodology, funding opportunities, and coordination, communication and cooperation with various stakeholders. We may fund weed control and weed management projects if funds are available.

The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework. Early and active engagement of all interested parties will also increase the likelihood that the plan will be adopted by all stakeholders and that the plan can be integrated into the individual stakeholders' implementation plans in the future.

The WSCWMA is currently working to establish as a formal non-profit organization focused on noxious weed abatement in Washoe and Storey County and will become an official OTR partner and stakeholder. We look forward and are committed to working with the other project stakeholders in this effort.

I appreciate your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if I can provide any additional information regarding our pledge of support.

Kind Regards,

Lyndsey Boyer  
WSCWMA Chair  
[WSCWMA@gmail.com](mailto:WSCWMA@gmail.com)



# WASHOE COUNTY

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Community Services Dept.  
1001 E. Ninth St.  
RENO, NEVADA 89512  
(775) 328-3600

November 7, 2019

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)

Dear Ms. James:

I am pleased to express Washoe County, Community Services Department, Regional Parks and Open Space's support for the One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of Regional Parks and Open Space, and we would be pleased to participate as an engaged stakeholder and partner in this effort.

Regional Parks and Open Space is part of Washoe County's Community Services Department. Our mission is to provide exceptional parks, open space and recreational opportunities while preserving our natural, historical and cultural resources. Washoe County manages over 12,000 acres including over 10,000 acres of open space, 49 parks, developed trails, and trailheads.

The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework. Early and active engagement of all interested parties will also increase the likelihood that the plan will be adopted by all stakeholders and that the plan can be integrated into the individual stakeholders' implementation plans in the future.

Regional Parks and Open Space is currently an OTR partner and stakeholder. We look forward and are committed to working with the other project stakeholders in this effort.

I appreciate your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if I can provide any additional information regarding our pledge of support.

Kind Regards,

Eric Crump  
Acting Community Services Department Director  
(775)328-3625



INTEGRITY



EFFECTIVE  
COMMUNICATION



QUALITY  
PUBLIC SERVICE

1001 E. Ninth St.  
WWW.WASHOECOUNTY.US



November 5, 2019

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)

Dear Ms. James:

I am pleased to express the Truckee Meadow Water Authority's (TMWA) support for the One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of TMWA, and we would be pleased to participate as an engaged stakeholder in this effort.

TMWA's mission is to enhance the quality of life in the Truckee Meadows by delivering exceptional, customer-focused water services. TMWA is the primary water purveyor for the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area, supplying water to over 400,000 people. The Truckee River provides 80-85% of the region's drinking water and is a critical resource. TMWA recognizes that protecting and restoring the Truckee River corridor is an important component of ensuring continued high-quality source water for its drinking water supply.

The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework.

TMWA is currently an OTR partner and stakeholder. We look forward and are committed to working with the other project stakeholders in this effort. I appreciate your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if I can provide any additional information regarding our pledge of support.

Kind Regards,

John Enloe, P.E.  
Director of Natural Resources  
[jenloe@tmwa.com](mailto:jenloe@tmwa.com)



RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY

**★ TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE (THPO)**

1995 East Second Street, Reno, NV 89502 • Mailing Address: 34 Reservation Road, Reno, NV 89502  
Phone: (775) 785-1326

November 8, 2019

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)

Dear Ms. James:

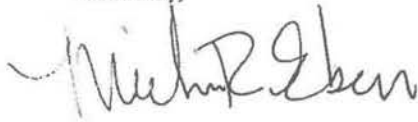
The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC) Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) is pleased to provide a letter of support on behalf of One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of the RSIC and its cultural relationship with the Truckee River.

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RIC) is a federally recognized tribe that represents members and certain descendants of Shoshone, Paiute and Washoe peoples of the Great Basin. The RSIC has a residential community and commercial land base located adjacent to the Truckee River and would be a direct beneficiary of any positive changes related to the protection, preservation and management of the Truckee River.

The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework. Early and active engagement of all interested parties will also increase the likelihood that the plan will be adopted by all stakeholders and that the plan can be integrated into the individual stakeholders' implementation plans in the future.

The RSIC is an active member, partner and stakeholder of OTR. The RSIC THPO looks forward to its continued collaboration with OTR. Please contact myself if you may need additional information regarding our pledge of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michon R. Eben". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Michon R. Eben  
THPO



# TRUCKEE MEADOWS PARKS FOUNDATION

*AWARENESS • APPRECIATION • STEWARDSHIP*

November 7, 2019

Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)

Dear Ms. James:

I am pleased to express Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation's support for the One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation, and we would be pleased to participate as an engaged stakeholder and partner in this effort.

Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation protects and enhances our communities' livability through public engagement, education, and sustainability of our parks, open spaces, and trails. The Parks Foundation achieves its mission through in-park programming, education, volunteer events, invasive vegetation removal, and more. This proposal aligns with The Parks Foundation's mission. A coordinated riparian monitoring plan will lead to more successful restoration efforts, which will allow the community to enjoy open spaces along a more natural and beautiful Truckee River.

The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework. Early and active engagement of all interested parties will also increase the likelihood that the plan will be adopted by all stakeholders and that the plan can be integrated into the individual stakeholders' implementation plans in the future.





# TRUCKEE MEADOWS PARKS FOUNDATION

*AWARENESS • APPRECIATION • STEWARDSHIP*

Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation is currently an OTR partner and stakeholder. We look forward and are committed to working with the other project stakeholders in this effort.

I appreciate your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if I can provide any additional information regarding our pledge of support.

Kind Regards,

Heidi Anderson  
Executive Director

[heidi@tmparksfoundation.org](mailto:heidi@tmparksfoundation.org)

(775) 410-1702



**November 13, 2019**

**Ms. Alisha James  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Financial Support Section  
Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 152  
6th Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, Colorado 80225**

**Re: Support for One Truckee River's Proposal Application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010)**

**Dear Ms. James:**

**I am pleased to express The Nature Conservancy's support for the One Truckee River's (OTR) proposal application for the WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grants (Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-19-F010). The goals and objectives of OTR's proposed project align with the needs and goals of The Nature Conservancy, and we would be pleased to participate as an engaged stakeholder and partner in this effort.**

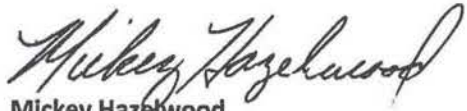
**The Nature Conservancy's mission is to: conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. Our vision is a world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve nature for its own sake and its ability to fulfill our needs and enrich our lives. The Nature Conservancy's Eastern Sierra Nevada Program includes the Truckee River Project, under which we have protected and restored areas in both the upper and lower Truckee River Watershed. The urban reach of the river is an area we have not had the capacity to focus on, and we are very pleased that OTR is taking the lead on addressing vegetation management along this important reach of the river.**

**The project proposed by OTR will provide much-needed comprehensive vegetation management planning along select urban stretches of the Truckee River (to be defined by jurisdiction of participating partners). The regulatory framework and the differing needs and goals of the proposed stakeholders require careful coordination to find workable solutions. OTR's technical approach 1) to expand, diversify, and further engage its current stakeholder base and to use this collaboration 2) to develop a framework vegetation management and restoration plan will ensure the plan meets the needs of all stakeholders within the constraints of the regulatory framework. Early and active engagement of all interested parties will also increase the likelihood that the plan will be adopted by all stakeholders and that the plan can be integrated into the individual stakeholders' implementation plans in the future.**

**The Nature Conservancy is an OTR partner and stakeholder. We look forward and are committed to working with the other project stakeholders in this effort.**

**I appreciate your time and consideration. Please reach out to me if I can provide any additional information regarding our pledge of support.**

Kind Regards,



Mickey Hazelwood

Eastern Sierra Nevada Program Director

[mhazelwood@tnc.org](mailto:mhazelwood@tnc.org)

(775) 322-4990 ext. 3116



One E. First Street, Suite 1007

Reno, NV 89501

Tel: (775) 322-4990

[nature.org](http://nature.org)

---

## APPENDIX C:

Official Resolution

---



Nevada Land Trust  
Resolution 2-2019

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE NEVADA LAND  
TRUST TO ENTER INTO FINANCIAL AND LEGAL  
OBLIGATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH  
ONE TRUCKEE RIVER AND THE BUREAU OF  
RECLAMATION**

**Whereas**, Nevada Land Trust, along with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, is a co-founder of One Truckee River, a partnership of over 130 stakeholders dedicated to building an aware and engaged community and drive measurable, sustainable, and collaborative management of the Truckee River; and,

**Whereas**, Nevada Land Trust is proud to serve One Truckee River as Fiscal Agent; and,

**Whereas**, Nevada Land Trust, Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, and the other key stakeholders and partners of One Truckee River are working to implement priority action items identified in the One Truckee River Management Plan, Phase One, adopted by Washoe County, City of Reno, and City of Sparks in October 2016; and,

**Whereas**, One Truckee River Management Plan Goal 1 is to ensure and protect water quality and ecosystem health in the Truckee River, beneath which are key objectives address creating a rich and diverse vegetative ecosystem and development of a coordinated vegetation management plan; and,

**Whereas**, the One Truckee River team has prepared a proposal for funding these key objectives for the Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase I Grant in November, 2019; now,

**Therefore**, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Nevada Land Trust accepts the financial and legal obligations associated with receipt of a financial assistance award from the Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of One Truckee River, including confirming that One Truckee River is able to provide the amount of funding and/or in kind contributions specified in the funding plan and to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement. The Board of Trustees further authorizes Nevada Land Trust Executive Director Alicia Reban to perform final review of the proposal on behalf of the Board of Trustees and to enter into any and all agreements relating to a grant award.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have affixed my name as Secretary of Nevada Land Trust.

Signed and approved by: *Holly Pecetti*  
Printed name of signatory: Holly Pecetti  
Dated: 11-6-19  
Passed and adopted November 6, 2019