

Land Stewardship Proposal for

•Fall River Mills Planning Unit •

Organization  
Pit River Tribe

**Part I. Organizational Information**

**1. Contact Information**

Proposal Contact

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## **2. Executive Summary**

The Pit River Tribe is a Federally-recognized Tribe consisting of the original eleven autonomous bands that comprise the “100-mile square” ancestral boundary of the Pit River Nation, which is located in Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen Counties, as stated in the Pit River Docket No. 347, (7 ICC 815 at 844), Indian Claims Commission, and Constitution of the Pit River Tribe, adopted by the Secretary of the Interior on August 16, 1964. Through this constitution, the Pit River Tribe has inherent sovereign governmental powers to protect and promote the health, safety, and/or general welfare of the people of the Pit River Tribe.

For all Federal, State, and private agencies whose projects pertain to and are within the Tribe’s 100 square mile Ancestral Boundary; Pursuant to Section 2 of the Tribal Constitution: *“The jurisdiction of the Tribe under this Constitution shall extend throughout its territory. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit the ability of the Pit River Tribe (Ajumawi-Atsugewi Nation) to exercise its jurisdiction to the fullest extent permitted by Federal law, including but not limited to lands, waters, properties, air space, fish and wildlife and other resources.”*

The Fall River Mills, Fall River Valley is wholly inclusive in this boundary, and was the ancestral home from time immemorial of the Ajumawi Band; while the Hat Creek and Lake Britton planning units lie within the ancestral home of the Illmawi Band. The land has been utilized for many generations as an indigenous resource of medicinal and subsistence plants, winged, finned and four-legged hunting, and a possible location of settlements as well as spiritual and cultural gatherings.

The Tribe has a fully developed and managed Clean Water Act, Noxious Weed, Road Maintenance, Forestry Management, Prescribed Range and Meadow Grazing, and Tribal Youth Educational programs currently in place in its Environmental and Natural Resource and Roads Departments. Because of all of the Tribe’s current programs and their stability on an annual basis the Tribe is a strong financial stakeholder in this process and will continue to apply for grants to complement the goals and objectives of this proposal. The Tribe will be utilizing its expertise for resource management, planning and implementation of this proposal and the land management plan.

The Pit River Tribe proposes to obtain simple fee title for the Fall River Mills Planning Unit. The ambitions to obtain these lands are derived from the Tribes purpose to protect, sustain, and enhance all natural and cultural resources originally owned by the Pit River people.

### ***Details of the Plan***

The plan will consist of the Tribe’s intentions to leave what is currently open space as just that, open space, to maintain and enhance existing recreational opportunities, to promote the public’s enjoyment of these outdoor recreation opportunities, promote habitat preservation and restoration, combined with educational and cultural access to the ecologically sensitive habitats in the Pacific Flyway, and a preservation of the unparalleled views of the Fall River and McCloud Watershed valleys, and the Mt. Shasta skyline.

For the benefit of public value, the Tribe's intention for these areas is to leave what is currently open space as open space, to maintain and enhance existing recreational opportunities, to promote the public's enjoyment of these outdoor recreation opportunities, promote habitat preservation and restoration, combined with educational and cultural access to the ecologically sensitive habitats in the Pacific Flyway, and a preservation of the unparalleled views if the Fall River and McCloud Watershed Valleys, and the Mt. Shasta skyline. The Tribe proposes projects that improve the view shed and open space experience by trail construction, viewing platforms, interpretive signs, and maintenance of existing and proposed trails, bike paths and limited vehicular access through its Indian Reservation Roads program.

The Tribe believes that ownership interest would translate into efforts that build program capacity to promote monitoring projects or ecological studies, youth outdoor education programs, and noxious weed control. Ecological studies, monitoring projects, noxious weed control are critical pre-restoration steps, as well as a key objective to maintain or improve the historic agricultural use of these areas. The Tribe realizes that they would be a neighbor to private and publicly-held lands, the State of California, and PG&E. Therefore, we would implement weed management strategies that contain the populations from spreading to neighbors, assist in control efforts within the remaining FERC boundaries, habitat restoration and preservation strategies that are timed with weed control.

As a neighbor and regardless of the FERC and other private/public boundaries, the Tribe recognizes that each time a project is undertaken, there is a risk to cultural resources during reconstruction. The Tribe also understands that several noxious weeds present, like Eurasian watermilfoil (EWMF), and other terrene and aquatic invasive species, are "ecosystem changers" which can have tremendous negative impact on the whole of the Pit and McCloud River fisheries. Therefore, key to our conservation efforts would be teaming up with existing noxious weed control stakeholders. The Tribe would participate in noxious weed control, construction of new public access trails, and educational signage improvements to enhance the BPV of these areas.

Going forward as landowner, these areas would be enveloped in our Tribal Conservation District. As the Tribe develops its own Conservation District that will be recognized by the US Secretary of Agriculture, and we can team up with Western Shasta RCD, with the Fall River RCD, and other groups to manage these areas. The Tribe, through its unique government-to-government relationship with federal programs such as US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs can introduce financial cost-share opportunities to improve habitat for the four-legged and wing of the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds and bolster efforts that support the recovery of endangered species.

The Tribe also recognizes the current grazing licenses and pursuant to the recommendations of the Watershed Stewardship Council, the Tribe intends to honor the current grazing licenses and upon intense research evaluating any additional potential opportunities, a rangeland management plan will then be developed (in addition to the baseline condition report). This will be the preliminary process in order to begin the course of improving, enhancing, and sustaining the lands.

To this end, the Pit River Tribe Pit-McCloud River Watershed objective coincides with the Stewardship Council recommendations and potential measures.

### ***Epilogue***

These planning units have long time been utilized by the public and private grazers, it's now time to become ecologically sensible by developing studies, plans and best management practices in order to retain the natural view shed of these lands, meanwhile insuring the protection of cultural and natural resources important to the Tribe and the public. The inclusion of youth education and public input is a primary objective just as important.

### **3. Organization Information**

The Pit River Tribe is a federally recognized tribe.

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Tax ID Number is 94-2424153.

### **4. Rationale for Applying**

The Tribe's primary objective for all of the units in the Pit McCloud River Watershed is to enhance their ecological status, provide environmental and cultural education opportunities to Indian and Non-Indian youth, and preserve the area's cultural resource values. The goal is consistent with the Tribe's strong commitment to stewardship of its ancestral lands. The Tribe would hope to accomplish this goal by obtaining fee title and partnering with a conservation easement holder with similar values.

### **5. Organization's Mission**

The Tribe's Pit-McCloud Watershed Area goals and objectives are consistent with their 1964 constitution that states that the Tribe will "exercise and protect resources to the fullest extent permitted by Federal law, including but not limited to, lands, waters, properties, air space, fish and wildlife and other resources of its ancestral lands." This summary describes how the Tribe's traditional environmental values are similar to the Pit-McCloud Watershed Area Beneficial Public Values.

When the Tribe passed its Water Quality ordinance in 2001, the Tribe made a commitment to developing its water resource programs that protect fisheries on Tribal Lands. When it received its Treatment-As-State status from the USEPA in 2007, it took the next step in watershed-based planning and implementation of projects that reduce non-point source pollutants being

discharged into rivers and streams. Our Range program operates on the XL Ranch and implements 3 types of projects that enhance rangeland health. These projects include noxious weed control, soil mapping, native plant monitoring, juniper removal, fencing, and spring development to distribute water across rangelands for migrating wildlife.

The Tribe places a high value on open space. Preservation of open space is a consideration of the Tribe's Land Use Plan. As a result of their land use planning and environmental inventories, the Tribe has identified areas of its Reservations and Rancherias that are to be preserved for open space. Additionally, migratory patterns and viewsheds have caused serious concerns and delays to their economic development.

Tribal Lands historically have provided unfettered access to Tribal members for outdoor recreation. Outdoor recreation on Tribal Lands includes hunting, fishing, and subsistence gathering. Generally, the Tribe has improved outdoor recreation through its habitat improvement programs, such as its Riparian Management Zone projects. These projects have created large corridors for nesting and migration which further improve the Reservation hunting.

The Tribe's agriculture use of their lands is deeply rooted in their history. Since 1939, Pit River Indians have been operating cattle and hay operations on the XL Ranch in Alturas, CA, as well as scattered allotments throughout the Upper Pit River Watershed. Today, the Tribe operates its XL Ranch through its Natural Resources program. Since it XL Ranch operates through this program, a significant amount of funding is cost-shared into its programs that enhance the environment on the Reservation.

As most are aware, the Pit River Tribe goes to significant lengths to preserve historic values. In its 8 year history, the Environmental and Culture Department has protected traditional environmental values on ancestral lands by fostering relationships with land management agencies. The Department's efforts have led to several MOUs, ethnographic studies, Pit River Aboriginal Cultural Districts, and Historic Properties Management Plan.

## **6. Geographic Focus**

The purpose of this summary is to illustrate the Pit River Indian Tribe's knowledge and experience in the region. Today's tribal members of the Pit River Nation are the most likely descendants of the Indians that utilized the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds. Their history includes observations and stories of the entire area's settlement, reclamation, and ultimate agricultural development. Although the Pit-McCloud River Watershed is much different than the area that existed in pre-European contact, Pit River Tribal Members continue to practice age old traditions and religion all through these ancestral areas as if it were 150 years ago. For example, Pit River Indians continue to access the Pit-McCloud River Watershed's native plants for subsistence, medicine, and art. The area provides the members of the Pit River Tribe access to the area's sacred sites, family cemeteries, domain allotments. Therefore, the Tribe has the longest and most unique perspective of the area.

Like most California Indians, Pit Rivers were converted into agrarian societies by the federal government. In fact, Pit River Indians were operating an agricultural association for several decades on their Reservation in Alturas during the early 20th century. Therefore, the Tribe has understood the agricultural, economic, social and recreational opportunities of the Pit-McCloud River Watershed. Today, the Tribe believes that the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds are under-

utilized and undervalued in their current opportunities, and that tremendous economic and recreational upside potential exists.

Our experiences from the XL Ranch Reservation, Tribal Rancherias and other tribal public domain allotments indicates that there is enough recreational demand and economic opportunities in the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds to stimulate increased public usage and enjoyment of the existing and potentially new recreational areas. For example, selective timber harvesting could potentially open up some areas to recreational opportunities that do not currently exist because of too densely spaced vegetation limits current access.

The Tribe can employ many people from the community, as well as elicit community and public support through economic opportunities such as this, the purchase of supplies, materials, and contracts with consultants and equipment operators to undertake such ventures. Ultimately, the local economy is likely to improve if wealth and recreational opportunities generated from the Pit-McCloud River Watershed is distributed throughout the community.

Approximately 25% of the tribe's 23,000 acre land base is around the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds. Additionally, the Environmental and Culture Department has participated in previous Pit-McCloud River Watershed Cultural Resource Management Planning with FERC and PG&E. To this end, the Tribe was a significant partner in planning many aspects of the Pit-McCloud River Watershed.

The Pit River Tribe's Natural Resources and Roads Department has existed for 8 years and annual funding has grown from \$40K to \$1.5M over this period. The key driver behind the growth in this Department has been its management of the XL Ranch, road and tribal access development, and its greatly expanding experience in agricultural and livestock operations. The natural resource issues similar to the Pit-McCloud River Watershed that the Tribe currently manages include non-point source pollution discharge into surface water and wetlands, expansive aquatic and noxious weed infestations, degraded wetland and riparian ecosystems, and unmonitored cattle and logging operations that were defeating real resource improvement efforts. Drawing on our experience from the XL, we believe we can tackle the hard resource issues and move conservation efforts forward on the Pit-McCloud River Watersheds.

## **7. Organizational Experience and Capacity**

The purpose of this summary is to illustrate the Pit River Indian Tribe's organizational capacity to own, manage, and enhance resource values that are comparable to the Pit-McCloud River Watershed Planning Units. This summary presents 3 specific Tribal programs responsible for natural resource management, cultural resource preservation, and environmental education for youth.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES AND ROADS:**

This Department is responsible for planning, ordinance enforcement, agricultural operations, and on-the-ground resource and road management projects on 23,000 acres of Tribal Land in the Pit River watershed. The following projects demonstrate the Tribe's capability to manage land and water resources of the Pit-McCloud River Watershed.

#### **1. Agricultural Operations**

- Eliminate livestock trespass and drift into recreational areas, and prepare for prosecution if necessary to enforce violations
- Conduct irrigation operations and maintenance to distribute water more efficiently in existing and potentially new agricultural operations
- Determine land carrying capacity for agricultural and livestock operations, advertise bids, and enforce contract compliance

## 2. Rangeland Management

- XL Ranch Rangeland Assessment ('04 to Present): monitor rangeland and meadow health by detecting trends in ecosystems.
- Implement NRCS Prescribed Grazing Practices ('06 to '09): Annual determination of the stocking rates based on soil type and vegetation, and water availability
- XL Corral and Big Parker Spring Development ('04 to '08): Construct watering facilities from natural springs to distribute livestock and improve wildlife habitat
- Pit River Tribe Noxious Weed Program ('03 to Present) and BLM Noxious Weed Control Participating Agreement ('07 to present): Conduct annual noxious weed mapping, monitoring, and control with BIA, CDFA, and Modoc County

## 3. Non-point source management

- XL Cemetery Reach ('04 to '06): implement a structural/bio-engineered design to stabilize an eroding bank on the North Fork Pit River
- North Fork Pit River Riparian Management Zone ('05 to '07): BMP to reduce sediment runoff into surface water and wetlands project along 5 miles of river.
- Thoms Creek Grassed Waterway Restoration (2008): arrest gully erosion and restore floodplain function of a 5 acre meadow.

## ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE:

This Department is responsible for managing and restoring environmental and cultural values on ancestral lands. Three areas that demonstrate the Tribe's capacity for historic values on large tracts of land include the following: 1. Medicine Lake Highlands - successfully protected the pristine character of this superlative landscape with specific projects that include:

- 2 Medicine Lake Highlands ethnographic studies
- 1 Medicine Lake Historic Properties Management Plan
- Designation Traditional Cultural District with eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places

## 2. The Pit River - FERC re-licensing of Pits 1 and 2 and Pits 3, 4 & 5:

- Ethnographic studies of areas documenting the Tribe's ancient and modern cultural uses, significant plants, and geographic cultural features
- Designation of a 18,582 acres of the Pit River as an Aboriginal Cultural District, eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- A comprehensive Historic Properties Management Plan that preserves ancient sites, gathering and hunting areas, as well as a Monitoring Plan for Archaeological Resources

## 3. Collaborative Management of Ancestral Lands: The Tribe has

- Established working relationships and programmatic agreements with land management agencies that have shared responsibilities on the Tribe's Ancestral Lands.
- Memoranda of Understanding with the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Caltrans, PG&E (in progress), and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (at Ajumawi Lava Springs State Park),

- Project-specific agreements for fire management activities, planting basketry materials, trail work, archaeological restoration, and other projects.

#### SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING:

In addition to this Department's responsibility to Solid Waste and Recycling, it coordinates the Pit River Youth Resource Conservation Group. Since knowledge of the Pit River culture is passed from one generation to the next through oral history and hands-on activities, the department is developing youth education and outreach by the following activities:

1. Watershed Day Camp— this activity will strengthen the Pit River youths connection to the ecosystems of the watershed they live in.
2. Burney Creek Clean-up – this annual activity gets Pit River united with concept of clean rivers and streams in their watershed
3. Traditional Cultural Gathering at Medicine Camp on the shore of Medicine Lake. This educational outreach event brings Tribal people and their children to celebrate the connection with the land and renew Tribal ways and teachings.
12. Currently the Pit River Tribe owns in Fee title, governmental trust and reservation lands over 23,000 acres along the full length of the Pit River Watershed, and areas of the McCloud Watershed already. These lands were part of the ancestral homelands of the Pit River Indians from time-immemorial. The Pit River Tribe's current practices and management techniques have already briefly been explained in some of the questions previously answered.

#### **8. Organizational Finances**

Please provide your organization's **operating budget for the current year** and copies of your organization's **financial statements for the three most recent fiscal years** (e.g. **12/31/2009 or 6/30/2009**). We would prefer audited financial statements; however, it is more important to us that you submit the most current financial information you have. If audited financial statements are NOT available, the following (in order of preference) can be provided as a substitute: an independent auditor's review, an independent auditor's compilation with full footnote disclosure, or a complete **Income Statement and Balance Sheet** with no independent review. If you have specific questions about financial documentation, please contact Joel Wagner at the Stewardship Council at (650) 401-2159.

*Optional:* In one page or less, provide any information you would like to explain or highlight on your operating budget or financial statement.

Day-to-day operations of the Tribe's finances and budget are managed by the Tribal Administration which includes a Tribal Administrator (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer. The finance committee is the Tribal Government and the Tribe's Treasurer and their finance committee is responsible for oversight of the Tribe's finance operations.

The Tribe's operating budget is prepared annually by the Tribal Administration, Department Directors (Health, Housing, Casino, and Natural Resources and Roads) and program managers (Environment and Culture and Solid Waste). The annual budget is modified as funding becomes available. Financial statements are reviewed by the Tribal Council on a monthly basis.

The Tribe's financial department generally consists of chief financial officer, accountant, grants manager, and accounts payable and receivable, and revenue sharing clerk. Currently the Tribe's

financials are managed and monitored with Quickbooks. However, the Tribe is upgraded to fund accounting. As of February 4, 2009, the Tribe is auditing their 2007 financial statements.

The Tribe's EPA and Natural Resources and Roads Department are responsible for participation in the Watershed Stewardship Council Land Conservation and Conveyance Plan. The 2009 Operating Budget represents funding from the USEPA, Bureau of Indian Affairs, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and income generated from the XL Ranch. A description of category amounts (ie wages, contract, etc) can be provided upon request. The Tribe's BIA portions are amounts that are drawn-down into Public Law 93-638 accounts. These dollars "effectively" lose their federal identity and become Tribal Dollars, therefore amounts can be carried-forward year to year if not expended. Some of this funding is currently in Certificates of Deposits.

## **9. Key Personnel/Staff**

Please describe any current staff positions or key personnel that demonstrate experience relevant to the management of the units for which your organization has expressed an interest. You may provide a summary, and/or attach resumes, that describe the relevant experience for key staff and the proposed lead personnel for this project. Where appropriate to demonstrate organizational experience, you may include names and affiliations for your organization's governing board.

Ida Riggins (Tribal Chairman), Juan Venegas (Tribal Vice Chairman), Betty George (Tribal Secretary), Charlie White (Tribal Administrator), Clifton Skye (Natural Resources and Roads Director)\*, Sophia Villarruel, (Coordinator, Environmental and Cultural Department)\*

\*indicates resume attached

## **10. Community Engagement and Collaboration**

The Tribe has demonstrated a collaborative approach to environmental stewardship by means of partnering with local, Federal and State agencies and through these established working relationships many types of agreements have been implemented including; Programmatic Agreements, Memoranda of Understandings (MOU's), Supplemental Agreements, Participating Agreements, etc. All of which are between the Tribe and land management agencies that have shared responsibilities on the Tribe's Ancestral Lands such as the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Caltrans, PG&E (in progress), and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (at Ajumawi Lava Springs State Park). The sole purpose of these agreements vary depending on the agency, some activities carried out include; fire management activities, botany restoration , trail work, archaeological restoration, and other projects.

Through the Tribe's EPA General Assistance Program(GAP) the Tribe has incorporated an education and outreach component which is anticipated to include doing more community based projects to educate the Tribal and non Tribal members to sustain balance in the current environment we live in today. Activities to include presentations at local schools, booth display at the local health fair, annual creek clean-up day, along with other various ways to outreach to the local communities.

Another valuable component to the GAP program is the Collaborative Management component which was developed specifically to build working capacity with the local, Federal and State Agencies, this grant workplan is revised, developed and awarded on an annual basis.

## **11. Legal Compliance and Best Practices**

a.) Describe what best practices, standards, or guiding principles your organization uses to ensure all operations are legally and ethically sound and in the public interest.

The Pit River Tribe undergoes an annual audit of its finances, as a whole for the Tribe, and then each of its departments pertaining to its Grant management and application. Each department is responsible for monthly, quarterly and annual summation reports, both narrative and fiscal, pertaining to the management of its grant funding.

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The Tribe is governed by the 25 CFR (that is, the Codes of Federal Regulations) issued by the United States Government as governance of statutes, laws and regulations pertaining to all Tribes in their dealings within governmental agencies.

The Tribe has an adopted and approved “Policies and Procedures” manual governing employment with the Tribe. This manual is updated on a regular and “as needed” basis governing all aspects of employment with the Tribe.

Each Tribal department has its own set of Standard Operating Procedures, that are in compliance with the set-forth general SOP’s of the Tribe as a whole.

The Pit River Tribe adheres to a final draft “Fiscal Policy and Financial Procedures Manual” that governs the basic objectives in providing a systematic method of “Control of Internal Accounting Methods”, Fiscal and Administrative operations, in addition to the Economic Development operations of the Tribe. This Policy and its Procedures Manual is 26 pages long and is available for full review upon request.

b.) Describe any current violations of law that may involve your organization(s) in any way. The Pit River Tribe is unaware of any current violations of law.

## **12. Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

To assist the Stewardship Council in evaluating whether any actual or potential conflicts of interest may arise, please include a disclosure of any personal or financial relationships of which you are aware between (a) your organization and its members, trustees, directors, officers or stockholders, and (b) a member of the Stewardship Council’s board, his or her family members, or the board member’s constituent organization. The existence of such a relationship may or may not require the affected board member to refrain from participating in the consideration of any land transaction in which your organization is involved.

The Pit River Tribe is unaware of any real or potential conflicts of interest at this time.

### **Part 2. Section 13. Land Stewardship Information**

Please identify the specific parcel(s) or portions of parcels that your organization is interested in receiving in fee title. Please refer to the background information packet for parcel identification numbers and approximate acreage. (one page or less)

This proposal encompasses the entire Fall River Mills planning unit consisting of 71 legal parcels and totals approximately 4,837 acres of land, of which only 4,197 acres are available for fee title donation and 640 acres retained by the FERC boundary.

Under this Proposal, there would be no subdivision of legal parcels of the Property, other than those that will delineate that portion of the Property that FERC requires ownership be retained by PG&E or where is deemed necessary.

### **14. Baseline and Enhanced Land Management**

The plan laid out in this Proposal will manage the Fall River Mills Planning Unit through a collaborative approach that ensures adequate protection to the cultural and ecological resources of the Property, while permitting and supporting continuing use of the property by existing users and agreements.

There is a high degree of interdependence between all of the Beneficial Public Values relevant to the Fall River Mills planning unit. To determine the best measures for preservation and enhancement, there needs to be a comprehensive inventory and assessment of all of the resources present to establish baseline conditions.

When a comprehensive assessment of all of the resources to establish baseline conditions is completed, we will develop a wildlife and habitat management plan that integrates the beneficial public values of agricultural uses with protection of habitat, preservation of open space, outdoor recreation, and preservation of historic values.

BPV #1

#### **Protection of the Natural Habitat of Fish, Wildlife and Plants**

As stated above, the first step in determining which management strategies will be of most benefit to protecting the natural habitats will be to determine what empirical knowledge exists related to these resources on the Fall River Mills planning unit, and commencing those studies which will fill in the ‘gaps’ in existing knowledge. Once all of the initial studies are completed, a comprehensive Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan may be drafted and implemented for this planning unit.

The management plan will investigate and include all of the following aspects of the planning unit to ensure all avenues are being considered:

- Identification, management and preservation of biological resources
- Wildlife habitat studies
- Noxious weed identification and eradication

- Surface and waterway erosion control
- Surface and sub-surface water quality testing, preservation and conservation
- Identification and preservation of endangered and threatened species habitat
- Identification of degraded environments, and their remediation and restoration
- Proper prescribed grazing and agricultural practices
- Maintenance of the landscape to improve wildlife habitat

The Pit River Tribe will utilize its existing US EPA CWA 106 and 319 programs to extend its water quality monitoring technical expertise to the Fall River Mills Unit. Through public scoping meetings the Tribe will expectantly gain input on the development of this plan. In addition, Tribal wildlife grant and other habitat restoration grant funds (under such programs as those administered by the Bureau of Reclamation, USFWS, EPA and other agencies) will be sought by the Tribe to promote habitat preservation and restoration projects targeting native and threatened species.

It appears that upper Spring Creek contains the largest remaining population of Shasta crayfish; currently the Shasta Crayfish Technical Review Committee, formed by the recent Pit 1 Project and Hat Creek Project License orders, has proposed a singal crayfish barrier project at Spring Creek. In an attempt to support these efforts by the committee the Tribe will provide access to the area for restoration efforts and will provide interpretive programs on the Shasta Crayfish at the restoration site. In conjunction to the various studies and surveys proposed to take place, recovery and enhancement efforts pertaining to the Shasta Crayfish will be a part of the final Wildlife and Habitat Management Plan.

A thorough assessment of noxious weed infestations will take place in accordance to the Tribes current Noxious weed programs and funding opportunities. A management plan will be developed to include terrestrial and aquatic weed assessment and mitigations throughout the unit. The plan will be consistent and coordinated with existing PG&E noxious weed efforts, the wildlife and habitat management, rangeland management, fuels management, and forest management plans.

The Tribe will do an assessment of the damage resulting in unauthorized OHV roads, closed roads, and other areas around the Pit 1 forebay. Upon the results of the assessment the Tribe will then develop a plan to restore and revegitate those areas, to virtually eliminate any trace of damage. The possibility of walk-in access at the Pit 1 forebay will be determined within the assessment.

## BPV #2

### Preservation of Open Space

The Tribe proposes to team up with the Conservation Easement holder on an informal level in order to ensure the values of the holder and the Tribe is being met and how the Tribe can assist. The Tribe poses a unique level of expertise regarding Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, History and the ability to gain funding to meet those needs. During the initial meeting with the Easement holder an annual meeting will be suggested to assess the annual reports.

While much of the parcels in the Fall River Mills unit are unimproved open space, the core BPV that the Tribe considers a priority is the preservation of Open Space. All of the proposed and envisioned recreational and agricultural developments for the Fall River Mills planning unit focus on retaining the magnificent vistas, enhancing wildlife viewing areas, restricting vehicular access while promoting non-motorized exploration, interpretative and educational walkways, and other components that value light footprints on the ecosystem while promoting the value of open space.

#### BPV #3

##### Outdoor Recreation

Upon completion of the appropriate surveys an outdoor recreation plan will be developed. The purpose of this Outdoor Recreation plan is to have a document that outlines the objects, timeline, public input, goals and means to achieve those goals. The plan will evaluate the possibility of a community park located near the old mill, usability of the ADA fishing platform, formation of a trail from the Pit 1 powerhouse to the footbridge and a trail from the footbridge to the Pit River Falls and from the powerhouse to the BLM campground; Interpretive signage will be included where feasible along these trails. Safety of the footbridge will be assessed in coordination with the Fort Crook Historical Society.

The Tribe is hoping to develop a youth outdoor education program in collaboration with the program that will soon be developed for the McArthur Swamp planning unit, (which the Tribe is a primary partner of the Swamp Management team) being able to tie both programs together would be beneficial to both the Tribe and the McArthur Swamp Management Team as this would be a great economic opportunity as well as a perfect opportunity to create an overall approach to education of this area. This coordination would provide an education program where the youth can have various surroundings to explore; including the proposed visitor/cultural center at the Swamp and the multiple trails proposed at the Fall River. Because these two planning units are from same geographic area, the history of both planning units create a connection between the two, giving a more supportive storyline in interpreting the history and habitat of the area, thus supporting the coordination of combining programs.

It is the vision of the Tribe to focus on youth ages K thru 12 with programs focusing on biology, conservation, stewardship, sustainable agriculture and Native American studies, all of which are incorporated in the proposal for the McArthur Swamp.

#### BPV #4

##### Sustainable Forestry

The Tribe currently has in effect a Forestry Management Plan developed by the Natural Resources and Roads Dept. and signed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs forestry department and the Tribal Chairperson. This management plan includes best management practices that allow the land to be valued on forest use rather than the land's highest and best use, therefore maximizing economic values all the while sustaining the ecological balance of the land.

A Forest management section for the Fall River Mills Planning Unit will be included in the Planning Unit management plan in conjunction with the Tribe's already implemented Forestry

Management plan and will be coordinated with the noxious weed management plan, wildlife and habitat management, and rangeland management.

BPV #5

Agricultural Uses

a.) The objective of the beneficial public value of Agricultural Uses is to preserve and enhance grazing in order to support associated economic benefits, as well as to protect open space and habitat resources. The actual historical agricultural usage of the Fall River Valley consists of grazing.

Grazing will be conducted in accordance to a range management plan that specifies grazing practices that address soil and water conservation, erosion control, pest management, nutrient management, vegetation management habitat protection and cultural resources management. A monitoring and adaptive management strategy will be developed to address any need to protect adversely affected resources.

With the acquisition of ground water rights it may be possible to enhance some of the grazing areas with irrigation. Any enhancement of a grazing area will be done in a sustainable manner, in harmony with all of the resources and based on the most current data from appropriate surveys.

**b.) Honoring Existing Agreements for Economic Use**

Currently there are two grazing leases on the Fall River Mills Planning issued by PG&E. These leases are automatically renewed on an annual basis.

We recognize that the existing leaseholder depends on the Fall River Mills planning unit for grazing pasture and its importance in providing economic benefit for both the leaseholder and the fee title holder.

We intend to honor the existing grazing leases as long as the existing leaseholder remains in the cattle/horse business. Terms of the lease may reduce the total number of AUM's based on a range management plan developed to be consistent with the Beneficial Public Values.

BPV #6

Preservation of Historic Values

The Pit River Tribe will be responsible for conducting a comprehensive resource study needed to develop baseline conditions. Such components of this study will include the cultural study and monitoring necessary to identify, preserve and protect the Fall River Mills cultural resources.

**The Proposal's Cultural Component –**

1.) The use of Pit River Tribe Cultural Monitors to properly assist in any enhancement/development while preserving and protecting its cultural resources. The PRT Cultural Monitors will survey and site monitor known archeological sites and new development activity to ensure the preservation of culturally sensitive and sacred areas in the divested lands. They will also continue to work with PG&E in the same capacity on the retained lands. This will

allow for continuity and consistency in both the Donee and Retained lands to their approaches of future development and monitoring.

The PRT Illmawi Band Cultural Monitors, who are indigenous to the area, would work with the Tribes staff archeologist involved in historical/cultural preservation in helping to identifying culturally sensitive areas. They would make recommendations on how to limit their access to the public, and help create demarcated boundaries for cultural site preservation.

Within the administration of the Pit River Tribe itself, the Archeological Department will take the lead on the identification and preservation of Native American cultural sites. The Tribe, through its many negotiated government to government MOU's, currently assists the USFS, BLM, CalTrans and the BIA among many other organizations, as well as PG&E and many other private businesses and agencies, in monitoring development in ancestral areas.

The Pit River Tribe was instrumental in developing the Pit 1 Project Programmatic Agreement, as well as negotiating with PG&E on the development and utilization of its other holdings in Pit River Tribe ancestral homelands. It has completed the re-licensing agreements for Pit 3, 4 & 5, and it is currently working with PG&E on its re-licensing agreements for Pit 6 & 7. No one organization is better qualified than the Pit River Tribe in the implementation of these requirement aspects of the Fall River Mills objectives.

There also exists an opportunity for the Tribe to utilize BIA – Indian Reservation Roads funding to help develop and maintain the roads, trails and parking infrastructure components of the proposed Fall River Mills Recreational Development Plan. The Tribe could petition the *Native American Byways* organization to help fund a portion of the development of the proposed day use areas.

#### Timeline For Enhancement Measures

The priority of the Tribe is to inventory watershed studies relevant to the Fall River Mills that have been completed and to determine from this information what future studies need to be done. The Second priority is to conduct the surveys that have been deemed necessary following review by the Tribe. Two Public scoping meetings will be held to ensure input during this process before and after development of the management plan. The specific survey/studies necessary to develop a management plan are:

1. Fish and Wildlife Resources
2. Survey of Botanical Resources
3. Soils Survey
4. Water Resource
5. Ethnographic Study
6. Rangeland Management Study
7. Threatened and Endangered Species Survey
8. Habitat Distribution
9. Cultural Resource Surveys

Once all of the surveys are completed, there will be data available to develop a management plan that encompasses all of Beneficial Public Values. Without all of the Fall River Mills information available, it is difficult to present a comprehensive and detailed management plan with all of the required specifics. The following is the concept we hope the data will support.

#### First Year

- Assemble and create a database of all existing studies of the Fall River Mills planning unit and determine which aspects need additional detail;
- Create a management team to initiate the survey, design, and environmental review/input of the necessary studies and surveys to be completed (team to consist of public participants, Tribal Council, Tribal members, Tribal Environmental Dept. staff, Tribal Natural Resources Director and staff, and Tribal staff Archeologist);
- Initiate and complete development of a Terrestrial and Noxious Weed management plan and continue noxious weed control with an emphasis on A-rated weeds;
- Initiate development of the planning unit management plan detailing rangeland grazing use and objectives, management strategy, erosion control, cultural resources protection and preservation, vegetation management, pest management, etc.;
- Initiate surveys outside the FERC boundary to identify cultural resources present on the Property;
- Initiate ethnographic surveys on land outside the FERC boundary to determine traditional cultural practices;
- Initiate development of a fuels management plan, fire management and Response plan;
- Work with the Pit River Tribe staff Archeologist and representatives of the Illmawi band to coordinate and conduct cultural resources surveys;
- Beginning the first year after recordation of the conservation easement, and after all site visits are conducted, then the reports and supporting materials will be reviewed and a final monitoring report will be conducted.

#### Second year

- Complete development of the planning unit management plan detailing rangeland grazing use and objectives, management strategy, erosion control, cultural resources protection and preservation, vegetation management, pest management, etc.;
- Develop a wildlife and habitat management plan for lands outside the FERC boundary balancing continuing agricultural uses with habitat protections and enhancements;
- Expand Noxious Weed Management program to private and FERC land boundaries adjacent to the Fall River Mills Planning unit;
- Support PG&E recovery efforts for Shasta crayfish;
- Complete the rangeland management plan;
- Continue traditional cultural properties and cultural resources surveys of lands outside the FERC boundary to identify on the Property;
- Complete ethnographic surveys on land outside the FERC boundary determining traditional land uses;
- Assess and determine the noise impacts from the Hat creek rifle club;
- Complete a fuels management plan, fire management and Response plan;
- Meeting on an Annual basis with the conservation easement holder regarding the terms of the monitoring of the easement will be following the same procedure as the first year;

#### Third year

- Study recreational usage of the PG&E retained lands to determine usage levels, needs of recreational users, and how recreational usage of PG&E lands impacts the resources of the land outside the FERC boundary and develop an outdoor recreation plan (plan to include interpretive signage);
- Continued support of PG&E's recovery efforts for Shasta Crayfish;
- Revisit and revise the Wildlife and Habitat management plan as new information is discovered on an annual basis;
- Meeting on an Annual basis with the conservation easement holder regarding the terms of the monitoring of the easement will be following the same procedure as the first year;

#### Fourth year

- Revisit and revise the planning unit management plan as new information is discovered on an annual basis;
- Continued support of PG&E's recovery efforts for Shasta Crayfish;
- In accordance to the Outdoor Recreation plan, a day use area along Fall River, a parking area nearby, and a trail from day use to parking area will be developed.
- Initiate development of a youth outdoor education program, based on findings of the assessment done in year three.
- Meeting on an Annual basis with the conservation easement holder regarding the terms of the monitoring of the easement will be following the same procedure as the first year;

#### Fifth year

- Work with PG&E to investigate cooperating to install interpretive signage regarding wildlife stewardship along the river near the proposed trails;
- Work with BLM to investigate cooperating to install interpretive signs at the campground areas regarding local history, role in hydropower generation, habitat restoration, traditional plants, and Native American heritage in the area;
- Continued support of PG&E's recovery efforts for Shasta Crayfish;
- Revisit the Rangeland Management Plan to determine if revisions are necessary;
- If deemed feasible in the youth education plan, implement a youth outdoor education program.

#### Sixth year and beyond

- Determine if further enhancements or improvements would benefit the users, resources, and conditions of the Fall River Mills (such as shade structures at the day use area)
- Determine feasibility of installing a youth camp on land outside the FERC boundaries and whether funding exists to complete the project.

#### **Physical Enhancements/Capital Improvements**

For the Fall River Mills planning unit, the Tribe is proposing to develop trails and possibly a community park near the old mill; the development will consist of installation of bathrooms, picnic table areas, shade structures, interpretive signage, parking area, trails,etc. These improvements are consistent with public needs and recommendations provided by the

Stewardship Council in LCP Volume II; all the while adhering to the applicable regulatory requirements such as NEPA, and CEQA just as the Tribe routinely does when such developments are done.

The Pit River Tribe will also be able to provide certain equipment and personnel for the work to be done in this program, as part of a cost-share policy.

There also exists an opportunity for the Tribe to utilize BIA – Indian Reservation Roads funding to help develop and maintain the roads, trails and parking infrastructure components of the proposed Fall River Mills planning unit Recreational Development Plan. The Tribe could petition the *Native American Byways* organization to help fund the development of the proposed day use areas.

### **Land Conservation Partners and Youth Opportunities**

As a Federally Recognized Tribe, there are constant opportunities to collaborate with Federal and State agencies on environmental stewardship.

The Tribe has been communicating with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and has expressed interest in gaining their support in the efforts of pursuing the activities and responsibilities identified in this proposal. The Tribe currently has a Noxious Weed Contract and Archeological survey contract with the Alturas BLM and is continually working to combine efforts to achieve common goals in caring for the land; specific to this planning unit, the Tribe hopes to gain grants and funding through the BLM to carry out Noxious Weed control efforts and completion of an Archeological Survey of the unit.

For the Youth related activities described in the *BPV #3 Outdoor Recreation* section, the Tribe hopes to coordinate with the McArthur Swamp Management Team in collaborating youth outdoor education plans. Because the Tribe holds a vote on the Management team with the Fall River RCD and Technical Advisory Committee the Tribe is certain that the efforts of the Fall River Mills Planning Unit are so much in sync with the Swamp that collaborating the plans will be an accepted concept. Having an overall partnership will be a successful way in capturing the geographic area as a whole in educating youth and visitors of the areas history, wildlife and habitat.

### **Public Input**

According to public scoping meetings and recommendations from the public provided in the LCP, the Tribe has concurred and for the most part included as much public input as possible in this proposal, but also plans to hold annual public scoping meetings (until year six) to gain continual participation from the public while in the process of development.

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
 Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan  
 Insert Planning Unit Name

**PROJECT BUDGET - TRANSACTION COSTS**

**A. Document Preparation Costs**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again -> select insert copied cells

**A. Total Document Preparation Costs**

**B. Closing Costs**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again -> select insert copied cells

**B. Total Closing Costs**

**C. Other**

Task	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	Funding Request	Comments
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						
Input Activity						

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again -> select insert copied cells

**C. Total Other**

**TOTAL TRANSACTION COSTS**

Additional Notes:

**Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan  
Insert Planning Unit Name**

**PROJECT BUDGET - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES (SEE NOTE 1)**

## PROJECT REVENUES

Source	Description	Non- SC Sources of Funding		Comments
		One-Time Grants	Ongoing Funding	
<b>Committed Funds (cash received or award made)</b>				
Grant Awards				
Fundraising				
Matching Funds				
Lease Revenues				
Timber Revenues				
General Fund/Reserves				
Other (Describe)				
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>		-	-	-
<b>Pending Funds (no award made to date)</b>				
Grant Awards				
Fundraising				
Matching Funds				
General Fund/Reserves				
Other (Describe)				
<b>Total Pending or Potential Funds</b>		-	-	-

## PROJECT EXPENSES

## A Baseline Management Activities

**Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan  
Insert Planning Unit Name**

#### **A. Total Baseline Management Activities**

## B. Baseline Land Ownership Costs

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## B. Total Baseline Land Ownership Costs

**C. Other**

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**C. Total Other**

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## TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES

#### NET REVENUE/(EXPENSE) - BASELINE LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

#### Additional Notes:

**Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council**  
**Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan**  
**Insert Planning Unit Name**

**Note 1:** According to the Stewardship Council's Land Conservation Program Funding Policy, the Stewardship Council will require future land owners to demonstrate that they have the funding and other capacity to maintain that property interest so as to preserve and/or enhance the beneficial values on the Watershed Lands. Exceptions to this guideline will be rare and considered only in circumstances where,  
1) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities will clearly lead to enhancement of the beneficial public values on the lands; and/or,  
2) The funding of baseline land ownership and management activities is only temporary (≤5 years).

## **PROJECT BUDGET - ENHANCEMENTS TO BENEFICIAL PUBLIC VALUES**

## PROJECT REVENUES

## PROJECT EXPENSES

## B. Preservation of Open Space

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council  
 Land Stewardship Proposal Budget and Funding Plan  
 Fall River Mills Planning Unit

**C. Outdoor Recreation**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Outdoor recreation plan			1.00	15,000.00			15,000.00		
Interpretive signage			1.00	7,000.00			7,000.00		
Trail work			1.00	10,000.00			10,000.00		
Youth Program	Coordinate with other organizations		1.00	25,000.00			25,000.00		
Project management				25,000.00					Ongoing annual until revenue is consistent for mgmt
Input Activity	See complete list of necessary surveys in proposal under #14						25,000.00		25,000.00 of this unit
<b>Total Habitat Maintenance</b>				<b>82,000.00</b>			<b>57,000.00</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>	

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells

**PROJECT EXPENSES**

**D. Sustainable Forestry**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Forestry Mgmt Plan			1.00	25,000.00			25,000.00		
Project management				25,000.00					Ongoing annual until revenue is consistent for mgmt
Input Activity	See complete list of necessary surveys in proposal under #14						25,000.00		25,000.00 of this unit
<b>Total Habitat Maintenance</b>				<b>50,000.00</b>			<b>25,000.00</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>	

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells

**PROJECT EXPENSES**

**E. Preservation of Historic Values**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Cultural Rscs Study,survey			1.00	25,000.00			25,000.00		
Ethnographic Study			1.00	25,000.00			25,000.00		
Project Management				25,000.00					One time request to get the studies done and the 25,000.00 Tribal Archeologist to obtain funds from
<b>Total Habitat Maintenance</b>				<b>75,000.00</b>			<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>	

To add a row: right click on the row above -> select copy -> right click again ->select insert copied cells

**F. Reporting and Overhead**

Task	Description	Unit of Measure	Number of Units	Cost/Unit	One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	SC Funding Request		Comments
							One-Time Costs	Ongoing Annual Costs	
Data Management	Admin Asst		1.00	10,000.00			10,000.00		
Bookkeeping & Finances (see above)									Tribal Archeologist to obtain funds from
Fringe	(included in Admin asst & project mgmt compensation)								
<b>Total Reporting and Overhead</b>				<b>10,000.00</b>			<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>	

**TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES (year# 1-6)** **409,670.00**

**NET REVENUE(EXPENSE)-ONGOING MANAGEMENT (per year)** **87,408.00**