PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Please complete a unique Project Information Form for each project in the application. There are no character limits on specific questions but the Project Information Form as a whole may not exceed 10 pages.

1. Project Name: Weaverville CSD Drought Resliency & Water Reliability Project

2. Local Project Sponsor (if different than grantee): Weaverville Community Services District (WCSD)

3. Please provide the latitude and longitude of the project site. For linear projects or those covering a large area, report the coordinates for a central point. If this information is confidential, it must be clearly labeled "confidential." You can find the latitude and longitude easily using google maps. You can find instructions at the following link: https://support.google.com/maps/answer/18539?hl=en&co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop.

   Latitude: 40.650929 Longitude: -122.941438

4. Please briefly describe the proposed project.

   Weaverville CSD's proposed East Branch East Weaver Creek (East Branch) drought resiliency and water reliability project consists of constructing a new water main and 2 fire hydrants to connect those in a critically underserved, high fire danger area in exchange for year-round forbearance of water rights. This project improves domestic water resiliency during drought, while also conserving instream flow for anadromous fisheries.

   The work proposed for East Branch consists of construction of ~2,100 ft of a 6' PVC main line trenched along East Branch Rd and 9 meters to deliver WCSD water to landowners for domestic needs and the installation of 2 fire hydrants in exchange for the year round forbearance of water rights to both Hansen Mine Ditch (collectively 1.25cfs) and riparian rights to East Branch Creek. Hansen Mine Ditch is an inefficient, open, high-maintenance ditch that diverts East Branch Creek water. Landowners would switch to the WCSD's more reliable, efficient source of potable water. The new hydrants will improve fire protection for 15-25 homes located in a fire prone area with only one escape route. Design and permitting are complete with a bid package already drafted, making this a shovel-ready project. This project was started with a previous partner grant but could not be implemented largely due to supply shortages and enormous price increases (152% increase since August 2020 for the 6" main line alone) caused in large part by COVID that exceeded the available budget and grant lifespan. The existing bid package would be quickly updated to facilitate speedy implementation of this project (expected completion within one construction season after execution of award). Budget estimates are based on bids received this summer with a small contingency in the event of further price increases. A new grant has been secured to help implement this project (see Q15). This project is the culmination of years of outreach to landowners in the watershed. Given their large collective water right and highly inefficient ditch, it was definitely viewed as a potential low hanging fruit. After several different approaches were considered and presented to

landowners over several years, this was the best, most efficient solution to preseve instream flow and provide landowners with a reliable water source. It should also be noted that this project is one of a few in the East Weaver Creek watershed designed to preserve flow for instream beneficial uses. There are additional projects underway by project partners that target water quality. Altogether, once completed these project are anticipated to have a synergistic effect to improve watershed conditions.

5. Does this project respond to an existing emergency to humans and/or wildlife? If so, please describe the emergency and how this project is addressing it.

   WCSD's proposed Drought Resliency & Water Reliability Project provides benefits to an underrepresented community facing a Human Right to Water challenge. East Weaver Creek is a coho salmon (federally listed as threatened) bearing stream in which a fish kill was documented on August 29, 2021, due to the lack of water. East Branch consists of constructing a 2,100 ft water main along East Branch Rd to landowners on East Branch East Weaver Creek in exchange for year round forbearance of water rights to Hansen Mine Ditch (collectively 1.25cfs) as well as 5 individual riparian rights. East Branch landowners with only riparian water rights have found it harder to meet their domestic needs and leave water for downstream users and instream needs in dry years.

   This project will preserve instream flow within East Branch East Weaver Creek, which enters East Weaver Creek immediately below the project location for this component. Both creeks are coho bearing streams challenged by low summer flows. The Water Supply Reliability benefit is achieved while also preserving instream flows in key coho bearing streams. East Branch landowners that have Hansen Mine Ditch rights have to undertake a significant amount of work to maintain the inefficient, open ditch and would prefer to have more reliable WCSD water. New hydrants will improve fire protection for 15-25 homes located in a fire prone area with only one escape route. Design and permitting are complete with a bid package already drafted, making this a shovel-ready project.

   Below is WCSD's Human Right to Water scoring relative to water quality, accessibility and affordability indicators. The proposed Drought Resliency & Water Reliability Project would help address physical vulnerabilities and improvements to built infrastructure by expanding WCSD service to additional households. The East Branch Rd service area is considered a Severely Economically Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) per the NCRP data map (located at https://northcoastresourcepartnership.org/data/). In addition to lack of domestic water during extended drought conditions, this community has also suffered from wildfires that are increasing in intensity during drought.

   HR2W: Water Quality Score (possible range: 0 - 4)
   WCSD's Water Quality Composite Score: 0.12
   Data Availability Score: 3
   This system had: 1-7 contaminants (out of 14) with req. data in study period.

   HR2W: Water Accessibility Score (possible range: 0 - 4)
   WCSD's Water Accessibility Composite Score: 0.50
   Physical Vulnerability to Water Outages Score: 0.50

HR2W: Water Affordability
This system serves 3,554 people.
WBCSD's Water Affordability Composite Score is: 2

6. Each project must meet one of the following purposes as it relates to drought. Please select the appropriate purpose for your project.
    a. ☒Address immediate impacts on human health and safety, including providing or improving availability of food, water, or shelter.
    b. ☒Address immediate impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
    c. ☒Provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.

7. Each project must enhance regional drought resilience and align with the goals and objectives of the relevant approved Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. You can find the relevant IRWM Region by using the map at the following link: https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/

    The IRWM Plans can be found at the following link: https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs/Plan-Review-Process. If you have any questions about the IRWM region the contact list can be found at the following link: https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/IRWM-Grant-Programs. Applicants are encouraged to contact and coordinate with the applicable RWMG for the IRWM region in which the project is located

    Please identify the IRWM objective your project addresses.

    GOAL 2: ECONOMIC VITALITY [Project supports DACs with project implementation that inproves the built infrastructure by expanding WCSD service to additional households.]
    -Objective 4 – Ensure that economically disadvantaged communities are supported and that project implementation enhances the economic vitality of disadvantaged communities by improving built and natural infrastructure systems and promoting adequate housing
    -Objective 5 – Conserve and improve the economic benefits of North Coast Region working landscapes and natural areas

    GOAL 3: ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT [Targeted communities rely on natural resource based economies that will benefit from enhanced instream flow. Enhanced instream flow also benefits aquatic and riparian habitats and species including that of federally listed coho salmon.]
    -Objective 6 – Conserve, enhance, and restore watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, including functions, habitats, and elements that support biological diversity
    -Objective 7 – Enhance salmonid populations by conserving, enhancing, and restoring required habitats and watershed processes

    GOAL 4: BENEFICIAL USES OF WATER [East Branch residents will have improved water supply reliability while preserving water previously diverted through an inefficient ditch for instream flow.]
    -Objective 8 – Ensure water supply reliability and quality for municipal, domestic, agricultural, Tribal, and recreational uses while minimizing impacts to sensitive resources

    GOAL 5: CLIMATE ADAPTATION & ENERGY INDEPENDENCE [The East Branch community

has experienced drought regularly in the last 10 years and more. This project will improve water supply reliability for these residents.]
-Objective 11 – Address climate change effects, impacts, vulnerabilities, including droughts, fires, floods, and sea level rise. Develop adaptation strategies for local and regional sectors to improve air and water quality and promote public health
-Objective 12 – Promote local energy independence, water/ energy use efficiency, GHG emission reduction, and jobs creation

GOAL 6: PUBLIC SAFETY [The East Branch community is a fire prone area, only has one viable ingress/egress point, and would benefit from installation of fire hydrants to expand fire fighting capacity.]
-Objective 13 – Improve flood protection, forest and community resiliency to reduce the public safety impacts associated with floods and wildfires

8. Describe the Primary Benefit of the project.
   Quantified benefit: 1
   Units (Drop down):Cubic feet per second If other please enter:

   Benefit Type: Water Conservation If other please enter:

9. Describe the Secondary Benefit of the project:
   Quantified benefit:
   Units (Drop down):Other If other please enter:multiple see Q10
   Benefit Type: Water Supply Reliability If other please enter:

10. Please briefly describe how the project will achieve the claimed benefits.
    East Branch consists of constructing a 2,100 ft water main along East Branch Rd to landowners on East Branch East Weaver Creek in exchange for year round forbearance of water rights to Hansen Mine Ditch (collectively 1.25cfs) as well as 5 individual riparian rights. This will preserve instream flow within East Branch East Weaver Creek, which enters East Weaver Creek immediately below the project location for this component. Both creeks are coho bearing streams challenged by low summer flows. The Water Supply Reliability benefit is achieved through the East Branch water main extension. This would improve reliability while also preserving instream flows in key coho bearing streams. East Branch landowners that have Hansen Mine Ditch rights have to undertake a significant amount of work to maintain the inefficient, open ditch and would prefer to have more reliable WCSD water.

11. Briefly describe how the community/area benefiting from this project is being impacted by the current drought.
    The Trinity River watershed has had two Critically Dry consecutive water years in 2021 and 2020. In the last 10 water years, 60% have been dry: 40% Critically Dry; and 20% Dry. The County has issued drought declarations multiple times in that period. The WCSD recognizes the importance of preserving instream flow for aquatic species and instream habitat yet also has to meet the needs of the community. It is becoming more and more challenging to balance those needs as drought conditions become more common and seem to be the new normal. East Branch landowners with only riparian water rights have found it harder to meet their domestic needs and leave water for downstream users and instream needs in dry years.

12. How will this project alleviate the impacts described in your answer to Question 11?

The construction of the water main along East Branch Rd would improve reliability of water to those landowners, particularly those with only riparian rights.

13. Please complete the following budget table for the project. (Identify funding sources in Question 15)

	BUDGET CATEGORY	Grant Amount	All Other Cost	Total Cost
(a)	Project Administration	20,100	4,100	**24,200**
(b)	Land Purchase / Easement			
(c)	Planning / Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation	75,900		**75,900**
(d)	Construction / Implementation	404,000	75,000	479,000
	TOTAL COSTS	500,000	79,100	**579,100**

14. Please describe why state funding is needed for this project. If state funding is not secured, what will happen to the project?

WCSD is a small, rural district with relatively low water rates and does not have the funds to undertake these projects without outside funding. If this proposal is not funded, other funds will have to be pursued, which would delay the implementation of the proposed project. This would delay the year-round forbearance of 1.25cfs of water in the East Branch East Weaver Creek coho bearing stream that regularly experiences challenges from low flow and prevent the WCSD from being able to start the processes of reducing reliance on East Weaver Creek. It took landowners on East Branch several years to come around to the idea of doing this kind of implementation approach that would require them having to forbear their water rights. The support is there now to finish the project. WCSD would like to act quickly to avoid having to spend more effort re-engaging landowners.

15. Will the applicant provide cost share (encouraged but not required) and/or will this project require any additional funding from sources other than this solicitation? If so, please describe the funding source and indicate if the funding has been secured. If the funding has not been secured, please describe the plan to secure the necessary funding.

Yes. A grant from the US Fish & Wildlife Service has been secured by a project partner that has $75,000 budgeted for the East Branch project.

16. Is land acquisition or landowner permission required for this project? If so, please briefly describe the status of the acquisition or agreement with the landowner. If the acquisition is not complete or permission not secured at the time of application, please describe the plan to complete it.

The East Branch project requires landowner permission. All landowners have agreed to the design of the project to/on their individual parcels. Landowners have reviewed draft landowner forbearance/permission agreements. All but one landowner has emailed their concurrence with the terms of the agreement. The remaining landonwer is still reviewing the terms, but has expressed support via email for the project. If selected, landowner agreements will be finalized and executed within 2 months of Agreement Start Date.

17. Has planning and design for this project been completed? If not, please describe the status of planning and design.
    East Branch planning and design are complete except for execution of landowner agreements (see previous Q16).

18. Are the CEQA (and NEPA if applicable) and permitting processes for this project complete? If not, please briefly describe the permits and CEQA (or NEPA) documents to be completed and projected schedule for completion.
    Yes. East Branch CEQA has been completed (SCH#2021060491) and NEPA is addressed through the 2000 Trinity River Mainstem Fishery EIS/EIR and 2009 Channel Rehabilitation and Sediment Management for Remaining Phase 1 and Phase 2 Sites Master EIR.

19. Please briefly describe the necessary construction/implementation for this project.
    This project involves tying into the existing 8" WCSD main line and extending a 6" C900 main line ~2,100 ft up East Branch Road. The project includes installing 9 meter boxes, backflow preventers as necessary and two fire hydrants. Installation of the main line includes sawcutting road surface, laying pipe, backfilling and compacting with imported fill, resurfacing road, pressure testing and disinfecting new main line. Detailed construction plans and specifications are available upon request.

20. Please complete the schedule below for the project. Projects must be complete by March 31, 2026, to allow time for final invoice processing and retention payment before the State funds expire on June 30, 2026. Project administration should end at least three months after construction.

	Categories	**Start Date**	**End Date**
(a)	Project Administration	4/1/2022	12/31/2024
(b)	Land Purchase / Easement		
(c)	Planning/ Design / Engineering / Environmental Documentation		
(d)	Construction/ Implementation	7/15/2022	10/15/2022