

**Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act Reauthorized by Public Law 115-141
Title II Project
Submission Form USDA
Forest Service**

El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee

Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official): ELD-2201

Funding Fiscal Year(s): FY21

2. Project Name: Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection	3a. State: California 3b. County(s): El Dorado
4. Project Submitted By: Matt Brown	5. Date: 4/14/2022
6. Contact Phone Number: [REDACTED]	7. Contact E-mail: [REDACTED]

8. Project Location:	
a. National Forest(s): ELDORADO NF	b. Forest Service District: Amador RD
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) T.8N., R.13E., Section 13, SE1/4	

9. Project Goals and Objectives: The goal is to protect a California rare plant population (<i>Diplacus pulchellus</i>, rare plant rank 1B.2) and sensitive Lava Cap habitat being damaged by illegal vehicle traffic by eliminating vehicle access into this sensitive area.
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10. Project Description:

a. **Brief:** (*in one sentence*) Replace breached fencing along Omo Ranch Rd (County Rd ELD 35) and place barrier rocks along Forest Rd 8N62 to stop ongoing damage to State Rare plants and sensitive Lava Cap habitat from illegal vehicle travel off of Omo Ranch Rd.

b. **Detailed: The Problem:** A population of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower (a California rare plant) was discovered in 2016 within the Eldorado National Forest (ENF). This population is located on the edge of a lava cap between Omo Ranch Road (T.8N., R.13E. Sec.13). and 8N62. This plant population is the northernmost occurrence of this rare plant on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, and the only occurrence in El Dorado County. Lava caps are a unique, highly sensitive ecological habitat which are highly prone to damage because they are often fairly flat, have little brushy vegetation (due to their very shallow soils) and do not appear to be vegetated when they dry out during the summer. However, they are designated by the ENF as a “watchlist” community and host a unique plant assemblage with several Forest Service Sensitive and unusual plant species.

At the time of the discovery of this Monkeyflower population, an unauthorized vehicle route traversed adjacent to the rare plant site. This route was blocked off with rocks, limbs and other vegetation. near where the illegal route leaves 8N62. Where the illegal route leaves Omo Ranch Rd, the barbed-wire fence has been repeatedly cut and breached. The fence has been repaired several times, but illegal vehicle travel has continued (see attached photos of ruts and vegetation damage). Another illegal route traverses a portion of the lava cap area to the east. This route also shows evidence of ongoing use, rutting and damage. As recently as March 14, 2022 the fence was repaired and damaged within 15 days.

The Solution: The proposal is to start with improving the fencing and installing barrier rocks in the immediate areas where motor vehicles have been accessing the lava cap area. The project also includes completing needed environmental analysis and restoring or rehabilitating the areas of damaged vegetation. Through monitoring of the site, a second phase may be proposed to extend the fencing and barrier rocks, if needed. This second phase would be a separate, future application and those costs are not included in this proposal.

This project will:

- Replace a segment of the barbed wire fence with a 2-rail welded tubular fence for 250 feet along Omo Ranch Rd to restrict motor vehicle access into the lava cap area from Omo Ranch Rd. This fence will extend along the existing pullout along this segment of road. This work will be completed by a fence contractor.
- Installation of barrier rocks where the two illegal routes leave Forest Road 8N62 (as shown on the attached maps). About 75 feet of barrier rocks will be placed along the roadside of 8N62 at the intersection with 8N62A. The barrier rocks will extend for about 50 feet along the 8N62 roadside edge at the eastern illegal route. This work will be completed by the purchase and delivery of barrier rocks and contracting with an equipment operator for placement of barrier rocks.
- Forest staff will work with volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and others, to assist in the obliteration or masking of the illegal trails and repair of the ruts that have been created. Volunteers will also assist with painting of the welded pipe fence, if needed.
- This project also includes the completion of necessary environmental analysis (anticipated to be a Categorical Exclusion).

10. Project Description (continued):

- This project also includes the completion of necessary environmental analysis (anticipated to be a Categorical Exclusion).

11. Types of Lands Involved?

If non-federal land, please provide a brief description of what type of coordination is needed with regard to other related project(s) on adjacent lands. Is the sequence of project implementation important for achieving a successful outcome? Will the achievement of stated project goals and objectives be contingent on the implementation of other related or complimentary project(s) on adjacent lands?

Federal lands? Yes No
State/Private/Other lands involved? Yes No

If non-federal land, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (Check at least 1)

- Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.
- Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.
- Restores and improves land health.
- Restores water quality

13. Project Type

a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): Replace existing fence with new fencing | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Fuels Management/Fire Prevention |

<input type="checkbox"/> Implement CWPP Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify):
b. Primary Purpose (select only 1 from above): Other Infrastructure Maintenance	

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish	
Miles of road maintained:	
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:	
Number of structures maintained/improved:	250 feet of fence line replaced with 2-rail welded pipe fence 4 feet tall. Also install approximately 125 feet of barrier rocks to restrict future motor vehicle access.
Acres of soil productivity improved:	
Miles of stream/river restored/improved:	
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:	
Acres of native species reestablished:	Approximately 3 acres of Lava Cap habitat will be restored and protected.
Acres of hazardous fuel treatment	
Miles of trail maintained:	
Miles of trail obliterated:	Obliterate or mask 0.5 miles of illegal motor vehicle route.
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction):	
Acres of rangeland improved:	
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved:	
Acres of noxious weeds controlled:	
Timber volume generated (mbf):	
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty-hour weeks:	1/20 of an FTE
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention):	

Direct economic activity benefit:	
Other:	

15. Estimated Project Start Date:	16. Estimated Project Completion Date:
August 1, 2022	July 31, 2023

17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved? List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.
 Describe how the proposed project will improve cooperative relationships among people that use National Forest System lands.

The project will work in partnership with volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society in order to protect the Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower (*Diplacus pulchellus*). Volunteers will help with obliteration and masking of the illegal motor vehicle routes, painting the fence if needed and monitoring the site to determine the success of the project and to identify any future impacts by eliminating the illegal motor vehicle route, Forest users will be more likely to avoid traveling in areas not authorized for motor vehicle use and will avoid impacting a sensitive area.

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will provide job opportunities to local contractors for fence placement and barrier rock installation. The project will also provide opportunities for community volunteers to participate in the protection and enhancement of these ecologically important National Forest lands.

19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?
Answer this question only for those Title II projects where implementation is proposed on non-national forest lands. Title II projects to be implemented on state, county, or private lands must have a clear description of benefits for national forest lands and/or resources. For example, a culvert replacement on non-federal lands may improve passage of bull trout migrating upstream to federal lands.

20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment? (check at least 1)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers

<input type="checkbox"/> Grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Americorps	<input type="checkbox"/> YCC/CCC Crews
<input type="checkbox"/> Job Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> Merchantable Timber Pilot	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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22. Anticipated Total Project Costs:	\$24,770
a. Title II Funds Requested:	\$15,950
b. Is this a multi-year funding request?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding: For all other sources of funding, please identify the source(s) of contribution and the amount(s) being contributed by source(s). Other sources of funding may include, but are not limited to, donated labor and/or materials.
Volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter, CNPS will contribute approximately 91 hours of labor, with a value of \$2,730. Contributed time conducting future monitoring is estimated to be \$300 per year. In addition, the El Dorado Chapter CNPS will contribute \$250 for paint, brushes and other supplies.

24. Monitoring Plan <i>(provide as attachment if large)</i> Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above. Identify who will conduct the monitoring. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k).
In the past, the rare plant site has been monitored on an informal, non-scheduled basis. Future monitoring will consist of monthly inspections by FS OHV Patrols or Law Enforcement patrols as they go to the Elkins/Gold Note OHV Areas or as they travel along Omo Ranch Rd. Monitoring will consist of visual inspections of the access points to the unauthorized routes and photographs will be taken as appropriate. Monitoring reports will be submitted to the Forest Botanist for retention in Forest files. In addition, EDC-CNPS volunteers will continue to conduct semi-annual site visits to assess conditions. These volunteers will submit reports to the ENF Botanist following site visits.

25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.
If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

- Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.
- Other, please explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

26. MAPS: Attach your map to the project proposal. Map should be no bigger than 8 1/2" by 11" size. Keep the electronic file size as small as possible without loss of detail. The following information should be contained on the map: project title, project boundary, stream names, road numbers, legal location - township, range, and section designations; scale bar, compass orientation, and legend. The map scale should be no larger than 2.64 inches/mile (1:24,000) and no smaller than 1 inch/mile (1:63,360).

Project Recommended By:	Project Approved By:
CHARLES LOFFLAND <small>Digitally signed by CHARLES LOFFLAND Date: 2022.04.12 09:04:19 -07'00'</small>	
Chairperson El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee	Forest Supervisor Eldorado National Forest

Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

TIPS – Please include data in Column A if the Federal Agency is providing/has provided contributions to this project (there is usually a cost to the federal agency as they must create and administer the agreements and/or oversee the projects). If you have donations in kind (donated labor and/or materials) please indicate under Column C to receive credit for them.

Worksheet 1 - Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA	\$500	\$1,500		\$2,000
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition				
e. Project Design & Engineering				
f. Contract/Grant Preparation	\$1,440			\$1,440
g. Contract/Grant Administration	\$2,400			\$2,400
h. Contract/Grant Cost		\$13,750		\$13,750
i. Salaries		\$700	\$2,730	\$3,430
j. Materials & Supplies			\$250	\$250
k. Monitoring	\$1,200		\$300	\$1,500
l. Other – ex: Partner Indirect Cost				
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
Total Cost Estimate	\$5,540	\$15,950	\$3,280	\$24,770

Applicants Notes to committee: Use this space to provide any additional details regarding costs (i.e., what are the salaries covering, etc.)

EXPLANATION OF COSTS:

NEPA: Anticipated to be a Categorical Exclusion with Decision Memo

Contract Preparation: (FS) Estimate 3 days, \$1,440

Contract Administration: (FS) Estimate 5 days \$2,400

Contract Cost: Welded Pipe Fence, 250 ft long, \$35/linear foot. Total Cost: \$8,750

Barrier Rock Delivery and Installation, 125 ft long (50 ft and 75 ft), \$40/ft. Total Cost: \$5,000

Salaries: (FS): Oversee volunteers completing route obliteration, \$700

(Volunteers) Route Obliteration/masking, \$2,250

(Volunteers) Painting fence, if needed, \$480

Materials and Supplies: Paint, brushes and other supplies for painting the fence, if needed, \$250 (Contributed by EDC-CNPS)

Monitoring: Forest Service Staff (includes Forest Botanist, OHV Patrols and Law Enforcement Patrols), \$1,200,
Volunteers, \$300

NOTES:

Col. A: FS costs incurred as part of proposal implementation. Coordinate with FS to identify any FS cost for items in Col. A.

Col. B: Title II funding requested to implement the proposal.

Col. C: Matching funds being contributed by proponent or third parties. Proposals funded with a Participating Agreement will require a minimum 20% match.

Col. D: Sum of columns A, B, and C for each individual row.

Row A: Costs associated with project planning, not project implementation, such as assessment of miles of trail needing maintenance. Assessments and planning needed to develop a specific proposal. For Col. B: proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission.

Rows B, C, D, and E: cost associated with environmental compliance and project design. Proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission. **Row G:** Costs associated with preparation of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal. Contracts used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row G: Costs associated with administration of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal.

Row H: Estimated value of any contracts/agreements used to implement proposal. Contracts/agreements used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row I: Cost of salaries to implement project

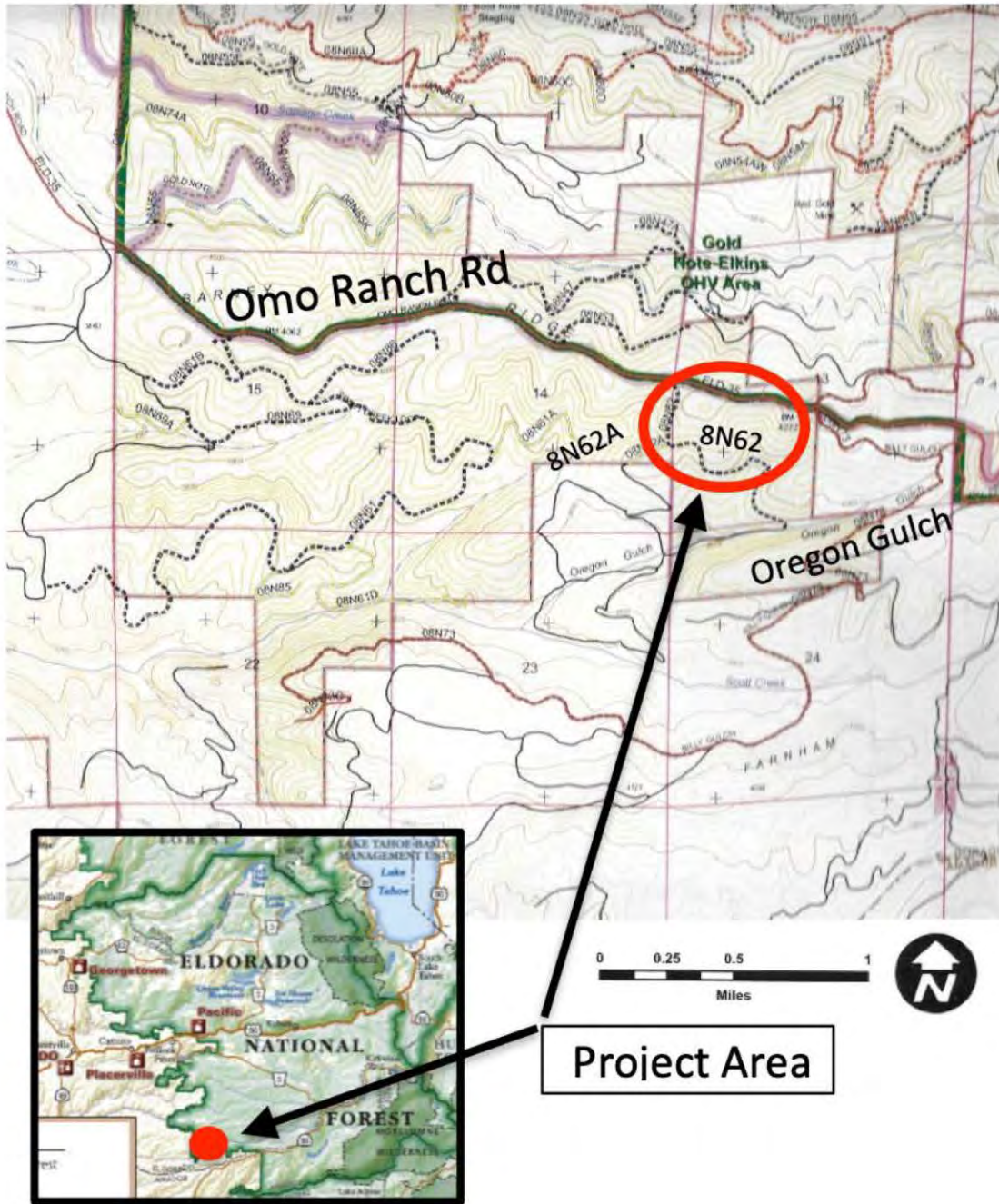
Row L: Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.

Row K: Costs associated with performing monitoring described in Items 24a, 24b, and 24c. Amounts should be similar between Item 24 and Row K.

Row N: Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.

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Map 1: Map of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection Project Area.

Map 2: Detail of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Stie Project Area showing location of proposed fence replacement, proposed barrier rocks and unauthorized motor vehicle routes to be obliterated or



- Legend**
- Proposed Fenceline 
 - Proposed Barrier rocks 
 - Illegal motor vehicle route 



masked.

Photos:



Photo 1: of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower (*Diplacus pulchellus*), California rare plant 1.B.2

Photo 2: Map of *Diplacus pulchellus* populations. The population on the Eldorado National Forest is the northernmost known occurrence.

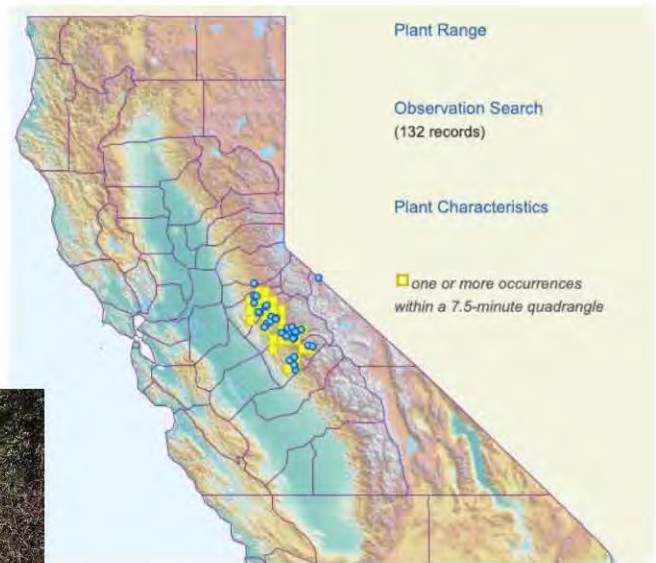


Photo 3: Unauthorized route and damaged barbed wire fence at Omo Ranch Rd. May 11, 2022

Photo 4: Repaired barbed wire fence on March 14, 2022, damaged again within 15 days.



Photos 5, 6 and 7: Rutting and vegetation damage within Lava Cap area resulting from illegal motor vehicle travel.



**EL DORADO COUNTY RAC
PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA**

PROJECT NAME: Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

1. **The Project Meets the Intent of The Legislation?**
The project improves the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restores and improves land, health, and water quality.
2. **There Is Support from the District Ranger or other appropriate federal Land Manager?**
The project is consistent with the Forest Plan and Federal laws and regulation and the Forest has the capacity to handle the workload associated with the project (actual project or oversight), etc. If not on National Forest lands this project is consistent with appropriate agency policies and the agency has the capacity to manage or oversee the project.
3. **This Project Can Be Accomplished Within the Allotted Time Frame?**
Project must be initiated by September 30, 2022 and funds must be obligated by September 30, 2023.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA (CHECK IF THIS APPLIES TO YOUR PROJECT)

1. **Why is this project necessary here and now? Explain.**

There has been ongoing damage to a California Rare Plant population (*Diplacus pulchellus*) and a sensitive Lava Cap area from illegal motor vehicle travel off of Omo Ranch Road. This project will eliminate motor vehicle travel off of existing authorized routes and will lead to restoration or rehabilitation of areas of damaged soil and vegetation. Without the restricting of motor vehicle access into this area, ongoing damage will continue within the lava cap area and the population of the rare plant may be impacted. While this type of project could be funded through State OHV funds, there is a need now to do immediate protection. Future OHV funds can be used to extend the travel barriers.
2. **Is there a project advocate with the capacity, competence, and ability to complete the project? Explain.**

Amador Ranger District Staff will ensure that the project is completed in a timely and efficient manner. The District Resource staff have completed similar projects in the past and have demonstrated that they have the capacity, competence and ability to complete the project.
3. **Is the NEPA/CEQA work completed or is the project NEPA/CEQA compliant? Explain.**

The NEPA has not yet been completed, but is included in the project description and planning. This project appropriately fits a category of Categorical Exclusion for which a Decision Memo and project file will be prepared.
4. **Will this address a problem that the Forest Service within El Dorado County is committed to? Explain.**

Through the Eldorado National Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan and the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, the Eldorado Forest is committed to protecting Sensitive plant occurrences, including California rare plants. Specific direction in these planning documents call for maintaining and restoring habitat to support viable populations of native and endemic plant species.
5. **Is there an opportunity to leverage additional funds? Explain.**

This project is designed with the involvement and participation of volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant society. As such, these volunteers will be contributing a

significant amount of in-kind labor towards the planning and implementation of this project and future monitoring. In addition, the El Dorado Chapter CNPS is contributing funds for paints and supplies. The Amador District is contributing program funds to ensure that the project is completed in a timely fashion.

6. **Are there other partners? Explain.**

The principle partner at this time is the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. However, as the project moves forward, Amador District Staff will reach out to other interested groups to see if others wish to assist in the implementation and monitoring for this project.

7. **Are there letters of support or commitment from other stake holders? Explain.**

Please see the letter of support from the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

8. **Are provisions included in the project for maintenance into the future?**

Future maintenance will be identified through ongoing monitoring which is to be accomplished through District OHV Patrols and volunteers. Future maintenance can likely be appropriately included in future Off-Highway Vehicle grant applications.

9. **Is there a high likelihood of success? Explain.**

Yes. The proposed measures will eliminate the unauthorized motor vehicle access into this sensitive area, thus providing protection for the rare plant population and the unique Lava Cap habitat.

10. **Are provisions included for monitoring project success? Explain.**

Yes. Monitoring will be accomplished through monthly site visits by OHV Patrols already scheduled for the Elkins/Gold Note OHV Areas and for travel along Omo Ranch Road. In addition, volunteers from the El Dorado Chapter, CNPS have previously conducted informal semi-annual monitoring visits and plan to continue to visit the site to ensure the success of the protection of this rare plant population. Monitoring will consist of visual inspections and photo documentation of site conditions. Monitoring reports will be submitted to the Forest Botanist for retention in Forest files.

DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICIAL PRE-SCREENING

The DFO will screen the applications for the following before sending to the RAC: the project application is complete, meets the intent of the legislation, is consistent with the Forest Plan and Federal laws and regulation, and the costs identified seems adequate to complete the project.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eldorado
National
Forest

Amador Ranger District
26820 Silver Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666
209-295-4251

File Code:

Date: April 12, 2022

Dear: El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee:

I am in full support of the **Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection Project** submitted by the Amador Ranger District.

This project will provide necessary and essential protection for this California rare plant population. Since the discovery of this population of *Diplacus pulchellus*, and before, the site has been repeatedly encroached by unauthorized motor vehicle travel. Efforts have been made by both volunteers and Forest staff to stop the unauthorized motor vehicle access, without success. The fencing and barrier rocks proposed in this project will stop the motor vehicle damage and provide needed protection for this important Monkeyflower population.

The opportunity to work with volunteers to protect this site adds to the value of this project. Continuing to engage with interested and committed community members furthers the Forest Service's interest in working with the public and expanding our management efforts.

The Amador Ranger District is prepared to provide support for this project and to ensure its success.

District Staff will contribute to the environmental analysis, contract preparation and administration and to future monitoring of the success of the project.

Sincerely,

Charles Loffland,
Acting District Ranger
Amador Ranger District





April 15, 2022

District Ranger
Amador Ranger District
26820 Silver Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666

Submitted electronically to: ElDoradoRAC@usda.gov

Re: Support for the Yellow-lip Pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection Project Proposal

Dear Amador District Ranger:

The state office of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is pleased to share our support for the Yellow-lip Pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection project. CNPS' mission is to protect California's native plant heritage and preserve it for future generations through the application of science, research, education, and conservation. To that end, we are keenly interested in the protection of California rare plants, such as the population of *Diplacus pulchellus* located in the Amador Ranger District. This plant species is ranked as a California Rare Plant 1B.2, which indicates that the plant species is considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere and is considered fairly threatened in California. The *California Rare Plant Ranks* are a ranking system originally developed by CNPS to better define and categorize rarity in California's flora. This ranking system now reflects the joint effort among the California Natural Diversity Database, CNPS, and a wide range of botanical experts, who work together to assign rarity rankings.

Thank you for your support for protecting our California native plants, including this critical population of yellow-lip pansy monkeyflowers. We look forward to the success of this project and the protection of this important native plant population.

Sincerely,

Isabella Langone
Conservation Program Manager
California Native Plant Society
ilangone@cnps.org

District Ranger
Amador Ranger District
26820 Silver Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666

April 12, 2022

Subject: Support for the Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection Project Proposal

Dear Amador District Ranger;

We've been checking on the *Diplacus pulchellus* population along Omo Ranch Road near Oregon Gulch Road since its discovery in 2016, and have seen the damage from illegal vehicles driving through this area. We are very pleased to see the Amador Ranger District taking action to protect this plant population and the surrounding Lava Cap habitat, and wish to share our support and encouragement for this critical project. This *Diplacus pulchellus* population, the northernmost population of this rare species (CNPS Rank 1B.2) on the western slope, as well as the surrounding Lava Cap, are of great concern to us. This site has seen repeated destruction of the barriers placed to restrict illegal motor vehicle access into it both from the Omo Ranch Road side and Oregon Gulch Road below. It's time to install more permanent structures to eliminate motor vehicle access into this area. We believe that project meets that objective.

We are members of the El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and are committed to helping to see that this area receives the protection it deserves. We will continue to visit this site in the future to identify whether the measures taken provide protection for these rare plants. We will report our observations to the Forest Botanist on a semiannual basis and as-required if damage occurs.

Thank you for your support in protecting our California native plants, including this critical population of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflowers. We look forward to the success of this project and the protection of this important native plant population.

Shellie and Steven Perry
El Dorado Chapter CNPS
Placerville, CA 95667



El Dorado Chapter, CNPS

April 13, 2022

District Ranger
Amador Ranger District
26820 Silver Drive
Pioneer, CA 95666

Re: Support for the Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflower Site Protection Project Proposal

Dear Amador District Ranger;

The El Dorado Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (EDC-CNPS) is pleased to share our support and encouragement for this critical project. The damage caused by illegal motor vehicle access into the lava cap area and *Diplacus pulchellus* population near Omo Ranch is of great concern to our Chapter and to the health of this population of California rare plants (Rank 1B.2). This site has seen repeated destruction of the barriers placed to restrict illegal motor vehicle access into this highly sensitive area. It is time to install more permanent structures to limit motor vehicle access into this area. This project meets that objective!

Our Chapter is committed to helping in whatever way we can to see that the area receives the protection it deserves. To that end, we will work to provide volunteers to help with obliteration, rehabilitation and masking of the illegal route once effective barriers are in place. In addition, we will assist with future monitoring and reporting our observations to the Forest Botanist on a semiannual basis.

Thank you for your support for protecting our California native plants, including this critical population of Yellow-lip pansy Monkeyflowers. We look forward to the success of this project and the protection of this important native plant population.

Sincerely,

ALICE CANTELOW
President,
El Dorado Chapter, California Native Plant Society