

Bluff Lake Reserve Wet Meadow Restoration, Revegetation and Monitoring Project

Organization: The Wildlands Conservancy

Project Period: July 2023 – November 2027

Amount: \$62,500.00

Location: Southwest of Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains

Project Description

Situated at the headwaters of the Santa Ana River watershed in the San Bernardino Mountains, the Bluff Lake Reserve (BLR) hosts three endangered montane meadow plants and is planned for translocation of endangered mountain yellow-legged frogs and unarmored three-spine stickleback fish later this summer, 2023. The wetlands restoration projects will restore the natural drainage of Siberia Creek through the meadow and into the lake, improving and sustaining the endangered species habitat. This proposal seeks funding from the Omya settlement funds for revegetation and monitoring of montane meadow wetlands at the BLR. Funding for this meadow revegetation project supplements the scope of work of the CDFW watershed restoration grant (Nature Based Solutions: Wetlands and Mountain Meadows Bluff Lake Reserve Habitat Restoration Plan Grant Agreement Number – Q2296031).

Site preparation for the grading began in late September, including installation of erosion and sediment control measures. Endangered bird-footed checkerbloom plants in proximity to the berms were flagged and moved to a holding area for translocation back into the disturbance area after grading has been completed.