**Instructions:** Complete this form when seeking project support from the ACCG. Before completing this form, please review the ACCG Project Development & Approval Process (link to flowchart here) and ACCG Project Endorsement Guidelines (link to document). Do not hesitate to contact the ACCG Administrator with any questions: Regine Miller, regine.chips@gmail.com.

**Submission Date**: August 9, 2019

**Project Name**: Power Fire Culvert Improvement and Erosion Control Project

**Organization making request**: USFS

**Project Proponent Contact (name, phone, and email address):** Rick Hopson, District Ranger

(209) 295-5910, rhopson@fs.fed.us

**Committed Project Partners**: Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, Rich Farrington, Richard Sykes

**Grant Program** (if applicable): NFWF (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation)

**Name and address to whom the Letter of Support from the ACCG should be addressed**: Rick Hopson, Amador District Ranger, 26280 Silver Drive, Pioneer, CA 95666

**Due Date for Letter of Support**: On August 21, 2019 or before if possible.

**Project Budget Total Amount**: $1.7 million proposed

**Project Dollar Amount Being Requested through Grant Program (if applicable):** $1.7 million

**Has this project been presented to the ACCG before? If so, describe prior engagement with the ACCG about this project.** R. Farrington notified ACCG on 10/24/18 & Planning WG on 11/18/18, he presented slideshow to the full ACCG 1/16/19, & Rick Hopson proposed to Planning WG 7/24/19. Received support from all presentations.

**Describe the environmental, social, and local economic benefits of this project. Reference ACCG’s Principles and Policies to Guide Operations. (https://acconsensus.org/accg-principles-and-policies-to-guide-operations/).** Reduced sedimentation in the Mokelumne River and tributaries from the Power Fire burn area and prevention of future erosion and sedimentation; protection of aquatic species; improved water quality; potential for local jobs, provides access for fire hazard reduction through forest thinning and fire control.

**Provide a brief written summary of the project:** The project is a follow-up to Tom Black’s GRAIP Erosion Study. It will replace, retrofit, and add culverts and water control structures on up to approximately 92 sites on FS roads in the 16,933 acre 2004 Power Fire burn area to reduce erosion and sedimentation affecting the North Fork Mokelumne River and its tributaries. The Power Fire is in the southwest corner of the Amador Ranger District.

*Specify the existing condition of the landscape, the purpose and need for the project, any work that is planned, the acreage and location for that work, and describe any actions that could potentially be controversial among ACCG members.*

The proposed work is in the watersheds of Panther Creek, Bear River, and Cole Creek. The Power Fire area has experienced accelerated erosion, woody debris, culvert plugging, risk of failing fills, degradation of aquatic habitat and reduced access for thinning and fuel reduction projects.

**Describe desired outcomes/future conditions that the project achieves/supports:**

Reduced erosion and sedimentation into tributaries to the North Fork Mokelumne by replacing undersized and plugged culverts and providing other types of drainage structures. Reduce the likelihood of fill failures and road erosion. Protection of aquatic resources. Keep roads accessible for forest thinning, fuel reduction and prescribed fire projects.

**Describe status of environmental documentation (NEPA/CEQA/other**): Scoping is in progress. Use of a Categorical Exclusion 36 CFR 220.6 (e)(18) “Restoring wetlands, streams, riparian areas or other water bodies by removing, replacing, or modifying water control structures…” is proposed.

<http://acconsensus.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/PowerFire_culvert_improvement_erosion_control_Scoping_Letter_6_25_2019-1.pdf>