

# Staff Report

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager  
Neysa King, Environmental Resources Administrator

**DATE:** February 11, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Watershed Department CIP Budget Amendment for the South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project (CIP No. G0007)

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## ***ADMINISTRATION***

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution approving a budget amendment to the Fund 70, FY 2026, for the South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project (CIP No. G0007), and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

### **BACKGROUND:**

On Jan 20, 2026 NID signed Grant Agreement 5GG25125 with CAL FIRE in the amount of \$615,000 to complete the South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project. The grant funds support 62% of the cost of the \$995,000 total project.

This project is located on 58 acres along the South Yuba Canal approximately 18 miles east of Nevada City (near Highway 20), in Nevada County. Project goals are to reduce wildfire and strike hazard risks along this critical part of NID's water system infrastructure by creating a shaded fuel break and removing hazard trees within 100 feet of both sides of the canal. This project protects 2.5 miles of elevated flume that is the solitary conduit for all the water supplied into the Deer Creek side of the NID water system and the sole source of water to NID customers in western Nevada County.

This project proposes to remove understory ladder fuels (0-14" dbh), selectively thin the overstory (+14" dbh), and remove hazard trees of any size within 100 ft. on either side of the South Yuba Canal. NID is contributing \$120,000 of in-kind support and \$260,000 of cash match to this project. Cash match will be utilized to dispose of wood byproducts resulting from project activities and may include sale of biomass.

Staff anticipate the entire project area to be treated in 2026 to total +/- 58 acres for a grant budgeted Contractor expense of \$825,000, and a Consultant expense (Professional Forester, Archaeological Surveys, Environmental Reports, etc.) of \$50,000. To avoid being under budget, both consultant and contractor fees are given a contingency as detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Requested Amendment

CIP Project Name	Project Code	Account	Grant Budget	Contingency	Requested Amount
South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project	G00--	52603 - Consultants	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
		52615 - Contractors	\$ 812,000.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 825,000.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 847,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 28,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 875,000.00</b>

Upon acceptance of this budget amendment, staff will procure qualified contractor(s) to implement the project through NID’s procurement procedures.

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

The impact of the requested budget amendment is an overall increase to the Fund 70, FY 2026 CIP Budget by adding a new CIP in the amount of \$875,000 and authorizing \$615,000 in revenue from CAL FIRE grant.

Approximately 62% of the project cost is supported by a grant from CAL FIRE.

Attachments (1)

- Resolution No. 2026-06

August 2025 NID staff evaluating hazard trees and fire fuels conditions along the South Yuba Canal.





**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06**  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
**Budget Amendment for the South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project**  
**(Project No. G0007)**

**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Irrigation District (District) budget for the 2026 fiscal year reflects resources to meet the needs of the District and the District's customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors adopted the 2026 Annual Budget on November 12, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, on Jan 20, 2026 NID signed Grant Agreement 5GG25125 with CAL FIRE in the amount of \$615,000 to complete the South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project; and

**WHEREAS**, this project is to remove understory fire fuels, and hazard trees on 58 acres adjacent to the South Yuba Canal; and

**WHEREAS**, this project will reduce the risks of hazardous trees adjacent to critical water conveyance infrastructure, catastrophic wildfire, improve forest ecological health and resilience, and protect water security and quality.

**WHEREAS**, The CAL FIRE Grant was awarded to NID after the approval of the 2026 CIP budget.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District:

1. The Board of Directors hereby approves a Budget Amendment adding \$875,000 to Fund 70, FY 2026 to create a new CIP in FY 2026 titled "South Yuba Canal Wildfire Defense Project (Project #G0007)", funded from Fund 70 in the amount of \$260,000 and from CAL FIRE grant revenue in the amount of \$615,000.

2. The Board of Directors hereby authorizes the General Manager, or designee, to execute the necessary documents to cause the actions contemplated with this resolution.

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**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District at a regular meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026 by the following vote:

<b>AYES:</b>	Directors:
<b>NOES:</b>	Directors:
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Directors:
<b>ABSTAINS:</b>	Directors:

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President of the Board of Directors

**Attest:**

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Secretary to the Board of Directors