

# Consultation: 2026 Proposed Escrow-Ready Project Summaries

**Applicant:** Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians

**Project Summary:** The Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians (Tribe) seeks to acquire 219 acres of fee land contiguous to the Tribe's reservation. The property is adjacent to State Route 78, hosts the Intermountain Fire Station 85 of the San Diego County Fire Protection District, and would serve as a secondary emergency access point when needed. The Tribe is proposing climate adaptation planning, reintroduction of controlled burns on the land with the Tribe's experienced Fire Crew, restoration of wetland areas and native riparian habitat, improvements to public access and outreach, and conservation in perpetuity. The project purpose is to implement adaptation measures for the climate-induced threats of wildfire, drought, and rising temperatures, as described in the Tribe's Climate Adaptation Plan.

**Applicant:** Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel

**Project Summary:** The Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel (INSY) proposes using TNBS grant funds to assist in completing the purchase of a 19.91-acre vacant parcel in the San Felipe Valley in rural San Diego County. This property abuts the Tribe's ~1,100-acre Ewinally Tribal Ecological and Cultural Preserve as well as several BLM-owned open space parcels that contain portions of the Pacific Crest Trail. The property also hosts an existing water well. The project's goals are to conserve open space within the San Felipe Valley, return ancestral territory back to INSY, create a new trailhead and public access within the property, increase public access and recreational opportunities, and conduct a feasibility study to analyze the property's potential to provide a community fire suppression water resource.

**Applicant:** Quartz Valley Indian Reservation

**Project Summary:** The Quartz Valley Indian Reservation (QVIR) seeks TNBS funding to support the acquisition of 39,686-acres within the Scott Valley watershed, located in Northern California, east of the Klamath National Forest. The property consists of three parcels, one of which is immediately adjacent to and upstream of QVIR's reservation, providing the source for QVIR's drinking water. Nine of the property's streams include designated critical habitat for threatened coho salmon. While 39,166 acres of the parcels are currently under conservation easement held by Cal Fire and the Siskiyou Land Trust, the Tribe seeks additional protections through purchase of the property with TNBS funds.

The project proposes to implement a variety of nature-based solutions including source water protection, salmon recovery, cultural burning, fire recovery, and forest restoration that commercial timber management has prevented. The project will also enable the development of a public access plan that will enable safe, intentional public recreation, assess the feasibility of a campground that could generate stewardship income and position QVIR to pursue future implementation funding to implement additional nature-based solutions.