


## Resumen del formulario

Applicant Name and Title	Seely Creek Road Association
Applicant Address	
Applicant Phone	
Applicant Email	seelycreekroad@gmail.com
Applicant interest in project/site	Paving intersection; a County Condition of Approval and culvert upgrade
Business/Association Name	Seely Creek Road Association
Are you applying as a Humboldt County based business, cooperative, association, or nonprofit organization?	Yes
Are 75% or more of its operations based in Humboldt County?	Yes
Are you currently licensed and registered to operate in Humboldt County?	Yes
If you are not licensed or registered to operate in Humboldt County, are you in the process of doing so?	
Are the activities of your business, association, or organization, specific to the cultivation, processing, manufacturing, distribution or retail of cannabis, or whose organization provides support and/or services to the cannabis industry?	Yes
\$10,000 Eligibility	Cannabis Support Business
Cultivation Lighting (as defined in Humboldt County Code 719-3)	
\$50,000 Eligibility	Cannabis Cooperative (As defined in California Business and Professions Code § 26220 et seq.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	
If Other, please explain	
What amount of the business is Humboldt-owned? "Humboldt-owned" is defined by registered residency of owners	100% Humboldt-owned
Ownership Structure and Owners	Community road association with elected members

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# of FTE Employees	0.5
Summarize the business/association and its activities Word Limit: 250	The Seely Creek Road Association (SCRA) is comprised of ~35 homesteads/legal owners of 17 "parcels" as delineated on "Parcel Map-Seely Creek Road" (see attached map). SCRA assesses road conditions, sends out bills, contracts services for the road maintenance and repair of Seely Creek Road, Skyline Road, North Road and South Road, a total of 9.2 miles of gravel road. There are a total of 9 cannabis farms with 15 county CCLUO permits that all require road improvements as conditions of approval for county.
Program / Project Name	Seely Creek Road Paving & Culvert Upgrades
Requested Amount	USD 50000.00
Total project cost/funding needed:	USD 69705.00
Additional Funding Sources	Landowners
Type of project	Implementation
If Other, please explain	
Project Address	
Project Assessor's Parcel Number (APN):	220-261-020-000
Does the project/business consist of a qualified outdoor cultivating operation (as per Humboldt County Land Use Ordinance) that produces less than 10,000 sq. ft. of cannabis (not including co-ops and associations whose cumulative area may exceed 10,000 square feet)?	Yes
Licenses & Permits	CDFA Cannabis Cultivation Annual Permit, Humboldt County Annual Permit, Articles of Incorporation
Licenses, Permits, & Agreements	<a href="#">archive-1.zip</a>

Word Limit: 500

The proposed project and anticipated use of requested funds: Seely Creek Road Association (SCRA) is seeking \$50,000 dollars to upgrade and repair the shared access road for 9 farms with a total of 15 county and state commercial cannabis permits. There are 9 non-cannabis cultivating land owners who will also benefit from this road upgrade. If received the requested grant funds will be used to pave the intersection of Seely Creek Road and Briceland Road as it is a Condition of Approval from the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department for the cannabis permits. All remaining funds will be used to implement road maintenance and culvert upgrades that are determined to be needed by CDFW, the State Water Board and Humboldt County. We Dig It, LLC conducted a culvert inspection report which is outlined in the Budget and identifies 22 new ditch relief culverts that are needed to be installed to meet the agencies Best Management Practices (BMP's).

Attempts to secure alternative funding:

Attempts to secure alternative funding include the annual billing for the SCRA Road Fund which generates ~\$15,000 annually. These funds are just enough to maintain the rock and grading necessary for basic maintenance and one or two culvert upgrades per year. SCRA uses all the funds it collects annually. Special assessments are sent out for emergency road repairs or other upgrades that the annual maintenance does not cover. The Road Association is also exploring a commercial use assessment for cannabis and/or other commercial use. Ultimately, it is the land owner's responsibility for the necessary improvements and upgrades on their property related to the cannabis permitting and they could alternately bear the burden alone.

Pacific Watershed Associates and Cal Trout conducted a road survey in 2017 for a potential grant. However, due to the amount of traffic and condition of the road they suggested paving the entire road and installing a bridge, which is completely out of the financial ability of the road association. This would be a multi-million dollar solution that is not an alternative at this time.

In 2019 SCRA applied for the first Trellis grant round and was encouraged to re-apply in the following round.

Solvency: Currently the Seely Creek Road Association assesses a little over \$15,000 per year. We collect only enough money to maintain the rock, do spot grading with a full grading every 3-5 years, and replace one or two culverts a year. Even after the \$50,000 road improvements, annual maintenance will be still be required. The small farms using this road need to upgrade the road to stay in business. It would be an extreme hardship and become a burden of the landowners to replace and upgrade these improvements in the timeline required for the Conditions of Approval (1-2 years). This grant funding would allow SCRA to become solvent and get current with improvements so we can continue to maintain the road without having to assess individual landowners, farms or the community as a whole.

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Revenue Contribution: With the successful permitting of the farms located in Seely Creek the cumulative continued contribution to the County Cannabis Excise tax will be \$176,250 annually.

Job Creation or Retention: Over 9 family farms are supported by the successful continuation of the legal cannabis market. It is estimated that these farms directly employ or support over 50 individuals that live in the watershed and 30 that do not. These farms support the operators, contractors and material suppliers that will implement the project. These farms are also clients of the county's many cannabis support services, consultants, engineers, contractors, processors, distributors, retailers, testing labs, county staff, garden supply companies, insurance and more. With the success of these farms the community can also continue to give generously to the many non-profits that have been supported in Southern Humboldt for decades by the cannabis industry.

Adds to industry: Small family farms are faced with extreme financial hardships due to heavy taxes, fees and costly upgrades to permit homesteads that have evolved into "commercial" cannabis farms. Being granted this funding for the road upgrades is a small bereavement in the larger financial picture many face. By assisting in the success of Seely Creek community the county is securing and investing in quality product that helped Humboldt County garner its reputation for the finest cannabis in the world. Seely Creek community will contribute an estimated 8,000 lbs of flower and over 8,000 lbs of biomass per year to this industry. This in turn contributes to the cannabis support services and local economy in general.

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Restoration and Mitigation of environmental damage: For decades, community members of SCRA have been proactive about being good land stewards. The proposed road upgrades will ultimately reduce any sediment load to Seely Creek, Redwood Creek and the South Fork of the Eel River that may have originated from the Seely Creek Road system.

SCRA has been working with [REDACTED] of Restoration Forestry and [REDACTED] towards the long term environmental sustainability of a stable road system and healthy watershed. In 2001 SCRA received close to \$1 million in CDFW & Humboldt Resource Conservation District grant funding for watershed restoration and sediment reduction.

In 2014 SCRA held a Water Rights workshop with CDFW and the State Water Board encouraging and assisting landowners to file their water rights and LSA's.

In 2018 SCRA the Southern Humboldt Fire safe Council and concerned citizens of Seely Creek identified hazardous fire fuels within the Elk Ridge and Seely Creek neighborhoods. This led the Humboldt-Del Norte Unit of CAL FIRE to develop a thirteen-mile roadside fuel reduction project within the respective road networks. The project was completed in 2020, with the crew and chipper efforts exceeding an approximate value of \$127,000.

The Trellis grant funding will support the small farmers who are concerned and environmental minded citizens to live, work and succeed in the watershed allowing for a healthy habitat for threatened fisheries.

Word Limit: 500

Meeting Objectives

Objectives: To upgrade road access for nine (9) compliant cannabis farms and 8 non-commercial parcels in Seely Creek to the standards outlined by CDFW in the LSA's, the Conditions of Approval for County CCLUO permits, to meet the BMP's outlined by the Water Board and the standards set forth in the Rural Ranch and Roads Handbook. Specific road improvements include:

- Pave intersection of Seely Creek Road and Briceland Road
- Install 20 new ditch relief culverts per CDFW and Water Board recommendations of every 100' of drainage along the Seely Creek Road system
- Install 1 new rolling dip

Outcome: To install new ditch relief culverts, one rolling dip, paved encroachment where Seely Creek Road meets Briceland Road by July 2021, thus reducing sediment load to Seely Creek and meeting conditions of approval set forth by county and state agencies.

Project details below are based on findings from the SCRA culvert inspection report conducted by Shanon Taliaferro of We Dig It, LLC who consulted with watershed restorationist [REDACTED] who works for the State Water Board in fall of 2019. All costs were acquired by calling for current pricing from Randall's Sand and Gravel (rock), Hilfiker Pipe Co. (culverts), We Dig It, LLC (install) and Blackstone Asphalt (paving).

Readiness: Seely Creek Road Association has a close network of skilled personnel living in the community and a long history of good land stewardship practices, grant funded watershed restoration projects, water right education outreach, fire protection, fuel reduction and annual experience of maintaining a road system for 40 years. SCRA meets at least once or twice a year to discuss road issues and the community meets on Sundays to play Volleyball, connect and celebrate through the Spring and Summer.

SCRA works with We Dig It, LLC, Randall's Sand and Gravel, Hilfiker Pipe Co., Just Rent It, Restoration Forestry and others. We have requested bids for the work from the road operator and the paving contractor. SCRA has already filed and received the Encroachment permit with the County and is ready to implement objectives upon funding and can have boots on the ground in the spring of 2021.

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Preparedness: Seely Creek Road Association has been proactive in preparing for community improvements, safety and security for decades. Most recently a community gate and camera was installed at the bottom of the road allowing for security of the community as a whole. Road signs, speed limit signs, neighborhood watch signs were installed for road safety. In 2018, SCRA started working with CALFIRE's Fuel Reduction Program (and Fire Safe Council 2012) clearing a 30 ft buffer of defensible space for fire and visibility along the majority of Seely Creek Road, Skyline Road and the North Road. SCRA has a strong community participation in watershed restoration, emergency preparedness, neighborhood watch, water storage and water rights, fire protection and preparedness and now cannabis compliance.

All of the farms have already undergone extensive research, planning, permitting and investment as to get this far in the commercial cannabis process with engineers, LSA's, Site Management Plans, county CCLUO permits, state permits and more. It is estimated that farmers in SCRA have invested over [REDACTED] in compliance related costs so far. With the successful permitting of the farms located in Seely Creek the cumulative continued contribution to the County Cannabis Excise tax will be \$176,250 annually

Long-term sustainability: SCRA will use funding to increase long-term sustainability by implementing permanent road improvements and upgrades that will last for decades. Proper sloping of roads, adequately sized culverts, and increased number of ditch relief culverts will create a sustainably stable road, safe for the community, access to the farms and ultimately reduce sediment load to Seely Creek, Redwood Creek and the South Fork of the Eel River.

Economy: This project supports industry growth and development and will enhance the County's competitive edge by supporting over 9 farms to produce potentially 8,000 lbs of cannabis per year with a retail value of \$35 million. Contributing more than \$1.5 million in State Cultivation Tax and \$176,250 in County Cultivation Tax, with close to \$366,000 spent on compliance so far. These farms in turn are clients to the County's many cannabis support services, engineers, processors, distributors, retailers and ultimately providing consumers with a safe and premium quality Humboldt branded product.

Project Budget

[archive-2.zip](#)

Select each item being uploaded.

Any accompanying and supportive project documents such as site maps, equipment specifications, contractor bids and estimates., Letters of support: attach documentation of collaboration and/or project need in the form of Letters of Support, Letters of Partner Commitment, and/or Memoranda of Understanding

File upload

[archive-3.zip](#)

