

## **Cradle Valley Indigenous Landscape Restoration Project Program Summary**

The long term goal of this project is to return 160 acres owned by the Susanville Indian Rancheria (SIR) near Cradle Valley to pre-settlement conditions, and to develop a cultural center and tribal stewardship area on and around the property to be used to educate the public about traditional ways in which Native Americans in the area lived. As a cultural preserve it will provide an area for Native Americans to hold ceremonies and traditional and spiritual gatherings. SIR's land is located in Plumas County and is completely surrounded by the Plumas National Forest (PNF).

Because Forest Service grazing leases surround the property, riparian and upland habitats are severely degraded due to uncontrolled grazing that has affected the hydrology of the entire Clarks Creek watershed. An important step in returning the property to pre-settlement conditions is to install livestock exclusion fencing on the perimeter of the property (~ 2.5 miles) and re-vegetation of degraded areas with native plants, including traditional use plants. The project will improve conditions for tribally important native fish and wildlife species, including at-risk species, associated with the restored wetland, riparian, and forested habitats. The project would commence November 2005 and be completed by November 2006.