



Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)

Monday November 4, 2024 – 3:30 PM

Via ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88006162291?pwd=K2Y3REdyZkpTdHBYSiR0VjF3MzZ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 880 0616 2291 Passcode: 495260

Items Highlighted in Yellow are attached to the agenda. Please also review the meeting presentation.

The Partnership Current Signatories: *Alpine County**; *BLM* City of Bishop**; *Inyo County**; *CALTRANS**; *Mono County*; *Town of Mammoth Lakes*; *Inyo National Forest*; *Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest*, *National Park Service** **have voted or otherwise agreed to sign partnership agreement* **Partners in Process:** NPS; LADWP

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. What is the ESSRP

3. Welcome + Housekeeping

- a. Introductions
 - i. New Mt. Whitney Acting District Ranger - *Wilfred Nabahe*
 - ii. UC Davis - *Anne Visser, Dustin Blakey*
 - iii. Sierra Business Council - *Heather Hawkins*
- b. Housekeeping
 - i. SCALE Project Micro-grants + ESSRP Letter of Support

4. Headlines of Interest

- a. 'It's Disneyland': Fall foliage destinations overrun by leaf-peepers
- b. Alpine Watershed Group - Tree Planting
- c. "This ambitious project hopes to save struggling California mountain towns"
- d. "The Sierra Club's California members are torn - can a new leader forge consensus?"
- e. "The Forest Service is Losing 2,400 Jobs—Including Most of its Trail Workers"
- f. "Leaked recordings detail a major environmental agency quietly gutting its workforce"
- g. "The Forest Service is cutting its seasonal workforce and public lands will suffer"
- h. Outdoor Recreation Knowledge Exchange: Colorado and Wyoming
- i. "Governor Newsom Signs SB 960, the Complete Streets Bill"
- j. Headwaters Economics - Oct. 24, 2024
- k. "The climate bond is taking educators to school"
- l. "Ecostrat and New Energy Risk Announce Partnership to Develop Feedstock Supply Insurance"
- m. "U.S. Forest Service Poised to Start Fall Prescribed Burning"
- n. "Forest Service Halts Prescribed Burns in California. Is It Worth the Risk?"
- o. "The \$10,000 cruise that recently became possible — and might not last for long"
- p. "SoCal Earth"
- q. "California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment's Regional Synthesis Reports"

5. Eastern Sierra Sustainable Outdoor Recreation: Regional Projects

- a. ESCOG: "Sustainable Recreation + Ecosystem Management Program"
 - i. "Towns to Trails" - *Executive Director Report Oct. 23*



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- ii. Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP)
 - 1. CDFW Grant - *Update*
 - b. MLTPA Foundation
 - i. Eastern Sierra Campground Improvement Project
 - ii. Visitor Connection Package w/Whitebark Institute
 - iii. Recreate Responsibly California
 - c. Whitebark Institute - *Laura Beardsley, Executive Director*
 - i. Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project (ESCCRP)
 - 1. \$7 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
 - 2. Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance Partner Convening - November 15
- 6. Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Projects**
- a. Sierra Jobs First: Regional Strategy
 - b. Industry Sector Coordinators: Update
 - c. Regional Project Concepts from SRTI for RFP Response + potential ESSRP Collaborators
 - i. Recreation Capacity - *ESCOG / Inyo County*
 - ii. Campground Improvements - *Inyo NF / MLTPA*
 - iii. Regional Trail System - *Westside Partners / MLTPA*
 - iv. Climate and Recreation - *Cerro Coso Community College / MLTPA*
 - v. Recreation and Wildfire - *MLTPA / Whitebark*
- 7. California Updates**
- a. California Wildfire Taskforce
 - b. Fifth Climate Assessment
 - c. Propane Cannisters
 - d. Prop 4 Climate Bond
 - e. National Relationship
- 8. Federal / National Updates**
- a. BLM
 - b. Solar Energy
 - c. USFS - Staffing
 - d. Legislative Update
- 9. Partner Insights and Updates in REVERSE Alphabetical Order**
- a. Town of Mammoth Lakes
 - i. Public woodcutting has been extended un 11/30



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- ii. Mammoth Lakes Basic is reopen
 - iii. TBD if Reds Meadow will reopen for the weekend
 - iv. TOML to meet with the Forest Service to plan for staff for Summer 2025
 - v. Dog park is opening this week
 - vi. Misc facilities closing in town due to the snow
- b. National Park Service
 - i. Facilities are closed to the public, but open for skiing once there is enough snow.
- c. Mono County
 - i. Meeting with the Forest Service in Lee Vining to plan for staff in Summer 2025
 - ii. Mono County has concluded their grant for the refillable propane, however, they have a lot of canisters still available. Mammoth Lakes Chevron is an official refill vendor.
 - iii. Completely the restroom at the Grant Lake overlook.
 - iv. CSA1 – submitted mapping to INF and BLM Bishop
- d. Inyo National Forest, USFS
 - i. Prescribed fire pause has been lifted
 - ii. Horseshoe fire is still being worked on
 - iii. Bathroom updates in Pine Creek – need to check the recording, wifi was spotty
- e. Inyo County
 - i. Working on additional signage for parking on Buttermilk Road
 - ii. Working on Park Projects – rehabbing Diaz Lake, as well as other lakes and campground infrastructure.
 - iii. Coordination with ESCOG for future projects
- f. HT National Forest, USFS
 - i. All campgrounds are closed, all gates are closing by 11/14
 - ii. Snow Park is open, but no snow yet
 - iii. Christmas trees are on sale
- g. ESCOG
 - i. No updates
- h. City of Bishop
 - i. No one in attendance
- i. CALTRANS
 - i. Grant program coming to District 9 that they are working on, more details to follow.
 - ii. Passes are closing for the winter, TBD if any will reopen again before Winter.
 - iii. Andrew did survey work through Google to reevaluate future planning for adjusting bike lanes.



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- j. BLM
 - i. No one in attendance
- k. Alpine County
 - i. SJF – looking into a catalyst opportunity – looking for a partner to work on the feasibility study – need to check recording?
 - ii. Completed signage using wood from the Tamarck fire
 - iii. Need to check the recording – wifi was spotty

10. Next Meetings

- a. **Regular Meeting** - Monday December 2, 2024 @ 3:30 Via Zoom