





EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

Happy Halloween

EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



November 2, 2026

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Recording in Progress

Public lands in the United States hold the creation stories, burial grounds, and ceremonies of Indigenous people who were killed or forcibly removed from their ancestral homes during territorial acquisition.

Many tribes, comprised of different bands, live in the Eastern Sierra region, caring for their native lands as they coexist with the ongoing impacts of colonization. Past or present tribes and bands associated with the region that this effort is aware of include, but are not limited to, the Miwok, Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a, Mono/Monache, Nüümü (Paiute), Newe (Shoshone), Timbi-Sha, Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute, and Washoe.

Two Nüümü terms describe the region and provide important context to ideas offered in this presentation. The first is Pamidu Toiyabe (Western Mountains), and the other, more widely known, place name is Payahuunadü (The Place Where Water Flows).

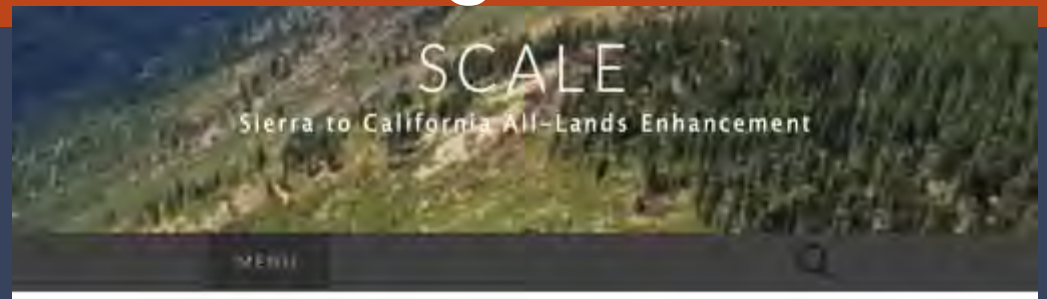
This acknowledgement is an invitation to all organizations, residents, and visitors to recognize the way this history has shaped the present as all parties work together in anticipation of a better future.

What is the ESSRP

EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

"A public/public partnership between tribal, local, state, and federal government agencies and a regional voice for sustainable outdoor recreation in California."

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Sierra Institute
for Community and Environment

SCALE Collaborative Capacity - Notice of Funding Opportunity

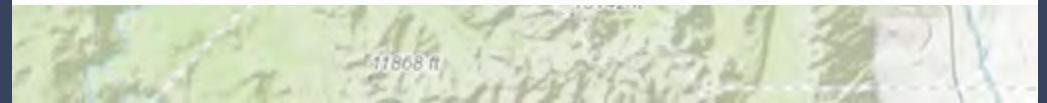
Background: The Sierra Institute's Sierra to California All-Lands Enhancement (SCALE) Project brings together roughly 20 forest collaboratives along with multiple state and federal agencies working to address landscape-scale restoration, as well as community enhancement and resiliency across rural forested areas of California. SCALE utilizes annual and virtual meetings as a peer-learning forum to bring collaborative groups together to identify and address collective and unique social and political challenges to advance landscape restoration. SCALE's vision is to create

On behalf of Sierra Institute, we are pleased to inform you that your organization has been selected to receive a grant in the amount of $9,993.00 for the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership's capacity-building activities. This grant reflects our commitment to fostering collaborative capacity and recognizes the outstanding work your organization does to advance these goals.

We will be in touch with you after the new year to discuss next steps, but wanted to inform you prior to the holidays.

ties.

Through the SCALE project, the Sierra Institute facilitates a peer-learning network among forest collaboratives by convening bi-annual meetings designed to share key lessons learned by each of the collaboratives, building the capacity of collaboratives by pro-moting awareness of key state and federal policies, funding, and authorities, and collectively identifying strategies to achieve land-scape-scale, cross-boundary restoration of healthy, resilient forests.



by addressing specific collaborative group needs. Eligible applicants include non-profits, collaborative groups, and partner entities that participate in the collaborative (e.g., Resource Conservation Districts). Eligible capacity-building activities include, but are not limited to:

- Developing and finalizing a charter or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or enhancing an existing charter/MOU.
- Organizing a collaborative retreat to review and improve partnership processes.
- Hosting outreach events or training sessions, such as public meetings, Tribal outreach meetings, field tours, workforce development training, or training on the use of existing decision support tools such as the regional resource kits.
- Creating strategic plans to guide collaborative processes, including post-fire recovery plans, development of strategic fire management plans and focal areas of interest to address the wildfire crisis, expansion of wood utilization including business plans for wood utilization facilities or project monitoring plans.

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

WHITEBARK INSTITUTE



Whitebark Institute

- Janet Hatfield
  - Interim Executive Director, Whitebark Institute

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Whitebark Institute

- Claire Galaway
  - Community Engagement Program Manager, Wildlife Biologist

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Inyo County

- Christine Bouchard
  - *CAO Inyo County*

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Manzanar National Historic Site

- Tony Pickering
  - *Acting Superintendent, Manzanar National Historic Site*

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Manzanar National Historic Site

- Jeremy Scheier
  - *Superintendent, Manzanar National Historic Site*

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



City of Bishop

- Pam Foster
  - *City Administrator*

Hot Links November 2, 2026

Welcome

- What is the ESSRP
  - Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)
  - Review the critical documents of the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership
  - Origin Story
    - Inyo National Forest Land Management Plan
    - Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative
- Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells
  - Welcome
    - Janet Hatfield, Interim Executive Director, Whitebark Institute
    - Claire Galaway, Community Engagement Program Manager Wildlife Biologist
  - Farewells
    - Pam Foster, City of Bishop, City Manager
  - SCALE Grant
    - Restoring Forests, Reviving Communities
- Happenings of Interest for Eastern Sierra Recreation - Part 1
  - Election 2026

Happenings of Interest – Part 1



Happenings of Interest – Part 1

Election Day 2026 weather forecast: Nov. 3 maps and tracker

Here are all the maps you need before you head to the polls.

By Bob Shackelford • 1 hour ago

Start the conversation | Share



(Photo by Ryan Murphy/AFP via Getty Images)

Millions will be heading to the polls for Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

A storm system will bring showers and thunderstorms to the Central U.S., including Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City and Dallas. Temperatures could be on the chilly side from the Northwest to Rockies and far northern Upper Midwest, but they'll rebound to comfortable levels by the afternoon.

Here are the latest forecast maps:

Tuesday morning



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HOME | FORECAST | PAST WEATHER | SAFETY | INFORMATION | EDUCATION | NEWS | SEARCH | ABOUT

Multi-Day Heavy Rain Event in the Four Corners; Soggy Sunday Expected in Florida

A series of Pacific storm systems will bring widespread showers, heavy rain, and a flash flooding threat across the Four Corners region this weekend. Ex-Typhoon Champi will approach the Alaskan West Coast bringing localized gusty winds and heavy precipitation. A wet and unsettled weekend is expected across southern Florida with rain expected across the entire peninsula by Sunday. Read More >

Location Help

Customize Your Weather.gov

NWS Forecast Office Reno, NV

Reno, NV

Current Hazards | Current Conditions | Radar | Forecasts | Rivers and Lakes | Climate and Past Weather | Local Programs

Winter Weather Advisory | Halloween Forecast



Show Caption

Click a location below for detailed forecast.



Last Map Update: Sat, Oct 31, 2026 at 12:22:29 pm PDT

NBC NEWS | POLITICS | U.S. NEWS | WORLD | WATCH | SUBSCRIBE

STORMS

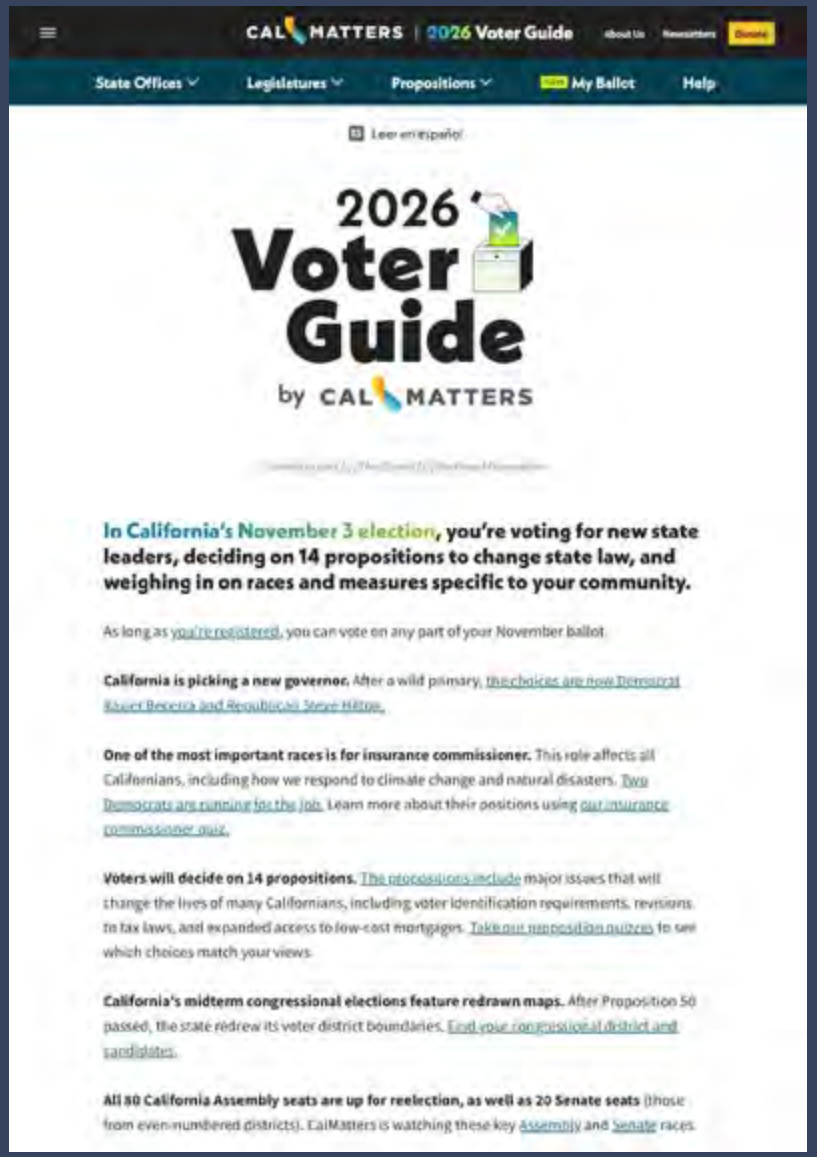
Stormy weather could hit key states on Election Day, forecasters predict

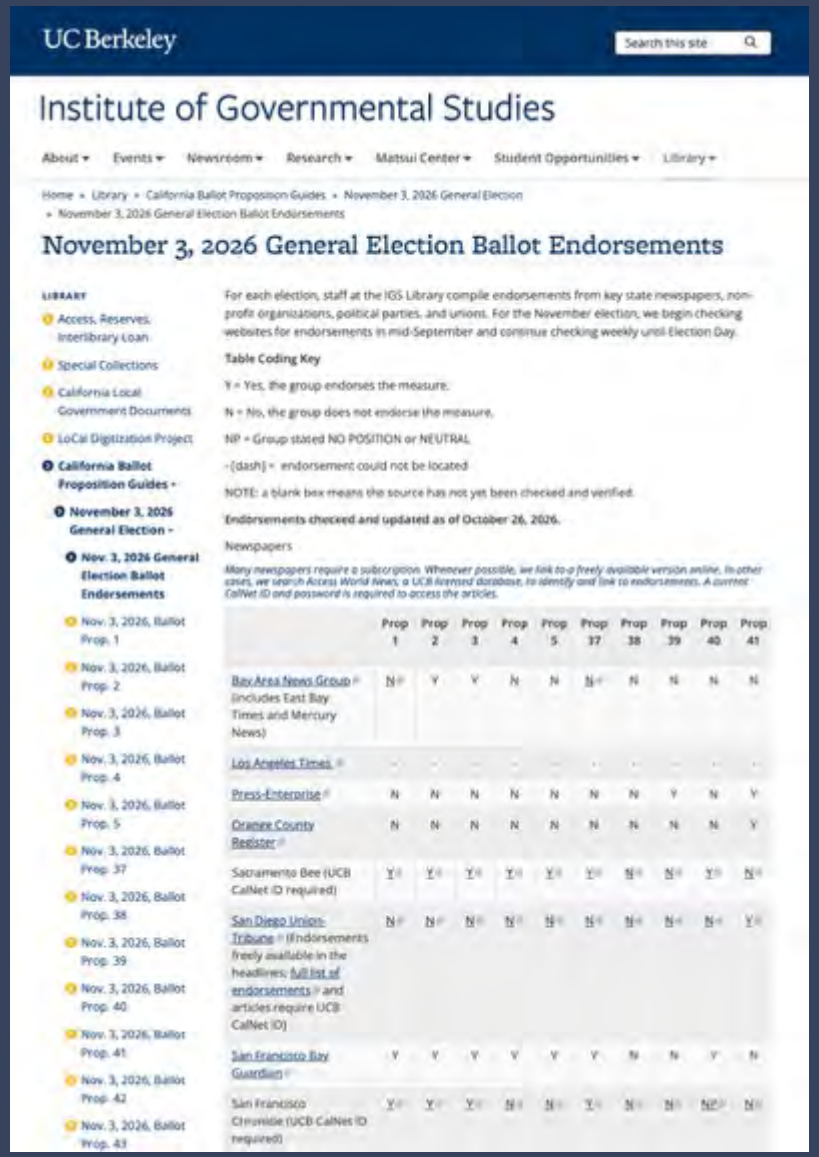
A line of thunderstorms could stretch from Texas to Missouri on Tuesday, with rain in Iowa and strong winds in Kansas.

Listen to this article with a free profile



Happenings of Interest – Part 1







Happenings of Interest – Part 1

the sheet
News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

10 ‹ ELECTION www.thesheetnews.com THE SHEET | Saturday, October 24, 2026

GIVE LUNCH PROPS

Lunch offers a cheat sheet for the various state ballot propositions

By Lunch



POLITICOPRO

The surprising X-factor in California's insurance race

Republicans could end up determining the future of the state's massive insurance market.

By SADIE RAHIM



Wildfires in California have prompted a mass pullback by home insurers, raising the stakes of the Nov. 3 election for insurance commissioner. | Ethan Swope / AP

MORE THAN JUST PARKS

Before You Vote, See How Congress Voted on Your Public Lands

Election Day is approaching. We've made it easy to see exactly how your senators and representatives have voted on America's national parks, forests, wilderness, and wildlife refuges.

By WILL PATTIZ AND MORE THAN JUST PARKS



POLITICOPRO

How California's insurance race became a race to the left

Both top candidates promise to "fight" corporations on consumers' behalf. They don't agree on what that means.

By SADIE RAHIM



Escalating wildfire risk has left California with one of the most extreme insurance market situations in the country — and a dramatic contest to become the regulator who oversees the market. | Mark Boster / AP

POLITICOPRO

Billionaires shatter spending record to fight California wealth tax

It's a striking and historic show of unity from a notoriously hard-to-organize donor class, a POLITICO analysis shows.

By CHRISTINE MAI, SEAN MCMINN



Google co-founder and billionaire Sergey Brin is joining Kiran Mathew Rekhi building a Better California campaign to back Prop 30 | Julia Nikhinson / AP

EXPLORE OUR NETWORK OF SITES SEARCH

peopleforbikes MENU

VoteForBikes



Since 2019, PeopleForBikes' VoteForBikes campaign has tracked and supported 214 pro-bike ballot measures across the country, with voters approving more than $49 billion for better biking. In 2026, states and municipalities across the country will continue to vote on measures that invest in expanding and improving the quality and accessibility of great places to ride bikes. If you love bikes, use our resources and make a plan to vote!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

The Bills Newsom Signed and Vetoed in 2026

By NICOLE NORMAN, MADI ALEXANDER

Download Save

KEY POINTS

- As Gov. Gavin Newsom weighs a potential presidential run, he's tried to bulk up his résumé on areas that foreshadow his message on the campaign trail — with his biggest swings focused on artificial intelligence and online safety.
- California's budget situation continues to be an uphill battle for lawmakers. Pressure from H.R. 1, various cuts from the Trump administration and other steep budget obligations pushed lawmakers to pass a budget with new spending cuts and tax increases for corporations.
- Of the 1,146 bills sent to Newsom's desk, he signed 1,040 and vetoed 120. His most common reason for returning a bill without a signature was cost — a consistent theme over Newsom's final years as governor, as the state tries to dig its way out of a structural budget deficit.

How We Got Here

Gavin Newsom's final stint as governor was marked by another year of clashes with the federal government.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition Account

U.S. & WORLD // CALIFORNIA

DOJ gives local California registrars 48 hours to quarantine suspected noncitizen ballots

By Sara DiNatale, Staff Writer

Gift Article



Election services specialist Alicia Little reviews test ballots at Contra Costa's election offices in Martinez on May 8, 2026. The DOJ sent a letter to Contra Costa's registrar on Friday, demanding the sequester certain ballots.

In the latest escalation of the Department of Justice's efforts to block California from counting some ballots, prosecutors sent individual letters to numerous county registrars Friday demanding that they sequester ballots returned by voters flagged as possibly lacking U.S. citizenship.

NBC NEWS POLITICS U.S. NEWS WORLD WATCH SUBSCRIBE

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Appeals court again rejects DOJ's bid to segregate over 20,000 alleged noncitizen ballots in California

In a 2-1 ruling, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals cited questions about the government's methodology and proximity to Election Day.

Listen to this article with a free profile



Appeals court deals DOJ a blow in California ballot fight

Josephine Walker

Add Axios on Google



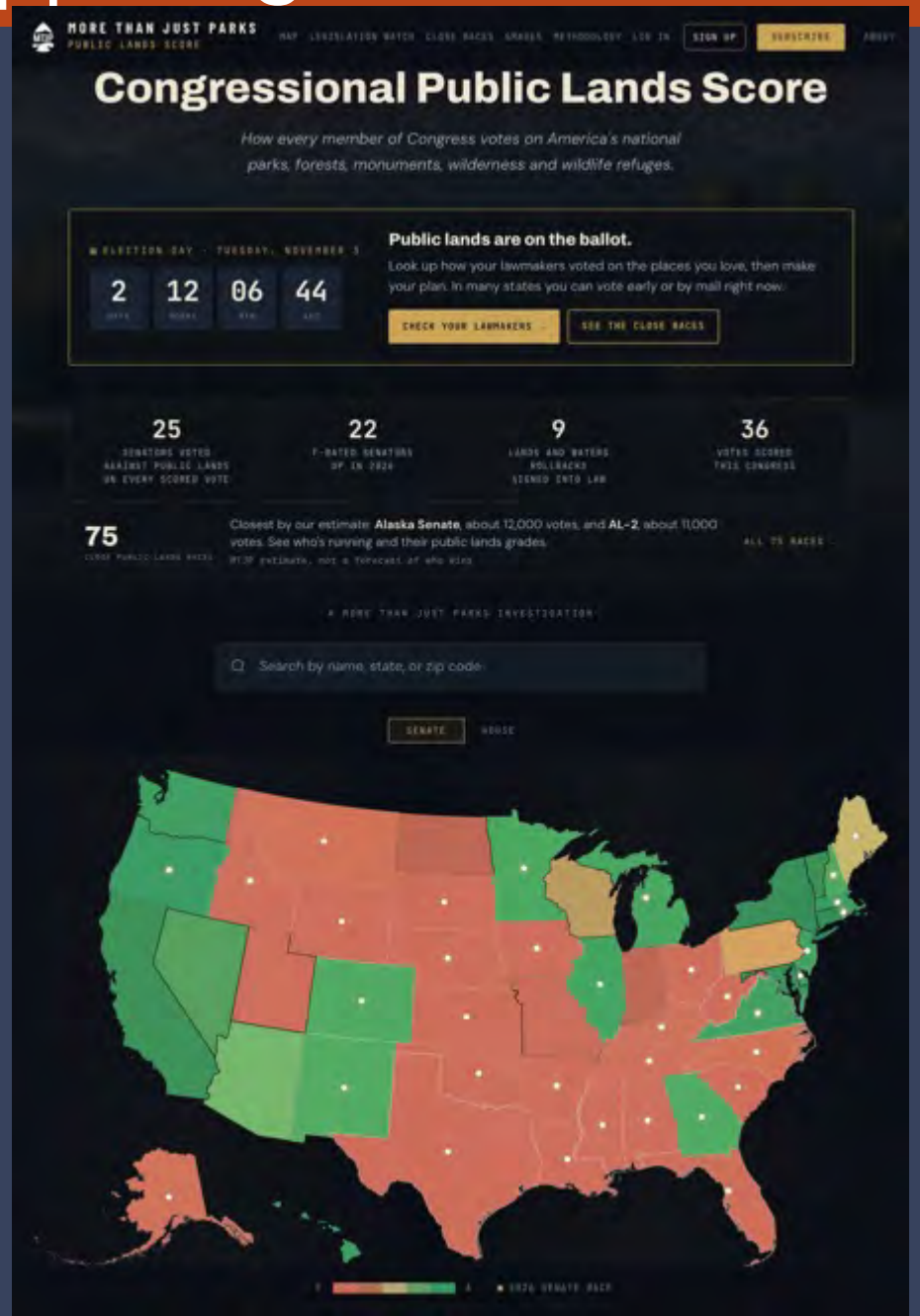
Photo illustration of a detail of an official vote by mail ballot and return envelope, as well as a general election official voter information guide, photographed on October 17, 2026. Photo: Jay L. Clendenin/Getty Images

A federal appeals court rejected the Justice Department's emergency bid to set aside mail ballots tied to more than 20,000 California voters the Trump administration suspects are noncitizens.

Why it matters: The 2-1 ruling leaves California's election procedures intact just days before the midterms, with the judges citing doubts about the DOJ's voter list and the risk of disenfranchising eligible voters.

- The ruling is a major setback for a DOJ that has doubled down on unsubstantiated claims of widespread voter fraud in the Golden State.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1





Appeals court deals DOJ a blow in California ballot fight

Josephine Walker

Add Axios on Google



Photo illustration of a detail of an official vote by mail ballot and return envelope, as well as a general election official voter information guide, photographed on October 17, 2026. Photo: Jay L. Clendenin/Getty Images

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Happenings of Interest – Part 1













Happenings of Interest – Part 1

POLITICOPRO

Gift article

STATE

California is rethinking ocean management — and tapping state tribal governments for help

The California Fish and Game Commission approved a series of petitions which would expand the state's marine protected areas.

BY: RILEY RAMIREZ | 10/19/2026 07:25 PM EDT



Register today for the: 2026 Sierra Nevada Tribal Summit!

INDIGENOUS FUTURES SOCIETY

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OUR STORIES GET INVOLVED



Welcome Homáakani?

Nisenan

The Indigenous Futures Society's mission is to elevate Indigenous place-based wisdom, leadership, and guardianship to achieve reparative justice and resilient Sierra Nevada cultural ecologies and communities for future generations.



OUR ROOTS

Happenings of Interest – Part 1



AMERICAN INDIGENOUS TOURISM ASSOCIATION



CALIFORNIA'S STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE

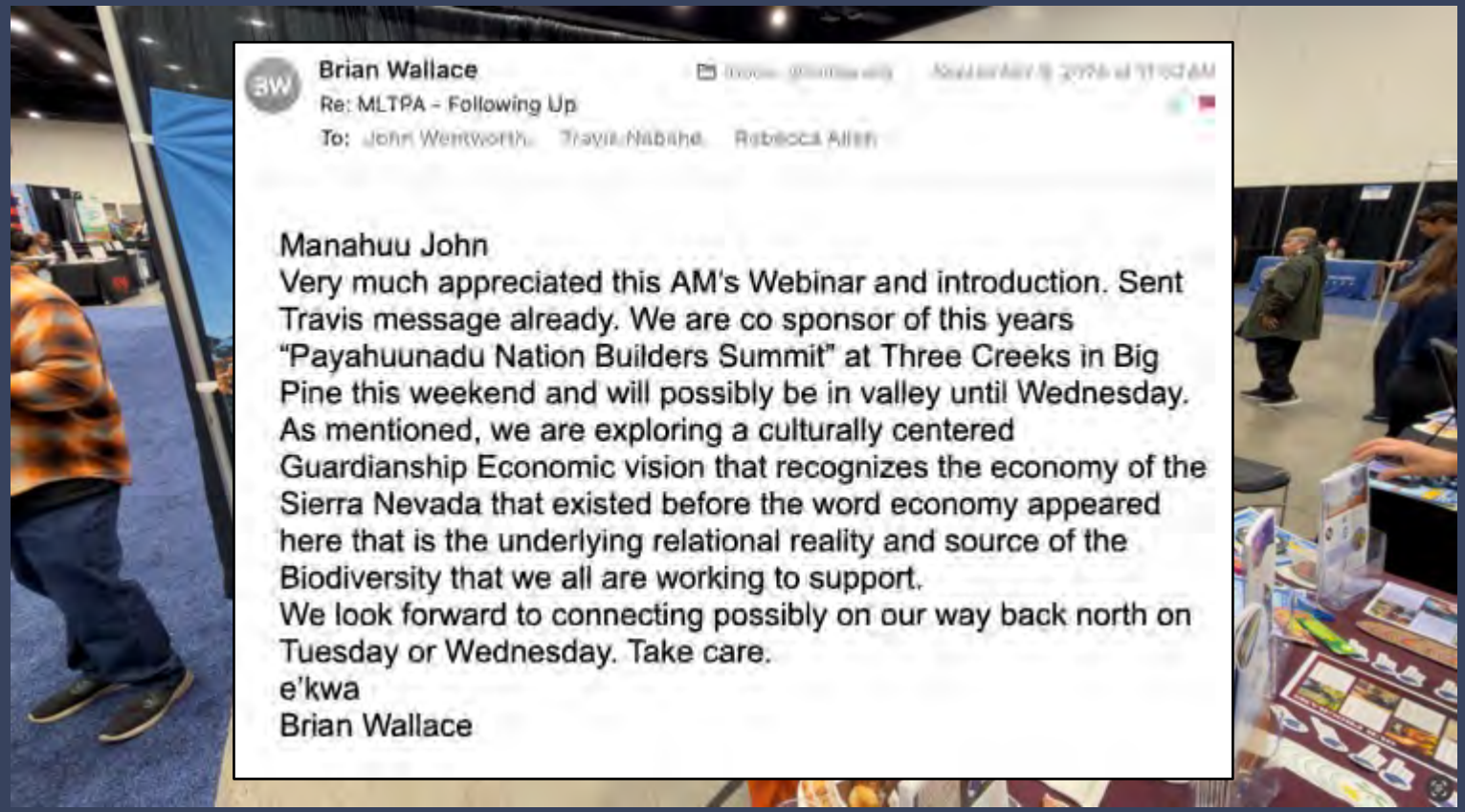
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
10 AM MDT

AMERICAN INDIGENOUS TOURISM ASSOCIATION
WEBINAR SERIES COMMUNITY NAVIGATOR

California's Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience

September 9 @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Happenings of Interest – Part 1



Brian Wallace
Re: MLTPA - Following Up
To: John Wentworth, Travis Nabahe, Rebecca Allen

Manahuu John
Very much appreciated this AM's Webinar and introduction. Sent Travis message already. We are co sponsor of this years "Payahuunadu Nation Builders Summit" at Three Creeks in Big Pine this weekend and will possibly be in valley until Wednesday. As mentioned, we are exploring a culturally centered Guardianship Economic vision that recognizes the economy of the Sierra Nevada that existed before the word economy appeared here that is the underlying relational reality and source of the Biodiversity that we all are working to support.
We look forward to connecting possibly on our way back north on Tuesday or Wednesday. Take care.
e'kwa
Brian Wallace

AMERICAN INDIGENOUS TOURISM ASSOCIATION



CALIFORNIA'S STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE

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Happenings of Interest – Part 1

Mammoth 29°F BOOK NOW

Home / Things To Do / Events Calendar / 26/27 Opening Day

NOV 13 FRI

26/27 OPENING DAY



WINTER KICKOFF PARTY

Celebrate with us as we kick off the season and fire up the lifts. Join Woolly for the annual first chair and banner breakthrough followed by a toast to the new season. Festivities will be held at the bottom of Broadway Express.

DATE & TIME
Nov 13, 2026
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

LOCATION
10001 Minaret Rd
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

BIG PIVOTS

ENERGY and WATER transitions in Colorado and beyond

Solar-powered ski lifts in Colorado?

Oct 14, 2026



OK, the sun produces less in winter. But combined with storage and a major project near Cortez, it's possible several resorts in SW Colorado could soon be powered by solar on some days.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition Account

WEATHER

Will El Niño deliver a big Sierra snow season? These are the detailed projections

By **Greg Porter**, Senior Newsroom Meteorologist

Oct 17, 2026

Gift Article



Snow enthusiasts are seen at the Alpine base area at Palisades Tahoe in January 2024. This year, the late winter could bring unusually heavy snow to Sierra resorts, particularly at high elevation.

Stephen Lam/S.F. Chronicle

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TRAVEL | TAHOE

Why Tahoe isn't buying the El Niño hype

'We're weather farmers.'



A man shovels snow off the roof of a house in Mammoth Lakes, Calif., on April 29, 1983, during the El Niño winter of 1982-1983.

V. Clevenger/ClassicStock/Getty Images

By **Julie Brown Davis**, *Mountain Towns Editor*

Oct 14, 2026

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

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TECHNOLOGY

Lone Pine residents baffled by mysterious, blinding lights at night

By **Sam Hill**, *Pacific Northwest Contributing Parks Editor*
Oct 15, 2026



On Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026, Reflect Orbital set up powerful spotlights along Horseshoe Meadows Road near Lone Pine, Calif., to simulate the illumination its proposed satellites could provide.
Reflect Orbital

On Saturday night, residents of Lone Pine, a small Eastern Sierra town near Mount Whitney, were baffled by a pair of blinding lights illuminating the desert south of town. In what should have been a pitch-black sky, the beams seemed to come out of nowhere, casting a glow across the landscape.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

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OPINION

Mark Zuckerberg's new toy is a parasite. Please don't fall into his latest trap.

Column: Muse, Meta's round-the-clock digital serf, is an enemy of the state, Ariana Bindman writes



A digital billboard shows an advertisement for Meta Muse AI agent in Oakland, Calif., Sept. 24, 2026.
Smith Collection/Gado/Getty Images

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

Sections

Los Angeles Times

ESSENTIAL CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

Facing electric-bill sticker shock? What's driving up utility bills in L.A.



Canter's Deli reported a whopping $35,700 water and power bill. (Mel Melcon / Los Angeles Times)

POLITICOPRO

Gift article

STATE

The LA mayor's race goes electric

Utility bills have emerged as a key talking point ahead of Election Day.

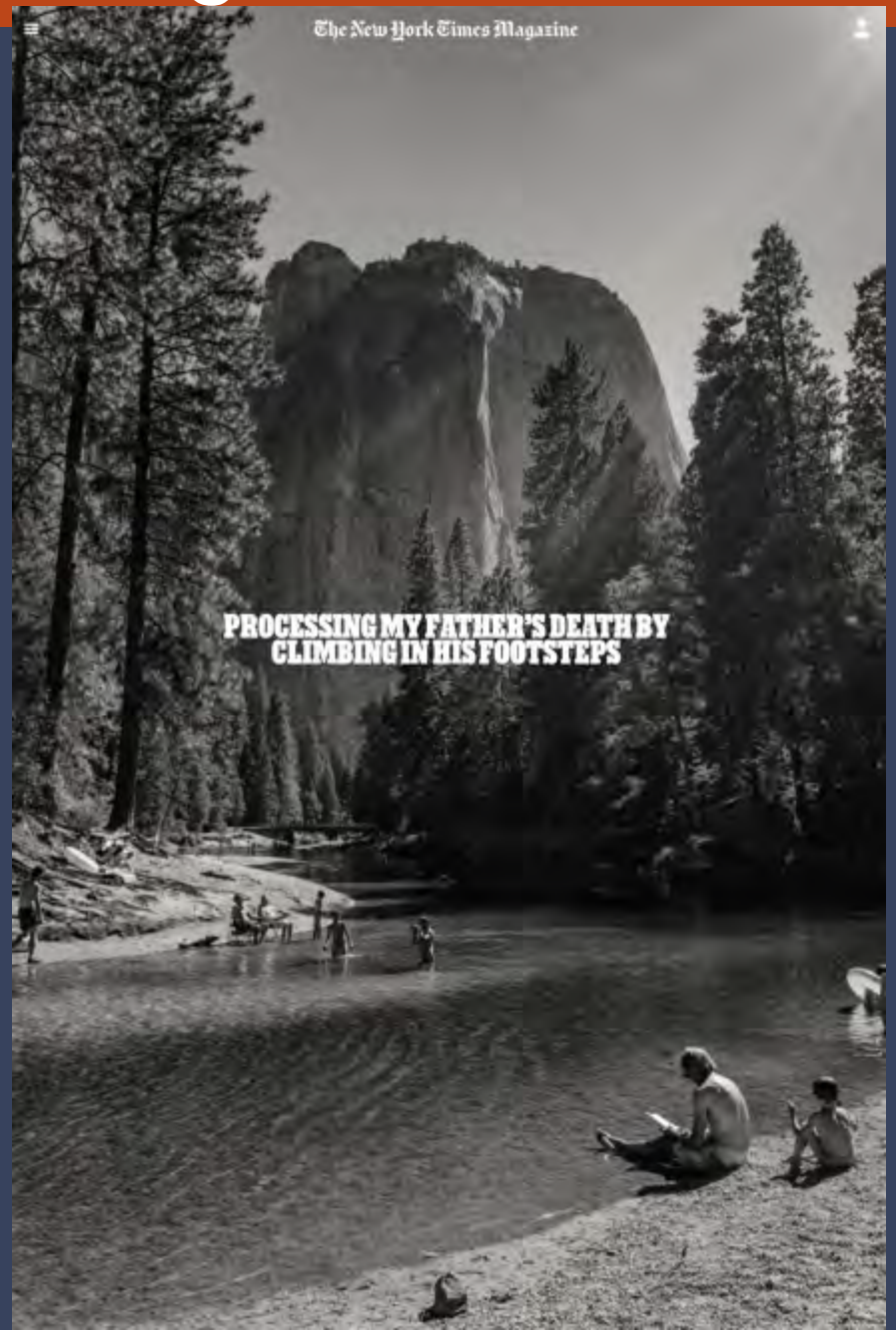
BY ALEX NIEVES | 10/27/2026 07:47 PM EDT



Nithya Raman has focused on utility bills in the closing days of the LA mayoral race. | Mario Tama/Getty Images

Frustration over sky-high electricity bills is becoming a flashpoint in the closing days of the Los Angeles mayor's race, with Karen Bass and her progressive challenger, Nithya Raman, trading blows over utility costs that have soared amid record-breaking heatwaves.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1



San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition Account

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

'Magical' 21-mile trail on edge of Yosemite is about to reopen after nearly a decade

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer
Oct 24, 2026

Gift Article



After being closed for the past eight years, the 21-mile South Fork Merced River Trail is on the cusp of reopening to hikers, backpackers and anglers.
Gregory Thomas/S.F. Chronicle

Outreach

- EASTERNSIERRAWID.com
- Other Resources:
  - Business/Local one sheet
  - Visitor handouts: postcard, table tent
  - Poster
  - Email/Website banner
  - A-Frames and road signage
  - Social media and digital assets

- https://monocounty.ca.gov/economic/page/mono-county-fish-wildlife-programs
- https://www.vcptoolkit.org/golden-mussels









Happenings of Interest – Part 1

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WILEY Online Library

Diversity and Distributions / Volume 27, Issue 8 / pp. 1422-1434

RESEARCH ARTICLE Open Access

Golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) survival during winter at the northern invasion front implies a potential high-latitude distribution

Zhiqiang Xia, Justin R. Barker, Aibin Zhan, Gordon Douglas Haffner, Hugh J. MacIsaac

First published: 05 May 2021

https://doi.org/10.1111/ddi.13289

VIEW METRICS

Results

Golden mussels in a northern invasion front reservoir could survive over a course of 6 days at <1°C, or 41 days at <2°C, or 108 days at <5°C, with 27% survival overall. Caged mussels were inaccessible to local predators and reproduced, with the subsequent population size increasing in early summer by ~280%, representing a potential source population. Laboratory tests demonstrated that the lowest water temperature at which mussels could filter water was 5.5°C, and 50% of individuals became active when temperature rose to 7.5–8.0°C. Species distribution modelling illustrated a potential distribution of golden mussels at higher latitude than presently found. Models that considered updated high-latitude occurrence records predicted a significantly larger suitable area than currently exists, including near the lower Laurentian Great Lakes.

Main conclusions

Our findings suggest enhanced cold tolerance of golden mussels and wider potential distribution than currently exists. We emphasize the importance of examining samples from invasion fronts when developing distribution predictions for spreading invasive species.

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

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- https://www.vcptoolkit.org/golden-mussels



Appointments mandatory for winter decontamination

TAHOE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

Decontamination continues to be essential to protect Lake Tahoe, even when temperatures drop. Aquatic invasive species have broad temperature tolerances and can survive even the iciest of Tahoe winters. From October through April, inspection and decontamination will be available by appointment at the Meyers inspection station. Visit tahoeboatinspections.com for more information.



Hot water decontamination kills aquatic invasive species that could hitchhike on watercraft and equipment. Photo by Clean Up the Lake

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

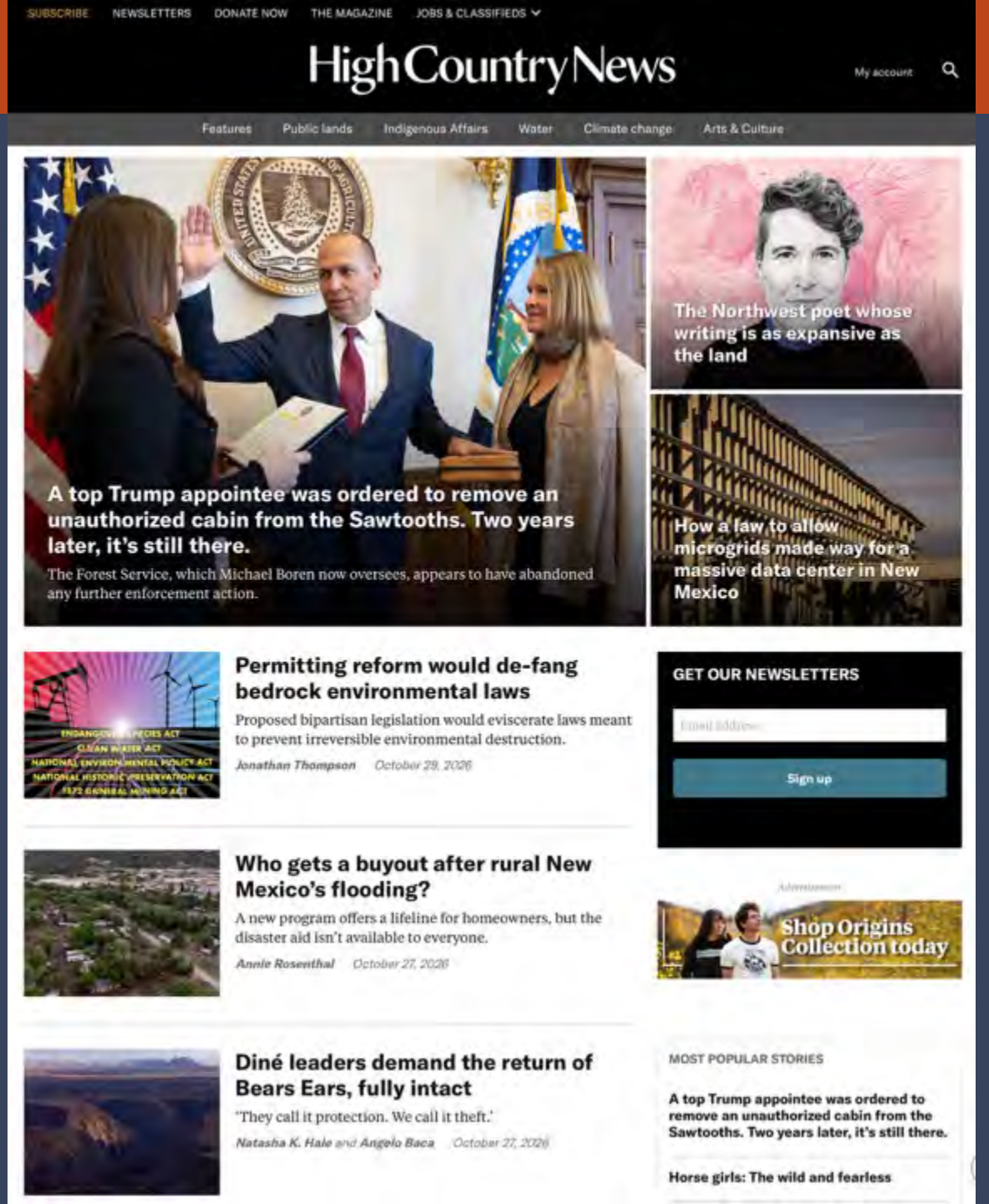






Happenings of Interest – Part 1





Happenings of Interest – Part 1

RE:PUBLIC NEWSLETTER MORE ••• DONATE



Photo by Ali Kazal / Unsplash

OPINION

A MILLION COMMENTS. NOW WHAT?

More than 99 percent of public comments opposed repealing the Roadless Rule. Here's why you should keep commenting anyway.

By Christopher Keyes • Oct 8, 2025

Earlier this week, on October 6, the public comment period on the proposed repeal of the Roadless Rule closed, and the response was more than just lopsided. It was a rout. Repealing the rule would lift the national ban on new roads and most commercial logging across roughly 45 million acres of national forest, leaving those decisions to each forest's own management plan.

Conservation organizations tracked more than 1 million letters asking the Forest Service to keep the rule. The Center for Western Priorities sifted through the roughly 370,000 comments posted to regulations.gov and found that 99.1 percent oppose rescinding it. (Hundreds of thousands of comments were also submitted by mail, thus the disparity in the total number of comments reviewed.)

That's an extraordinary turnout, especially when you consider how miserly the window was for commenting. The first round, in 2025, lasted just 21 days. The most recent round ran 45, but you can hardly call that generous. Compare those short windows to when the rule was written in the first place, back in the early 2000s. The Forest Service collected more than 1.5 million comments over 18 months of public engagement, including hundreds of hearings across the country. Ninety-five percent of the comments that process generated were in favor of the Roadless Rule.

So what happens now? Unfortunately, if recent history is a guide, expect the Forest Service to finalize the repeal and lawsuits to follow. (In fact, litigation is widely expected no matter which way the final rule lands.) We've seen this consistently over the last 18 months. Last year's initial Roadless Rule comment period drew 625,737 comments, and more than 99 percent of the posted ones opposed rescission. But the agency went on to propose rescinding the rule anyway. Similarly, last May, the BLM finalized its rescission of the Public Lands Rule, which put recreation and conservation on equal footing with mining, grazing, and energy development when making management decisions. That was despite fielding more than 130,000 comments, 98 percent of them urging the administration to keep it.

RE:PUBLIC NEWSLETTER MORE ••• DONATE



NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES ★ FEATURED

THE QUIET COLLAPSE OF AMERICA'S REFUGES

Staffing cuts and dwindling budgets have left the country's wildlife havens running on fumes.



NATIONAL PARKS

A VOTE FOR RESPECT

What if we approached next week's trip to the ballot box with a deep reverence for public lands—and a requirement that our lawmakers approach their jobs the same way?

12 min read



NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

THE QUIET COLLAPSE OF AMERICA'S REFUGES

Staffing cuts and dwindling budgets have left the country's wildlife havens running on fumes.

17 min read



ACCESS & EQUITY

CUT OFF FROM THE CUTOFF

A handful of East Texas hunters and anglers are fighting a landowner over their beloved fishing grounds. The ruling could reshape public water access far beyond it.

19 min read



NATIONAL PARKS

WHAT HAPPENED IN SHENANDOAH?

After human remains were found in the national park, a bear menaced hikers in the vicinity. The internet is wild with theories—but the Park Service has said almost nothing.

11 min read

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

RE:PUBLIC NEWSLETTER MORE ••• DONATE



LAND MANAGEMENT

LIKE GATHERING CATTLE WITH A BUTTERFLY NET

Virtual-fence collars are letting ranchers move cattle across public land from their phones. Is this the future of sustainable grazing in the West?

When a cow is grazing on public land, she becomes other people's business. If she spends too much time in one place, say, in the creek-side shade of a cottonwood grove where the grass grows like lettuce, her concentrated footprint can negatively affect the ecosystem. Pretty soon, unless she has reason to move from the shade, there'll be no more lettuce-like grass. And what would otherwise be the concern of a rancher or farmer becomes an issue for everyone.

A cow spends about a quarter of her life grazing. Between drinking water, licking saltlicks, chewing her cud, sleeping, and babysitting calves, she drifts slowly over the available pasturage, cropping grass stems to half their original height. In an ideal situation, half of the grass stem remains standing in the wake of the cow. When she grazes up to a barbed-wire fence or any other impediment to progress, she'll turn either left or right along the path of least resistance, and if she finds herself so confined that she drifts back over her tracks, she'll eat the remaining half stem of grass she left earlier. That's called over-grazing, and it's been a byproduct of the domestication of cows, sheep, and goats for the past five millennia at least. The Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service defines over-grazing as "grazing that exceeds the recovery capacity of the individual species or plant community." In short, the time between grazing activity is not long enough to allow the grass to regrow.

The way to avoid overgrazing is by moving the cow. Cyclical grazing, also called rotational or rest-and-rotate grazing, has been shown to benefit the landscape, and when done correctly, it falls under the umbrella of regenerative agriculture—farming or ranching models that enhance and rehabilitate land rather than deplete it.

The challenge on public land in the West is that pastures are measured in square miles, cattle are often

RE:PUBLIC NEWSLETTER MORE ••• DONATE



NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES ★ FEATURED

THE QUIET COLLAPSE OF AMERICA'S REFUGES

Staffing cuts and dwindling budgets have left the country's wildlife havens running on fumes.



NATIONAL PARKS

A VOTE FOR RESPECT

What if we approached next week's trip to the ballot box with a deep reverence for public lands—and a requirement that our lawmakers approach their jobs the same way?

12 min read



NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

THE QUIET COLLAPSE OF AMERICA'S REFUGES

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17 min read



ACCESS & EQUITY

CUT OFF FROM THE CUTOFF

A handful of East Texas hunters and anglers are fighting a landowner over their beloved fishing grounds. The ruling could reshape public water access far beyond it.

19 min read



NATIONAL PARKS

WHAT HAPPENED IN SHENANDOAH?

After human remains were found in the national park, a bear menaced hikers in the vicinity. The internet is wild with theories—but the Park Service has said almost nothing.

11 min read

Happenings of Interest – Part 1

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NATIONAL PARKS

A POWERFUL WITNESS

A federal judge stopped the bulldozers in Big Bend. Laiken Jordahl, the advocate who documented them, explains how it happened and what could still undo it.

By [redacted] • Oct. 15, 2025

For the last 18 months, covering threats to America's public lands has mostly been an exercise in documenting loss. So when a federal judge in El Paso halted border wall construction across the Big Bend region on October 2, I was grateful to have something different to report: good news, even if it turns out not to be permanent.

The Big Bend region covers roughly a quarter of the U.S.-Mexico border and contains no sections of man-made wall, yet it accounted for just 1.3 percent of Border Patrol apprehensions in 2025. It includes Big Bend National Park, Big Bend Ranch State Park, and long stretches of the Rio Grande flowing beside private lands. This year, despite broad bipartisan opposition from locals, the Department of Homeland Security waived dozens of federal laws to fast-track barriers and roads through all of it.

In April, the Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the Ruidosa Church, and river guide and landowner Danny Miller, who stands to lose his property in the community of Redford, sued. In August, bulldozers and excavators began clearing land inside the national park near Santa Elena Canyon and Mariscal Mountain. Photographs and video of that work drew the national attention that months of warnings had not.

On October 2, U.S. District Judge Kathleen Cardone granted a preliminary injunction blocking ground-disturbing construction across the Big Bend sector. She found the plaintiffs likely to succeed on at least one of their claims and likely to suffer serious, irreparable harm without the order. On October 8, the administration asked her to stay the order and said the Solicitor General intends to seek Supreme Court review. Under the law behind the waivers, any challenge to the order skips the Fifth Circuit and goes straight to the Supreme Court.

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11 min read

Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism







State Cohort RICA

VISIT CALIFORNIA COMMENTS - *Draft Comments and Context*

Visit California provided comments on the initial draft of the State Cohort RICA document, which was circulated for comment in July 2026 by the State Recreation and Tourism Cohort, a California Jobs First Catalyst Project initiative led by the MLTPA Foundation and Redwood Region RISE, regional Industry Sector Coordinators for California Jobs First.

What follows are the original draft recommendations for the Sierra Cohort RICA, as produced by the State Recreation and Tourism Cohort, followed by Visit California's original comments. The MLTPA and Redwood Region RISE team worked with Visit California to incorporate its suggestions into the final draft of the State Cohort RICA, including deleting some recommendations in their entirety, which was published on August 31, 2026.

For complete information on the State Recreation and Tourism Cohort and the State Cohort RICA, please visit the project web page here:

https://mltpa.org/our-work/sierra-jobs-first-1/sierra-jobs-first/recreation-and-tourism-cohort

ASSETS - RECOMMENDATIONS #1 & #4

1. RECREATION INTEGRATION WITH STATE INFRASTRUCTURE
The State of California, its agencies, and Visit California will collaborate with regional practitioners on state-funded infrastructure planning to integrate opportunities for sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism.

Visit CA Comment: *Infrastructure planning falls outside Visit California's statutory mandate under the California Tourism Marketing Act. As an industry-funded marketing organization, Visit California cannot participate in state infrastructure planning, though we commend state and local efforts to enhance visitor experiences.*

4. PLACE-BASED EDUCATION AND STEWARDSHIP
The State of California, through its funding agencies and their grant guidelines, and in collaboration with Visit California and local Destination Marketing Organizations, will fund place-based education and stewardship tools to connect visitors to the cultural, Indigenous, and ecological contexts of California's outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities and promote responsible use.

Visit CA Comment: *Visit California maintains a robust suite of destination stewardship resources and a dedicated Native American cultural heritage platform, developed in partnership with Tribal leaders and Indigenous tourism organizations. While Visit California can provide feedback on similar efforts, the organization cannot allocate resources to fund or directly develop parallel assets that duplicate existing programs.*

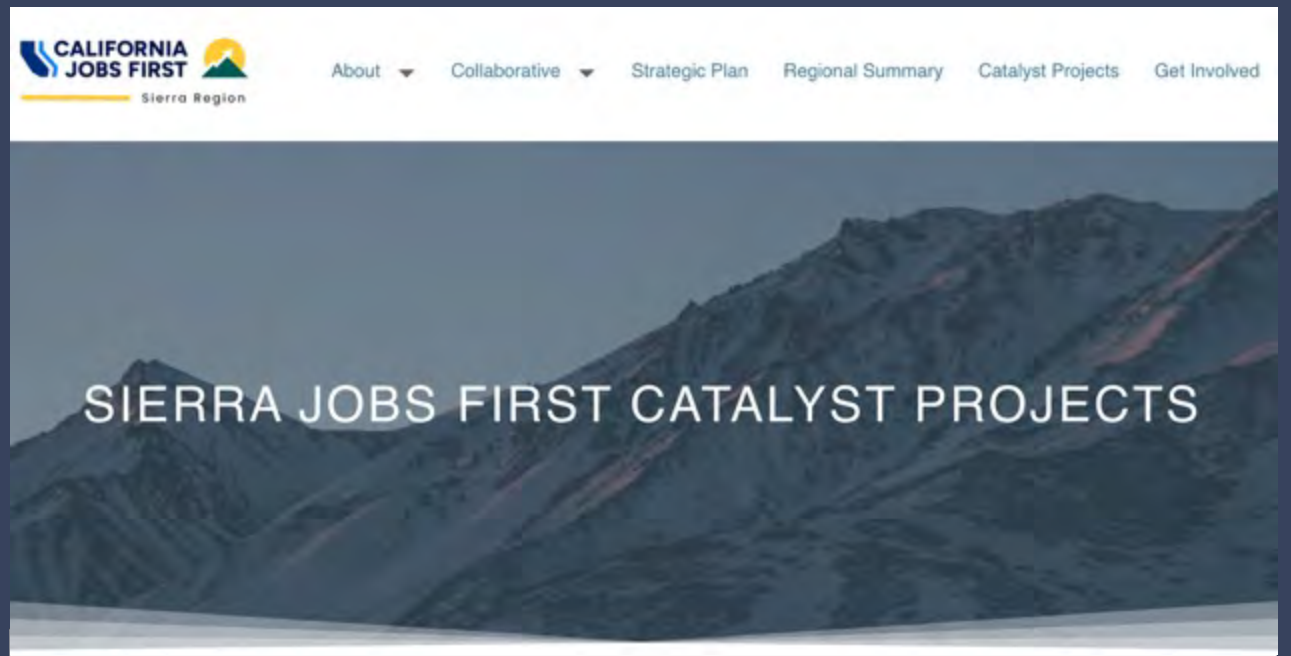
Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism

Shared With

- Outdoors for All
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Natural Resources Agency
- Workforce Development Board
- California Jobs First Leadership



Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism



- Extensions -

- Closeouts -

- What's Next -

Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions

Erika Harvey
ESSRP Update
To: John Wentworth, Erin Murphy

Inbox ...@mlfpa.org August 27, 2026 at 1:17 PM

Hi John,

Here is the ESSRP update for the CJF No Cost Ext...

- SBC has received and signed our No Cost Extension Amendment with the state.
- This amendment will allow SBC as the convenor to continue overseeing Catalyst projects and the compliance of approved catalyst projects until June 2027.
- This amendment does not allow us to add money or move money, the only change is the contract end date for catalyst projects.
- As of right now, SBC opened and closed an application window for the 38 catalyst projects to apply for a No Cost Extension amendment. 24 projects applied, and our team is working diligently to review the requests and get back to projects before September 15.
- The No Cost is a unique opportunity that the state has given projects more time to wrap up their goals and deliverables.

Let me know if you need anything else!

SIERRA BUSINESS COUNCIL

Erika Harvey
Director, Economic Empowerment

eharvey@sierrabusiness.org | (530) 562-4996 ext 118 |

Catalyzing innovative solutions to foster community vitality, environmental quality, economic prosperity, and social fairness in the Sierra Nevada.



Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions

Erika Harvey
inbox - G ...@mltpa.org September 22, 2026 at 10:39 AM
Re: MLTPA / SBC / Catalyst Extensions
To: Erin Murphy, Cc: Kaela Flank, Kara Bechtle, Sierra Jobs First, John Wentworth
Details

Hi Erin,

Apologies for the delay - we've sent out notification to projects but the awards are tentative if they get their compliance documentation in by September 30th. We won't be able to share a list until contracts are signed.

Thanks,

SIERRA BUSINESS COUNCIL

Erika Harvey
Director, Economic Empowerment

eharvey@sierrabusiness.org | (530) 562-4996 ext 118 |

Catalyzing innovative solutions to foster community vitality, environmental quality, economic prosperity, and social fairness in the Sierra Nevada.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2026 at 1:01 PM Erin Murphy <erinmurphy@mltpa.org> wrote:
Hi Kara & SBC Team,

Hope you're all doing well and surviving the Catalyst extension review process.
We're curious what to expect regarding any news tomorrow on which projects will be approved for a Catalyst extension.

Of course, MLTPA does not have any projects under consideration, but we still share an interest in the work continuing in the region and, if appropriate, can share any updates at the next ESSRP meeting.

Thank you!

--
Erin Murphy
Operations Manager
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation
mltpa.org
cell - 817.832.0406



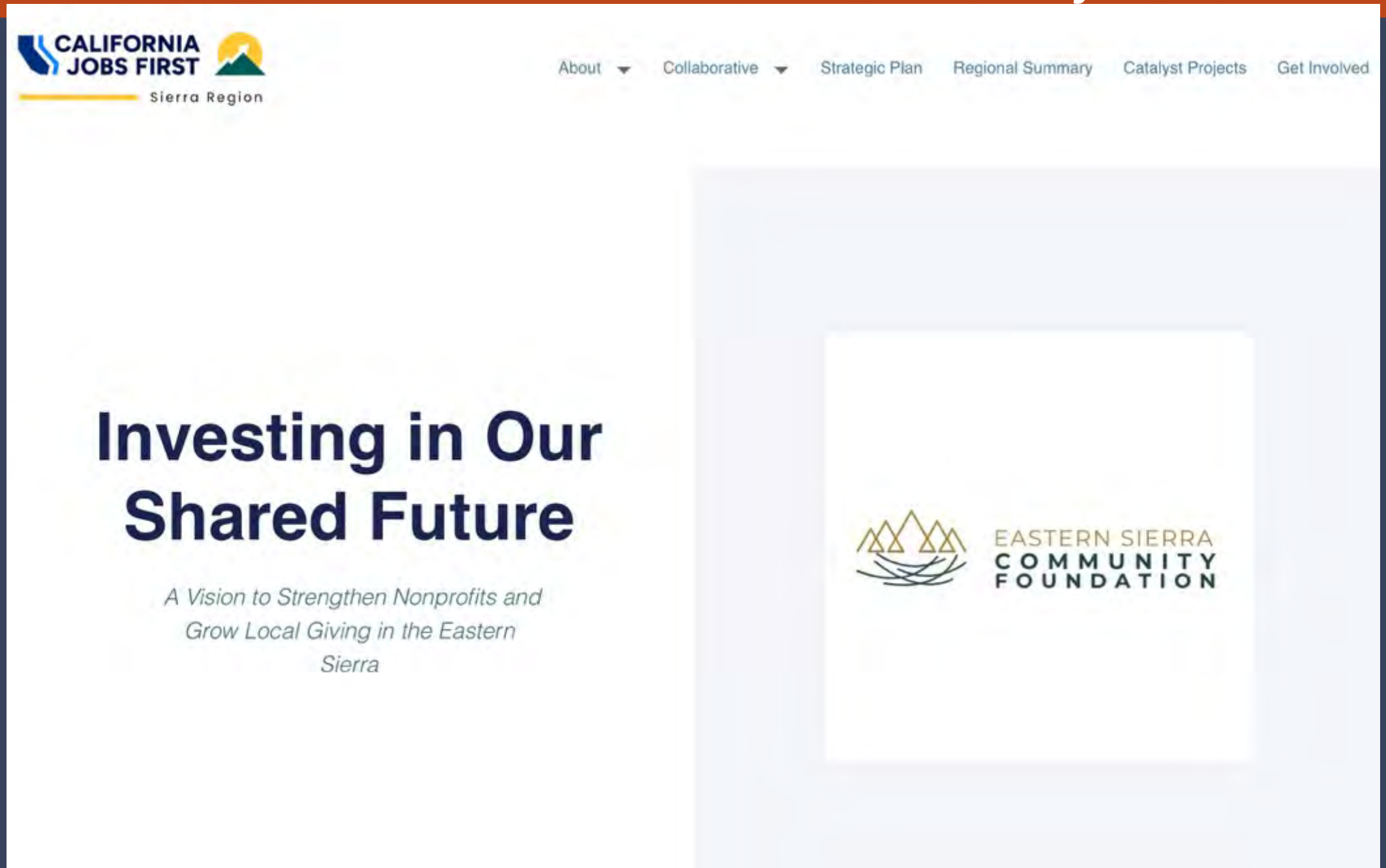
Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions

Catalyst Project – Selected Updates

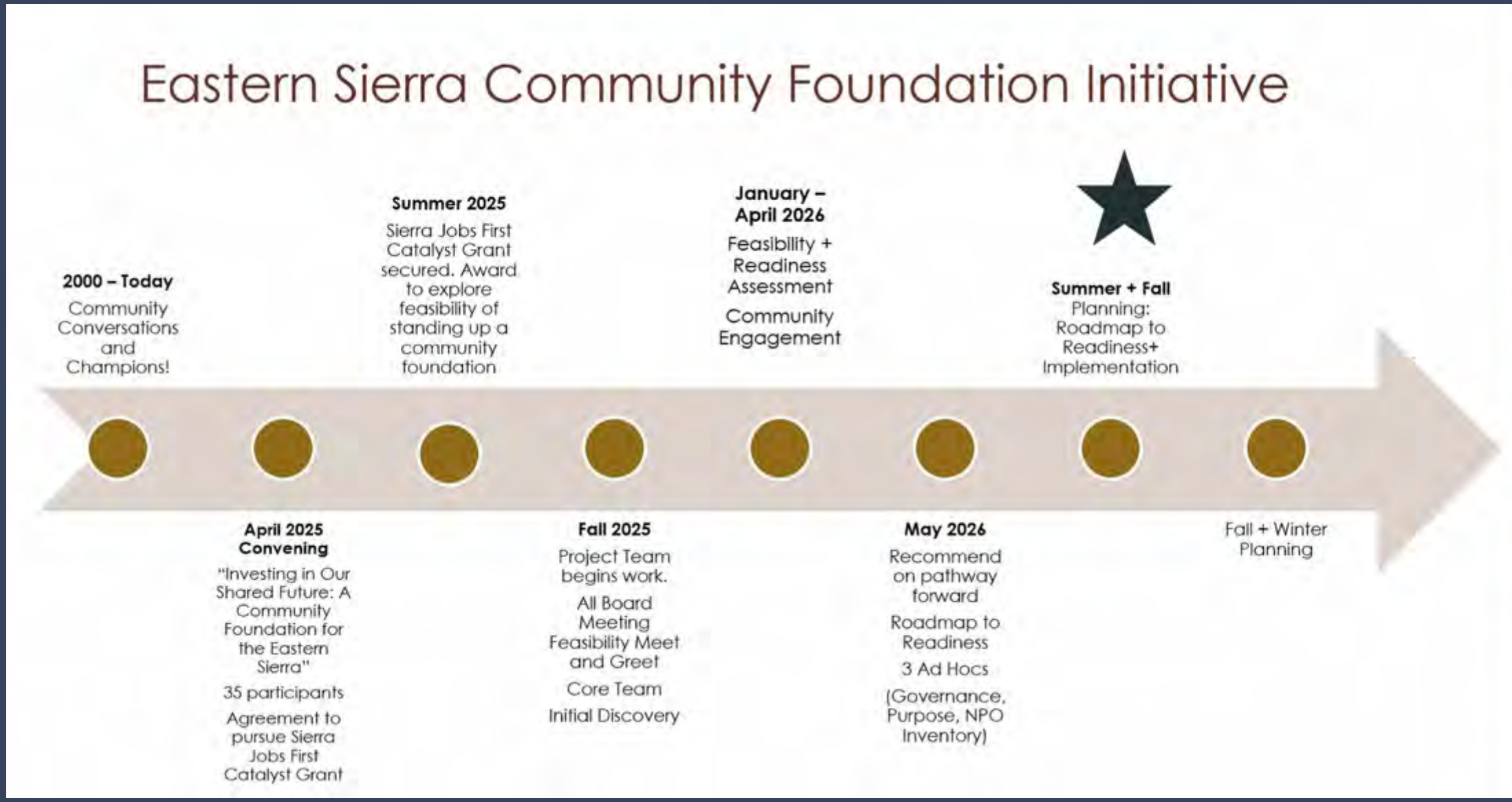
- Eastern Sierra Foundation
  - Regional Community Foundation - *Extension*
- Alpine County
  - Tri-County Economic Impact Analysis - *Closeout*
- ESCOG
  - Recreation Collaborative – *Extension*
  - Chipmunk Canyon – *Closeout*
- MLTPA
  - Job Creation – *Closeout*
  - Campgrounds - *Closeout*
  - Towns to Trails - *Closeout*

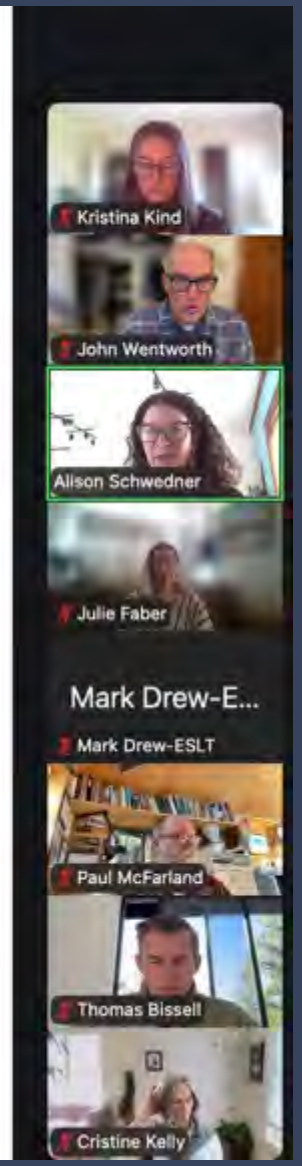


Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions



Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions





Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions

Extension: Next Steps

- Board Development Ad Hoc Committee
  - *October 29*
- Implementation Committee
  - *November 9*

EASTERN SIERRA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

Agenda

Eastern Sierra Community Foundation Formation
Board Development Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

October 29, 2026
1:00-2:00 PM

Zoom [LINK]

Meeting Objectives

1. **Updates:** Organizational structure update
2. **Discussion + Support:** Defining the ESCF founding board composition

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Project Updates
3. Board Development
   a. Nuts and bolts
   b. Draft considerations
4. Close and Next Steps

Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Extensions

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

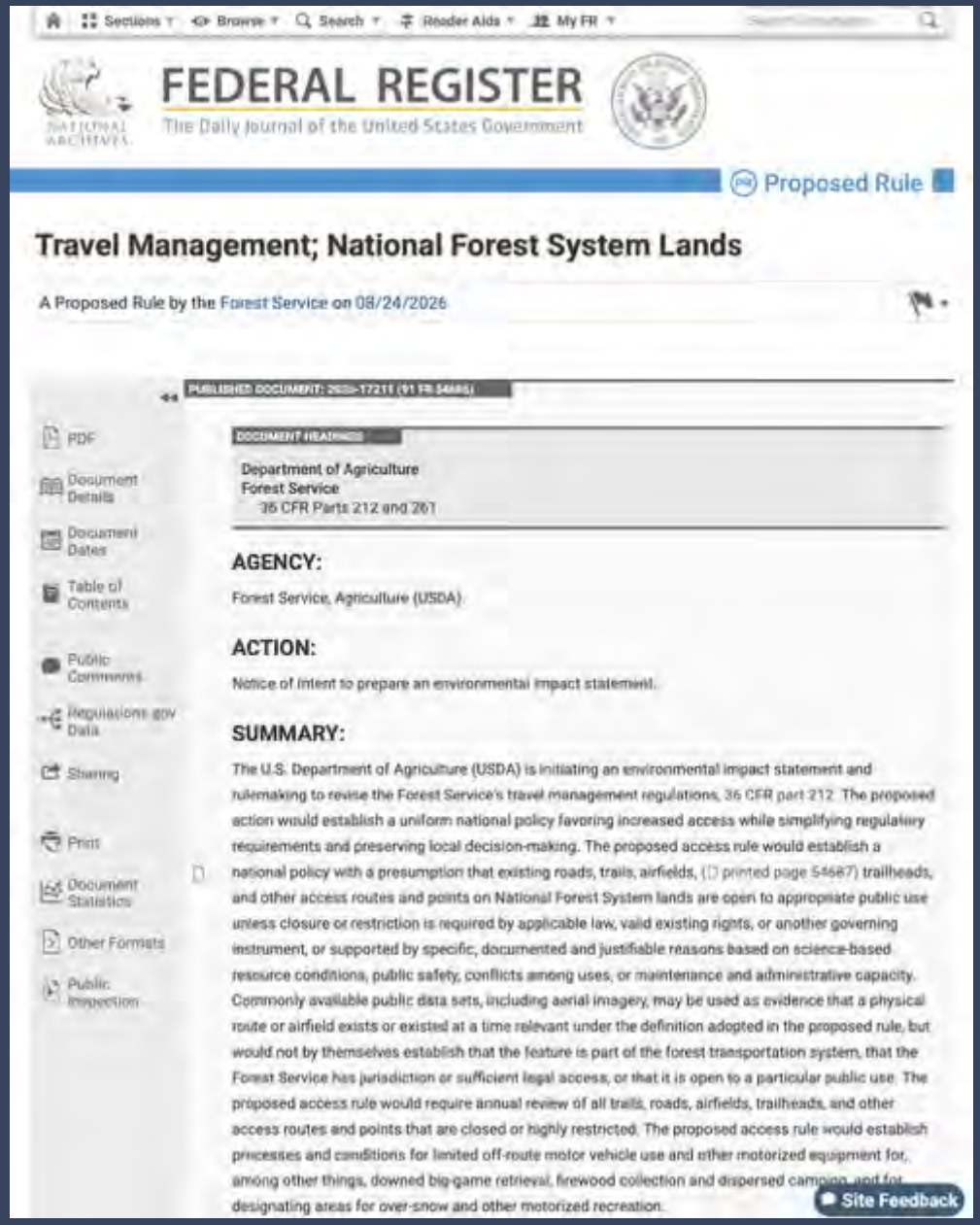
About | Collaborative | Strategic Plan | Regional Summary | Catalyst Projects | Get Involved

Tri-County Economic Impact Analysis of Recreation in Inyo, Mono, and Alpine Counties

Driving Sustainable Recreation through Data-Informed Decisions



Announcements and Events – In the Rearview



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FEDERAL REGISTER
The Daily Journal of the United States Government

Proposed Rule

Travel Management; National Forest System Lands

A Proposed Rule by the Forest Service on 08/24/2026

PUBLISHED DOCUMENT: 2026-17215 (91 FR 54687)

PDF
Document Details
Document Dates
Table of Contents
Public Comments
Regulations.gov Data
Sharing
Print
Document Statistics
Other Formats
Public Inspection

DOCUMENT HEADINGS

Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
36 CFR Parts 212 and 261

AGENCY:

Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION:

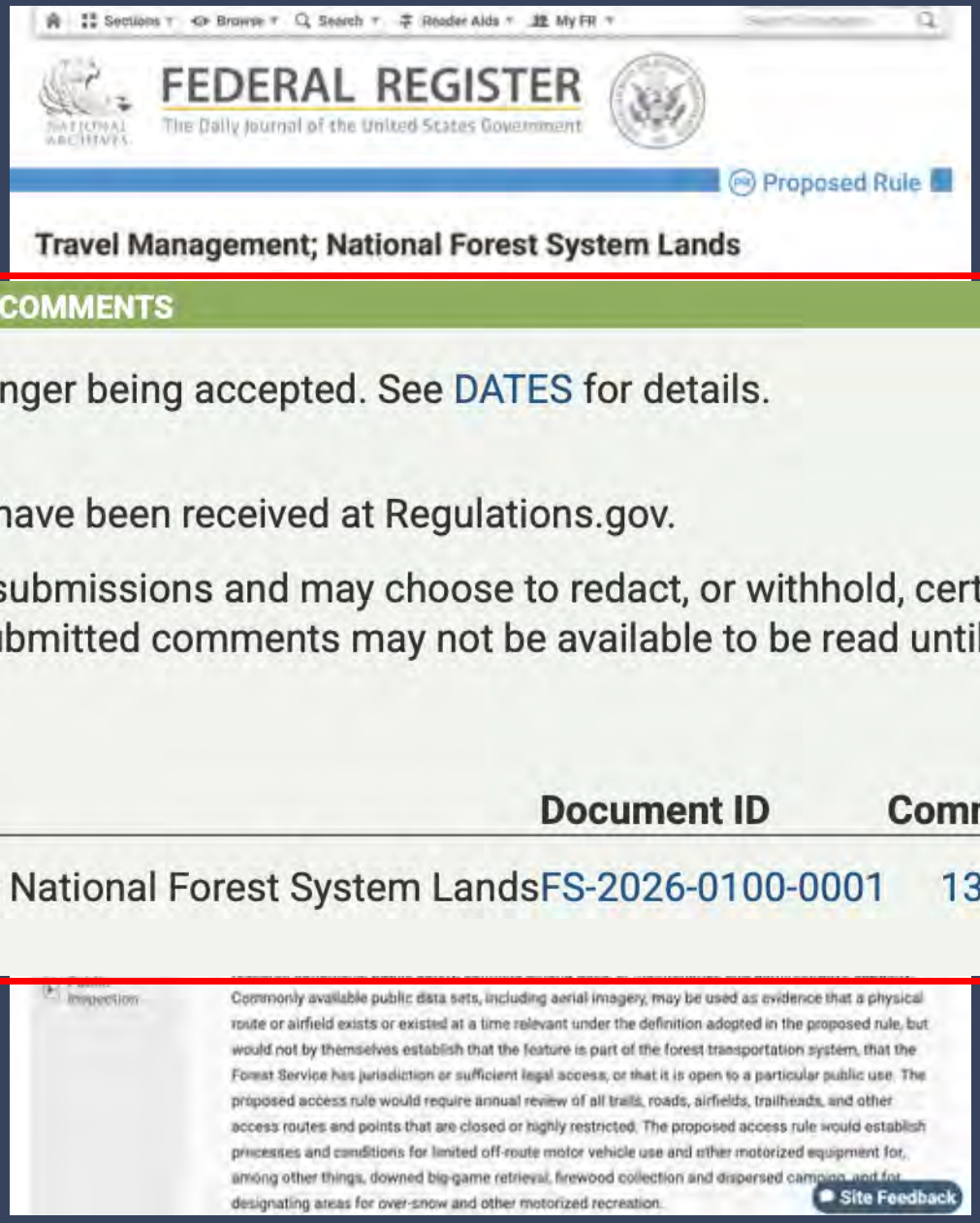
Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is initiating an environmental impact statement and rulemaking to revise the Forest Service's travel management regulations, 36 CFR part 212. The proposed action would establish a uniform national policy favoring increased access while simplifying regulatory requirements and preserving local decision-making. The proposed access rule would establish a national policy with a presumption that existing roads, trails, airfields, (☐ printed page 54687) trailheads, and other access routes and points on National Forest System lands are open to appropriate public use unless closure or restriction is required by applicable law, valid existing rights, or another governing instrument, or supported by specific, documented and justifiable reasons based on science-based resource conditions, public safety, conflicts among uses, or maintenance and administrative capacity. Commonly available public data sets, including aerial imagery, may be used as evidence that a physical route or airfield exists or existed at a time relevant under the definition adopted in the proposed rule, but would not by themselves establish that the feature is part of the forest transportation system, that the Forest Service has jurisdiction or sufficient legal access, or that it is open to a particular public use. The proposed access rule would require annual review of all trails, roads, airfields, trailheads, and other access routes and points that are closed or highly restricted. The proposed access rule would establish processes and conditions for limited off-route motor vehicle use and other motorized equipment for, among other things, downed big-game retrieval, firewood collection and dispersed camping, and for designating areas for over-snow and other motorized recreation.

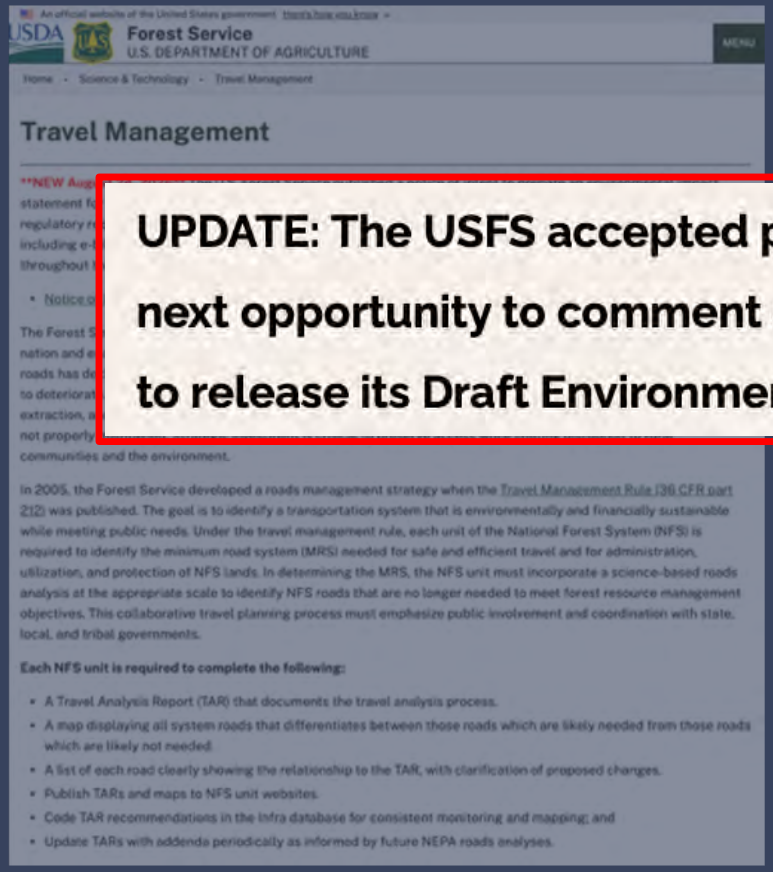
Site Feedback

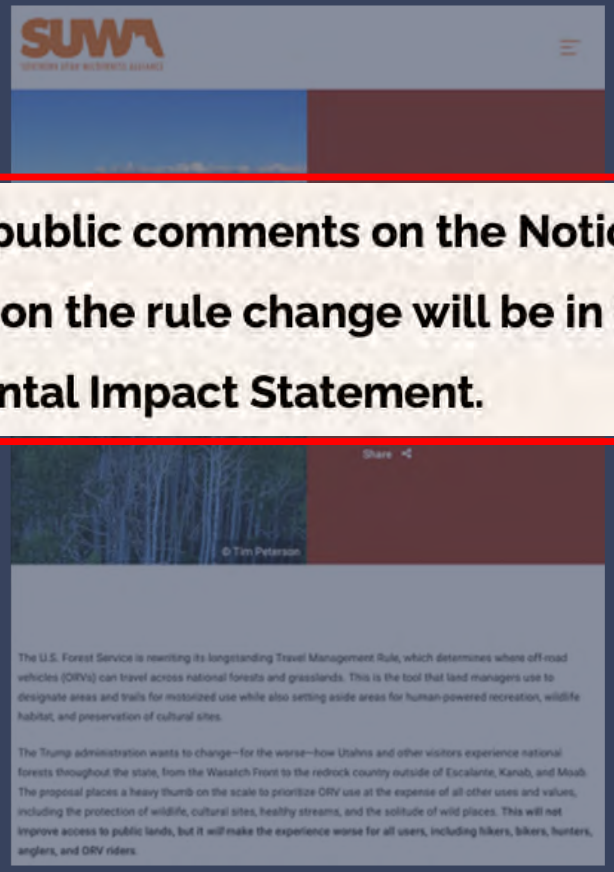
Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

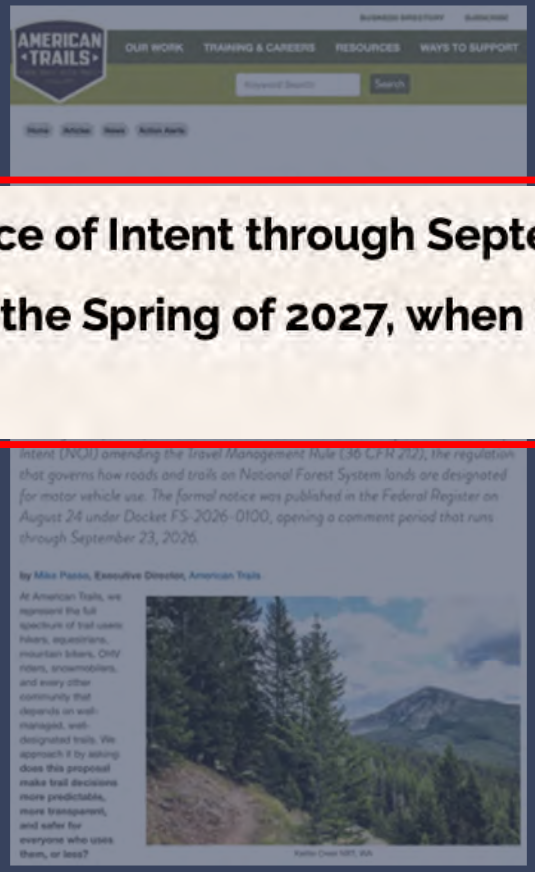


Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

UPDATE: The USFS accepted public comments on the Notice of Intent through September 23, 2026. The next opportunity to comment on the rule change will be in the Spring of 2027, when the USFS is expected to release its Draft Environmental Impact Statement.









Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Nationwide | Project #68605 | August 2026

2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule Rescission

Draft Environmental Impact Statement



View of Doris Lakes from Doris Mountain, Flathead National Forest, Montana. USDA Forest Service photo.

Comments were due Oct. 6

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

POLITICOPRO

FEDERAL

Trump says forest roads curb wildfire. The science gets messy.

Plans to allow more logging in roadless areas of national forests are spurring competing messages about where wildfire risks are greatest.

BY MARC HELLER | 10/03/2025 11:08 AM EDT



A wildfire burns in Mount Hood National Forest in Oregon. | U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region/Flickr

In its push to lift logging restrictions on millions of acres of national forests, the Trump administration makes a plain pitch to the public: Fewer trees mean less wildfire.

But the science offers a mixed review of the administration's rationale as the Forest Service prepares to rescind — at least in part — the "roadless rule" that first took effect 25 years ago to protect old-growth forests and vulnerable species across 59 million acres of the 193-million-acre forest system. The agency proposes to scrap the roadless rule on about 44 million acres, leaving state-specific protections in place in Idaho and Colorado.
With a public comment period on the rollback running until Tuesday, debate about roadless areas and wildfire is heating up.

The latest salvo comes from a study by Oregon researchers who said making now-roadless areas accessible to loggers won't lessen wildfire dangers, and from a paper by an organization of off-highway vehicle users rebutting that conclusion.

POLITICOPRO

STATE

Bonta and a coalition of attorneys general oppose Trump's efforts to repeal forest protections

They say the Trump administration proposal threatens clean water, habitat health and climate adaptation.

BY: RILEY RAMIREZ | 10/07/2024 07:33 PM EDT



California Attorney General Rob Bonta (D) expressed opposition to the Trump administration's proposal to rescind forest protections in a letter to the Forest Service on Oct. 6, 2025. | Godofredo A. Vásquez/AFP via Getty Images

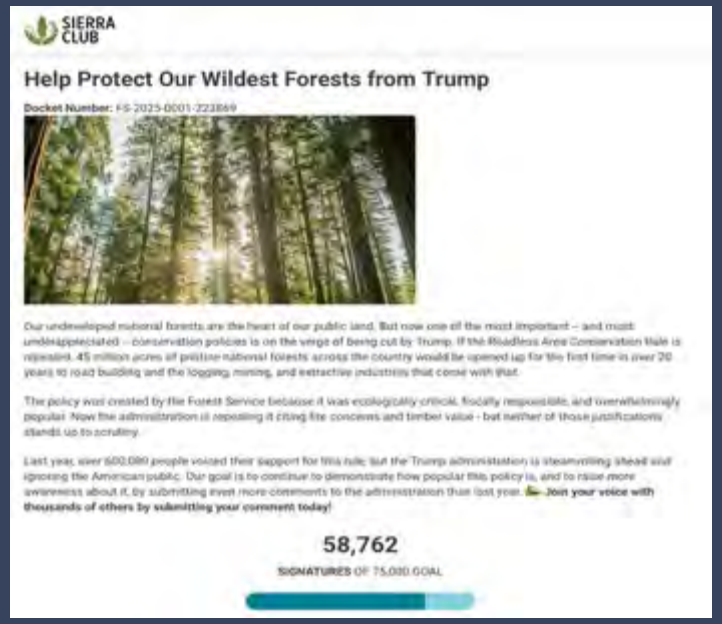
Democratic Attorney General Rob Bonta is ramping up his efforts to protect California's forests as the Trump administration tries to roll back environmental regulations.

What happened: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposed rescinding a decades-old regulation, the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, which protects huge swaths of national forests from development last year.
Bonta, alongside 16 other state attorneys general, submitted a comment letter Tuesday opposing it.

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview



California pushes back on federal plan to strip protections from 4.4 million acres of state's national forests



SIERRA CLUB

Help Protect Our Wildest Forests from Trump

Docket Number: FS-2025-0001-222869

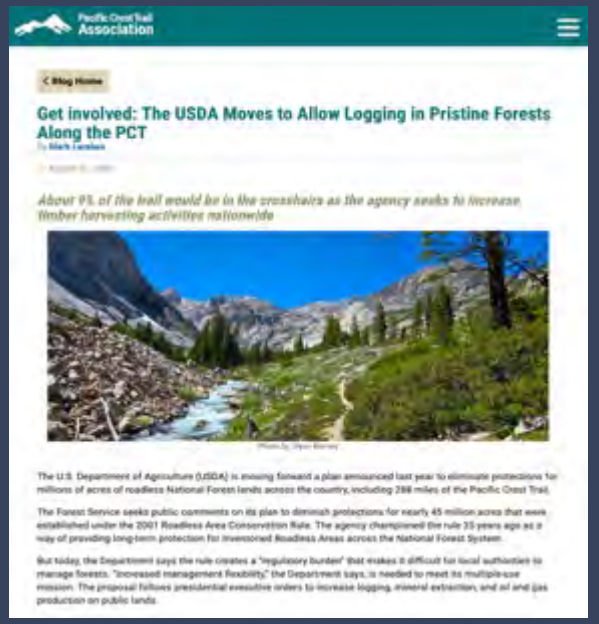
58,762

SIGNATURES OF 75,000 GOAL



Speak Up to Protect the Roadless Rule

The USDA Wants to Undo Protections for 10,794 Miles of MTB Trails



Get involved: The USDA Moves to Allow Logging in Pristine Forests Along the PCT

About 9% of the trail would be in the crosshairs as the agency seeks to increase timber harvesting activities nationwide



DEFEND THE ROADLESS RULE: PROTECT YOUR LOCAL BACKCOUNTRY ZONES



action ALERT!

SAVE OUR ROADLESS FORESTS

Defend the Roadless Rule: Comment Builder



Pacific Crest Trail Association

What the federal government's latest proposal could mean for the PCT and the trail experience.

Dear John,



Wes Siler's Newsletter

Subscribe

Cutting Through Disinformation Around The Roadless Rule Rescission

The sky isn't falling, the Forest Service hasn't been dismantled, and no one is about to bulldoze 44 million acres of untouched forest

WES SILER

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

We Examined Who Actually Supported Repealing the Roadless Rule. The Results Tell a Remarkable Story.

We dug through hundreds of organizational filings to find out who wanted one of America's most important forest protections eliminated.

WILL PATTIZ AND MORE THAN JUST PARKS
OCT 14, 2026 · PAID

355 84 177 Share



Nearly everyone wanted the Roadless Rule saved. We wanted to know who didn't.

As we documented in our analysis of the federal docket, first published September 28 and updated with the final comment counts following the October 6 deadline, more than 99% of the nearly 1.2 million comments, letters, and signatures submitted on the Trump administration's proposal to repeal the Roadless Rule opposed it.

Follow the Industries

Of the 95 organizations and government bodies supporting repeal, 42 were industry and trade groups. Another 32 were counties, cities, towns, or local districts.

Together, those two categories accounted for nearly four out of every five organizations and government bodies calling for the Roadless Rule's elimination.

The industry figures were particularly striking. Of 49 industry and trade groups that submitted positions, 42 supported rescission, just five opposed it, and two took mixed positions.

Here's a sampling of the organizations that wanted the protections gone.

- **Timber and logging:** American Forest Resource Council, Associated Oregon Loggers, Associated California Loggers, Montana Wood Products Association, and Forest Resources Association.
- **Mining and energy:** National Mining Association, Alaska Miners Association, Western Energy Alliance, American Exploration & Mining Association, and North Dakota Petroleum Council.
- **Ranching and grazing:** Oregon Cattlemen's Association, Nevada Cattlemen's Association, Montana Stockgrowers Association, and Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation.
- **Motorized recreation:** Motorcycle Industry Council, International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, and BlueRibbon Coalition.
- **Other interests:** Alaska Bankers Association, National Federation of Independent Business, and Pacific Legal Foundation.

Several individual businesses also supported repeal, including Southport Lumber, Grande Portage Resources, Vizsla Copper, and Mountain Capital Partners, a ski resort operator.

The Alaska Bankers Association was among the more surprising names to appear in our findings. So was the North Dakota Petroleum Council, advocating for the removal of forest protections in a federal rulemaking concerning roadless national forest lands.

The Government Officials Who Wanted It Gone

Industry groups were joined by a collection of county governments, state officials, and local districts that also wanted the Roadless Rule eliminated.

Of the 54 counties, cities, towns, and districts that submitted positions, **32 supported repeal, 21 opposed it, and one took a mixed position.**

Among the more noteworthy findings:

- **Oregon:** Baker, Harney, Jackson, Douglas, and Union counties supported rescission, even as the State of Oregon formally opposed it.
- **California:** Siskiyou and Modoc counties supported repeal, while the state government opposed it.
- **Alaska, Utah, and Nevada:** All three state governments filed in support of eliminating the rule.
- **Wyoming:** The Wyoming Game and Fish Department explicitly supported full rescission, a particularly interesting position from an agency responsible for managing wildlife.
- **National Association of Counties:** The national organization representing county governments supported repeal.

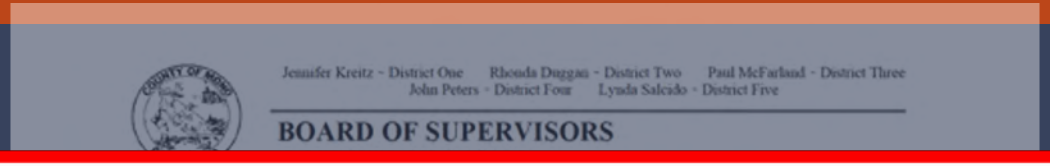
Meanwhile, cities including Asheville, North Carolina, and Walla Walla, Washington, called for keeping the protections. Salt Lake City's mayor, public utilities director, and fire chief jointly urged the Forest Service to withdraw its proposed repeal.

Even Montana's elected officials submitted competing letters, with groups of legislators taking opposing positions.

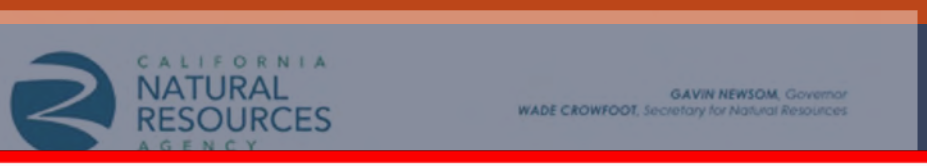
These disagreements reveal how deeply the Roadless Rule intersects with local politics, resource development, water supplies, wildlife management, and public land access.

But the central question remains. Should local economic and political interests be able to overturn national protections established for forests that belong to all Americans?

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview


Jennifer Kreitz - District One Rhonda Duggan - District Two Paul McFarland - District Three
John Peters - District Four Lynda Salcido - District Five

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
WADE CROWFOOT, Secretary for Natural Resources

"Roadless areas are foundational to our state's outdoor recreation economy that generates over $81 billion and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs across the state.[i] California's national forests host 33 million visitors annually, sending hundreds of millions of dollars into rural gateway communities. Hotel and local sales tax revenue funds essential rural municipal services and infrastructure that many counties in California could not otherwise afford. The Roadless Rule also protects thousands of miles of hunting, fishing, hiking and mountain biking trails and hundreds of miles of paddling and rafting runs, which allow recreational economies throughout the state to thrive. Our outdoor economy would undoubtedly be impacted if these roadless areas are developed for timber, mining, or oil and gas leasing."

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency

restaurants. For this reason, the economic benefits of the Rule to Mono County are substantial. The areas described above must continue to be protected to ensure the health of our community.

The Rule provides additional fiscal benefits to Mono County by avoiding the construction and maintenance of new roads. The Rule saves taxpayers billions of dollars. The U.S. Forest Service currently faces a road maintenance backlog of nearly $6 billion across its existing system. The addition of new roads would add to that even with contemplated estimates of new timber sales that

1

over $81 billion and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs across the state. California's national forests host 33 million visitors annually, sending hundreds of millions of dollars into rural gateway communities. Hotel and local sales tax revenue funds essential rural

715 P Street, 20th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph: 916.653.5656 http://resources.ca.gov

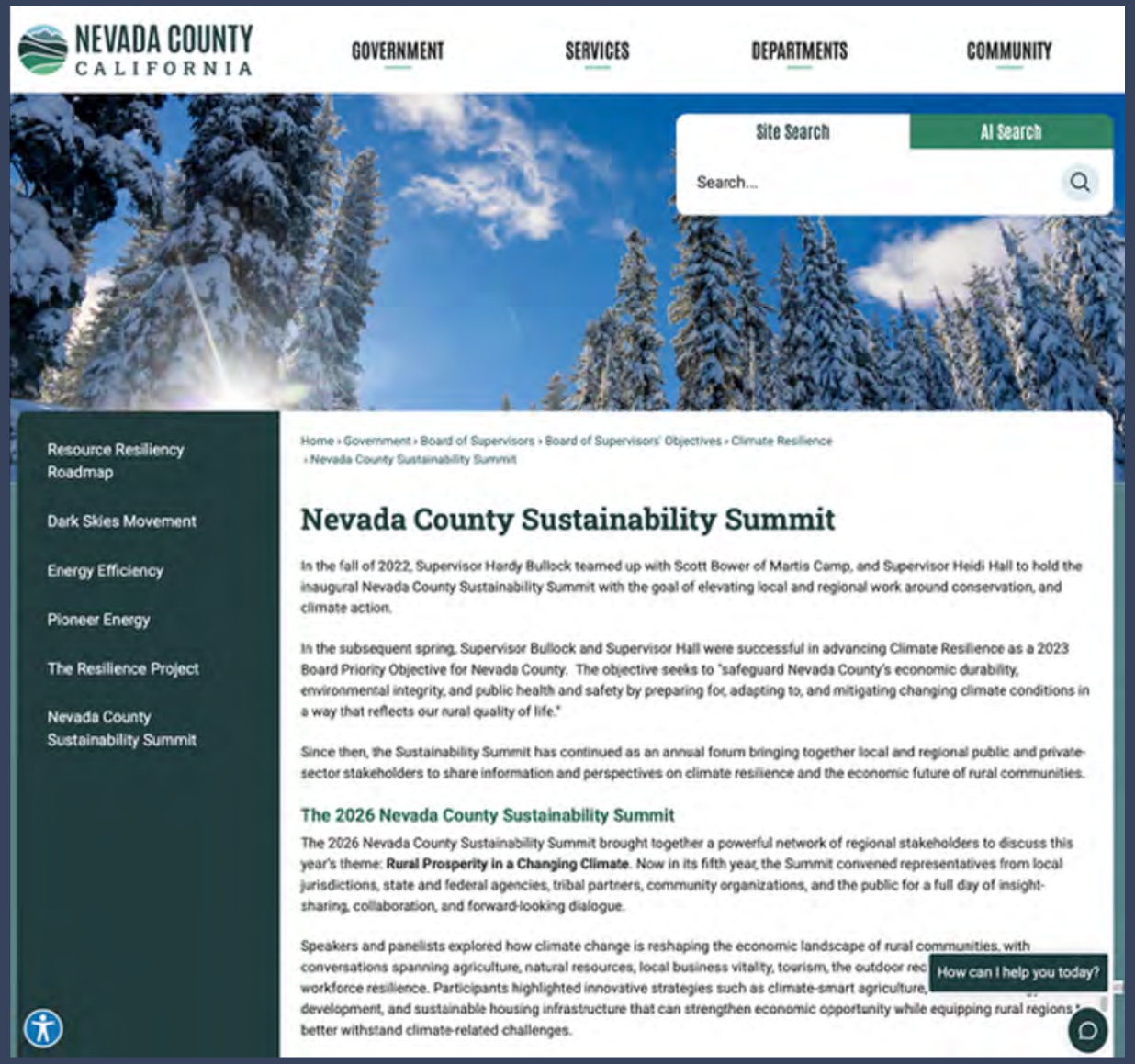
Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

Nevada County Sustainability Summit

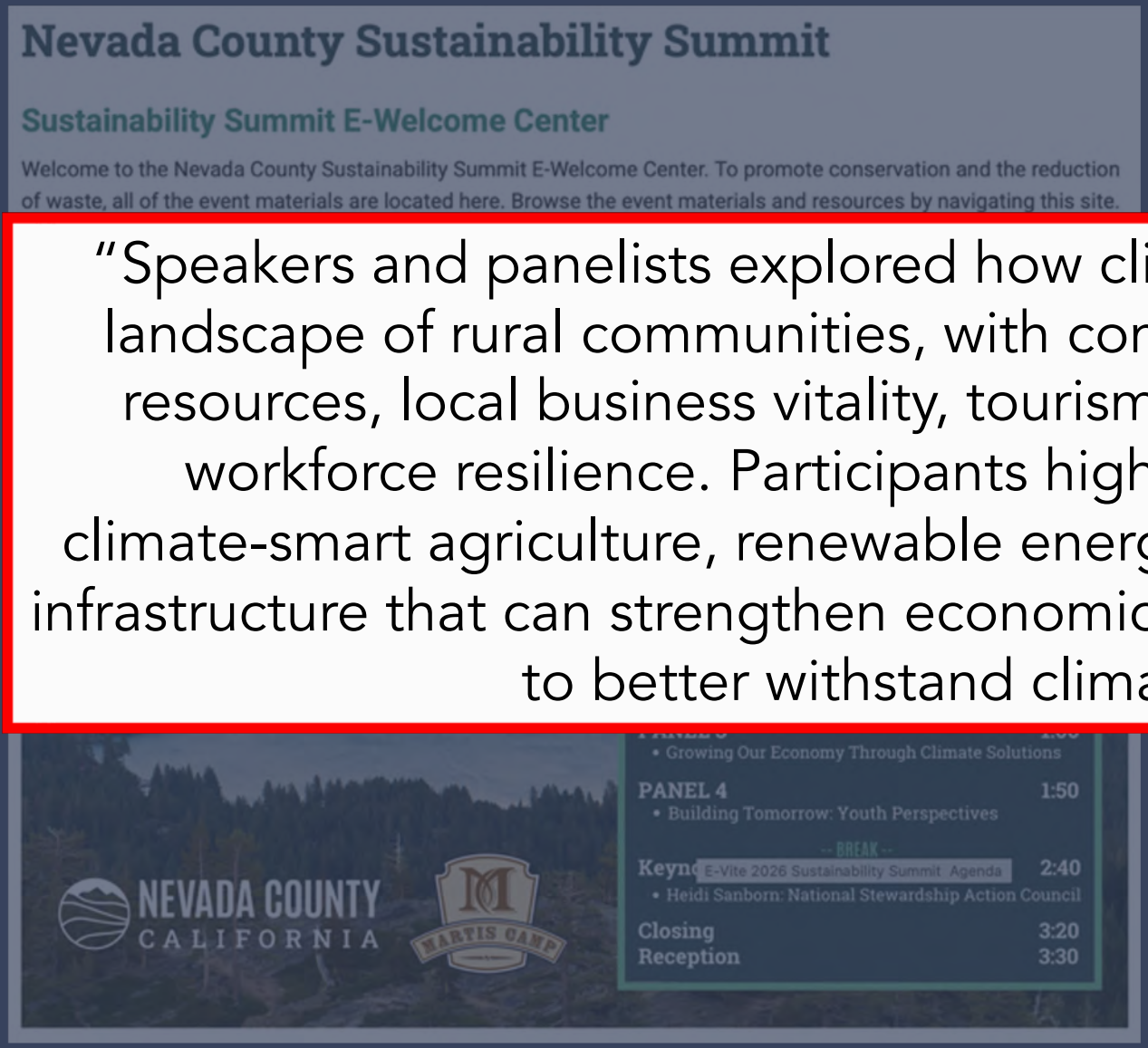
Sustainability Summit E-Welcome Center

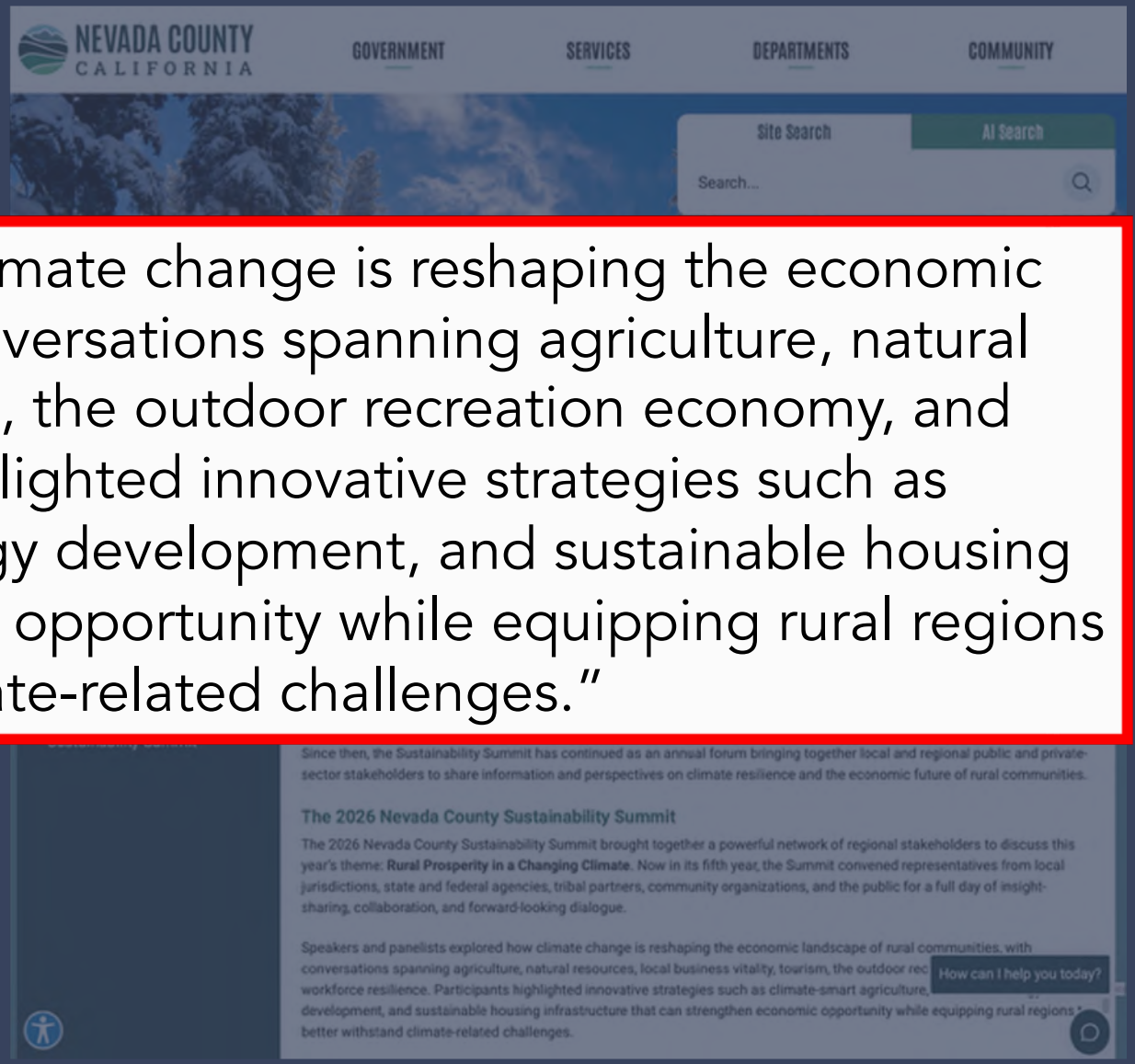
Welcome to the Nevada County Sustainability Summit E-Welcome Center. To promote conservation and the reduction of waste, all of the event materials are located here. Browse the event materials and resources by navigating this site.





Announcements and Events – In the Rearview





"Speakers and panelists explored how climate change is reshaping the economic landscape of rural communities, with conversations spanning agriculture, natural resources, local business vitality, tourism, the outdoor recreation economy, and workforce resilience. Participants highlighted innovative strategies such as climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy development, and sustainable housing infrastructure that can strengthen economic opportunity while equipping rural regions to better withstand climate-related challenges."

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview

CA WILDFIRE & FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE
NORTH COAST REGIONAL MEETING
October 1, 2026

Thursday, October 1, 2026 – 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM
In person: **Bear River Recreation Center, Loleta, CA**
Online: Zoom

8:30 AM	**Resource Fair & Check in**	**Tish-Non Community Center**
10:00 AM	**Tribal Welcome**	Tribal Council Maggie Wortmon Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria
10:05 AM	**Welcome to the North Coast**	Assemblymember Damon Connolly
10:15 AM	**Opening Remarks**	Wade Crowfoot, CA Natural Resources Agency Ted McArthur, USDA Forest Service Task Force Executive Committee
10:30 AM	**Director's Report**	Patrick Wright, Task Force
10:50 AM	**Introduction to the North Coast**	Frank Lake, USDA Forest Service-PSW
11:05 AM	**Collaborative Efforts Producing Results**	Moderator: Karen Gaffney, North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) Sherri Norris, NCRP Tribal Engagement Ted McArthur, USDA Forest Service Shelana deSilva, CA State Parks
12:15 PM	**Lunch**	**Tish-Non Community Center**
1:30 PM	**Using Beneficial Fire to Build Community & Ecological Resilience**	Moderator: Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Task Force Science Advisory Panel Henri Holbrook, UCCE/Humboldt County PBA Eric Darragh, Mid Klamath Watershed Council Bill Tripp, Karuk Tribe Ross Dollarhide, CAL FIRE-HUU
2:45 PM	**Break**	
3:00 PM	**Behind the Redwood Curtain: Stories of Success & Innovation**	Moderator: Yana Valachovic, Task Force Science Advisory Panel Tanner Speas, Southern Humboldt Fire & Rescue JPA Erin Kelly, Cal Poly Humboldt Brady Dubois, America AgCredit Elicia Goldsworthy, Green Diamond Resource Co. & CA Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
4:15 PM	**Closing Remarks**	Executive Committee
4:30-6:30 PM	**Reception**	**Tish-Non Community Center**

NORTH COAST RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP

North Coast Resource Partnership Strategy Workshop and Quarterly Meeting

October 15-16, 2026
Ukiah, CA

The North Coast Resource Partnership is updating the Vision for North Coast Resilience – an actionable priority plan for regional resilience that was informed by hundreds of partners in the region through interviews, one-on-one meetings, workshops, conferences, and surveys. The NCRP Leadership Council, Technical Peer Review Committee, and staff deeply value partner collaboration and insights to evolve this adaptive shared regional vision, and would appreciate your active participation in this updating process.

Please share your thoughts on North Coast challenges and opportunities by completing a brief 5 question survey prior to registering – this will help us plan for a productive meeting that reflects your priorities.

Survey

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview





Governor Newsom, Former Governor Schwarzenegger Discuss California's Climate Leadership

Announcements and Events – In the Rearview









Announcements and Events – In the Rearview







Announcements and Events – In the Rearview



CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTNERSHIP

BASECAMP 2026

2 PM **Panel Discussion: Gateway Economies @ Basecamp Tent**

Gateway economies are towns or cities that border or serve as the primary entry point to public lands such as national parks, national forests, and wildlife refuges- and they deal with a lot! From a rise in visitors to a lack of funding from the federal government, these experts will talk about their work to improve their communities and resources for locals.

Moderator **Panelists**



Katie Doherty, Founded Outdoors
Shavati Karki-Pearl, County of Nevada
John Wentworth, Mammoth Lakes Trails & Public Access Foundation
Devin Middlebrook, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Jason Young, Siskiyou Economic Development

2:45 PM **15 Minute Break**

3 PM **Panel Discussion: Water, Parks, Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Outdoor Education Policy @ Basecamp Tent**

California Outdoor Recreation Partnership engages on a wide range of policy topics, essentially anything that touches the outdoors. Meet partner organizations that led the way on California state bills that would make positive change for the outdoor eco-system and economy.

Moderator **Panelists**



Stephanie Mitchell, Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, &Wildlife
Caroline Godkin, CA Council of Land Trusts
Craig Strang, Ten Strands/ UC Berkeley
Josefina Barrantes, EPIC
Mari Galloway, Wildlands Network

Announcements and Events – Looking Forward



ABOUT
AGENDA
TICKETS
FIELD TOURS
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
LOCATION & LODGING
CONFERENCE TRIBAL SCHOLARSHIP
SPONSORSHIP AND TABLING
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Sessions Descriptions

The 2026 Sierra Nevada Conservation Conference will feature a keynote presentation by Kat Anderson, concurrent breakout sessions, community-based case studies, emerging research, workforce-development strategies, Tribal and cultural perspectives, art, and opportunities for regional collaboration.

Building the Conservation Workforce

From Recreation to Stewardship: A Collaborative Approach to Changing Behaviors on Public Lands

Building a Stronger Voice for Sierra Conservation: From Local Advocacy to Regional Action

The Ecology of Belonging: From Connection to Conservation

Vested Rights to Mine

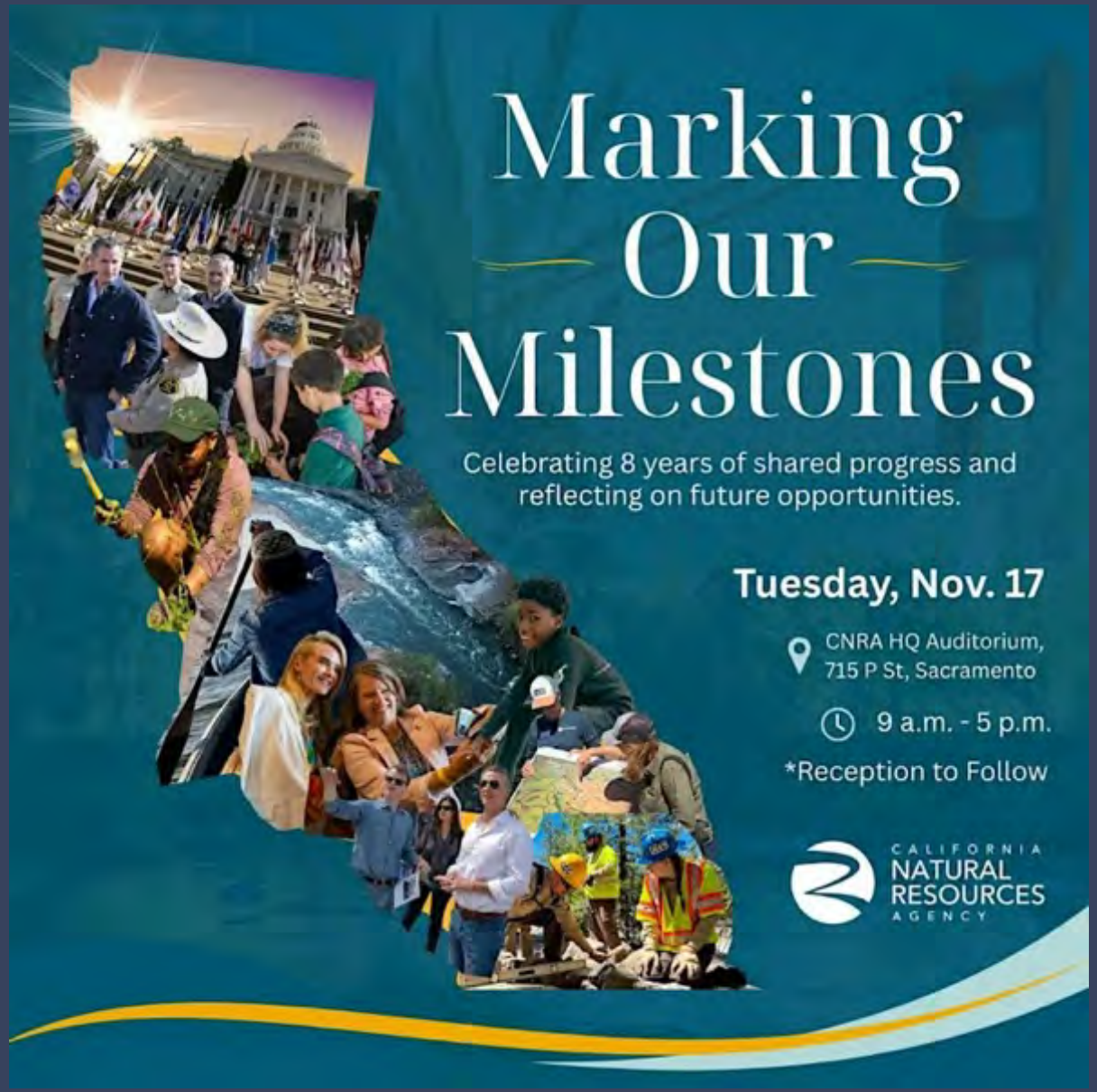
Community Guardianship and Land Conservation

Beyond the Grant Cycle: Building Sustainable Funding for Conservation and Communities

Finding Common Ground in a Time of Change

Closing Workshop: From Positions to Possibilities: Collaborative Problem-Solving for Land Management

Announcements and Events – Looking Forward

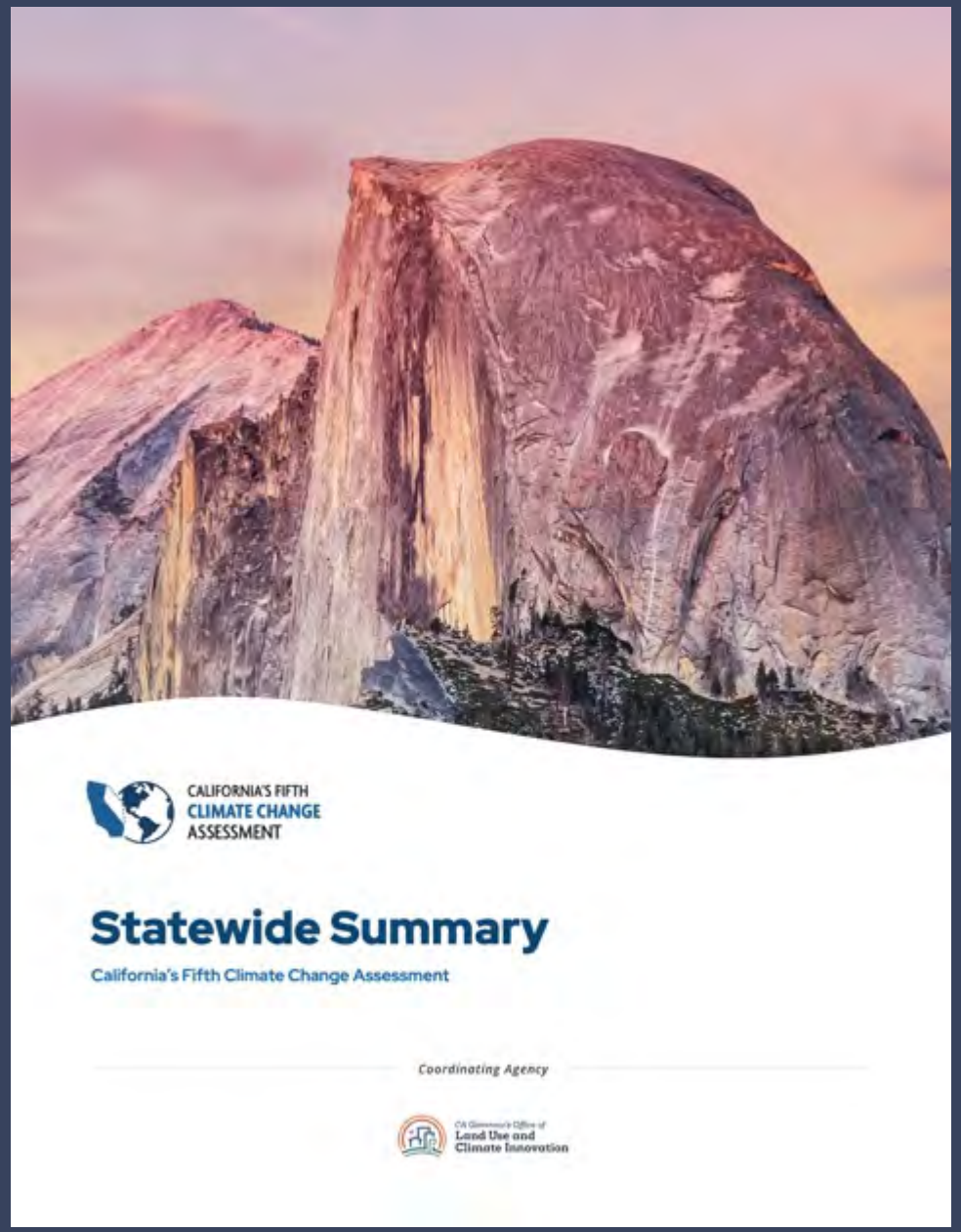




Climate and Weather



Climate and Weather – California Climate





Climate and Weather – California Climate

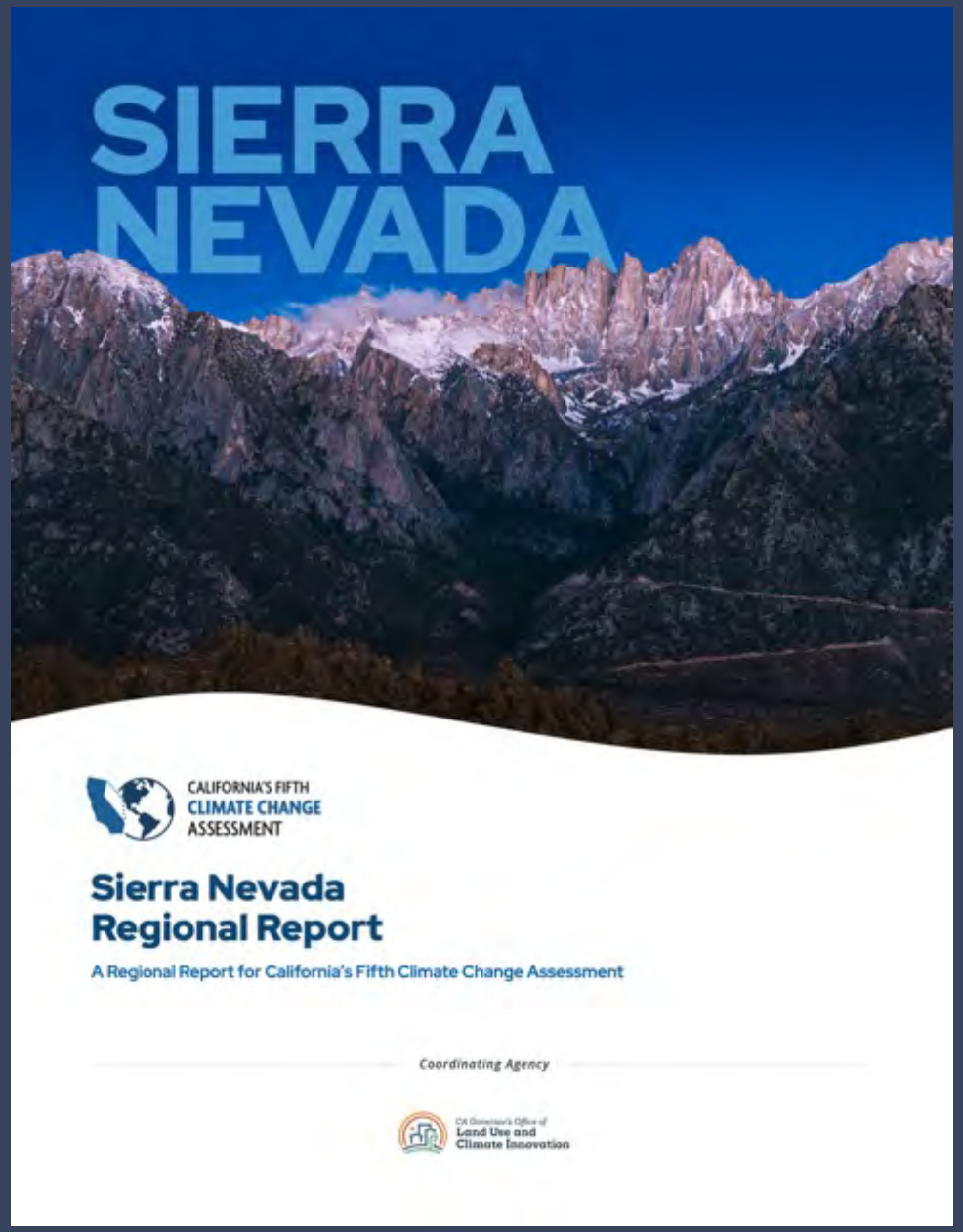


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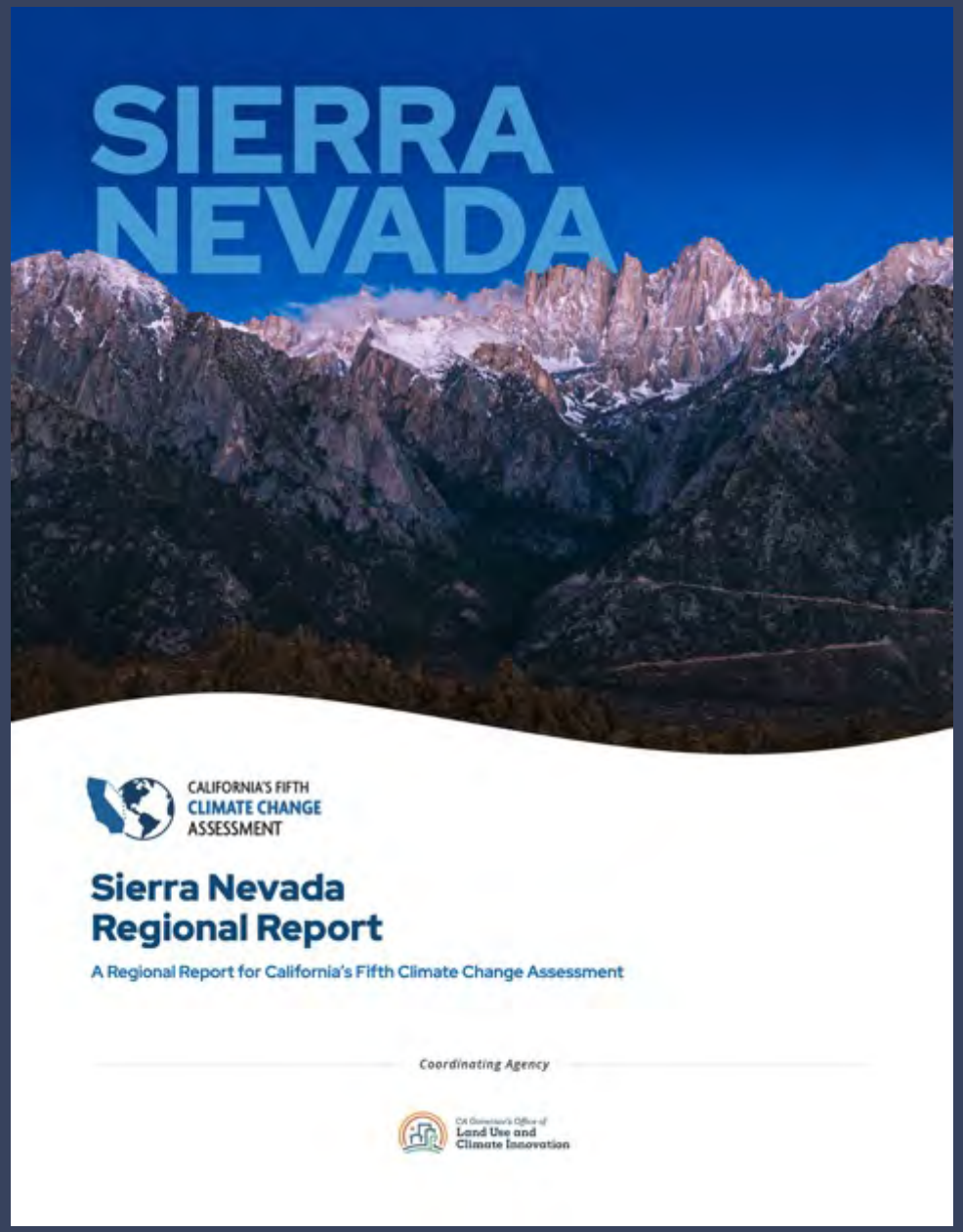


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Category	Vulnerability	Evidence (Observed & Projected)	Localized Context	Attribution Confidence
Social	Water supply reliability and flood risk	Earlier runoff peaks challenge reservoir operations balancing flood control and water storage; increased precipitation extremes and dry-to-wet whiplash events.	Sierra Nevada headwaters supplying the Central Valley; reservoir-dependent communities	High
Social	Public health impacts from wildfire smoke	Smoke exposure erodes more than 50% of previous PM2.5 air-quality improvements, affecting respiratory health and visibility.	Foothill and downwind communities across the Sierra Nevada region	High
Social	Climate vulnerability of rural and Tribal communities	More than one-third of the region lies in high or very high wildfire hazard zones. Low-income, elderly, disabled, and Tribal populations face disproportionate risks to safety, health, and recovery.	Rural towns, Tribal lands, and WUI communities	High
Economic	Hydropower and infrastructure seasonality	The shift from snowmelt-dominated summer inflows to increased winter runoff affects generation timing and reservoir management.	Sierra Nevada hydropower and conveyance systems	Medium
Economic	Recreation and resource-based livelihoods	Declining snowpack and intensifying wildfire seasons threaten winter recreation- and natural resource-dependent economies.	Recreation corridors and rural economies across Sierra Nevada subregions	High
Economic	Forest management and workforce strain	Rising suppression costs, fuel treatment demands, and post-fire recovery pressure small businesses and public agencies.	Forested landscapes and community workforce programs	Medium-High

3.1.4 Adaptation Actions

Table 3.1 provides a summary of key vulnerabilities in the Sierra Nevada, with localized context and confidence in attribution, across various systems (hydrological, ecological, social, and economic). The following sections describe adaptation actions for specific ecosystems, resources, or threats. However, an overarching approach that integrates the climate threats to Sierra Nevada ecosystems with their economic consequences to frontline communities is critical for identifying, prioritizing, and funding adaptation actions. The Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership: Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy through Proposition 68 funds, aims to develop a scalable and transferable model for such integration (MLTPA, 2022). Part of the SRTI approach was a baseline Natural Capital Assessment that was used to guide a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment (TML, 2021), monetizing both the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on Eastern Sierra ecosystems to identify and prioritize a list of adaptation recommendations. This model provides an encouraging approach for integration that could be applied across sections of this report to help us better understand climate-driven impacts on communities in the Sierra Nevada.

Adaptive Management Decision Frameworks

There are at least six adaptive management decision frameworks utilized by United States federal, state, and local land managers that Carbon Storage and Biophysical Climate Feedbacks are designed to help decision-makers track progress and rigorously adjust management strategies dynamically when mitigating climate risks to local ecosystems. These frameworks include: Resistance, Resilience, Response (RRR) (Millar et al., 2007); Resistance, Resilience, Respond,

Over the past several decades, forest ecosystems in the Sierra Nevada have shown a strong vulnerability to a range of threats, from drought to wildfire and insect infestation. Climate change is shifting much of the Sierra's forested area toward a climate space typically associated with shrublands, grasslands, or deserts. More frequent and intense droughts and fires are causing abrupt changes in forest ecosystem structure and ecosystem services or, in some cases, a complete type conversion (e.g., from forest to shrubland). Woodlands are experiencing a similar shift with many oak species experiencing mortality, lack of recruitment, range shift, and type conversion. Overall impacts on shrublands are less clear with some evidence of shrubs being climate beneficiaries, especially in fire-prone and alpine regions.

The Sierra Nevada region is home to 1.2 million residents and more than 70 Native American Tribes, including but not limited to the Mono, Miwok, Paiute, Washoe, Yokuts, and Tubatulabal peoples. The hydroclimatic shifts and cascading impacts on water and ecosystem discussed earlier poses significant risks that threaten local communities and economies. Rural populations dependent on natural resource- and recreation-based industries are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat, shifting precipitation patterns, flooding, and increasingly destructive wildfires. More than one-third of the region falls within California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE's) high or very high wildfire hazard zones, and most incorporated towns face very high hazard levels in their local responsibility areas. These hazards endanger essential infrastructure, public health, and livelihoods while straining already limited emergency services and financial resources. The Sierra Nevada region provides the state with critical ecosystem services—including supplying over 60% of the state's developed water, storing carbon in forests and meadows, and supporting winter recreation—valued between $43.6 and $190.9 billion annually in some subregions. Yet, socioeconomic conditions compound climate vulnerability: at least 40% of households live in counties with a median income below the state's median of $91,551, and many communities have high proportions of older adults, residents with disabilities, or people living in poverty.

Wildfires remain the most acute threat to communities, with the record-breaking 2020 and 2021 fire seasons costing billions of dollars in damages, displacing communities, and contributing to insurance market instability. Nine of the ten California counties with the highest exposure to wildfire are in the Sierra Nevada region. Vulnerable groups, including nearly 550,000 residents living in poverty and over 445,000 people with disabilities across the region, bear disproportionate risks to safety, health, and recovery.

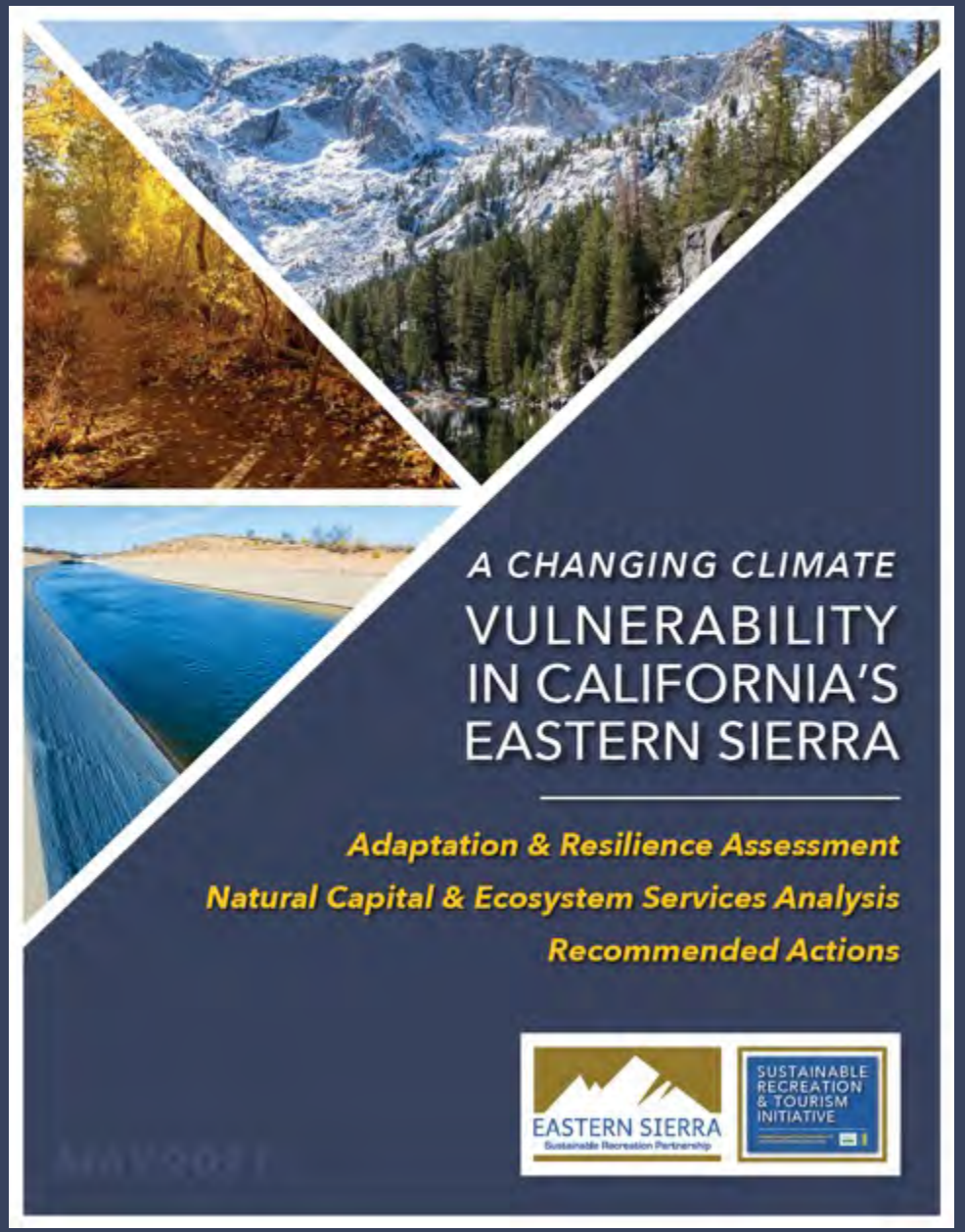
Multiple efforts are underway to help the region adapt to the new realities of a warmer and drier future. Water and other utilities are investing in data-driven water and infrastructure management. Land and ecosystem managers are investing in multi-benefit collaborative forest and meadow restoration, strengthening partnerships with Tribes, investing in Indigenous stewardship, and leveraging innovative financing. State investments in expanded workforce training programs and building fire and forest resilience and economic diversification further highlight pathways toward climate mitigation and adaptation. These efforts underscore the urgency of advancing region-specific, community-driven strategies that align resilience, equity, and sustainable economic development in the Sierra Nevada.

Climate and Weather – California Climate

"The Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership: Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI), funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy through Proposition 68 funds, aims to develop a scalable and transferable model for such integration (MLTPA, 2022). Part of the SRTI approach was a baseline Natural Capital Assessment that was used to guide a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment (TML, 2021), monetizing both the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on Eastern Sierra ecosystems to identify and prioritize a list of adaptation recommendations. This model provides an encouraging approach for integration that could be applied across sections of this report to help us better understand climate-driven impacts on communities in the Sierra Nevada."

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Sections

Los Angeles Times

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Trump wants to strip California of coastal protections unless state yields to list of demands



The Trump administration said it would strip California of its authority to protect its coastline unless state regulators agreed to more than a dozen "corrective actions," according to draft findings of a federal review. (Michael Owen Baker/For The Times)

By Rosanna Xia
Staff Writer | Follow

Sections

Los Angeles Times

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Trump is attacking California's ability to protect its coastline. The consequences may be dire



Citing "environmental extremism," Trump officials want to end California's ability to challenge offshore oil, floating nuclear reactors and rocket launches. Here, surfers survey waves at Huntington Beach in January. (Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times)

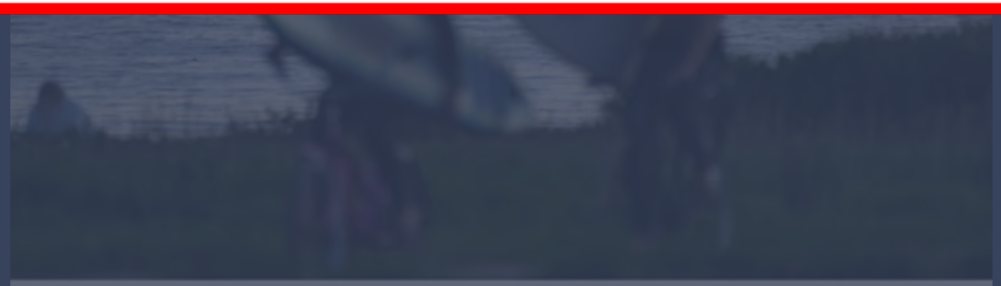
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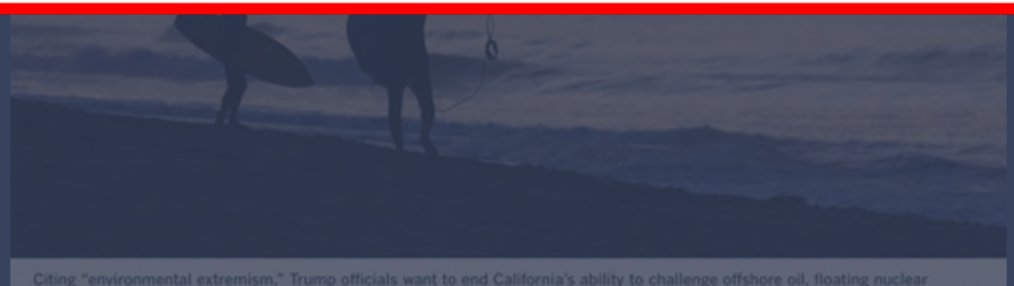


"In what one environmental law expert described as "a dangerous ultimatum," the Trump administration said it would strip California of its authority to protect its coastline unless state regulators agreed to more than a dozen "corrective actions" that would benefit close allies of the White House, according to the draft findings of a controversial federal review."



The Trump administration said it would strip California of its authority to protect its coastline unless state regulators agreed to more than a dozen "corrective actions," according to draft findings of a federal review. (Michael Owen Baker/For The Times)

By Rosanna Xia



Citing "environmental extremism," Trump officials want to end California's ability to challenge offshore oil, floating nuclear reactors and rocket launches. Here, surfers survey waves at Huntington Beach in January. (Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times)

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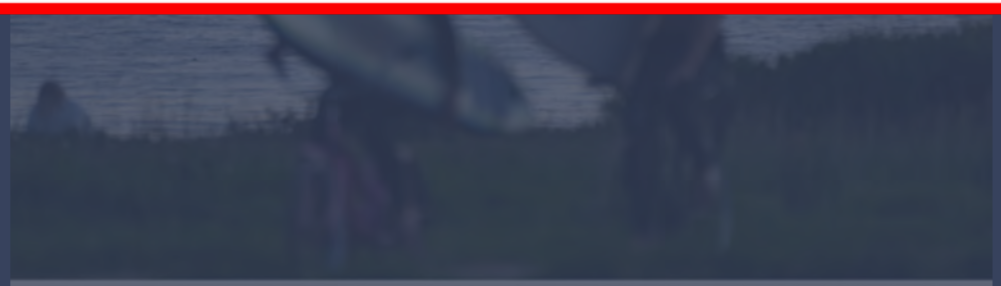
Trump wants to strip California of coastal protections unless state yields to list of

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CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

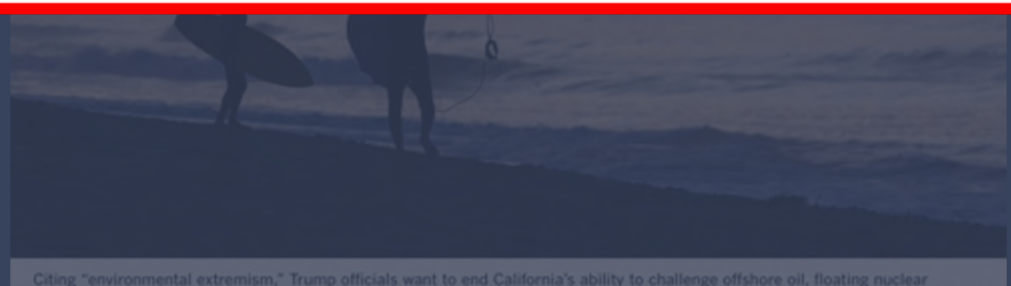
Trump is attacking California's ability to protect its coastline. The consequences may be dire

"Citing 'a pattern of jurisdictional and regulatory overreach,' the 92-page review said California coastal authorities have demonstrated 'unjustified hostility and political bias against offshore drilling opportunities, oil and gas projects broadly, and SpaceX's launch activities.'"



The Trump administration said it would strip California of its authority to protect its coastline unless state regulators agreed to more than a dozen "corrective actions," according to draft findings of a federal review. (Michael Owen Baker/For The Times)

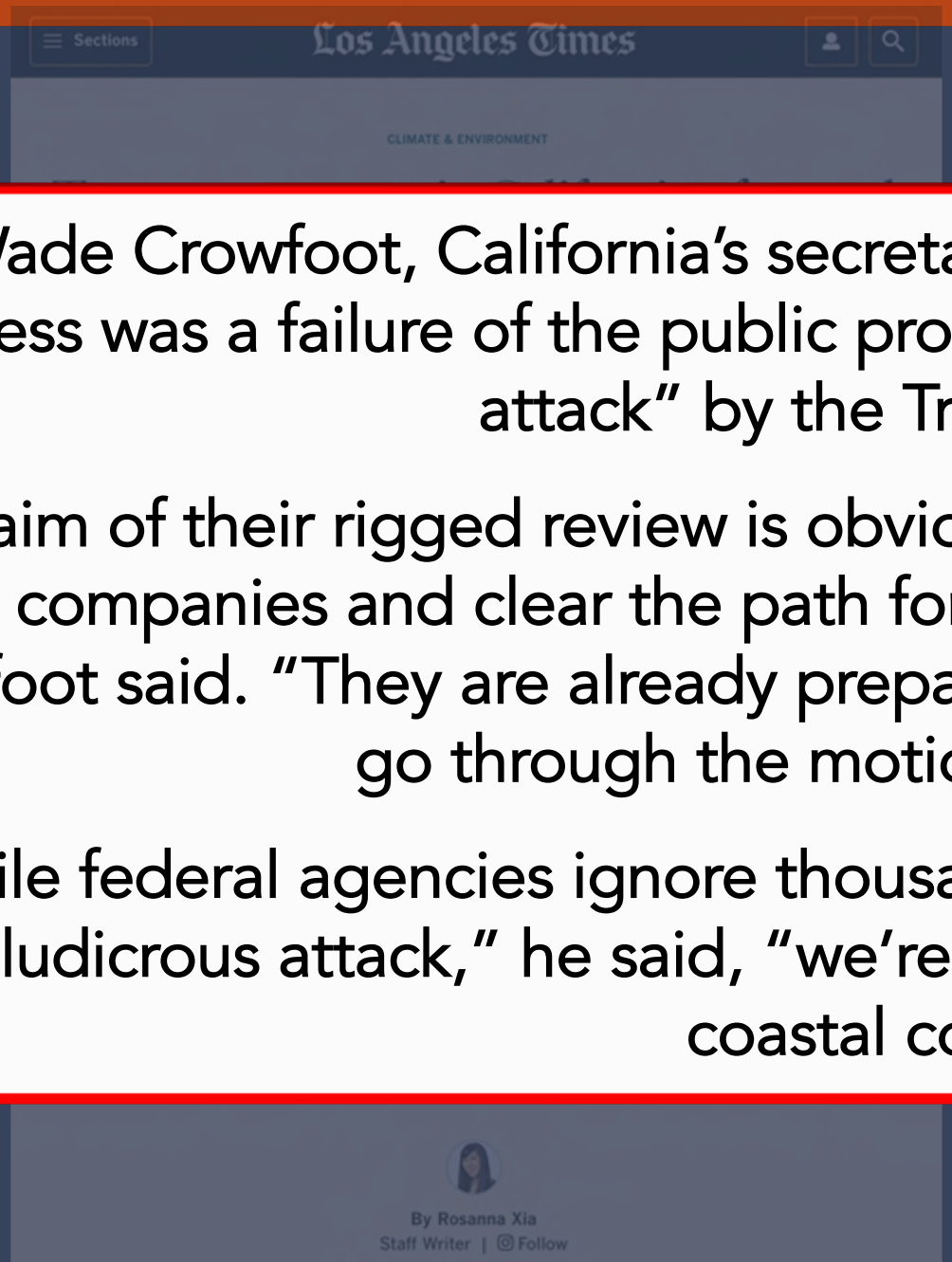
By Rosanna Xia

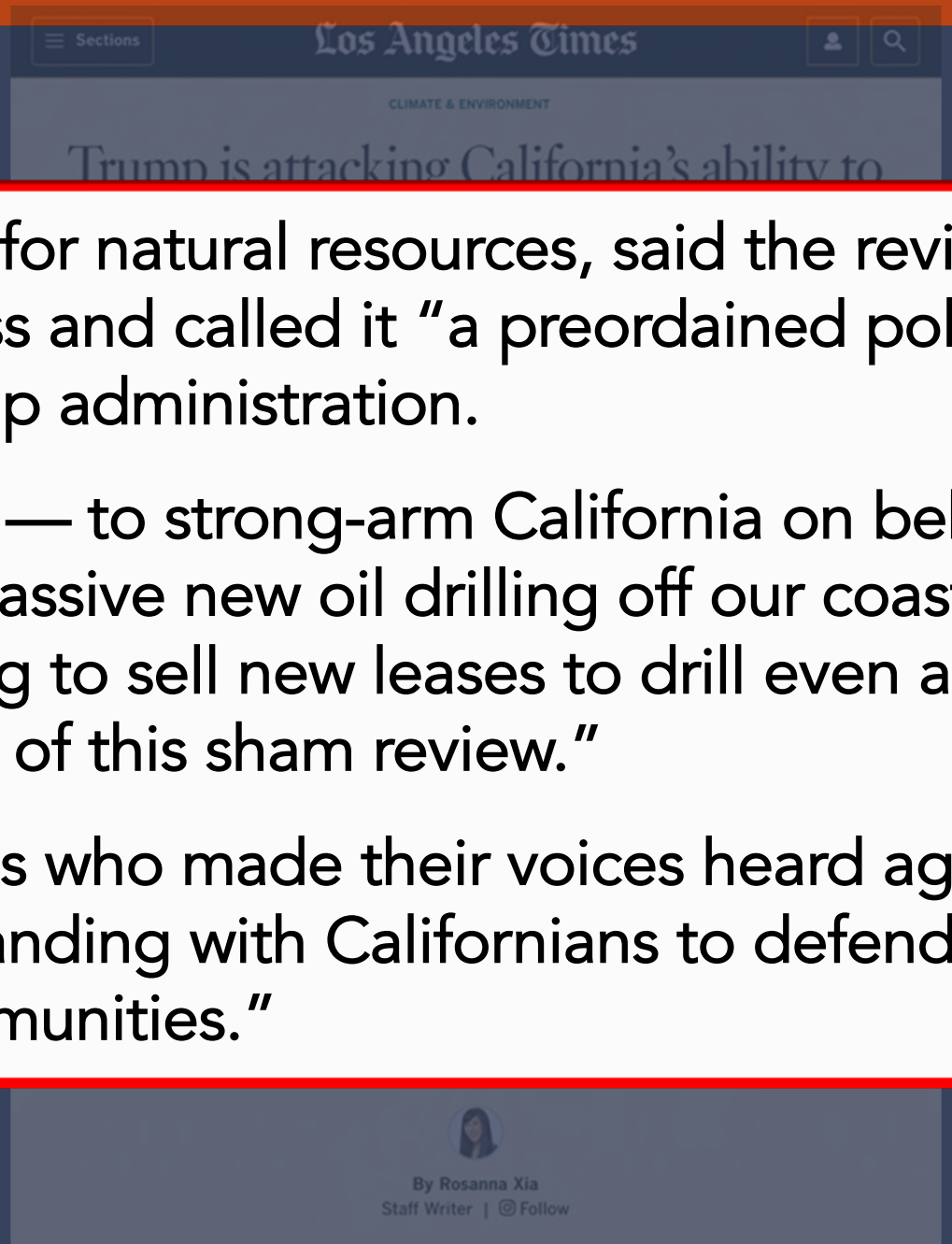


Citing "environmental extremism," Trump officials want to end California's ability to challenge offshore oil, floating nuclear reactors and rocket launches. Here, surfers survey waves at Huntington Beach in January. (Allen J. Schaben/Los Angeles Times)

By Rosanna Xia
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"Wade Crowfoot, California's secretary for natural resources, said the review process was a failure of the public process and called it "a preordained political attack" by the Trump administration.

"The aim of their rigged review is obvious — to strong-arm California on behalf of oil companies and clear the path for massive new oil drilling off our coast," Crowfoot said. "They are already preparing to sell new leases to drill even as they go through the motions of this sham review."

"While federal agencies ignore thousands who made their voices heard against this ludicrous attack," he said, "we're standing with Californians to defend our coastal communities."

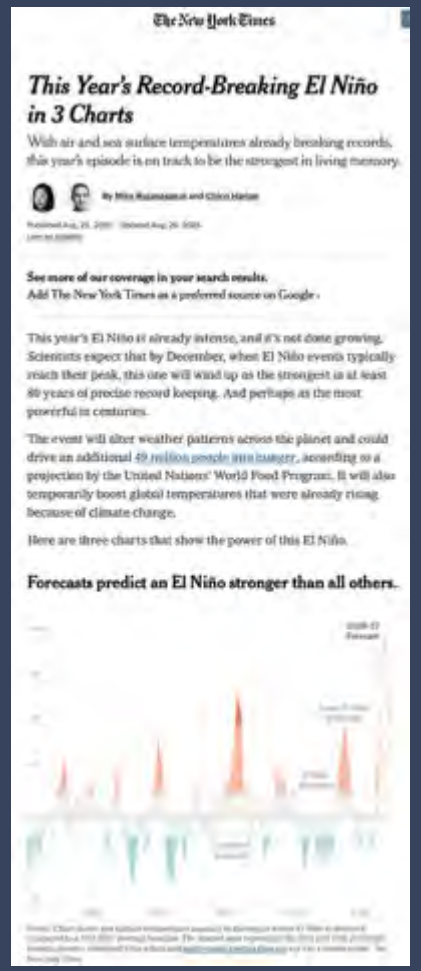
Climate and Weather – El Nino 2627

ENSO: Recent Evolution,
Current Status and Predictions

Update prepared by:
Climate Prediction Center / NCEP
28 October 2026

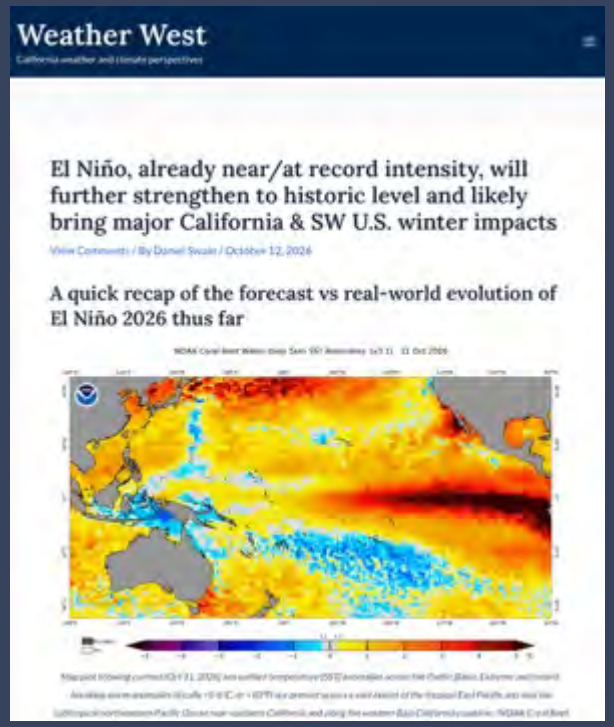


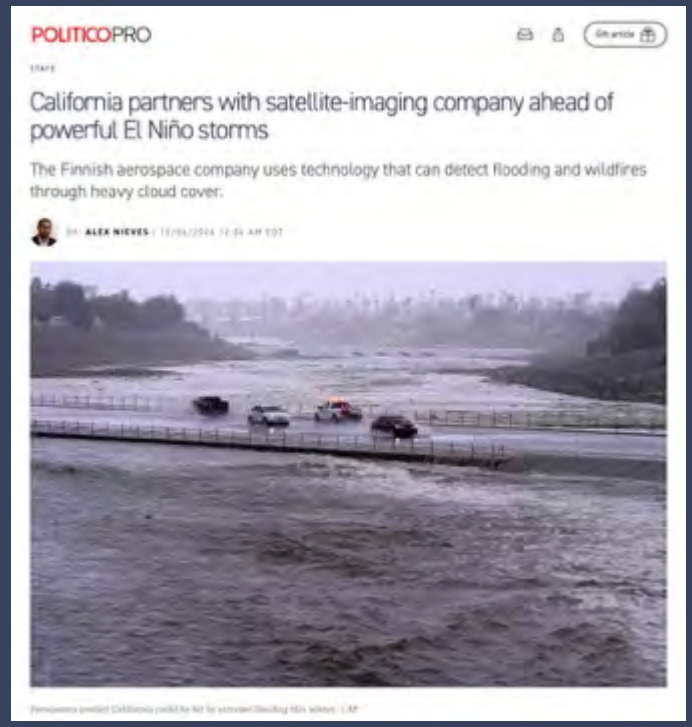


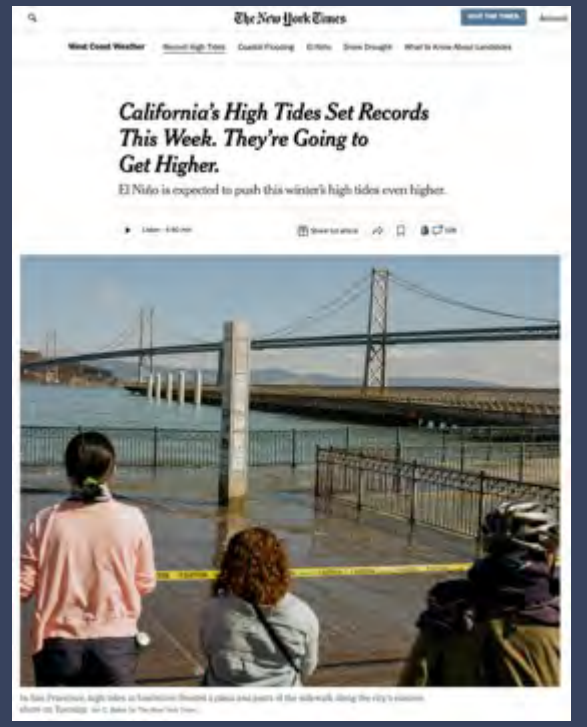


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Climate and Weather – El Nino 2627

Sections

Los Angeles Times

State of emergency, baby! Ski industry bets big on El Niño



Despite California's reputation for its beaches, the state is home to the most skiers and snowboarders in the nation, according to industry data. Above, a skier at Mammoth Mountain in January. (Christian Pondella/For The Times)

OPENSNOW

News



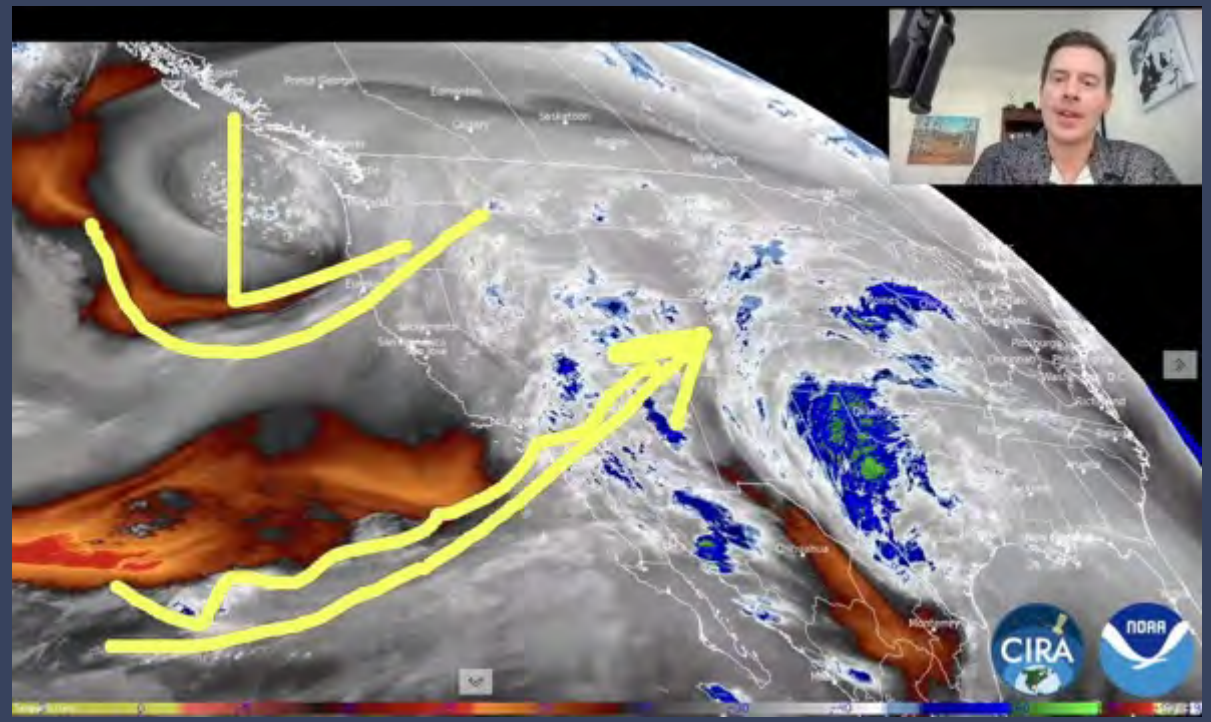
By Alan Smith, Meteorologist
Updated 12 days ago
September 22, 2026

Top 10 Snowiest Winters



After much research, we've come up with a list of what we believe are the top 10 deepest winters in the West since 1980.

Climate and Weather – El Nino 2627





Climate and Weather

POLITICOPRO

A missing justice scrambles Supreme Court climate showdown

Alito's recusal from the case has the potential to result in a tied ruling in a battle over oil companies' liability to pay for climate impacts.



POLITICOPRO

Scientist who warned of 'climate change fascists' joined National Institutes of Health

Justin Mable is a senior adviser at the institute that once led NIH's climate research.



POLITICOPRO

Florida attorney general sues leading climate modeler over property scores

First Street's climate-exposure scores for millions of properties "exaggerate" risk and devalue property, says the state attorney general.



POLITICOPRO

Conservative climate movement faces a blue wave wipeout

Environmental advocates are mapping out how to rebuild, expecting big Republican losses.



POLITICOPRO

Democrats face a big question on electric vehicles

President Donald Trump's attacks on Biden-era electric vehicle policy is hampering Democrats' ambitions to bring back buyer incentives.



POLITICOPRO

Trump punts on wind turbine tariffs

The White House ordered the Commerce Department and the U.S. Trade Representative to negotiate with trading partners on imports of the products and report back within 180 days.



POLITICOPRO

A climate nightmare lurks in the Atlantic. Europe is starting to pay attention.

A slowdown of ocean currents that would disrupt life on the continent on an unthinkable scale.



From Reykjavik to The Hague, European governments are starting to prepare for a literal sea change that would end life as we know it on the continent.

In the depths of the North Atlantic, a vast system of swirling currents known as the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, or AMOC, carries warm

POLITICOPRO

Trade panel backs US solar manufacturers in India, Indonesia and Laos probe

The U.S. International Trade Commission found solar imports from the three countries are injuring the U.S. solar industry.



Climate and Weather

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Gift article

FEDERAL

Trump kills methane rule days after a plume was found near his rally

A technological revolution is colliding with political decisions in the U.S. and Europe to weaken climate regulations on the potent gas.

BY: ZACK COLMAN, ZIA WEISE, SARA SCHONHARDT | 10/28/2026 05:00 AM EDT



President Donald Trump speaks during a campaign rally in Corpus Christi, Texas, on Tuesday. | Eric Vryn/AP

POLITICOPRO

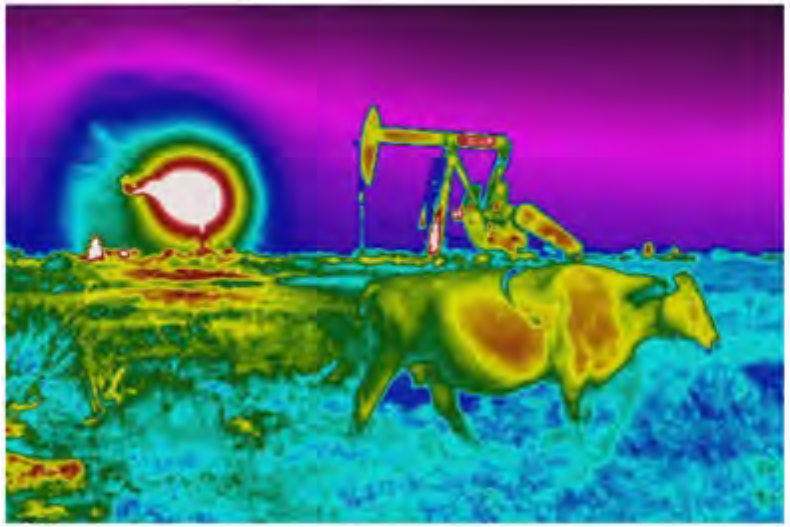
Gift article

FEDERAL

The nerd's guide to Trump's methane rule rewrite

What you need to know about EPA's proposed changes to the methane requirements for the oil and gas sector.

BY: ALEX GUILLÉN, JEAN CHEMNICK | 10/28/2026 03:59 PM EDT



In this photo made with an Optical Gas Imaging thermal camera, a plume of heat from a flare burning off methane and other hydrocarbons is detected in the background next to an oil pumpjack as a cow walks through a field in the Permian Basin in Jal, New Mexico, Oct. 14, 2021. | David Goldman, File/AP

EPA on Wednesday proposed easing Biden-era limits on the oil and gas sector's emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

Under President Donald Trump, EPA has fully repealed climate rules for power plants and vehicles. But when it comes to methane, it is instead rewriting the rules to relax requirements and address oil and gas companies' complaints about feasibility.

Climate and Weather

Inside Climate News

Pulitzer Prize-winning, nonpartisan reporting on the biggest crisis facing our planet.

Donate

Politics

Colorado River Basin Candidates Wade Into Water Politics, but Winners Are Unlikely to Make Big Changes

As tensions rise on the drought-stricken river, six of the seven Colorado River Basin states are holding elections for governor.

By Wyatt Myskow, Jake Bolster
October 31, 2026



The Colorado River flows through Grand Canyon Village, Ariz., on Sept. 1. Credit: Ian Maule/AFP via Getty Images

U.S. Department of the Interior

MENU

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Interior Department Finalizes Plans for 2027-2028 Colorado River Operations

Secretary Burgum signs 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines and Record of Decision

08/21/2026
Last edited 08/21/2026

WASHINGTON – The Department of the Interior issued the 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines and the Record of Decision for the Post-2026 Colorado River Operations Final EIS, establishing a 10-year Decision Framework with a broad operational range that will be used to develop future operational guidelines for Lake Powell and Lake Mead. Together these decisions provide for reliable operations of the Colorado River system, delivery of vital water supplies, and protect critical federal infrastructure while preserving the flexibility necessary to respond to Basin states' voluntary actions, consensus recommendations and the continued prolonged drought. The combined contents of Lake Powell and Lake Mead have not been this low since before Lake Powell began filling following the closure of the gates at Glen Canyon Dam in 1963, with both Lake Powell and Lake Mead hitting record lows the last few weeks.

"We are grateful for the Seven Basin States, the thirty Basin Tribes, Mexico, and many other basin stakeholders who have provided the feedback and voluntary arrangements necessary for the development of the 2027-2026 Operating Guidelines," **said Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum.** "Forty million people, millions of acres of farmland and ranchland, industries that power the American West, and some of our nation's fastest growing metropolitan areas depend on the Colorado River."

The 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines respond to hydrologic conditions and provide flexible tools to protect critical infrastructure at Glen Canyon Dam and Hoover Dam. They were developed after extensive engagement with the seven Basin States and incorporate concepts from proposals from both the Upper and Lower Basins and Basin tribes.

These 2027-2028 Operating Guidelines:

- Provide objective criteria to determine releases from Lake Powell based on actual hydrology and maintaining a minimum elevation of 3,510 feet to support continued operational reliability at Glen Canyon Dam.
- Provides for reductions in deliveries of Colorado River water among the Lower Basin States of 1.25 million

POLITICOPRO

Arizona joins legal revolt over Trump's Colorado River plan

The lawsuit could pressure other states and the federal government to revisit the plan, which mandates steep cuts for the Grand Canyon State.



Arizona is joining Nevada's lawsuit against the Trump administration's plan for managing the drought-stricken Colorado River, setting the stage for a broader legal brawl over the future of the critical waterway.

THE TRIBUNE

How Scottsdale will deal with 17% cut in Colorado River water share



Listen to this article

Scottsdale's share of Colorado River water will soon shrink, limiting the city's ability to set aside supplies for the future.

Starting in January, the city is expected to lose nearly a fifth of its drinking water from the river as the federal government imposes a plan to protect the drought-stricken Lake Mead and Lake Powell.

Climate and Weather

Climate and Environment

Sign up for the Climate Forward newsletter.



A. Gyenyan, G. Kalyan, P. Buzzard

Injured Leopard's 200-Mile Trek Suggests Hope for a Species

In Armenia, a three-legged Caucasian leopard's astonishing hike signals that conservation efforts for the endangered animal may be working.

2d ago . By ERIC NILER



Tim Gruber for The New York Times

A New Kind of Battery Is Taking Off. This One Stores Blistering Heat.

Large batteries that store electricity have revolutionized power grids and car markets. Now some start-ups are betting that "heat batteries" could be just as transformative.

October 29, 2026 . By BRAD PLUMER

Everything You Could Possibly Want to Know About El Niño



It's the hot weather word of the year, but what does it actually mean? We've got answers to all the most pressing El Niño questions.

34m ago . By JUDSON JONES, CHICO HARLAN and RAYMOND ZHONG

Trump Loosens Rules for Oil Firms to Cut Methane, a Potent Warming Gas



The Biden administration had sought to crack down on methane leaks, a big driver of climate change. Those rules are now being scaled back.

October 27, 2026 . By BRAD PLUMER



California's High Tides Set Records This Week. They're Going to Get Higher.



Brazil's Vote Is a Victory for the Amazon, Environmentalists Say



Shiny Glass Skyscrapers Are a Hot Thing. Literally.



The Overlapping Plagues Quietly Devastating American Forests



The Big Threat Has Been Climate Change. Now Comes A.I.

Honk if You Know Why Delhi's Air Is So Bad

Millions of vehicles crowd India's capital, spewing pollutants that become especially dangerous when winter weather traps them over the city.

By ANUPREETA DAS, AHMER KHAN and JIWOONG HONG



Global Talks on Nature End With Persistent Gaps on Action and Funding

Countries renewed their promises to protect wildlife at U.N. talks in Armenia, but how to cover the costs remains a question.

By CATRIN EINHORN



How Trump Is Dismantling America's Scientific Research Machine

The system that has driven life-altering discoveries and helped make the United States a superpower is now under intense strain.

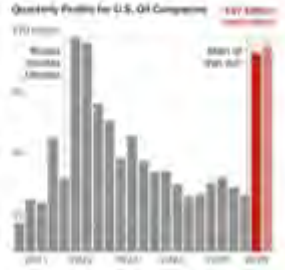


By CHRISTOPHER FLAVELLE, IRENA HWANG, ADAM SELLA, ALAN BLINDER, SHERYL GAY STOLBERG, BENJAMIN MUELLER and MICHAEL C. BENDER

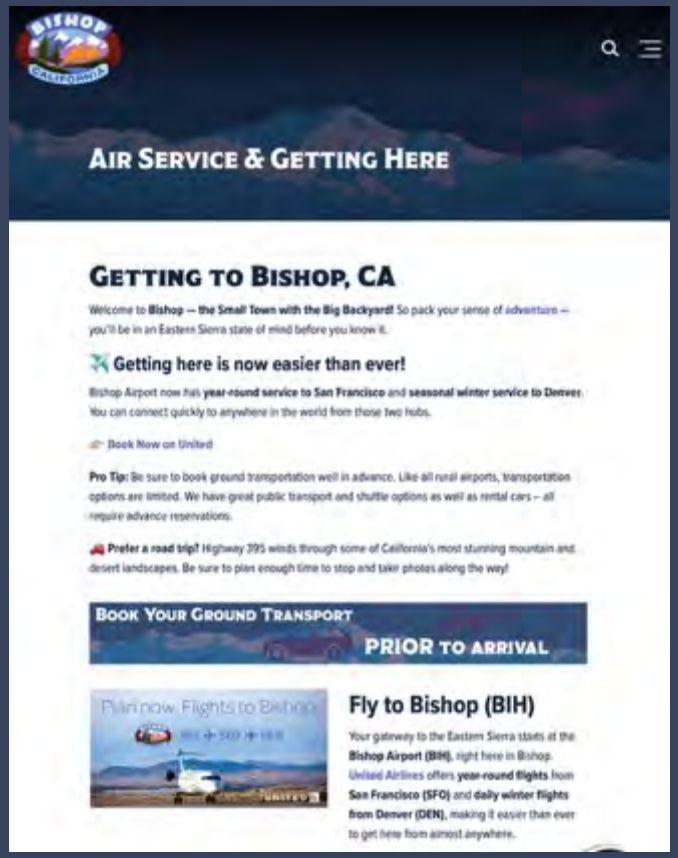
U.S. Oil Industry Earned Over $130 Billion in Profit During Iran War

That was almost three times as much as what businesses producing and refining oil in the United States made in the same period in 2025.

By REBECCA F. ELLIOTT and KEITH COLLINS



Regional Economy







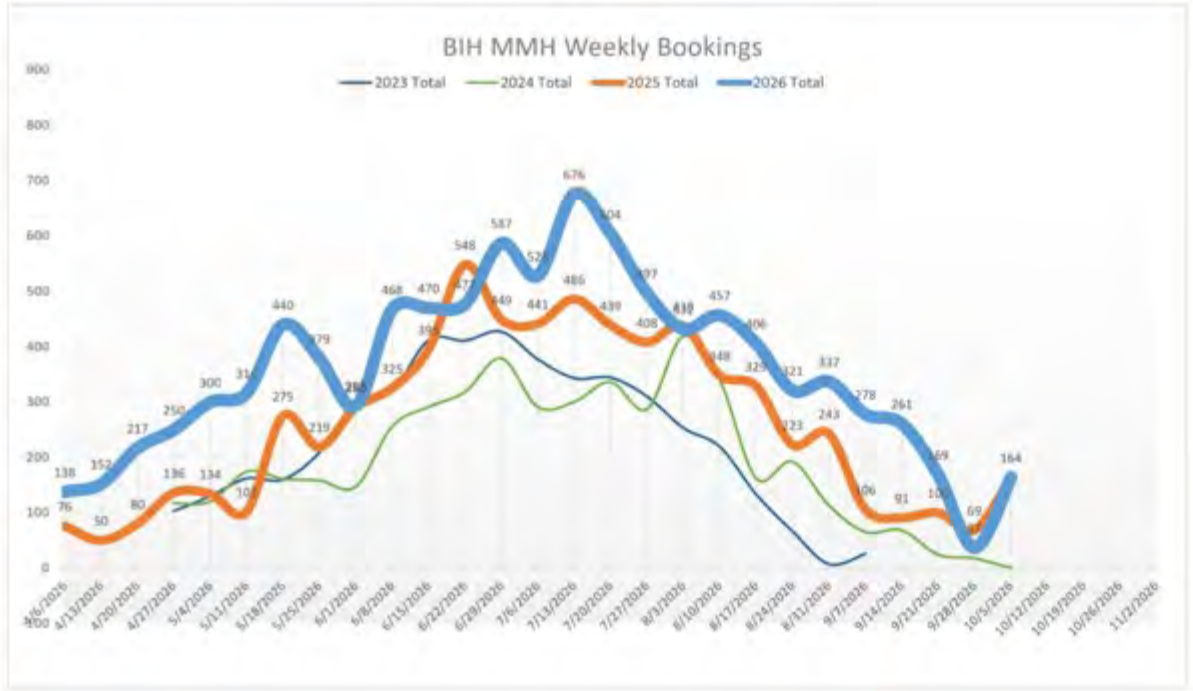
Regional Economy



Regional Economy

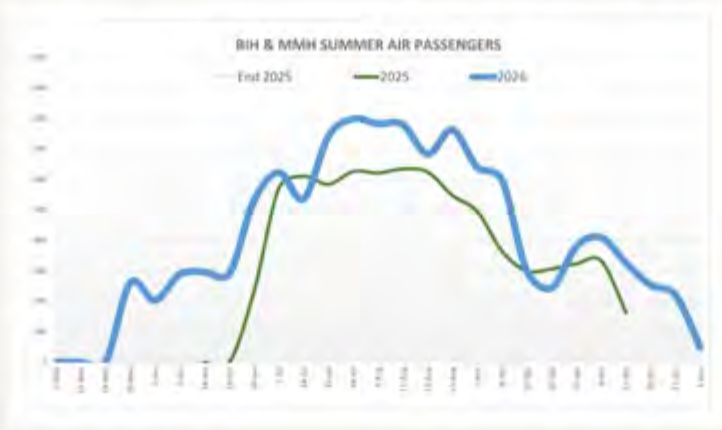
SUMMER 2026 · BOOKINGS

BIH & MMH Weekly Bookings



SUMMER 2026 · PASSENGERS

BIH & MMH Summer Air Passengers



Inbound and Outbound Seats

ALL FLIGHTS	Seats Sold			Capacity			Load Factor			YOY PAX %	
	2026	2025 YTD	2025 Final	2026	2025 YTD	2025 Final	2026	2025 YTD	2025 Final		
May	406			840			48%				406
June	1,463	398	398	2,880	924	924	51%	43%	43%	268%	1,065
July	3,000	2,628	2,628	5,728	5,356	5,356	52%	49%	49%	14%	372
August	3,285	2,569	2,569	5,770	5,376	5,376	57%	48%	48%	28%	716
September	1,584	1,409	1,409	3,002	2,508	2,508	53%	56%	56%	12%	175
October	1,255	328	328	2,520	560	560	50%	59%	59%	283%	927
TOTAL	10,993	7,332	7,332	20,740	14,724	14,724	53%	50%	50%	50%	3,661
YOY	50%			41%							

Regional Economy

MINIMUM REVENUE GUARANTEE

MRG: Advanced Air through Sep 7

$611,292
Total payout on 132 flights

$433,369
Total payout on 84 flights last year

$4,631
Coverage per flight op, down from $5,159 YOY

43%
Load factor vs 35%, on 48% added capacity

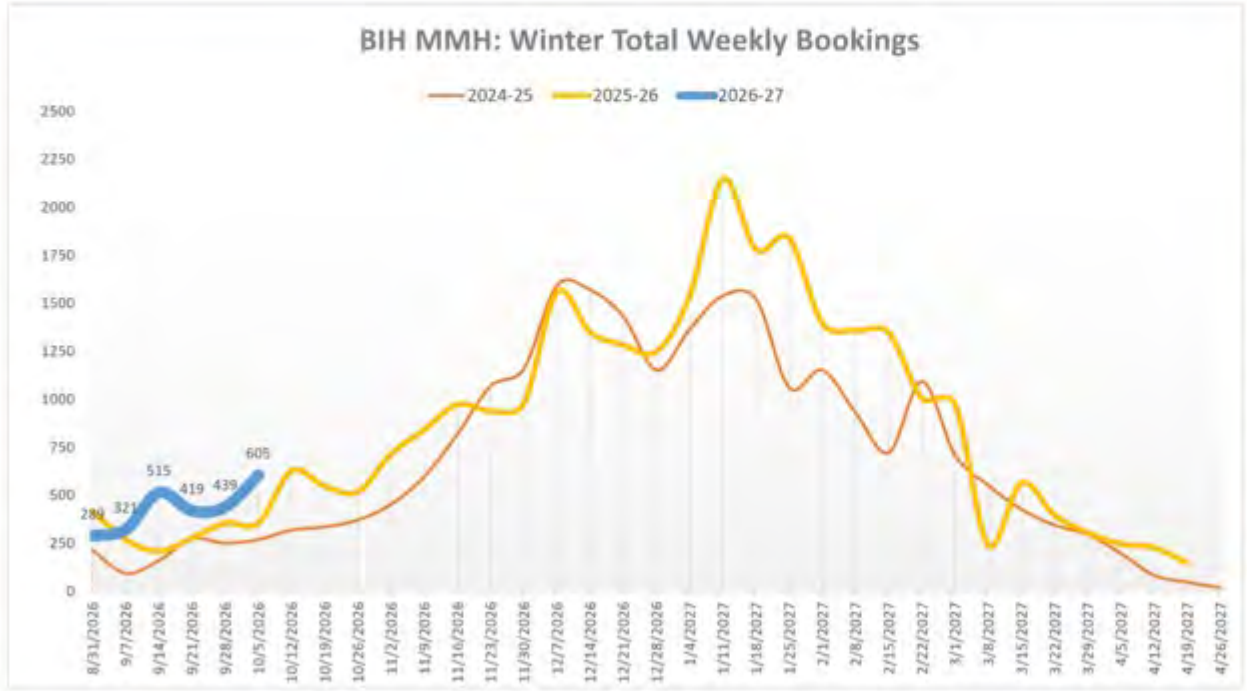
+70%
Added passengers

Net: 41% increase in payout on 48% increase in added capacity and 70% increase in passengers.

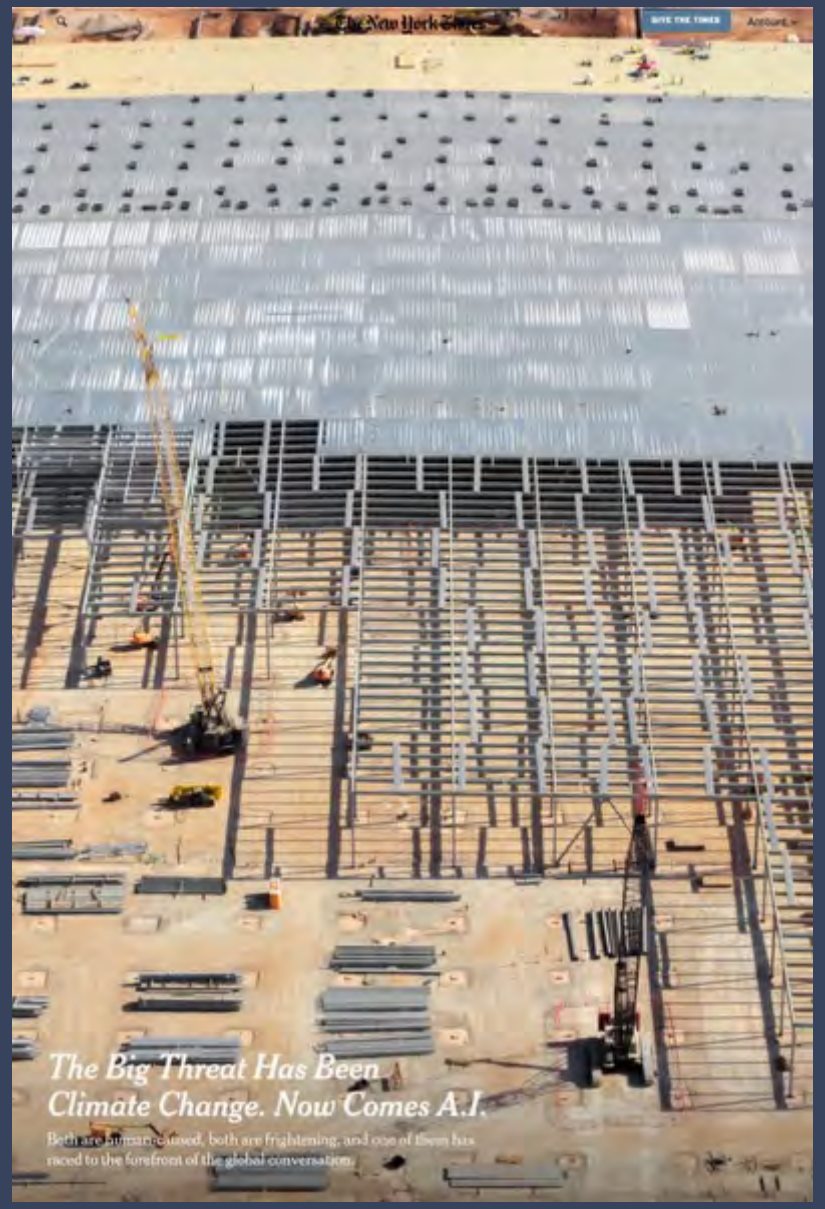
Regional Economy

WINTER 2026–27 · BOOKINGS

BIH & MMH Winter Total Weekly Bookings



Technology and Audience



The New York Times

Six years ago, Google had put forth a plan to operate on carbon-free energy by 2030. Google's chief executive, Sundar Pichai, called it a "sustainability moonshot," and referenced the fact that several years earlier his hometown in India, Chennai, had been submerged by floodwaters, which made "the impacts of climate change feel much closer to home."

But the A.I. race has changed the priorities.

Google's emissions continue to rise. Same for Microsoft, which said it would be carbon-negative by 2030.

Bill Gates, the billionaire co-founder of Microsoft, last year published a 5,000-word essay arguing that climate change would "not lead to humanity's demise." His conclusion, made after years of funding climate causes, reflected a much-contested conclusion that even as the planet warms, people would be able to "live and thrive in most places on earth."

Then, last month, Mr. Gates published another lengthy essay. It was about the risks of A.I.



Gates criticized the "doomsday outlook" around climate change. More recently, he warned of A.I. risks. Mr. Gates at a 2015 event.

Shared trait: unpredictability

But many scientists say it's a mistake to assume that climate change will proceed predictably, or in a way that countries can manage. Some say that over the past decade, the planet's systems

The New York Times

A.I. has the potential to be a tool in the fight against climate change. It could design more sophisticated warning systems for disasters, for example, or dream up innovations that ease global water shortages. Already, its systems are being used to help fortify the low-lying Maldives and regrow shoreline.

But in the short-term, at least, A.I. is making it more difficult to cut greenhouse gas emissions. That's because it is increasing energy needs, with electricity consumption from A.I. data centers surging 50 percent last year, according to the International Energy Agency. The United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health said that by 2030, A.I. data centers would use nearly three times the electricity of Nigeria, Pakistan and Bangladesh combined, countries home to some 650 million people.

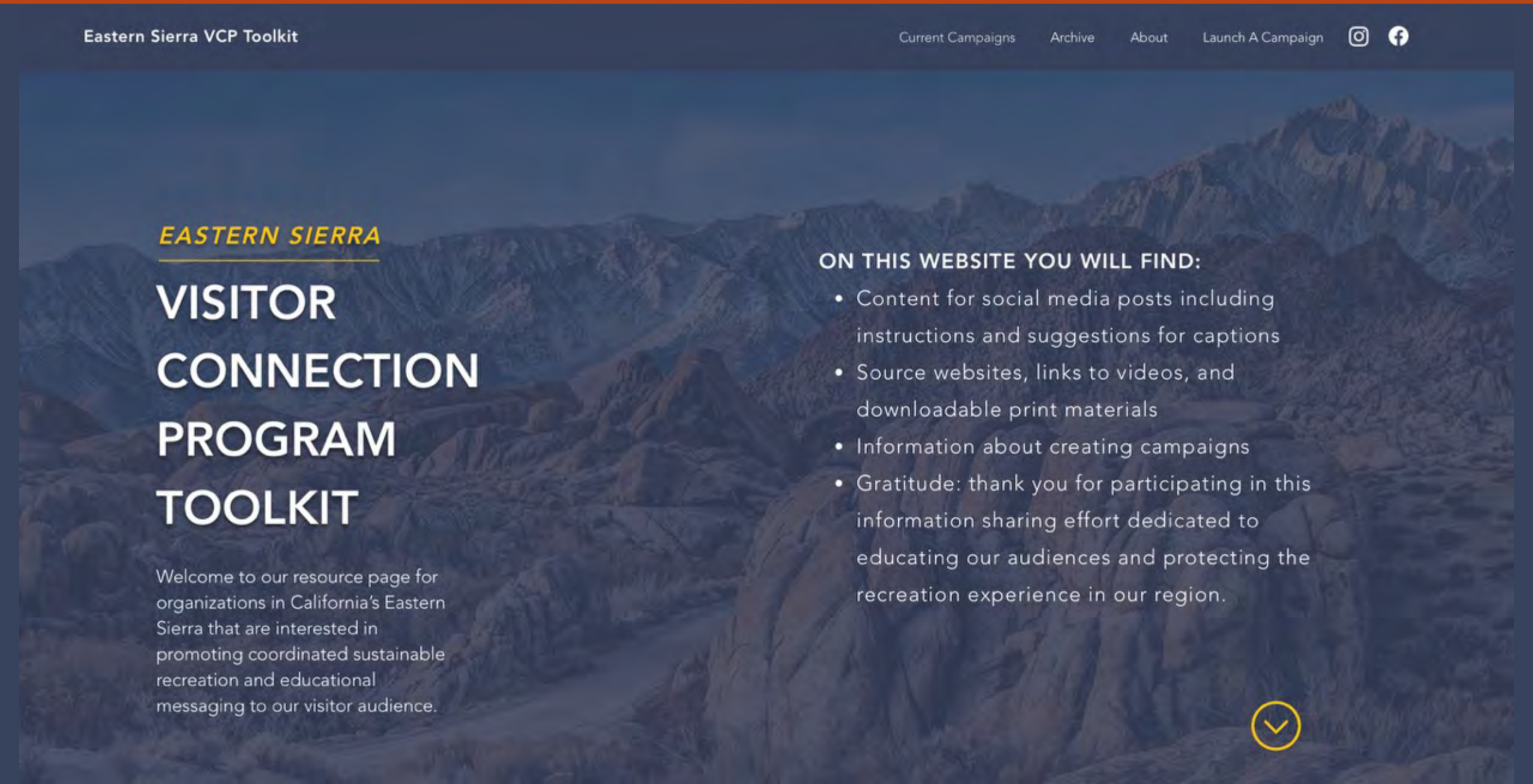


The melting Rhône Glacier in the Swiss Alps this summer.

Tech companies are becoming major energy buyers, and backing both renewable and fossil fuel projects. In a speech on Monday, Simon Stiell, the United Nations climate chief, called the A.I. industry "energy guzzling" and said it needs to "respect science and start aligning with global climate efforts — urgently."

On Monday the Turkish environment minister, Murat Kurum, who will preside over this year's international climate conference in November, said the agenda will include A.I.'s "growing energy consumption." He added that "a warming world, a global energy system in disarray, and growing fears of the rise of A.I. all demand action."

Technology and Audience



Technology and Audience

Visitor Connection Working Group Meetings

Participants in the "Visitor Connection Working Group"

Alabama Hills Stewardship Group
Alpine County
Alpine County Chamber of Commerce
Bishop Chamber of Commerce
Bishop Climbers Coalition
Bishop Visitor Bureau
Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office
California State Parks
City of Bishop
Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra
Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps
Eastern Sierra Four Wheel Drive Club
Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA)
Friends of the Inyo
High Sierra Energy Foundation
Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest
Inyo County
Inyo National Forest
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Mammoth Lakes Recreation
Mammoth Lakes Tourism
Mammoth Resorts (Mammoth Mountain)
Mono County
Mono Lake Committee
National Park Service
Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)
Town of Mammoth Lakes

Leadership and Policy – Data Centers


POLITICOPRO

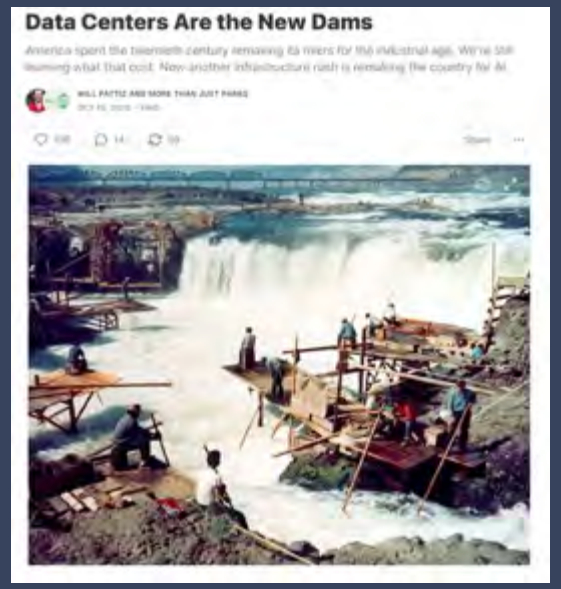
Trump wants data centers on public land. A GOP senator in Idaho is 'skeptical.'

The Bureau of Land Management is currently considering at least 20 applications related to data centers on public lands.


POLITICOPRO

Data centers are galvanizing the midterms. Here are the key races.

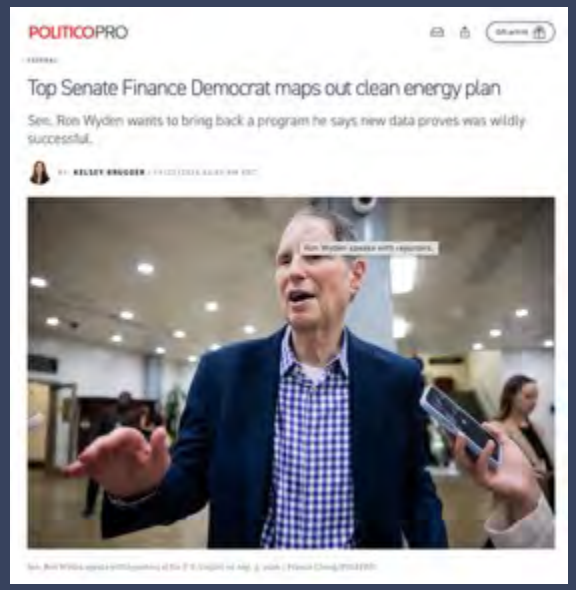
The data center backlash has been ferocious. A handful of contests will test whether it translates into votes.


Data Centers Are the New Dams


POLITICOPRO

Wyden targets Burgum's gold deals, data center push

The Oregon senator demanded details of Interior Department policies ahead of elections that could give Democrats more power on Capitol Hill.


POLITICOPRO

Top Senate Finance Democrat maps out clean energy plan

Sen. Ron Wyden wants to bring back a program he says new data proves was wildly successful.

Leadership and Policy – Permitting Legislation

POLITICOPRO

Tribal opposition complicates push for permitting deal

Reps. Melanie Stansbury and Adelita Grijalva have come out in opposition to the permitting package over changes to a historic preservation law, joining a broader group of Democrats calling for revisions.



POLITICOPRO

Permitting backers want Senate to rack up vote count to send message to the House

Supporters of the Senate's bill see a strong vote count as necessary to get it to the president's desk.



POLITICOPRO

Big Oil and clean energy join forces in bid to boost permitting bill

The two energy sectors have now converged on a shared goal: helping get a long-gestating permitting reform bill to President Donald Trump's desk in the lame-duck session of Congress.



POLITICOPRO

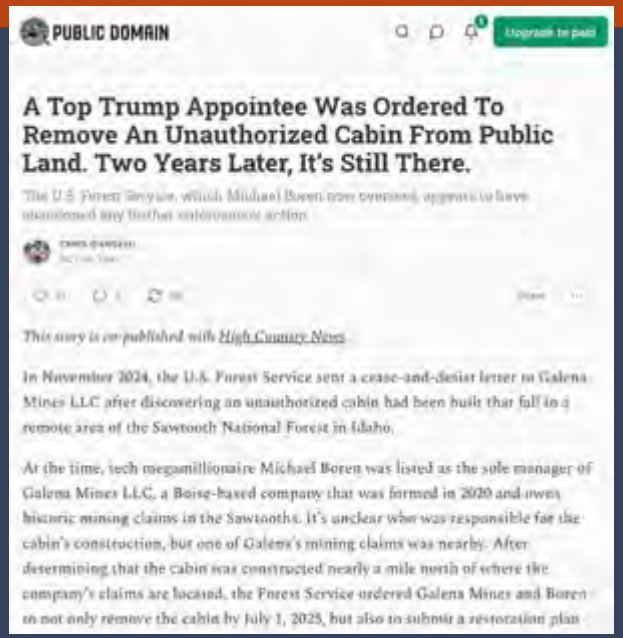
Podesta warns of 'loaded howitzer' in permitting bill

The former Biden climate adviser expressed reservations about parts of the Senate's legislation.

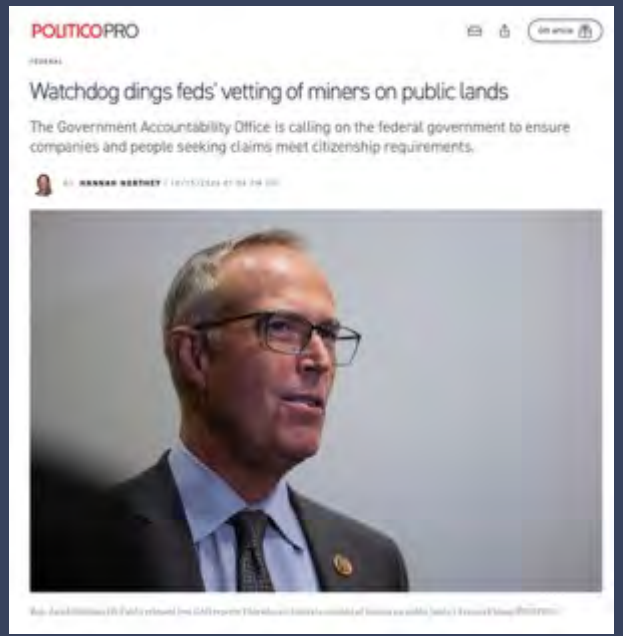


Leadership and Policy – Public Lands









Leadership and Policy – Wildlife

POLITICOPRO

Gift article

FEDERAL

Judges wrestle with how many wolves are enough

A federal appeals court weighed when wolves can be considered recovered as the Trump administration pushes to roll back Endangered Species Act protections.

BY: **CARLOS ANCHONDO** | 10/13/2026 06:04 PM EDT



Judge Richard Tallman repeatedly pressed lawyers across the cases to explain how far wolves must spread into their historical range before they're considered recovered.| Forest Service via AP

POLITICOPRO

Gift article

FEDERAL

Trump administration restores bear baiting in Alaska parks and preserves

The National Park Service has seesawed on Alaska bear baiting rules for more than a decade.

BY: **HEATHER RICHARDS** | 10/16/2026 12:05 PM EDT



A grizzly bear in Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska.| Jean-Pierre Lavoie/Wikimedia Commons

Leadership and Policy – USFS

POLITICOPRO

Forest Service thins artifacts as reorganization unfolds

Despite a court-ordered pause on relocating its headquarters, the Forest Service is preparing to clear out items from its historic Washington, D.C., offices.



POLITICOPRO

Trump's logging push is reshaping who controls America's forests

The Forest Service is giving states like Idaho a bigger role in forest management, raising concerns about timber industry influence and shrinking public input.



POLITICOPRO

Forest Service struggles to fill senior positions

The agency may start accepting external candidates, breaking with a long-standing tradition of only promoting from within its ranks.



Forest Service Chief Celebrates Historic Selloff of National Forests, Tells Employees to Feel Proud

In a remarkable letter to employees, Tom Schultz boasts about selling more timber from America's national forests than at any point in nearly three decades. The real numbers tell a disgraceful story.



PBS NEWS



Rollins says USDA is 'full-bore ahead' on Forest Service reorganization

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said Thursday that the Trump administration remains "full-bore ahead" with a sweeping reorganization of the Forest Service and other agencies after a judge blocked the changes last week.

Leadership and Policy – USFS

POLITICOPRO

Gift article

FEDERAL

Judge halts USDA's reorganization

The Trump administration plan would move thousands of employees handling nutrition, forestry, farm services and other federal programs.

BY: **MARCIA BROWN** | 10/13/2026 08:28 PM EDT | UPDATED 10/14/2026 08:47 AM EDT



The U.S. Department of Agriculture seal is seen on a podium during a news conference in Washington on July 8, 2025.| Manuel Balce Ceneta/AP

Judge Halts USDA Reorganization: What Does That Mean? II. Exploring More About The Court Order

October 16, 2026 by Sharon

Thanks to a member of the TSW community who shared this court order. This is way above my pay grade, so I'm going to ask lots of apparently stupid questions. Part of that is due to the fact that I don't see "reorganization" as one thing for the Forest Service. I see at least four different things

1. Moving HQ to Salt Lake

2.Having one Big RO/WO instead of Regions

Leadership and Policy – DOI: National Park Service and BLM

Wes Siler's Newsletter

How Many Staff DOI Is Down At National Park Service, Every Other Agency

Exclusive: Internal leak reveals actual staffing levels from before Trump, and right now

WES SILER
OCT 10, 2026

76 12 29 Share



National Park Service Menu



NPS.gov › Home

Step Outside

Cultural landscapes reveal our relationship with place and strengthen our understanding of historic events, significant people, and patterns in American history. This is your guide to cultural landscapes in the National Park System.



Where are cultural landscapes around the National Park System? Explore more by map, view a list of landscapes, or browse articles.

Leadership and Policy – DOI: National Park Service and BLM

POLITICOPRO

The reflecting pool is back after a summer of mishaps

After algae blooms, a damaged liner and dropped vandalism cases derailed Trump's July 4 deadline for the project, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool is being refilled.



POLITICOPRO

Trump said he'd close a DC golf course. His lawyers now agree.

The nonprofit that manages the East Potomac Golf Links signed a new lease, relinquishing management of the course the president wants to bring to championship level.



POLITICOPRO

Maryland hits back at Trump's latest golf course revamp

The president has waived environmental rules for a renovation of the course at Joint Base Andrews. Maryland says it has "serious concerns."



POLITICOPRO

Judge blocks DOJ bid to remove her from DC golf course case

Judge Ana Reyes has demanded Interior Department officials make an appearance in her federal courtroom.



POLITICOPRO

Trump's statue garden tiptoes along

The National Park Service says there's nothing to see, but preservationists think they're hiding plans in plain sight.



POLITICOPRO

Trump moves to fast-track arch despite legal challenge

The administration plans to begin construction before a court likely rules on whether it has authority to build the monument in that location.



Leadership and Policy – DOI: National Park Service and BLM



POLITICOPRO

Judge casts doubt on challenges to ANWR oil drilling

Congress mandated the lease sales, but environmental groups argue drilling in the Alaska refuge threatens protected species.



POLITICOPRO

Interior will skip environmental reviews for winter Arctic drilling

The Bureau of Land Management doesn't plan to do new environmental analyses for wintertime exploration activities in Alaska's National Petroleum Reserve.

The Trump administration will allow oil companies this winter to conduct a range of exploration activities like building ice roads and drilling wells in an Arctic preserve without first conducting environmental reviews.



Introducing The Ambler Road Project: America's Next Big Public Lands Battle Starts Here

We spent months photographing, mapping and documenting the Ambler Road. Now the first mine it was built to reach has entered federal permitting, and the fight is back.



What's Behind The $105 Million Donation To Yellowstone National Park?

Yesterday, at an event staged in front of Old Faithful, a Blackstone portfolio oil, gas, and artificial intelligence developer announced the establishment of a $105 million fund to benefit Yellowstone National Park. It's the largest private donation to the National Park Service ever, and comes at a time in which Yellowstone and other parks are facing unprecedented funding shortfalls. So it's a good thing, right? Of course not.

Leadership and Policy – State of California

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM

As Trump targets public lands, Governor Newsom expands free state parks access, announces record conservation progress, and signs legislation protecting California's coast and wildlife

Governor signs conservation legislative package as California adds 1 million conserved acres to world-leading 30×30 effort



✅ **Protect California's coast from expanded offshore oil drilling**: Responds to federal efforts to expand offshore oil and gas leasing off California's coast by prohibiting the use of existing state infrastructure or leases for new federal offshore oil and gas leases. The measure requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional factors before approving an offshore lease renewal, amendment or modification, and eliminates its authority to issue an offshore oil-and-gas lease in a current or future coastal sanctuary.

✅ **Support ranchers and wildlife through coexistence**: Establishes the California Wildlife Coexistence Act to reduce, minimize and mitigate conflicts between people and wildlife. The measure supports proactive wildlife-conflict response, tracking, depredation management, animal-welfare and wildlife-health efforts, while continuing compensation for verified wolf depredation losses when livestock producers employ nonlethal deterrence practices.

✅ **Make wildlife connectivity a routine part of highway planning**: Builds on California's wildlife-connectivity work by requiring Caltrans to publish an inventory of wildlife connectivity assets in a supplemental list to the Transportation Asset Management Plan and continue to include wildlife connectivity as an objective in the State Highway System Management Plan. These improvements will help animals move safely between habitats, reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and protect drivers and passengers.

✅ **Expand equitable access to the outdoors**: Codifies the Governor's Outdoors for All initiative at the California Natural Resources Agency. Outdoors for All advances efforts to ensure all Californians can recreate, enjoy and help protect the Golden State's cultural, historic, and natural resources. It builds on more than $1 billion in investments led by Governor Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom to expand parks and nature access, prioritizing underserved communities.

✅ **Make the State Parks Library Pass permanent**: Makes the California State Parks Library Pass program permanent, paired with ongoing budget funding. Through the program, Californians can check out free state parks passes at more than 1,100 public library branches statewide. A total of 33,000 passes have been issued, helping libraries reach new audiences through programs that connect communities with state parks.

✅ **Recognize student achievement in climate learning**: Establishes the voluntary State Seal of Climate Literacy, allowing schools to create pathways for students to demonstrate mastery in climate-literacy disciplines.

The legislation reflects a shared commitment by the Governor and the Legislature to protect California's natural treasures, support communities, and ensure Californians can enjoy the outdoors. Key authors of today's legislation helped turn California's values into action:

The 2026 Online Auction is Now Live! Bid on 160+ items through October 4! Read More →

LOS PADRES FORESTWATCH

GET INVOLVED DONATE



HOME / NEWS

ForestWatch-Sponsored Outdoors for All Bill Signed into Law

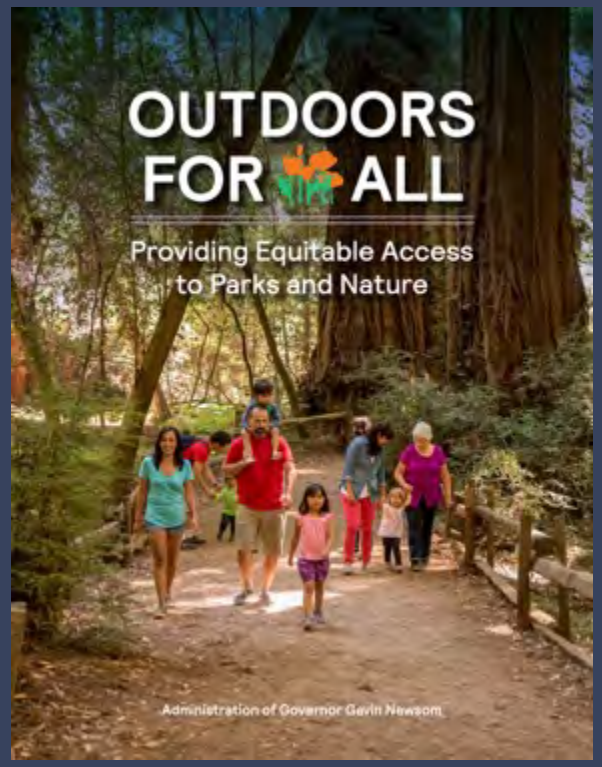
by ForestWatch

September 30, 2026 4 min read

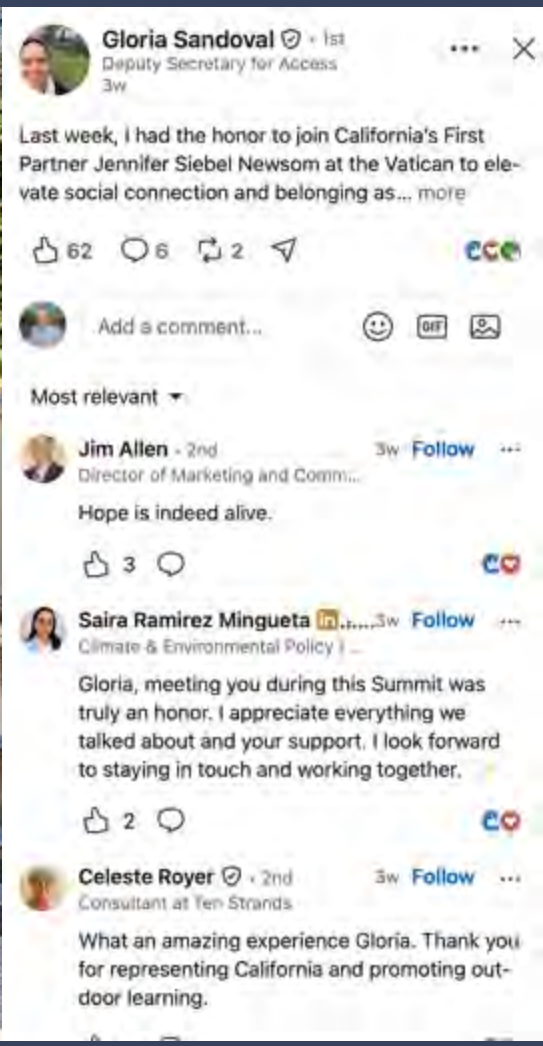
Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 1268, the Outdoors for All Initiative, into law on September 29, 2026. The bill, authored by Senator Lena Gonzalez, makes equitable access to parks, public lands, and outdoor recreation a lasting state commitment.

Los Padres ForestWatch proudly sponsored the bill alongside Audubon California and GreenLatinos. Protecting public lands and helping people build meaningful relationships with them are deeply connected. The new law establishes Outdoors for All in statute and creates a long-term framework for reducing barriers to outdoor experiences, strengthening public engagement, and prioritizing underserved, disadvantaged, and low-income communities.

Leadership and Policy – State of California







Leadership and Policy – State of California

EXPLORE OUR NETWORK OF SITES SEARCH

peopleforbikes MENU

September 30, 2026

California SB 1167 Signed Into Law, Protecting Electric Bicycles and Addressing Public Safety Concerns With E-Motos

By: PeopleForBikes Staff

Topics: Electric Bikes



The bill marks a significant step forward for protecting consumers, preserving access to legal e-bikes, and creating much-needed rules for higher-powered electric mobility devices in California.

KEY TAKEAWAYS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- **New local speed limit authority.** Under AB 2346, cities and counties may set 10, 15, or 20 mph speed limits on bicycle paths and multiuse trails by ordinance.
- **Statewide sidewalk speed limit.** AB 2346 establishes a 10 mph prima facie speed limit on sidewalks, which local police and sheriffs may enforce.
- **Expanded removal authority.** SB 1167 authorizes peace officers to remove e-motos and other unauthorized electric devices capable of more than 20 mph on motor power alone. Cities and counties may recover removal and storage costs by ordinance under existing law.
- **New crash report contents.** Under SB 1167, any injury or crash report an officer files involving an e-bike must include the brand, manufacturer, class, top speed, and motor wattage. No existing statute requires an officer to file a crash report; filing duties under current law fall on the drivers and riders involved.
- **Enforcement is discretionary.** Under Vehicle Code Section 15, "shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive. The bills authorize, but do not require, officers to remove devices and cite violations. The only firm local duties are conditional on an officer filing a report, an agency removing a device, or a jurisdiction adopting an ordinance.

Leadership and Policy – State of California



At the top of the Golden Gate Bridge, Governor Newsom signs his final bill — investing in California's next generation of innovation

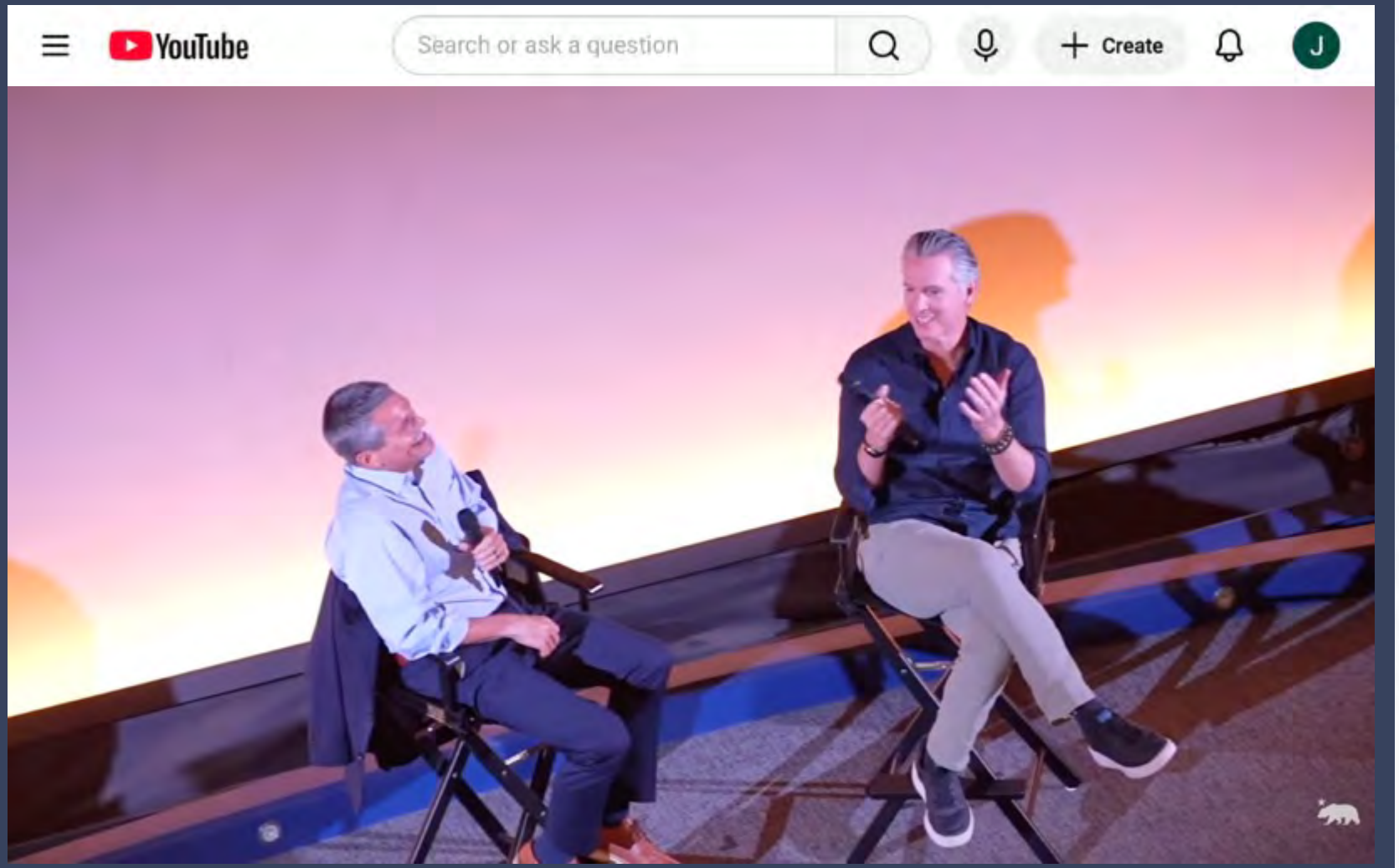
What you need to know: Standing at the top of the Golden Gate bridge, Governor Newsom signed the last bill of the 2025-26 regular legislative session — putting a $7.5 billion research bond before voters to invest in the scientists, universities and breakthroughs that will shape California's future and advancing California's status as the capital of innovation, research and technology.

SAN FRANCISCO – For generations, California has been the birthplace of new ideas and new industries – from the Gold Rush era, the creation of the internet, to becoming the global epicenter of the artificial intelligence industry.

Building on that legacy, Governor Gavin Newsom today announced his final bill signing of his last regular legislative session by investing in the people and institutions that will drive California's success for generations to come.



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ESCOG Projects

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments



ESCOG Projects

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

About | Collaborative | Strategic Plan | Regional Summary | Catalyst Projects | Get Involved

Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative

Building Resilience Through Collaboration in the Eastern Sierra



ESCOG Projects



Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Strategic Planning Workshop

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, MAMMOTH LAKES | 1-5PM

Facilitation: Seana Doherty, Senior Manager

AGNEW ::BECK

Agenda | Sept 18, 1-5pm

PART ONE | 1-2:30 pm

Laying the Groundwork

1. Welcome
2. Workshop Overview
3. ESCOG Today
4. Learning from Others

PART TWO | 2:30-5:00 pm

Setting Future Direction

1. Strategic Planning Kick-Off
2. Defining ESCOG's Foundational Elements
   - Agreements/Vision/ Mission
   - Program Area Priorities
3. Close and next steps

ESCOG Projects

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Sierra Region

About | Collaborative | Strategic Plan | Regional Summary | Catalyst Projects | Get Involved

Chipmunk Canyon Trails Existing Conditions Analysis

Balancing Access, Ecology, and Culture in Recreation

Eastern Sierra Council of Governments

ESCOG Projects

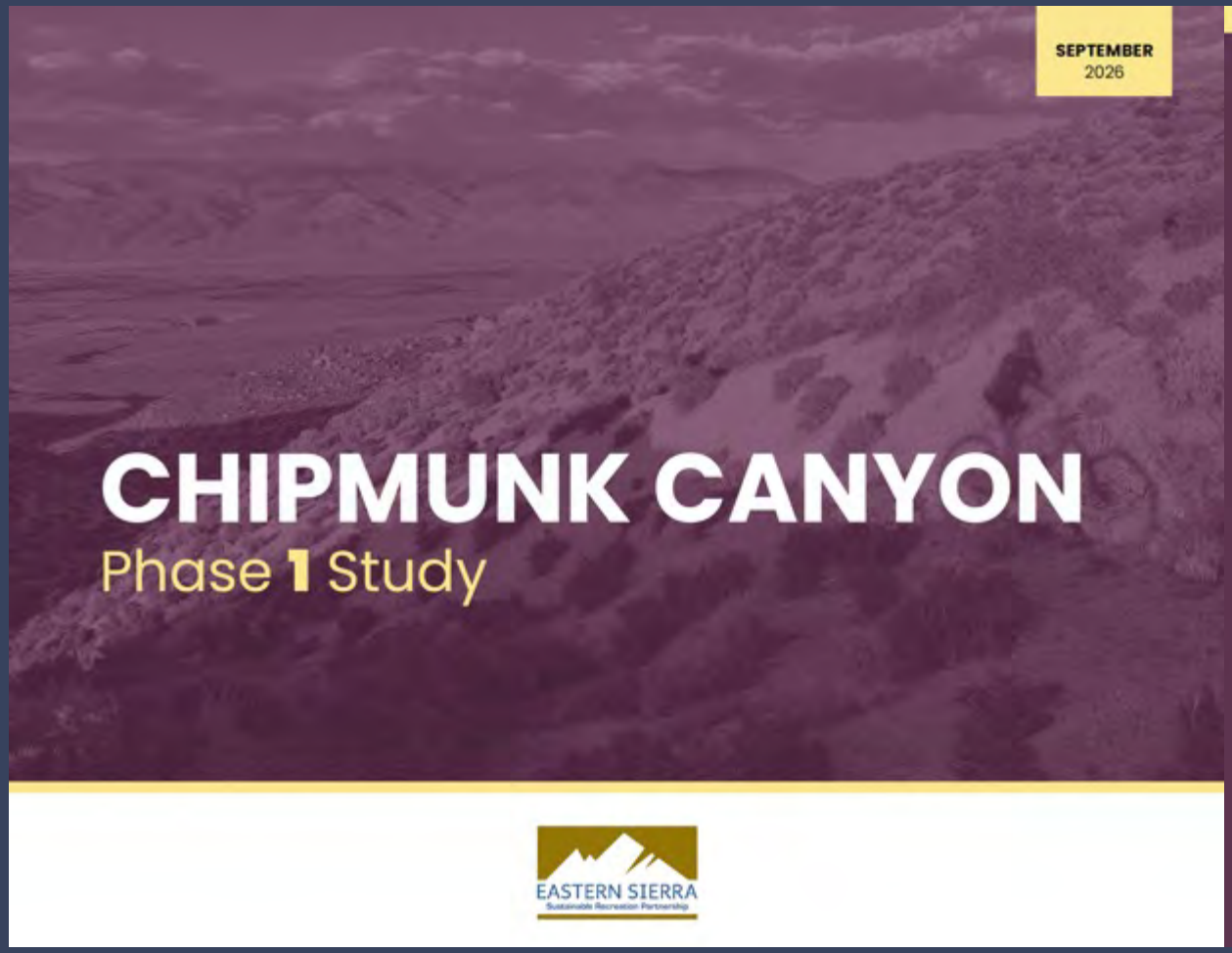
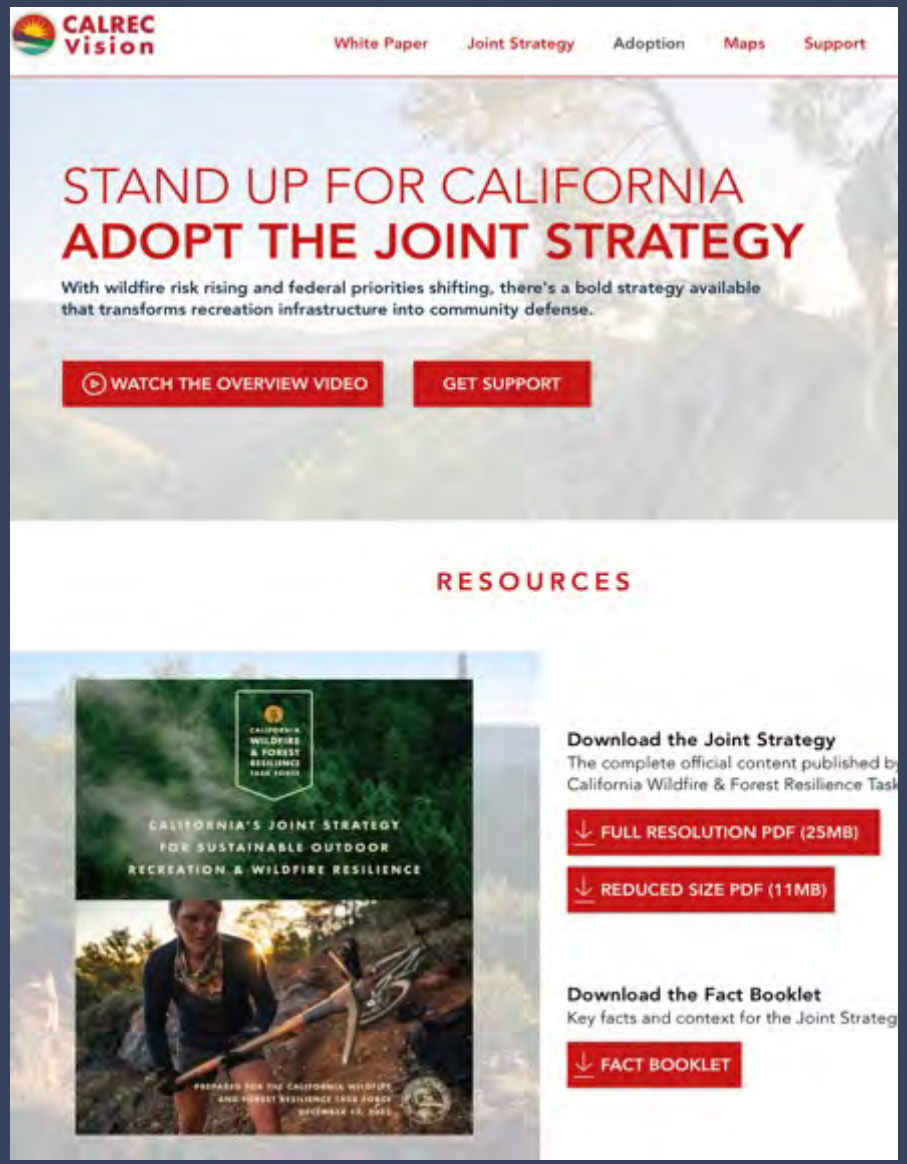


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alta MLTPA HELIX Environmental Planning

MLTPA Foundation Projects













MLTPA Foundation Projects

Communities across California are taking action



MLTPA Est. 2006 TWENTY years strong

ADOPTED

- Redwood Region Economic Development Commission (RREDC) – Oct. 26
- Napa County – October 13, 2026
- Trinity County - September 15, 2026
- Town of Truckee - August 11, 2026
- Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance – Aug. 5, 2026
- Glenn County – July 28, 2026
- Lake County - June 23, 2026
- Tuolumne County - June 9, 2026
- Placer County - March 10, 2026
- Napa Open Space District - March 9, 2026
- Nevada County - August 12, 2025
- Madera County - June 10, 2025
- Mono County - April 8, 2025
- Inyo County - March 25, 2025
- ESCOG - Feb. 26, 2025
- Town of Mammoth Lakes - January 15, 2025

MLTPA Foundation Projects

Communities across California are taking action



MLTPA Est. 2006 TWENTY years strong

PENDING

- Del Norte County - *TBD*
- San Gabriel SGVCOG EENR – *Dec. 2*
- Mariposa County - *TBD*
- Marin County - *TBD*
- Tahoe Regional Planning Authority (TRPA) - *TBD*
- Together Bay Area - *TBD*
- Santa Barbara County - *TBD*
- Alpine County - *TBD*

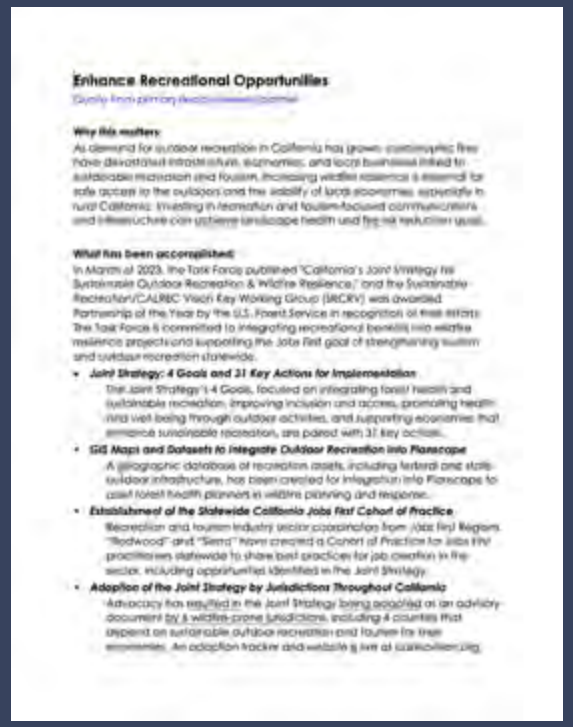
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ACTION PLAN | LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE

1.46 Implement California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resilience: The Task Force's Recreation Work Group will partner with CNRA, DOC, USFS, BLM, and state and local recreation managers, to deliver multi benefit recreation and wildfire resilience projects in and near the wildland urban interface, including fire hardened trails prescriptions and fuels reduction around recreation infrastructure, and will, where appropriate, embed these priorities in Regional Fire and Forest Capacity Regional Priority Plans.



Enhance Recreational Opportunities

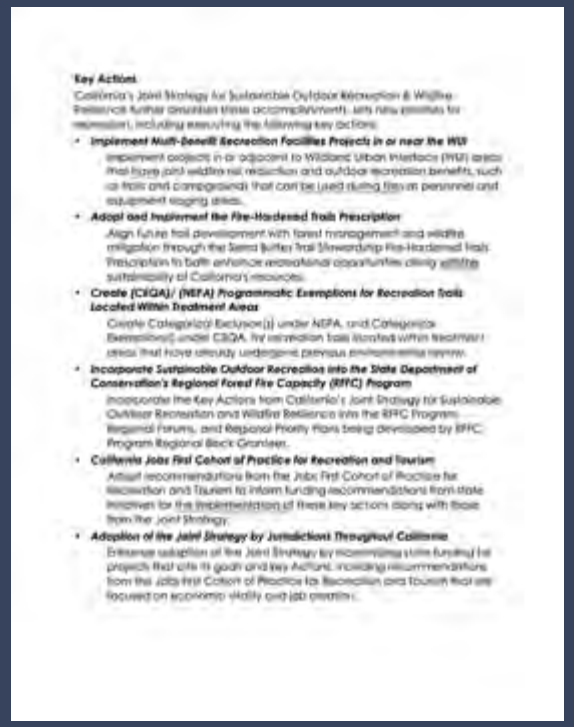
Why this matters

As demand for outdoor recreation in California has grown, communities have developed infrastructure, economies, and local businesses linked to sustainable recreation and tourism. Increasing wildfire resilience is essential for safe access to the outdoors and the viability of local economies, especially in rural California. Investing in recreation and tourism-focused communications and infrastructure can achieve landscape health and fire risk reduction goals.

What has been accomplished

In March of 2023, the Task Force published "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience," and the Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group (SRCRV) was awarded Partnership of the Year by the U.S. Forest Service in recognition of their efforts. The Task Force is committed to integrating recreational benefits into wildfire resilience projects and supporting the Jobs first goal of strengthening tourism and outdoor recreation statewide.

- ***Joint Strategy: 4 Goals and 31 Key Actions for Implementation***
  The Joint Strategy's 4 Goals, focused on integrating forest health and sustainable recreation, improving inclusion and access, promoting health and well being through outdoor activities, and supporting economies that embrace sustainable recreation, are paired with 31 key actions.
- ***GIS Maps and Datasets to integrate Outdoor Recreation into Planscape***
  A geographic database of recreation assets, including federal and state outdoor infrastructure, has been created for integration into Planscape to assist forest health planners in wildfire planning and response.
- ***Establishment of the Statewide California Jobs First Cohort of Practice***
  Recreation and tourism industry sector coordinators from Jobs first Regions "Redwood" and "Sierra" have created a Cohort of Practice for Jobs first practitioners statewide to share best practices for job creation in the sector, including opportunities identified in the Joint Strategy.
- ***Adoption of the Joint Strategy by Jurisdictions Throughout California***
  Advocacy has resulted in the Joint Strategy being adopted as an advisory document by 6 wildfire-prone jurisdictions, including 4 counties that represent on sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism fire risk economies. An adoption tracker and website is live at caforestvision.org.



Key Actions

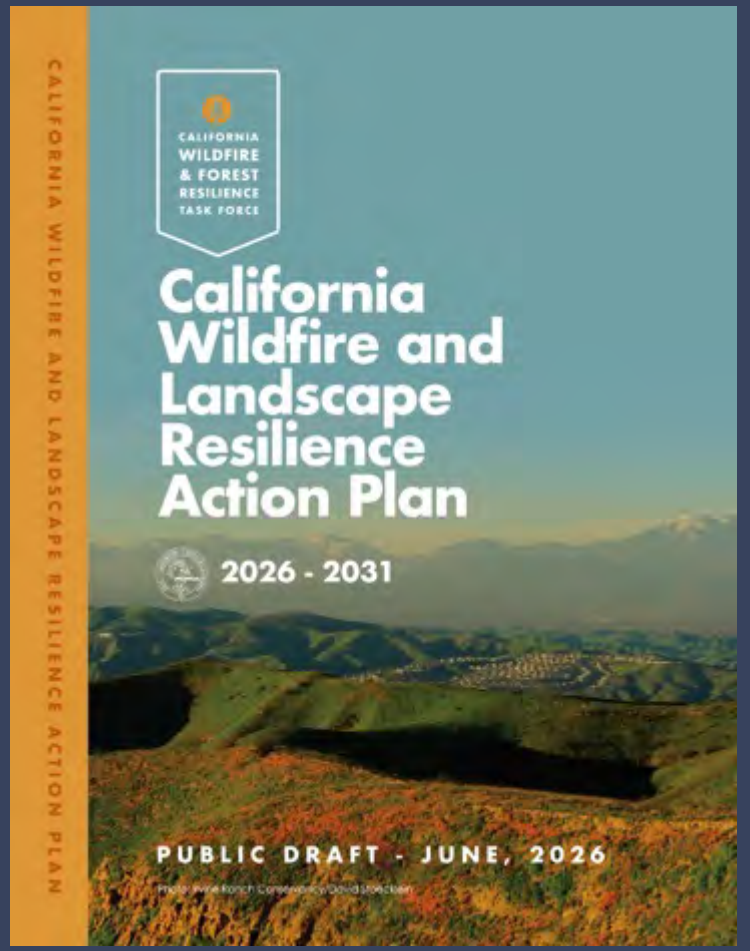
California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience further describes these accomplishments with new priorities for recreation, including executing the following key actions:

- ***Implement Multi-Benefit Recreation Facilities Projects in or near the WUI***
  Implement projects in or adjacent to Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas that have joint wildfire risk reduction and outdoor recreation benefits, such as trails and campgrounds that can be used during fires as personnel and equipment staging areas.
- ***Adopt and Implement the Fire-Hardened Trails Prescription***
  Align future trail development with forest management and wildfire mitigation through the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship Fire-Hardened Trails Prescription to both enhance recreational opportunities while sustainability of California's resources.
- ***Create (CEQA)/ (NEPA) Programmatic Exemptions for Recreation Trails Located Within Treatment Areas***
  Create Categorical Exclusion(s) under NEPA, and Categorical Exemption(s) under CEQA, for recreation trails located within treatment areas that have already undergone previous environmental review.
- ***Incorporate Sustainable Outdoor Recreation into the State Department of Conservation's Regional Forest Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program***
  Incorporate the Key Actions from California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resilience into the RFFC Program Regional Forums, and Regional Priority Plans being developed by RFFC Program Regional Block Grantees.
- ***California Jobs First Cohort of Practice for Recreation and Tourism***
  Adopt recommendations from the Jobs First Cohort of Practice for Recreation and Tourism to inform funding recommendations from state agencies for the implementation of these key actions along with those from the Joint Strategy.
- ***Adoption of the Joint Strategy by Jurisdictions Throughout California***
  Enhance adoption of the Joint Strategy by recommending some funding for projects that cite its goals and key Actions, including recommendations from the Jobs first Cohort of Practice for Recreation and Tourism that are focused on economic vitality and job creation.



Assets to be included per Task force Request:

1. **Joint Strategy Doc**
   a. To be included by Task Force Staff
2. **GIS Recreation Assets Map**
   a. Link to ArcGIS Map
   i. https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=[illegible]
3. **Jobs First Cohort**
   a. 028_28_MLTPABoard Presentation030623_05_RWA(
4. **Joint Strategy Adoption**
   a. https://www.caforestvision.org
   b. https://www.caforestvision.org/adoption
5. **Examples of WUI Projects**
6. **Fire Hardened Trails**
   a. Appendix F Fire Hardened Trail Vegetation Management Corridors Prescription.pdf
   b. FHT_SBTS_presentation13.jpg
   c. FHT_SBTS_presentation22.jpg
   d. Fire Hardened Trails Presentation May 1 2023.pdf
7. **Programmatic Exemptions Environmental Exemptions**
8. **RFFC Program**
9. **Next Steps - Jobs First Cohort**
10. **Next Steps - Joint Strategy Adoption**
11. **Photos**
12. **Maps**
13. **Tables Charts Graphs**



MLTPA Foundation P

ACTION PLAN

1.46 Implement California's Joint Str
and Wildfire Resilience: The Task For
CNRA, DOC, USFS, BLM, and state a
multi benefit recreation and wildfire
urban interface, including fire harde
around recreation infrastructure, an
priorities in Regional Fire and Forest

Enhance Recreational Opportunities

Why this matters:
As demand for outdoor recreation in California has grown, catastrophic fires have devastated infrastructure, economies, and local businesses linked to sustainable recreation and tourism. Increasing wildfire resilience is essential for safe access to the outdoors and the viability of local economies, especially in rural California. Investing in recreation and tourism-focused communications and infrastructure can achieve landscape health and fire risk reduction goals.

What has been accomplished:
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  Advocacy has resulted in the Joint Strategy being adopted as an advisory document by 6 wildfire-prone jurisdictions, including 4 counties that depend on sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism for their economies. An adoption tracker and website is live at calrecvision.org.

Key Actions
California's Joint Strat
Resilience further dev
recreation, including

- ***Implement Multi-B***
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- ***Adopt and Implem***
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  Conservation's Key
  Incorporate the
  Outdoor Recre
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  Program Regio
- ***California Jobs Fir***
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- ***Adoption of the Jo***
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  focused on eq

A. Integrate Recreation into Landscape Resilience Strategies

Wildfire and climate impacts are profoundly affecting California's outdoor recreation system, disrupting access to public lands and water, and threatening the communities and economies that depend on them. In many rural and gateway communities, outdoor recreation is a significant economic driver, supporting local businesses, tourism, and jobs. When wildfires and other climate-driven disasters limit access to recreation areas, the resulting impacts can ripple through local economies and affect community vitality.

These interconnected impacts underscore the need to manage landscape health, wildfire resilience, and outdoor recreation as mutually dependent priorities. Improving public access to and enjoyment of California's forests and natural lands requires management approaches and investments that sustain recreation opportunities, strengthen the resilience of recreation-dependent communities, and reduce the impacts of catastrophic wildfire and climate change.

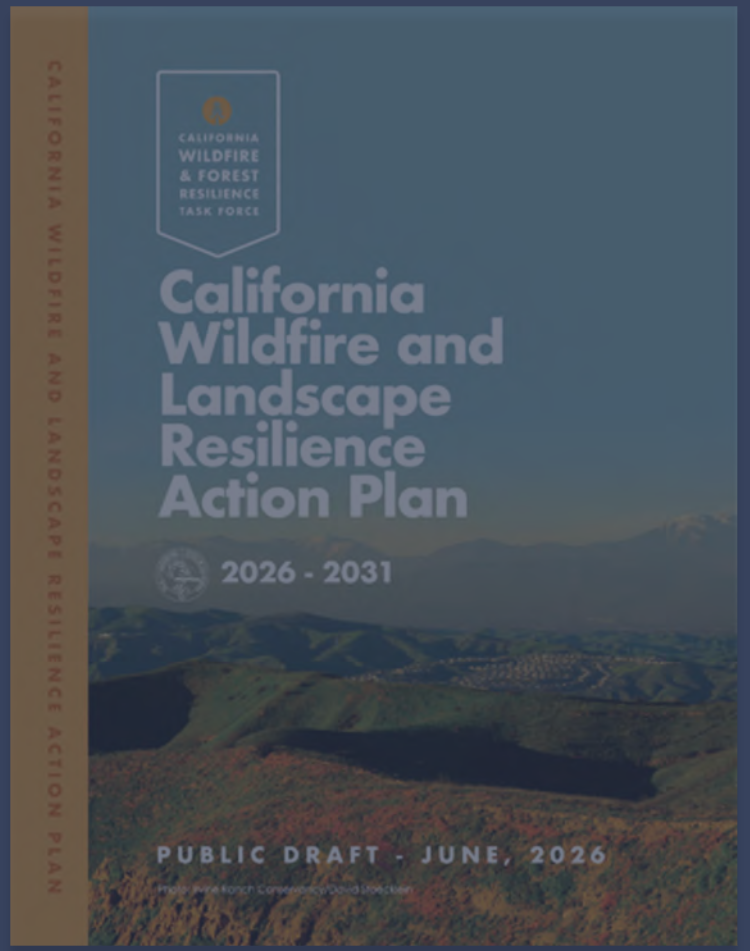
In December 2022, the Task Force's Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group developed the *Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resilience* to provide a roadmap for advancing sustainable recreation access and strengthening the resilience of California's recreation system, communities, and economies in the face of increasing wildfire and climate impacts.

3.X: Implement California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Wildfire Resilience: The Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group will partner with CNRA, DOC, USFS, BLM, and state and local recreation managers to deliver multi-benefit recreation and wildfire resilience projects in and near the wildland-urban interface and will, where appropriate, embed these priorities in Regional Fire and Forest Capacity Regional Priority Plans.

3.X: **Leverage the Coordination Afforded by California Jobs First to Implement Multi-benefit Programs and Projects:** Recreation and tourism industry sector coordinators from California Jobs First regions will develop best practices for job creation in the sector, including opportunities identified in the Joint Strategy and in both the Jobs First *Sierra Recommendations for Implementation and Collaborative Action* and the *State Cohort Recommendations for Implementation and Collaborative Action.*

3.X: **Incentives for Adoption of the Joint Strategy by Jurisdictions and Wildfire Collaboratives:** Enhance adoption of the Joint Strategy by jurisdictions and wildfire collaboratives statewide, as initiated by the Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group, by incentivizing state grant funding opportunities for projects that cite the Joint Strategy's Goals and Key Actions in their applications.

3.X: Implement Multi-Benefit Recreation Facilities Projects in and near the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI): Implement projects in or adjacent to WUI areas that provide both wildfire risk reduction and outdoor recreation benefits, such as trails and campgrounds that can be used during fires as staging areas for personnel and equipment. This includes approaches like the Fire-Hardened Trails Prescription, which removes fuels along trail corridors to protect trail system investments, supports wildfire prevention by trail users, and provides strategically placed, tactically feasible trails for wildland fire operations.



MLTPA Foundation Projects

California
Department of
Conservation
Land Resource Protection

Regional Forest & Fire Capacity

Achieving Impact with Block Grants

Brian Newman-Lindsay
Program Manager
August 7 2026

Principle 2: Support Programs, not Projects

$$$ don't translate to success just because you put them toward a shovel ready project.

Someone must develop and maintain the underlying infrastructure that makes the project go.

Figure 1: Forest and Fire Capacity Wheel



(Source: Watershed Center, Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team)

Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up

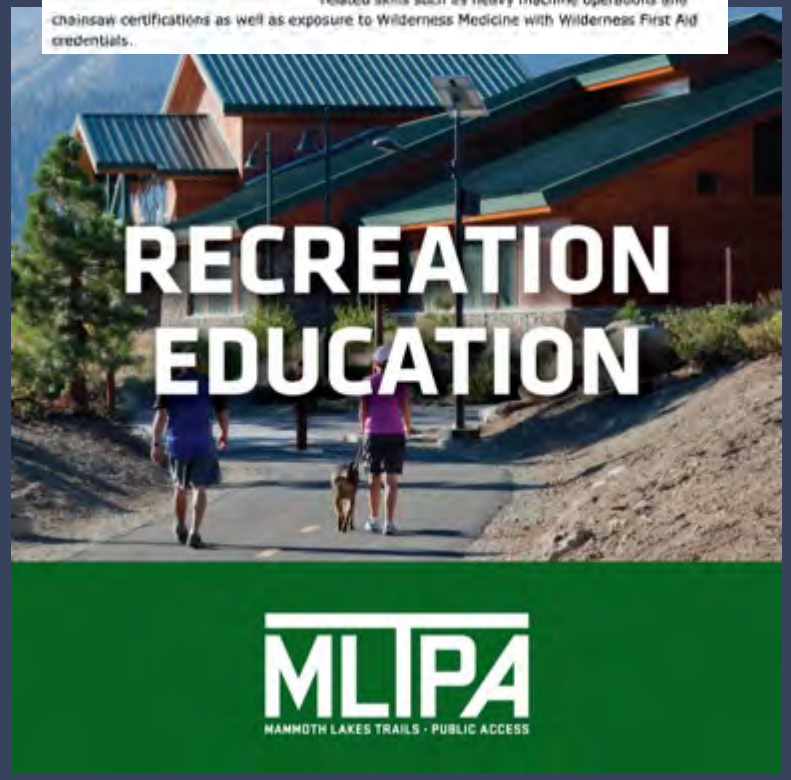
Recreation Education

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST – Sierra Region

MLTPA

Recreation Eductation

Project Description: Cerro Coso Community College and MLTPA worked together through an innovative partnership to implement the Eastern Sierra Regional Recreation and Education Jobs Creation project, the official name of this Sierra Jobs First funded project. Cerro Coso Community College developed a Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Forestry, Climate, and Conservation degree pathways program with integrated internships and work experience that collaborated with local organizations and MLTPA to provide students with experiential learning opportunities and tangible project experience. Columbia College collaborated through their nationally recognized natural resources, forestry, fire, and hospitality programs. In addition to working on projects such as trail building, GPS/GIS, and data collection, students had the opportunity to gain job related skills such as heavy machine operations and chainsaw certifications as well as exposure to Wilderness Medicine with Wilderness First Aid credentials.



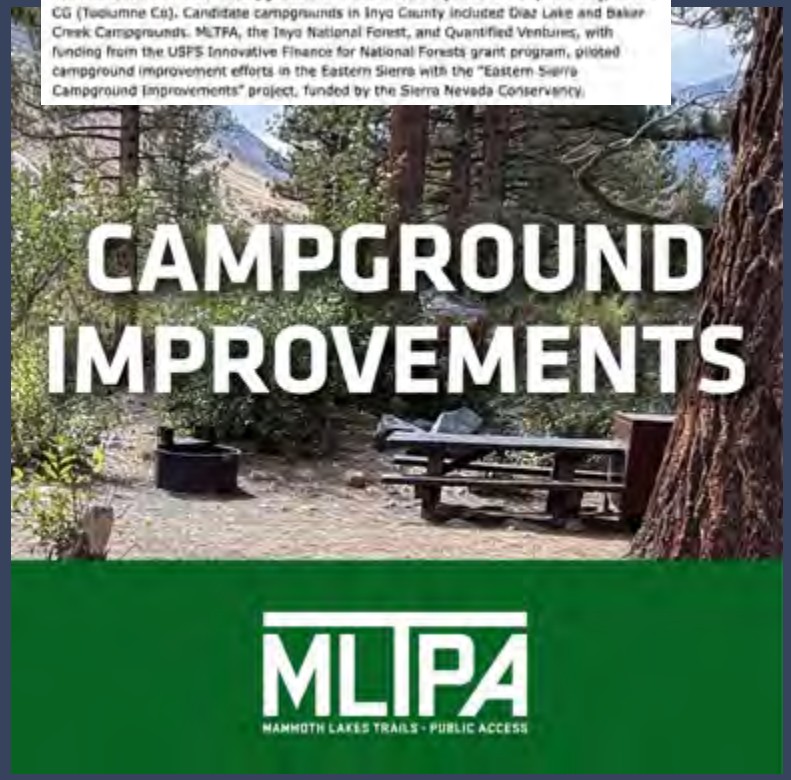
Campground Improvements

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST – Sierra Region

MLTPA

Campground Improvements

Project Description: The Eastern Sierra Regional Campground Improvements and Jobs Creation project - the official name of this Sierra Jobs First funded project - undertook planning for the renovation of campgrounds in the Eastern Sierra Jobs First Region, including Inyo, Mono, Calaveras, and Tuolumne counties. The project aimed to improve accessibility, increase public use, and mitigate climate-driven threats to infrastructure such as wildfires, flooding, and storm events. MLTPA partnered with the Inyo and Stanislaus National Forests and Inyo County to contract for engineering surveys and assemble a design team to prepare renovation plans. Candidate campgrounds on the Inyo National Forest included the Clyde/Palisade Group (Inyo Co), Upper Sage Flat (Inyo Co), Sage Flat (Inyo Co), and Coldwater (Mono Co). The Stanislaus National Forest campgrounds included Utica CG (Calaveras Co) and Niagara OHV CG (Tuolumne Co). Candidate campgrounds in Inyo County included Diaz Lake and Baker Creek Campgrounds. MLTPA, the Inyo National Forest, and Quantified Ventures, with funding from the USFS Innovative Finance for National Forests grant program, piloted campground improvement efforts in the Eastern Sierra with the "Eastern Sierra Campground Improvements" project, funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.



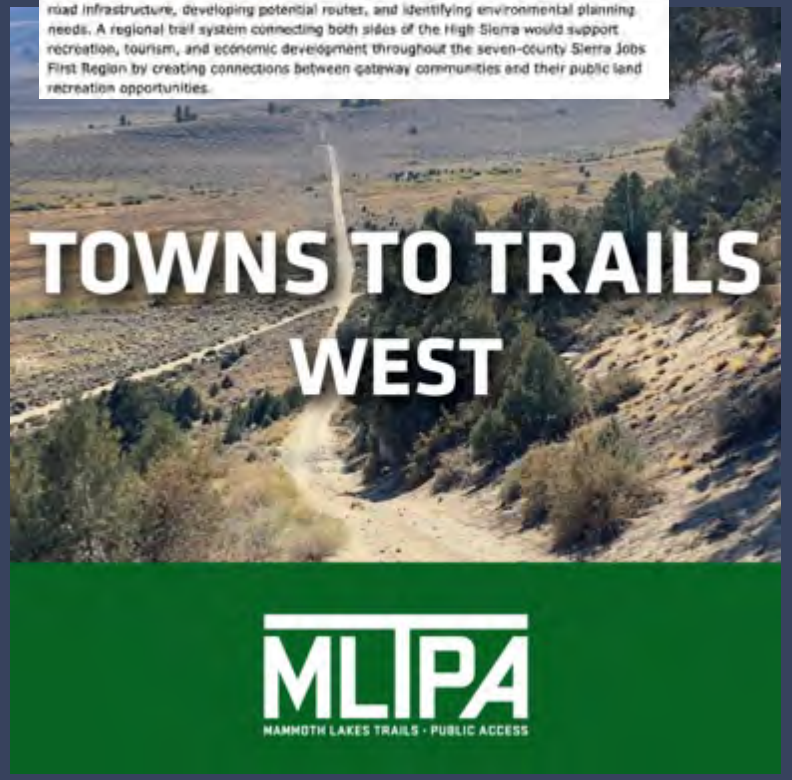
Towns to Trails Plan: West

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST – Sierra Region

MLTPA

Towns to Trails West

Project Description: The Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System and Jobs Creation project - the official name of this Sierra Jobs First funded project - explored opportunities to complete a Westside Towns to Trails Plan which will connect with an Eastside Towns to Trails Plan finalized by the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments in the spring of 2025. The Westside Trails Plan identified opportunities to connect four westside counties in the Sierra Jobs First Region to each other, their communities, and their public lands, and then to three eastside counties via the completed Eastside Towns to Trails Plan. Opportunities exist to extend the Westside Trails Plan into the Central San Joaquin Valley Jobs First Region and to Yosemite National Park in future. Employing the same methodology as the Eastside Towns to Trails Plan, the Westside Trails Plan focused on existing infrastructure to provide connectivity by collecting data on current trail and system road infrastructure, developing potential routes, and identifying environmental planning needs. A regional trail system connecting both sides of the High Sierra would support recreation, tourism, and economic development throughout the seven-county Sierra Jobs First Region by creating connections between gateway communities and their public land recreation opportunities.



Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

MLTPA
Recreation
Eductation



Navigation

FORESTRY AND OUTDOOR RECREATION LEADERSHIP

Cerro Coso's **Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Leadership** (SORL) and **Forestry, Climate, and Conservation** (FRCC) programs are not your average classroom experiences. They're pathways to careers outside the classroom and into the wild. Designed for high school grads, early adults, and working professionals alike, these hands-on programs combine field science, leadership, adventure, and public service.

Both programs stand out through their experiential learning model. Students earn credit while hiking, skiing, rock climbing, mapping wilderness zones, or building trails, and they leave with industry certifications and direct connections to career paths.

Sustainable Outdoor Recreation Leadership



Training the Next Generation: Catalyst Project Celebrates Achievements of First Class of Outdoor Professionals

Photo Credit: MLTPA

Training the next generation of Outdoor Recreation professionals is vital to California's public lands, and last week, five students stepped into that future.

Last Wednesday, MLTPA, through its Catalyst award for Eastern Sierra Consortium and Joint Creation, along with its partners Lassen Creek Community College and Columbia College, celebrated a praise-worthy project milestone as five students were celebrated for their achievements in the inaugural class of the training program.

This project is building the pipeline for the next generation of forest, recreation, climate, and conservation professionals as part of a degree pathway program and opening new job and career opportunities in our seven-county region.

Find more info on the program here

The students are now looking forward to careers protecting and stewarding the public lands we all love as they strengthen the region's outdoor recreation economy.

What's more, per Peter Fulks, Department Chair and Professor at Cerro Coso: "**All five students have received open job offers**, with **two accepting positions** on the western slope and three considering job placements along the eastern Sierra."

Mammoth Times

FEATURED

Mono County/Cerro Coso internship program 'SOARs'

County's Sustainable Outdoors & Recreation division creates pathways to outdoor jobs

By Louis Medina/Mammoth Times Staff Jun 11, 2025



Mono County Sustainable Outdoors & Recreation division intern Stephanie Urbanowski smoothing at right front in the dive torpedo, and behind, receives crosscut saw training together with staff from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Crosscut saw training is required for trail clearance in wilderness, where the use of mechanized equipment, including chainsaws, is not allowed.

Mono County Courtesy

The Mono County Department of Public Works' Sustainable Outdoors & Recreation division, known as SOAR, has partnered with Cerro Coso Community College to offer a new recreation internship program designed to create direct pathways into outdoor industry careers.

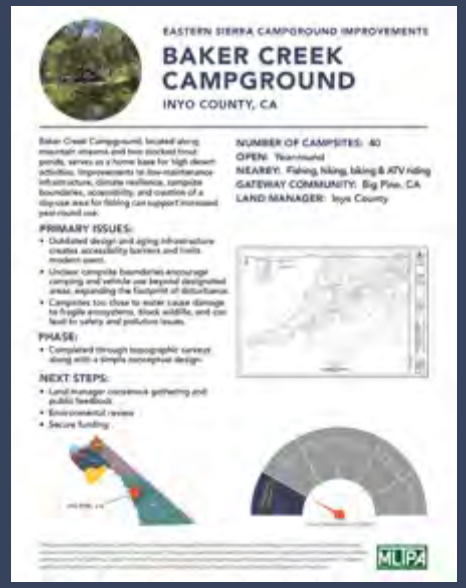
Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up

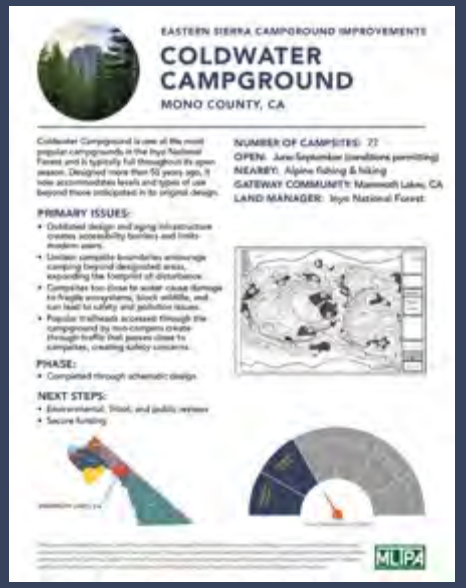
CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

MLTPA

Campground Improvements

SIERRA WORKS



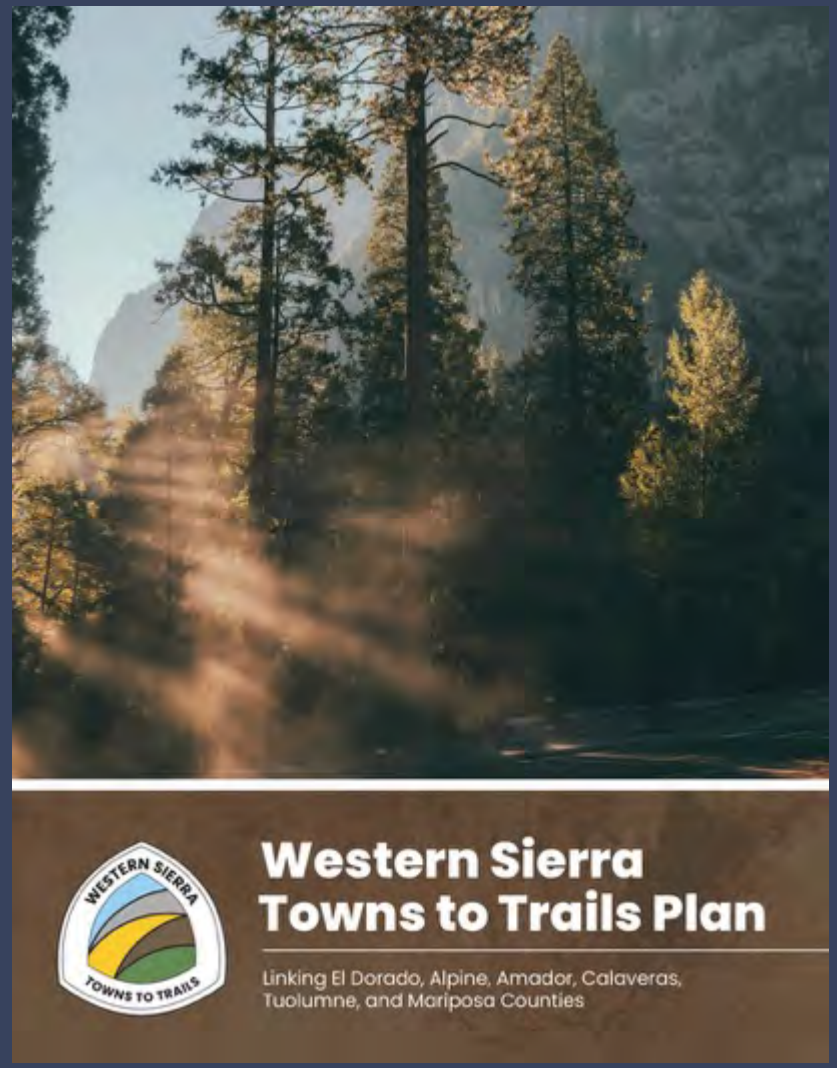


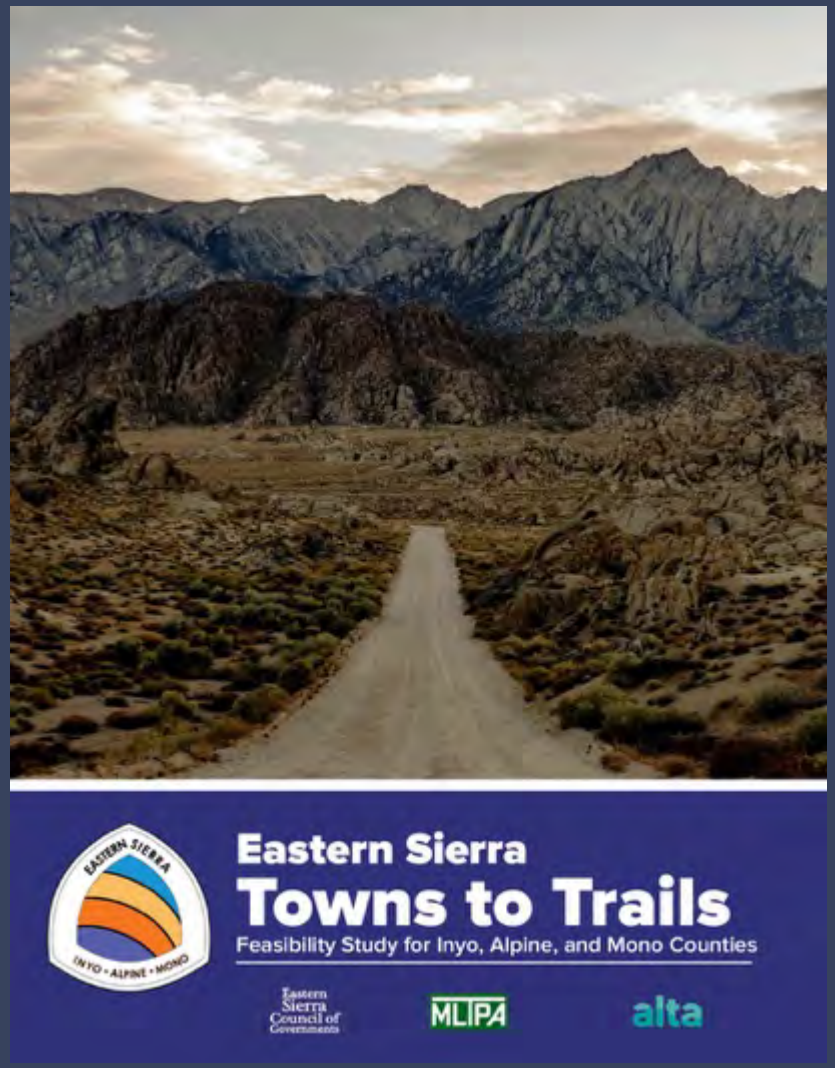




Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up







Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

MLTPA

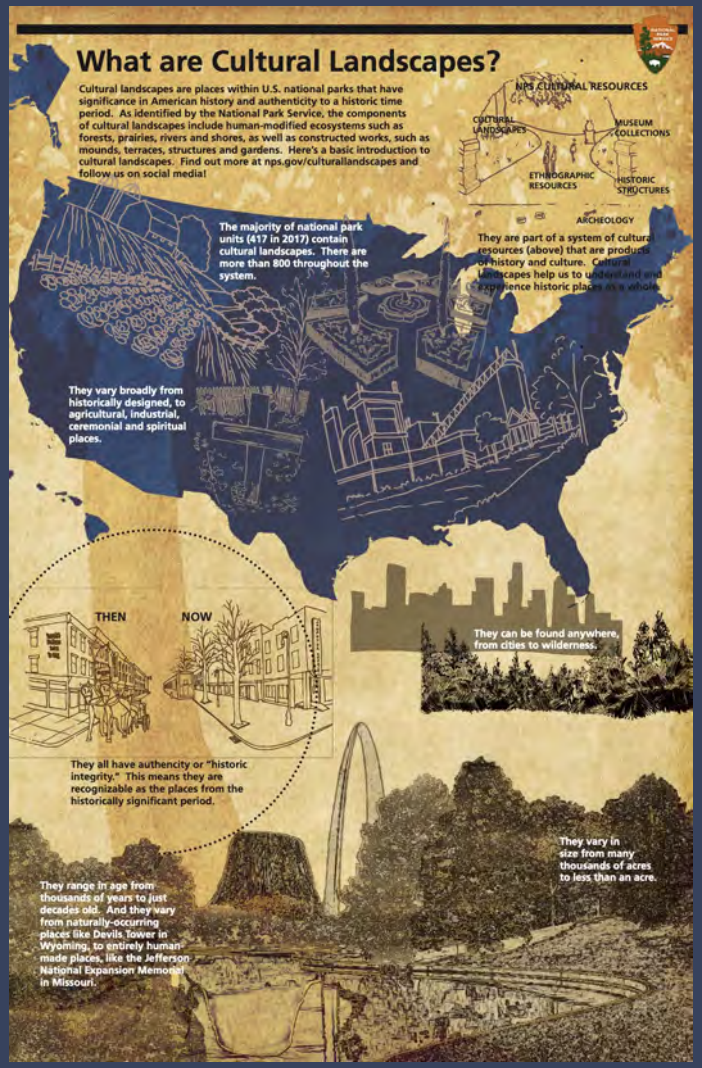
Towns to Trails West



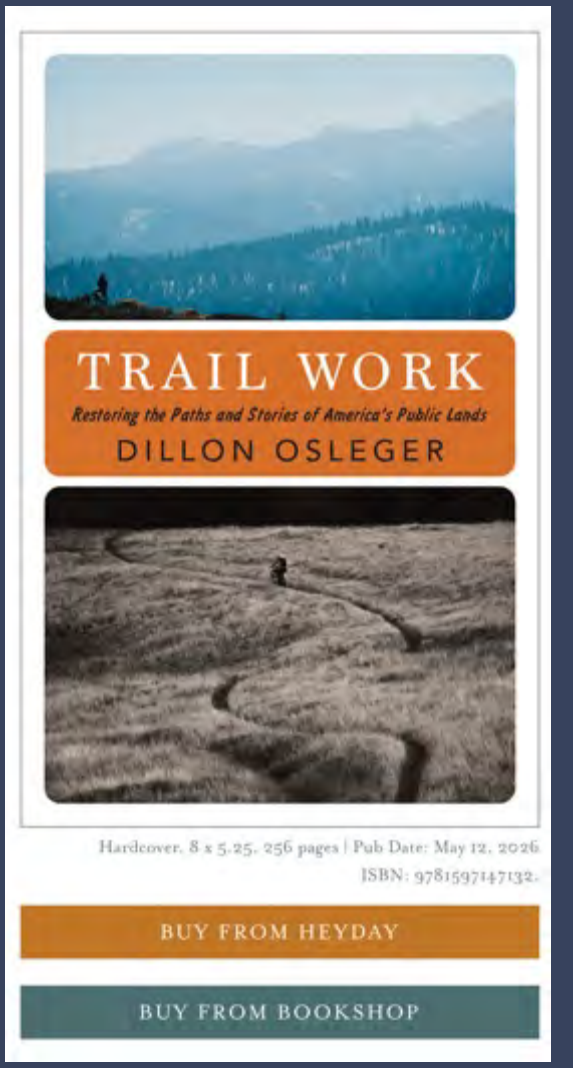
Sierra Jobs First – Recreation and Tourism – Catalyst Wrapped Up

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Towns to Trails West







MLTPA Foundation Projects



Next Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, November 24

MLTPA Foundation Projects



Thursday, December 10 – Limelight Hotel
in Mammoth Lakes

WHITEBARK INSTITUTE

ESSRP UPDATE

November 2, 2026

Looking Ahead

INTERIM LEADERSHIP

Janet Hatfield serving as Interim Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH

Board beginning the search for Whitebark's next Executive Director

CONTINUITY & DIRECTION

Mission and ongoing work remain central; Strategic Plan guides our next chapter



Strengthening Regional Capacity

01 **Share practical expertise**

Help partners build lasting capacity through lessons from planning, implementation and engagement.

02 **Prioritize regional needs**

Identify where coordinated work can address shared wildfire resilience challenges.

03 **Develop multi-benefit projects**

Connect forest health, watersheds, recreation and community resilience.



California’s Fifth Climate Change Assessment

Interconnected climate risks reinforce the need for proactive, coordinated projects.

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Where We're Focusing Our Work

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & MONITORING

Evaluate whether projects achieve established goals, objectives and metrics.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

West Mono Basin anticipated to enter formal NEPA in early 2027; community input remains central.

REGIONAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

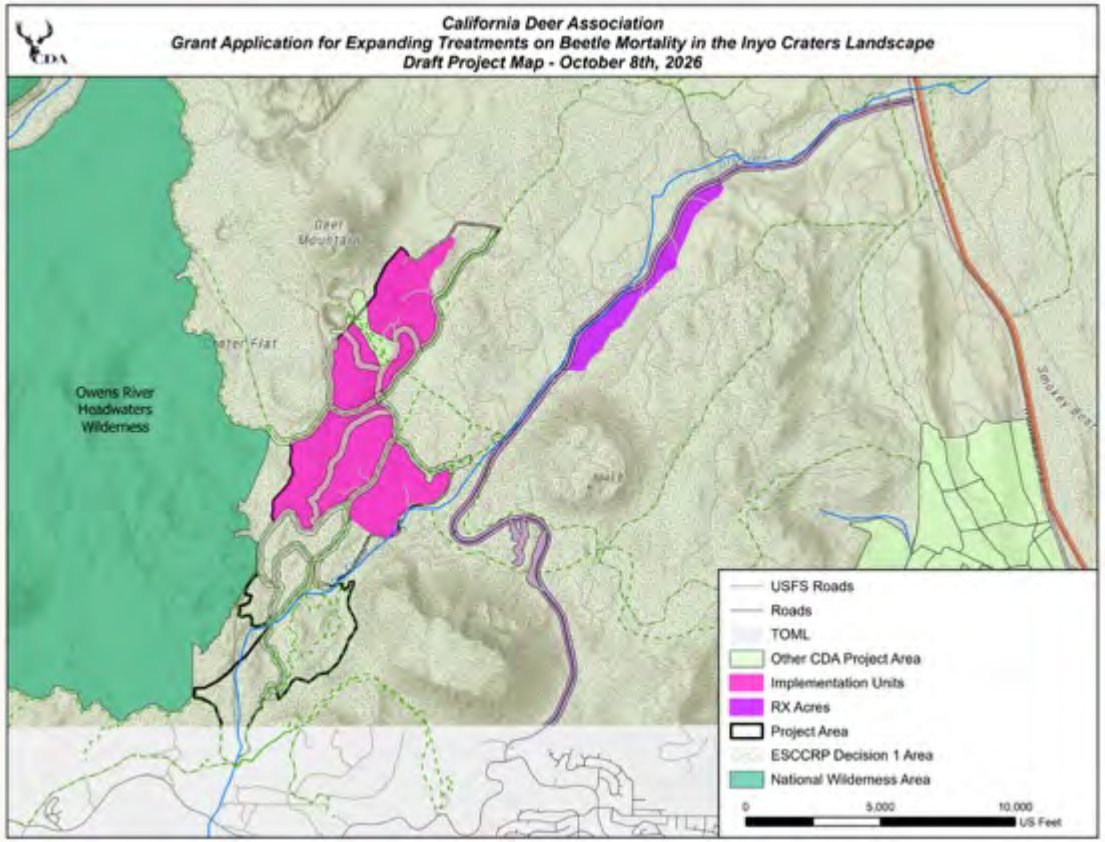
Connect partner priorities and investments into feasible, coordinated projects.





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Building on Partner Progress



INYO CRATERS

Individual projects.

Shared regional outcomes.

California Deer Association

Funding application — not an awarded project

Partner Updates – In REVERSE Alphabetical Order

- Town of Mammoth Lakes
- National Park Service
- Mono County
- Inyo National Forest, USFS
- Inyo County
- HT National Forest, USFS
- ESCOG
- City of Bishop
- CALTRANS
- BLM
- Alpine County

Next Meeting - First Monday of the Month @ 3:30

Thank You - !

Next Regular ESSRP Partner Meeting

Monday, December 7, 2026 @ 3:30