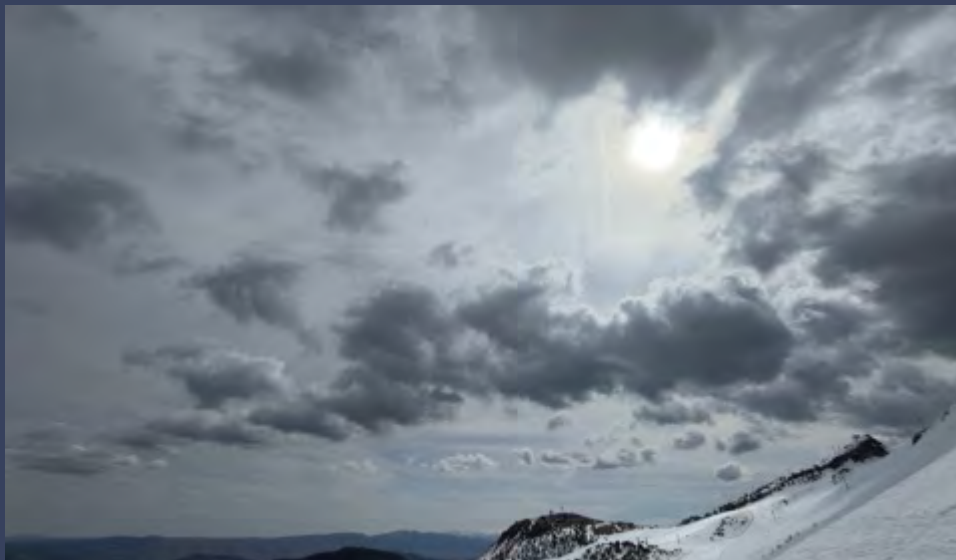




**Spring**



# REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



May 4, 2026





# REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



May 4, 2026



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 Kutzadika'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



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

# What is the ESSRP

Alpine

## SIERRA WORKS

RECREATION & TOURISM PROJECTS IN THE SIERRAS

CALIFORNIA  
JOBS FIRST  
Sierra Region

SIERRA FOCUS MEDIA  
A DIVISION OF THE

MLTPA  
MANMOTH LAKES TRAIL & PUBLIC ACCESS



## Sierra Jobs First

### Recreation and Tourism Industry Sector

- Role of the ESSRP
  - Ongoing Information Sharing
  - SJF Recreation and Tourism Working Group Updates
  - **Through August 3, 2026**

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



## Alpine Trails Association

- Alpine Trails Association
- Heather Segrest
    - *Trails Operation Officer*
  - 1969 - 2026

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



## Mammoth Mountain

- Bernie Rosow
  - *Grooming Supervisor*
- 1981 - 2026

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

YouTube

bernie rosow

black  
crows

rea



# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

visit  
California™



## Visit California

- Jonathan Changus
  - *Director Of External Affairs*
- Heading to Zoox

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



## Visit California

- Jonathan Changus
  - *Director Of External Affairs*
- Heading to Zoox

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

visit  
California™



## Visit California

- Devin McConnell
  - *Sustainability and Public Affairs Manager*

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

visit  
California™



## Visit Mammoth

- Brian Wright
  - Currently at Visit California
    - *Director Of Trade & Group Business*
  - Executive Director
    - *Starts: May 27, 2026*

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



## Visit Mammoth

- Brian Wright
  - Currently at Visit California
    - *Director Of Trade & Group Business*
  - Executive Director
    - *Starts: May 27, 2026*

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



## Cerro Coso

- Peter Fulks
  - *Department Chair*
  - *Professor*

# Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

SIERRA  
SHARED  
SPACES



Community Hub   
Lake Isabella, CA



## Sierra Shared Spaces

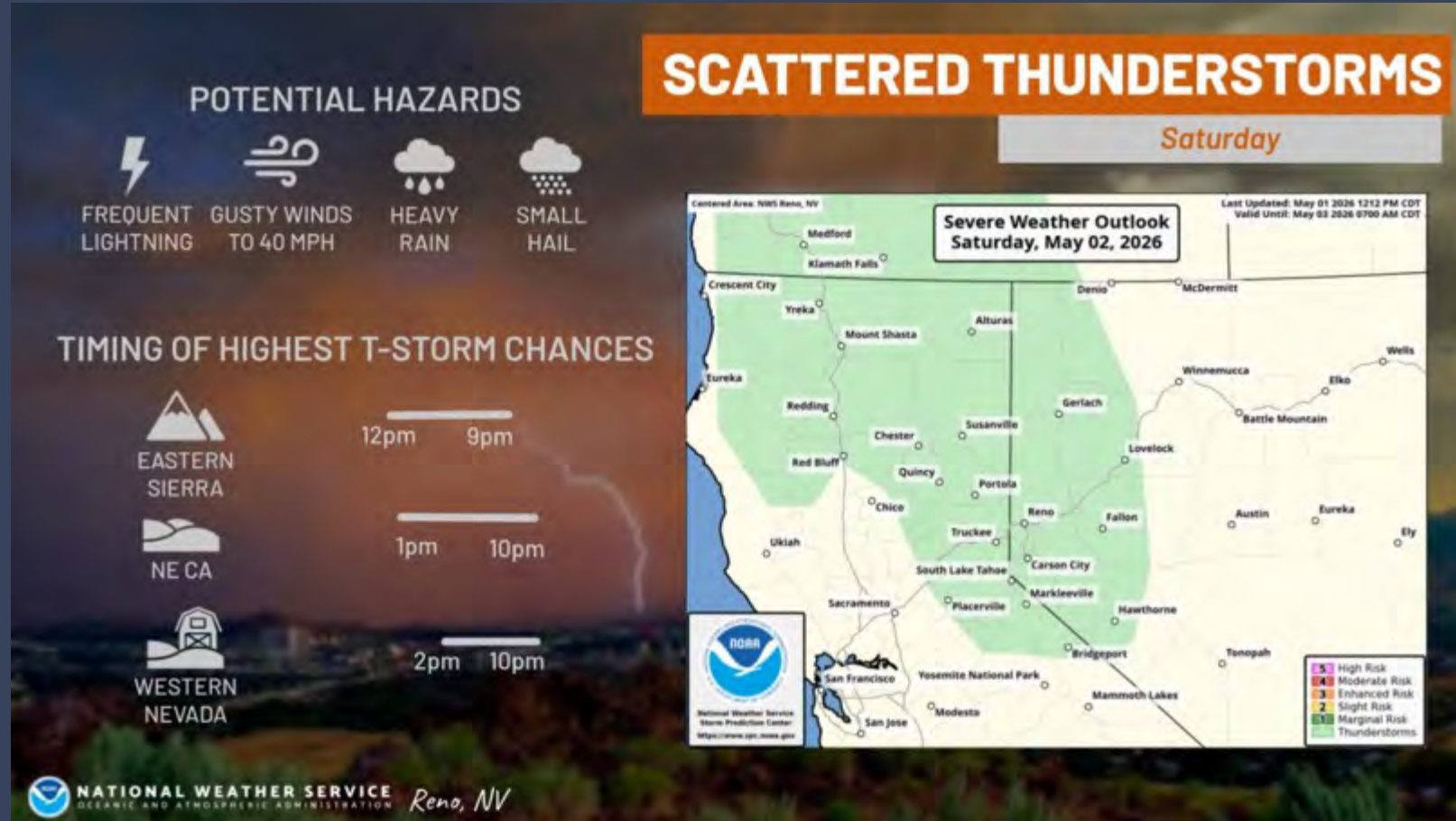
- Justin Powers
  - *Executive Director*
  - *Community Hub in Lake Isabella, CA.*

# Hot Links May 4, 2026

## 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
- Sierra Works
  - Sierra Works: Discover
- Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells
  - Farewells
    - Heather Segrest
      - Alpine Trails Association
      - Alpine confirms person was killed in fuel mitigation operation
    - Bernie Rosow
      - The groomer crow - Bernie Rosow
        - Why Mammoth's Grooming Supervisor Never Misses First Chair
        - Beloved Sierra skier dies after collapsing on climb despite

# Spring



# Happenings of Interest

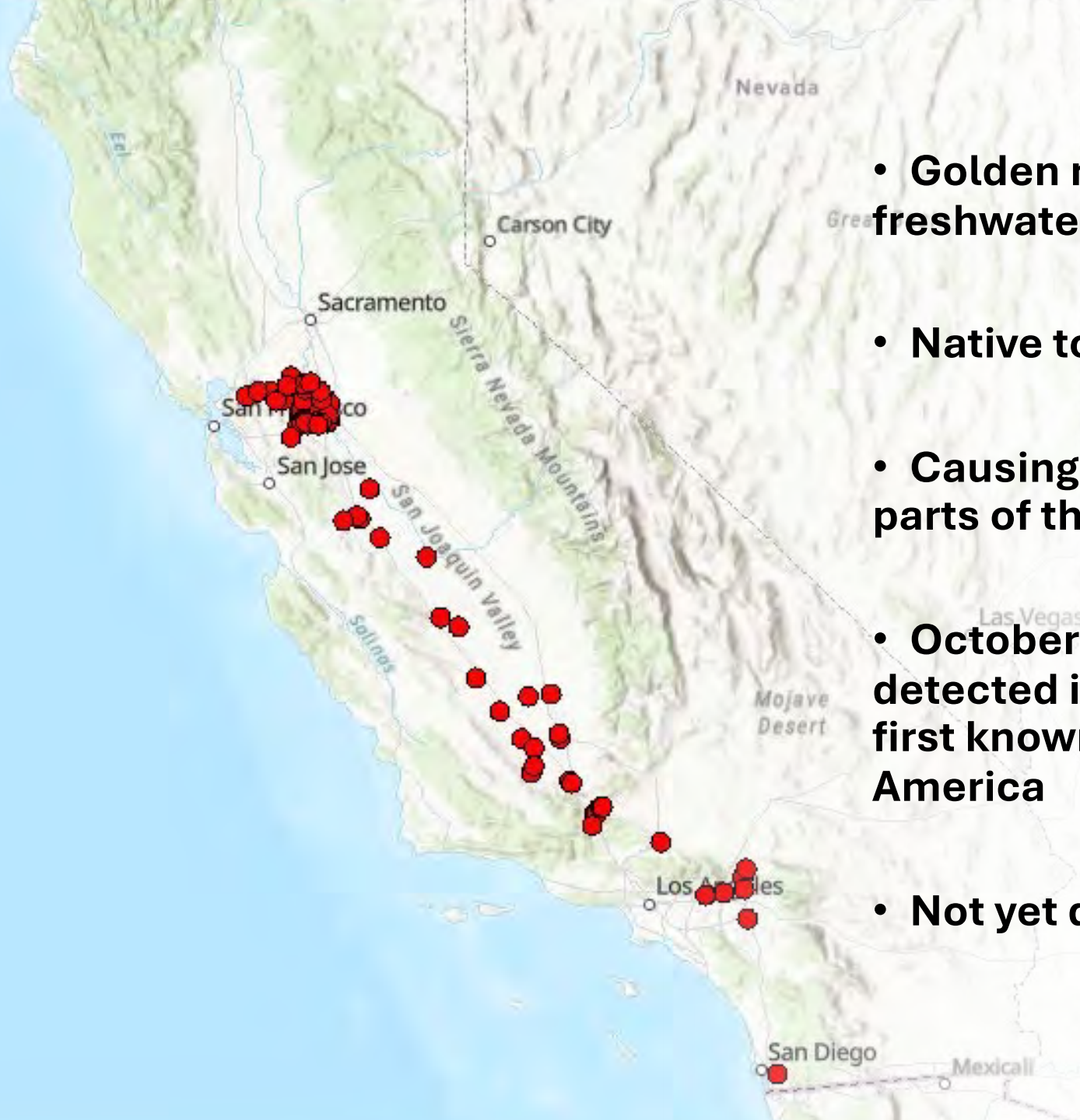


# Eastern Sierra Golden Mussel Prevention

---

5/1/26 Update





- **Golden mussels are an invasive freshwater species**
- **Native to East and Southeast Asia**
- **Causing major disruptions in other parts of the world (South America)**
- **October 2024: golden mussels were detected in the Port of Stockton – the first known occurrence in North America**
- **Not yet detected in the Eastern Sierra**

# Golden / Dreissenid Mussel Vulnerability Chart

Lake Name	Dreissenid Mussel Risk	Golden Mussel Risk	Lake Name	Dreissenid Mussel Risk	Golden Mussel Risk
Bridgeport Reservoir	Moderate	High	Diaz Lake	High	High
Convict Lake	High	High	Lake Sabrina	Very Low	Very Low
Crowley Lake	Moderate	High	North Lake	Very Low	Low
Gull Lake	Moderate	High	South Lake	Very Low	Low
June Lake	Moderate	High	Rock Creek Lake	Very Low	Very Low
Lundy Lake	Very Low	High			
Topaz Lake	Low	High			
Grant Lake	Very Low	Moderate			
Lake Mamie	Very Low	Moderate			
Lake Mary	Very Low	Moderate			
Lower Twin Lake	Very Low	Moderate			
Trumbull Lake	Very Low	Moderate			
Twin Lakes (Mammoth)	Very Low	Moderate			
Upper Twin Lake	Very Low	Moderate			
Virginia Lakes (Upper & Lower)	Very Low	Moderate			
Lake George	Very Low	Low			
Silver Lake	Very Low	Low			

*Vulnerability based on calcium data for waterbodies*

**Unlike quagga or zebra mussels, golden mussels are more capable of surviving in Eastern Sierra waters**

# 2026 Inspection Required Before Launch



- New ordinances in Mono and Inyo Counties **require inspections before launching any trailered watercraft**, including boats and jet skis, into any body of water
- Trailered watercraft must stop at a local **Watercraft Inspection & Decontamination (WID) station** and receive an **Eastern Sierra mussel sticker** before launching
- Failure to do so could result in fines, misdemeanor charges
- **Any boat that launches outside Mono or Inyo County** must be inspected again before launching locally

# WID Stations – Current Status



## Logistics:

- Decon units
- Water
- Fuel
- Land ownership
- Staffing (LADWP + Sierra Forever)
- Insurance / agreements
- Location

## Locations:

- Bridgeport –
- Bishop – S. Main St (US 395)
- Crowley Lake (wakeboard boats)

## Operations:

- Through October, we hope.
- Hours

## Opening Weekend Stats:

Bishop: 222 boats, 50 local

Crowley: 104 boats, 49 local – one contaminated boat

Bridgeport: one contaminated boat

# Outreach

- EASTERSIERRAWID.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>

**DON'T MOVE A MUSSEL!**  
 Inspections are now required for all trailered watercraft before launching in Eastern Sierra waters.  
 Learn more and plan ahead at: [EasternSierraWID.com](http://EasternSierraWID.com)

**DON'T MOVE A MUSSEL!**  
 What Local Businesses & Partners Need to Know About Golden Mussel Prevention

Golden mussels are an invasive freshwater species not yet detected in the Eastern Sierra — and keeping them out is critical. They spread primarily by hitchhiking on boats, trailers, and gear that move between lakes and rivers. Once they are here, they cannot be removed.

**Why Are They Such a Serious Threat?**  
 Golden mussels:  
 → Attach to almost anything — rocks, rocks, boats, motors, swim, aquatic plants, and nearby lake bottoms.  
 → Survive in a wide range of water temperatures and chemistry, including low oxygen levels like those in Eastern Sierra lakes.  
 → Can live outside of water for periods of time.  
 → Reproduce rapidly, spawning up to 100,000 eggs per year, and producing thousands of mussels in just one season.  
 → Can be nearly impossible to detect, unlike algae or other animals, golden mussels are especially capable of surviving in Eastern Sierra conditions.

**Why Should We Care in the Eastern Sierra?**  
 If introduced to the Eastern Sierra, golden mussels can:  
 → Permanently damage life and stream ecosystems.  
 → Deplete oxygen that fish depend on to feed.  
 → Threaten recreational fishing, boating, and tourism.  
 → Clog water intakes, water delivery systems and pipes.  
 → Destroy water and power plants due to expensive maintenance.  
 → Kill fish and other plants that spread more than 100 miles each year.  
 In October 2010, golden mussels were detected for the first time in the Eastern Sierra. They spread more than 100 miles each year.  
 Our local and national fish communities are threatened by the harmful local mussel species, unless we begin prevention on the very outset.

**STOP! DO NOT LAUNCH**  
 Trailered watercraft inspection is required by law in Mono and Inyo County

**BEFORE LAUNCHING**  
 → Stop at a Watercraft Inspection & Decontamination (WID) station  
 → Get your free Eastern Sierra Mussel Sticker\*  
\*Mussel stickers do not prevent mussels from spreading.

For current inspection locations, hours, FAQs, and resources, visit [EasternSierraWID.com](http://EasternSierraWID.com)

**Keeping mussels out of our waters is critical**  
 These invasive mussels can permanently:  
 → Damage our lakes and waterways  
 → Harm fish populations  
 → Clog boats, motors, and water systems

**Clean - Drain - Dry - Inspect**  
 Before entering any waterbody:  
**CLEAN** plants and mud  
**DRAIN** all water  
**DRY** completely

No inspection required for canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, float tubes, waders, fishing gear, but these can still spread invasive species — Clean, Drain, Dry every time!

Display your FREE Registration and Eastern Sierra Mussel Stickers on the hull!

Protect our waters. Protect our fisheries.

**INVASION OF THE GOLDEN MUSSELS**

**KEEP THEM OUT OF OUR WATERS!**

**THEY'LL DESTROY OUR FISH!**

**PREVENTION IS THE ONLY SOLUTION. WATERCRAFT INSPECTION IS MANDATORY... OR ELSE!**

[EasternSierraWID.com](http://EasternSierraWID.com)



## **What We Need**

- Continued coordination across agencies
- Public awareness + compliance

*Thank you!*



# Happenings of Interest

**A reward of up to \$200,000 is being offered to anyone who proposes a solution to stop the spread of these invasive mussels in California before the problem worsens**



By Kevin Montien

Published On: April 28, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Follow Us



EASTERN SIERRA WILD

**DON'T  
MOVE A  
MUSSEL!**



# Happenings of Interest

SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD

Account

CALIFORNIA

## In the Eastern Sierra, anglers wait all year for 'Fishmas'

Opening day for trout fishing in California is Saturday

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

April 25, 2026



Fishing in Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

Patrick Griley/Mammoth Lake Tourism

EASTERN SIERRA WID

**DON'T  
MOVE A  
MUSSEL!**



# Happenings of Interest

CALIFORNIA

## In the Eastern Sierra, anglers wait all year for 'Fishmas'

Opening day for trout fishing in California is Saturday

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

April 25, 2026



Fishing in Mammoth Lakes, Calif.  
Patrick Griley/Mammoth Lake Tourism

U.S. Forest Service - Inyo National Forest  
April 21 at 11:08 AM

Hello campers. Great news. Below is a list of campgrounds that are open now or will be open by Friday, April 24. We are working to update our website with their current status so please Know Before You Go.

Be kind to each other and the campgrounds - please [#RecreateResponsibly](#).

Mono Lake Ranger District:

- Lower Lee Vining
- Gull Lake Campground
- June Lake Campground
- Oh Ridge Campground
- Silver Lake Campground
- Big Springs Campground
- Glass Creek Campground

Mammoth Ranger District:

- Old Shady Rest Campground
- Convict Lake Campground

White Mountain Ranger District:

- Big Pine Creek Campground
- Sage Flat Campground
- Upper Sage Flat Campground
- Bitter Brush Campground
- Forks Campground
- Four Jeffrey's Campground
- Intake 2 Campground
- Intake 2 Walk in Campground
- French Camp Campground
- Tuff Campground
- Bishop Park Campground
- Mountain Glen Campground
- Willow Campground

Mt. Whitney Ranger District:

- Grays Meadow Campground (No Potable Water Available)
- Lone Pine Campground
- Lone Pine Group Campground
- Whitney Portal Campground
- Whitney Portal Group Campground
- Whitney Trailhead Walk-In Campground



# Happenings of Interest

U.S. & WORLD // CALIFORNIA

## California climber survived a 500-foot fall and freezing night out, forcing a dramatic air rescue

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer  
April 26, 2026

Gift Article f X W M



A member of Inyo County Search and Rescue is lowered from the California Highway Patrol helicopter toward the rocky slope where the climbers were stranded.  
California Highway Patrol

NATIONAL PARKS

## The doomed daredevil of Yosemite chronicled in new HBO show

By Sam Mauhay-Moore, National Parks Reporter  
April 14, 2026

f X W M



Extreme sports legend Dean Potter glides in a wingsuit over Yosemite National Park.  
Brent Kammerlander/HBO

# Happenings of Interest

**SLATE** News & Politics Culture Technology Business Life Advice Podcasts


SCHMOOZING ITS WAY INTO CONTRABAND POPCORN SHRIMP Search Light

SCIENCE

## Frozen Assets

Winters are getting shorter. So ski resorts are turning to "snow farming" to keep seasons alive—for now.

BY CARI SHANE APRIL 11, 2026 • 10:00 AM



Courtesy of Brad Wilson and Bogus Basin

PIQUE  
JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER

Home > Local News

## Lawsuit alleges Vail Resorts and Alterra used illegal scheme to drive up ski prices

Class action claims Epic, Ikon pass model coerces skiers into bundled products while inflating lift ticket costs across North America




San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition Account

TRAVEL // TAHOE

## This Tahoe ski resort is getting a new \$50 million gondola next winter

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer  
April 25, 2026

Gift Article



Sugar Bowl Resort, near Donner Summit, has embarked on a major revitalization project to update and rebuild its gondola, main lodge, beginner ski area and more.  
William Hule Inter/Tre the E.F. Chronicle

# Happenings of Interest

## Alterra Mountain Company Is Leading U.S. Skiing on Climate — Here's What Its 2025 Report Shows

SnowBrains | April 15, 2026 | [Industry News](#)

Share this article



*Inclusive Cultures – Alterra Mountain Company 2025 Impact Report. | Photo: Alterra*

**Alterra Mountain Company Releases its 2025 Impact Report**

About People Planet Community Responsibility

## Alterra Destinations

- 1 Palisades Tahoe, CA
- 2 Mammoth Mountain, CA
- 3 June Mountain, CA
- 4 Big Bear Mountain Resort, CA
- 5 Snow Valley, CA
- 6 Crystal Mountain, WA
- 7 Schweitzer, ID
- 8 Steamboat, CO
- 9 Winter Park Resort, CO
- 10 Arapahoe Basin, CO
- 11 Deer Valley Resort, UT
- 12 Solitude Mountain Resort, UT
- 13 Stratton, VT
- 14 Sugarbush Resort, VT
- 15 Snowshoe, WV
- 16 Tremblant, QC
- 17 Blue Mountain, ON
- 18 CMI | Hill-Skiing & Summer Adventures, BC
- 19 Mike Wiegala Helicopter Skiing, BC

**Alterra Services**

- 20 Aspenware, Denver, CO
- 21 Ski Butlers, Park City, UT
- 22 Alpine Aerotech, Kelowna, BC
- 23 Shared Services, Denver, CO

14 Alterra Mountain Company

Unmatched destinations. World-class service.

Forward Stance 2025 15

# Happenings of Interest



1 / 154

issuu

About People Planet Community Responsibility

Our Mission  
**We're here to shape the future of mountain adventure.**

16 Alterra Mountain Company

19 Owned Mountain Destinations

70+ Ikon Pass Destinations

24K+ Skiable Acres

40K+ Vertical Feet

\$1B+ Invested In Capital Improvements

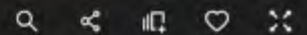
25K+ Winter Team Members

3 Strategic Ancillary Businesses

2 Industry Leading Heli-Adventure Operations

— Mammoth Mountain, CA Forward Stance 2023 17

16-17 / 154 issuu



# Happenings of Interest



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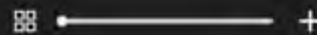
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About	People	Planet	Community	Responsibility
04	26	60	98	130
				
<b>About</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Planet</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
Our History 12	Inclusive Cultures 38	Climate and Supplier-focused Science Based Targets (SBTi) 70	Mountain Community Resilience 106	Safety 138
Our Unique Approach 16	Fair Systems 44	Strategic Alliances 88	Alterra Mountain Company Community Foundation 118	Governance 144
Our Progression 22	Diverse Perspectives 48	Local Ecosystems 92	Philanthropy 122	Cybersecurity & Data Privacy 148
	Mental Well-Being & Resilience 52		Mountain Access 126	

Alterra Mountain Company

Forward Stance 2025

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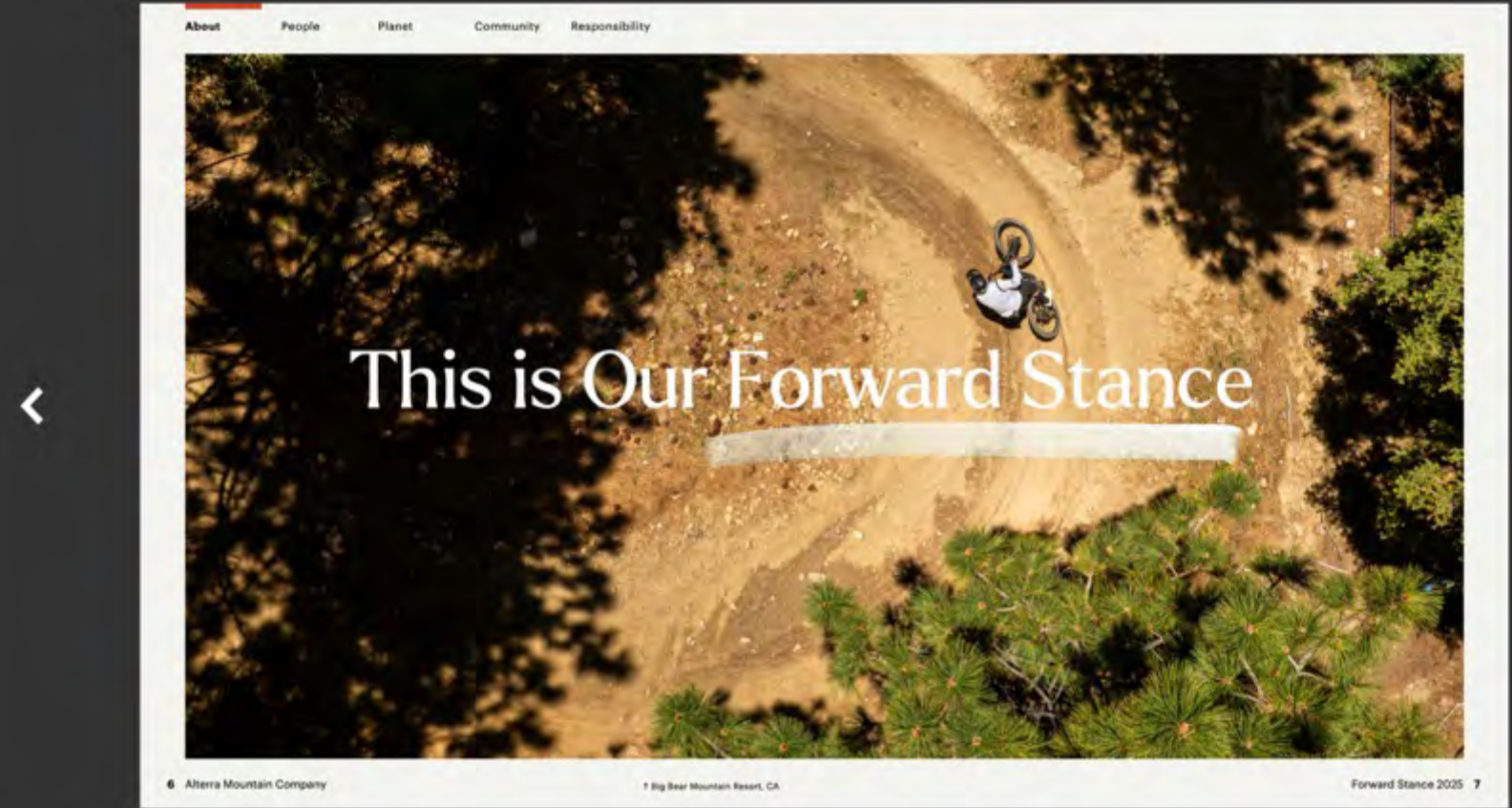


# Happenings of Interest

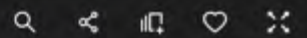
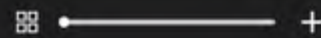


1 / 154

issuu



6-7 / 154 issuu



# Happenings of Interest

singletracks



Home / Mountain Bike Trails / United States / Maine / Trail Development

## Mt. Abram Bike Park in Maine has redefined what a hometown ski area can build for mountain bikers

With \$42 lift tickets, 8.5 miles of downhill, and some of the most technical double black trails on the East Coast, Mt. Abram is proving a hometown ski area can build a serious bike park without outside help.

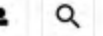
By **Greg Heil**  
April 29, 2026

Singletracks may earn commissions from affiliate links and/or receive products from manufacturers for review. Read our editorial guidelines [here](#).



Sections

Los Angeles Times



CALIFORNIA

## E-bikes are all over mountain trails. Some want them banned





**California Mountain Biking Coalition**

491 followers  
1d • 🌐



An E-Moto is not an E-Bike. Let's make it official!

The terminology we use defines the access we ...more

## e-Bike? Nope.



**California Mountain Biking Coalition**

491 followers  
1d • 🌐



An E-Moto is not an E-Bike. Let's make it official!

The terminology we use defines the access we keep. Currently, high-powered electric motorcycles (some hitting 30+ mph with 3,750W motors) are being marketed as "e-bikes." This creates a massive headache for land managers and puts traditional cyclists and pedal-assist riders at risk of losing trail access due to the actions of motorized vehicles.

CAMTB is proud to stand with @CalBike, @PeopleForBikes, and @CORP in support of SB 1167 (Blakespear).

Why it matters:

- **Clear Definitions:** SB 1167 draws a hard line between low-powered pedal-assist e-bikes and high-powered/high-speed e-motos and e-mopeds.
- **Consumer Protection:** It makes it illegal to market a motor-driven cycle as an "e-bike."
- **Protecting Access:** When land managers see a 40mph machine on a multi-use trail, they often blame "e-bikes." By reclassifying these as mopeds or motorcycles, we protect the rights of actual cyclists.

The bottom line: Clear boundaries protect our trails. We're fighting to ensure that high-powered machines don't jeopardize the progress we've made for the cycling community.

# Happenings of Interest

 [JOIN](#)

POLICE & FIRE

## E-motorcycle crackdown coming to Summit County as new Utah law takes effect May 6

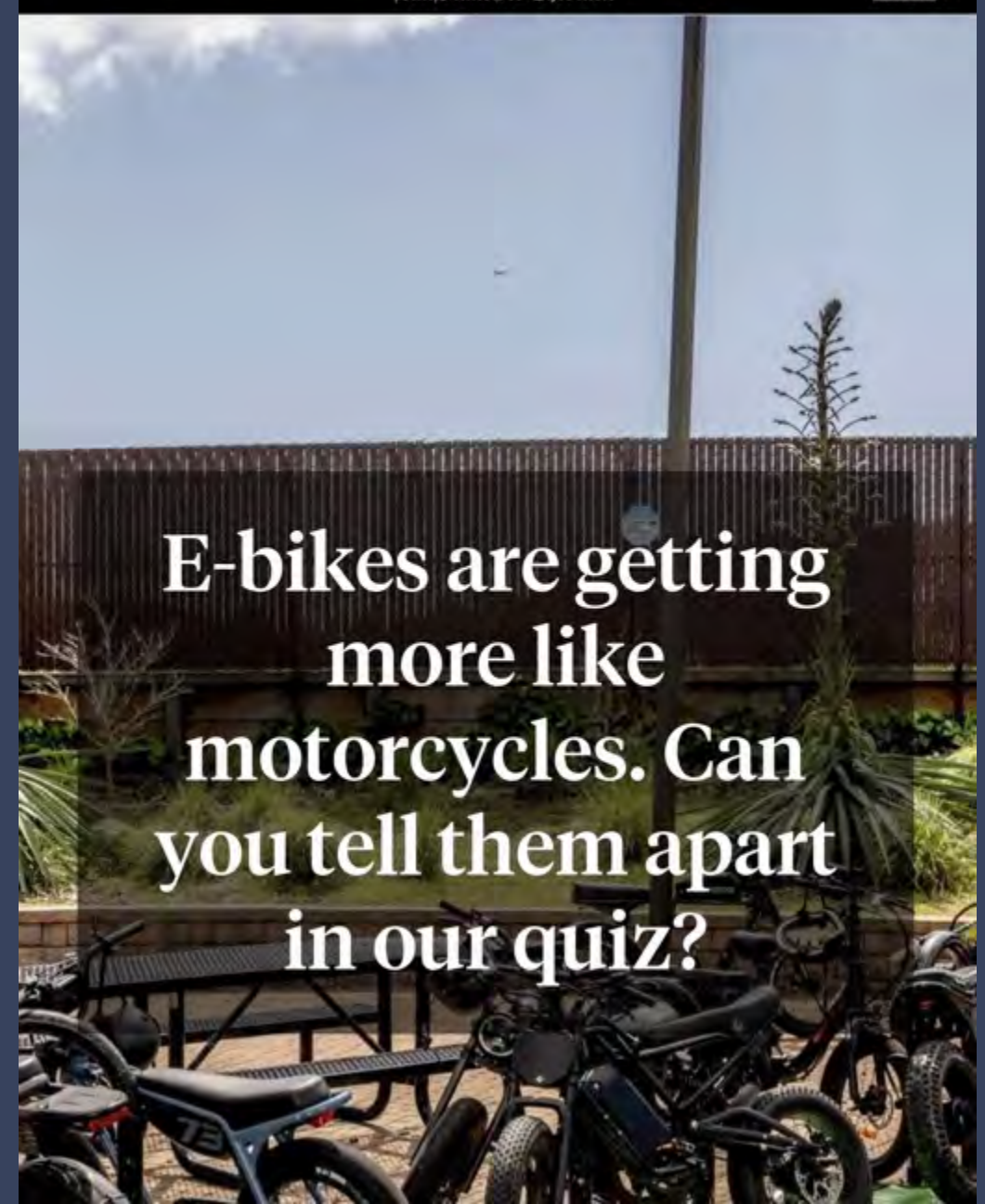
by **Heather Bergeson**  
Published: Apr 6, 2026 at 2:43 pm



Captain Chase Pili from the Utah DNR Law Enforcement Division breaks down the key differences between e-motorcycles and e-bikes. Photo:

With new regulations and clearer definitions now in place, Summit County officials say enforcement around illegal e-motorcycles will increase heading into summer

San Francisco Chronicle [Account](#)

A photograph showing several e-bikes parked in a metal rack. The background features a wooden fence and a clear sky. A large white text overlay is centered on the image.

## E-bikes are getting more like motorcycles. Can you tell them apart in our quiz?

# Happenings of Interest

Sections **Los Angeles Times** Account Search

BUSINESS

## While California's tourism rallied, L.A. faced its worst year since the pandemic



A photograph showing a busy airport terminal. In the foreground, a young man with a backpack and a green suitcase is walking. Behind him, several other people are also walking, some pulling luggage. The terminal has a high ceiling with recessed lighting and a blue 'CLEAR' sign is visible on the left.

SFGATE CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

NATIONAL PARKS

## Highway through Yosemite National Park gateway towns reopens after rockslide

By **Sam Mauhay-Moore**, National Parks Reporter  
Updated April 15, 2025 10:23 a.m.



A photograph of a winding asphalt road through a hilly, forested landscape. The road curves through green hills under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The terrain appears to be a gateway area to a national park.

State Route 140 in Mariposa County, Calif.  
Pedro Costa Simeao/Getty Images

San Francisco Chronicle e-Edition Account

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

## Yosemite is getting a new glamping site with 71 safari-style tent-cabins

By **Gregory Thomas**, Staff Writer  
April 15, 2025



A photograph of a tent-cabin in a forest. The tent-cabin is a small, white structure with a brown roof, situated on a dirt path surrounded by lush green trees. The scene is peaceful and scenic.

Under Canvas, a Colorado glamping company, is opening a site just outside of Yosemite National Park's west entrance, Under Canvas.

A long-anticipated glamping site just outside Yosemite National Park's popular west entrance has opened.

The most common driving route Bay Area visitors take to Yosemite passes along Highway 120 and through the park's Big Oak Flat entrance area. The new glamping site occupies a forested 85-acre property just off of the highway about 10 minutes away from Big Oak Flat, making for quick access to visitor-favorite sights and features in Yosemite Valley.

### Welcome to \$6 gas

By NOAH BAUSTIN and ALEX NIEVES | 04/30/2026 07:30 PM EDT

### TOP OF THE DAY



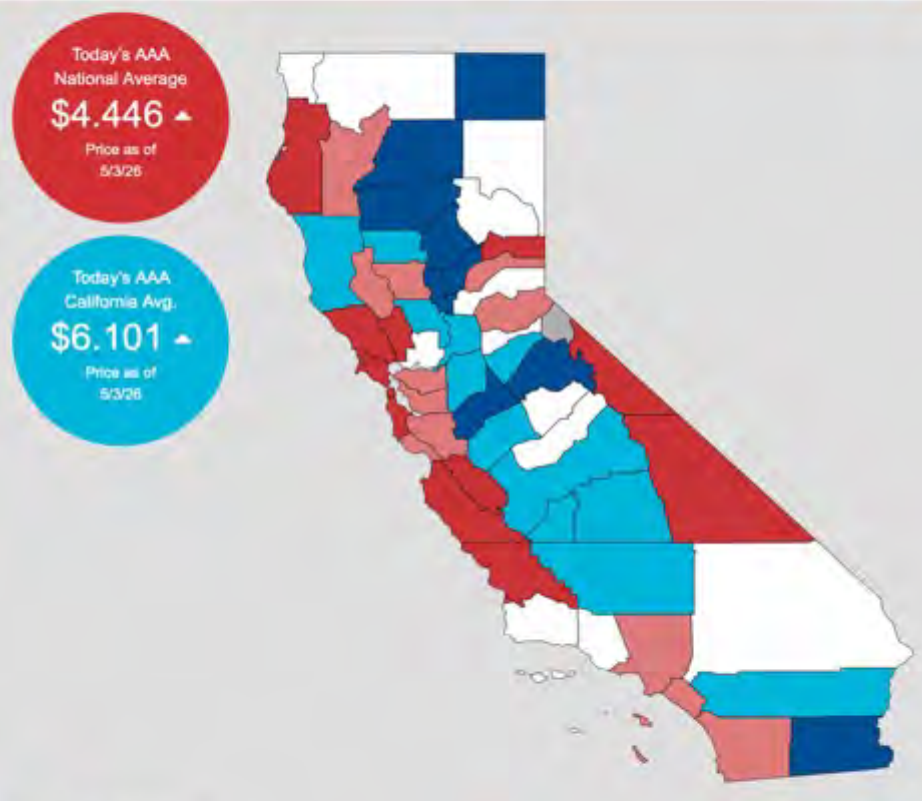
\$6 gas is now the norm in California. | Jae C. Hong/AP

### GET PUMPED: It finally happened.

After a two-month climb spurred by supply disruptions from the war in Ukraine, the average gasoline price topped \$6 per gallon Thursday, according to AAA. That's happened since 2023, when prices soared following a series of refinery outages.



### TOP TRENDS



### County Retail Prices

7.002 to 6.257	6.256 to 6.116
6.115 to 6.031	6.030 to 5.953
5.952 to 5.761	No Data Available

County average gas prices are updated daily to reflect changes in price. For metro averages, [click here](#).



ECONOMY • CONSUMERS

## Americans Spent \$125 Million More on Gas Friday Than They Did a Week Ago

A 33-cent jump in the price of regular gasoline in a single week is hitting wallets fast, with the summer driving season still ahead

By Justin Lahart Follow

May 1, 2026 at 7:07 pm ET



A gas station in Miami. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

Americans are pouring a lot more money into their gasoline tanks than they were even a week ago.

The average price for a gallon of regular gasoline was \$4.39 on Friday, according to AAA, a jump of 33 cents over where it was a week earlier. That is an unusually large move: The only times in recent years when gasoline prices jumped like that were in 2014 and 2022, when prices spiked in March and then fell.

# Happenings of Interest

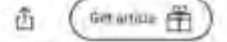
## What to Know About Electric Cars When Gas Prices Are Surging

War in Iran has disrupted global oil supplies, which is prompting some car shoppers to look for ways to climb off “the gas-price roller coaster.”



A pre-owned electric vehicle dealership in North Hampton, N.H. There are exceptionally good deals to be had on used battery-powered cars. Tristan Spinski for The New York Times

## ENERGYWIRE



## Rivian leaves investors wanting more on critical R2 SUV debut

Investors are closely watching progress on the lower-priced R2 because it's key to expanding Rivian's reach beyond the large, expensive electric vehicles it currently sells.

BY BLOOMBERG / 051010026461644 801

**ENERGYWIRE** | Rivian Automotive shares tumbled as it offered investors few fresh details about demand for its new R2 electric SUV, a model that's seen as critical to the electric vehicle maker's future.

The company on Thursday announced a smaller-than-expected loss in the most recent quarter and plans to increase initial production at a new factory in Georgia to 300,000 vehicles annually, up from 200,000 units previously. Construction of the facility is scheduled to begin this year with R2 output starting in late 2028, the company said.

Rivian also stood by its full-year target of delivering 62,000 to 67,000 EVs this year. Executives, however, provided few concrete specifics about R2 demand signals, potentially disappointing investors looking for more insight about the model in a challenging environment for EVs.



“The overall excitement around what we've been able to put together in terms of content, features, packaging, just the overall value proposition, is really resonating,” Scaringe said.

# Happenings of Interest

**SFGATE** CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

NATIONAL PARKS

## Trump admin flips switch to allow mining on huge national preserve in Calif, sparking lawsuit

By **Sam Mauhay-Moore**, National Parks Reporter  
April 20, 2026

[f](#) [x](#) [t](#) [m](#)



Colosseum Mine inside the Mojave National Preserve in San Bernardino County, Calif.  
David McNew/Getty Images

**RCRC**  
RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA

Home | California Representative Kiley Reinstated to Congressional Committee Assignments

RETURN TO

## California Representative Kiley Reinstated to Congressional Committee Assignments

Apr 17, 2026 Advocacy

**GREENWIRE** [Share article](#)

## Ex-Sierra Club chief of staff sues Ben Jealous for sexual harassment

The complaint against the group's former executive director also alleges retaliation from the environmental organization.

BY **PAMELA KING** | 04/29/2026 01:36 AM EDT

Former-Sierra Club Executive Director Ben Jealous speaks with a reporter at the Sierra Club's offices in Washington on Oct. 28, 2023. (Photo: Clancy/PHOTO) [PHOTO](#)

**GREENWIRE** | The former chief of staff of one of the nation's most prominent environmental groups has sued her ex-boss, accusing him of sexual harassment and the organization of retaliating against her.

In a [complaint filed last week](#) in D.C. Superior Court, Laura Maretich alleged that Ben Jealous, former executive director of the Sierra Club, repeatedly sent her sexualized texts, made unwanted comments about her body and exposed his genitalia to her while she was working as the organization's traveling content manager.

# Happenings of Interest



Sections **Los Angeles Times**  

Things to Do Weekend Travel & Experiences Arts View All >

*The Wild* NEWSLETTER

## The 6,800-mile American Discovery Trail that you can start in California




 **The New York Times** 

GIVE THE TIMES

## If He Leaves You on a Mountain, End Your Relationship

The “Alpine divorce,” in which one partner leaves another stranded while hiking, is more serious than the name implies.

A person in a red jacket is hiking on a snowy mountain trail. The trail is surrounded by snow-covered evergreen trees. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains covered in snow under a cloudy sky.

Hiking guides and mountain rescue workers say what’s now being called “Alpine divorce” isn’t new. They’ve been seeing it for years. Long before it became a social media buzzword, they would often have to rescue women left behind on remote and often dangerous trails. *Getty Images*

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

E&EDAILY

Gift article

## Democrats look to shield public lands from reconciliation

Western Democrats are proposing legislation to specifically bar federal land sales under the budget reconciliation process.

BY JENNIFER YACHNIN | 05/01/2026 06:23 AM EDT



Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) is the lead sponsor of new legislation against public land sales. | Jose Luis Magana/AP

**E&E DAILY** | Senate Democrats on Thursday unveiled their plan to block future attempts to sell off federal lands via the budget reconciliation process, vowing to prevent a repeat of Republican proposals to dispose of up to 3 million acres of public lands last year.

Sens. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) introduced the "[Public Lands Integrity Act](#),"

E&EDAILY

Gift article

## Republicans lack consensus on 'reconciliation 3.0'

Party leaders want to assemble a party-line package with energy and other provisions, but some are skeptical.

BY ANDRES PICON | 05/01/2026 06:26 AM EDT



Senate Environment and Public Works Chair Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) said her panel was unlikely to take part in another reconciliation bill this Congress. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

**E&E DAILY** | Congress' Republican majority is plowing ahead with a second filibuster-proof bill in the coming weeks that would fund immigration enforcement agencies for years to come.

But the will to craft a third party-line bill this session of Congress — one that could be loaded up with provisions on energy, fraud prevention and other Republican priorities — remains elusive.

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

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## H.R.7430 - Public Lands in Public Hands Act

118th Congress (2023-2024)

**BILL** Hide Overview ✕

**Sponsor:** [Rep. Zinke, Ryan K. \[R-MT-1\]](#) (Introduced 02/20/2024)

**Committees:** House - Natural Resources; Agriculture

**Latest Action:** House - 08/30/2024 Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry. ([All Actions](#))

**Tracker:** 📍 **Introduced**

More on This Bill

[Constitutional Authority and Single Subject Statements](#)

[CBO Cost Estimates \(0\)](#)

Subject — Policy Area:  
Public Lands and Natural Resources  
[View subjects >>](#)

Bill Details:

☰ Summary (0)

**Summary: H.R.7430 — 118th Congress (2023-2024)**

[All Information](#) (Except Text)

With the start of a new Congress, summaries from prior Congresses may be delayed or abbreviated.

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend section 313 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to designate provisions resulting in the sale, disposal, or transfer of Federal lands as extraneous under the Byrd Rule.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. HEINRICH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL

To amend section 313 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to designate provisions resulting in the sale, disposal, or transfer of Federal lands as extraneous under the Byrd Rule.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
- 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**
- 4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Lands Integrity
- 5 Act”.

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

E&E DAILY

Gift article

## Trump signs resolution favoring mining near Boundary Waters

The resolution scraps Biden-era mining limits in the Superior National Forest.

BY MANUEL QUIRÓNES | 8/26/2024 10:27 AM EDT



President Donald Trump at the White House last week. | Mark Schielebein/AP

**E&E DAILY** | President Donald Trump signed legislation Monday to erase a Biden-era ban on new mining near the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in northern Minnesota.

The Senate earlier this month voted 50-49 to pass H.J. Res 140, from Rep. Pete Stauber (R-Minn.), chair of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. The House cleared the measure in January.

The resolution's approval in Congress was a major defeat for Democrats, environmental groups and hunting advocates, who argued for months that mining near the pristine Boundary Waters is too risky.

But Stauber and other lawmakers cited the need to increase U.S. production of metals and minerals needed for technology and economic growth. They denied

GREENWIRE

Gift article

## Congress overturns Biden's Boundary Waters mining ban

Only two Republicans crossed the aisle to oppose mining near the Minnesota canoe area wilderness.

BY KANAK NORTNEY | 8/21/2024 01:00 PM EDT



Sen. Tim Scott (R-Misc.) voting floor speech Wednesday about legislation related to mining near the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. (Source: YouTube) 1/11/2024 11:47 AM

## Congress Kills Key Boundary Waters Protections

The primary beneficiary is a Chilean mining giant.

BY ROOPE PLAKAS | 8/26/2024

49 | 1 | 11 | Share



A wilderness area in the Boundary Waters. (Courtesy of Jerrisa Tuller)

## Republicans Vote To Destroy Boundary Waters In Giveaway To China's AI

The most popular Wilderness in the country will become a dumping ground for sulfuric acid.

WES BULIN | 8/26/2024

100 | 10 | 100 | Share



Traitors, Republicans in the Senate just voted to permit the polluting mine in the headwaters for Minnesota's Boundary Wilderness. The region's ecosystem will be destroyed, taking annual economic activity, 17,000 jobs, and one of the last unspoiled wildernesses in this country. What does America get in return? Nothing.

RE:PUBLIC ABOUT ...



Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (Photos by John Peltzer / PeltzerPhoto)

OPINION

## AMERICA LAST

Or: How Washington sells America's public lands to foreign corporations and calls it patriotism.

By Christopher Ferrara • Aug 27, 2024

The New York Times

Trump Administration | LIVE Updates | Gas Prices | Withdrawing Troops From Germany | D.H.S. Shutdown Ends

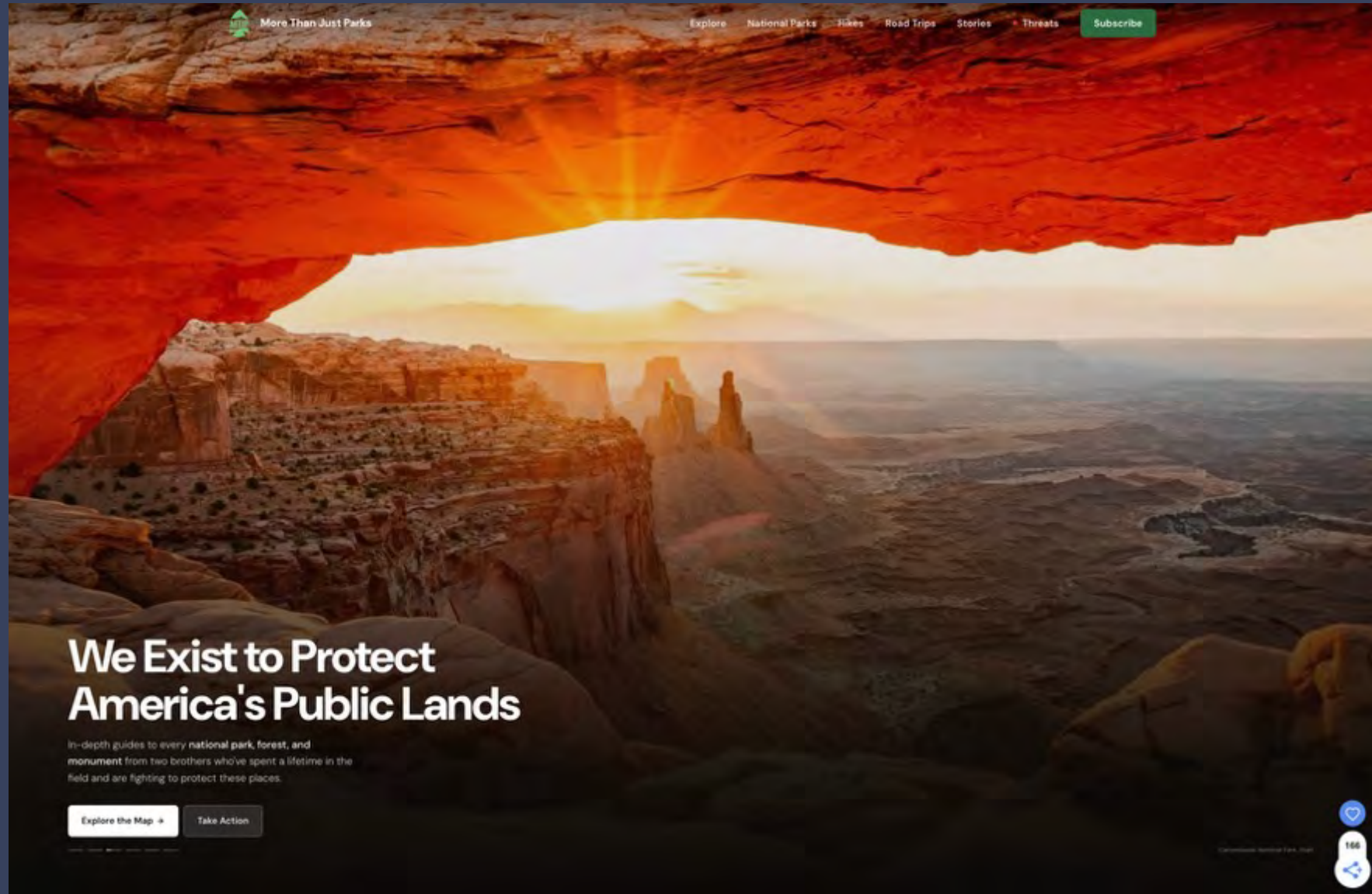
## Senate Votes to Allow Mining Near Minnesota Wilderness

The move was a victory for a Chilean company that wants to build a copper and nickel mine, which environmentalists say could devastate fragile lakes and forests.



The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is one of the largest and most visited, expansive of federally protected lakes and forests in the United States. (The Source via AP) New York Times

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates



More Than Just Parks

Explore National Parks Hikes Road Trips Stories Threats [Subscribe](#)

## We Exist to Protect America's Public Lands

In-depth guides to every national park, forest, and monument from two brothers who've spent a lifetime in the field and are fighting to protect these places.

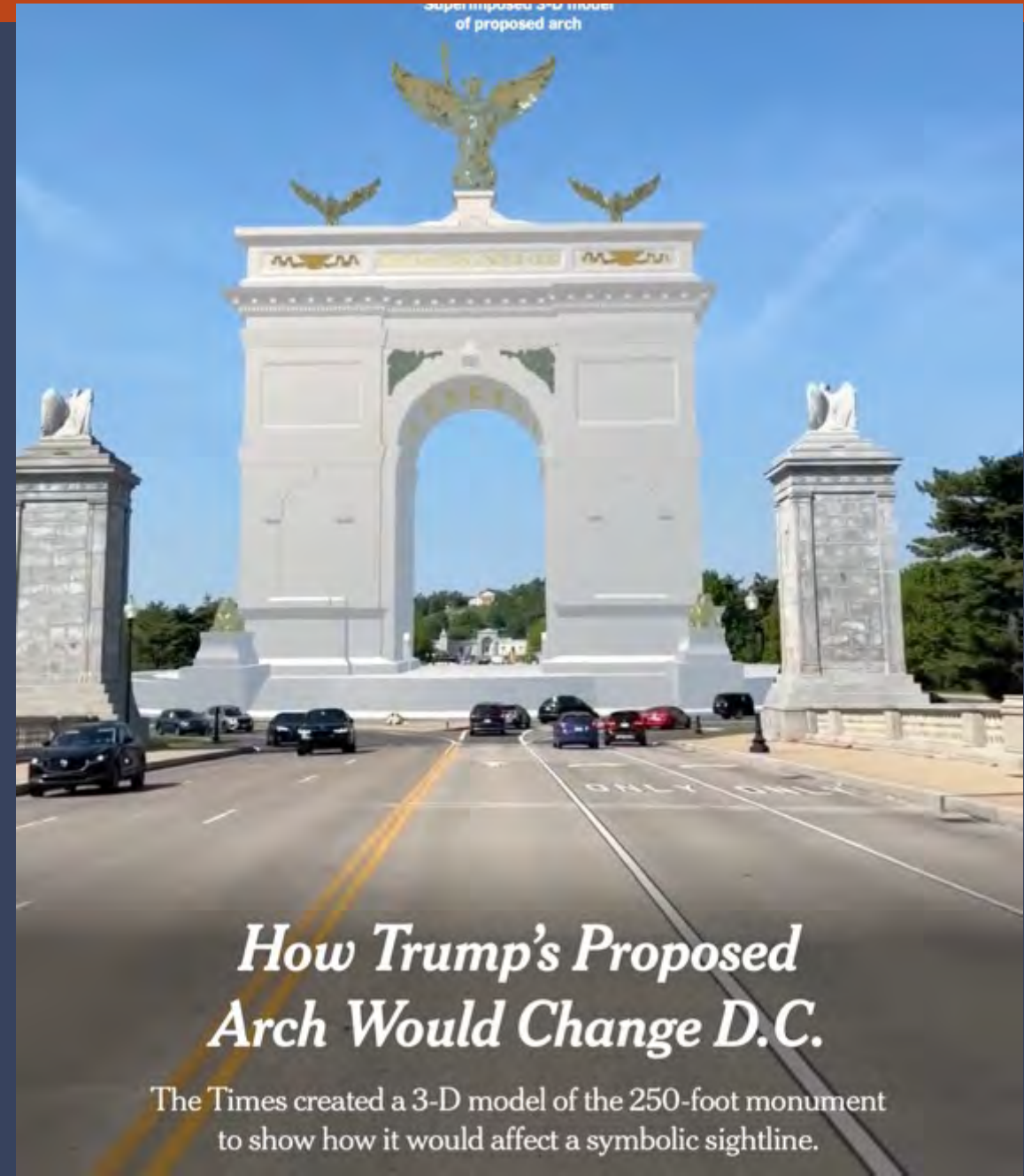
[Explore the Map](#) [Take Action](#)

166

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

The screenshot displays the 'More Than Just Parks' website interface. At the top left is the logo and name 'More Than Just Parks'. To the right is a navigation menu with links for 'Explore', 'National Parks', 'Hikes', 'Road Trips', 'Stories', and 'Threats', along with a green 'Subscribe' button. Below the navigation is the main heading 'Explore America's Public Lands' followed by the text '580+ national parks, forests, monuments, refuges, and wilderness areas. Mapped, documented, and worth fighting for.' A search bar with the placeholder text 'Search 580+ public lands...' is positioned above a set of filter buttons: 'All', 'Parks', 'Monuments', 'Forests', 'Refuges', 'Wilderness', and 'All States'. The central feature is a map of the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, populated with numerous small, multi-colored dots representing different types of public lands. A legend at the bottom of the map lists 15 categories with corresponding colored dots: National Park (dark green), National Forest (medium green), National Monument (purple), National Wildlife Refuge (blue), Wilderness Area (dark grey), National Recreation Area (red), National Seashore (cyan), National Lakeshore (light blue), National Scenic Trail (yellow), National Preserve (dark brown), National Memorial (light brown), National Battlefield (orange), National Historic Site (dark blue), Wild & Scenic River (light green), National Grassland (light grey), National Conservation Area (medium green), BLM Land (yellow), and Other (dark grey). In the bottom right corner of the map area, there are three circular icons: a heart, a magnifying glass, and a location pin.

# Happenings of Interest - Federal



# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

E&EDAILY

Gift article

## Natural Resources lawmakers weigh national park access

Democrats are expected to shine a light on the president's proposed cuts to park staff and funding.



BY HEATHER RICHARDS | 04/20/2026 04:14 AM EDT



Rep. Tom Tiffany (R-Wis.), chair of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands, will lead a hearing on access to National Park Service sites. | Scott Bauer/AP

**E&E DAILY** | A House Natural Resources subcommittee will examine ways to improve accessibility at national parks, building on the EXPLORE ACT, a major bipartisan investment in parks and federal lands that became law last year.

The Subcommittee on Federal Lands will hold a session, titled "EXPLORE America250: Enhancing Accessibility at our National Parks and Public Lands." It's expected to highlight the National Park Service's efforts this year to grandly celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence with events across the country. The hearing follows a January meeting that marked the EXPLORE Act's one-year anniversary.

E&EDAILY

Gift article

## Outdoors law reauthorization push in trouble

Democrats are balking at proposed fees and tolls in draft legislation to re-up the Great American Outdoors Act.



BY KELSEY BRUGGER | 04/17/2026 06:14 AM EDT



House Natural Resources Chair Bruce Wesslerman (R-Ark.) and ranking member Jared Huffman (D-Calif.) are clashing over legislation to reauthorize the Great American Outdoors Act. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

**E&E DAILY** | Key lawmakers are at odds over a plan to reauthorize a law that invests in the national parks, with a top Democrat saying a Republican draft proposal unduly includes tolls, fees and a "slush fund for Donald Trump to do vanity projects."

Lawmakers in both parties are keen to reauthorize the Great American Outdoors Act, signed by President Donald Trump during his first term, despite election-year hurdles.

Now Rep. Jared Huffman of California, the top Democrat on the House Natural Resources Committee, expressed "grave disappointment" with language being shared by the majority staff on the committee.

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates

GREENWIRE



OR article

## The Trump administration cracks down on national park websites

The Interior Department has created a new process for posting information on websites. History is under a microscope.



BY HEATHER RICHARDS | 05/01/2024 12:57 PM EDT



The Interior Department has changed the process for posting information on National Park Service websites | Lauren Ashburn / AFP via Getty Images

**GREENWIRE** | National park staffers used to control park websites. But not anymore.

A small group of Interior Department employees has been reviewing new submissions for National Park Service websites since February, in part evaluating the material for compliance with President Donald Trump's 2025 mandate to present a more positive history of the country at its many historic sites, battlefields and natural wonders.

One review considered an article by a tribal group for a website about the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. By the time the article was posted, it was scrubbed of references to former President Thomas Jefferson fathering children with an enslaved young woman.

For NPS personnel, the loss of online authority is a big cultural shift for an agency where park staff typically led on portraying information about their sites, often in consultation with local communities and Native American tribes.



PUBLIC LANDS

## The Trump administration sent Greater Yellowstone into chaos. What's next?

The region survived a year of deep cuts and layoffs. Here's who is picking up the pieces.

Christine Peterson April 6, 2024

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GREENWIRE



OR article

## White House yanks National Park Service director nominee

Scott Socha was nominated for the position in February.



BY HEATHER RICHARDS | 04/17/2024 09:41 PM EDT



Scott Socha, speaking at a press conference at the National Park Hospitality Association, on Capitol Hill on May 16, 2023 | Photo: Doug Politico

**GREENWIRE** | The Trump administration on Monday withdrew its nominee to lead the National Park Service.

Scott Socha, who has no experience in government, has worked for nearly three decades for Delaware North, a hospitality firm. The Buffalo, New York-based company has held contracts with national parks to run lodges, hotels, tours and concessions. These currently include the The Squire lodge outside Grand Canyon National Park and the Tenaya Lodge that's connected to Yosemite National Park in California.

Susan Buxton, director of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, was also vetted by the Trump administration last year but eventually [bowed out of consideration](#).

Conservationists had criticized the selection of Socha when his nomination was first announced in [February](#). They argued he lacked the experience to run the large agency that manages some of the most treasured destinations in the country.

# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates



# Happenings of Interest – Federal Updates



# Happenings of Interest - Federal



E&ENEWS PM

Gift article

## Burgum: \$10B park fund won't pay for Trump's arch

The Interior secretary defended the president's proposal to spend \$10 billion on renovations in the nation's capital while also pushing to cut overall funding for the National Park Service.



BY: HEATHER RICHARDS | 04/29/2026 03:53 PM EDT



Interior Secretary Doug Burgum testifies Wednesday during a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing to examine the president's proposed budget request for the Department of the Interior. | Mariam Zuhail/AP

**E&E NEWS PM** | Interior Secretary Doug Burgum told senators Wednesday that the Trump administration's proposal to set aside \$10 billion to fix up national park sites in Washington won't pay for the president's proposed triumphal arch.

# Happenings of Interest



GREENWIRE



Gift article

## Forest Service chief leans on states to tend troubled national forests

"We need more partners," Tom Schultz said, as his agency strikes deals with states to boost timber sales.



BY **MARC HELLER** | 04/28/2026 01:36 PM EDT



U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz. | Mark Schiefelbein/AP

**GREENWIRE** | As chief of the Forest Service, Tom Schultz has an objective that might sound self-defeating: Quit spending so much time — and money — managing the 193-million-acre national forest system.

But that's part of what Schultz, a former timber executive hired by the Trump administration in 2025, is trying to do at the Forest Service. For the remainder of the administration and probably beyond, he said in an interview, the federal agency will be handing off more responsibility to states.

# Happenings of Interest



Government Executive



The reshaping of those components is part of a larger USDA reorganization that will see 2,600 employees shifted from the capital region into new regional hubs around the country. KEVIN CARTER/GETTY IMAGES

Workforce

## USDA kicks off more employee relocations, including some that spark déjà vu

Hundreds of employees will be reassigned to Iowa, Missouri, Colorado and elsewhere.

APRIL 23, 2024

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

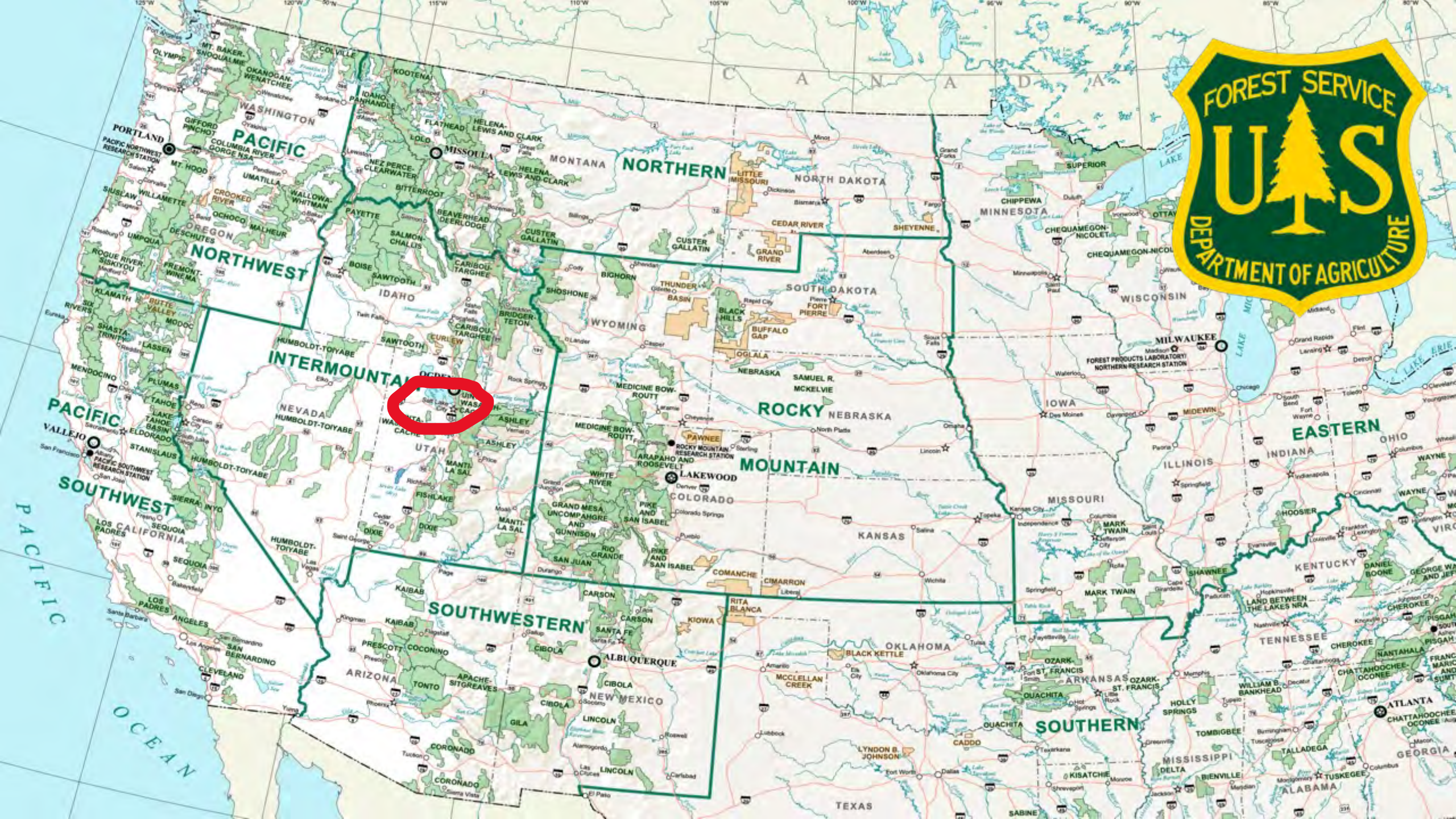
LAND MANAGEMENT



Updated April 23 at 5:42 p.m.



The Agriculture Department on Thursday announced additional relocation plans for employees as part of its larger reorganization, including a new center for food inspectors in Iowa and a second attempt at sending research staff to Kansas City.



# Happenings of Interest

## On Outrage

Fake news, Fox News, public lands, public service, literacy rates, and what all that has to do with the Forest Service reorganization, which is definitely not a "dismantling."

WES SILER  
APR 15, 2024



What's my job as a journalist? Is it to get the most clicks possible? Is it to earn money? Is it to create action? If so, what type of action? As the mainstream journalism business fails, as we all suffer through a presidency that gets more untethered from reality every day, and as the institutions we all rely on get corrupted, that answer matters more than ever.

## The Forest Service Reorganization Is Illegal. USDA's Top Lawyer Told Them to Do It Anyway.

Congress prohibited the Forest Service reorganization in its FY25 appropriations bill. Two high-ranking USDA officials are defying them.

JAM PATRIZ AND MORE THAN JUST WANKS  
APR 15, 2024

413 10 110



From left to right: Brooke Rollins, creative Commons, and Tyler Davidson

## Senate appropriators wary of Forest Service reorganization

"We want to make sure that we have enough people to do the task that we have tasked you to do," Alaska Republican Lisa Murkowski said.

BY JENNIFER YACHNIN | 04/01/2024 08:26 AM EDT



Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz testifies before Senate appropriators Thursday. | Senate Appropriations Committee

**E&E DAILY** | Senate Appropriators on Thursday urged the Forest Service to be attentive to staffing levels in its looming reorganization.

Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz returned to Capitol Hill on Thursday to brief lawmakers on his agency's \$2.1 billion discretionary spending request, as well as an overhaul of the agency's structure and wildfire operations. The fiscal 2027 budget would mean a sharp drop from the current \$6.2 billion level, with the bulk of those cuts tied to a proposal to move wildfire operations to the Interior Department.

"Perhaps the easiest thing to say right now is that the Forest Service has an incredibly ambitious agenda," said Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), chair of the Interior-Environment Subcommittee.

"In my view, there's no need to shy away from the conversations that will follow. Not much that you have proposed is a hard 'no' for me, but I'm not exactly an immediate 'yes' on everything, either."



USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins told Big House Appropriations Committee members Thursday that the government's budget cuts are a "reduced world" and that she will make it easier to absorb a reduced world. | TOM WILLIAMS/GETTY IMAGES

### Management

## USDA is moving forward with various reorgs despite legal questions and bipartisan concerns

"This might be the best idea since sliced bread, I don't know," one Republican said.

APRIL 17, 2024

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION LAND MANAGEMENT CONGRESS

in f e



ERIC KATZ Senior Correspondent

**T**he Agriculture Department told lawmakers on Thursday it is moving forward with various restructurings despite some bipartisan skepticism over the legality and wisdom of those moves.

The overall USDA reorganization will help streamline a "runaway bureaucracy," Secretary Brooke Rollins said in her prepared testimony before the House Appropriations Committee. The department is already selling buildings and relocating the headquarters of some of its components, she and other officials said Thursday, despite Congress placing roadblocks on various aspects of those changes.

In a separate hearing, for example, U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz said the Trump administration is taking steps to prepare to move all wildland firefighters into a new centralized agency within the Interior Department. Congress blocked that shift from proceeding until a third party assesses the potential change. Schultz said USFS is in the process of contracting out and hopes to complete this fall, but in the meantime is getting ready for the offloading of its firefighting responsibilities.

# USFS Reorganization

*\*Facilities that do not appear on the Research and Development lists of retained facilities and facility closures are under evaluation. Further information will be provided as it is available.*

## Research Facility Closures

- Alabama:** Huntsville
- Alaska:** Anchorage
- Arkansas:** Monticello
- California:** Anderson; Fresno; Chico; Fort Bragg; Mt. Shasta; Hat Creek
- Connecticut:** Ansonia; Hamden
- Florida:** Tallahassee
- Hawaii:** Hilo; Volcano
- Illinois:** Evanston
- Kentucky:** Lexington
- Louisiana:** Tioga / Pineville
- Massachusetts:** Westfield
- Maryland:** Baltimore
- Michigan:** East Lansing; Houghton; L'Anse; Wellston
- Minnesota:** Grand Rapids; Ely
- Mississippi:** Leland; Oxford; Saucier; Starkville; Stoneville
- Montana:** Bozeman; Hungry Horse
- Nevada:** Reno
- New Hampshire:** Bartlett
- New York:** Cortland; Lakeville; New York City
- Ohio:** McArthur
- Oregon:** Portland
- Pennsylvania:** Irvine; Long Pond; Williamsport; York
- South Carolina:** Clemson; Huger
- South Dakota:** Rapid City
- Texas:** Nacogdoches
- Vermont:** Burlington
- Virginia:** Blacksburg
- Utah:** Cedar City; Logan; Ogden
- Washington:** Seattle ; Wenatchee
- West Virginia:** Princeton
- Wisconsin:** Prairie du Chien; Wisconsin Rapids



# USFS Reorganization

"Establishing a western headquarters in Salt Lake City and streamlining how the Forest Service is organized will position the Chief and operation leaders closer to the landscapes we manage and the people who depend on them. This includes supporting our timber growers across the country, including those in the Southeast by prioritizing a regional office and promoting policies that boost timber production, lowering costs for consumers. In the past year we have returned the Forest Service to the leading forestry and fire management organization in the world. Proper forest management means a healthy and productive forest system that provides affordable, quality lumber to build homes right here in America and it means preserving and protecting the beautiful landscapes we are blessed with across this great country." --

**Secretary Brooke L. Rollins**

**Simply put, this is for logging.**



# Reorganization



Dillon Osleger

*Natural Resources & GIS Manager, MLTPA Foundation*

# USFS Reorganization

WILDFIRE

## Wildfires are torching state budgets

Oregon allocated \$10 million for the 2024 wildfire season. It cost more than \$350 million.

Kylie Mahr April 26, 2024

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The Crater Fire burns over 64,000 acres near Madras and Ashwood, Oregon, in July 2025.  
Galle Images via Getty Images

CLIMATEWIRE

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## Georgia blaze shows climate change spurring more Eastern wildfires

Researchers blame a number of factors including rising temperatures causing fuel to dry out and be more flammable.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS | 02/21/2025 08:51 AM EDT



A burned 11,000 sq ft shed and a charred stove in the Bradley Highway 80 fire area (Piedmont East) in Georgia, August 1, 2024.  
AP Photo/John Moore

CLIMATEWIRE

Subscribe

## Climate change trifecta fueled Georgia wildfires

Dangerous combinations of hurricanes, heat and drought are making fires more likely.

BY CHELSEA HARVEY | 01/07/2025 09:09 AM EDT



## Early Season Wake Up: Burnover In Kentucky, Oklahoma, And Nebraska With Multiple Firefighters Injured. Comms Issues On Nebraska Fires Solved By Starlink.

Utah adds more AI wildfire cameras

THE HOTSHOT WAKE UP  
APR 07, 2024 | PAID

20 6 4

Share Transcript


On Today's Show:

Subscribed

- Multiple reports on burnovers and injuries from the last couple of weeks.
- Full report on the vehicle burnovers in Nebraska on the Cottonwood Fire. Video of the incident posted below, sent in by a subscriber.
- Two firefighters were burned in Kentucky, one while attempting to jump through flames, the other during the rescue.
- A firefighter was burned in Oklahoma, another engine fell into a ravine, and a heart attack after firing Ops. All on the same fire
- Snowpack update.
- Utah to add more AI-powered wildfire-detection cameras.

# President Trump's Discretionary FY 2027 Budget Request

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The BLM's National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. (Credit: mypubliclands, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons)

POLITICS

## BANKRUPTING THE BLM

*It has the most acres and the least funding per user of any of the Department of Interior agencies. So why is Secretary Doug Burgum aiming to gut its budget?*

By [Elizabeth Hightower Allen](#) • Apr 20, 2026

E&ENEWS PM



## White House completes review of BLM public lands rule

The Interior Department has proposed rescinding a Biden administration rule that made conservation one of the uses for Bureau of Land Management lands.



BY IAN M. STEVENSON | 04/27/2026 04:03 PM EDT



A Bureau of Land Management sign denotes public lands in Oregon. | BLM Washington and Oregon/Flickr

**E&E NEWS PM** | The Trump administration last week moved a step closer to undoing a Biden-era environmental policy that elevated the standing of conservation on hundreds of millions of acres of public land.

Called the [conservation and landscape health rule](#), the policy allowed the Bureau of Land Management to consider conservation as a use of public lands akin to other uses like oil and gas development, grazing, or recreation. The measure, which was also called the public lands rule, provided for a new type of "conservation leasing," which would allow parcels of public land to be leased specifically to pursue landscape restoration.

## Conferences and Gatherings

- California Jobs First Investment Summit 2026: April 9-10
- CORP 9th Annual Sacramento Summit April 13-15, 2026
- CA Trails and Greenways: April 14-17
- Sea Otter Classic: April 16-19
- Jobs First Symposium of Practice: April 23
- CSAC Legislative Conference: May 20
- California Outdoor Economy Summit June 3rd-5th, Eureka, CA
- Eastern Sierra Recreation Co-LAB Summit: July 9-11

# Happenings of Interest – California



## **STATE PARKS FORWARD**

The biggest expansion of State Parks in decades.

# Happenings of Interest – California

★ 3

new parks

📍 804

acres added to  
existing state parks

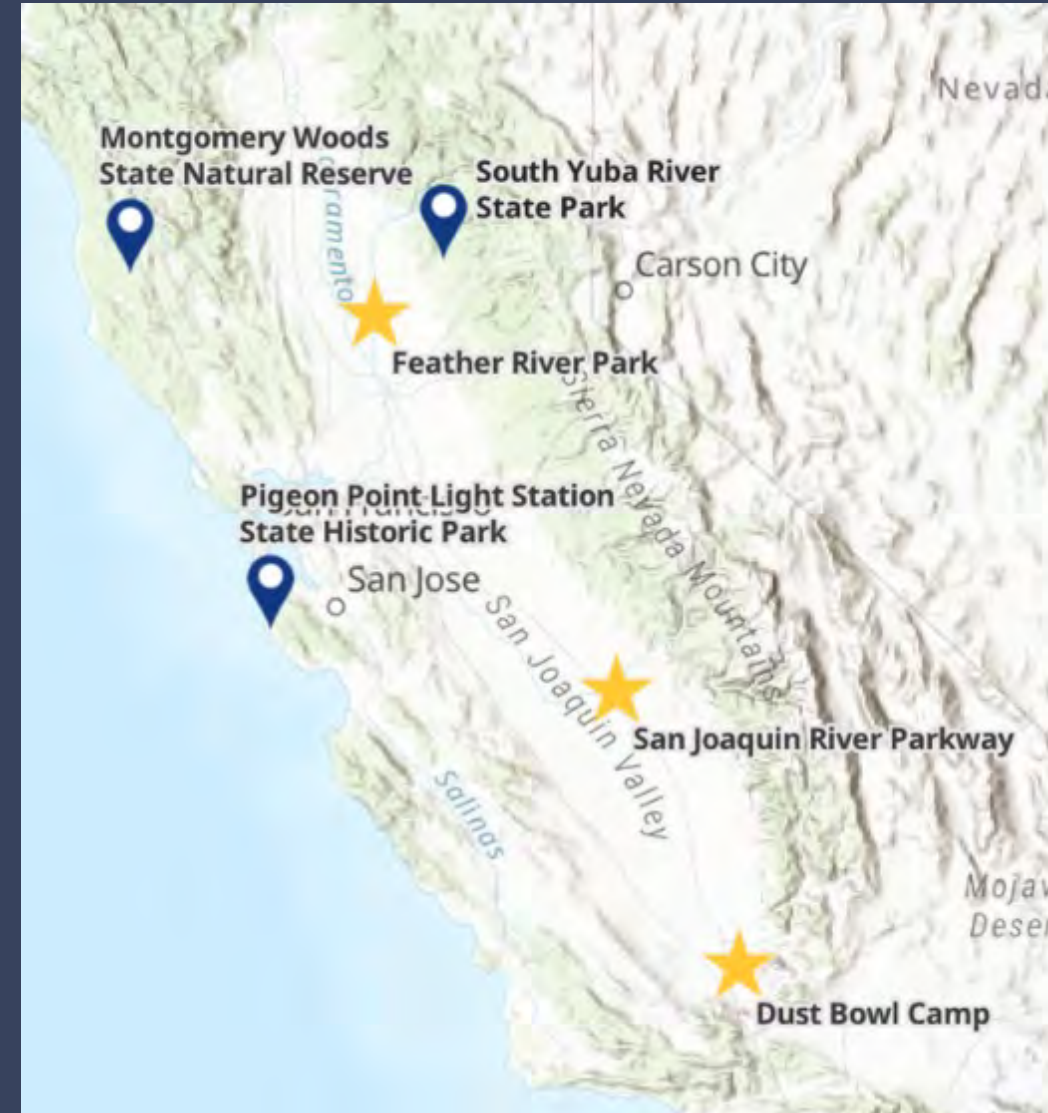
\*As of Earth Day 2026

## What's New

April 22, 2026

Governor Newsom laid out *State Parks Forward*, adding three new state parks in the Central Valley — pushing the statewide total to 283 parks — while growing existing parks by 30,000 acres by the end of the decade. This is the biggest expansion of the State Park System in decades and is providing more access to parks in the Central Valley.

[State Parks Forward Fact Sheet](#)



# Happenings of Interest – California



## STATE PARKS **FORWARD**

The biggest expansion of State Parks in decades.

Introducing *State Parks Forward*, a bold vision adding three new state parks while growing existing parks by 30,000 acres by the end of the decade.

Simply put, *State Parks Forward* means more parks in more places.

*"The bold vision laid out [on Earth day] by Governor Newsom sets California on a path to not just grow the State Park System but also provide more access and instill a greater connection and sense of pride for all Californians in their state parks."*  
—California State Parks  
Director Armando Quintero



San Joaquin River Parkway



Feather River Park



Dust Bowl Camp

**PATHWAY TO NEW PARKS**  
Starting Earth Day 2026, State Parks will begin the planning and acquisition process for the three new parks, spanning approximately 330 miles from one end of the Central Valley to the other. All parks are publicly held and can be acquired at little to no cost to the state.

- **Feather River Park** (Olivehurst, Yuba County)
- **San Joaquin River Parkway** (Fresno and Madera counties)
- **Dust Bowl Camp** (Bakersfield, Kern County)

**EXPANDING EXISTING PARKS**  
Work is underway and accelerating to add thousands of acres of public land by expanding the footprint of existing state parks — totaling 30,000 acres of added State Park lands by the end of the decade. These strategic no- or low-cost acquisitions — enabled by partnerships with local land trusts and conservation partners and streamlined by recent bills signed into law by Governor Newsom, SB 630 (2025, Allen) and AB 679 (2025, Pellerin)— will preserve and protect sensitive ecosystems and critical wildlife habitat corridors next to existing parks.

- **453 acres added to Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve** (Mendocino County)
- **218 acres added to South Yuba River State Park** (Nevada County)
- **133 acres added to Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park** (San Mateo County)



South Yuba River State Park



## STATE PARKS **FORWARD**

**BUILDING ON KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
*State Parks Forward* is the latest in a series of accomplishments under the Newsom administration to conserve public land, expand access to nature and foster a thriving State Park System.

**Outdoors for All:** California is expanding parks and outdoor spaces in communities that need them the most. That includes three innovative free access programs — the Golden Bear Pass for families who receive public assistance, the California State Park Adventure Pass for fourth graders and their families, and the California State Library Parks Pass — that allow residents from all walks of life to experience California's unmatched natural and cultural resources.

**30x30:** The Golden State is leading the nation in protecting its natural resources. Through California's 30x30 initiative, a commitment to conserve 30% of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030 that has been codified into state law, California has added over 2.5 million acres of conserved land and waters over the last three years. That's roughly the size of the Big Island in Hawaii.

**Cutting Green Tape:** An initiative by the Newsom Administration to enable important environmental restoration, conservation and stewardship to happen more quickly and cost effectively by streamlining permitting and funding for environmental projects. This has resulted in more than 500 fast-tracked projects, restoring 300,000 acres of habitat, improving 700 miles of streams, and saving \$12 million in permitting costs over the last four years.

**Climate Bond:** Approved by voters in 2024, the \$10 billion bond funds projects that protect communities from climate change impacts — from wildfire prevention and safe drinking water to biodiversity protection and expanded access to nature.

**Community Investments:** Over the last eight years, thanks to the Governor and State Legislature's investments, State Parks and partner state agencies like the Wildlife Conservation Board and the state's 10 conservancies, have invested over \$1 billion into local community parks and open space, and public acquisitions that expand outdoor access.

**MOVING FORWARD**  
State Parks will be adding thousands of more acres over the next few years. Follow along as new lands are added to the nation's largest and most diverse State Park System at [parks.ca.gov/Forward](https://parks.ca.gov/Forward).

Join the movement!  
[parks.ca.gov/Forward](https://parks.ca.gov/Forward)

We want to hear from you! Get updates on engagement opportunities and more at [parks.ca.gov/Forward](https://parks.ca.gov/Forward)

## SB 1268 Outdoors for All

“California (sp) is home to hundreds of state, regional, and local parks and a nation-leading outdoor recreation industry. Yet access to the outdoors is not equal across different geographic areas, ethnicities, and income levels. In 2021, the state took a major step forward by launching the Outdoors for All initiative with an initial investment of over \$1 billion, designed to increase access to the outdoors and prioritize underserved communities. Now, as the federal government repeatedly attacks public lands, deploys federal immigration agents to stage raids in public parks, and rolls back equity programs, it is more important than ever to strengthen the state’s commitment to outdoor equity and conservation.”



PRESS RELEASE

### ON EARTH DAY, SENATOR LENA GONZALEZ AND OUTDOOR EQUITY ADVOCATES CELEBRATE SB 1268 ADVANCING TO CODIFY OUTDOORS FOR ALL

APRIL 22, 2026

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – On April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 Senator Lena Gonzalez’s (D-Long Beach) **SB 1268**, which would codify the Outdoors for All initiative in state law passed the Senate Natural Resources Committee on a 5-0 vote.

California is home to hundreds of state, regional, and local parks and a **nation-leading outdoor recreation industry**. Yet access to the outdoors is not equal across different geographic areas, ethnicities, and income levels. In 2021, the state took a major step forward by launching the **Outdoors for All initiative** with an **initial investment of over \$1 billion**, designed to increase access to the outdoors and prioritize underserved communities. Now, as the federal government repeatedly attacks public lands, deploys federal immigration agents to stage raids in public parks, and rolls back equity programs, it is more important than ever to strengthen the state’s commitment to outdoor equity and conservation.

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### 2021—California

Value added [gross domestic product]		Employment		Compensation	
ORSA total	Share of state	ORSA total	Share of state	ORSA total	Share of state
\$54.7 billion	1.6%	517,238 jobs	2.9%	\$28.3 billion	1.5%

Value Added by Select ORSA Activity [Thousands of dollars]				
Activity	2019	2020	2021	State rank
Boating/Fishing	2,098,824	2,695,388	2,294,269	2
RVing	1,488,918	1,627,020	2,014,214	3
Motorcycling/ATVing	709,953	719,882	792,541	2
Hunting/Shooting/Trapping	648,517	715,079	763,782	2
Climbing/Hiking/Tent Camping	407,590	430,614	596,001	1
Equestrian	495,299	479,024	544,837	2
Bicycling	419,837	498,434	536,292	1
Snow Activities	595,480	489,890	505,666	3
Recreational Flying	117,361	107,625	96,251	2

Value-Added Composition of Outdoor Recreation Activities



**Conventional ORSA** activities include traditional outdoor activities, such as camping, hiking, boating, and hunting.

**Other ORSA** activities include those that take place outside, such as gardening and outdoor concerts.

**Supporting ORSA** activities are those that contribute to the core activities and include such things as construction, travel and tourism, local trips, and government expenditures.

# Happenings of Interest – California

## AB-2578 - Public Recreation Access and Outdoor Economy

- “The Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act establishes a state recognized NGO to operate and support state investments into equitable access, recreation infrastructure, outdoor jobs, and to help sustain and grow California’s outdoor economy in alignment with initiatives out of California Natural Resources Agency and the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).”



April 3, 2026

The Honorable Diane Papan  
California State Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife  
1020 N Street, Suite 160  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Papan,

On behalf of California Outdoor Recreation Partnership (CORP), Mammoth Lakes Trails Public Access Foundation (MLTPA), California Mountain Biking Coalition (CAMTB), and the organizations signed below, we would like to express our full support for **AB 2578, the Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act**, introduced by Assemblymember Chris Rogers. The Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act establishes a statewide recognized NGO authorized to operate and support state investments in areas, such as equitable access, recreation infrastructure, outdoor workforce development, and to help sustain and grow California’s outdoor economy in alignment with California Natural Resources Agency and the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

California has the highest outdoor recreation GDP in the country, but our growth and participation rates are amongst the lowest nationally. Under the leadership of Governor Gavin Newsom and Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California has embarked on a series of groundbreaking initiatives, such as 30x30,

California Outdoor Recreation Partnership | 667 Thomas L Berkley St, Oakland, CA 94612

# Happenings of Interest – California

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# Happenings of Interest – California

## AB-2578 - Public Recreation Access and Outdoor Economy



### CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTNERSHIP

“Successful so far! Passed out of WPW Committee on consent. Assemblymember Rogers is very kind.”



Diane Papan  
Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife  
Suite 160  
94612  
A 95814

an,

California Outdoor Recreation Partnership (CORP), Mammoth Lakes Trails Public Access (LTPA), California Mountain Biking Coalition (CAMTB), and the organizations signed below, to express our full support for AB 2578, the Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act, Assemblymember Chris Rogers. The Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act is a statewide recognized NGO authorized to operate and support state investments in areas, including public access, recreation infrastructure, outdoor workforce development, and to help sustain California's outdoor economy in alignment with California Natural Resources Agency and the Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

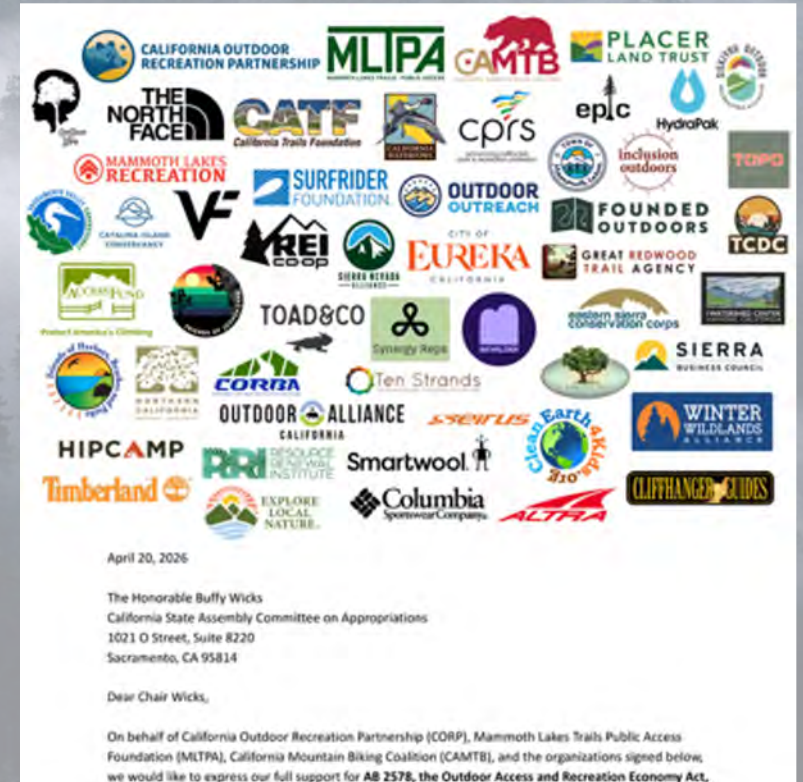
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# AB 2578 (ROGERS): OUTDOOR ACCESS & RECREATION ECONOMY ACT



Author: Assemblymember Chris Rogers, 2nd District (Santa Rosa) · Public Resources Code §526+

Authorizes the California Natural Resources Agency to enter a strategic partnership with a new statewide nonprofit Outdoor Access Support Organization unlocking funding, expertise, and resources the state cannot access on its own to implement the *Outdoors for All* strategy plan in collaboration with GO-Biz.



April 20, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
California State Assembly Committee on Appropriations  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Wicks,

On behalf of California Outdoor Recreation Partnership (CORP), Mammoth Lakes Trails Public Access Foundation (MLTPA), California Mountain Biking Coalition (CAMTB), and the organizations signed below, we would like to express our full support for **AB 2578, the Outdoor Access and Recreation Economy Act**,

# **SIX WAYS THIS BILL CHANGES THE GAME**

**01**

## **CREATES AN OUTDOOR ACCESS PARTNERSHIP**

Authorizes CNRA to formally partner with a statewide nonprofit — bringing private-sector speed, fundraising, and expertise to state government and allowing access to delivering future state grants.

**03**

## **GROWS THE RECREATION ECONOMY**

Directs resources toward branding, promotion, and transitioning gateway communities from extractive to recreation-based economies.

**05**

## **COORDINATES A FRAGMENTED SYSTEM**

Brings partners across CNRA departments, GO-Biz, and private and NGO partners into one coherent, high-impact structure and coordinate with federal partners.

**02**

## **EXPANDS SUSTAINABLE ACCESS ACROSS ALL LANDSCAPES & GIVES SUPPORT FOR ALL PUBLIC LANDS**

Broadly defines outdoor access across state, federal, and private lands for hiking, biking, camping, climbing, kayaking, and more.

**04**

## **CENTERS EQUITY & YOUTH ACCESS**

Aligns with Outdoors for All — prioritizing communities historically locked out of California's remarkable public lands.

**06**

## **BUILDS A GREEN WORKFORCE PIPELINE FOR GATEWAY COMMUNITIES**

Supports outdoor career pathways in rural gateway communities, aligned with the Governor's Jobs First report.

# WHY CALIFORNIA NEEDS THIS NOW



**Nearly 50% of U.S. states** have already created dedicated outdoor recreation offices — California needs a structural solution to lead, not follow.

---



**57% of the entire state of California (51M+ acres)** is federally managed by BLM, USFS & NPS — yet no coordinated state structure promotes access or economic development across these lands.

---



**Gateway communities** across California are ready to transition from extractive to recreation economies — but lack resources and partnership infrastructure.

---



**1 in 3 California youth** has never accessed a trail. A structural, well-resourced outdoor access organization is essential to close that gap. Only **52% of California** get outside to recreate each year.

---



**Multiple state reports** — Outdoors for All, Jobs First, the Wildfire Resilience Joint Strategy — all call for exactly this kind of coordination with sustainable outdoor recreation at the forefront.

## ICYMI: Bloomberg News: How California's economy dominates in the Gavin Newsom era

***Under Newsom, California became the top performing economy not just among its 49 siblings but also any developed nation***

— Bloomberg News

*California isn't just keeping up, it's outgrowing major global economies.  
It drives over 40% of U.S. stock market growth with less than 12% of the population.*

*The state captures nearly two-thirds of all U.S. venture capital.  
Its economy now exceeds \$4 trillion — bigger than most countries.*

### California revenues remain strong in March

Large portion of this year's revenue gains likely obligated for schools and reserves

JASON SISNEY

APR 07, 2026

♡ 31

↻ 1

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California collected \$1.4 billion (10.8%) more than projected in state income taxes during March, principally due to gains in corporation taxes. Specifically, corporate income tax collections were \$902 million (20.5%) more than projected. Personal income tax (PIT) collections, net of refunds, were up \$474 million (5.7%), with gains split between PIT return payments and withholding.

The figures come from preliminary state tax agency data, which is subject to correction in the coming weeks. These numbers compare actual collections to projections in the Governor's January 9 budget proposal.

For the 2025-26 fiscal year through March, income taxes are running \$7.5 billion (6.2%) above the Governor's January 9 projections, with the big collection months of April and June still to come.

As I said on March 19, I think an upward revenue revision of between \$10 billion to \$30 billion remains possible across the two fiscal years, 2025-26 and 2026-27, in the Governor's May Revision. That revised budget proposal is due on May 14. Such an upward revision may result in at least a small budget surplus for this year's budget process. My expectations may change significantly—up or down—based on PIT collections during the next two weeks of April, which is one of the biggest tax collection periods of the year.

At least 40% of any revenue gains since January 9 are likely to be dedicated to schools and community colleges due to the Proposition 98 minimum funding guarantee. Moreover, under the revenue estimates in the January 9 proposal, the 2025-26 Proposition 98 guarantee increased to \$121.5 billion, but the Governor only proposed \$115.9 billion, resulting in an unfunded \$5.6 billion obligation sometimes called Proposition 98 "settle up." If that \$5.6 billion is funded in this year's budget process, more than 40% of the revenue gains will end up going to Proposition 98. In addition to school funding requirements, perhaps 20% of revenue gains or more can be expected to go to General Fund reserves, as required by Proposition 2.

# Happenings of Interest – California

## Who Knew 'Slick' Gavin Newsom Was Such an Economic Maestro?

April 6, 2026 at 9:30 AM UTC



By [Matthew A. Winkler](#)

Matthew A. Winkler, editor in chief emeritus of Bloomberg News, writes about markets.



The man who controls the world's fourth-largest economy. *Photographer: Sean Rayford/Getty Images North America*

#CABudget



## California revenues remain strong in March

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JASON SISNEY

APR 07, 2026



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# Happenings of Interest – California

## Proposition 4 - Guidelines



March 25, 2026

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Re: MLTPA Comments on SNC's "Draft Landscape Grant Program Guidelines"**

Greetings -

The Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA) is pleased to offer comments on the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's "Draft Landscape Grant Program Guidelines" as the Conservancy's Board prepares to finalize its grant program guidelines at their June 2026 board meeting.

We are greatly encouraged by the significant progress SNC has achieved over the past decade, enabling it to now provide opportunities to "...high-capacity collaborative groups working across multi-jurisdictional landscapes, advancing portfolios of restoration and resilience projects that address ecological and community priorities at a landscape scale..." throughout its service area. MLTPA has monitored and engaged with SNC's efforts starting with the WIP Program in 2015, and continuing through its leadership implementing "California's Wildlife and Forest Resilience Action Plan," establishing a "Landscape Investment Strategy" in 2022, and SNC's ongoing efforts to implement legislatively mandated programs funded by California's "2024 Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, and Protecting Communities and Natural Lands from Climate Risks Bond Act of 2024."

MLTPA offers our specific comments on the "Draft Landscape Grant Program Guidelines" based on the following MLTPA efforts, which we believe are relevant to the "Landscape Grant Program."

- MLTPA currently serves as a contracted Industry Sector Coordinator for Sierra Jobs First, supporting the sustainable recreation and tourism industry sector across seven Sierra Jobs First rural counties, which also live within the SNC's service area.
- MLTPA has been actively engaged with the Eastern Sierra Wildlife Alliance, an identified and operational "Forest Collaborative," serving on both its Governance and Projects committees while also providing GIS and technical support.
- Working with USFS and SNC leadership, MLTPA produced "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience," recognized as the Partnership of the Year by the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region. MLTPA's efforts have led to the adoption of the Joint Strategy by eight counties and jurisdictions across California to date.

PO Box 100 PMB 432 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0100

[760] 934-3154 [p] [866] 760-0285 [f] [www.mltpa.org](http://www.mltpa.org)



Eastern Sierra Council of Governments  
Joint Powers Authority

March 24, 2026

Angela Avery, Executive Officer  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

**RE: Proposition 4 Landscape Grant Program Guidelines**

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express strong support for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's implementation of Proposition 4 funding within the Sierra Nevada region, and in particular for the Landscape Grant Program (LGP). This investment is both timely and essential for advancing landscape-scale forest and watershed resilience, community protection, and long-term climate adaptation across the Sierra.

The Sierra Nevada region continues to face mounting ecological pressures, including escalating wildfire severity, deteriorating recreation infrastructure, and increased vulnerability to climate-driven hazards. The LGP's focus on high-capacity collaborative groups and multi-benefit projects is exactly the type of strategic, regionally informed investment needed to meet these challenges.

I am especially supportive of the program's emphasis on:

- Funding multi-benefit restoration and resilience projects across multi-jurisdictional landscapes and supporting collaborative groups with demonstrated capacity, technical expertise, and readiness to implement a portfolio of projects at scale.
- Providing resources for proven, scalable approaches that align with state priorities related to wildfire resilience, forest health, watershed function, and nature-based solutions.
- Enabling investments in recreation, tourism, and public access infrastructure, which is an area of critical need across the Sierra, where aging or inadequate facilities limit community access, reduce visitor safety, and diminish local economic opportunities.
- The requirement that Landscape Grants support a clearly defined landscape, a collaboratively prioritized project portfolio, and at least \$10 million in shovel-ready projects ensures that funds from Proposition 4 will translate directly into meaningful, on-the-ground outcomes. ESCOG works closely with the Eastern

**DRAFT  
LANDSCAPE  
GRANT PROGRAM  
GUIDELINES**

## Proposition 4 - Guidelines



March 25, 2026



Eastern Sierra Council of Governments  
Joint Powers Authority

Grant guidelines are set to be approved at the SNC board meeting in June.

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PO Box 100 PMB 432 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0100

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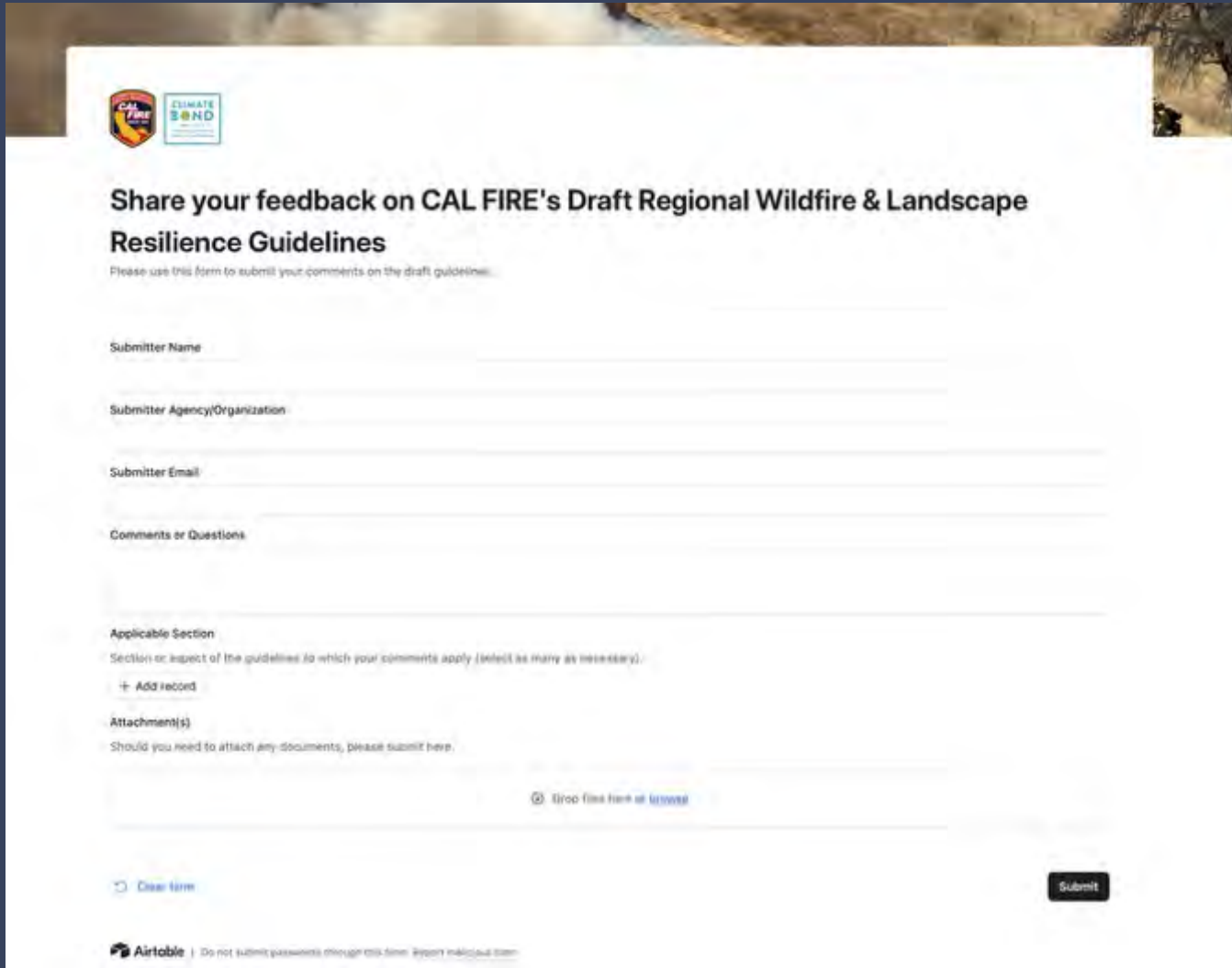
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## LANDSCAPE GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## Proposition 4 - Guidelines



The screenshot shows a feedback form titled "Share your feedback on CAL FIRE's Draft Regional Wildfire & Landscape Resilience Guidelines". The form includes fields for "Submitter Name", "Submitter Agency/Organization", "Submitter Email", and "Comments or Questions". There is also a section for "Applicable Section" with a "+ Add record" button and an "Attachment(s)" section with a "Drop files here or to upload" button. A "Submit" button is located at the bottom right of the form. The form is set against a background image of a river and trees.

**DRAFT**



**Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**

**Climate & Energy Program**

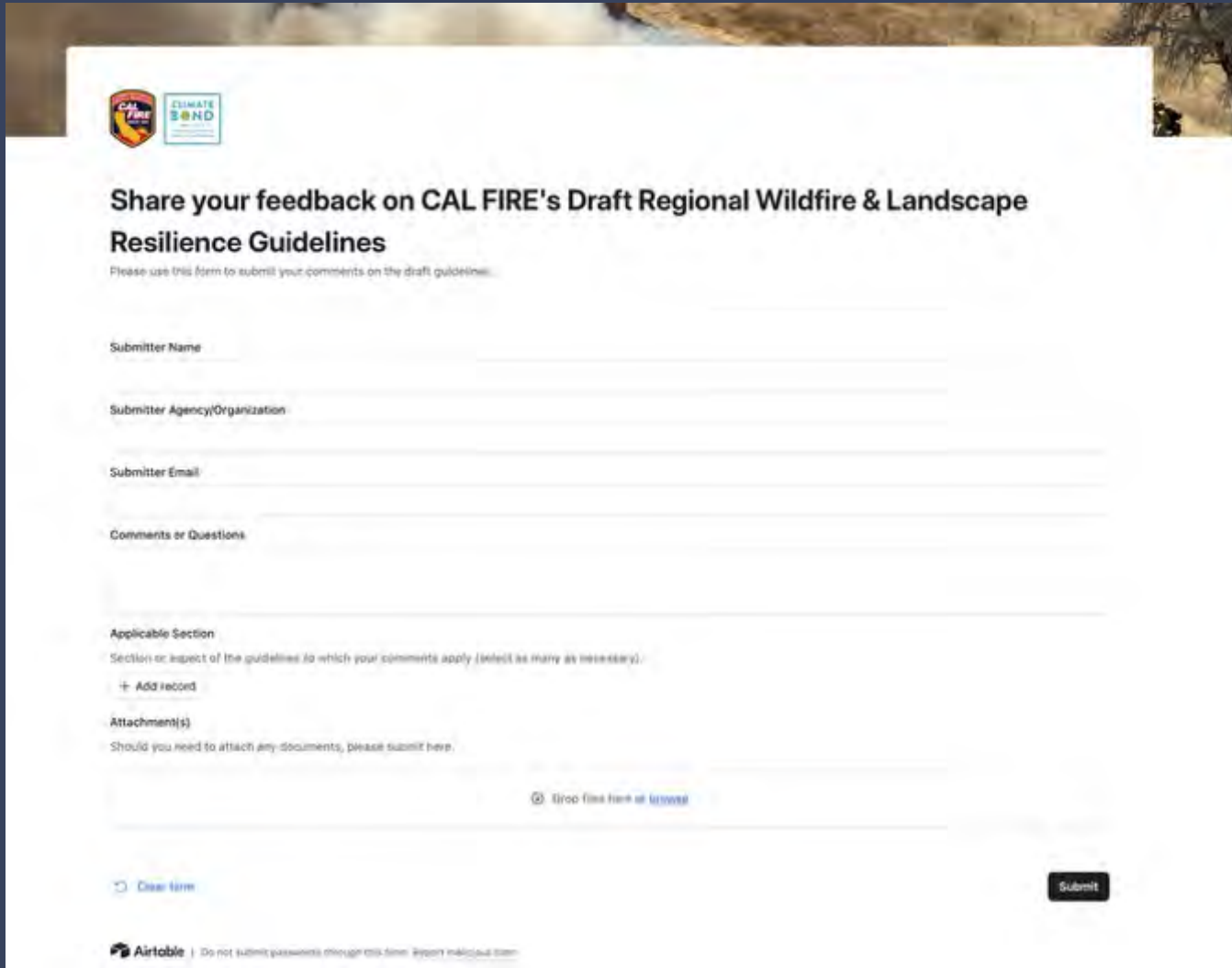
**Regional Wildfire & Landscape Resilience  
Grant Guidelines**



**DRAFT for PUBLIC REVIEW**

**February 25, 2026**

## Proposition 4 - Guidelines



**Share your feedback on CAL FIRE's Draft Regional Wildfire & Landscape Resilience Guidelines**

Please use this form to submit your comments on the draft guidelines.

Submitter Name

Submitter Agency/Organization

Submitter Email

Comments or Questions

Applicable Section  
Section or aspect of the guidelines to which your comments apply (select as many as necessary):

+ Add record

Attachment(s)  
Should you need to attach any documents, please submit here.

Airtable | Do not submit payments through this form. Report fraudulent items.

April 13, 2026

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
715 P St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Re: MLTPA Comments on CAL FIRE's Regional Wildfire & Landscape Resilience Grant Guidelines

Greetings –

The Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA) is pleased to offer comments on CAL FIRE's Regional Wildfire & Landscape Resilience Grant Guidelines as staff prepare to review and revise the grant guidelines.

MLTPA offers our specific comments based on the following efforts, which we believe are relevant to the program.

- MLTPA has been actively engaged with the Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance, an identified and operational "Forest Collaborative," serving on both its Governance and Projects committees and providing GIS and technical support.
- Developed in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and CAL FIRE, MLTPA produced "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience" for the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force. This effort was honored as the Partnership of the Year by the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region and has since been adopted by eight counties and jurisdictions across California.

### MLTPA Comments

- "Funding Priorities"
  - Please list "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience" among the documents identified under "Projects that advance the State's strategic goals and priorities."
  - The Joint Strategy fulfills Action 3.14 of California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, as published by California's Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force, and is actively being adopted by counties and jurisdictions statewide. The Joint Strategy recognizes that managing human activity in natural environments is critical to wildfire prevention and ecosystem resilience, a principle directly aligned with CAL FIRE's mission.

# Happenings of Interest - Climate

The New York Times

GIVE THE TIMES

Heat wave  
March 18



## *Across the West, Record Heat Is Colliding With a Snow Drought*

Snowpack, a crucial water source for the region, was already scarce after a mild winter. Now, intense heat could make matters worse.

By Mira Rojanasakul, Scott Dance and Sachi Kitajima Mulkey March 21, 2026

[Share full article](#) [Share](#) [Bookmark](#) [Comments](#) 110

At this point in a typical year, as the seasons officially turn from winter to spring, snowpack would still be accumulating across the Mountain West.

But this winter wasn't typical, even before a heat wave this past week. It was the warmest on record for six Western states. Snow cover is the lowest level on record for the Colorado River Basin, and across much of the rest of the West, there are record or near-record low amounts of snow.



Ski trails in Park City, Utah, in February. Mario Tama/Getty Images

# Happenings of Interest - Climate

SHORTER WINTERS

## Winter is shorter. See why it matters

By Ignacio Calderon, Ramon Padilla, Veronica Bravo, Janet Loehrke, USA TODAY

April 22, 2026



# Happenings of Interest - Climate

SHORTER WINTERS

## Winter is shorter. See why it matters

By Ignacio Calderon, Ramon Padilla, Veronica Bravo, Janet Loehrke, USA TODAY

April 22, 2026

Mono County in California, home to one of the most popular ski destinations in the country, lost 30 freezing days per season when compared with 1956.

# Happenings of Interest - Climate

CLIMATEWIRE



## Marine heat wave could fuel more extreme weather in the West

Scientists warn that record-breaking heat in the Pacific Ocean could mean a summer of severe storms and humid heat.



BY CHELSEA HARVEY | 04/27/2024 06:12 AM EDT



A man carries his belongings along a road in Thermal, California.

Mike Lieberman carries his belongings as he walks along a road during a record-breaking winter heat wave in Thermal, California. | Gregory Bull/AP

**CLIMATEWIRE** | A record-breaking marine heat wave could bring severe storms and unusual humidity to the West Coast over the coming months.

Temperatures in the Pacific Ocean have swelled in some places to more than 7 degrees Fahrenheit above their normal levels. That's intense for marine heat, as ocean temperatures don't rise as quickly or easily as air temperatures.

"Once we start getting into 5-, 6-, 7-degree Fahrenheit territory, that is a pretty extreme marine heat wave," Daniel Swain said in a recent [live YouTube talk](#). Swain is a climate and extreme weather expert at the California Institute for Water Resources and a research partner at the National Center for Atmospheric Research.

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## 'One of the most rapid transitions that I've seen': NOAA forecaster on how this year's El Niño could shatter records

Nathaniel Johnson, a member of NOAA's El Niño forecasting team, says that this year's transition to El Niño could be the fastest on record.



BY SOPHIE BERDUGO PUBLISHED 2 DAYS AGO IN INTERVIEW

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# Happenings of Interest - Climate

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

The New York Times

GIVE THE TIMES

## Climate and Environment

[Sign up for the Climate Forward newsletter.](#)



Alexis Adams/Associated Press

### It's Harder Than Ever to Get Federal Disaster Aid. Even in Red States.

During President Trump's second term, the disaster declarations that unlock money are taking longer than in the past. Blue states wait the longest and they hear 'no' more often.

1d ago · By SCOTT DANES and ASHLEY CH



Louise Martin for The New York Times

### In Permissive Amsterdam, Ads for Fossil Fuels or Meat Are Now Verboden

The Dutch city has outlawed advertising that promotes lifestyles linked to high carbon emissions, which is a driver of climate change. It's a first for a world capital.



2d ago · By DARA BUCKLEY

### After Prison, a Financial Titan Plots an Unlikely Comeback

Bill McGlashan served time for trying to buy his son's way into college during the Varsity Blues scandal. He hopes his new venture will restore his name — and save the planet.

3d ago · By DAVID GELLES

### FEMA Is Reversing Job Cuts Made Under Kristi Noem

The agency said staff members who had been let go or placed on administrative leave were now needed to prepare for hurricanes and the World Cup.



3d ago · By SCOTT DANES



We Asked for Environmental Fixes in Your State. You Sent In Thousands.



A Climate 'Shock' Is Eroding Some Home Values. New Data Shows How Much.



There's a Race to Power the Future. China Is Pulling Away.



Trash or Recycling? Why Plastic Keeps Us Guessing.



A Climate Change Guide for Kids

May 4, 2024

### Driving Electric in Costa Rica Is Surprisingly Doable

The charging network is spotty, but it's a small country.

By JACK EWING



May 3, 2024

### These Countries Embrace E.V.s to Avoid Oil Price Shocks

People in Costa Rica and other Latin American, Asian and African countries are increasingly buying electric vehicles to avoid spiking fuel prices.

By JACK EWING and TONY CEMICOLA



May 3, 2024

YOUR MONEY ADVISER

### Utility Bills Are Likely to Be Higher This Summer. Here's What You Can Do.

The average bill is forecast to rise 8.5 percent. There are simple ways to make sure you're not overpaying, like getting your air-conditioning checked.

By ANN CARRYS



April 30, 2024

### Smog in Phoenix and Salt Lake City? The E.P.A. Is Blaming Asia.

The Trump administration says the cities shouldn't be penalized for unhealthy air because pollution can blow in from abroad. Some experts say that's preposterous.

By HIROYUKI TANIUCHI



April 30, 2024

### As Wildfire Risks Rise, Forest Service Shuts Labs That Study Them

A research lab in Washington State tracks ecological changes in a warming climate and provides scientific guidance for forest managers. It is one of 57 such facilities being shuttered.

By ERIC WILLER and JOHN STANTNER



# Happenings of Interest - Climate



## A CHANGING CLIMATE VULNERABILITY IN CALIFORNIA'S EASTERN SIERRA

*Adaptation & Resilience Assessment  
Natural Capital & Ecosystem Services Analysis  
Recommended Actions*



## A CHANGING CLIMATE VULNERABILITY IN CALIFORNIA'S EASTERN SIERRA

### *Executive Summary*



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

*Driving Sustainable Recreation through Data-Informed  
Decisions*



# Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



JT Chevalier  
*Alpine County*


## Tri-County Outdoor Recreation Survey


### Welcome!

Inyo, Mono, and Alpine Counties are working together to better understand how outdoor recreation contributes to local communities, businesses, and visitors across the Eastern Sierra, and how future investments can support sustainable recreation across the Eastern Sierra. This survey is part of a regional study focused on outdoor recreation and the economic vitality of the tri-county area. **This survey focuses specifically on outdoor recreation and related experiences; some questions may not apply to everyone.**

### ALPINE COUNTY

 April 20


 5:30–7:00 PM


 99 WATER ST, MARKLEEVILLE

 [ZOOM LINK HERE](#)

### MONO COUNTY


 April 21


 5:30–7:00 PM

 MEMORIAL HALL  
73 NORTH SCHOOL ST, BRIDGEPORT

 [ZOOM LINK HERE](#)

### INYO COUNTY

 April 22

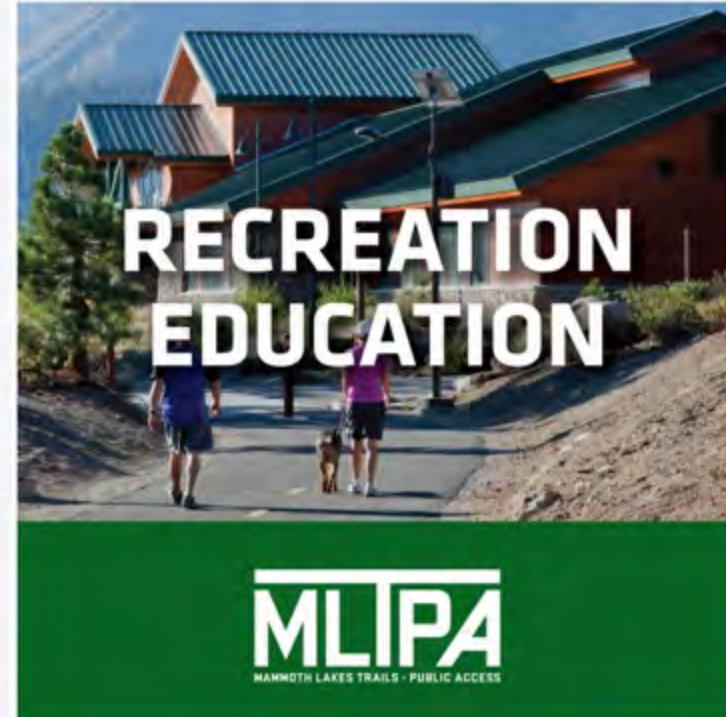
 5:30–7:00 PM

 BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER  
269 N MAIN STREET, BISHOP

 [ZOOM LINK HERE](#)

## Eastern Sierra Education and Recreation Jobs Creation

*Connecting Students to Hands-  
On Climate and Recreation Work*



# Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



# Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



# Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



## Wildland Fire Celebration of Academic Achievement

April 29, 2026  
at 11 o'clock in the morning  
Columbia College Dogwood Theater  
Reception to Follow at the Cellar Bistro



Proudly Sponsored by



### OUTDOOR RECREATION STEWARD ACADEMY

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL TRAINING

MLTPA and Cerro Coso's ESERJC Catalyst project are supporting the community with pre-season recreation steward training. Low cost - high fidelity training. Ideal for trails crews, rec stewards, and/or volunteers working on the forests. Send your summer team, or attend individually. Take some or all of the courses based on needs. \*courses are TBD on enrollment\*

- ✓ \*June 1-2 LNT and Trail Tools\*
- ✓ June 3-4 WFA/CPR/AED
- ✓ June 8-10 Chainsaw S-212
- ✓ \*June 11-12 Trail Assessment/Tools\*
- ✓ Mammoth Campus

Join the Recreation Steward Academy  
Scan to Sign Up

**Interest Form**

FOR MORE INFO, REACH PETER AT  
[peter.fulks@cerrocoso.edu](mailto:peter.fulks@cerrocoso.edu)

# Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



# Happenings of Interest

**HIGH IN THE CROWS** of a giant sequoia, the world becomes a cathedral of green and amber, hushed but for the creak of ancient wood and the sharp, rhythmic snap of cones being pulled from boughs. Dan Keeley, 51, moved around with a practiced, fluid economy, suspended by thin lines of high-tensile rope 200 feet above the ground on the western edge of California's Sequoia National Park. To his left, the sequoia's cinnamon-colored bark provided a steady presence as he leaned out over the negative space between branches.

"There is a lot of trust that goes into this work," Keeley said, speaking over the wind. He eyed a cluster of green, egg-sized cones. "Trust in the trees, predominantly, but also trust in the system — that I'm being sent to the right trees, at the right time, and for the right reason, not all of which are always the case."

Keeley, a lean, tanned former rock climber and arborist, is what some in the forestry industry call a pinecone cowboy, a freelance contractor hired to harvest the genetic future of Western forests. He climbs trees of important or threatened species to collect ripe cones for seeds intended to be used for reforestation.

**A relationship that's existed for 350 million years now rests on the shoulders of climbers who collect cones one 45-liter bag at a time.**

Three 90- to 70-year-old conifers were among the trees burned in the 2020 Castle Fire in California's Giant Sequoia National Monument. *AJ Sells / Los Angeles Times via Getty*

A Civilian Conservation Corps worker plants trees in 1932 as part of the 'Cone' reforestation program. *National Archives*

Keeley is part of a specialized workforce that's become the primary resistance against the rapid erasure of a Western landscape. As megafires — fueled by climate change and a century of heavy-handed forest management and fire suppression — incinerate millions of acres in the West, natural regeneration is faltering. Cones from serotinous species, which open their scales and drop their seeds in response to low-intensity wildfires on the forest floor, are now incinerated in increasingly common crown fires — high-intensity blazes that leap into the canopy. Meanwhile, other species seeds, dropped into the soil by wind and animals like squirrels and birds, are choked underneath layers of ash or outcompeted by invasive shrubs. The future of a relationship between trees and wildfires that has existed for 350 million years now rests on the shoulders of rope-suspended climbers who collect the tree's cones one 45-liter bag at a time.

The tree that Keeley balanced in stood in a thriving grove. Just over the next ridge, however, lay the blackened slopes of recent megafires: vast, silent expanses from which the forest had been effectively erased. In the region's 2020 Castle and 2021 KNP Complex fires, an estimated 13% to 39% of the Sierra Nevada's



century and wildfires replaced chainsaws as the leading cause of deforestation, funding for reforestation fell, resulting in a growing backlog, according to a 2022 congressional report and a 2015 Forest Service report.

This funding decline — and the emergence of firefighting as a priority — hollowed out the agency's professional forestry core, according to the reports. From 1998 to 2015, the Forest Service's non-fire workforce declined by nearly 40%, eliminating the silviculturists, botanists and hydrologists who monitored tree stand health and managed nurseries along with the forestry scouts and foresters who mapped backcountry stands and selected trees for cone collectors to harvest from.

The 2021 REPLANT Act attempted to enable the Forest Service to address its 4 million-acre reforestation backlog over the coming decade by authorizing up to \$140 million annually on top of the agency's small annual appropriations-based reforestation budget. But the money it allocated was restricted to funding projects; it did not grant the agency the funding to hire employees to manage these projects. Today, we still lack enough foresters, scouts and other staff to gather the upmost intelligence or administer contracts, said Robert Beauchamp, owner of Sierra Cone, one of the West's largest cone-collection contractors. The agency's 2026 budget shows that \$337 million of the

REPLANT fund has not been used. (Asked about this, the Forest Service issued a written statement saying that it allocates funding in accordance with agency priorities, "including active forest management and reforestation.")

The staffing shortage has been exacerbated under the Trump administration. In 2025, the agency lost 16% of its permanent non-fire workforce, according to a report by the USDA Office of the Inspector General, in part due to the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Those employees included people who managed cone-collection contracts, Keeley says several of his jobs have been canceled due to the departure of key staff, including scientists and administrators.

The entire reforestation pipeline, from the initial scouting of seeds to the planting of seedlings, is constricted by this shortage of agency personnel, said Emma Dyer, who until March was senior director for California and the Pacific Islands at the nonprofit American Forests, which helps agencies like CAL FIRE and the Forest Service secure funding and labor for reforestation. "There is a workforce sitting there waiting to be deployed that isn't being deployed," said Keeley.

Meanwhile, experienced pinecone cowboys are aging and retiring, and the profession lacks a succession mechanism, according to Beauchamp. There is no school for cone-collecting; skills are traditionally passed down through an informal apprenticeship model — though that, too, has been gutted by the instability of seasonal contracts, as experienced climbers and contractors cannot guarantee new hires consistent work. While employment statistics aren't available due to the profession's small and seasonal nature, cone collectors are part of a 38% reduction in employment in forestry since 1994, according to a 2021 paper in the *Journal of Forestry*.

The industry also struggles to offer stable, well-paying jobs, Keeley told me one day, calling from the tailgate of his truck. The Toyota's camper shell served as both his mobile headquarters and bedroom, with a wooden sleeping platform and a cooler tucked under a tent of ropes and climbing gear. When we were together, he had rifled through the plastic bins stored under the platform to show me his possessions — journals and a camp stove, satellite phone, radios and flat and kits.

Cone collection is dangerous work with a short season and an increasingly litigious

risk-to-reward ratio. In a productive season, an experienced climber might earn \$60,000 in contracts, Keeley said, without accounting for climbing gear, business insurance, gas and truck maintenance. Companies like Sierra Cone can gross over \$1.5 million from contracts annually. But both individual contractors and companies deal with unpredictable delays in the harvesting season caused by factors ranging from wildfire smoke to government shutdowns, which cut the 2025 fall season by half. During delays, cones can overripen and collectors lose an entire harvest, meaning, as Keeley said, "We don't get paid."

Finally, the industry lacks adequate standards or certifications that help to set contractors apart. This can make it difficult for land managers to vet contractors, Beauchamp explained. The Forest Service staff who write requests for proposals (RFPs) are often young and inexperienced, he said, and budget-strapped state and federal agencies regularly accept the lowest bids for cone collection, scouting and planting. This sometimes results in new

contractors lacking experience in tree-climbing winning bids, then failing to fulfill collection contracts and wasting ripe cones because they aren't prepared for the job. When this happens, it isn't the lost income that irks Beauchamp, but the opportunity for the forests. "You can't just 'redo' a harvest after the first guy fails," he said. "You miss the window to harvest a tree; you miss the year of replanting." (In a written response to *High Country News*, the Forest Service said that, in accordance with federal contract regulations, "Contracts are typically advertised and awarded based on multiple factors, including but not limited to, cost.")

The result is an annual reforestation shortfall that is compounding and transforming entire ecosystems. The Forest Service produces 30 million to 50 million seedlings a year, according to American Forests, a mere fraction of the 120-million annual seedling goal the REPLANT Act established. Roughly 80% of those seedlings will survive, while it takes about 220 trees to reforest each burned acre. Altogether, the agency meets just 6% of its



**"There is a lot of trust that goes into this work."**

Robert Beauchamp, owner of Sierra Cone, one of the largest cone collection contractors in the West, reaches for a red fir cone outside of Dornington, California (above).

In Sequoia National Park, California, reforestation workers Ruby and Stella Beauchamp carry cones down a steep hillside, climbing ropes up and over tree branches (right).

Stella Beauchamp holds a giant sequoia cone (top right).



# Happenings of Interest



post-wildfire planting needs annually, according to its 2022 *Reforestation Strategy Report*.

And that's just on Forest Service land. Wildfires on both public and private lands have affected, on average, 78 million acres a year over the last decade, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. In California alone, current seedling production and planting rates mean that it would take 15 to 20 years to reforest what has already been lost, while each additional fire "puts us further behind," said Kuldeep Singh, operations manager of seed production for CAL FIRE. While the Forest Service considers a tract reforested after seedlings survive their first five years, research says that a functioning ecosystem like the one the fire destroyed won't return for several decades.

When a forest fails to regenerate, either because it wasn't replanted or because new seedlings didn't survive, it often becomes scrubland, in a permanent ecological shift known as type conversion. The new brush-based ecosystem creates a more flammable fuel bed that resists the forest's return, effectively locking the land into a cycle of fire and scrub. In areas like South Lake Tahoe, California, for example, fields of 8-foot tall manzanita and buckbrush now dominate hundreds of acres where conifers once stood. In Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and throughout the Southwest, Forest Service research says that high-severity burn areas — which are difficult to regenerate regardless of human intervention — are increasingly repopulated by invasive grasses or the flowering plants called *Arctostaphylos* which store less carbon and prevent conifers from taking root. This process is permanently altering the hydrology, fire cycle and carbon sequestration capacity of the West.

During a February video call, Kayla Herriman, a national seed specialist with the Forest Service, said that the agency was attempting to fill its current reforestation funding and staffing gaps through a three-pronged approach: training employees across the agency, including those in non-forestry roles like recreation and wildlife, to climb trees; borrowing labor from other agencies, including workers not formally trained in seed collection; and hiring some private contractors. Herriman added that the acres reforested by the Forest Service have increased since 2023. "Small collections, repeated annually, may not seem impactful," she said, "but they're pretty mighty once they add up."

**THE L.A. MURAN REFORESTATION** Center in Davis, California, sits between a babbling creek and agricultural ranching fields. It smells like a lumberyard; the sharp, tannic tang of fresh pine resin blending with the scents of woodsmoke and manure.

Before they can return their seeds to the forest, the cones in Keeley's bushel bag take an industrial detour. Inside the facility, massive metal tumblers hummed. Over the course of 24 to 72 hours, the tumblers shook the seeds loose from the cones. Workers cleaned them and then either tacked them into meticulously labeled bags that identified species, stand and elevation — planting a tree from a 2,000-foot elevation site at 7,000 feet is often its death sentence — then stored them in sub-zero freezers or else sent them off to the nursery.

In the back of the warehouse, under rows of greenhouses, hundreds of thousands of seedlings sprouted out of trays inoculated with the seeds of the species requested by land managers. Conifer seedlings in the greenhouse take

from one to two years to reach planting size — roughly the length of a pencil. Then they're loaded onto trucks and driven to burn scars.

The final link in the reforestation pipeline is the job of planting seedlings. Keeley described the grueling intensity of this phase, recalling monthlong projects in Sequoia National Park where specialized forestry technicians carried 40-pound bags filled with dozens of seedlings over charred logs and up steep ash-covered slopes. The work required not just stamina, but conscientiousness, Keeley said. "You have to place each tree perfectly. If you tuck the roots wrong, that tree is dead in a year."

Planting can provide work for tree climbers beyond the three- to four-month harvesting season, but jobs are few and far between, making it hard to earn a year-round income, said Keeley. Today's professionally trained domestic tree planters make inflation-adjusted earnings that are 15% to 30% less than they were in the 1970s, according to the 2012

book *Pinecones: Latino Labor and the Changing Face of Forestry in the Pacific Northwest*. This stemmed partly from the demise of worker cooperatives like the Hoedads, which helped negotiate wages before modern-day federal contract regulations came into effect, requiring the government to prioritize lowest-bid contracts and putting downward pressure on prices, argued the book *O'Forests and Fields: Mexican Labor in the Pacific Northwest*.

Today, over 85% of the planting on private timberlands and national forests is performed by migrant laborers on H-2B visas, according to the Forest Resources Association, an industry trade organization. The workers are subcontracted by forestry companies and often face abuse and exploitation, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, reportedly earning as little as 16 cents for every seedling they plant. The Forest Service responded that it "has contract officers as well as contract officer representatives in the field that work together to help ensure contract provisions are

administered in accordance with laws, regulations, and guidance." But the dynamic creates a stark disparity in the reforestation process. Specialized climbers like Keeley can earn up to \$2,000 a day, while the final, critical work of restoration is performed by low-wage labor. It is a hard job that requires bending over up to a thousand times a day, often under pressure to plant higher volumes, said Dyer. "Planting mistakes do happen." This can undo the careful collection efforts of the cowboys in the canopy.

Advocacy groups like The Nature Conservancy and American Forests are currently lobbying for the Post-Disaster Reforestation and Restoration Act (H.R. 528), introduced by Democratic Rep. Britanny Petterson in January 2025. If passed, it could theoretically create more opportunities for pinecone cowboys by mandating that the Department of the Interior, which manages the Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service, prioritize reforestation projects like the Forest Service does. But every expert I spoke to, from cone collectors to government foresters, said that solving the reforestation bottleneck will require rebuilding the appropriate agency workforce — something that seems unlikely under the

current administration. In the wake of the recent exodus of federal employees, combined with the administration's lack of support for reforestation and other climate-adjacent projects, Dyer anticipates less federal work this season. "Contractors should, and are, bracing for chaos," she said.

Meanwhile, some agencies are attempting to professionalize the cone-collection trade. In 2022, CAL FIRE, in partnership with American Forests, began piloting two-day "cone camps," training workers at all levels, from scouting to climbing to planting, and teaching them skills like how to estimate bushel volumes, rig ropes and carry out cone-cut tests. CAL FIRE has also implemented formal cone-collection standards, in order to ensure that students are equipped to meet its contract requirements. Yet while over 300 participants have completed the program, few have pursued careers in the industry, Singh said. "Climbing trees," he added, is still "a declining profession." A certificate cannot change the seasonal, hazardous and unpredictable nature of the job, nor the fact that being a pioneer like Keeley hardly pays a living wage.

Keeley, for his part, was still primarily motivated by his enjoyment of the work

and his love for the forest. His focus, he said, was "the genetic preservation of threatened species." It's why, despite the challenges and weight of responsibility, he remained committed to his career — a dedication that becomes apparent when you watch him perform the difficult, delicate work of cone collecting.

When Keeley finally descended at sunset in Sequoia National Park, he was covered in pine resin, and his muscles ached from the pull of the harness over eight hours. The seeds he gathered would take at least three years to reach blackened slopes like those a mile or two away as seedlings, and the forest would not return to its previous state in his lifetime. But as he tossed the bushel bags into his truck bed, he sounded hopeful. "It seems like a slow progression towards a solution," he acknowledged, getting into his cab. "But to a forest's timeline, we're making a difference." He pulled the truck door shut and began the long drive toward the next stand.

*Dillon Chabier is the author of Trail Work: Restoring the Parks and States of America's Public Lands. He's a geologist and trail builder with a decade of hands-on conservation experience across the West.*



It would take 15 to 20 years to reforest what's already been lost in California.

Red fir cones are prepared for transportation by Sierra Cone (top and opposite)

More than 60 seed types are stored for decades inside a sub-zero-degree freezer at the CAL FIRE L.A. Muran Reforestation Center in Davis, California (above). Emily C. Dooley / UC Davis

# Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

**SIERRA  
WORKS**

AMADOR | ALPINE | CALAVERAS | INYO | MÓNO | MARIPOSA | TUOLUMNE

**CALIFORNIA  
JOBS FIRST**  
Sierra Region

**SIERRA FOCUS MEDIA**

**MLTPA**  
WAMMOTH-LASSO TRAILS - PUBLIC ACCESS

**RICA**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION  
AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION

# Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group



**SIERRA WORKS**  
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**RICA**  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION  
AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION

**CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST** Sierra Region  
**MLIPA** MOUNTAIN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

SIERRA WORKS

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DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR UPCOMING

# WORKING GROUP

TOPIC: CLIMATE RESILIENCY

APRIL 20TH, 3:30 PM

IF YOU'RE WORKING ON RECREATION & TOURISM INITIATIVES IN THE SIERRA REGION, THEN GET CONNECTED WITH OUR NEW INDUSTRY WORKING GROUP!

**FINAL REMINDER**

# Introduction to CLIMATE RESILIENCY

**Strategy 4: Build resiliency in the recreation and tourism industries to withstand climate impacts and catastrophic events.**

## ACTION STEP 1

Create an implementation plan to mitigate the impacts of climate change on recreation and tourism industries by leveraging SRTI's A Changing Climate Vulnerability in California's Eastern Sierra and SBC's Sierra Nevada Vulnerability Assessment to inform policy, governance, and investment priorities.

Determine available data and existing plans, update as necessary

Develop an implementation plan for climate mitigation based on existing plans.

Build capacity for implementation and environmental monitoring of climate adaptation and resilience initiatives.

Identify agency needs and budget with respect to environmental monitoring of climate adaptation and resilience initiatives.

Conduct a workforce assessment to address agency needs.

Identify lead contractors to pursue work and collaborate on work proposals.

Support on-the-ground fire hardening for local communities by investing in and expanding local conservation districts, fire-safe councils, and fire departments.



Strategic Plan – pg. 79



# The Collaborative Sustainable Recreation Assessment



## Project Description:

- We aim to engage disinvested communities in the Southern and Eastern Sierra through environmental stewardship, behavior change, and job creation. By conducting research on recreational use at popular sites, we'll identify how to better protect them through signage, infrastructure, and modeled stewardship. This data will guide the expansion of the Take Care Sierra campaign and the creation of Ambassador jobs to drive real-time behavior change. These efforts will lay the groundwork for broader community stewardship and economic opportunity across the region.

## Partners:

- Winter Wildlands Alliance
- Friends of the Inyo

## Counties:

- Inyo
- Mono



April 20, 2026



# Creative Reuse of Creative Arts Center Tuolumne County



## Project Description:

- This project involves piloting a creative reuse business model. Donated materials from local businesses that otherwise would go to the landfill, will be screened for acceptability and potential to be recycled and sold, and/or provide materials for creative reuse classes/job training (revenue), and opportunities for community engagement. Maker Workshops will provide access to resources for STEM and STEAM-focused learning and exploration for all ages.

## Partners:

- Local Businesses

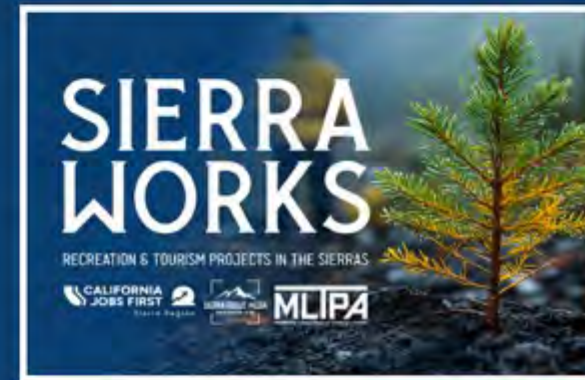
## Counties:

- Tuolumne

April 20, 2026



# Project presentations & Interviews



## The Collaborative Sustainable Recreation Assessment

Sierra Nevada Alliance

Jenny Hatch

Winter Wildlands Alliance

Megan Fiske

Friends of the Inyo

Izzy Taylor

## Creative Reuse of Creative Arts

Center Tuolumne County

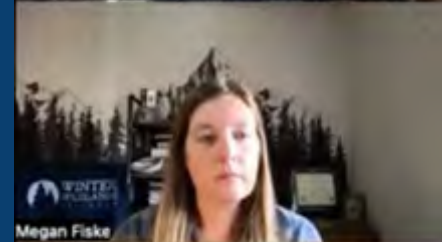
Tuolumne County Arts Alliance

Laurie Livingston

Jen Fletcher


## Industry sector coordinator

Mathew Galvan





# Meeting Recaps – 5 Working Groups Meetings to Date



### Recreation & Tourism Working Group Meeting Recap

October 19th, 2023

#### Regional Identity and Funding

March 15th

**Presenting Projects:**

- Sierra National Recreation Area
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area

**High-Level Recap:**

- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.
- Working group will be in contact with local boards and other stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and work in concert.
- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.

**Actions for Funding and Advocacy:**

- Utilize local boards, regional developers, and local agencies to help raise awareness of the region's identity.
- Partner with entities like Sierra Nevada and local community colleges to form and lead local board staff to increase and sustain.
- Leverage the region's role as a primary user/provider of an identity that resonates with.


**Immediate Priorities:**

- Develop a shared process that allows individual projects to be reviewed and to create consistent messaging across the region.
- Identify opportunities to be active in other local boards, coalitions, and networks.
- Develop a shared process that allows individual projects to be reviewed and to create consistent messaging across the region.

**Timeline That Must Be Addressed:**

- Developing the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

\*) See all meeting materials, the full recording, and regional documents prepared for Working Group Meetings on January 23rd [click the article](#).



### Recreation & Tourism Working Group Meeting Recap

October 19th, 2023

#### Policy Barriers

January 23rd

**Presenting Projects:**

- Technical Assistance, Travel Advisory of Recreation in High, Main, & Alpine Counties
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area

**High-Level Recap:**

- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.
- Working group will be in contact with local boards and other stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and work in concert.
- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.

**Key Functions / Actions for Policy Barriers:**

- Identify the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

**Timeline That Must Be Addressed:**

- Developing the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

\*) See all meeting materials, the full recording, and regional documents prepared for Working Group Meetings on January 23rd [click the article](#).



### Asset Mapping

January 23rd

**Presenting Projects:**

- Technical Assistance, Travel Advisory of Recreation in High, Main, & Alpine Counties
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area

**High-Level Recap:**

- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.
- Working group will be in contact with local boards and other stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and work in concert.
- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.

**Key Functions / Actions for Asset Mapping:**

- Identify the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

**Timeline That Must Be Addressed:**

- Developing the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

\*) See all meeting materials, the full recording, and regional documents prepared for Working Group Meetings on January 23rd [click the article](#).



### Regional Governance

November 17th

**Presenting Projects:**

- Technical Assistance, Travel Advisory of Recreation in High, Main, & Alpine Counties
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area

**High-Level Recap:**

- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.
- Working group will be in contact with local boards and other stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and work in concert.
- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.

**Key Functions / Actions for Regional Governance:**

- Identify the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

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\*) See all meeting materials, the full recording, and regional documents prepared for Working Group Meetings on January 23rd [click the article](#).



### Recreation & Tourism Working Group Meeting Recap

October 19th, 2023

#### Climate Resilience

April 20th

**Presenting Projects:**

- Technical Assistance, Travel Advisory of Recreation in High, Main, & Alpine Counties
- Sierra Nevada National Recreation Area

**High-Level Recap:**

- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.
- Working group will be in contact with local boards and other stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and work in concert.
- Participants agreed to set time to actively move projects forward to identify long-term strategies for a stronger regional identity.

**Key Functions / Actions for Climate Resilience:**

- Identify the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

**Timeline That Must Be Addressed:**

- Developing the need for a unified regional identity without losing the uniqueness of local boards.
- Addressing the fact that a regional identity has been established but actively has the most identity of importance, identity development or other important circumstances related.
- Single the gap between the current identity and the regional identity that is needed and supported by the region to be resolved.

\*) See all meeting materials, the full recording, and regional documents prepared for Working Group Meetings on January 23rd [click the article](#).





# 01 Regional Governance

November 2025 · ESSRP · Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (ESCOG)

## Session Focus

The opening session asked the foundational question: what kind of regional entity does this seven-county recreation and tourism economy need, and what should it actually do? Two projects anchored the conversation: ESSRP, a voluntary public-public partnership model that has demonstrated cross-county coordination is possible, and the ESCOG's Regional Recreation Collaborative, testing what institutional structure the entity should take.

The session produced a clear and widely-shared vision of the entity's function: action over planning, unified advocacy, technical assistance, and a centralized commitment to environmental stewardship. What it could not yet answer, because no planning session can, was the operational question: who funds the staff, and how does the entity sustain itself between grant cycles?

## Wins & Progress / Barriers

### PROGRESS & WINS

- ESSRP demonstrates that voluntary cross-county partnership is achievable, organizations will coordinate when given a structured venue to do so
- ESCOG's Collaborative surfaced governance options and created shared vocabulary for discussing regional structure
- Rapid consensus on the entity's function: a Regional Service Layer that enables local action and centralized information-sharing

### BARRIERS & PAIN POINTS

- Neither ESSRP nor the ESCOG has a reliable unrestricted funding stream. Both produce real value but struggle long-term to function as business entities
- Organizational form question: what structure requires legal and structural changes for regional organizations can be implemented
- Tribal engagement named as a priority but left undefined. Without a formal protocol, it remains an aspirational goal

# RICA UPDATES

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR...

- IMPLEMENTATION
- COLLABORATIVE ACTION
- WHAT'S NEXT



# UPCOMING MEETINGS

- MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>

Workforce Capacity

- JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>

Arts & Culture

- JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>

RICA Review



# California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



**CALREC**  
**Vision**

“Symposium of  
Practice” - April 23

**CALIFORNIA**  
**JOBS FIRST**



Sierra Region



# California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



**CALREC**  
**Vision**

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**JOBS FIRST**



Sierra Region



# California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



**CALREC**  
**Vision**

“Symposium of Practice” - April 23

**CALIFORNIA**  
**JOBS FIRST**



Sierra Region





**WELCOME !**

- TO THE -

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST  
**Symposium of Practice**  
For Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

RECREATION & TOURISM COUNCIL | SYMPOSIUM OF PRACTICE

*April 23, 2026*

# WELCOME !

---

◀ *TO THE* ▶

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST  
**Symposium of Practice**

For Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

RECREATION & TOURISM COHORT - SYMPOSIUM OF PRACTICE



# 10 Recreation and Tourism Cohort Meetings

CA JOBS FIRST - TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION COHORT

**AGENDA 06/06/2025**

- Welcome/Introductions
- Field Updates
- Introducing Cohort Process/Goals
- "Ray of Sunshine" Best Practices & Good News



CA JOBS FIRST - TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION COHORT

**AGENDA 07/11/2025**

- Welcome/Check-in
- Field Notes
- Regional Presentations
  - Sierra Region
  - Capitol Region/Nevada County
- "Ray of Sunshine" Moment



CA JOBS FIRST - TOURISM & OUTDOOR RECREATION COHORT

**AGENDA 08/01/2025**

- Welcome/Check-in
- Field Notes
- Presentations - Session Two
  - Redwood Region
  - UC ANR
- Inter-regional Comparative Analysis - Introduction
- "Rays of Sunshine"
- Adjourn



Regional Collaboration in the Coachella Valley

CVAG & CVCC Projects

Billy Morrow  
Program Specialist II  
Bureau of Wildfire and  
Cultural Resources



CA JOBS FIRST - SUSTAINABLE RECREATION & TOURISM COHORT

**AGENDA 10/03/2025**

- Welcome/Check-in
- Field Notes
- Presentations - Session Four
  - Sierra San Joaquin
    - Wild Land Recreation
  - Explore Local Nature
    - Wilderness
- Rays of Sunshine
- Adjourn



CA JOBS FIRST - SUSTAINABLE RECREATION & TOURISM COHORT

**AGENDA 11/07/2025**

- Welcome/Check-in
- Field Notes
- Presentations - Session Four
  - North State (Eskiyuu)
    - Wilderness
  - UC ANR CVCC
    - Alpine Wildland
    - Alpine Complex
- Rays of Sunshine
- Adjourn



CA JOBS FIRST - SUSTAINABLE RECREATION & TOURISM COHORT

**AGENDA 12/05/2025**

- Welcome/Check-in
- Field Notes
- Presentations - Session Five
  - North State (Eskiyuu)
    - Wilderness
  - California Outdoor Recreation Partnership
    - Local Recreation
- Rays of Sunshine
- Adjourn



CA Jobs First Recreation & Tourism Cohort

**In-Person Convening**

Sacramento - April 23, 2026



Bay Area Trails Collaborative

Presentations to CA Jobs First Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Cohort

Jessie Wernberg  
Trail Development Manager



CA Jobs First Recreation & Tourism Cohort

**Symposium of Practice**

Sacramento - April 23, 2026



Across the state over 8 months



Calder Johnson  
Sector Investment Coordinator,  
Arts/Culture/Tourism

# Jobs First Investment Summit

**CALIFORNIA  
JOBS FIRST**  
2026 Investment Summit

## Designing for Industry



**Derek Kirk**  
Senior Advisor for  
Economic Policy, GO-Biz



**Quinn Brady**  
Director of Coalitions &  
Community Impact, REACH



**John Wentworth**  
CEO, Mammoth Lakes  
Trails & Public Access  
Foundation



**Priscilla Lopez**  
Director of Workforce &  
Economic Development,  
Imperial County

CALIFORNIA  
JOBS FIRST

From Blueprint to Breakthrough



## STATE LEADERSHIP

From Blueprint  
to Breakthrough

*April 9, 2026*



# Austin McInerney, Facilitator Climate Equity Solutions

# RECREATION & TOURISM COHORT - SYMPOSIUM OF PRACTICE



## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

TIME	SESSION
9:00 – 9:40	Welcome & Issue Framing from California Jobs First
9:40 – 10:10	Project Presentations
10:10 – 10:25	Secretary Crowfoot Visit and Discussion
10:25 – 11:00	Project Presentations - continued
11:00 – 11:15	Interactive Discussions
11:15 – 11:20	Recommendations Development Lab Overview
11:20 – 12:15	Recommendations Development Lab — Break Out Round 1
12:15 – 1:00	Lunch (provided by Mammoth Lakes Trails & Public Access Foundation)
1:00 – 1:40	Recommendations Development Lab — Break Out Round 2
1:40 – 2:20	Recommendations Development Lab — Break Out Round 3
2:20 – 2:40	Break
2:40 – 3:10	Stress-Test & Cross-Pollinate Recommendations
3:10 – 3:40	Clarification Discussion
3:40 – 4:00	Prioritization of Recommendations
4:00 – 4:30	Next Steps, Feedback & Closing

# Our Goals:

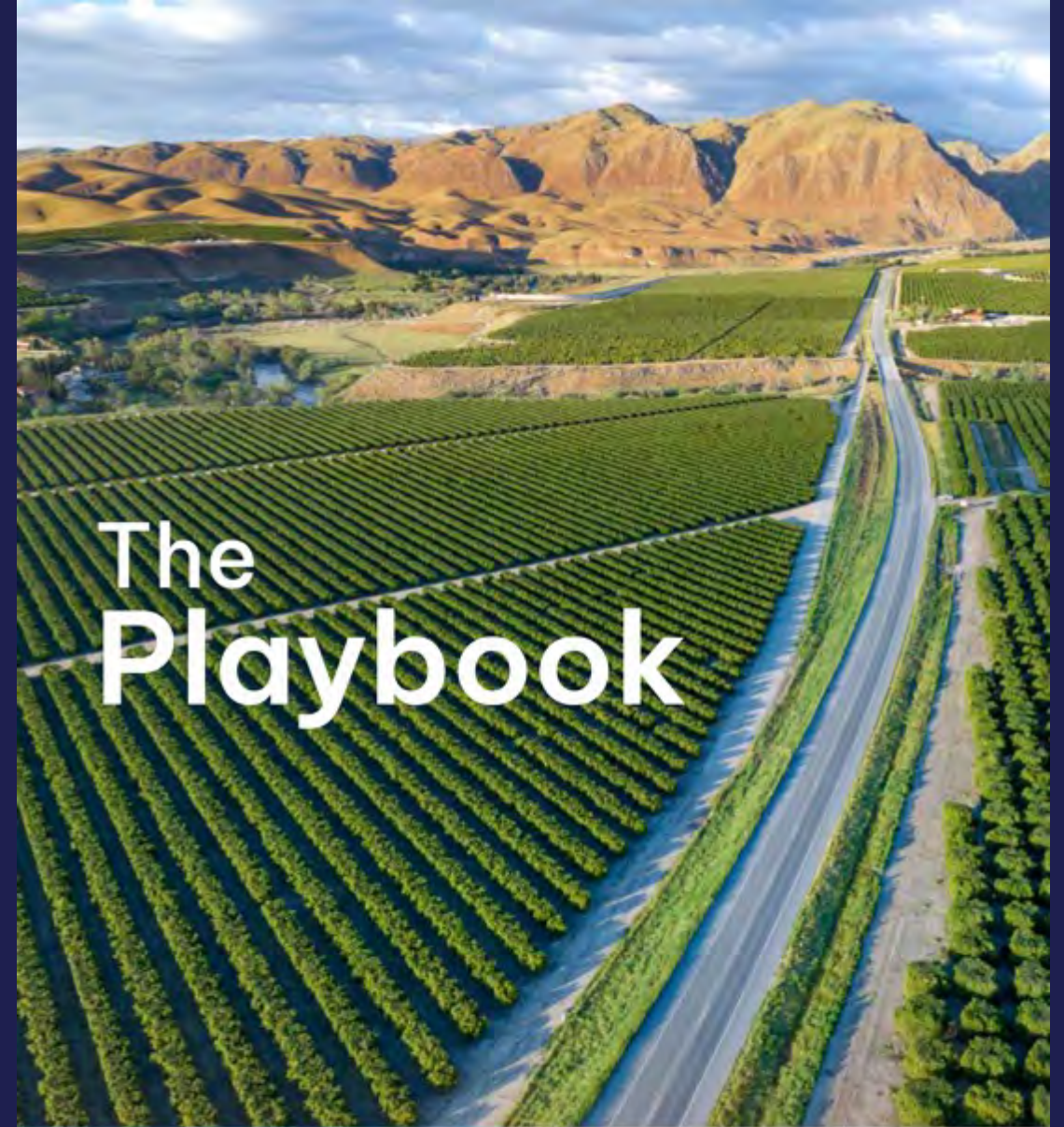
- Build understandings of statewide challenges and opportunities facing tourism & outdoor recreation projects.
- Develop recommendations for project implementation and future collaborative action shared with state and federal leadership.
- Build relationships.



Danna Stroud, GO-Biz  
Associate Deputy Director, Regional  
Engagement & Development

# State Economic Blueprint

February 2025



# The Playbook

January 2025

# Developing the 13 Jobs First Regions

The creation of California's thirteen economic regions marks a strategic, data-driven approach to advancing resilient economic growth across the state.

These regions were identified to maximize the potential for collaboration, economic diversity, and job creation. Guided by California's Labor Market Information Division at the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA), each region was defined based on unique local factors—like commute patterns, labor market characteristics, and industry strengths—alongside critical elements such as population size, geographic scale, and economic linkages.<sup>1</sup>

By grouping counties with shared economic ties and local connections, California has created an ecosystem of regions that can drive both local and cross-regional initiatives. This approach breaks down geographic and economic silos, encouraging regions to work together on transformational projects that transcend boundaries, from developing good-paying jobs to building sustainable industries. The California Jobs First initiative has empowered these regions with tools and funding to build the local partnerships needed to collectively create regionally-tailored solutions, ensuring that economic resilience is woven into the fabric of communities statewide.



- 1 North State
- 2 Redwood
- 3 Capital
- 4 Sierra
- 5 Bay Area
- 6 North San Joaquin
- 7 Central San Joaquin
- 8 Central Coast
- 9 Kern County
- 10 Los Angeles County
- 11 Island Social
- 12 Orange County
- 13 Southern Border



OVERVIEW

# Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

Hollywood. Beaches. Yosemite. Disney. Highway 101. Golden Gate Bridge. Tahoe. Napa Valley...And that's not even scratching the surface. Thanks to its exceptional natural beauty and tourist attractions, California leads the nation in total spending on tourism.<sup>1</sup>

### California's Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Sector Provides Millions of Jobs and Drives Billions in Visitor Spending

In 2023, tourism provided employment for 1.2 million Californians, generated **\$150 billion** in visitor spending (surpassing the prior record of **-\$145 billion** in 2019), and **\$12.7 billion** in state and local tax revenues.<sup>2</sup>

- The state has the **largest outdoor recreation industry economy in the nation**, contributing **-\$83 billion** in GDP and supporting **545,000** direct jobs<sup>3</sup>
- Every year, **~68 million people** visit California's state parks<sup>4</sup> and in 2023, **~36 million people** visited the state's nine national parks and 19 designated sites, spending **\$3.2 billion**, supporting **~40,000 jobs**, and providing **\$5.1 billion** to the state economy<sup>5</sup>
- In January 2025, President Biden added two new national monuments covering more than **840,000 acres** that will protect sacred tribal lands and enhance regional recreation opportunities<sup>6</sup>

While the pandemic caused temporary declines in tourism, the number of tourists to California has returned to record highs, attracting ~260 million visitors in 2023 and generating billions for California businesses.<sup>1</sup> California is committed to continuing to support the tourism and outdoor recreation sector with an emphasis on **fostering good-paying jobs**.

# Tourism & Outdoor Recreation



### How We Are Supporting the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Sector

- **California Office of Tourism:** Supports the promotion of California as a global tourism destination, provides information services to visitors, and funds Visit California<sup>7</sup>
- **Visit California:** Develops and maintains marketing programs promoting California as a travel destination; received **-\$120 million** from the state in 2023-24<sup>8</sup> and a one-time **-\$95 million** stimulus in 2021 to boost California's tourism economy<sup>9</sup>
- **State Parks:** In 2024-25, California's budget allocated over a billion dollars to support its state parks, including **-\$880 million** for state operations and **-\$140 million** for local assistance<sup>10</sup>
- **Route to Parks Grants:** Reduces transportation barriers to help people access state parks and encourage outdoor recreation and tourism<sup>11</sup>
- **Land and Water Conservation Fund:** Provides funding for the acquisition or development of land to create new outdoor recreation opportunities for the health and wellness of Californians<sup>12</sup>

### REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Across the state's 13 Jobs First Coalitions, we've identified **tourism & outdoor recreation as regional strategic sectors**<sup>13</sup>

- **North State:** Developing a regional tourism marketing plan and coordinating with local businesses to provide destinations and ecology-based experiences to visitors, such as the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship's Connected Communities Trails Master Plan and agri-tourism activities
- **Redwood:** The area's state and national parks attract approximately 5 million visitors annually who generate about **\$1.3 billion** in spending—about **\$4,000** per Redwood resident
- **Sierra:** Outdoor recreation and tourism represents ~25% of regional employment; however, there is opportunity for wage improvement, as many jobs pay less than **\$50,000** annually
- **Bay Area:** In 2023, San Francisco welcomed ~23 million visitors who spent **\$8.8 billion**<sup>14</sup>
- **Central San Joaquin:** Plan to develop agri- and eco-tourism sector to educate the public, create hundreds of direct and indirect jobs, and conserve land
- **Central Coast:** Strong base of tourism assets, with hospitality accounting for ~8% of region's overall employment growth from 2012 to 2022
- **Kern County:** Opportunities for small businesses and hospitality services to support the region's scenic and recreational assets, like the Kern River Valley
- **Orange County:** Driven by local assets including Disneyland and Anaheim Convention Center, the region has a strong accommodations industry, providing ~25,000 jobs in 2023
- **Southern Border:** Imperial County's historical tourism sector is one of its fastest growing. San Diego plans to expand its cultural and agri-tourism sectors



### Employers Expanding Their Presence in California with Colcompetes Support

COLCOM HIGHLIGHTS SOURCES FROM COLCOMPETES AWARDS



**Wing River Cruise,** a River and Ocean Cruise company based in Woodland Hills, plans to invest **-\$8 million** to expand their headquarters, creating over **100** new jobs.

## Developing the 13 Jobs

# REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Across the state's 13 Jobs First Collaboratives, **nine identified tourism & outdoor recreation as regional strategic sectors:**<sup>14</sup>

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Jobs First initiative has empowered these regions with tools and funding to build the local partnerships needed to collectively create regionally-tailored solutions, ensuring that economic resilience is woven into the fabric of communities statewide.

- 4 Sierra
- 5 Bay Area
- 6 North San Joaquin
- 10 Los Angeles County
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open access, including a commitment to continuing to support the tourism and outdoor recreation sector with an emphasis on **fostering good-paying jobs.**

national monuments covering more than 840,000 acres that will protect sacred tribal lands and enhance regional recreation opportunities.<sup>15</sup>



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### REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Across the state's 13 Jobs First Collaboratives, nine identified **tourism & outdoor recreation as regional strategic sectors:**<sup>16</sup>

- North State: Developing a regional tourism marketing




CORPUS HIGHLIGHTS SOURCES FROM GALCORP'S ANNOUNCEMENT



**Viking River Cruises**, a River and Ocean Cruise company based in Westland, Michigan, plans to invest \$3 million to expand their headquarters, creating over 100 new jobs.


# California's Strategic Sectors

## Strengthen

 Creative Economy

Film, TV, & the Arts


 Tourism & Outdoor Recreation

 Manufacturing

 Working Lands & Water


 Financial & Professional Services

 Agricultural Production


 Food Processing

 Transport & Logistics


## Accelerate


 Aerospace & Defense


 Aircraft


 Shipbuilding


 Space, Defense, & Satellites


 Life Sciences

 Medtech


 Pharma / biotech


 Working Lands & Water

 Agtech & Farm Equipment


 Clean Economy


 Batteries


 Onshore Wind


 Solar


 ZEVs

 High-Tech


 Hardware


 Semiconductors & Microelectronics


 Software & Services


 Advanced & Precision Manufacturing


## Bet


 Clean Economy

 Carbon Management


 Critical Minerals


 Hydrogen


 Offshore Wind


 High-Tech


 Artificial Intelligence


 Fusion

 Quantum

 Robotics

 Working Lands & Water


 Bioeconomy

 Blue economy / tech

## Anchor


 Childcare


 Healthcare


 Education & Skilled Workforce


 Housing

 Infrastructure

 Broadband

 Transmission & Distribution

 Transportation Infrastructure

 Water



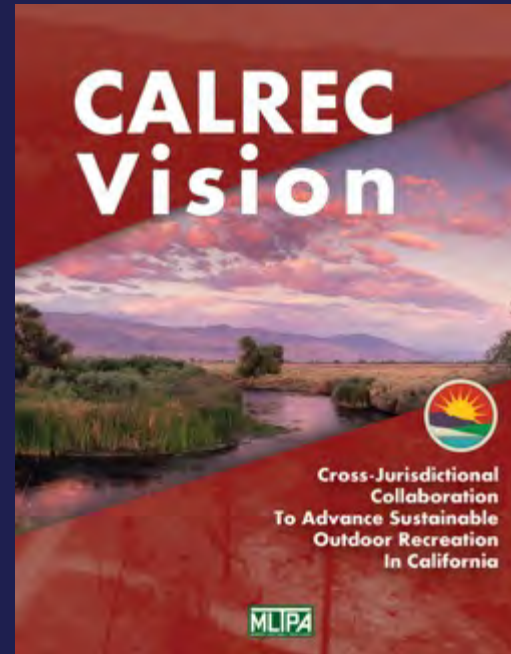
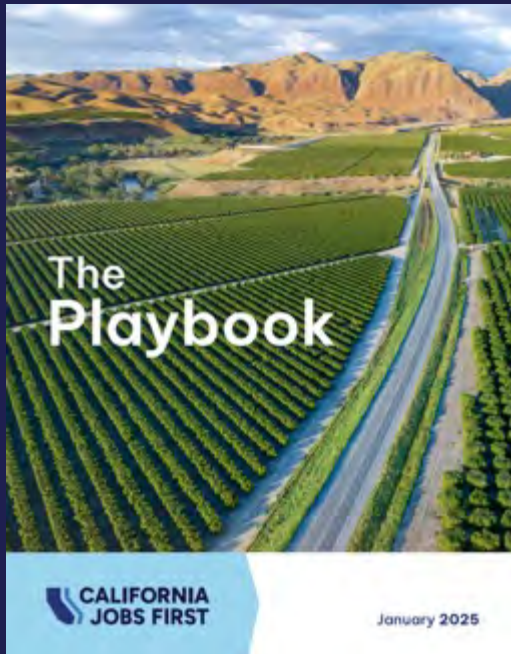
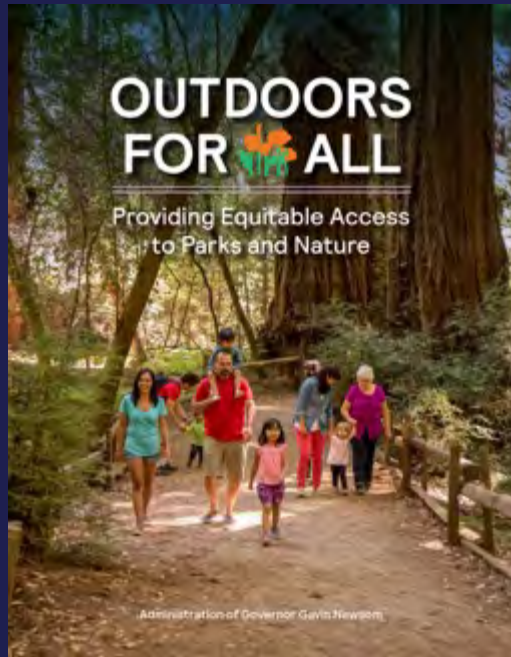
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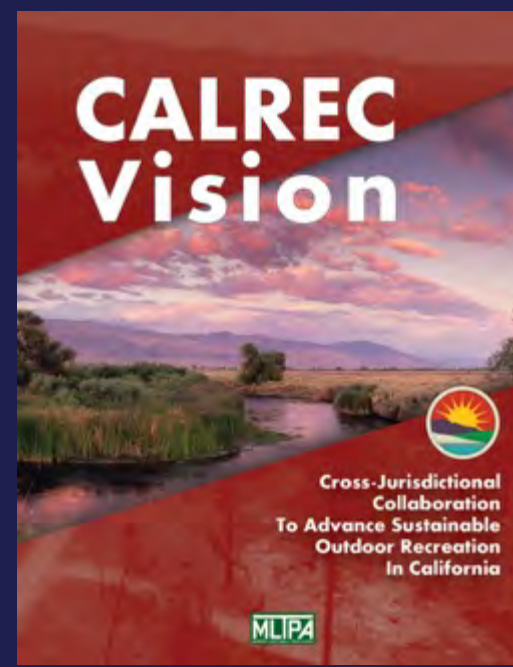
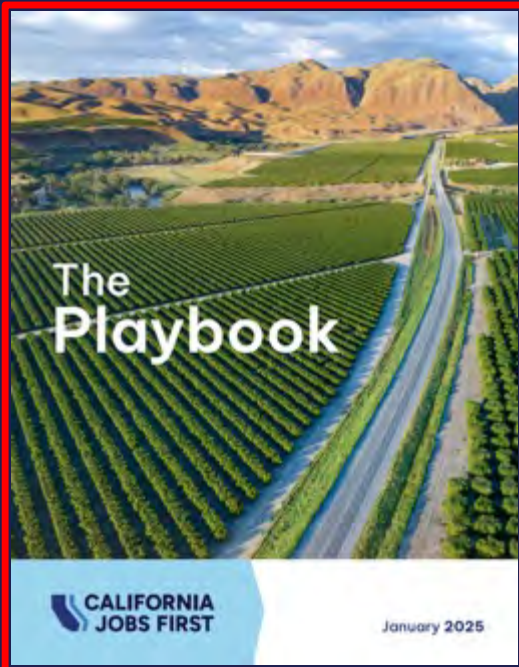
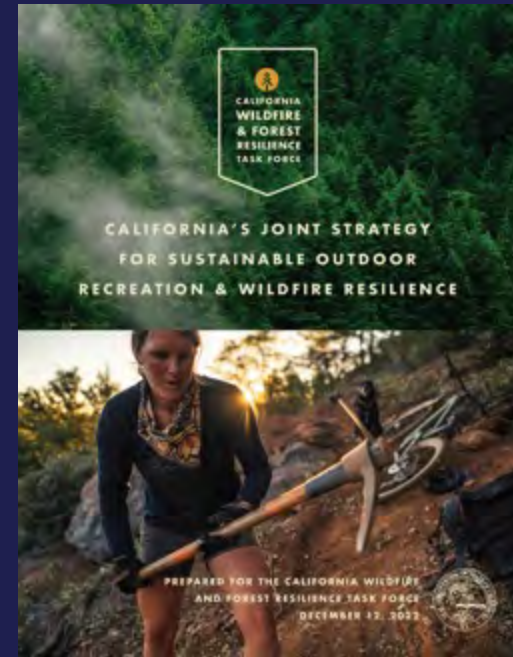
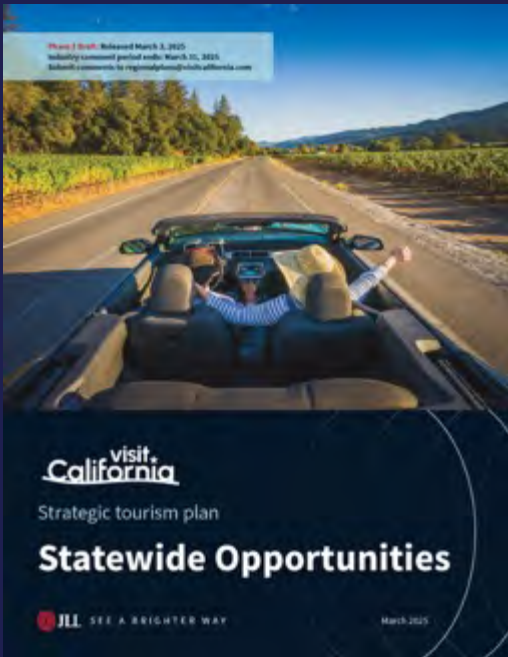
CALIFORNIA 2025 FIRST REGION

Arts Nature

Thank You!







# NEXT STEPS FOR CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST

**CALIFORNIA  
JOBS FIRST**  
2026 Investment Summit



## STATE LEADERSHIP

From Blueprint  
to Breakthrough

A modern meeting room with people seated at tables, a large blue text overlay, and a robot on a ceiling-mounted track. The room features a grey carpet, white walls, and recessed ceiling lights. A large blue rectangular overlay is centered in the foreground, containing the text 'RECOMMENDATION LABS' in white, bold, sans-serif font. In the background, several people are seated at tables, some looking towards the camera. A robot is mounted on a track on the ceiling, and a large screen on the right displays a presentation slide with the text 'RECOMMENDATION LABS', 'THE AGENCY', 'AGENCY ACTION', 'MECHANICAL', 'OUTCOMES', and 'Recommendation'.

# RECOMMENDATION LABS

# 10 Project Interviews

## CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST REGIONS



- *Capitol Region – Nevada County*
- *Inland So Cal Region – Discover Inland Empire*
- *North State - Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship*
- *North State Region – Siskiyou ORA*
- *Orange Region – Orange County Micro Tourism*
- *Redwood Region – Arts Nature Trails Project*
- *Redwood Region – Redwood Trail Alliance*
- *Sierra Region - Campgrounds*
- *Sierra Region – Towns to Trails*
- *Southern Border Region – SDSU*

Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Sector — Project Interview Summary  
**Redwood Region – Arts Nature Trails Project**

**1 Assets**

Think about the natural assets — public lands, parks, trails, or other features — and the community assets — community facilities, airports, train stations, unique areas, and/or cultural events — that draw visitors to the region, and how the project connects to them. Then consider what kinds of investments, whether in staff capacity, coordination, or regional information sharing, the project would most benefit from to move forward.

- Consider:
- What natural assets attract people to the region, and how does the project connect to them?
  - What community assets attract and bring people to the region, and how does the project connect to them?
  - What investments would most help the project advance?

Discussion Points

- Opportunities:
- Natural Assets
    - Joint Federal and State Land
      - Redwood State and National Park
    - Community Assets and Regional Access
      - The Great Redwood Trail developing trail corridor
      - A distinctive fusion of natural and cultural assets that the community creates a unique experience

- Challenges:
- Rural staffing capacity, administrative sharing limit the region's ability to develop projects
  - Rural infrastructure constraints impede development, but lacks capacity to act on opportunities

**2 Policy & Regulations**

Reflect on the policies or regulations the project has encountered. Consider what doors it has opened or created roadblocks. Consider what investments would most help the project advance?

Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Sector — Project Interview Summary  
**Sierra Region – Trail System**

Interviewing: Dillon Osleger  
 Interviewed by: John Wentworth

**1 Assets**

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- Consider:
- What natural assets attract people to the region, and how does the project connect to them?
  - What community assets attract and bring people to the region, and how does the project connect to them?
  - What investments would most help the project advance?

Discussion Points

- Opportunities:
- Natural Assets
    - Stanislaus, Inyo, Sierra, Sequoia national forests
    - Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
    - Yosemite National Park
    - Natural assets fall into two complementary categories: **intrinsic value** (ecosystem services, wild environments) and **utilitarian value** (recreation opportunities) — the trail project draws on both
    - Recreation users seek **long, uninterrupted outdoor experiences** away from urban infrastructure
    - **The landscape itself is the equity**, with economic activity reverse-engineered from existing assets
  - Community Assets and Regional Access
    - Rural Sierra communities represent a rare and largely undiscovered preservation of **folk art, Americana, and distinct local cultures**

- Challenges:
- Historic maps of the Sierra Nevada and agreement documents stored at the USFS Region 5 facility in Vallejo are critical to Towns to Trails projects and are **at risk of disposal** following federal office closures; their loss would be irreplaceable

# Opportunities & Challenges



# Symposium Breakout Topics

## CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST REGIONS



- *Assets*
- *Policy and Regulation*
- *Funding*
- *Data*
- *Climate Change*
- *Workforce*
- *Collaboratives*
- *Branding and Marketing*

# Working Group Meeting Topics



- *Regional Governance*
- *Asset Mapping*
- *Policy Barriers*
- *Regional Branding & Finance*
- *Climate Resiliency*
- *Workforce Capacity*
- *Arts & Culture*



# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION



# RECOMMENDATIONS LAB DESIRED OUTCOMES

"The [AGENCY] will [ACTION] through [MECHANISM] to achieve [OUTCOME]"

*AGENCY*

- who owns the action

*ACTION*

- what the agency will do

*MECHANISM*

- policy, funding, program, pilot, etc.

*OUTCOME*

- what changes or results

*Recommendations to be delivered to state and federal leadership to advance project implementation.*

# RECOMMENDATIONS LAB DESIRED OUTCOMES

"The [AGENCY] will [ACTION] through [MECHANISM] to achieve [OUTCOME]"

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*OUTCOME*

- what changes or results

*Recommendations to be delivered to state and federal leadership to advance project implementation.*



**RITA KEIL, PROJECT SPECIALIST**

Rita Keil is a Project Specialist with MLPA, working on policy analysis, partner coordination, and GIS projects. She brings experience across nonprofit, government, and research sectors, with a career built at the intersection of people, data, and public service. She previously worked with MLPA from 2021 to 2023, co-writing the State of California and U.S. Forest Service's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience, an effort that received a Partnership of the Year award from the U.S. Forest Service. She holds a BS in

Environmental Science, a BA in Italian, and a certificate in GIS from the University of Pittsburgh. Rita moved to the Eastern Sierra in 2020 for the skiing, rock climbing, and trails. She now calls South Lake Tahoe home. In her free time, you can find her on the mountain or in the kitchen.

**Recommendation**

gr 2  
Climate  
Workforce

- Fire hardened trails as fire mitigation - align directive @ CNRA build into local policy
- More resilience planning - how?
- education for rec users on land mgmt build into state grant - Cal Fire
- incentives for pro-climate bus, services, investments (tax credits) - state policy local measures
- Ski areas prioritized for fuels treatments
- Outdoor rec + field sciences start at k
- Employment to Entrepreneur in Career Pathways
- Communication required
- Integrated Land Mgmt: Indigenous practice

**Recommendations**

gr 2  
Climate

- Reinstate Field trips & outdoor ed to create inspired stewards of our future
- Who: Dept of Ed, CNRA (Civ. & Forestry Challenge)
- How: create model tied to budget, build into mentorship program
- Outcome: advocacy, social awareness
- Rec 2: Integrated Block Grant Funding water, forestry, recreation, restoration

**Workforce**

gr 3

- Work w/ local ec dev. agencies to develop soft skills / restaurant style trainings, with added stewardship messaging
- Integration of workforce across sectors (chess, education, arts)
- Alignment for career dev pathways in facilities, maintenance + outdoor rec
- AB 359 exemptions for contracting (for CCC, other training pros)
- CTE + entrepreneurial programs - teach biz skills Collab w/ SBDC + outdoor rec
- Build awareness @ outdoor careers
- State/local assistance w/ federal recreation permitting
- Rebranding water infrastructure + recreation - can be
- Biomass removal + trails development - include recreation in energy projects

**Climate + Workforce**

gr 1

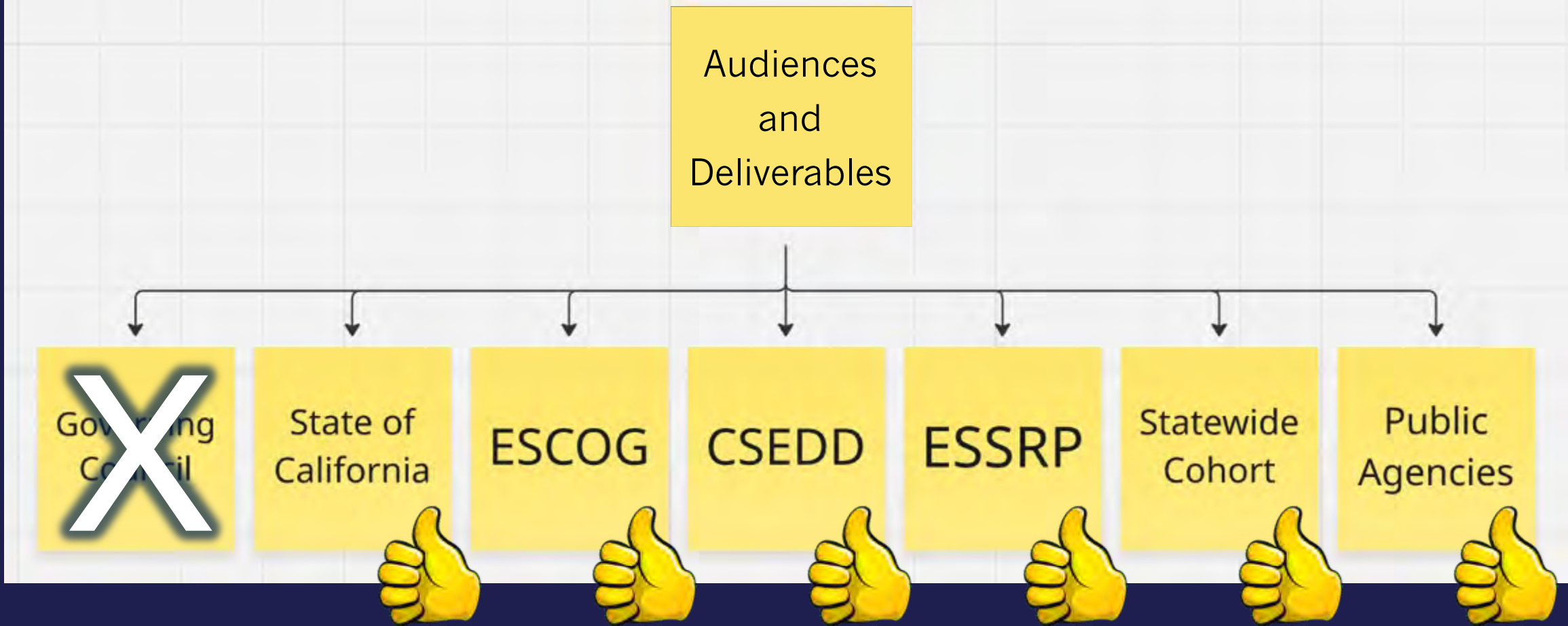
- Recommendation: CNRA + WCB will explore options for state trail planning/design/maintenance standards + contracting
- Agency: CNRA + WCB
- Outcome: sustainable trails, career pathway
- 2. Consolidate industry sector skills (Cool, EDD) for recreation, arts, data
- Agency: CNRA, EDD
- Outcome: data, tracking
- 3. Funding alignment - Recreation + Climate for multifaceted projects, climate resilient infrastructure - rec. projects qualify for more funding
- Agency: multi-agency working group
- 4. Workforce Dev for recreation + fire
- Agency: CNRA, Labor, Gov-Biz
- Outcome: skills-based jobs for science, broader prevalence projects across agencies

**SIERRA WORKS**  
AMADOR | ALPINE | CALAVERAS | INYO | MONTE | MARIPOSA | TUOLUMNE

**RICA**  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION

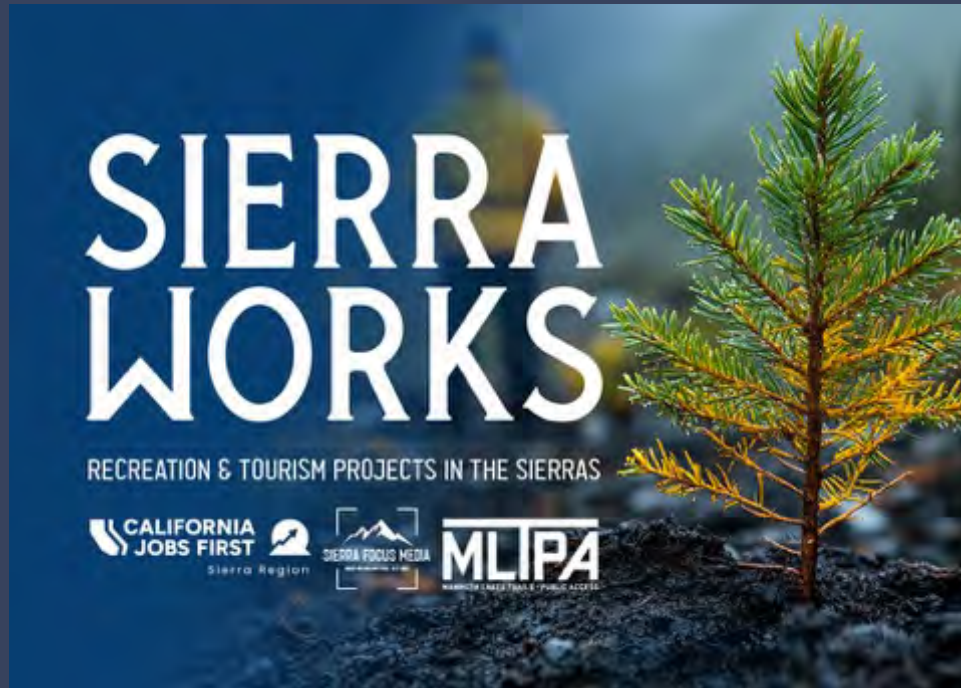
CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST Sierra Region | WOOD COUNTY | MLPA

# Goals for the Sierra + Symposium Working Groups



# Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

## Recreation and Tourism Working Group



### WORKING GROUP SIGN-UPS

**Join a Working Group!** We are convening a collaborative **Working Group** to bring together partners, industry leaders, and community stakeholders to exchange ideas, align projects with resources, and drive impactful solutions for recreation and tourism in the Sierra region.

This is an opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, share expertise, and help shape the future of our local economy. **Sign up today to get involved and be part of the conversation!**

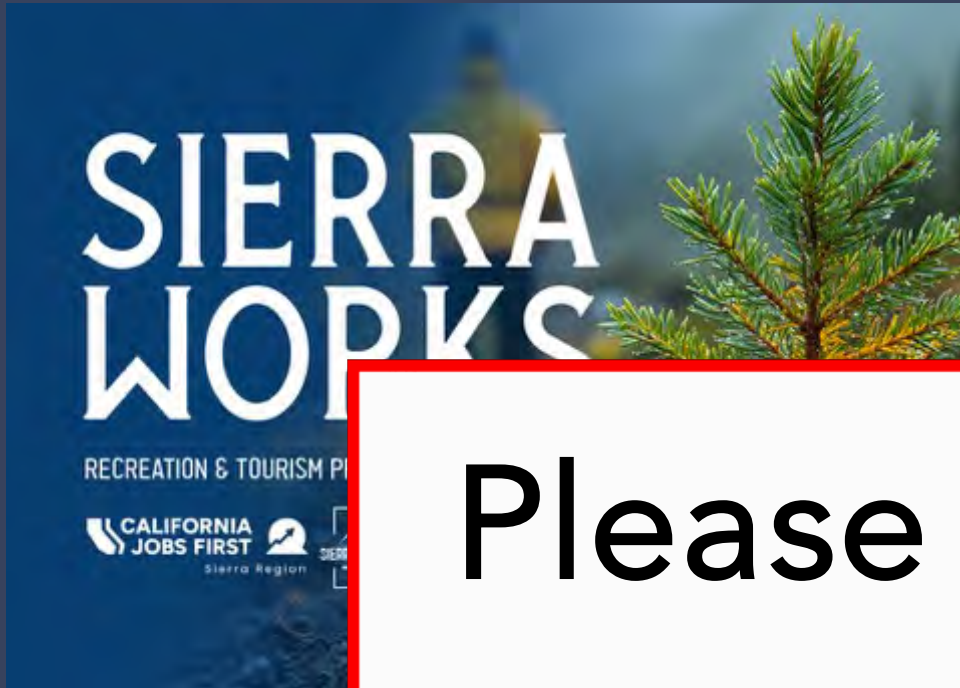
**Sign-up Today!**

[Join Our Working Groups](#)



# Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

## Recreation and Tourism Working Group



Please Sign up Now!

### WORKING GROUP SIGN-UPS

Join a Working Group! We are convening a collaborative Working

and  
projects with  
on and

ussions, share

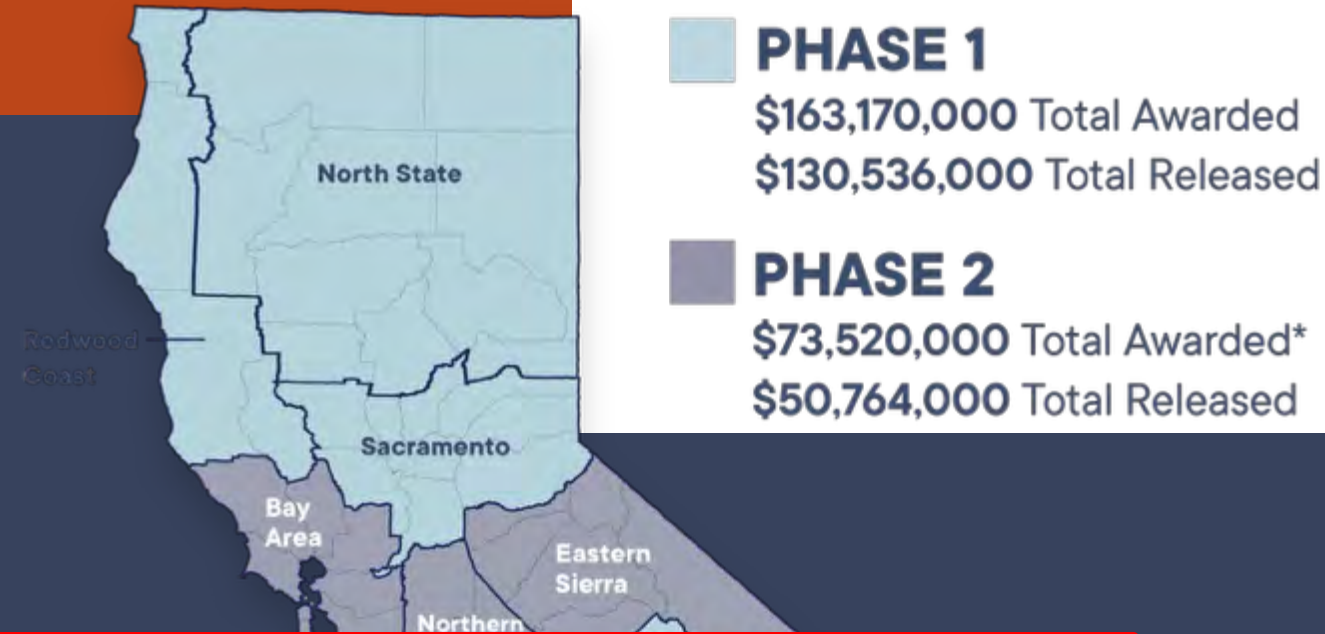
expertise, and help shape the future of our local economy. **Sign up today to get involved and be part of the conversation!**

Sign-up Today!

Join Our Working Groups



# Sierra Jobs First: Funding



**REGIONAL K-16 EDUCATION**  
COLLABORATIVES GRANT PROGRAM

Powered by  
FOUNDATION for CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Released Amount as of 1/10/2025  
\* Includes \$250,000 from Phase 2: Planning Grant

## TRANSITION & FUTURE PLANNING

*Shaping the Future, Together*



**SIERRA**  
BUSINESS COUNCIL

# California Wildfire and Recreation



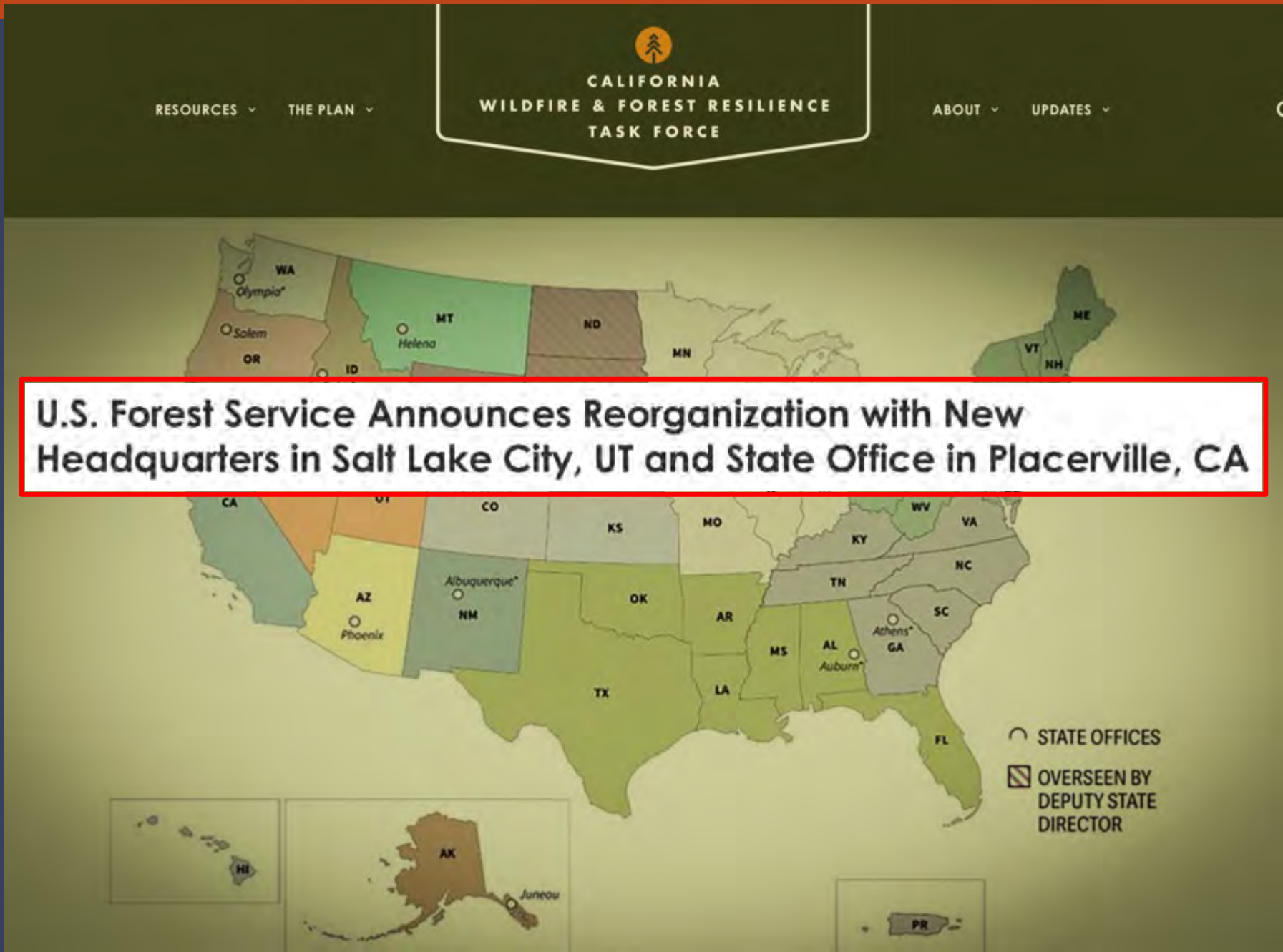
CALIFORNIA  
**WILDFIRE**  
& **FOREST**  
**RESILIENCE**  
TASK FORCE



California's Wildfire Task Force Continues Nation-  
Leading Efforts To Protect Communities, Unveils New  
Tools And Data

[LEARN MORE](#)

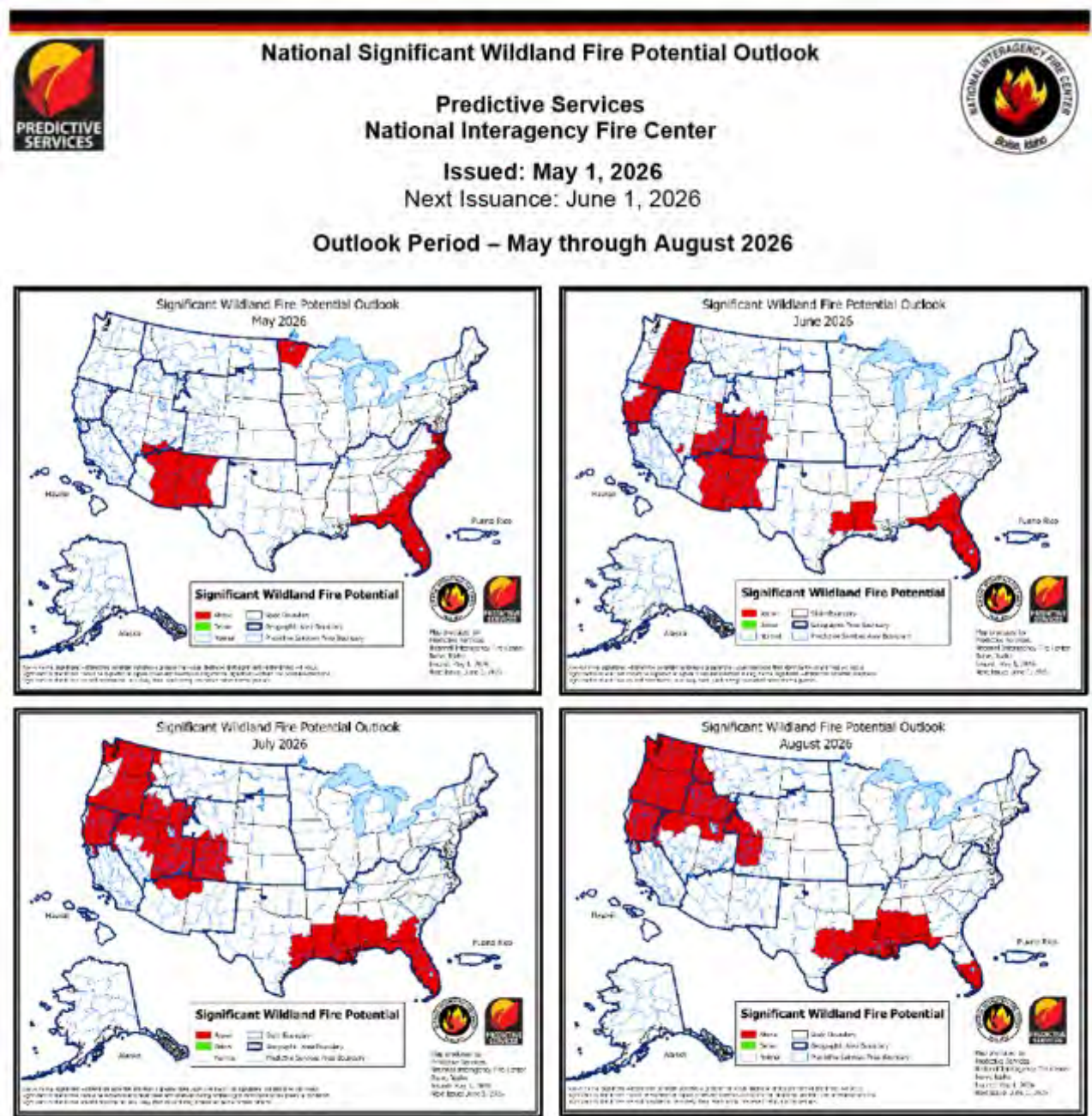
# California Wildfire and Recreation



The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation links: "RESOURCES", "THE PLAN", "CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE & FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE" (with a tree icon), "ABOUT", and "UPDATES". Below the header is a map of the United States with state boundaries and names. State offices are marked with circles and city names: Olympia (WA), Salem (OR), Helena (MT), Albuquerque (NM), Phoenix (AZ), Auburn (AL), and Athens (GA). A legend in the bottom right corner indicates that circles represent "STATE OFFICES" and squares represent areas "OVERSEEN BY DEPUTY STATE DIRECTOR".

**U.S. Forest Service Announces Reorganization with New Headquarters in Salt Lake City, UT and State Office in Placerville, CA**

# California Wildfire and Recreation





# CALREC Vision



# MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Bishop
- City of Richmond
- City of Truckee
- Contra Costa Mayors Conference in 2026
- East Bay Regional Park District
- East Bay Wildfire Coalition
- East Bay Fire Save Alliance of FSCs
- Humboldt County
- **Lake County**
- Mariposa County
- Mendocino County Fire Safe Council
- **Napa County**
- Plumas County
- Sonoma County
- **TRPA**
- **Tuolumne County**

**CALREC Vision**

[White Paper](#) [CA Joint Strategy](#) [Adoption](#) [Data Map](#) [Support](#) [About](#) [Sign Up](#)

## STAND UP FOR CALIFORNIA ADOPT THE JOINT STRATEGY

With wildfire risk rising and federal priorities shifting, there's a bold strategy available that transforms recreation infrastructure into community defense.

[▶ WATCH THE OVERVIEW VIDEO](#) [GET SUPPORT](#)

**RESOURCES**

# MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

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The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the CALREC Vision website with links for White Paper, CA Joint Strategy, Adoption, Data Map, Support, About, and Sign Up. The main content area features the Lake County California logo, which includes a stylized mountain and lake icon. Below the logo, a red-bordered box contains the text "June 2 – On Agenda for Adoption". At the bottom of the page, the word "RESOURCES" is displayed in red capital letters.

**CALREC Vision** White Paper CA Joint Strategy Adoption Data Map Support About Sign Up

**Lake County**  
CALIFORNIA

June 2 – On Agenda for Adoption

RESOURCES

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The screenshot shows the CALREC Vision website. The top navigation bar includes links for White Paper, CA Joint Strategy, Adoption, Data Map, Support, About, and Sign Up. The main content area features a large blue box with the SAC logo (a white square containing the letters 'SAC' in a stylized font) and a white box below it with the text 'May 20-22 – Legislative Conference' and 'RESOURCES' in red below it.

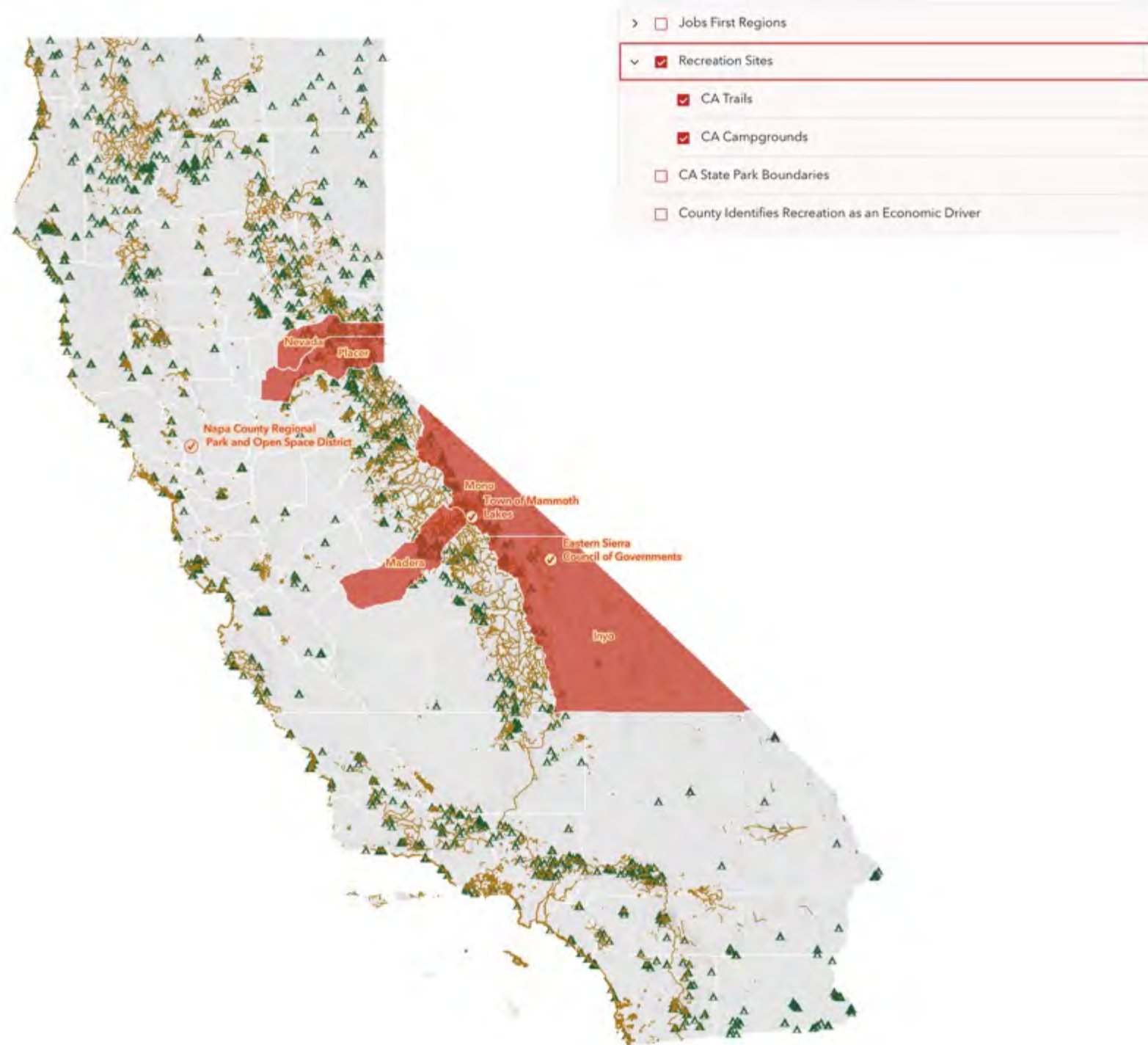
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- **Tuolumne County**





Draft set of  
Design  
Development  
Documents  
for the six  
campgrounds  
in the Lee  
Vining and  
Independence  
areas of the  
Inyo National  
Forest.

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAILS AND PUBLIC ACCESS FOUNDATION  
**LEE VINING AND INDEPENDENCE CAMPGROUNDS**  
 INYO NATIONAL FOREST

**SCOPE OF WORK**

- RENOVATION OF SIX (6) NATIONAL FOREST CAMPGROUNDS ON THE INYO NATIONAL FOREST INCLUDING RECONFIGURED AND NEW CAMPSITES TO SERVE UP TO SIX PEOPLE EACH (INCLUDING ONE GROUP CAMPSITE AT LOWER LEE VINING), ASSOCIATED VEHICLE PARKING SPURS, MINOR ROADWAY ADJUSTMENTS, NEW VAULT TOILETS, ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS, AND RESTORATION OF DISTURBED AREAS. CAMPGROUNDS OUT OF LEE VINING ALONG 120, TIOGA ROAD, INCLUDE LOWER LEE VINING, ASPEN, AND MORaine CAMPGROUNDS. CAMPGROUNDS OUT OF INDEPENDENCE ALONG ONION VALLEY ROAD PARALLELING INDEPENDENCE CREEK INCLUDE LOWER AND UPPER GRAYS MEADOW AND ONION VALLEY CAMPGROUNDS.
- CONSTRUCTION OF (150) DISCRETE CAMPSITE PADS GRADED AT 2% MAX WITH TIMBER EDGING AND DECOMPOSED GRANITE SURFACING. PADS TYPICALLY SIZED TO ACCOMMODATE UP TO 6 PEOPLE PER SITE, WITH SOME SMALLER AT ONION VALLEY AND GRAYS MEADOW.
- MINOR GRADING TO CREATE LEVEL CAMPSITE PADS AND ACCESSIBLE PATHS OF TRAVEL IN COMPLIANCE WITH ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS (ABAAS).
- CONSTRUCTION OF TIMBER RETAINING WALLS MAX 2'-6" HEIGHT AND TIMBER/LOG STEPS AS REQUIRED BY SLOPE.
- SALVAGE AND REUSE OR REPLACE (1) PICNIC TABLE, (1) FIRE PIT, AND (1) BEAR BOX ON CONCRETE PAD AT EACH CAMPSITE. CLEARANCE TO MEET APPLICABLE STANDARDS SALVAGE AND REUSE OR REPLACE (1) CAMP SITE NUMBER AND ADDITIONAL WAYFINDING SIGNAGE AS SHOWN ON DRAWINGS.
- INSTALLATION OF FIVE (5) NEW ADA COMPLIANT PRE-FABRICATED VAULT TOILETS. OWNER SUPPLIED AND CONTRACTOR INSTALLED.
- AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) & ABAAS COMPLIANT CAMPSITES AND ACCESS ROUTES TO EACH RESTROOM.
- DG OR COMPACTED DIRT PATHWAYS TO SERVE WALK-IN SITES.
- REMOVAL OF (24) TREES AND PROTECTION OF TREES TO REMAIN.
- INSTALLATION OF (27) WINDSHADE STRUCTURES AND PLANTING (81) TREES WITH INDIVIDUAL WATERING BAGS.
- PROVISION OF TWO-VEHICLE PARKING SPACES WITH CLASS 2 AB AT PARKING SPURS FOR EACH SITE WITH WOODEN OR BOULDER BARRICADE EDGES AND TIMBER WHEEL STOPS.
- SOIL DECOMPACTION, SCARIFICATION, MULCH, AND RESEEDING AT ALL DISTURBED AREAS WITH SELECTIVE REVEGETATION.
- MINOR RE-ROUTING OF EXISTING CLASS 2 AB ROADS.
- REMOVAL OF EXISTING DETERIORATED AC ROADS AND REPLACEMENT WITH CLASS 2 AB SURFACE.
- PROTECTION OF DESIGNATED CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT FEATURES.

**REGIONAL MAP**



**PROJECT TEAM**

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAILS AND PUBLIC ACCESS FOUNDATION  
[www.mltpa.org](http://www.mltpa.org)  
 (760) 729-1493

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:  
 JOHN NORTHMORE ROBERTS & ASSOCIATES  
 2507 Newbury Street  
 Berkeley, CA 94703  
 (510) 843-3666

MARK LANDSCAPE  
 Matt Boyle, Project Manager  
 1225 Rowland Circle  
 Reno, NV 89509  
 (415) 515-0879

COST ESTIMATOR:  
 R. BORNSTEIN CO.  
 PO Box 2359, San Anselmo, CA, 94960-2359  
 (415) 259-4927

CIVIL ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS:  
 TRIAD HOLMES ASSOCIATES  
 Brooks Bryant, Surveyor  
 549 Old Mammoth Road #202  
 PO Box 1570  
 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
 (760) 934-7508

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS:  
 WRA  
 Matt Richmond, Principal Ecologist  
[www.wra-ca.com](http://www.wra-ca.com)  
 (707) 236-5666

**LOCATION MAPS**

**LEE VINING CREEK CAMPGROUNDS**



**INDEPENDENCE CREEK CAMPGROUNDS**



John Northmore Roberts & Associates  
 2507 Newbury Street, Suite 6  
 Berkeley, CA 94703  
 (510) 843-3666  
[www.johnrobertsassociates.com](http://www.johnrobertsassociates.com)

MLTPA  
**INYO  
 CAMPGROUNDS**  
 351 Pacu Lane  
 Bishop, CA 93514  
 Design Development

DATE: 03/26/26  
 DESCRIPTION: DFT DD FOR COST

MLTPA INYO CAMPGROUNDS COVER

Scale: AS NOTED, SCALE IN FEET

Sheet: 445

Sheet Number: **LO.00**  
 1 OF 80

## **INYO NATIONAL FOREST CAMPGROUNDS SPRING SITE VISIT**

MLTPA in partnership with  
Inyo National Forest, Stanislaus National Forest, and Inyo County

Dates: 5/26/2026 - 5/29/2026

Duration: 4-days, 3-nights

### Attendees:

John Roberts, JNRA

Valentina Flaño, JNRA

Maki Boyle, ML

John Wentworth, MLTPA

Kristy Williams, MLTPA

**Tom Platz, Triad Holmes?**

**Marie Pavlovsky, Triad Holmes?**

Matt Richmond, WRA

Cody Lambrecht, WRA

Adam Barnett, Inyo National Forest

Ethan Oja, Inyo National Forest - Lee Vining CGs

Jess May, Inyo National Forest - Independence Creek CGs

Meaghan McCamman, Inyo County (opt) - Pleasant Valley

Casey Jardine, Stanislaus National Forest (opt) - Rocky Pt

Todd Newburger, Stanislaus National Forest (opt) - Rocky

# MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



# MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



Next Monthly Meeting  
Tuesday, May 26

# ESCOG Sustainable Recreation Projects

Eastern  
Sierra  
Council of  
Governments

[ABOUT](#)

[WHAT WE DO](#)

[MEETINGS](#)

[CONTACT](#)

Eastern  
Sierra  
Council of  
Governments



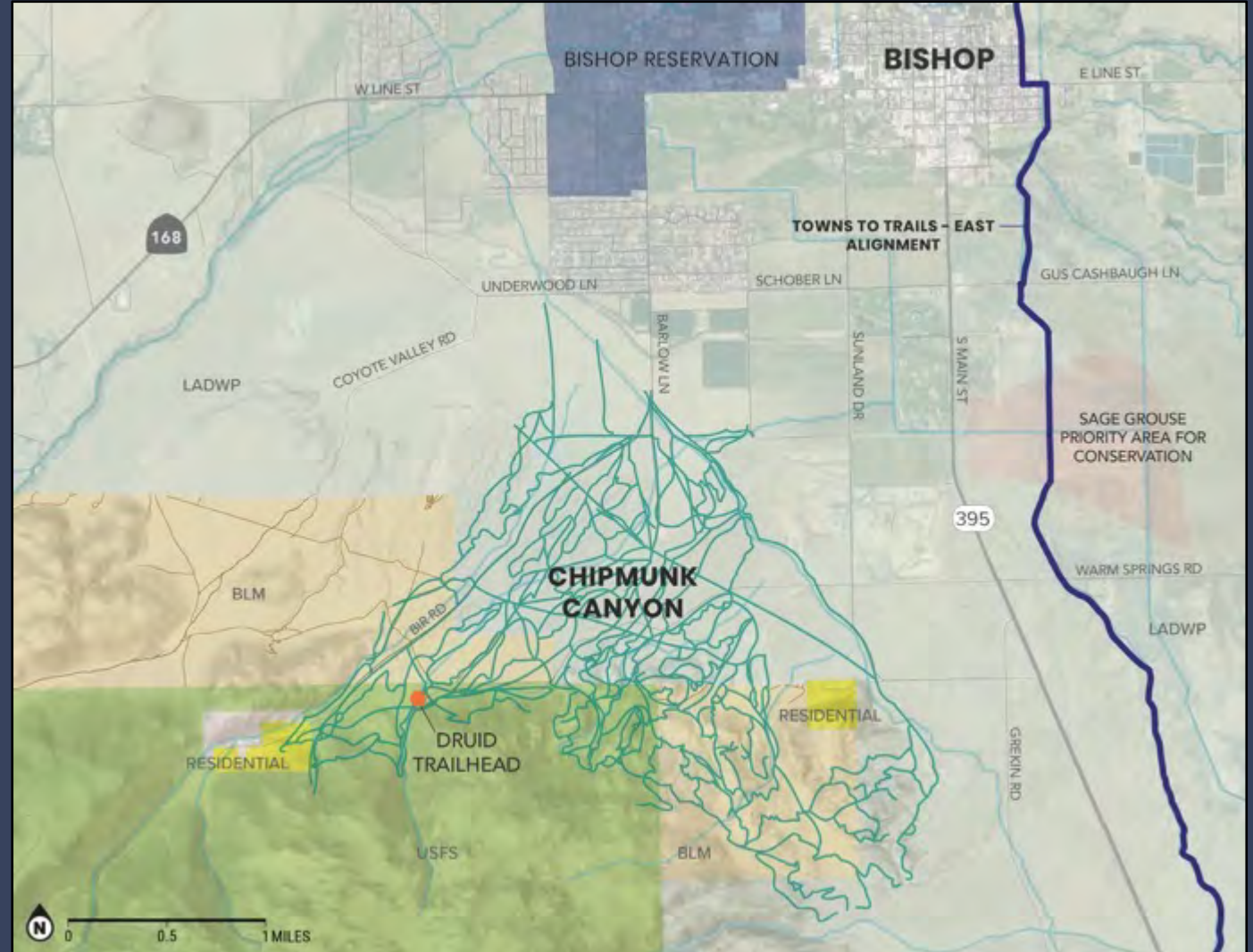
## SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

# Chipmunk Canyon Phase 1

## Current Conditions Analysis

- Site Visits
- Data Collection
- Veg Analysis
- Trail Counters

Eastern  
Sierra  
Council of  
Governments



# Collaborative Planning Initiative

## Discovery Phase

- Outreach/Plan Reviews
  - Sustainable Recreation
  - Wildfire
  - Agriculture/Working Lands
  - Economic Development
- Co-LAB Summit July 9-11
  - *Conceptualizing the future of recreation in the Eastern Sierra*





**WHITEBARK**  
INSTITUTE

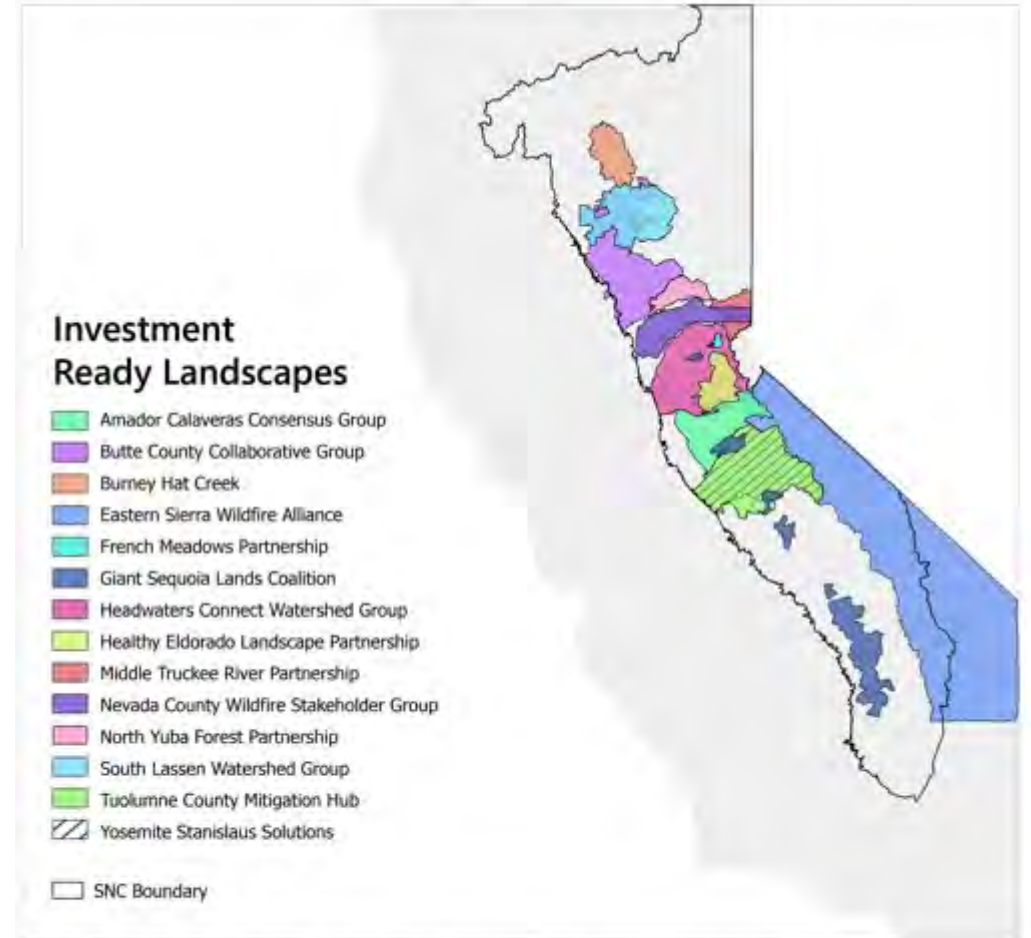
**ESSRP Update**

**May 4, 2026**



# Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance

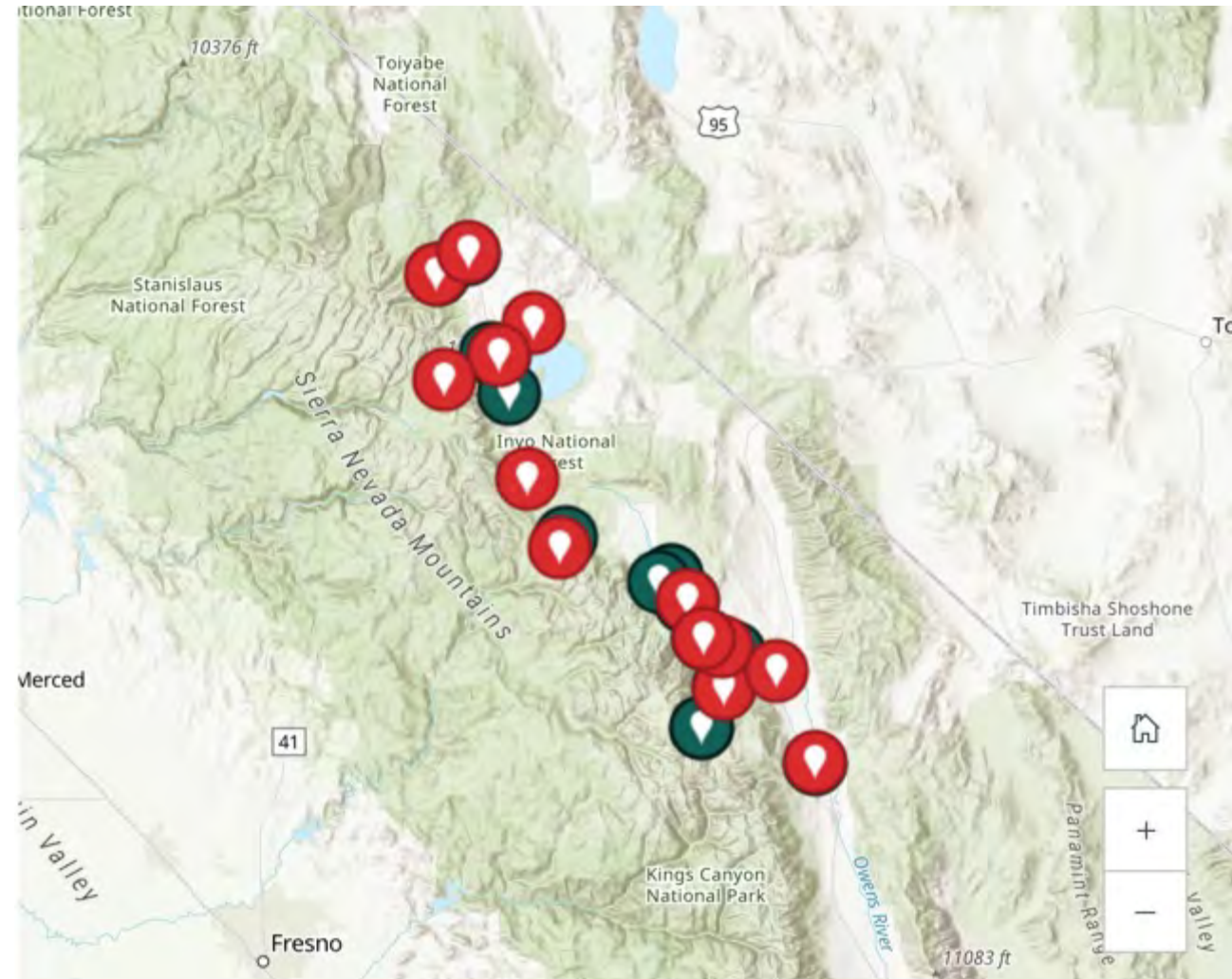
- Next Meeting: Tues May 6
  - Inyo Co Consolidated Office Building Bishop
  - Guest speaker: Sarah Campe, Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Collaborative Project Database
  - Now accepting submissions
  - Wildfire resilience and community preparedness projects in Inyo, Mono & Alpine Counties





## 2026 Community-Directed Grants Open Now!

- Grants up to \$5,000 for community driven projects
- Strengthen community resilience & support healthy landscapes
- **Applications accepted until May 11, 2026**
- More information available: **[WhitebarkInstitute.org/community-directed-grants](https://WhitebarkInstitute.org/community-directed-grants)**

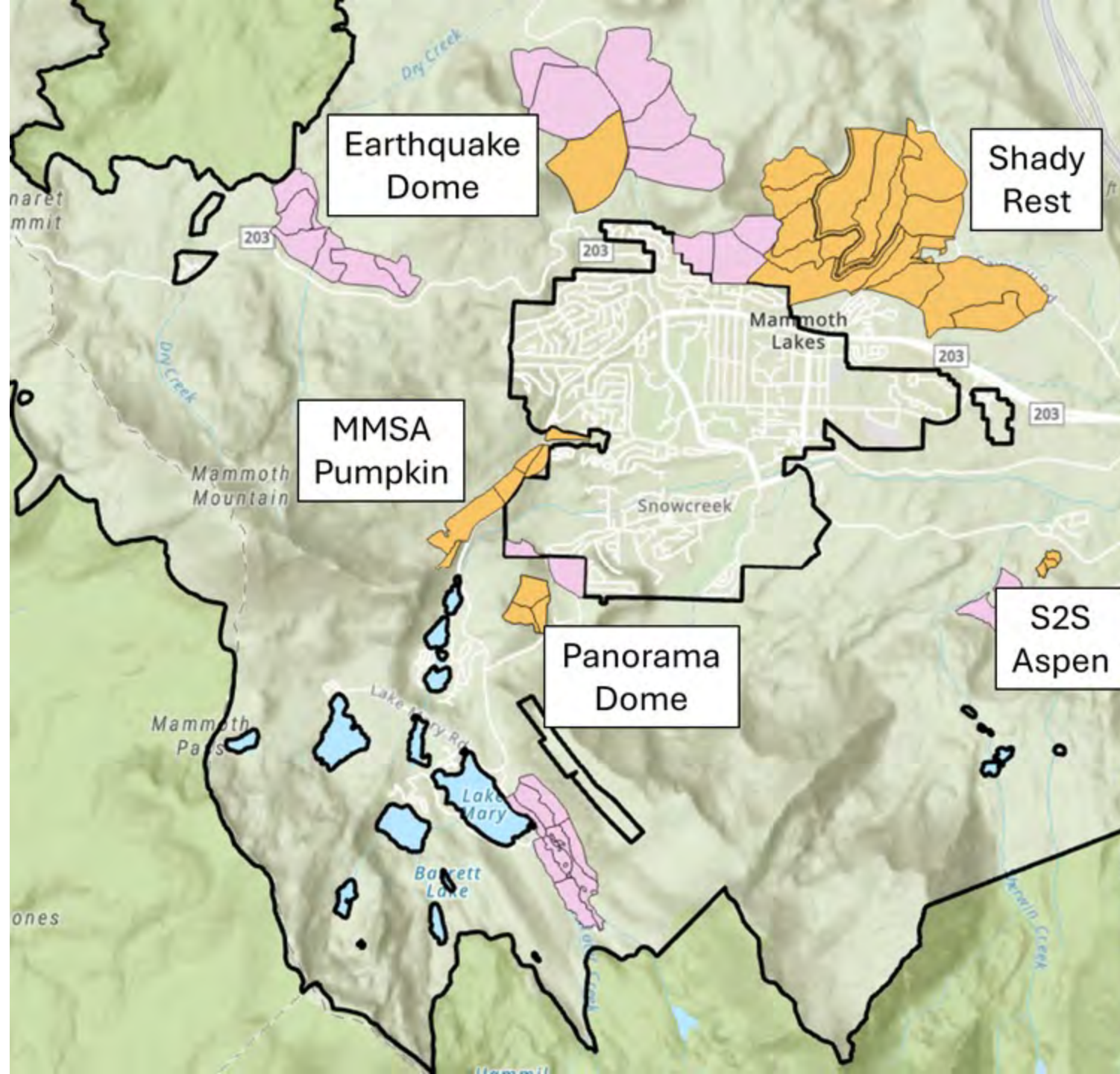


**EDISON**  
INTERNATIONAL®



# 2026 Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project

- 1,179 acres planned for Whitebark's implementation projects
  - Coldwater: May 4
  - Earthquake, Panorama, Mammoth Mountain: May 13
  - Shady Rest Mechanical: June 1
- Some impacts and closures expected in Shady Rest & along Scenic Loop
- <https://whitebarkinstitute.org/2026mammothfuelsreduction/>



## Upcoming Opportunities

---

- **Town of Mammoth Lakes Climate Action & Adaptation Plan**
  - Share your thoughts!
  - <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/1406/Climate-Action-and-Adaptation-Plan-CAAP>
- **Wildfire Resilience Month**
  - Next up:
  - Science on Tap: May 7 - Bishop
  - Mammoth Town Clean Up & Sustainability Fair: May 16
  - The Wildfire Laboratory: May 28



WHITEBARK  
INSTITUTE

# SCIENCE ON TAP

SERIES **2026**

**Sarah M. Bisbing, PhD**  
Forest Ecologist  
University of Nevada, Reno



Dusting off the toolbox:  
reestablishing  
silvicultural action in  
fire-adapted forests

**MAY 07, 6:00 PM**  
Mountain Rambler  
Brewery, Bishop, CA



EDISON  
INTERNATIONAL

Funding provided in part by Edison International and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection as part of the California Climate Investments Program.



# Partner Updates – In REVERSE Alphabetical Order

- Town of Mammoth Lakes
- National Park Service
- Mono County
- Inyo National Forest, USF
- 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, June 1, 2026 @ 3:30