

ESSRP Meeting Notes | 1/9/2023

Elaine Kabala, Rita Keil, John Wentworth, John Dayberry, Patrick Johnston, Karen Schwartz, Tim Bevins, David Griffith, Stacy Corless, John Pinckney, Colin Robertson, Rebecca Carr Wong, Kristy Williams, Fred Wong, Bob Gardner, Kody Jaeger, Janet Hatfield, Dan Holler, Steve Baule, Andre Miller, Rick Kattelman, Sherri Lisius, Brenda Ling, Marcella Rose, Lesley Yen, Joe Meyer, Matt Driscoll, Kim Anaclerio, Jim Rusk, Matt Paruolo, Nick Wobbrock, Jeff Griffiths, Jen Roeser, Brian Hansen, Kristen Gentilucci, Kitty Weisman, AK, Matt Paruolo

33 participants

Weather, John Wentworth

- We've seen serious snow and rainfall in the Eastern Sierra.
- Governor Newsom issued emergency declarations. Mono County issued an emergency declaration about avalanches, road closures, etc.
- The Caltrans QuickMap tool is essential for winter travel.

ESSRP News

Welcome to...

- Kody Jaeger, Chief Operations Officer II of the Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Kimberly Linse, Executive Assistant in Lesley Yen's office
- Chris Bubser, Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Member

New Roles

- Lynda Salcido is now the Supervisor for District 5 of Mono County.
- Jeff Griffiths is still the District 2 Supervisor for Inyo County. He is now also the California State Association of Counties Vice President.
- Stacy Corless is now the Government & Community Affairs Director of the Sierra Business Council.

Best of Luck!

- Joel Rathje, Trails Manager with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, will step down at the end of this week.
- Dan Totheroh decided not to run for re-election in Inyo County.

Tribal Consultation Sub Committee

- We'll continue outreach to tribes now that Lesley Yen is back from her detail.
- We may want to reconfigure this group now that Stacy Corless has stepped down.

ESSRP MOU

- We are almost ready to review the MOU with the USFS and BLM. We got good feedback from NPS. After we circulate it with the federal agencies, we'll circulate it with the local agencies.

- The MOU sets up the ESCOG as a potential actor to submit and manage grants on behalf of the ESSRP.

CERF Update, Elaine Kabala

- The ESSRP will be a critical partner to ESCOG on the Community Economic Resilience Fund.
- The Sierra Business Council will convene representatives from the Eastern Sierra to discuss economic development priorities. Contact Elaine or Stacy Corless to get involved with the council.

CEDS Update, Elaine Kabala

- RCRC is supporting an effort to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Inyo, Mono, and Alpine County region. The effort will kick off this week and wrap in June 2023.

Economic Development, Colin Robertson

- The Confluence of States produces an annual activity report about their member organizations. The Confluence of States is an informal alliance of state offices of recreation around the country.
- Bureau of Economic Analysis data shows a return to pre-pandemic outdoor recreation economic activity.

Air Service, John Wentworth

- Jackson Hole Airport received a \$3 million FAA grant.
- Reliable regional air service is a huge economic opportunity.

Federal + National Situational Awareness, John Wentworth

- Salt Lake City is looking to Mono Lake and Owens Lake as examples for water management.
- Kevin McCarthy was elected House speaker. Rep. Kevin Kiley supported him in every vote.
- The California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force will meet in Calabasas February 2 and 3.
- The Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group delivered their Joint Strategy for Sustainable Recreation to the Task Force.

State Awareness, Stacy Corless

- California is facing a big budget deficit driven by a revenue shortfall.
- The state does have ample reserves.
- The governor will release his budget tomorrow.
- Various agencies have funding for multi-year investments.
- The best advice Stacy has heard is to prepare stories that show the value of state investments locally and for the state.
- Sierra Business Council is recruiting for the CERF High Road Transition Council. They would like to have 3 representatives per county. People can also participate informally. They want the perspective of land managers. There will be an information session on January 25 at 12pm.
 - https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdeCgqTsiHdLH9utcl2JFAXv0VROiXtAW?utm_source=Sierra+Business+Council&utm_campaign=b607e99329-

[EMAIL CAMPAIGN 2022 12 07 06 10&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0 - b607e99329-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D](mailto:scorless@sierrabusiness.org)

- Stacy's email is scorless@sierrabusiness.org, call/text at 760-920-0190.
- Another webinar opportunity--this time around 30x30, looking at plans for 2023, on Jan 31.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpcO6vpjwEtUtjjslPx8D2opxQmh7Kxr3>

Whitebark Institute, Janet Hatfield

- Sierra Nevada Conservancy recommended Whitebark's proposal to treat over 1000 acres of land in the Reds Meadow Valley for \$3.5 million of funding. The Board will vote on it at their March meeting in Sacramento.

Towns to Trails, Elaine Kabala and Tim Bevins

- This planning initiative will identify a trail network from Alpine County to Olancho that connects communities to public lands.
- The first phase of the project will involve data gathering and desk work to target trail alignments. Then the project will move to community outreach.
- The project will run through 2026.
- Tim is a planner and designer with Alta Planning + Design, the primary contractor. The project will try to build momentum by completing trail alignments while planning. They plan to engage land managers, tribes, and communities.
- MLTPA will help connect Alta to the right people.
- David Griffith: Is there room in the budget to go north of Markleeville? Also, there's an old trail that goes up the Carson River from Nevada. Is there room to push the project extent north or south?
 - Tim: Yes, definitely. Alta worked on a trail plan for Olancho. The project intent is to build ongoing connections.
- timbevins@altago.com | 310.430.0562

ESCOG, Elaine Kabala

- In the next few days ESCOG will publish an RFP for a recreation planning initiative in the Buttermilk.

Mono County, Marcella Rose

- Marcella is working to execute an SNC grant (Camp Like A Pro) and an OHV grant. Marcella will contact the founders of the Camp Like A Pro initiative.
- Marcella is working to open up County winter parks.

Innovative Finance for Campground Improvements, Andre Miller

- Andre's team is creating a non-funded challenge cost-share agreement between the ESCOG and the USFS.
- The Inyo National Forest has GAOA funding to create construction plans for campground sites.

Partner Updates

Town of Mammoth Lakes, Dan Holler

- The community has been impacted by power outages, heavy snow, avalanches, and low visibility. The council will have a special meeting tonight.
- Joel Rathje is stepping down as trails manager. TOML will review the structure of that position and the Office of Outdoor Recreation.
- TOML received two grants to build a trailhead at the Sherwin propane tanks and conduct environmental analysis in the Sherwins.
- TOML continues to purchase units for the affordable housing stock.

National Park Service

Yosemite Visitor Access Management Plan Public Meetings:

- Yosemite Gateway Partners Winter Quarterly Meeting (in-person), 1/12/2023 8:30 AM to 3 PM at the Garden Terrace, 9006 Yosemite Lodge Drive, Yosemite, CA 95389
Park Planning - Visitor Access Management Plan Comment Period 12/9/2022-2/3/2023. More information is available online at:
<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?documentID=125234>
- Virtual meeting 1/17/2023 at 4 PM. URL/Webinar link:
https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YWQ3YWlyN2ItMTImYS00ZDAwLWI3YWItODg3M2U3ZTUwZjli%40thread.v2/0?context=%7B%22Tid%22%3A%220693b5ba-4b18-4d7b-9341-f32f400a5494%22%2C%22Oid%22%3A%2209c39b44-b633-42c7-8ac7-ae9096eb8f9f%22%2C%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3Atrue%22%2C%22role%22%3A%22a%22%7D&btype=a&role=a

Devils Postpile NM, Rebecca Carr Wong

- Devils Postpile is recruiting for a seasonal laborer and a seasonal painter. There is housing available.
- Devils Postpile Job Opportunities:
 - USAJOBS - Job Announcement #694135300 Laborer, Application period: 12/14/2022-1/11/2023
 - USAJOBS - Job Announcement #694153200 Painting Worker, Application period: 01/09/2023-01/16/2023

Manzanar NHS, Brenda Ling

- Manzanar is dealing with water leaking through their roofs.
- They are also raising funds to rebuild their baseball field.
 - Rebuild Manzanar's Baseball Field -
https://give.communityin.org/ManzanarBaseballField?ref=ab_9CZPPUhWwC39CZPPUhWwC3

Patrick Johnston

- The federal government will recruit for a national travel and tourism assistant secretary.

Mono County, Bob Gardner

- Bob wants to coordinate with land managers to ask Congress for a cost of living adjustment for the federal agencies in Mono County.

Inyo National Forest

Lesley Yen

- Lesley met with Sarah Classen today to re-familiarize herself with what's been happening in the Inyo National Forest while Lesley has been on detail.
- The Inyo NF and BLM building in Bishop is flooding on the ground floor.

Fred Wong

- The recreation staff should be fully staffed in the next couple months.
- They will fill a resource assistant position.
- There were fewer applicants to the temporary recreation staff positions than was hoped for.

AK

- They are trying to work proactively to permit facilities for the summer.
- They're hiring more permit administrators on the Mono Ranger District and in Bishop.

Inyo County

Jeff Griffiths

- There are two new supervisors in Inyo County.
- There are leak issues in some Inyo County buildings.
- Inyo County will host an in-person and virtual event with a Master Gardener to discuss home hardening.

Jen Roeser

- Jeff Marsolais is now the head of state and private forest with the National Forest Washington Office.
- Small businesses are struggling to obtain insurance.

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Brian Hansen

- All of the temporary positions on the Carson District are full.
- The other districts are working to hire temporary and permanent positions.

City of Bishop, Karen Schwartz

- The City adopted its downtown specific plan. They enabled a mixed use overlay that will foster more community investment.
- Bishop is thinking about how to move airport travelers to trailheads. There was an ESTA shuttle to South Lake but it was a financial loser.

- Jen Roeser: Thanks Karen - thanks for bringing this up - ESTA trailhead service has been on the LTC agenda quite a bit as well. There is a nexus with some of our agency partners I think would be a great conversation

Bureau of Land Management, Sherri Lisius

- There are major flood repairs going on with the BLM/USFS building.
- ESIA, DVNP, USFS, and BLM are hosting lots of interpretation programs in the Alabama Hills and Bishop.

Alpine County, David Griffith

- Lots of rain in Alpine County.
- Bear Valley has had 270 inches of snow so far this year.