



Welcome...



REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



June 2, 2025





REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



June 2, 2025



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.”

Welcome and Housekeeping



Inyo National Forest

- Wilfred Nabahe – *Acting District Ranger, Mt. Whitney Ranger District*

Welcome and Housekeeping



Inyo National Forest

- Tawny Melville – *New District Ranger, Mt. Whitney Ranger District*

Welcome and Housekeeping



USDA Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz visits the Rocky Mountain Research Station and tours the research lab in Fort Collins, Colo., on April 16, 2025. The agency has sought to slash employees by firing thousands of newly hired staff still in their probationary employees (who have since been hired back under a now-paused court order) and through offers of early retirement and deferred resignation. PRESTON KERES/USDA VIA FLICKR

Management

‘Biohazard’: Forest Service employees warn cuts having devastating, and disgusting, impacts

DOGE is holding up contracts across government and it's affecting everything from firefighting to toilet cleaning.

MAY 5, 2025 07:00 AM ET



ERIC KATZ
Senior Correspondent

The Trump administration's Elon Musk-backed government efficiency team promised to eliminate waste throughout government. At the U.S. Forest Service, it is instead letting it build up.

The Department of Government Efficiency has instituted new layers of review at USFS, as it has at [most federal agencies](#). Processes that typically took minutes are now taking a month or longer and a wide range of functions are feeling the impact. In some cases, that has led to trash piling up and pit toilets—restrooms that include only holes in the ground, as is common at Forest Service recreational centers and campgrounds—going uncleaned or unemptied.

Getting a contract approved for janitorial services, said one USFS who works on those procurements, previously took a day-and-a-half. With the added layers that DOGE has installed, it now takes six weeks.

“You’ve got this biohazard,” the employee said, adding any cleaning that is happening occurs by employees “in their 70s with power washers that they bought with their own money so they don’t have to scrape poop off the wall.”

The campgrounds often attract people who are dealing with mental health crises or using drugs and employees said such misplaced fees is a common occurrence. Employees like secretaries or recreation technicians, whose job descriptions make no mention of janitorial services, are being asked to do such cleaning without the proper equipment to do so. They are handling overflowing trash and, in some cases, picking up hypodermic needles. Given the cuts DOGE has already implemented at the Forest Service, employees are in some cases too fearful to reject the assignments.

Another employee noted her National Forest is already seeing changes to who provides services such as mowing and cleaning. DOGE has overseen the revocation of purchase cards at USFS, as it has at most of government, making it harder to pay for incidental costs.

Welcome and Housekeeping



ERIC KATZ
Senior Correspondent

The Trump administration's Elon Musk-backed government efficiency team promised to eliminate waste throughout government. At the U.S. Forest Service, it is instead letting it build up.

The Department of Government Efficiency has instituted new layers of review at USFS, as it has at most federal agencies. Processes that typically took minutes are now taking a month or longer and a wide range of functions are feeling the impact.

"The Trump administration's Elon Musk-backed government efficiency team promised to eliminate waste throughout government. At the U.S. Forest Service, it is instead letting it build up. The Department of Government Efficiency has instituted new layers of review at USFS, as it has at most federal agencies. Processes that typically took minutes are now taking a month or longer.

'Biohazard': Forest Service employees warn cuts having devastating, and disgusting, impacts

DOGE is holding up contracts across government and it's affecting everything from firefighting to toilet cleaning.

MAY 5, 2025 07:00 AM ET

Employees like secretaries or recreation technicians, whose job descriptions make no mention of janitorial services, are being asked to do such cleaning without the proper equipment to do so. They are handling overflowing trash and, in some cases, picking up hypodermic needles. Given the cuts DOGE has already implemented at the Forest Service, employees are in some cases too fearful to reject the assignments.

Another employee noted her National Forest is already seeing changes to who provides services such as mowing and cleaning. DOGE has overseen the revocation of purchase cards at USFS, as it has at most of government, making it harder to pay for incidental costs.

Welcome and Housekeeping

Thank you for the critical role you play in delivering essential public services to the American public and to people around the world.

Amid today's dramatically changing federal landscape, the Partnership for Public Service is here to support you—either as you continue to serve our country or as you transition to new opportunities.

[Explore resources](#)



Support Federal Workers

- “The FedSupport Hub is a resource
- “Support Feds
- “The Partnership for Public Service”

Welcome and Housekeeping



ESSRP Strategic Support

- 30 years Federal agency experience
- President of Eastern Sierra Land Trust Board of Directors
- Two term Mono County Supervisor
- Born and raised in Bishop, CA

Welcome and Housekeeping



U.S. Congressman Kevin Kiley

- Natalia Vasquez – *Regional Representative for El Dorado, Alpine, Mono, & Inyo County*

Welcome and Housekeeping



U.S. Congressman Tom McClintock

- *Field Representative that might be interested in attending ESSRP meetings - ?*

Welcome and Housekeeping



Meeting Calendar Update

- Starting with the June 2 Meeting
- Advise of any technical challenges !

Welcome and Housekeeping



Welcome to Payahuunadü

- This is a guide for how to recreate responsibly on the lands of the Nüümü and Newe peoples.
- Compiled by the Environmental Management Office of the Bishop Paiute Tribe - August 29, 2023

Welcome and Housekeeping

When you recreate near Bishop,
whether you live here or are visiting,
the Environmental Management
Office of the Bishop Paiute Tribe asks
several things of you.



Welcome and Housekeeping

The first is that you learn about
Paiute history.



Welcome and Housekeeping

The second is that you educate yourself on how to recognize and protect cultural sites.



Welcome and Housekeeping

The third is that you consider how you may be affecting the plants and animals that call these places home.



Welcome and Housekeeping

I. Learn about Paiute history.

A great place to start learning about Paiute history is the [Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Cultural Center](#) located at 2300 West Line Street, Bishop CA 93514. Please visit the hyperlink to the Cultural Center's website for hours and more information.

To learn more about the history of land and water in Payahuunadū please visit this [StoryMap](#) created by the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission as well as [this webpage](#) on their website. Below is a limited timeline to introduce you to some of our history. Keep in mind that Paiute history is much more expansive than this timeline can encompass.

A brief timeline to get you started:

15,000 years + B.P. (before present)

Indigenous peoples make use of the Volcanic Tablelands.¹

pre-settler contact

Contrary to common settler narratives that Indigenous people didn't "utilize" the land and therefore land dispossession was justified, the Nüümü people independently developed an agricultural system that endured over 500 years and involved ditch construction, rock clearing, and the use of water-control features to irrigate a variety of consumable plants in the Owens Valley.²

1856

A. W. Von Schmidt surveyed land in the northern Owens Valley for the Department of Interior and documented the existence of extensive "Indian ditches" and irrigated fields in the area. Shortly thereafter settlers arrived in the area and came into violent conflict with the Paiute people.³

1904

The City of Los Angeles became interested in the Owens River as a potential source of water for the rapidly growing population of the city.⁴

1912

The U.S. government set aside over 67,000 acres of land in the Volcanic Tablelands to be considered for settlement by Paiute people in the Owens Valley. The land would later be removed from trust and determined to be unsuitable for a reservation.⁵

II. How to recognize and protect cultural sites.

Cultural sites (petroglyphs, old dwelling sites, artifacts, scatters of obsidian, arrowheads, grindstones etc.) are part of how we are able to trace the Indigenous history of Payahuunadū. Unfortunately, some of the cultural sites around Bishop have been destroyed by people recreating and exploring the area. People take obsidian points or arrowheads home with them, graffiti on rocks covered in petroglyphs or pictographs (Teimütümui is our word for petroglyphs) and dismantle dwelling sites in order to create better landings when bouldering. The destruction of these sites is concerning to us as it is an attempt at literal erasure of our history on the land. It is also illegal to collect, damage, or disturb cultural sites on federal/public lands and those who do so can face fines or jail time.

We ask that you are mindful of cultural sites as you move through the area:

- Recreation areas near Bishop contain sensitive cultural sites. We ask that you stay on established roads, trails, campsites and climbing areas.
- If you find an artifact (e.g. arrowhead, obsidian point or scatter, pottery fragment/shard etc.) leave it be. Please do not touch or move it. Do not take it home with you.
- Do not graffiti on any cultural sites or any part of the landscape. Do not touch touch any cultural sites. In particular, do not touch petroglyphs or pictographs as it damages them.
- Please do not post pictures or locations of cultural sites on social media.

We want you to enjoy recreation in Payahuunadū, just not at the expense of Paiute history and cultural sites.



III. Be considerate of plants and animals.

The Bishop area is home to many different sensitive and culturally significant plant and animal species. In addition to following [Leave No Trace](#) principles and guidelines from the BLM, Forest Service, or Climbing Rangers we ask that you consider how you might be impacting the ways that local Indigenous people interact with species or how species fit into our cultural practices. Here are some examples for you to think about:

- In one incident, a climbing rope left up in Pine Creek resulted in the death of a Golden Eagle. Eagles are sacred. The convenience of fixed or left gear may not be worth the risk to wildlife.
- Tribal members have noticed non-Indigenous folks harvesting medicinal plants in the area without proper protocols and to the extent that there is little left for local Indigenous people. Other times, medicinal plants are destroyed when people drive off established roads/trails in OHVs or cars. You may be impacting cultural practices without realizing it.
- The Happy Boulders, Sad Boulders and Buttermilks used to be areas where Indigenous people lived. More recently, local Indigenous folks would hunt rabbit, an important food source, in these areas. Now, those ecosystems no longer support rabbit populations. How might your presence in an area be impacting wildlife? How might the presence of your dog be impacting wildlife?
- Bouldering pads stashed in more remote bouldering areas can be torn apart by marmots or, if left for longer periods of time, degrade and enter waterways. Stashing pads is leaving a trace.

If you would like to go beyond Leave No Trace, we highly recommend checking out the [Indigenous Field Guide](#). It is a much more expansive guide for recreation through an Indigenous lens.

IV. Next Steps

Thank you for taking the time to read through this guide! The Environmental Management Office encourages you to always seek out information about local Indigenous communities wherever you go to recreate. Here is a summary of how you can start recreating more responsibly in Payahuunadū:

1. Stop by the [Owens Valley Paiute-Shoshone Cultural Center](#) located at 2300 West Line Street, Bishop to learn more about Paiute history.
2. Review [Section II](#) of this guide to learn how to recognize and protect cultural sites.
3. Be considerate of plants and animals wherever you are recreating.
4. Check out the [Indigenous Field Guide](#).

Welcome and Housekeeping



Hot Links June 2, 2025

- 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
- Welcome + Housekeeping
 - Welcome
 - Inyo National Forest
 - Wilfred Nabahe – Acting District Ranger, Mt. Whitney Ranger District
 - Tawny Melville - District Ranger, Mt. Whitney Ranger District
 - Support Federal Workers
 - The Partnership for Public Service
 - The FedSupport Hub is a resource for you
 - I Support Feds
 - ESSRP Strategic Support
 - Bob Gardner - ESSRP Strategic Support

ESSRP Local Agency Partners

Summer 2025 Recreation Project Updates



Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



Updates from Sierra Jobs First

Heather Hawkins, Communications

Industry Sector: Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

- Catalyst projects moving through contracting
- Governing Council meeting in Sonora June 13
- Team met with Fiona Ma at Town Hall May 27

Sierra Jobs First: Activation Plan

SJF Activation Plan – Due May 2025

The 13 Jobs First Regions



- 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 Inland SoCal
- ⑫ Orange County
- ⑬ Southern Border



Activation Plan: Strategy Overview Template

Target Sector Strategy – Brief Overview

- a. Describe the proposed target sector and supporting strategies. *This information is in Part 2 of most Regional Plans already and copying or summarizing it is encouraged.*
- b. Explain why this sector was prioritized for immediate action.
- c. Provide an overview of tactics (minimum of 5) to focus implementation over 12-18 months (to be detailed in the "Tactical workplan template")

Operating Structure to Organize and Execute

- a. Describe the organizational model for executing the sector strategy (including staff roles, operations, and governance model)
- b. Identify regional partners for implementing tactics (including their roles and existing engagement with California Jobs First)

Goals and Metrics Across the Strategy

- a. Identify measures for sector-level outcomes expected from interventions over the next 5-10 years (e.g., increases in target sector employment and number of quality jobs)
- b. Identify measures to track shorter-term progress towards desired sector-level outcomes (do not include measures linked to individual tactics, as those can be included in the tactical workplan template below)
- c. Describe expectations for reporting progress on measures

Sierra Jobs First: Activation Plan

CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST REGIONAL ACTIVATION PLAN

May 30th Submission

MLTPA x SFM

SIERRA WORKS

RECREATION & TOURISM PROJECTS IN THE SIERRAS



CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST - SIERRA REGION

SIERRA JOBS FIRST REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM ACTIVATION PLAN

Tactical Work Plan

May 30th Submission

MLTPA x SFM

SIERRA WORKS

RECREATION & TOURISM PROJECTS IN THE SIERRAS



Sierra Jobs First: Activation Plan



Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Activation Plan

I. Introduction

The outdoor recreation and tourism industries are increasingly recognized as vital economic drivers across the state of California. In the 7-county Sierra Jobs First region, this importance is particularly pronounced: the sector boasts a 1.64 location quotient and accounts for a remarkable 28.1% of regional employment, significantly exceeding the state average. This industry is not only complex and highly diverse, encompassing over 110 distinct six-digit NAICS codes¹ on its own, but also spans three incredibly distinct fields: outdoor recreation, arts and culture, and hospitality. Annually, the region attracts roughly 7 million annual visitors, a testament to its unparalleled natural beauty and world-class recreation opportunities.

This sector is a bedrock of the Sierra region's economy, holding extensive natural and built assets and significant potential for developing quality jobs through identified and preliminary funding for its projects. From opportunities to enhance regional connectivity through leveraging existing trail infrastructure, to catalyzing downtown revitalization through in-fill projects and cataloging unique regional product offerings to bolster small businesses and entrepreneurial efforts, to launching a cohesive regional branding and marketing initiative, the potential for transformative impact is immense.

Unlike other sectors that may face extensive permitting and regulatory hurdles for infrastructure development, this sector's diverse projects are inherently agile. They leverage existing infrastructure to create and enhance recreation opportunities and regional connectivity, identify opportunities for key private investment, and depend on their core infrastructure of relationships, robust networks, and collaboration. The inherent agility of the sector positions it to benefit from strategic investments in capacity building, information sharing, and innovative policy development through exploring each project as a case study through the Catalyst process.

The Sierra Region's identity, while profoundly shaped by historical water diversions like the Los Angeles Aqueduct (1913) and Hatch Hatchy Reservoir (1934), is better

¹ North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes are numeric codes that identify a business's primary industry. They are used by federal statistical agencies to collect, analyze, and publish data on the U.S. economy. NAICS codes are also used for administrative, regulatory, contracting, and taxation purposes. More information is available on the Census Bureau's website.

Activation Plan: Tactical Work Plan Template

Strategy 1: Public Lands Partnership Agreements

Strategy 1: Enhance access to sustainable recreation and tourism on public lands to expand economic opportunities by creating partnership agreements between local authorities and federal, state, and utility land managers.

Tactic & Overview	Task	Responsible Party	Funding	Timeline
<p>1.1: Tactic 1: Develop a regional governance structure consistent with partnership agreements to regularly convene land managers and regional partners to identify recreation and tourism needs and opportunities and serve as a forum for information sharing.</p> <p>a. Purpose: To establish a consistent and collaborative framework for coordination, communication, and shared decision-making among key stakeholders involved in Recreation and tourism management across the Region. This will foster the long-term vitality towards shared goals</p>	<p>Task 1: Identify potential members and recruit for founding collaborative</p> <p>Applicable Outputs:</p> <p>a. Evaluate current structure and scope of monthly ESSRP, and provide a set of recommendations for the scope and reach of a broader governance structure. Leverage existing ISC and ESCOG funding to conduct evaluations and focus groups on the needs, structure, and substantive/geographic scope of a cross-sector regional governance structure.</p>	<p>Current Program:</p> <p>1- Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), convened and facilitated by the MLTPA Foundation (MLTPA), that includes the partner signatories to the "ESSRP MOU."</p> <p>Relevant Catalyst Awards:</p> <p>1- "Eastern Sierra Council of Governments "Eastern Sierra Regional Collaborative (ESRC) Capacity Incubator."</p> <p>a. Regional Collaboration and Infrastructure</p>	<p>Partially funded via MLTPA's Industry Sector Coordinator (ISC) contract for Sierra Jobs First.</p> <p>Funding gap to address: Long-term funding for a cross-sector regional governance</p>	<p>Through September 2026</p>

Sierra Jobs First: Activation Plan

Natural & Working Lands Activation Plan

Target Sector Strategy - Brief Overview

- 1) This target sector strategy aims to accelerate the Sierra region's plans as a competitive Nature and Working Lands hub and reinforce the region's base quality of jobs accessible to workers at different skill levels. Recognizing the inextricable link between workforce development and economic development, this strategy prioritizes the creation of pathways to family-sustaining, accessible careers that align with regional industry needs. By investing in education, training, and upskilling programs, the region can equip workers with the technical and adaptive skills necessary to thrive in roles that support sustainable land management, improved carbon sequestration, and the circular bioeconomy.

A robust and skilled workforce not only supports the preservation and enhancement of the region's natural and working lands but also ensures that economic benefits are equitably distributed across communities. This approach fosters innovation, resilience, and sustainability in the natural and working lands sector, while simultaneously addressing workforce needs and ensuring long-term economic vitality. Ultimately, this strategy positions the Sierra region as a sector leader in sustainable economic growth by integrating workforce development as a central pillar of its efforts to drive inclusive and regionally impactful economic development.

While the Natural and Working Lands sector values innovation and diversity in advancing new bioeconomy opportunities, it is essential to recognize that the commercial timber industry serves as the foundational anchor upon which subsequent growth and development in this sector will be built upon. The commercial timber industry plays a pivotal role in the Sierra region's bioeconomy and serves as the backbone of the majority of jobs in this sector. It is a critical regional driver of economic activity, fostering innovation by enabling the development of new products and processes that enhance the value of the biomass and other natural resources. Furthermore, the timber industry supplies essential materials for the tradable sector, directly linking regional production to national and international markets. By highlighting the industry's role in sustainable forest management and its contributions to climate resilience, this strategy seeks to reshape public perceptions, positioning commercial timber as a catalyst for advancing the bioeconomy while preserving the health of our region's natural environment. The advancement of commercial timber not only supports sustainable land management practices but also continues to significantly boost the region's gross regional product, reinforcing its role as a key driver of economic vitality.

The success of this strategy is also deeply tied to the Sierra region's collaboration and alignment with other California Jobs First regional plans, which share interconnected resources and economic priorities. Shared sectors such as forestry, agriculture, and biomass utilization create opportunities for cross-regional partnerships that amplify resources, drive innovation, and build resilient supply chains. Additionally, aligning these efforts with California's statewide bioeconomy plans ensures that the Sierra region not only supports regional sustainability goals but also contributes to broader state objectives for reducing carbon emissions, increasing renewable energy production, and building a circular economy. This alignment will position the region as a vital contributor to California's leadership in the bioeconomy, creating additional opportunities for funding and knowledge at both state and federal levels.

Healthcare Activation Plan

Target Sector Strategy - Brief Overview

Target Sector Strategy for Healthcare Workforce Development

This strategy fosters collaboration among high schools, community colleges, local hospitals, and healthcare providers to address workforce needs and develop educational programs that upskill individuals and provide living wages. By investing in education, training, and skill development, the region can equip workers with the technical and adaptive skills essential for supporting healthcare demands.

A skilled and robust workforce not only strengthens the healthcare industry but also promotes economic stability and sustainability while addressing critical regional health priorities. As the healthcare industry experiences exponential growth, many regions face workforce shortages. Implementing training initiatives—such as dual enrollment programs for high school and community college students—will help bridge these gaps and contribute to long-term economic sustainability.

A regional health needs analysis identified several pressing concerns, including mental and behavioral health services, chronic disease prevention, healthcare access, and emergency preparedness in response to climate change. Many of these challenges stem from workforce shortages. Expanding educational programs will help develop a skilled workforce, fill critical vacancies, and ensure individuals have access to viable, well-paying careers.

The healthcare industry plays an integral role in the economic and social fabric of our region. Aligning healthcare workforce development with state priorities is essential to foster a resilient healthcare system and promote economic growth. By synchronizing efforts with California's broader economic and workforce development goals, the region can leverage state resources and policies to enhance healthcare services, address workforce shortages, and support public health initiatives.

The strategy aligns with statewide priorities by emphasizing training programs that prepare workers for in-demand healthcare roles, thereby reducing unemployment and ensuring a steady supply of qualified healthcare professionals. Collaboration with state agencies, educational institutions, and healthcare providers will facilitate the development of standardized curricula and certification programs that meet the evolving needs of the healthcare sector. Moreover, integrating healthcare workforce development within the state's climate and sustainability goals can create synergies that benefit both public health and environmental resilience. For instance, training programs focused on emergency preparedness can address the dual challenges of healthcare access and climate change, ensuring that the region is equipped to respond to natural disasters and public health emergencies effectively. By prioritizing alignment with state initiatives, the region can also attract additional funding and investment, fostering innovation and expanding the capacity of healthcare services. Engaging with historically underrepresented groups in the planning and implementation stages will ensure that the benefits of these developments are equitably distributed, promoting inclusivity and social equity in healthcare access. This comprehensive approach not only addresses immediate workforce needs but also positions the region as a leader in integrating healthcare and state economic priorities, driving long-term sustainability and community well-being.

Agriculture & Food Systems Activation Plan

Target Sector Strategy - Brief Overview

- 1) The Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems strategy seeks to position the Sierra region as a leader in regenerative agriculture, climate-smart farming, and resilient local food systems. Agriculture has historically played a critical role in the region's economy, and by modernizing practices and infrastructure, this sector can become more sustainable, profitable, and inclusive to the region's workforce.

The Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems strategy is designed to enhance the Sierra region's agricultural viability, environmental sustainability, and economic resilience by integrating forward-thinking practices and targeted investments. A key focus is expanding climate-smart agriculture, including regenerative farming, soil health initiatives, carbon sequestration, and water efficiency measures that promote long-term land stewardship. Strengthening local food production and processing is equally critical, as it increases food security, expands local markets, and supports programs that keep agricultural revenue within the region. Additionally, this plan prioritizes workforce training programs that create accessible, family-sustaining careers in agriculture, food processing, and distribution, ensuring that workers have the skills needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving industry.

Aligning with state and federal funding opportunities will be instrumental in maximizing resources, driving innovation, and ensuring long-term sector growth. By equipping farmers, ranchers, and food system workers with the tools, training, and infrastructure they need to succeed, this strategy will expand economic opportunity, reinforce environmental stewardship, and position the Sierra region as a leader in sustainable agriculture.

- a) This sector was prioritized for immediate implementation for the following reasons:

- i) Economic and Workforce Opportunity

- (1) Agriculture and food systems provide thousands of jobs in the region across diverse skills levels, from farmworker and ranchers to food processors, tractor-trailer drivers, and other industry professionals.
- (2) The sector is growing with increasing consumer demand for local, organic and regenerative food products.
- (3) Workforce training in agriculture, food production and ag-tech can provide high-road living-wage jobs for rural and underrepresented communities.

- i) Climate Resilience and Environmental Stewardship

- (1) The region's farmers and ranchers face significant climate challenges, including drought, unpredictable weather, and soil degradation.
- (2) Investing in climate-smart practices protects natural resources and enhances long-term productivity.

Sierra Jobs First: Activation Plan

SIERRA JOBS FIRST
COLLABORATIVE

2024 Strategic Plan

Regional Plan: Part II



Governing Council Approved August 23, 2024

Pages 70
through
80 of the
Regional
Strategy

Chapter 4

Target Industries

Strategy Area

Sustainable Recreation & Tourism

Building a Sustainable Tourism Economy

SECTOR DEFINITION

The Sustainable Tourism Industry Sector includes natural and cultural attractions, arts, outdoor activities, events, and historic sites. Sustainable tourism is focused on current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts and addresses the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities. Data and feedback indicate the region's robust recreation and tourism sector is a critical economic driver. Leveraging the region's natural assets, arts, historic sites, and community events has significant potential for developing quality jobs.

SECTOR SNAPSHOT

Sustainable recreation and tourism dominate the regional economy and represent nearly 25% of all employment.

This industry sector is broad in scope and includes everything from accommodations and lodging to outdoor recreation, arts and cultural attractions, food service, and some retail operations.

The location quotient is 1.64, indicating that 64% more tourism jobs exist in the region than the employment average in California for this sector. The highest number of jobs exist in food service and accommodations for this sector, as listed on the next page. Jobs in these two industries tend to be low-wage jobs. This industry sector represents one of the most significant areas for wage improvement to achieve region-wide income goals, as many jobs in this sector today pay under \$50,000 annually.

Strategies in this sector will need to work to find creative ways to build opportunities for high-quality job growth in these specific industry areas.

OUTCOME STATEMENTS

- Sierra employees, especially those in the food service and accommodations, can access high-quality jobs in the recreation and tourism sector.
- Local, state, tribal, federal, and private landowners work together to unlock regional opportunities.
- Significant regional public and private investments support new opportunities and ongoing maintenance needs in the arts, history, and recreational opportunities.
- A climate-resilient, environmentally responsible recreation and tourism economy exists in the region.

BY THE NUMBERS SECTOR LOCATION QUOTIENT

1.64

Sustainable recreation represents an area of economic specialization for the region, with an occupation rate 64% higher than statewide averages across this economic sector. With its high employment numbers, this is an important regional investment area.

TOTAL SECTOR EMPLOYMENT IN REGION 2023

17,642 jobs

**28.1% of
region
employment**

Regionally, about three of every 10 jobs fall within the sustainable recreation sector, indicating that these economies are heavily tied to the continuation and advancement of the local workforce.

California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



State Economic Blueprint

February 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.⁷

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 | 7 Central San Joaquin |
| 2 Redwood | 8 Central Coast |
| 3 Capital | 9 Kern County |
| 4 Sierra | 10 Los Angeles County |
| 5 Bay Area | 11 Inland SoCal |
| 6 North San Joaquin | 12 Orange County |
| | 13 Southern Border |

California Jobs First: Implementation



- Focused on **Accelerate** and **Bet** categories of the State Strategic Blueprint
- Sierra region joined a **bioeconomy** coalition led by the Sierra Institute with four other rural/forested regions
 - Submitted NOI for Implementation Phase RFP on March 26, 2025
 - Awaiting an update on invitation to submit a pre-application for a cross-regional cluster of bioeconomy projects

California Jobs First: Strategic Sectors

California's Strategic Sectors

Strengthen

 **Creative Economy**
Film, TV, & the Arts

 **Tourism & Outdoor Recreation**

 **Manufacturing**

 **Working Lands & Water**
Agricultural Production
Food Processing

 **Financial & Professional Services**

 **Transport & Logistics**

Accelerate



 **Aerospace & Defense**
Aircraft
Space, Defense, & Satellites

 **Life Sciences**
Medtech
Pharma / biotech


 **Clean Economy**
Batteries
Onshore Wind
Solar
ZEVs


 **Working Lands & Water**
Agtech & Farm Equipment


 **High-Tech**
Hardware
Semiconductors & Microelectronics
Software & Services

 Advanced & Precision Manufacturing' 

Bet


 **Clean Economy**
Carbon Management
Critical Minerals
Hydrogen
Offshore Wind

 **High-Tech**
Artificial Intelligence
Quantum
Robotics

 **Working Lands & Water**
Bioeconomy
Blue economy / tech

Anchor


 **Childcare**


 **Education & Skilled Workforce**


 **Healthcare**


 **Housing**

 **Infrastructure**

 Broadband

 Transmission & Distribution

 Transportation Infrastructure

 Water



CALREC Vision

“Cohort of Practice”



California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort

Distinct Regional Economies Informed by Unique Natural Resources & Community Assets

California spans over 160,000 square miles, making it comparable in size to countries like Japan and Sweden.⁸³ Along with this vast scale comes a wide range of topographies and economies defined by these different natural features.

Natural Resources

California has more than 840 miles of coastline, the highest and lowest points in the continental U.S., more than 25,000 square miles of desert, and the tallest trees on the planet.⁸⁴ Our geographic variation is one of the reasons we are home to nine of the country's 61 national parks, the most of any state.⁸⁵ These parks drive significant tourism to California (nearly 11.4 million visitors in 2023),⁸⁶ contributing to the more than \$150 billion travel spend that took place in California in 2023, an all-time high.⁸⁷

Our natural resources also underpin our leadership in other industries, from agriculture to renewable energy. Over one-third of the nation's vegetables and three-quarters of its fruits and nuts are grown in California alone.⁸⁸ We also boast an estimated 340,000 acres of land with potential for solar energy development,⁸⁹ as well as unparalleled deposits of critical minerals necessary for numerous clean technologies that comprise 15% of global rare-earth element supply.⁹⁰



Place-Based Assets

Our natural resources are impressive, but there are also man-made attributes that make us unique.

We have invested heavily in our transportation infrastructure to help transmit goods to and from the rest of the world, taking advantage of our position as the Western gateway to the United States. These investments have paid off; California consistently ranks first in the continental U.S. for both inbound and outbound air freight flights, and our ports handle 40% of all containerized cargo entering the U.S. and nearly 30% of the nation's exports.⁹¹ The San Pedro Bay Port Complex leads the way as the 9th busiest port in the world by container volume.⁹²

Our geographic location and weather conditions have also contributed to longstanding federal investments into our aerospace and defense launch and test assets, from the Vandenberg Space Force Base, the world's second busiest spaceport,⁹³ to Mojave Air and Space Port, the nation's first facility to be licensed for horizontal launch of reusable spacecraft.⁹⁴

Each California Jobs First region identified a range of assets in their Regional Plans.

SELECT REGIONAL ASSETS⁹⁵



California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



State Economic Blueprint

February 2025



Agency	Role	Organization/Association/Program within /	Outreach Status + Tag:	First Name
CA Jobs First - Bay Area - Region E	Jobs First	Marin County Parks	Accepted Invite - CT	Kevin
CA Jobs First - Central Coast - Region H	Jobs First	Explore Local Nature	Accepted Invite - CT	Mike
CA Jobs First - Central Coast - Region H	Jobs First	City of San Luis Obispo	Accepted Invite - CT	Laura
CA Jobs First - Central Coast - Region H	Jobs First	Sempervirens Fund	Accepted Invite - CT	Matt
CA Jobs First - Southern Border - Region M	Jobs First	San Diego State Research Foundation	Accepted Invite - CT	John
CA Jobs First - Southern Border - Region M	Jobs First	San Diego State Research Foundation	Accepted Invite - CT	Javier
CA Jobs First - Southern Border - Region M	Jobs First	San Diego Mountain Biking Association	Accepted Invite - CT	Susie
CA Jobs First - Inland SoCal - Region L	Jobs First	NPS U.S. Biosphere Network, Mojave and Color	Accepted Invite - CT	Billy
CA Jobs First - North San Joaquin - Region F	Jobs First	North Valley Thrive	Accepted Invite - CT	Yolanda
CA Jobs First - Southern Border - Region M	Jobs First	Community Alliance with Family Farmers/CAFF	Added - Invite Recommen	Paul
CA Jobs First - Southern Border - Region M	Jobs First	Mellano & Company	Added - Invite Recommen	Michael
GO-Biz	Agency - CA	GO-Biz Regional Econ Development Initiative	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Danna
Visit CA	Agency - CA	Visit CA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Jonathan
CNRA	Agency - CA	CNRA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Rebecca
UC ANR	Agency - CA	UC ANR/The Vine	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Sarah
UC ANR	Agency - CA	UC ANR	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Alec
UC ANR	Agency - CA	UC ANR	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Aaron
CA Jobs First - Redwood - Region B	Jobs First	Redwood Region RISE	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Calder
CA Jobs First - Capitol - Region C	Jobs First	Nevada County	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Kimberly
CA Jobs First - Capitol - Region C	Jobs First	Nevada County	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Shavati
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	Sierra Focus Media	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Mathew
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	MLTPA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Andie
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	MLTPA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Erin
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	MLTPA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Chelsea
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	MLTPA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Dillon
CA Jobs First - Sierra - Region D	Jobs First	MLTPA	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	John
CA Jobs First - Central San Joaquin - Region G	Jobs First	Visit Yosemite / Madera County	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Rhonda
CA Jobs First - Central San Joaquin - Region G	Agency - CA	UC ANR Sustainable Agriculture Research & Ed	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Rachael
CA Jobs First - Central Coast - Region H	Tourism	Uplift Central Coast	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Quinn
CA Jobs First - Kern County - Region I	Jobs First	Kern Coalition	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Norma
CA Jobs First - Kern County - Region I	Jobs First	Kern County	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Manpreet
CA Jobs First - Orange County - Region K	Jobs First	Orange County Business Council	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Wallace
CA Jobs First - Orange County - Region K	Jobs First	Orange County Business Council	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Jesse
CA Jobs First - Orange County - Region K	Jobs First	Orange County	Outdoor Rec & Tourism Li	Jack
CA Jobs First - North State - Region A	Jobs First	Watershed Center	Accepted Invite - CT	Nick
CA Jobs First - North State - Region A	Jobs First	Trinity County	Accepted Invite - CT	Ric
CA Jobs First - Inland SoCal - Region L	Jobs First	NPS U.S. Biosphere Network, Mojave and Color	Accepted Invite - CT	Jaime

California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST



Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Cohort

Monthly Meeting

JUNE 6, 2025: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

[Google Calendar Link](#) | [Zoom link](#)

AGENDA

TIME	GOAL	PRESENTED BY
1:30-1:40	Welcome & Introductions	John/Calder
1:40-1:50	Field Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Share out important recent developments in the sector/individual regions	Open Discussion
1:50-2:20	Cohort Process Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduce the Sector Development Plan TemplateDiscuss rough timeline of cohort work through 2026	John/Calder
2:20-3:30	"Ray of Sunshine" Sharing Best Practices & Good News <ul style="list-style-type: none">Nevada County's Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan - presented by Shavati Karki-Pearl	Shavati
2:30	Adjourn Meeting	



Sierra Jobs First Active Governing Council Members
Last Updated: 11/2024

County or IG	First Name	Last Name	Role
Alpine	Jane	Freeman	Resident, Tahoe Conservancy
Alpine	Mark	Schwartz	California Alps Cycling
Amador	Karen	Dickerson	Amador College Connect

Governing Council Meetings

June 13: Governing Council meeting (**public**) in Sonora *(The public can listen in, however participation will be limited to in-person attendees. The Zoom link to register is [here](#).)*

September 12: Governing Council meeting (**public**) in Mammoth Lakes

December 12: Governing Council meeting (**public, virtual**)



Tuolumne	David	Thoeny	Mother Lode Workforce Development Board, Executive Director
Tuolumne	Amy	Frost	Deputy Director Mother Lode Job Training Center
Tuolumne	Maureen	Frank	Tuolumne County- Capital Projects Director
Tribal	Jimmy John	Thompson	Timbisha-Shoshone Tribe
Tribal	Charlotte	Lange	Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe Chair
Latino	Griselda	Ortiz	Inyo County Health and Human Services
Latino	Jose	Garcia	Bishop City Council
Education	Mary	Watts	Regional Director of Employer Engagement, Central/Mother Lode Regional Consortium
Education	Jen	Burrows	Cerro Coso
Mono	Liz	Grans	Mono County Economic Development Manager

Sierra Jobs First



Sierra Jobs First Active Governing Council Members

Last Updated: 11/2024

County or IG	First Name	Last Name	Role
Alpine	Jane	Freeman	Resident, Tahoe Conservancy
Alpine	Mark	Schwartz	California Alps Cycling
Amador	Karen	Dickerson	Amador College Connect
			Executive Director, Amador Resource Conservation District
Amador	Amanda	Watson	Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, Chief Operations Officer/Natural Resource Director
Amador	Michael	DeSpain	Calaveras County - San Andreas, CA
Calaveras	Kathy	Gallino	Calaveras County HHS
Calaveras	Haley	Graham	County of Inyo
Inyo	Meaghan	McCamman	Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce
Inyo-Latino	Angelica	Mora	Past Chair - Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce
Mariposa	Gabe	Edwards	Chair of the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation
Mariposa	Sandra	Chapman	Mariposa County Grant Analyst
Mariposa	Will	Fassett	Chief Administrative Officer
Mono	Sandra	Moberly	Mono County Economic Development Manager
Mono	Liz	Grans	Bridgeport Indian Colony, Cultural Coordinator
Mono	Debbie	Painter	Columbia College, Dean Career and Technical Education
Tuolumne	Brandon	Price	Mother Lode Workforce Development Board, Executive Director
Tuolumne	David	Thoeny	Deputy Director Mother Lode Job Training Center
Tuolumne	Amy	Frost	Tuolumne County - Capital Projects Director
Tuolumne	Maureen	Frank	Timbisha-Shoshone Tribe
Tribal	Jimmy John	Thompson	Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe Chair
Tribal	Charlotte	Lange	Inyo County Health and Human Services
Latino	Griselda	Ortiz	Bishop City Council
Latino	Jose	Garcia	Regional Director of Employer Engagement, Central/Mother Lode Regional Consortium
Education	Mary	Watts	Cerro Coso
Education	Jen	Burrows	Mono County Economic Development Manager
Mono	Liz	Grans	

Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Projects - Recreation & Tourism

Alpine, Inyo, Mono Counties	Tri-County Recreation Economic Impact Study
Amador Trail Stewardship	Pathways to Prosperity: A regional Multimodal Safety and Recreation Initiative
Eastern Sierra Artists	Sierra Regional Arts Organization Collaborative Network
ESCOG	Chipmunk Canyon Existing Conditions Analysis
ESCOG	Eastern Sierra Regional Collaborative Capacity Incubator
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Campground Improvements and Jobs Creation
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Climate and Recreation Jobs Creation
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System and Jobs Creation
Motherlode Bicycle Coalition	Sustainable Mobility Partnership Program
Sierra Nevada Alliance	The Collaborative Sustainable Recreation Assessment
Tuolumne County Arts Alliance	Creative Reuse Community Arts Center of Tuolumne County
Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce	Sierra Sourced
Tuolumne County Community Development District	Jamestown Specific Plan and Model Toolkit for Town Center Revitalization

Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Projects - Recreation & Tourism

Alpine, Inyo, Mono Counties	Tri-County Recreation Economic Impact Study
Amador Trail Stewardship	Pathways to Prosperity: A regional Multimodal Safety and Recreation Initiative
Eastern Sierra Artists	Sierra Regional Arts Organization Collaborative Network
ESCOG	Chipmunk Canyon Existing Conditions Analysis
ESCOG	Eastern Sierra Regional Collaborative Capacity Incubator
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Campground Improvements and Jobs Creation
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Climate and Recreation Jobs Creation
MLTPA	Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System and Jobs Creation
Motherlode Bicycle Coalition	Sustainable Mobility Partnership Program
Sierra Nevada Alliance	The Collaborative Sustainable Recreation Assessment
Tuolumne County Arts Alliance	Creative Reuse Community Arts Center of Tuolumne County
Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce	Sierra Sourced
Tuolumne County Community Development District	Jamestown Specific Plan and Model Toolkit for Town Center Revitalization

Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Projects - Recreation & Tourism

SIERRA JOBS FIRST
COLLABORATIVE

2024 Strategic Plan

Regional Plan: Part II



Governing Council Approved August 23, 2024



Recreation & Tourism Projects

- Missing Catalyst Projects?
- New Projects that line up with the Regional Strategy?
- Please Reach Out!

Get Free Technical Assistance



Project Submission Form

Submit your project details here to request technical assistance.

Start

Andie Stewart – MLTPA Foundation



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

MLTPA has assembled a database of funding opportunities for sustainable recreation and tourism projects for Sierra Jobs First. This database is a snapshot of opportunities that may align with projects submitted by stakeholders consistent with the SJF Regional Strategy.

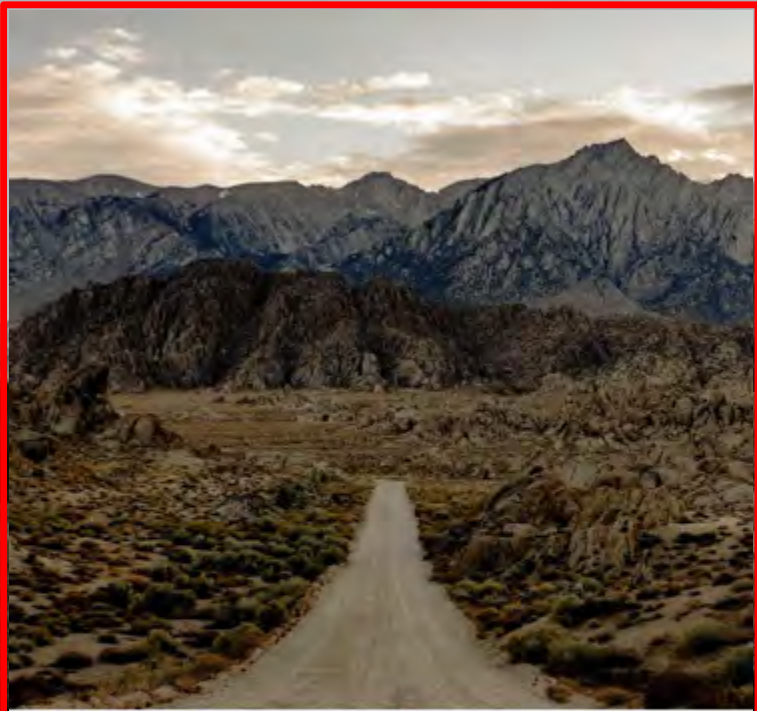



POLICY RESEARCH

MLTPA has assembled a database of land management policy documents and data resources to inform the development of Sierra Jobs First projects, which may be useful for other Sierra Jobs First regional efforts.

TOWN-TO-TRAILS PLAN


ESCOG Sustainable Recreation Projects








Eastern Sierra Towns to Trails

Feasibility Study for Inyo, Alpine, and Mono Counties











Eastern Sierra Towns to Trails

Feasibility Study for Inyo, Alpine, and Mono Counties






The Towns to Trails (T2T) Plan is a feasibility and data-gathering study that analyzed existing infrastructure connecting approximately 350 miles of existing roads and trails spanning from Lone Pine to South Lake Tahoe along the Eastern Edge of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range linking front county towns in Alpine, Mono, and Inyo County along the way. This effort has gathered the data necessary to recommended a conceptual alignment that uses existing infrastructure and maintains existing allowable uses from South Lake Tahoe to Lone Pine.

The Eastern Sierra region is characterized by dramatic landscapes, sweeping open spaces, and superb outdoor recreation opportunities made possible through the unusually high percentage of publicly owned and managed lands. The conceptual Towns to Trails alignment crosses multiple jurisdictions and lands managed by multiple entities, including the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Inyo National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The data gathering work undertaken in this phase of the Towns to Trails Plan aims to leverage existing trail and soft-surface infrastructure in the region and takes advantage of existing priorities for trail connectivity already developed by federal land managers. The data gathering culminated in a potential preferred alignment connecting South Lake Tahoe to Lone Pine via existing trails and roadways. This study identifies a potential alignment based on considerable analysis of existing infrastructure, alternatives, and public input. Our work identified a number of gaps, questions, and next steps.



Hello All-

As promised, please find the agenda for the June 5th meeting of the Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance attached. The majority of this meeting will be focused on working together to align our regional capacity for wildfire resilience. There will be time for brief updates from partners as well.

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to the previous invitation. If you haven't responded yet and plan to attend in person, please rsvp promptly so that we can plan accordingly. If you would like to participate in the meeting virtually, please register in advance [here](#) to receive the Zoom link.

Thank you again for your time and dedication to this effort. We're looking forward to a productive meeting next week. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know.

Laura

EASTERN SIERRA WILDFIRE ALLIANCE **AGENDA**

JUNE 5, 2025

10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Inyo County Office Building, 1360 N Main St, Bishop CA
Community Room 101

ONLINE OPTION VIA ZOOM: PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE. [CLICK HERE.](#)

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting agreements and goals
- Recap of recent ESWA efforts and progress

II. Collaborative Capacity Alignment

- Project goals review and discussion
- Ecosystem mapping exercise
- Activity prioritization and subcommittee formation
- Next Steps

III. Networking Lunch

IV. Eastern Sierra Collaborative Updates

- Presentations
 - Wildfire Coordinators
 - ESCOG and Inyo County
- Partner Updates

Find past meeting summaries and materials [here](#)



Funding for this project has been provided by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, an agency of the State of California, and Inyo National Forest, US Department of Agriculture.

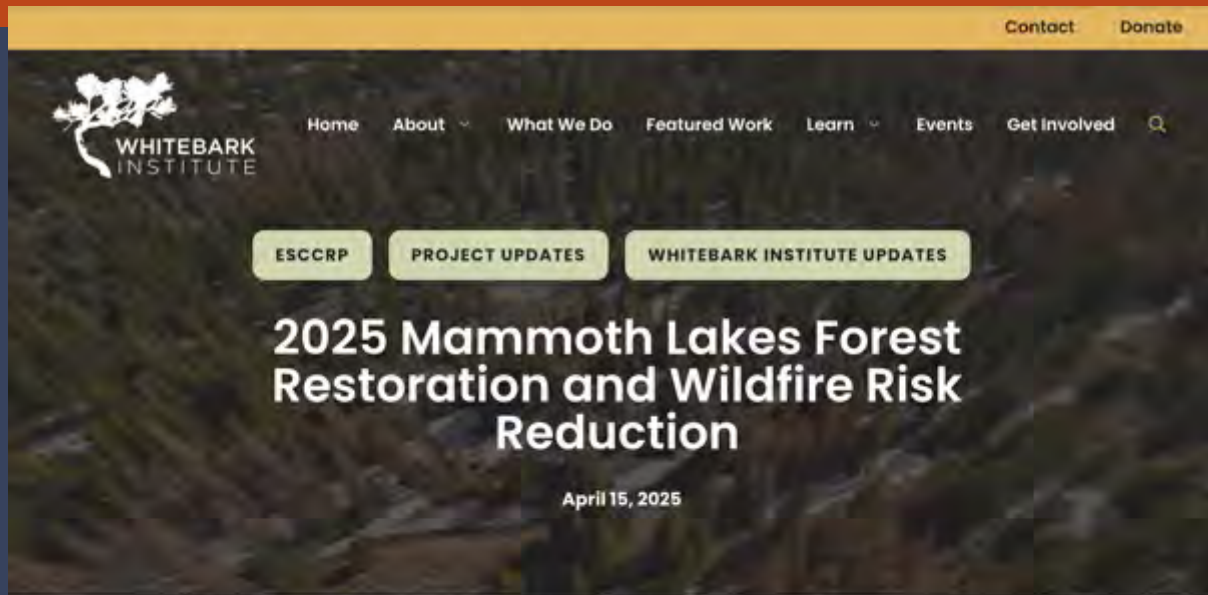


2025 Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project Work

- **Fuels reduction implementation begins May 19th behind Forest Trail neighborhood**
- **Treatment areas include Panorama Dome, Sherwins, Coldwater Campground, Earthquake Dome, Junkyard, Forest Trail, Bluff St/ Red Fir neighborhoods**
- **Forest Order Closures and public impacts will include trail, campground, and dispersed camping closures**
- **Community meetings will be held in Forest Trail and Red Fir/Bluff St neighborhoods**
 - May 13th
 - May 14th
 - May 19th

Learn more about [upcoming work](#)



[2025 Project Overview](#)[Public Impacts](#)[Maps and Visuals](#)[Resources and Staying Informed](#)[FAQs](#)

Project Overview

The **Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project** (ESCCRP) is a collaborative, landscape-scale effort led by Whitebark Institute, the Inyo National Forest, and local partners. This long-term initiative aims to restore forest health, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires, and improve ecosystem resilience across 65,000 acres in the Eastern Sierra.

Work begins in 2025, with initial work scheduled from May to September. These efforts will include mechanical thinning, hand thinning, and other restoration treatments focused on priority areas to enhance forest health and reduce wildfire risk. Due to the size and urgency of this project, temporary public access restrictions will be necessary at select roads, campgrounds, and trailheads during active operations.

[Home](#)[About](#)[What We Do](#)[Featured Work](#)[Learn](#)[Events](#)[Get Involved](#)

Upcoming Work Schedule (subject to change)

See map (below) for unit locations.

- **Forest Trail:** May 19th– May 26th
- **Misery West/Earthquake Dome:** May 28th– June 12th
- **Panorama Dome:** June 13th– June 17th
- **Red Fir/Bluff St:** June 18th– June 19th
- **Valentine Reserve:** June 21st
- **Earthquake Dome:** June 23rd – July 10th
- **Voorhis:** July 11th



Forest conditions on Panorama Dome, 2024.

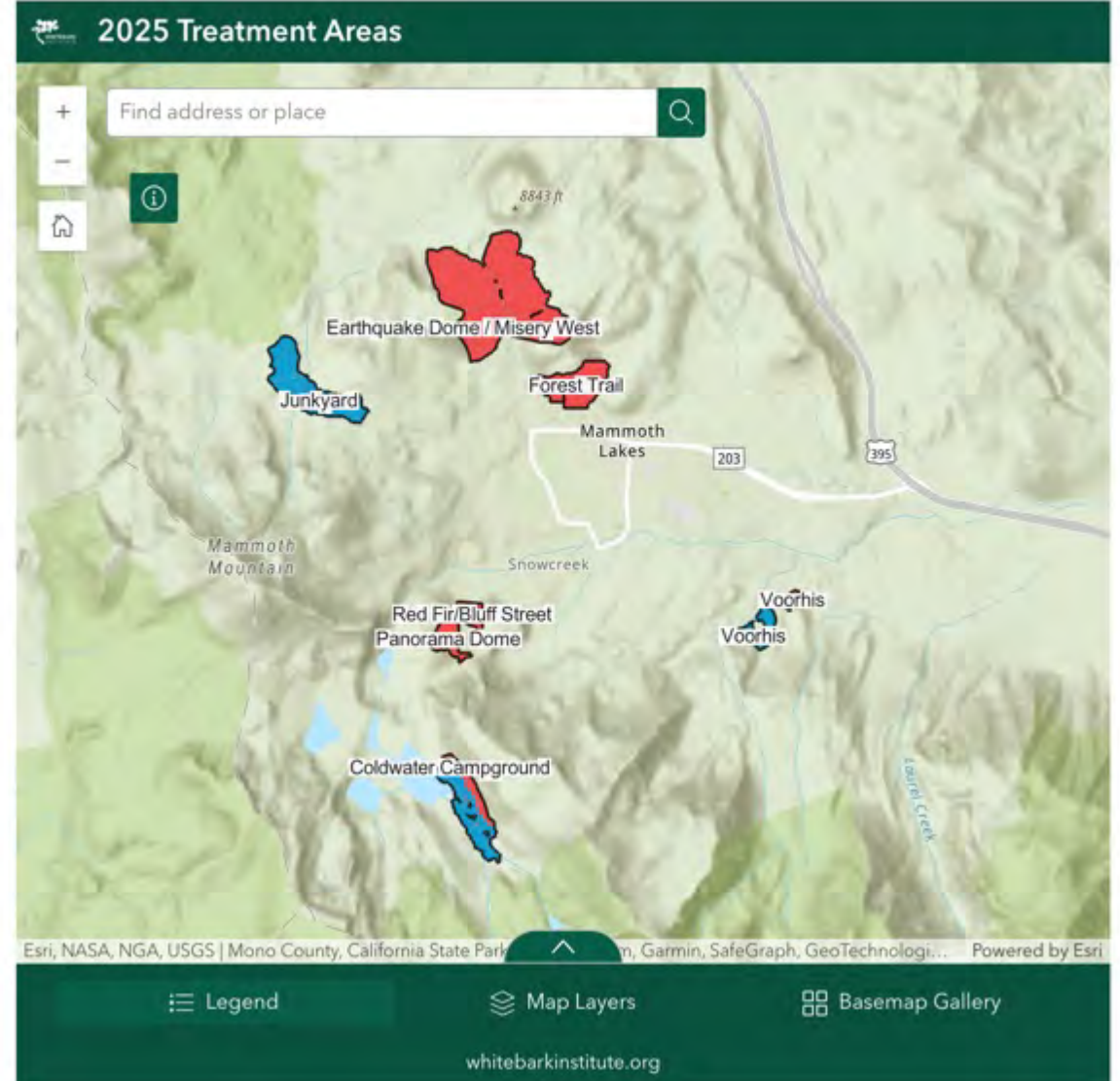
Public Impacts

Temporary public access restrictions will be necessary at select roads, campgrounds, and trailheads during active operations. We will do our best to update this page with upcoming closures as that information becomes available.

- **Work Schedule & Hours:** Work may be conducted between 5:00am-8:00pm; in Bluff St and Forest Trail units work will be restricted between 7:00am-8:00pm, with the majority of work concluding by 3:00pm. In these units, work will not be conducted on Sundays or holidays.
- **Potential Disturbances:** Noise, temporary road/trail closures, dust, and tree felling operations should be expected. In mechanical thinning units (Coldwater campground, Voorhis, and Junkyard) heavy equipment will be utilized to fell and remove trees. Forest Order Closures will come into effect in some areas to protect public safety.
- **Trailhead Closures:**
 - Panorama Dome trail: Trail will be closed from June 13th through 17th.
 - Sherwin Lakes trailhead: closed after September 2nd, exact dates TBD.
 - Duck Pass trailhead: closed after September 2nd, exact dates TBD.
- **Campground Closures:**
 - Coldwater campground: closed after September 2nd.
- **Forest Order Closures**
 - Closures will be in place in all units during active operations.



Maps



ESWA Development

Collaborative Planning Proposed Timeline and Activities

All Meetings on Thursdays, In-Person and Zoom

June 5th, 12-3pm: Bishop LUNCH!

- Wildfire ecosystem mapping: current roles, capacity and needs
- Local collaborative planning success stories, opportunities

July 24th

- Statewide collaborative governance models
- Communications
- Project list
- Funding focus

September 25th

- Workshop: proposed governance structures and roles
- ESWA activities and project priorities

October 23rd

- Draft structure, charter
- Policy and funding updates
- Summer project and outreach updates

November 20th

- Confirm structure, charter
- Collaborative planning wrap-up and celebration
- Communication tools preview
- Short term action plan and 2026 schedule



Regional Capacity

Community Directed Grants

- \$60,000 total awarded to 17 projects. Thank you SCE.
- Projects focus on Fire Response Infrastructure & Equipment, Home Hardening & Defensible Space, Wildfire Mitigation & Vegetation Management

Adding New Positions

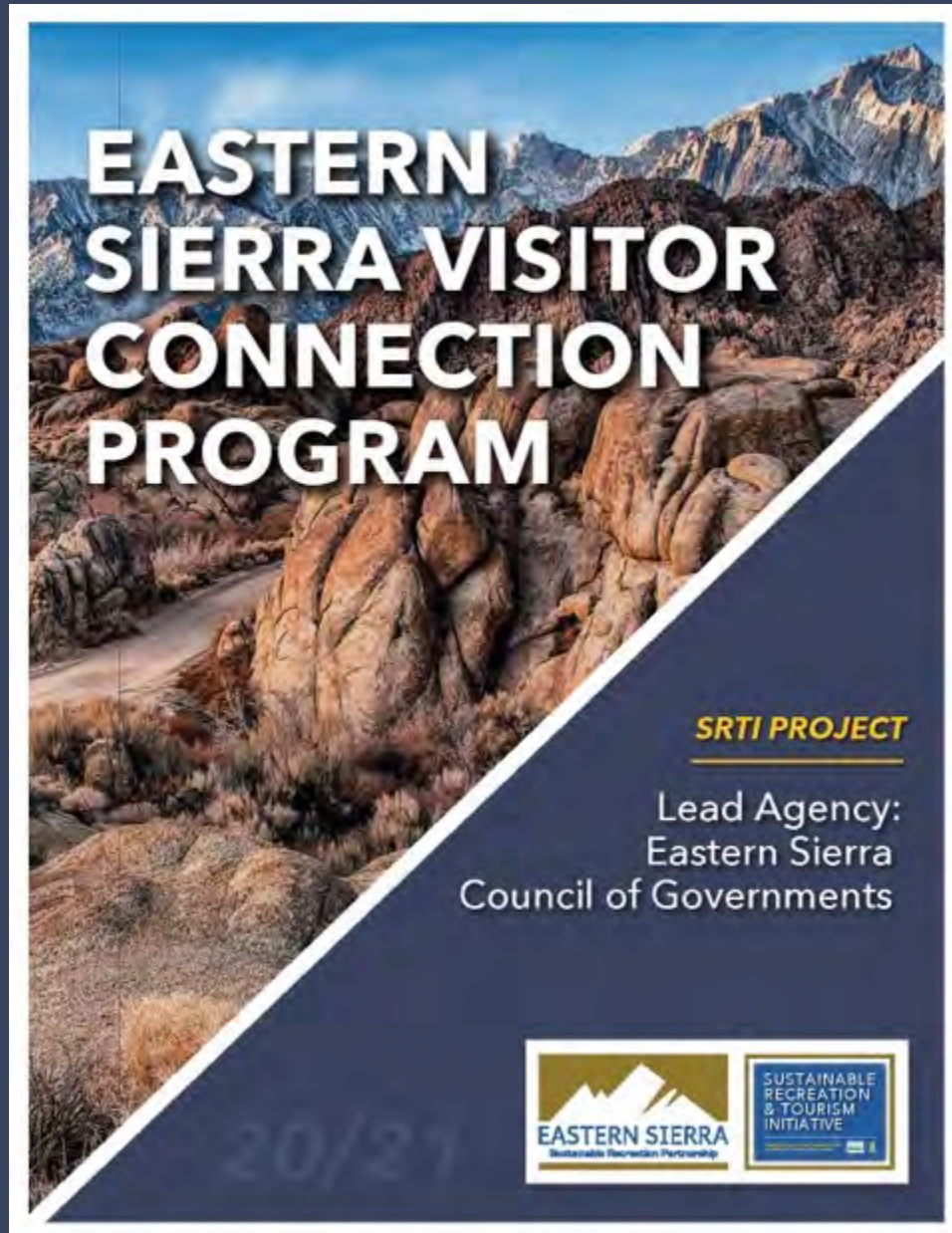
- Environmental Planning
- Forest Health Program Management
- <https://whitebarkinstitute.org/careers/>

Community Engagement

- Ignite Adventure, Not Wildfires regional campaign
- Wildfire Resilience Month
 - <https://whitebarkinstitute.org/events/>



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



MARKETING CONTENT STRATEGY



VCP FIRE - SEASON 2

MAY - OCTOBER 2025



Date: Mar 25, 2025

Goals and objectives: “Ignite Awareness”

Create objectives that align with broader business goals. Separating them into primary, secondary, and long-term will provide focus and strategic direction. Here’s an example:

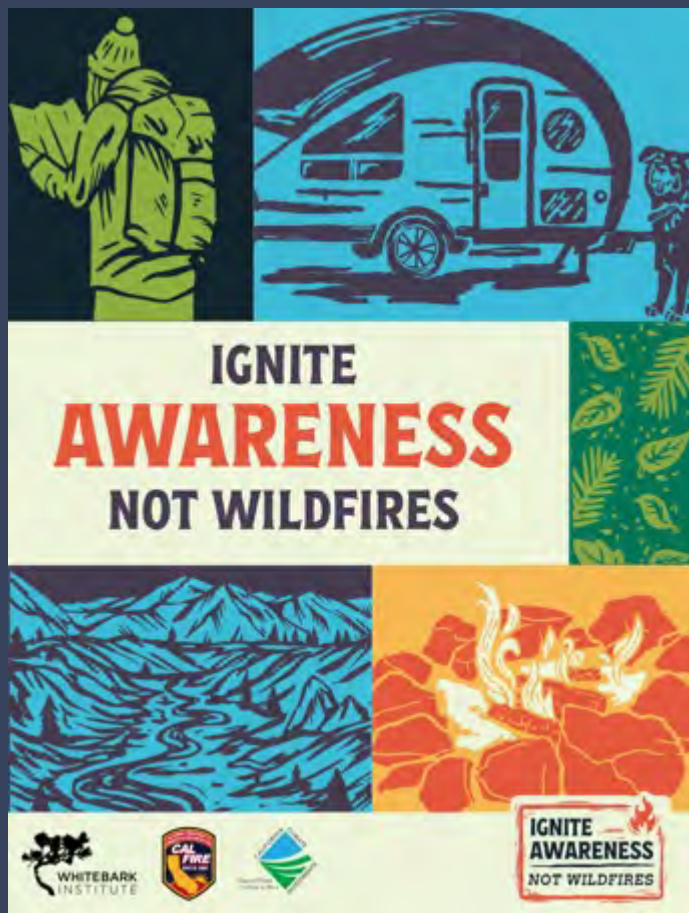
- Primary objective: Increase Impressions over the targeted time frame: **May 2025 - OCT 2025**
- Secondary objective: Increase web traffic conversations to the [Whitebark institute homepage](#).
- Long-term goal: Establish the agency as an trusted force for environmental conservation and wildfire resilience

Demographic analysis of the target audience

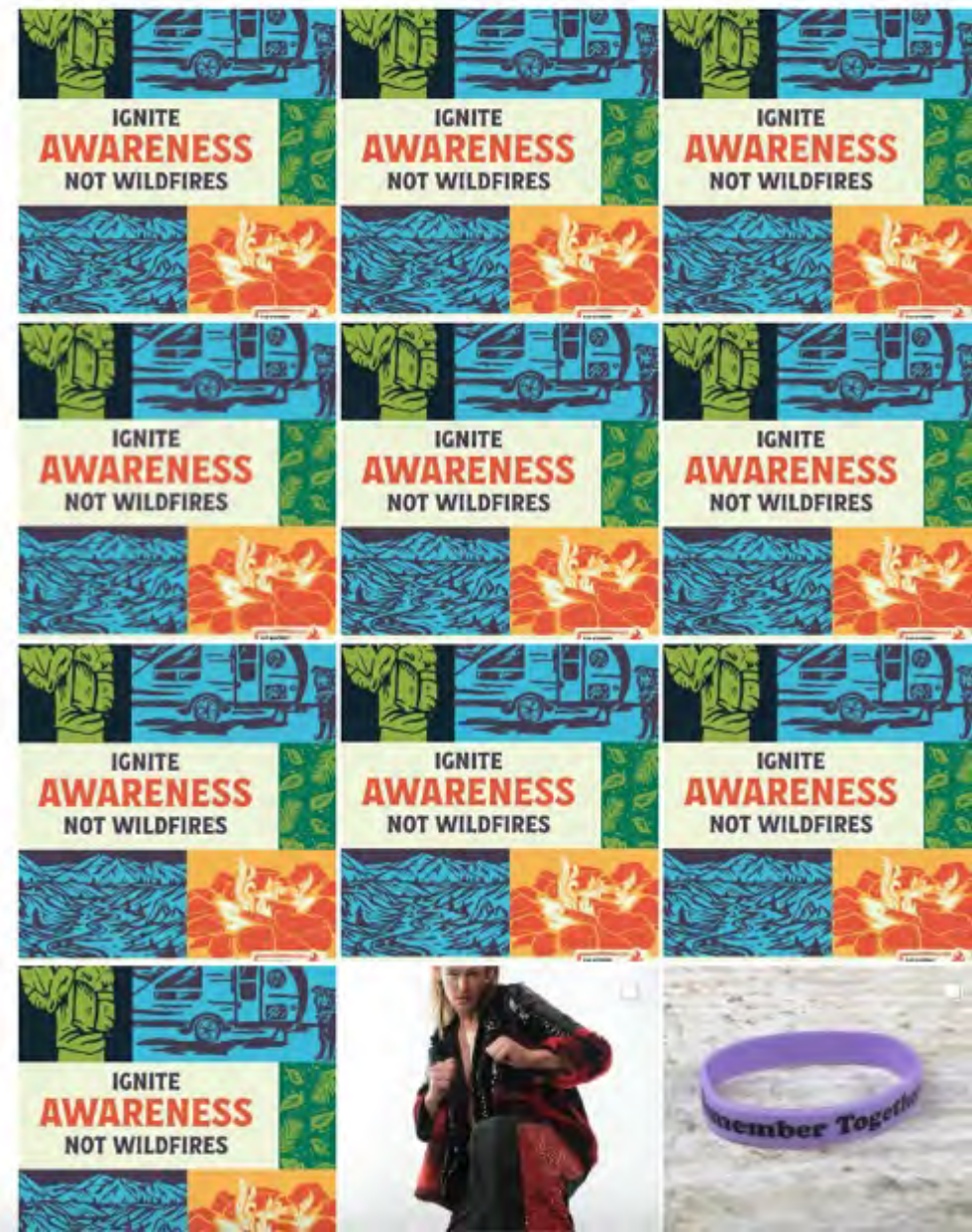
Geo-fencing should be a primary focus of this campaign due to the regional nature of our audience. Therefore, we should target areas and demographics most affected by wildfires. This data is based off overall metrics from Whitebark’s Meta business Suite

Geographic location of the target audience

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



#igniteawareness



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



ESSRP Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative

326 likes · 356 followers



[Sign Up](#)

[Following](#)

[Message](#)

[Posts](#) [About](#) [Mentions](#) [Reviews](#) [Followers](#) [Photos](#) [More](#)



eastern_sierra_sustainable_rec

[Following](#)

[Message](#)

[...](#)

112 posts 1,073 followers 61 following

Eastern Sierra Sustainable Rec

Community Organization

This initiative was a grant-funded effort from July 2019-January 2022 to improve sustainable recreation and tourism in... [more](#)

[info.mltpa.org/final-srti-update-and-thank-you](#)

Followed by [mammothlakestrailsystem](#), [californiaoutdoorrec](#) + 50 more



Tying It Up



Submit Proj...




Responsible...

[POSTS](#)

[TAGGED](#)





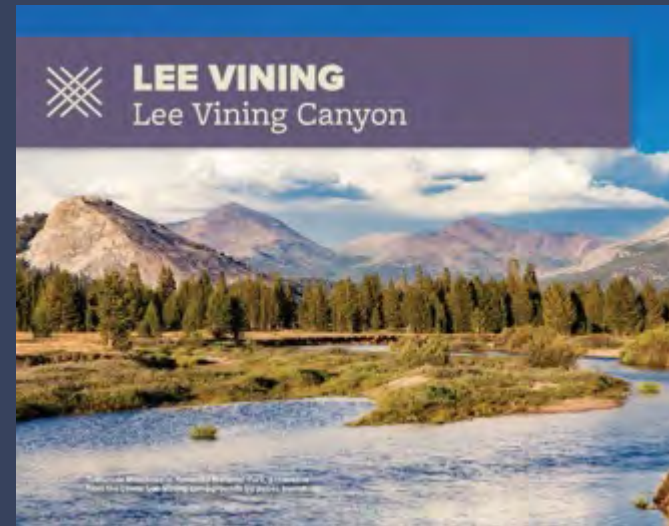


EASTERN SIERRA CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

SRTI PROJECT

Lead Agency:
Eastern Sierra
Council of Governments



**EASIER
SIERRA
CAN
IMP**

- IMPL
- P
- “DE
- GO
- EFFICIE
- OPTIMI

EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK
TOURISM INITIATIVE

[illegible]

February 11, 2025



LEE VINING CANYON CAMPGROUNDS



BLM official escorted out of building after DOGE conflict

The removal of Mike Nedd, BLM's deputy director for administration and programs, is the latest upheaval in personnel at the agency that is critical for oil and gas production.

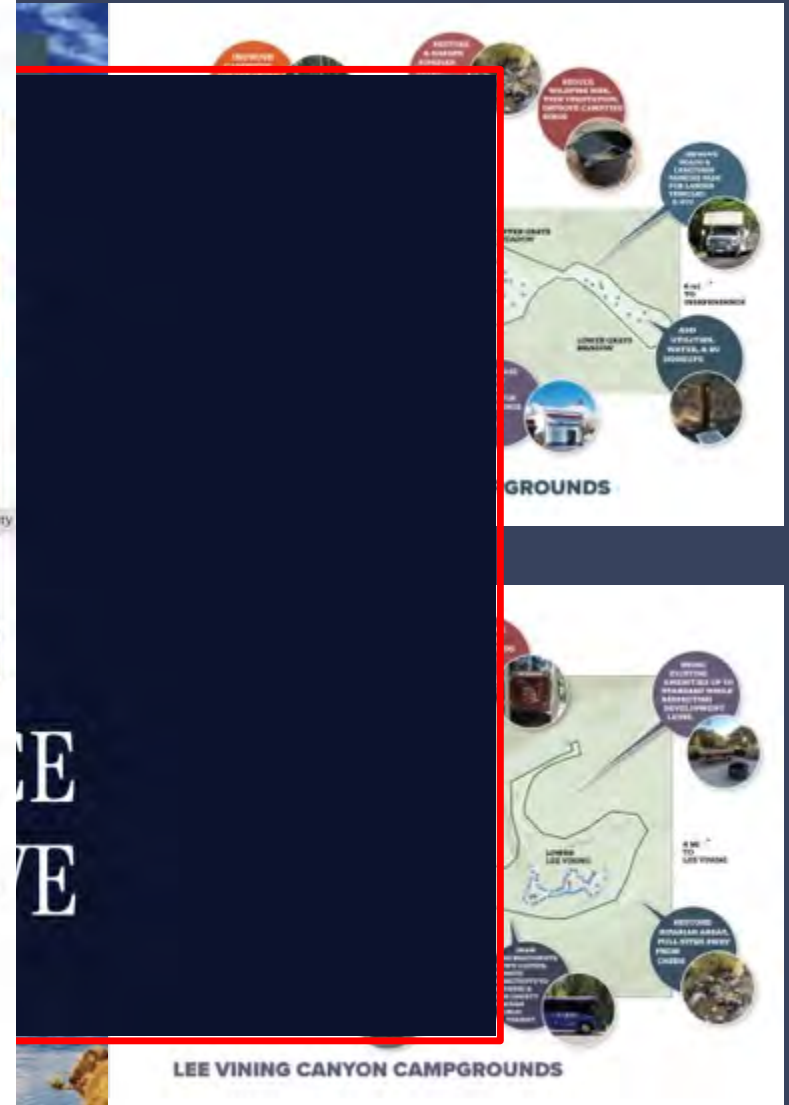


Bureau of Land Management Deputy Director Mike Nedd during Tuesday's House Natural Resources subcommittee hearing on oil and gas development. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

By BEN LEFEBVRE
05/27/2025 06:40 PM EDT

A senior leader at the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management was escorted out its headquarters Tuesday after POLITICO reported that he opposed staffing directions from a former DOGE appointee, according to three people familiar with the situation.

The removal of Mike Nedd, BLM's deputy director for administration and programs who had been with the department for nearly 30 years, is the latest personnel upheaval at the bureau that oversees oil, natural gas and mineral production on federal land and is considered key for the Trump



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects





CALREC
Vision

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



**California Trails and Greenways
April 24, 2025**



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



**West Contra Costa Fire Safe Council
May 5, 2025**



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



**CAMTB Leadership Roundtable
May 6, 2025**



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



**Trails as Resilient Infrastructure
May 13, 2025**

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Bishop
- City of Truckee
- CSAC
- Humboldt County
- Madera County
- Marin County
- Mariposa County
- Motherlode Job Training Center
- Nevada County
- Placer County
- Plumas County
- RCRC
- Sierra County
- Tuolumne County



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



Hello Recreate Responsibly California Coalition Members,

Before you head out for Memorial Day Weekend we want to remind you to join us **next Tuesday, May 27th at 8am**, for the next coalition meeting.

We're excited to welcome a special guest [Gloria Sandoval, Deputy Secretary for Access from the California Natural Resources Agency \(CNRA\)](#) who will share updates from the state level. In addition to our roundtable updates, we look forward to hearing how members are **approaching messaging to visitors and setting expectations amid ongoing changes and staffing challenges**.

May 27th Meeting Details

- **Zoom Link** (goes live at 8 a.m.):

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

- **Agenda:**

[View the Agenda](#)

Add this event to your calendar by [clicking here](#).

BRING SOME
OF THESE!



Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA) is providing these communication services.

MLTPA Foundation, P.O. Box 100 PMB #432, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



Hello Recreate Responsibly

Before you head out for Memorial Day weekend, please join us on **May 27th at 8am**, for the next

We're excited to welcome a speaker from [the California Natural Resources Agency](#).

In addition to our roundtable discussion, we will be addressing **approaching messaging to the public** and **staffing challenges**.

M

- **Zoom Link** (goes live at 8am)
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- **Agenda:**
[View the Agenda](#)

Add this event to your calendar by [clicking here](#).



providing these communication

services.

MLTPA Foundation, P.O. Box 100 PMB #432, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)



Situational Awareness

Happenings of Interest



*Future***PROOFING**

 PRINT  SHARE

FUTUREPROOFING

**REGIONAL
STRATEGIC
TOURISM
PLANS**

Building a resilient and sustainable future for
California's travel industry

Happenings of Interest



FuturePROOFING

PRINT SHARE

Phase 1 – Final drafts coming June 2025

Statewide
Opportunities

Regional
Strategic
Tourism Plans

Sustainable &
Regenerative
Tourism
Guidebook

Phase 2 – Open for comment through May 31, 2025

Resilience &
Sustainability
Scorecards

Submit feedback to RegionalPlans@VisitCalifornia.com.

Coming June 2025

California
Tourism
Resilience &
Sustainability
Dashboard

Happenings of Interest

Climate Change

Hawai'i Makes History As First State To Charge Tourists To Save Environment

A Hawai'i vacation will cost you more in the near future thanks to a new "green fee" that the governor signed into law today.

By Marcel Honoré / May 27, 2025

[Share Article](#)

145

Hawai'i has officially become the first U.S. state to enact a so-called "green fee" — a charge added onto hotel room stays and other short-term visits to help protect the local environment and address the growing impacts of climate change.

Gov. Josh Green signed the fee into law Tuesday after years of unsuccessfully urging the Legislature to pass it. Set to take effect next year, the fee could raise around \$100 million annually, state officials estimate, a portion of which will go toward Hawai'i's response to future disasters similar to the 2023 Lahaina wildfire.

"Hawai'i's doing what other states and other nations are going to have to do ... there will be no way to deal with these crises without some forward-thinking mechanism," Green said moments before signing the bill.

"I hope that the world is watching," he added, "because having something that is a balance between industry and environment is going to be the way to go forward to protect your people, to protect your states, to protect your economy."



Hawai'i State Gov. Josh Green signs the climate change bill. (David Croxford/Civil Beat/2025)

**Ahead of projected “Trump Slump,”
Governor Newsom announces
record-high tourism — again**

Happenings of Interest

Straw Poll Community Mammoth Lakes

Destination: Mammoth Lakes As Of Date: May 28, 2025

ALL MAMMOTH LAKES AGGREGATE

	Total Occupancy
Friday, May 30, 2025	26.9%
Saturday, May 31, 2025	31.8%
Sunday, June 1, 2025	22.0%
Monday, June 2, 2025	20.0%
Tuesday, June 3, 2025	18.4%
Wednesday, June 4, 2025	18.9%
Thursday, June 5, 2025	22.2%
Friday, June 6, 2025	22.3%
Saturday, June 7, 2025	26.4%
Sunday, June 8, 2025	25.6%

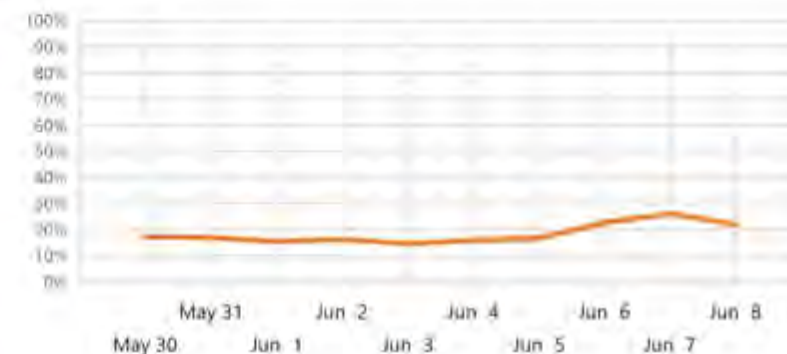
Total Occupancy



CONDO & RESERVATION BUREAU

	Total Occupancy
Friday, May 30, 2025	17.3%
Saturday, May 31, 2025	16.9%
Sunday, June 1, 2025	15.6%
Monday, June 2, 2025	16.3%
Tuesday, June 3, 2025	14.6%
Wednesday, June 4, 2025	16.0%
Thursday, June 5, 2025	16.7%
Friday, June 6, 2025	22.7%
Saturday, June 7, 2025	26.2%
Sunday, June 8, 2025	21.9%

Total Occupancy



ECONOMY

Europe Is Out. Road Trips Are In. Welcome to the Scaled-Back Vacation.

Consumers uneasy about the economy still want to go on trips. Just not the expensive kind.

By [Rachel Louise Ensign](#) [Follow](#) and [Allison Pohle](#) [Follow](#)

May 16, 2025 at 10:00 pm ET

[Share](#) [Bookmark](#) [AA](#) [Gift unlocked article](#)

[Listen](#) (6 min)



Illustration: Daisy Korpics/WSJ, Getty Images

Key Points

What's This? [i](#)

- Americans are opting for shorter vacations and road trips this summer over air travel due to economic concerns.
- Tariffs and market volatility are making consumers feel gloomy about spending on vacations.
- Some travelers are using points and cutting back on vacation spending due to economic uncertainty.

Happenings of Interest

Islands

DESTINATIONS > UNITED STATES > CALIFORNIA

This Hidden Gem Off California's Highway 395 Serves Old-Fashioned Phosphate Sodas

By Kelley Dukat ~ May 17, 2025 4:25 pm EST



The expansive terrain of California makes for a road tripper's dream, with multiple routes traversing coastal, mountain, and desert landscapes. One of the state's most underrated road trips through iconic mountain and desert scenery dotted with hot springs is Highway 395. For those traveling from the Los Angeles area to Mammoth Lakes, a low-key, affordable California mountain resort town void of Tahoe crowds, the open road of 395 is lined with small towns, unique roadside attractions, and ghost towns. One of those towns, Randsburg, is home to the hidden gem Randsburg General Store, which serves old-fashioned phosphate sodas and more to visitors.

SFGATE

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE

Newsletters

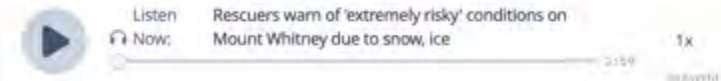
Account

Rescuers warn of 'extremely risky' conditions on Mount Whitney due to snow, ice

By Julie Brown Davis, Tahoe Editor
May 29, 2025



File photo: Mt. Whitney. Rescuers warn of snow, ice at high elevations.
George D. Lepp/George D. Lepp / Getty Images



Hiking season is well underway in the Eastern Sierra, with visitors showing up before dawn to ascend 6,200 feet of elevation on the iconic Mount Whitney Trail and stand atop the highest point in the contiguous United States. This early in the season, however, snow and ice make the already challenging 22-mile hike exceedingly more difficult, even dangerous.

Happenings of Interest





SFGATE


NewslettersAccount

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE


Georgia woman shares how she survived 3 weeks lost in the Sierra

By **Ida Mojada**, News editor
May 16, 2025





Tiffany Slaton with her parents, Bobby Slaton, left, and Fredrina Slaton, and Fresno County Sheriff John Zanoni, far right.
Courtesy of Fresno County Sheriff's Office



Listen Now

Georgia woman shares how she survived 3 weeks lost in the Sierra

1x

After Tiffany Slaton was miraculously found alive on Wednesday following three weeks lost in the Sierra, today's question was: How?

SFGATE

NewslettersAccount

CANNABIS Follow +

How a cannabis shop won over a skeptical California mountain town

How one California cannabis shop is thriving in a town that didn't initially want it to exist



Tioga Green is the closest cannabis store to Yosemite National Park, located about 8 miles away from the park's entrance.
Lester Black/SFGATE

By **Lester Black**, Cannabis editor
May 25, 2025



Happenings of Interest



LADWP News



[NEWSROOM](#)

[NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS](#)

[BOARD ITEMS](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[Pacific Palisades Fires: Correcting Misinformation about LADWP's Water System](#)

Owens River Gorge Closed to Public Access for Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement

[f Share](#) [x Share](#) [in Share](#)

No Public Access Starting on June 4 until June 24, 2025



Control Gorge Power Plant. Photo by David Westphal.

Inyo County, CA (May 28, 2025) – The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) will release higher-than-normal water down the Owens River Gorge from June 4 to June 24, 2025, in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Mono County.



Search

LADWP in the News

Upcoming Events

[View all Upcoming Events](#)


Happenings of Interest








Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

[Forest Service Home](#) [Inside the Forest Service](#) [About the Agency](#)

[Home](#) [Visit](#) [Topics](#) [Resources](#) [About](#)

Keyword Search 

 **Alerts and Fire Danger Status** 


[Home](#) > [Pacific Southwest Region](#) > [Inyo National Forest](#) > [Newsroom](#) > [Press Releases](#) > [Public Comments Sought For Proposed New or Increased Recreation Fees At Seven Sites On INF](#)   

[Contact Us](#)
[Keep In Touch](#)
[About the Area](#)
[Leadership](#)
[Newsroom](#)
[Press Releases](#)
[Offices](#)
[Research and Development](#)
[Working with Us](#)

Public comments sought for proposed new or increased recreation fees at seven sites on INF

Release Date: May 15th, 2025
Contact Information: Public Affairs Officer: Lisa Cox [\(760\) 873-2427](tel:760.873.2427) lisa.cox@usda.gov

BISHOP, Calif., May 15, 2025— Inyo National Forest is proposing to introduce or increase new fees at seven different recreation sites to improve services and protect resources, with anticipated implementation of Spring 2026. The public is invited to provide input in this process by June 30, 2025.




“These fees will help us maintain our sites at the level and quality our visitors have come to expect, especially at a time when we are experiencing increases in operating costs that have not kept up with use,” said Adam Barnett, Public Services Staff Officer for the Inyo National Forest.

The proposed changes will increase the permit cost for Mt. Whitney Trail and also introduce new fees for six off-highway vehicle campgrounds located on the White Mountain and Mono Lake Ranger Districts, which currently require no fee at all.

Under the proposal, Hartley Springs, Grandview, Upper and Lower Deadman, Glass Creek, and Big Springs campgrounds will have a new single site fee of \$20 per night, and a new extra-vehicle fee of \$5.

Also, the Whitney Portal Trailhead permit fee will increase from \$15 to \$25 per person. Reservations for the trailhead will remain available on [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) for an additional \$8 fee.



Happenings of Interest

EQ

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Share access

durt

Weather Extreme Weather Climate Capital Weather Gang Environment Climate Lab

Climate

Canada wildfires force 17,000 to evacuate, with smoke blowing toward U.S.

Authorities in Manitoba, which shares a border with the U.S., issued a state of emergency. Winds will likely blow wildfire smoke into Midwestern states.

Updated May 29, 2025

3 min 356



Smoke rises Tuesday from a wildfire in the Manitoba province of Canada. (Manitoba Government/Reuters)



Happenings of Interest

Highlighted Activity

Area Closure in Effect May 28, 2025 05-28-2025

Area Closure Order implemented for the Inn Fire Bishop, Calif., May 28, 2025— Inyo National Forest has implemented a Forest Order prohibiting entrance into the Inn Fire Area Closure to protect public health and safety from environmental hazards, wildfire, and wildfire suppression operations. For the official order and corresponding map, visit: www.fs.usda.gov/r05/inyo/alerts/inn-fire-closure-order...
[Read more](#)

Publication Type: **Closures** - 05/28/2025 - 16:25

Inn Fire Update May 29, 2025 5-29-2025 05-29-2025

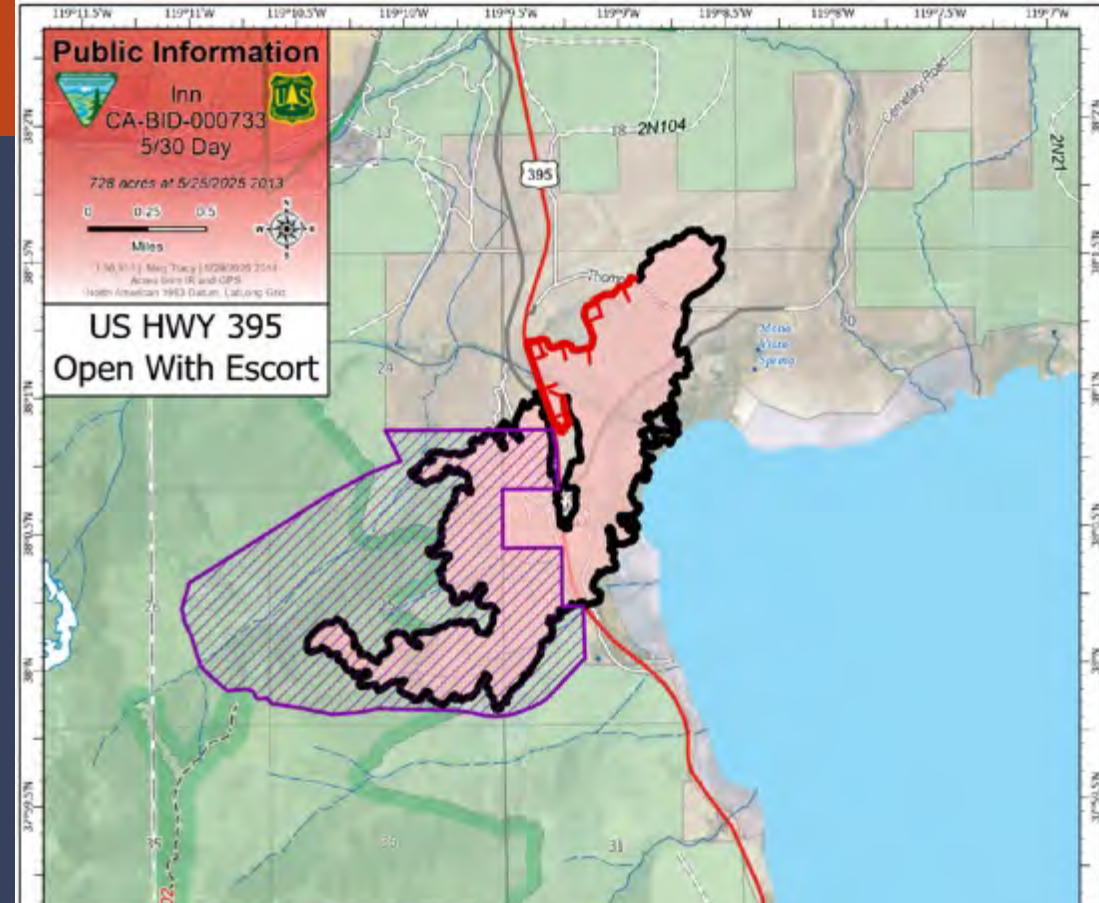
Thursday, May 29, 2025 Contact Fire Information: 760-350-2737 E-mail: 2025.inn@firenet.gov Facebook: facebook.com/inyonf/InciWeb inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cainf-inn-fire-2025 Start Date: 5/22/2025 Acreage: 728 acres Containment: 82% Personnel: 449 The Inn Fire is now 82% contained. Fire behavior remains minimal, with smoldering and... [Read more](#)

Publication Type: **News** - 05/29/2025 - 08:32

Inn Fire Daily Update May 30, 2025 5-30-2025 05-30-2025

Friday, May 30, 2025 Contact Fire Information: 760-350-2737 E-mail: 2025.inn@firenet.gov Facebook: facebook.com/inyonf/InciWeb inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/cainf-inn-fire-2025 Start Date: 05/22/2025 Size: 728 Acres Containment: 90% Personnel: 339 Inn Fire Update – May 30, 2025 The Inn Fire is now 90% contained. Firefighters had another productive and... [Read more](#)

Publication Type: **News** - 05/30/2025 - 08:36



View from the top of the Inn Fire 5-24-25

Happenings of Interest



[View in browser](#) | [Sign up](#)



Weekly Wildfire Updates: May 28, 2025



An aerial view of the Palisades Fire destruction in Carbon Canyon in Malibu along the Pacific Coast Highway on Jan. 15, 2025. Photo by Ted Soqui for CalMatters

Happenings of Interest

EXPLORE LA

Eaton Canyon trails will remain closed through 2025 due to damage from January fire

By [Julia Barajas](#)

Published May 22, 2025 3:39 PM



Norma García-González, director of L.A. County's Department of Parks and Recreation, urges the public to try a trail other than Eaton Canyon this Memorial Day weekend.

(Julia Barajas / LAist)

Support the Guardian
Fund the free press with \$5 per month

Support us →

Sign in

US
The Guardian

News

Opinion

Sport

Culture

Lifestyle

US US politics World Climate crisis Middle East Ukraine Soccer Business Environment Tech Science

Los Angeles

Trump's mass federal cuts disrupt LA wildfire recovery: 'It's coming tumbling down'

Doge has cut staff at Fema, EPA and the army corps, who are crucial for helping survivors get back on their feet



Fire-affected residents meet with Fema officials on 14 January 2025 in Pasadena, California. Photograph: Frederic J Brown/AFP/Getty Images

Happenings of Interest

NEWS | WEATHER

Some California National Weather Service offices cut around-the-clock monitoring

By Madilynne Medina, News Reporter

May 16, 2025



FILE: Firefighters work while smoke rises from the growing Pajero Fire in Los Angeles on Jan. 11, 2025. A day before the Pajero Fire broke out, the National Weather Service warned of dangerous winds in the region.
Ali Matin/TNS



Listen
Now:

Some California National Weather Service offices cut
around-the-clock monitoring

1X

3:28

As summer heat waves and peak wildfire season loom in California, several of the state's National Weather Service offices won't have 24-hour staffing for weather alerts, reports said.

Donate



The National Weather Service is once again translating lifesaving alerts. What happened?

Political pressures may have driven the federal agency to backtrack on its decision to suspend automated weather translations.



Miguel J. Rodriguez Carillo / AFP via Getty Images



Ayurella Horn-Muller
Staff Writer

Prepare yourself for several years of killer heat, top weather forecasters warn



WASHINGTON (AP) — Get ready for several years of even more record-breaking heat that pushes Earth to more deadly, fiery and uncomfortable extremes, two of the world's top weather agencies forecast.

There's an 80% chance the world will break another annual temperature record in the next five years, and it's even more probable that the world will again exceed the international temperature threshold set 10 years ago, according to a five-year forecast released Wednesday by the World Meteorological Organization and the U.K. Meteorological Office.

"Higher global mean temperatures may sound abstract, but it translates in real life to a higher chance of extreme weather: stronger hurricanes, stronger precipitation, droughts," said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald, who wasn't part of the calculations but said they made sense. "So higher global mean temperatures translates to more lives lost."

Happenings of Interest



Earth is likely to cross a key climate threshold in two years

A new World Meteorological Organization report spells the end of the goal to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels.

May 29, 2025

5 min 670



Dry earth at Ward Creek Reservoir in Grand Mesa, Colorado. (Carolyn Van Houten/The Washington Post)

Climate Solutions

Most new cars in Norway are EVs. How a freezing country beat range anxiety.



Climate Solutions

Most new cars in Norway are EVs. How a freezing country beat range anxiety.

Making EVs the more affordable choice



Building the charging network



State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

California state parks are preparing for 'oncoming storm' of visitors

By Gregory Thomas, Travel & Outdoors Editor
May 7, 2025

Gift Article



California state parks managers are bracing for a surge of summer visitors with uncertainty swirling around national parks and forests.
Nic Coury/Special to The Chronicle

What California's Proposed Budget Freeze Could Mean For Camping In The Summer Of 2025



Story by Amanda Morgan • 3w • 3 min read



Tent in Yosemite National Park
© Yiming Chen/Getty Images

If camping in California is on your summer bucket list, you may want to press the pause button on your plans because parks across the state are facing major challenges in 2025. Ever since President Donald Trump was inaugurated earlier this year, national parks and national forests in the United States have been attempting to cope with a whirlwind of budget and staffing cuts his administration has made. Park personnel fear that they may have to close campgrounds, essential park facilities, and programs.

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

[About Us](#) [Newsletters](#) [Donate](#) 

POLITICS


California lawmakers reject hundreds of bills in rapid-fire hearings


 BY JEANNE KUANG AND YUE STELLA YU
MAY 23, 2025

[Republish](#)   



State senators meet during a suspense file hearing at the Capitol Annex Swing Space in Sacramento on May 23, 2025. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

The California Legislature's
Nonpartisan Fiscal and Policy Advisor



LAO Contact
Ann Hollingshead

Table of Contents
Main Report
Appendix Tables

 See More
Publications Like This

[Share](#) [Post](#)

May 24, 2025

The 2025-26 Budget Multiyear Budget Outlook

Summary

This analysis presents our assessment of the budget's condition under our revenue forecast and spending estimates of the Governor's May Revision spending proposals. Fundamentally, our assessment and that of the administration are very similar—the state is likely to face persistent future deficits. These deficits range from \$10 billion to \$20 billion through 2028-29. As such, the Governor's approach to the May Revision reflects the reality of the budget challenge before the Legislature. While the Governor focuses solutions in Medi-Cal—constituting \$11 billion of the total \$16 billion in solutions—the Legislature could pursue a different mix of spending and/or revenue solutions than those proposed. Either way, we recommend the Legislature maintain at least the level of ongoing solutions proposed by the Governor. This is important because, going forward, the budget problems will become more difficult to solve. The Legislature likely will need to adopt additional solutions that increase ongoing revenues or reduce ongoing spending—both of which involve the most difficult and consequential trade-offs for policy makers.

Introduction

Our annual May Outlook presents our office's forecast of the condition of the state General Fund budget through 2028-29 under our revenue and spending estimates and assuming the Governor's May Revision policies are adopted. (Our earlier analysis, *The 2025-26 Budget: Initial Comments on the Governor's May Revision*, differed in two ways: [1] it provided our assessment of the budget condition in the near term only, and [2] it was predicated on the administration's revenue and spending estimates.) The first section of the post presents our estimates of the

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism



"This analysis presents our assessment of the budget's condition under our revenue forecast and spending estimates of the Governor's May Revision spending proposals. Fundamentally, our assessment and that of the administration are very similar—the state is likely to face persistent future deficits. These deficits range from \$10 billion to \$20 billion through 2028-29."



State senators meet during a suspense hearing at the Capitol Annex Swing Space in Sacramento on May 23, 2025. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

Our annual May Outlook presents our office's forecast of the condition of the state General Fund budget through 2028-29 under our revenue and spending estimates and assuming the Governor's May Revision policies are adopted. (Our earlier analysis, *The 2025-26 Budget: Initial Comments on the Governor's May Revision*, differed in two ways: [1] it provided our assessment of the budget condition in the near term only, and [2] it was predicated on the administration's revenue and spending estimates.) The first section of the post presents our estimates of the



Partnership Planner

Research



Submit Content




Login

[← Back to Research Dashboard](#)

2024 Economic Impact of Travel

Dean Runyan Associates, Inc

May 5, 2025

Download report (PDF) 

Share

01 Overview

02 Takeaways

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

The Economic Impact of Travel

California

2024p Calendar Year
State, Regional, & County Impacts

May, 2025

PREPARED FOR
Visit California



Regional Travel Impacts

Direct Travel Impact Summary, 2024p

Region Name	Direct Spending (\$Millions)			Employment	Direct Tax Revenue (\$Millions)		
	Visitor Spend	Total	Earnings (\$M)		Local Tax	State Tax	Total
Central Coast	9,313.8	9,744.4	4,427.8	89,360	465.8	420.8	886.6
Central Valley	7,783.7	8,424.9	3,305.4	85,150	266.8	447.0	713.8
Deserts	8,780.7	9,270.9	3,307.6	83,930	328.9	406.6	735.5
Gold Country	5,146.3	6,404.4	2,475.5	53,290	196.9	259.3	456.2
High Sierra	3,783.7	3,878.7	1,779.5	40,480	201.5	151.4	352.9
Inland Empire	7,627.2	8,266.9	3,085.1	79,300	238.1	364.3	602.4
Los Angeles Area	26,023.8	34,910.3	17,328.7	223,860	1,665.1	1,294.7	2,959.8
North Coast	1,357.2	1,405.2	700.6	14,890	58.8	64.5	123.3
Orange County	14,412.0	16,274.7	7,248.9	138,960	701.2	588.5	1,289.7
San Diego County	14,328.1	16,612.8	5,470.1	99,850	702.4	537.5	1,239.9
San Francisco Bay Area	32,855.6	40,447.4	15,264.9	240,660	1,690.9	1,455.5	3,146.4
Shasta Cascade	1,630.0	1,686.3	645.0	16,040	52.9	79.5	132.4
California	*	157,326.9	65,039.2	1,165,760	6,569.3	6,069.7	12,639.0

* Sum of region visitor spending is less than the statewide visitor spending because a portion of the county ground transportation is allocated to "other travel" the county level.

Note: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. Total earnings includes wage and salary disbursements, other earned income and proprietor income. Employment includes payroll employees and proprietors.

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

HighCountryNews

Support

GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

Is sustainable tourism possible?

As Western mountain towns struggle with overtourism, Jackson Hole tries out a new plan to mitigate visitors' impacts.

Sarah Tory May 1, 2025

Print

Email

Save Article

More

For years, Crista Valentino felt uncomfortable about how Jackson, Wyoming, her adopted home, promoted itself as a tourist destination. Ads showed cringe-worthy montages of frolicking bear cubs and jagged peaks in nearby Grand Teton National Park. "I always felt a little bit icky, like we were marketing Jackson as a commodity," she said.

The Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board was primarily responsible. Established in 2011 to promote tourism during the slower months, it ran ad campaigns funded by 60% of Teton County's portion of the state's lodging tax. By the time Valentino became a board member in 2017, tourism was booming even as complaints about "over-tourism" rose among Jackson's roughly 10,700 year-round residents.



©Gretchen/Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, in 2021.
Ryan Dargatzis

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

HighCountryNews

GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

Is sustainable tourism possible?

As Western mountain towns struggle with overtourism, Jackson Hole tries out a new plan to mitigate visitors' impacts.

Sarah Tory May 1, 2025

Print Email Save Article More

For years, Crista Valentino felt uncomfortable about how Jackson, Wyoming, her adopted home, promoted itself as a tourist destination. Ads showed cringe-worthy montages of frolicking bear cubs and jagged peaks in nearby Grand Teton National Park. "I always felt a little bit icky, like we were marketing Jackson as a commodity," she said.

The Jackson Hole Travel and Tourism Board was primarily responsible. Established in 2011 to promote tourism during the slower months, it ran ad campaigns funded by 60% of Teton County's portion of the state's lodging tax. By the time Valentino became a board member in 2017, tourism was booming even as complaints about "over-tourism" rose among Jackson's roughly 10,700 year-round residents.



*©Gretchen/Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, in 2021.
Ryan Dargatzis*

The New York Times


GIVE THE TIMES

Is the California Dream a Mirage?

The state is confronting what officials say is an unprecedented confluence of forces that will test its long record of enduring catastrophes, natural and otherwise.

Listen to this article · 10:56 min [Learn more](#)

Share full article



Analysts say California's population could well decline because of the wildfires that wiped out more than 6,000 homes in Los Angeles in January. Philip Cheung for The New York Times

By Adam Nagourney

Adam Nagourney has covered California politics, government and culture for more than a decade.

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism



"California eclipsed Japan in 2024 to become the fourth-largest economy in the world. Gov. Gavin Newsom announced earlier this month that the state's population increased for the second year in a row. Tourism has hit record levels, as Los Angeles prepares to step onto the world stage as the host of the 2028 Summer Olympics."



©Glenis Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, in 2021.
Ryan Dargatzis



Analysts say California's population could well decline because of the wildfires that wiped out more than 6,000 homes in Los Angeles in January. Philip Cheung for The New York Times



By Adam Nagourney

Adam Nagourney has covered California politics, government and culture for more than a decade.

State of California - Sustainable Recreation and Tourism



“But for all of that, there are rising signs that California is entering one of the most difficult periods in its history. The state is confronting what many leaders and officials say is an unprecedented confluence of forces — economic, political, social, environmental — that’s about to test its long record of resilience in the face of catastrophe, natural and otherwise.”



©Glenfiss Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, in 2021.
Ryan Dargatzis



Analysts say California's population could well decline because of the wildfires that wiped out more than 6,000 homes in Los Angeles in January. Philip Cheung for The New York Times



By Adam Nagourney

Adam Nagourney has covered California politics, government and culture for more than a decade.

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process



The image is a screenshot of the Bipartisan Policy Center website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the organization's logo and name, followed by links for Policy Areas, Resources, Get Involved, About, and Give. A search icon is also present. Below the navigation bar is a red banner with the text "TARIFF TRACKER" and "See the Latest Revenue Raised by New Tariffs >>". The main content area has a blue background with a faint image of the US Capitol. It features three tabs: EXPLAINER, ECONOMY, and DEMOCRACY. The title "Budget Reconciliation, Simplified" is prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the title is the date "Aug 28, 2024" and a "SHARE" button. At the bottom, there are icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Email, and Print.

Bipartisan Policy Center

Policy Areas Resources Get Involved About Give

TARIFF TRACKER See the Latest Revenue Raised by New Tariffs >>

EXPLAINER ECONOMY DEMOCRACY

Budget Reconciliation, Simplified

Aug 28, 2024

SHARE

f t in e p

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process



Bipartisan Policy Center

Policy Areas ▾

Resources ▾

Get Involved ▾

About ▾

Give



“Republicans hope to leverage the reconciliation process this year to extend and expand on expiring tax cuts, increase spending on border security and defense, reform U.S. energy policies, and cut federal spending in several parts of the budget. While the reconciliation bill’s ultimate deficit impact is yet to be determined, the topline instructions in the Senate allow for an up to \$2 trillion deficit increase over 10 years. Due to overlapping instructions between committees and the use of a “current policy” baseline, the actual topline is an up to \$5.7 trillion deficit increase.”

Aug 28, 2024

SHARE



House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process

Sign In

Advanced Searches | Browse

Search Tools

Legislation

Examples: IRS, states, "health care"

MORE OPTIONS

Citation | Subscribe | Share/Save | Site Feedback

H.R.1 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act

119th Congress (2025-2026) | [Get alerts](#)

BILL Hide Overview

Sponsor: [Rep. Arrington Jodey C. \(R-TX-19\)](#) (Introduced 05/20/2025)

Committees: House - Budget

Committee Meetings: [05/21/25 1:00AM](#)

Committee Reports: [H. Rept. 119-106 Book 1](#); [H. Rept. 119-106 Book 2](#)

Latest Action: House - 05/22/2025 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection. ([All Actions](#))

Roll Call Votes: There have been [2 roll call votes](#)

Tracker: 1

Introduced

Passed House

Passed Senate

To President


Became Law

LIVESTREAM Sign In

PERSONAL FINANCE

House GOP passed trillions in tax cuts. How Trump's 'big bill' could change in the Senate

PUBLISHED SUN, JUN 1 2025-6:00 AM EDT | UPDATED 5 HOURS AGO

**Kate Dore, CFP®, EA**
[@IN/KATEDORE/](#)

WATCH LIVE

KEY POINTS

- House GOP passed a multitrillion-dollar tax and spending package that includes many of President Donald Trump's priorities.
- Some provisions, including Medicaid, the "SALT" deduction and child tax credit, among others, could change amid Senate Republican debate.
- After the Senate vote, House lawmakers will have to approve changes to the bill, which could be tough, experts say.

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process



POLITICO'S Loyalty Bridge Access: Free 3-month Subscription for Former Government Subscribers in a Career Transition. [Learn more](#)

7-DAY UNLIMITED ACCESS

FREE TRIAL

"Republicans are mulling the sale of some public lands to help pay for a massive budget reconciliation bill to advance President Donald Trump's agenda. But just how big they'll be able to go is an open question."

By Garrett Downs, Kelsey Brugger | 04/02/2025 06:47 AM EDT

The plans are still fuzzy, and some Republicans say they fiercely oppose the idea.



House Natural Resources Chair Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) is discussing selling some federal lands in his party's upcoming budget reconciliation package. Francis Chung/POLITICO

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process

POLITICS

Public lands for housing in Nevada and Utah called 'giveaway'

Interested parties say water resources, tribal sovereignty and public engagement are threatened by the budget reconciliation bill's amendment.

Wyatt Myskow May 16, 2025

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Save Article](#) [More](#)

Government Economy Elections Education

The NEVADA INDEPENDENT

Español

Legislature 2025 | Lombardo promises | Lombardo vetoes | Fact Briefs | Follow the Money

About Editorial Policies Contact Us Events Newsletters Podcast

OPINION: In rush to sell public lands, Amodei hurts Nevadans and exposes his loyalties



Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV) at Lithium Americas' Workforce Hub construction site in Winnemucca during a press event on March 18, 2025. (David Calvert/The Nevada Independent)

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process

YouTube

Search

LIVE
10:16 am ET

AND OF COURSE RECREATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES FOR MILLIONS OF
GENERAL SPEECHES - FIVE MINUTES

U.S. HOUSE


REP. KEVIN KILEY
R-California, 3rd District
Roseville, Auburn, Folsom, Lake Tahoe

LIVE NOW C-SPAN3
HOUSE RULES CMTE. DEBATES
GOP TAX & SPENDING BILL

C-SPAN

For Internal Use Only

Rep. Kiley urges Congress to leave public land management to local governments

 **Congressman Kevin Kiley**
1.75K subscribers

Subscribe

19

Share

Save

...

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process

[Priorities](#)[Programs](#)[Resources](#)[Membership](#)[Leadership](#)[News](#)[Events](#)[SUPPORT](#)

Public Lands Sell Off is Removed from House Budget Reconciliation



Washington, D.C. — Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR), representing the \$1.2 trillion outdoor recreation economy made up of over 110,000 businesses, issued the following statement on the successful removal of a provision in budget reconciliation that would have sold off hundreds of thousands of acres of America's public lands and waters. In a letter sent earlier this week to House Speaker Mike Johnson, ORR emphasized the critical importance of keeping public lands selloff out of this legislation.

Statement attributed to Jessica Turner, President, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR):

"At a time when the \$1.2 trillion outdoor recreation industry is facing significant headwinds, keeping public lands public is a bipartisan, pro-business solution and we are pleased that an amendment that would have sold off public lands and waters was stripped from the budget reconciliation package advancing in Congress.

Recent Posts

[Public Lands Sell Off is Removed from House Budget Reconciliation](#)

[Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Awards Post-Hurricane Rebuilding and Recovery Micro-Grants for Outdoor Recreation Communities](#)

[Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Welcomes New Members and Partners Committed to Strengthening Outdoor Recreation Economy](#)

[Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Applauds Formation of Bipartisan House Public Lands Caucus](#)


[Outdoor Recreation Industry Applauds Introduction of the America the Beautiful Act](#)

Recent Comments

[Balancing wildlife conservation with demand for outdoor recreation + Mirt Ranch Group on Senate Passes Great American Outdoors Act](#)


[Bureau of Economic Analysis: 2021 a record-breaking year for outdoor recreation economy -](#)

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process

 **OUTDOOR RECREATION ROUNDTABLE**

SUPPORT

Public Lands Sell Off is Removed from House Budget Reconciliation



News


May 21 2025

Washington, D.C. — Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR), representing the \$1.2 trillion outdoor recreation economy made up of over 110,000 businesses, issued the following statement on the successful removal of a provision in budget reconciliation that would have sold off hundreds of thousands of acres of America's public lands and waters. In a letter sent earlier this week to House Speaker Mike Johnson, ORR emphasized the critical importance of keeping public lands selloff out of this legislation.


Statement attributed to Jessica Turner, President, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR):

"At a time when the \$1.2 trillion outdoor recreation industry is facing significant headwinds, keeping public lands public is a bipartisan, pro-business solution and we are pleased that an amendment that would have sold off public lands and waters was stripped from the budget reconciliation package advancing in Congress.

"Keeping public lands and waters open and accessible to all Americans is a business imperative that ensures economic growth, job creation, public health benefits from more time outdoors, and attracts investment in gateway communities that depend on these lands for their livelihoods. We commend leaders like Public Lands Caucus co-founders Representatives Zinke and Vasquez and other bipartisan members for leading this effort in the House.

 **SCENIC AMERICA**

News & Updates > Scenic America Statement on the Launch of the Bipartisan Public Lands Caucus



SCENIC AMERICA

Scenic America Statement on the Launch of the Bipartisan Public Lands Caucus

May 5, 2025

House + Senate Reconciliation Budget Process



Bipartisan Senate Bill Introduced to Fund NPS Deferred Maintenance

May 16, 2025 by Tim Boudreau

On May 2, 2025, a bipartisan group of Senators introduced the [America the Beautiful Act \(S.1547\)](#), which would extend the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund at \$2 billion per year for eight years.

Signed into law by President Trump in 2020, the GAOA established the Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) with an investment of \$1.9 billion per year over 5 years to address the deferred maintenance backlog of public land agencies including the National Park Service (NPS). Despite the historic investment in our national parks and public lands, many projects were unable to be addressed by the five-year fund and the NPS maintenance backlog remains at over \$23 billion.

The America the Beautiful Act, introduced by Senators Daines (R-MT) and Angus King (I-ME) and other bipartisan Senate cosponsors—among other things—extends the LRF at \$2 billion annually for 8 years, improves opportunities for prioritizing projects with matching funds, and requires additional reporting to Congress.

Congress needs to hear from you. Please use this form to [send a letter to your Senators](#) asking that they cosponsor and support S. 1547.

[TAKE ACTION](#)



News & Updates > [Scenic America Statement on the Introduction of the America the Beautiful Act](#)



Scenic America Statement on the Introduction of the America the Beautiful Act

May 2, 2025

Heinrich amendment that opposed sale of public lands fails to garner enough support

“WASHINGTON D.C. (April 4, 2025) — By a 48-51 vote, senators defeated an amendment opposing the sale of public lands in the ongoing budget reconciliation process, raising alarm that land sell-offs will be included in the final budget bill. In recent days, some Republican leaders have openly entertained selling off public lands to fund tax cuts. All but two Republicans voted against the anti-sell-off amendment. Senators Steve Daines and Tim Sheehy, both of Montana, joined the Democrats.”

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget



The WHITE HOUSE



↶ BRIEFINGS & STATEMENTS

The White House Office of Management and Budget Releases the President's Fiscal Year 2026 Skinny Budget

The White House

May 2, 2025

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget



The WHITE HOUSE



↶ BRIEFINGS & STATEMENTS

"A president's "skinny budget" is a non-binding, preliminary budget proposal, often released at the beginning of the budget process, that outlines the president's priorities and proposed spending levels for the next fiscal year. It is not a full budget, and it often focuses on discretionary spending, excluding mandatory spending and revenue projections."

FISCAL YEAR 2020 SKINNY BUDGET

The White House

May 2, 2025

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget

E&E NEWS
By POLITICO

Publications ▾

Subscription ▾

About ▾

FREE TRIAL >

LOGIN



POLITICO'S Loyalty Bridge Access: Free 3-month Subscription for Former Government Subscribers in a Career Transition. [Learn more](#)

7-DAY UNLIMITED ACCESS

FREE TRIAL

CLIMATEWIRE ♦

Draft Trump executive order seeks to create new agency for wildfire response

By Natalie Fertig, Jordan Wolman | 04/14/2025 06:35 AM EDT

The order, viewed by POLITICO, aims to “eliminate red tape, reform our agencies and reforge our efforts around the priority to address fighting fire fast.”



President Donald Trump talks with California Gov. Gavin Newsom (left) during a visit to a neighborhood impacted by wildfires in Paradise, California, on Nov. 17, 2018. Evan Vucci/AP

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget

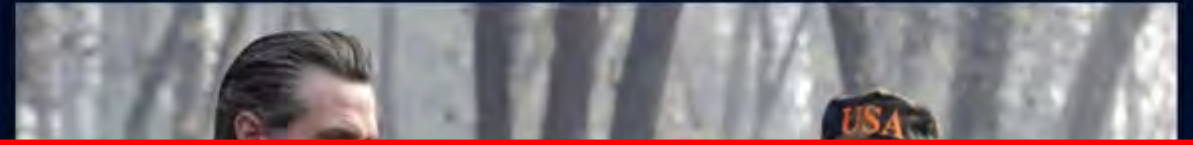


POLITICO'S Loyalty Bridge Access: Free 3-month Subscription for Former Government Subscribers in a Career Transition. [Learn more](#)

7-DAY UNLIMITED ACCESS

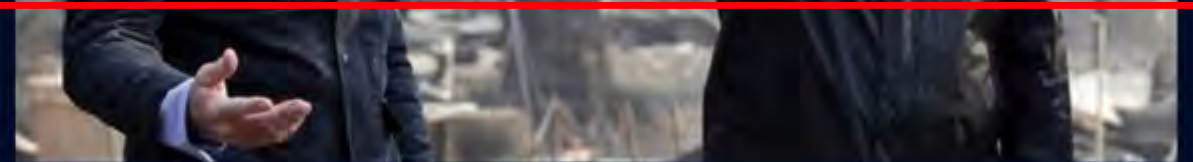
FREE TRIAL

CLIMATE WIRE ♦



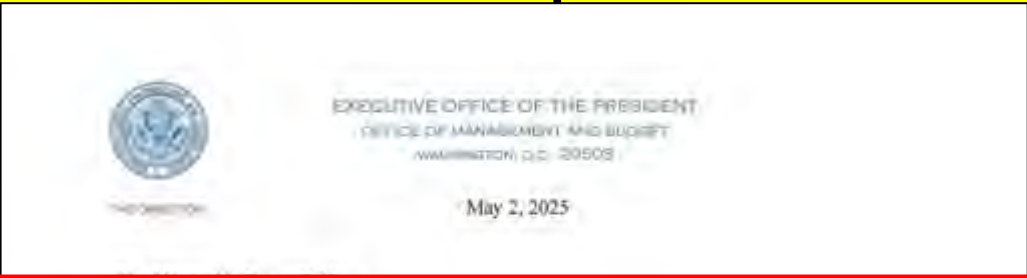
The draft order, which was obtained by POLITICO and confirmed by three people familiar with the situation, would launch a national wildland firefighting task force in the next 90 days, combining resources from the Departments of Agriculture, Interior and Homeland Security. The White House's eventual goal, according to the document, is to have Congress create a National Wildland Fire Agency in the next two years.

The order, viewed by POLITICO, aims to "eliminate red tape, reform our agencies and reforge our efforts around the priority to address fighting fire fast."



President Donald Trump talks with California Gov. Gavin Newsom (left) during a visit to a neighborhood impacted by wildfires in Paradise, California, on Nov. 17, 2018. Evan Vucci/AP

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget



provided through reconciliation, to ensure that our military and other agencies repelling the invasion of our border have the resources needed to complete the mission. This mandatory supplement to discretionary spending would enable the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security, among others, to clean up the mess President Trump inherited from the prior administration and harden the border and other defenses to protect America from foreign invasion. Providing these resources through reconciliation ensures that the money is available

Program Name	\$ Change from 2025 Enacted (in millions)	Brief Description of Program and Recommended Reduction or Increase
Federal Wildland Fire Service (consolidation of USDA and DOI Wildland Fire Management programs under a unified agency within DOI)	--	Federal wildfire risk mitigation and suppression responsibilities currently are split across five agencies in two departments: the U.S. Forest Service in USDA and BIA, Bureau of Land Management, USFWS, and NPS in DOI. This dispersed nature of the Federal mission creates significant coordination and cost inefficiencies that result in sub-optimal performance. The Budget reforms Federal wildland fire management to create operational efficiencies by consolidating and unifying the Federal wildland fire responsibilities into a single new Federal Wildland Fire Service at DOI, including transferring USDA's current wildland fire management responsibilities. The new service would be distinct in command and appropriations from existing wildland firefighting agencies and would streamline Federal wildfire suppression response, risk mitigation efforts, and coordination with non-Federal partners to combat the wildfire crisis.

Cutting such spending from the discretionary budget leads to significant savings—the President is proposing base non-defense discretionary budget authority \$163 billion—22.6 percent—below current-year spending, while still protecting funding for homeland security, veterans, seniors, law enforcement, and infrastructure. Over 10 years, this restraint would generate trillions in savings, necessary for balancing the budget.

At the same time, the Budget proposes unprecedented increases for defense and border security. For Defense spending, the President proposes an increase of 13 percent to \$1.01 trillion for FY 2026; for Homeland Security, the Budget commits a historic \$175 billion investment to, at long last, fully secure our border. Under the proposal, a portion of these increases—at least \$325 billion assumed in the budget resolution recently agreed to by the Congress—would be

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget



CONGRESS

Trump tells Congress what to chop in 22 percent budget slashing

Several GOP lawmakers have said they'll buck the president's request as Congress faces a Sept. 30 government shutdown cliff.



Office of Management and Budget Director Russ Vought is seen here on Capitol Hill on Dec. 9, 2024. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

By JENNIFER SCHOLTES
05/30/2025 04:35 PM EDT
Updated: 05/30/2025 07:43 PM EDT



President Donald Trump sent the nitty-gritty of his budget proposal to Congress on Friday, fleshing out which programs he wants Republicans to cut deeply — or wipe out entirely — when they vote to fund the government in September.



INTERIOR CUTS IN TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S "SKINNY" BUDGET TO LEAVE LASTING SCARS ON PUBLIC LANDS, TRIBAL NATIONS, AND HUMAN HEALTH

May 2, 2025

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Ranking Member of the Interior-Environment Subcommittee on the Senate Appropriations Committee, released the below statement following the release of President Trump's 'skinny' budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

"This budget is exactly what we expected from this administration: abandoning critical programs, slashing essential government services, and backtracking from delivering the resources Tribal nations and native communities need to thrive. Projects such as constructing Tribal schools, maintaining drinking water and sewer systems, improving wildfire risk reduction, and sustaining the National Park System need continuous streams of funding to ensure communities get the resources they need. These proposed cuts are devastating and will leave lasting scars in communities across the country."

"As Ranking Member of the Senate Budget Committee and of the Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, I will do everything I can to make sure this budget is never enacted," said Ranking Member Jeff Merkley.

Specifically, President Trump's 'skinny' budget proposes the following cuts in the Interior-Environment titles:

- Cuts \$911 million to core Tribal programs that uphold the federal government's obligation and court-ordered trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal nations. This overall 24 percent cut would decimate core programs including road maintenance, housing, and programs for children and families. It includes a near elimination of funding for construction and maintenance of Tribal schools, where the current school conditions are severely dilapidated, often threatening the health and safety of children. The proposal also claims to focus on law enforcement while cutting law enforcement by 20 percent in a time of desperately needed increases in law enforcement officers and equipment across Indian Country.
- Cuts \$900 million, or 30 percent, from the National Park Service operation to abandon national parks, which the Administration says should be transferred to the states. The budget doesn't propose any funding to states to manage this new unfunded mandate, burdening states and clearly incentivizing them to sell off our public lands to the highest bidder. The devastating results would erase history, shut down recreation, collapse the economies of gateway communities, degrade unique and treasured natural areas, and damage threatened and endangered species.

President Trump's Draft Discretionary "Skinny" Budget



Apr 7, 2025

With peak fire season on horizon, California launches statewide wildfire preparedness campaign

What you need to know: CAL FIRE is launching a new campaign supporting Californians to take steps now – including home hardening and defensible space – to prepare for peak fire season.


SACRAMENTO – “Prepare your home and property! Start at the house and work your way out.” Millions of Californians will soon see that message as the state launches a new wildfire preparedness campaign to support preparation efforts for fire season.


As California heads into peak wildfire season, CAL FIRE is urging residents across the state to take proactive steps now to protect their homes and communities. Today's campaign launch follows Governor Newsom's action last month **proclaiming a state of emergency** to fast-track critical projects protecting communities from wildfire, ahead of peak fire season.

2025 has already seen an unprecedented start to the year with January's Eaton and Palisades fires in Los Angeles. These fires rank as the second and third most destructive in California's history, underpinning the importance of acting now to prepare one's family, property, and community for wildfire.

The Los Angeles fires are a stark reminder of the year-round threat wildfire poses for our communities. As we head into peak fire season, we're ramping up efforts to communicate with those in areas where preparedness measures like home hardening and defensible space can save lives. Now is the time to prepare your home and property.


Governor: Gavin Newsom






[About Us](#) [Newsletters](#) [Donate](#) 


CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

California sets aside \$170 million to thin vegetation, forests to help prevent wildfires




BY ALEJANDRO LAZO
APRIL 14, 2025


[Republish](#)   



A firefighter walks through a prescribed burn area at the Sugar Pine Point State Park near Lake Tahoe on Sept. 25, 2024. Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

FIRE-RESISTANT LANDSCAPING & DEFENSIBLE SPACE





Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

IMPLEMENTING THE PRESIDENT'S “DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY” WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

February 11, 2025

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



POLITICO



Musk is gone. But DOGE staffers are still trying to cut through agencies.

'DOGE is still hungry': Elon Musk's staff quietly burrows in with eyes on deeper cuts



Elon Musk listens as President Donald Trump meets with South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, on May 21, 2025. | Jim LoScalzo/EPA

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



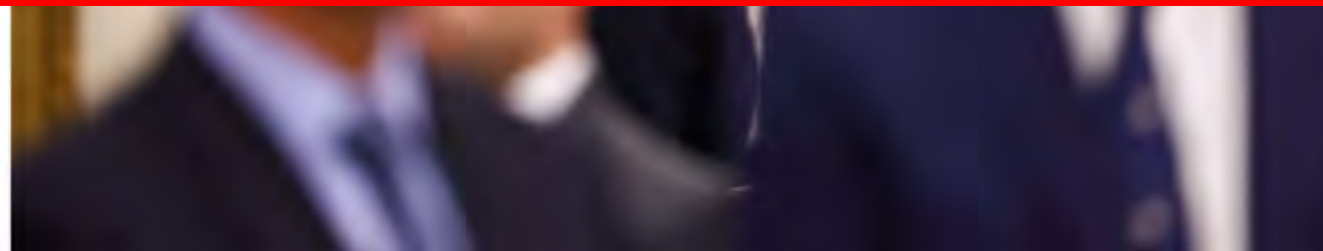
POLITICO



Musk is gone. But DOGE staffers are still trying to cut through agencies.

'DOGE is still hungry': Elon Musk's staff quietly burrows in with eyes on deeper cuts

Just this week at the Interior Department, a 30-year veteran of the agency who told employees to ignore DOGE directives **was escorted out** of the building. Elsewhere, some DOGE employees have been hired on as permanent government staffers and given high-ranking positions inside agencies. The General Services Administration, for example, is an entry point for dozens of DOGE officials who've then gone to other departments.



Elon Musk listens as President Donald Trump meets with South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, on May 21, 2025. | Jim LoScalzo/EPA

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

Trump administration to prioritize 'patriotic Americans' for federal jobs

Applicants for government jobs will be required to write essays explaining how they will advance President Donald Trump's policy priorities.



Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

What Are The New Essay Questions In Federal Job Applications?

1. How has your commitment to the Constitution and the founding principles of the United States inspired you to pursue this role within the Federal government? Provide a concrete example from professional, academic, or personal experience.
2. In this role, how would you use your skills and experience to improve government efficiency and effectiveness? Provide specific examples where you improved processes, reduced costs, or improved outcomes.
3. How would you help advance the President's Executive Orders and policy priorities in this role? Identify one or two relevant Executive Orders or policy initiatives that are significant to you, and explain how you would help implement them if hired.
4. How has a strong work ethic contributed to your professional, academic or personal achievements? Provide one or two specific examples, and explain how those qualities would enable you to serve effectively in this position.

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

“The federal government is costly, inefficient, and deeply in debt. At the same time, it is not producing results for the American public. Instead, tax dollars are being siphoned off to fund unproductive and unnecessary programs that benefit radical interest groups while hurting hard- working American citizens. The American people registered their verdict on the bloated, corrupt federal bureaucracy on November 5, 2024 by voting for President Trump and his promises to sweepingly reform the federal government.”

EFFICIENCY” WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

February 11, 2025

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

[Press](#)[Careers](#)[Contact](#)[EN](#)[ES](#)[ABOUT ▾](#)[RESEARCH ▾](#)[EXPERTS](#)[BLOG](#)[DONATE](#)

Trump Administration's Mass Layoffs of Federal Workers Are Illegal

MAY 2, 2025 | BY [SAM BERGER](#) AND JACOB LEIBENLUFT

SHARE



 [PDF of this report](#) (9 pp.)

[MORE ON THIS TOPIC](#)

Since shortly after the inauguration, the Trump Administration has made it a central goal to sharply reduce the number of federal workers, with little regard to the impact on the functioning of basic government services. This effort began with an attempt to encourage voluntary resignations through the so-called "fork in the road" initiative^[1] and continued with the indiscriminate termination of probationary employees. It has now proceeded to large-scale layoffs through

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)


PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS
IMPLEMENTING THE
PRESIDENT'S
"DEPARTMENT OF
GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY" WORKFORCE
OPTIMIZATION INITIATIVE

EXECUTIVE ORDER
February 11, 2023



Government
Executive

NEWS

MANAGEMENT

OVERSIGHT

DEFENSE

TECH

PAY & BENEFITS

WORK

PODCASTS | EVENTS |

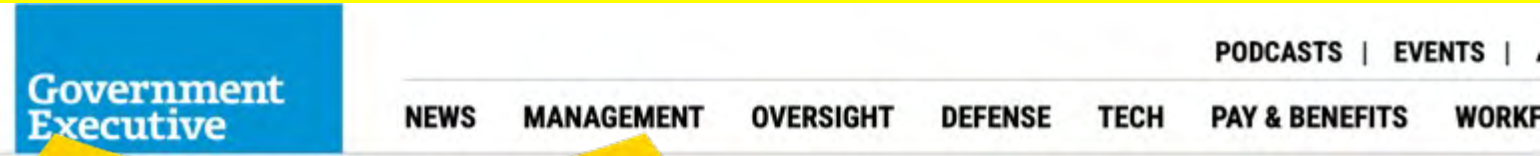
DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

JAMIE L. WHITTEN

**plans take shape as
department warns employees of major
cuts**

Some regional offices are expected to be cut as some
headquarters offices will be "hollowed out."

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



"According to a source briefed on the matter, the U.S. Forest Service is planning to consolidate its nine regional offices into as few as three. USFS' research team, which focuses on priorities such as new tools to model fire risk, markets, forest restoration and water and employs around 1,500 people, is expected to face cuts. The agency's five Research Stations are slated to be pared back. The nation's 154 National Forests are expected to be consolidated and the plan is to move the Wildland Fire division into another part of the government. USFS' Washington headquarters is slated to be 'hollowed out,' the source said."

Department warns employees of major cuts

Some regional offices are expected to be cut as some headquarters offices will be "hollowed out."

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

The Smokey Wire : National Forest News and Views

Community Sourced, Shared and Supported

[Home](#)[About](#)[Contributors](#)[Ideas For Organizational Improvement](#)[New Topics or Questions from Readers](#)[Planning Humor](#)

[Donations](#)

Text of Memorial Day Email From (Acting) Associate Chief French

May 25, 2025 by Sharon

Thanks to Bob Z. Any formatting issues are mine.

Good Afternoon,

I hear a lot from Forest Service friends and colleagues that there needs to be more communication from agency leadership, especially right now. Frankly, I have always done better communicating through one-on-one or group conversations than through posts or all employee emails. Through this and future emails, I am hoping to give you some insight into what we are hearing, doing, and thinking. My intent is to keep these focused and to the point. I have learned that my words can mean different things to different folks and sometimes we try so hard to get it right – what we write just misses the mark. So I ask for some grace (especially my writing style, grammar etc) and my hope is this is helpful even if it doesn't meet everyone's needs.

1. Future Organization and staff losses – it's on everyone's mind. We have said goodbye to a lot of our Forest Service family and many folks are worried for their future work and jobs. We are expecting an announcement from USDA in the next weeks but those dates may change given ongoing legal challenges. I hear from many of you – just tell us what to expect so we can make choices. We will when we can. I also realize that with the current DRP losses that we need to adapt the agency either way. To that end as we await the Secretary's direction-a. We have been asked for input and, working with folks at all levels of the agency, we have provided insight to the department to inform that decision.
- b. We are meeting the first week of June with the NLC, Regional Foresters, Station Directors, forest sup and research station representatives to help us navigate this. With our current staffing, I know our work must align with the agency we currently are and for the organization we will shift to. We must also solve fundamental systems, communication, policies, and decision making so that our agency works better.
- c. We have committed to regularly meet with District Rangers, Forest Sups, Station Leaders, and Bus Ops leaders so that information is flowing up and down more directly. The Chief will continue to travel throughout the agency so you can get to know him and he you. The trips thus far have been critical for him to see the depth of what this agency is and how we serve.
- d. I want to honor all of those that have left the agency for what they leave behind – decades of professional dedication and commitment to the agency and forests. We are better from their work, their friendships, and their legacy.
- e. We are doing our best, within the current hiring rules, to fill gaps and capacity in our field based staff. We have had multiple outreaches and have been making voluntary lateral re-assignments primarily in forest and district based positions.

Recommended Comment Considerations

When commenting, please consider the three doors that charitable speech must pass through. The gatekeeper at the door asks, "Is it true?" The second gatekeeper asks, "Is it helpful?" The third gatekeeper asks, "Is it kind?" (adapted from the writings of Krishnamurti by James Martin on p. 169 of his book "Between Heaven and Mirth.")

\$540 of \$1,200 raised

\$ 20.00

\$20.00

Custom Amount

Donate Now

Help us reach our 2025 goal of \$1200 in donations! We achieved our 2024 goal of \$1000, thanks to one donation of \$230.

The Smokey Wire : National Forest News and Views

Community Sourced, Shared and Supported

[Home](#)[About](#)[Contributors](#)[Ideas For Organizational Improvement](#)[New Topics or Questions from Readers](#)[Planning Humor](#)

[Donations](#)

E&E Story on Great Basin Institute and Other Grantees Hiring Temporaries for FS Work

May 5, 2025 by Sharon



A forestry technician cuts a dead Ponderosa pine tree affected by the blue stain fungus carried by the bark beetle Oct. 2, 2002, in Los Alamos, New Mexico. A Forest Service hiring freeze on seasonal positions meant some of those jobs are being outsourced. Philippe Denich/NRP via Getty Images

I posted about GBI on May 1, and on May 2, Marc Heller [posted about them](#) on E&E News.

The hiring spree illustrates the chronic need for forest technicians and others whose work on national forests picks up in summer — a requirement that's only grown with the Forest Service's decision last year to suspend hiring for seasonal jobs not directly tied to wildfire. Organizations like the GBI that routinely work on national forests say they can't bring on enough people to meet all the demand. CEO Peter Woodruff told POLITICO's E&E News that some of his group's hiring would have occurred anyway through long-term partnerships already in place with the Forest Service. And while the hiring freeze predated the Trump administration, deep steep staff reductions directed by Elon Musk's so-called Department of Government Efficiency have added to the strain, he said. Indeed, Woodruff said, the GBI would probably be hiring more seasonal workers if not for lingering pauses on Forest Service grants that help make the organization's work possible. "This year, it's an open question. It could be a tough year, or a productive year," Woodruff said. "It's hard to say."

Recommended Comment Considerations

When commenting, please consider the three doors that charitable speech must pass through. The gatekeeper at the door asks, "Is it true?" The second gatekeeper asks, "Is it helpful?" The third gatekeeper asks, "Is it kind?" (adapted from the writings of Krishnamurti by James Martin on p. 169 of his book "Between Heaven and Mirth.")

\$540 of \$1,200 raised

\$ 20.00

\$20.00

Custom Amount

Donate Now

Help us reach our 2025 goal of \$1200 in donations! We achieved our 2024 goal of \$1000, thanks to one donation of \$230.

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)



PUBLIC DOMAIN

[Home](#)

[Notes](#)

[Chat](#)

[Reach Us](#)

[Archive](#)

[About](#)

SCOOP: Draft Strategic Plan for Trump's Interior Department Would Boost Extractive Industries, Cut...

The internal document calls for opening new lands to oil and gas drilling, coal mining and other uses. It does not mention climate change once.



READ THE LATEST



DRAFT

FY 2026-2030 Strategic Plan Draft Framework

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Planning and Performance
Management (PPP)



Updated April 21, 2025

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

The New York Times

Trump Administration Updates 100 Days: What's Changed Lawsuits Tracker Tracking the Layoffs Approval Ratings

Interior Department to Fast-Track Oil, Gas and Mining Projects

The Trump administration plans to significantly reduce environmental reviews before permitting drilling and mining projects on public lands and in federal waters.

Listen to this article · 4:47 min [Learn more](#) [Share full article](#)



A coal mine in Roundup, Mont., in 2023. Matthew Harmon for The New York Times


PUBLIC DOMAIN

Trump's Interior Chief Rewrites History Of National Monuments As He Prepares Cuts

Doug Burgum says modern presidents have abused the Antiquities Act, using sweeping national monuments as "precursors" to national parks. The Grand Canyon would like a word.

CHRIS D'ANGELO AND ROQUE PLANAS
APR 28, 2025

21 8 Share



U.S. Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum speaks at the 2025 Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland in March. Photo credit: Gage Skidmore

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

SCOOP: Draft Strategic Trump's Interior Depa Boost Extractive Indus

The internal document calls for opening new lands to
and other uses. It does not mention climate change

→ READ THE LATEST





SFGATE


Newsletters Account

NATIONAL PARKS


'Lowest staffing in modern history': National Park Service short thousands of seasonal employees

By **Sam Hill**, Pacific Northwest Contributing Parks Editor
May 29, 2025





Grand Canyon Park Services Ranger Jill Staurowsky gives a tour to visitors on Feb. 22, 2025.
(Brandon Bell/Getty Images)

 Listen Now

Trump admin hasn't delivered on pledge to hire 7,700 national park employees


1x

3:55

44/100

Heading into the busy summer season and coming off a historic year for visitation, services and morale at national parks continue to degrade due to inadequate staffing.

AFT



Updated April 21, 2025

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

E&E NEWS
By POLITICO

Publications ▾

Subscription ▾

About ▾

FREE TRIAL >

LOGIN



POLITICO'S Loyalty Bridge Access: Free 3-month Subscription for Former Government Subscribers in a Career Transition. [Learn more](#)

7-DAY UNLIMITED ACCESS

FREE TRIAL

ENERGY WIRE

Interior wants to do NEPA reviews in 28 days. Is that even possible?

By Ian M. Stevenson | 05/15/2025 06:26 AM EDT

National Environmental Policy Act experts say the push could yield analyses with little recognition of environmental factors on the ground.



Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has tied efforts to boost domestic energy to national security. Illustration by Claudine Hellmuth/POLITICO (source images via Getty and iStock)

The Interior Department is plowing ahead with plans to fast-track environmental reviews, directing officials to blow through what is often a yearslong process in less than a month.

But former federal workers and other experts who've long dealt with the National Environmental Policy Act — one of the nation's most important environmental laws — told POLITICO's E&E News that meeting the new timeline while still complying with federal requirements would be next to impossible.

RELATED ARTICLES

ENERGY WIRE

3 questions answered about NEPA under Trump

By NIINA H. FARAH | 03/06/2025 06:53 AM EST

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

The New York Times

Supreme Court

Religious Charter School Case

Birthright Citizenship Case

Trump Policies Blocked by Courts

Major Cases

Supreme Court Curbs Scope of Environmental Reviews

The question for the justices was whether an agency had complied with a federal law by issuing a 3,600-page report on the impact of a proposed railway in Utah.

▶ Listen to this article · 5:31 min [Learn more](#)

📺 Share full article



💬 24



A freight train on a common carrier line near Price, Utah, in 2023. Rick Bowmer/Associated Press


Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

Government Executive

PODCASTS | EVENTS |

NEWS MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT DEFENSE TECH PAY & BENEFITS WORK

TRENDING: DOGE | RIFs | SCHEDULE F | THE FIRST 100 DAYS | TSP



The Trump administration is now expected to pause RIFs before the Supreme Court. KEVIN PARTISAN/GETTY IMAGES

Management


Appeals panel leaves layoff injunction in place as Trump's RIF plans likely head to Supreme Court

Plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the merits, the majority on the appellate court ruled.

MAY 31, 2025

RIFs

[in](#) [f](#) [e](#) [t](#)



ERIC KATZ
Senior Correspondent

An appeals court has allowed a pause on all layoffs at most major federal agencies to remain in place, rejecting the Trump administration's bid to block a lower court's injunction and likely sending the matter to the Supreme Court for final adjudication.

A ruling preventing most reductions in force and agency reorganizations from taking place will continue indefinitely after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled—in a 2-1 decision—in favor of the unions, municipalities and advocacy groups that sued over the workforce reduction plans. The Trump administration brought the case on an emergency basis, seeking a stay of a district court ruling that had found President Trump likely acted outside his legal and constitutional powers.

Government Executive

PODCASTS | EVENTS |

NEWS MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT DEFENSE TECH PAY & BENEFITS WORK

TRENDING: DOGE | RIFs | SCHEDULE F | THE FIRST 100 DAYS | TSP



Protesters demonstrate in support of their jobs outside of the Northern Indiana building in Chicago on March 13, 2025. The day was organized by the National Treasury Employees Union as well as concerns about the mass firing of federal workers by the Department of Government Efficiency. (DOGE) / SHUTTERSTOCK/IMAGIST

Workforce

Most major agencies are now indefinitely barred from issuing mass layoffs

The Trump administration's plans to reorganize agencies are "likely unconstitutional," judge says.

MAY 23, 2025

RIFs OMB GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

[in](#) [f](#) [e](#) [t](#)



ERIC KATZ
Senior Correspondent

The Trump administration is indefinitely barred from issuing or finalizing widespread layoffs at most major federal agencies after a judge late Thursday night issued a preliminary injunction finding the president likely acted outside his legal and constitutional powers.

The order extends a two-week temporary restraining order Judge Susan Illston for the Northern District of California had previously put in place and prohibits much of the Trump administration from implementing its planned reorganization efforts. The federal agencies named in the case cannot issue any new reductions in force, nor can they finalize those they have already issued by actually terminating any individual's employment.

Government Executive

PODCASTS | EVENTS |

NEWS MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT DEFENSE TECH PAY & BENEFITS WORK

TRENDING: DOGE | RIFs | SCHEDULE F | THE FIRST 100 DAYS | TSP



Rep. Joe Bonior, D-Calif., speaking during a press conference at the U.S. Capitol on May 21, 2025. He has introduced the House version of legislation to reinstate fired National Park Service and Forest Service employees. KEVIN DETSCH / GETTY IMAGES

Workforce


Democratic bills would rehire axed National Parks and Forest Service employees

Both agencies have already undergone workforce reductions with more layoffs still planned.

MAY 29, 2025

NATIONAL PARKS RIFs CONGRESS

[in](#) [f](#) [e](#) [t](#)



SEAN MICHAEL NEWHOUSE
Staff Reporter

National Park Service and Forest Service employees who have lost their jobs since the start of President Donald Trump's second term would get their positions back under legislation put forward on May 21 by House Democrats.

Along with the reinstatements, the two measures — the Protect our Parks Act (H.R. 3555) for NPS and Save Our Forests Act (H.R. 3559) for FS — would respectively require the Interior and Agriculture departments to maintain adequate staffing levels to safeguard public lands under their jurisdictions and visitors as well as continue projects that were authorized or received funding under laws like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act.


Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

Government Executive

PODCASTS | EVENTS |

NEWS MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT DEFENSE TECH PAY & BENEFITS WORK

TRENDING: DOGE | RIFS | SCHEDULE F | THE FIRST 100 DAYS | TSP



The Defense Department plans to issue RIFs in the coming weeks for 5% to 8% of its civilian workforce. J. DAVID AKE/GETTY IMAGES

Workforce

RIF watch: See which agencies are laying off federal workers

Here are the agencies where we have confirmed layoffs have taken or are about to take place. We will update as we learn more.

Agriculture Department: USDA is planning to dramatically slash its headquarters workforce through RIFs. Many of those who survive the RIFs will be given the option to either take a reassignment to one of three new hubs the department will stand up or separate from federal service. As the department cuts leases and functions across the country, regional staff will also be impacted, though some will have the opportunity to relocate to the new hubs. USDA is expected to offload one of its two Washington headquarters buildings. Some employees have been told to expect cuts down to fiscal 2019 levels—which would lead to the elimination of around 9,000 jobs—though RIFs would be offset but attrition and incentivized separations that have taken place under President Trump.

Commerce Department: Commerce is seeking to cut its workforce by 20%, or nearly 10,000 employees, but planned to use attrition, incentives and other measures to get to that level without RIFs. Unlike many other agencies, the department never offered a second "deferred resignation" offer and officials are expecting some RIFs are likely.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: CFPB issued RIFs for approximately 1,500 personnel, roughly 88% of its workforce on April 17, while announcing 50% cuts to its inspection operations of financial services companies. Employees were told they would be locked out by 6 p.m. on April 18 and would be separated from federal service by June 16, barring qualifications for other available positions. A federal judge on April 18 temporarily paused the RIFs at CFPB.

Defense Department: Defense plans to issue RIFs or use other incentives in the coming months to drive 5% to 8% of its civilian workforce, or as many as 61,000 employees, out of government. It initially planned to fire 5,400 probationary employees as part of those cuts.

FEATURED TOP STORY

DOGE-depleted public land agencies expect to lean more on private partners

'Quite honestly, we don't know what our organization is going to look like,' a U.S. Forest Service staffer said during a recent panel, underscoring continued uncertainty.



by Katie Klingsporn May 8, 2025



Shoshone National Forest hydrologist Gwen Gerber in 2023 leads Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality staffers Kelsey Hurshman, Ron Steg and Jillian Scott past Brooks Lake on a hike to Upper Brooks Lake, part of a years-long investigation into nutrient imbalances and seasonal algal blooms that plague the high-elevation watershed. (Mike Koshmrl/WyoFile)

FEATURED TOP STORY

DOGE-depleted public land agencies expect to lean more on private partners

'Quite honestly, we don't know what our organization is going to look like,' a U.S. Forest Service staffer said during a recent panel, underscoring continued uncertainty.

'Quite honestly, we don't know what our organization is going to look like,' a U.S. Forest Service staffer said during a recent panel, underscoring continued uncertainty.



Shoshone National Forest hydrologist Gwen Gerber in 2023 leads Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality staffers Kelsey Hurshman, Ron Steg and Jillian Scott past Brooks Lake on a hike to Upper Brooks Lake, part of a years-long investigation into nutrient imbalances and seasonal algal blooms that plague the high-elevation watershed. (Mike Koshmrl/WyoFile)

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

UtahStateUniversity

Institute of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism
Extension

QUICK LINKS MyUSU SEARCH

Who We Are Research Basecamp Night Skies GNAR Initiative Beyond the Trail

Sign Up

By Jordan W. Smith, Ph.D. | May 22, 2025



BEYOND THE TRAIL: The Science, Policy, and Business of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism

Federal Job Cuts and the New Landscape of Outdoor Recreation Management

Imagine arriving at your favorite national park and finding visitor centers shuttered, trails unmaintained, and the absence of knowledgeable staff to guide your experience. While this may sound extreme, current developments within the U.S. Department of the Interior have made this scenario increasingly plausible. Sweeping federal job cuts threaten not only the preservation of America's treasured public lands but also the future of outdoor recreation and tourism—industries essential to both local economies and national heritage.

Jordan W. Smith, Ph.D.

Director & Professor



Email: jordan.smith@usu.edu

Executive Orders and Reductions in Force (RIFs)

UtahStateUniversity

Institute of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism
Extension

QUICK LINKS MyUSU SEARCH

Who We Are Research Basecamp Night Skies GNAR Initiative Beyond the Trail

Sign Up

By Jordan W. Smith, Ph.D. | May 22, 2025

Jordan W. Smith, Ph.D.

Federal Job Cuts and the New Landscape of Outdoor Recreation Management



BEYOND THE TRAIL: The Science, Policy, and Business of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism

Federal Job Cuts and the New Landscape of Outdoor Recreation Management

Imagine arriving at your favorite national park and finding visitor centers shuttered, trails unmaintained, and the absence of knowledgeable staff to guide your experience. While this may sound extreme, current developments within the U.S. Department of the Interior have made this scenario increasingly plausible. Sweeping federal job cuts threaten not only the preservation of America's treasured public lands but also the future of outdoor recreation and tourism—industries essential to both local economies and national heritage.



Email: jordan.smith@usu.edu

Executive Orders and Reductions

Newsletters Account

TRAVEL | TAHOE

How one Calif. mountain town is filling a void created by federal cuts

As summer nears, Mammoth Lakes is stepping up to help the U.S. Forest Service



Trail workers employed by the town of Mammoth Lakes are supporting the U.S. Forest Service with additional trail maintenance this summer.

Trail workers employed by the town of Mammoth Lakes are supporting the U.S. Forest Service with additional trail maintenance this summer.
Courtesy of Mammoth Lakes

By **Julie Brown Davis**, Tahoe Editor
May 7, 2025





Trails maintained by the town of Mammoth Lakes lead into the forest.
Courtesy of Mammoth Lakes

For years, the town of Mammoth Lakes has worked hand in hand with the forest service, Reif said. The town has an office of outdoor recreation, which currently employs three full-time, year-round staff members, including Reif, plus 15-20 hosts and a trail crew. They clean bathrooms in the Mammoth Lakes Basin, a popular destination for camping and fishing. They engage with visitors at trailheads and campgrounds and maintain about 35 miles of trails. In the winter, they groom 90 miles of winter trails that lead into the forest.

But this summer, the town is stepping up in an even bigger way — going so far as to hire workers to do forest service jobs. The town is planning to hire two recreation technicians to replace lost forest service jobs. Town-hired trail crews are also preparing to take over maintenance work on wilderness trails that lead deep into the forest.

Federal Public Lands



Dear John,

A recent budget amendment in the House would allow public lands in Nevada and Utah to be sold—without public notice, environmental review, or community input. These lands include areas used for outdoor recreation, local business, and traditional uses.

Local officials opposed this move, but their concerns were ignored. It sets a dangerous precedent for how land is managed across the country—including near the Pacific Crest Trail.

At the same time, the budget proposed by the White House would cut funding for agencies like the National Park Service and Forest Service, weakening wildfire response, land stewardship, and trail maintenance. To learn more about the issue, we recently published a [blog post](#) explaining the danger of the lack of transparency for our public lands.

We all benefit from public lands. And we all deserve a say in how they're managed.

Tell Congress: Public lands decisions should be transparent and accountable → [Contact Your Senators](#)
→ [Contact Your Representatives](#)

Thank you for standing up for the places we all care about.

Public Urged To Report National Park Placards That Disparage Americans Or Detracts From Scenic Grandeur

By Kurt Repanshek

May 23, 2025



The Trump administration wants to remove from public lands placards and signage that disparage Americans past or living or which contain content that detracts from viewpoints of scenic grandeur/Kurt Repanshek file

Editor's note: This updates with Interior Department comments.

Interior Secretary Doug Burgum hopes to enlist the public in identifying interpretive materials in the National Park System that disparage Americans past or living or which contain content that detracts from viewpoints of scenic grandeur.



NATIONAL PARKS TRAVELER

Help support us— the one source for journalism dedicated to our National Parks.

[Donate Now!](#)

National Parks Traveler is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit.

INN Member



Partner Updates – In REVERSE Alphabetical Order

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

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

Thank You - !

Next Regular ESSRP Partner Meeting

Monday, July 7, 2025 @ 3:30