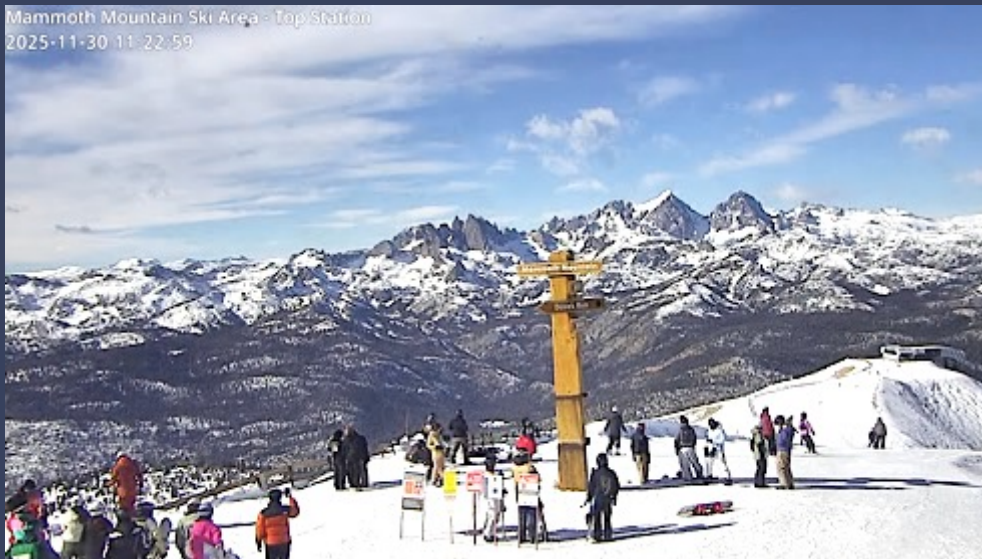




Winter



REGULAR PARTNER MEETING

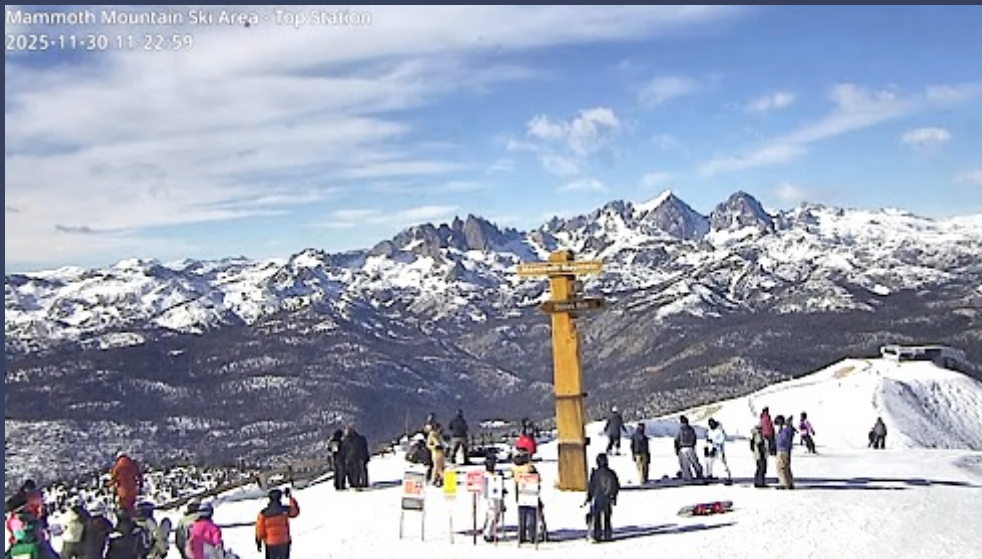


December 1, 2025





REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



December 1, 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.”

What is the ESSRP

Alpine

SIERRA WORKS

RECREATION & TOURISM PROJECTS IN THE SIERRAS

 CALIFORNIA
JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

 SIERRA FOCUS MEDIA
AND ASSOCIATES, LLC

 MLPA
MAMMOTH LAKE TRAIL & PUBLIC ACCESS



Sierra Jobs First

Recreation and Tourism Industry Sector

- Role of the ESSRP
 - Ongoing Information Sharing
 - SJF Recreation and Tourism Working Group Updates

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

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Sierra Jobs First

Recreation and Tourism Industry Sector

- Fourteen new Recreation and Tourism Industry Sector friends invited from the Westside

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

POLITICO

Congress | Inside Congress Live | Inside Congress newsletter | Government shutdown

The Senate hopes for a weekend shutdown miracle

Majority Leader John Thune is keeping senators in Washington for the first time amid the record shutdown. There's no guarantee it will work.



"We're here, and we'll see if something comes together we can vote on," Senate Majority Leader John Thune said Friday. Success, he added, "remains to be seen." | Francis Chung/POLITICO

By JORDAIN CARNEY, KATHERINE TULLY-MCMANUS and MEREDITH LEE HILL

11/07/2025 09:06 PM EST



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Executive

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Management

Government to reopen after House votes to end longest-ever shutdown

Many furloughed workers, who will receive backpay, were already told Wednesday to report to work the following day for the first time in nearly six weeks.

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

SHUTDOWN



ERIC KATZ
Senior Correspondent

Updated Nov. 13 at 8:13 a.m.

The federal government is set to reopen after being shut down for a record-setting 43 days after the House on Wednesday evening approved a bill to resume operations across agencies.

President Trump quickly signed the spending package into law, meaning agencies were set to open Thursday morning. Most agencies are now funded through January under the new stopgap continuing resolution, though the Veterans Affairs Department, Agriculture Department and legislative branch agencies are funded through September.

More than one million federal employees who worked or were furloughed during the shutdown without pay will soon begin receiving regular paychecks, as well as backpay for the checks they missed for the duration of the funding lapse. Around 650,000 furloughed workers are expected to quickly return to their offices and begin digging out from the piles of missed work during the shutdown, with most of those employees likely expected back first-thing Thursday. The funding deal guarantees those workers receive backpay despite the Trump administration threatening to flout a 2019 law that already required such retroactive compensation.

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

POLITICO

Both Nevada senators spurned their party. They were reading the room.

Once a Democratic stronghold, Nevada's shifting economy — and shrinking patience — are fueling a Republican revival.



Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) speaks with reporters on the way to a vote series on a continuing resolution at the U.S. Capitol on the 41st day of a government shutdown, Nov. 10, 2025. | Francis Chung/POLITICO via AP

By LIZ CRAMPTON, SAMUEL BENSON and NATALIE FERTIG
11/14/2025 05:00 AM EST



In breaking ranks to end the federal government shutdown this week, Nevada's two Democratic senators showcased the shifting politics of the once solidly blue state, home to a diverse, working-class population that relies heavily on tourism.

In the national battle for party expansion, Republicans have the edge in the Silver State.

Morgan Lewis



LAWFLASH

US GOVERNMENT REOPENS: WHAT TO KNOW

November 24, 2025

With the federal government reopening, US agencies are resuming operations while beginning to tackle the challenges created by the shutdown. This LawFlash provides a rundown of how government bodies are addressing these concerns in areas including contracts, healthcare, state, digital assets, labor, trade, environmental, security, and more.

The federal government reopened on November 13, following the passage of a continuing resolution and a three-bill FY26 "minibus" appropriations package. The negotiated end to the longest shutdown in US history will fund the government at current rates through January 30, 2026.

Notably, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), administered through the Department of Agriculture, is fully funded through September 30, 2026, thus alleviating many concerns for food, beverage, agricultural, and supply chain businesses.

Additionally, the legislation rescinds all federal government reductions in force that were imposed after September 30, 2025 and sets up a vote in the US Senate on the future of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium tax credit subsidies by mid-December.

As Congress spends the next several weeks on the remaining FY26 appropriations and other legislative priorities, such as the National Defense Authorization Act, agencies have resumed operations and are addressing backlogs and other challenges created by the shutdown.

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POLITICS

Proposition 50 passed in California. Here's what you missed

BY JEANNE KUANG AND MAYA C. MILLER
NOVEMBER 1, 2025

Republish



At North Laguna Library in Sacramento on Nov. 4, 2025. Photo by JungHo Kim for CalMatters

IN SUMMARY

California voters backed Gov. Gavin Newsom's plan to redraw congressional districts in favor of Democrats. It was a big night for him in his rivalry with President Donald Trump.


California voters on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved Gov. Gavin Newsom's measure that allowed the state to redraw its congressional map in favor of Democrats, pushing back against President Donald Trump's effort to hold onto a Republican-controlled Congress by urging redistricting in Texas.

Tuesday capped off a whirlwind, hyper-partisan two-and-a-half-month campaign for one of the most expensive ballot measures in state history. Supporters poured more than \$120 million into Newsom's committee supporting the measure. Opponents raised just \$44 million. Outside groups spent \$27 million to try to sway the vote.

THE BEE CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS


Reps. Bera and Kiley will battle in a Sacramento-area showdown for House seat

By David Lightman
Updated November 4, 2025 9:06 PM



Rep. Ami Bera, who was attending a watch party in Sacramento, answers questions on election night, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025, about Proposition 50 and other national races. By JOSÉ LUIS VILLEGAS

WASHINGTON

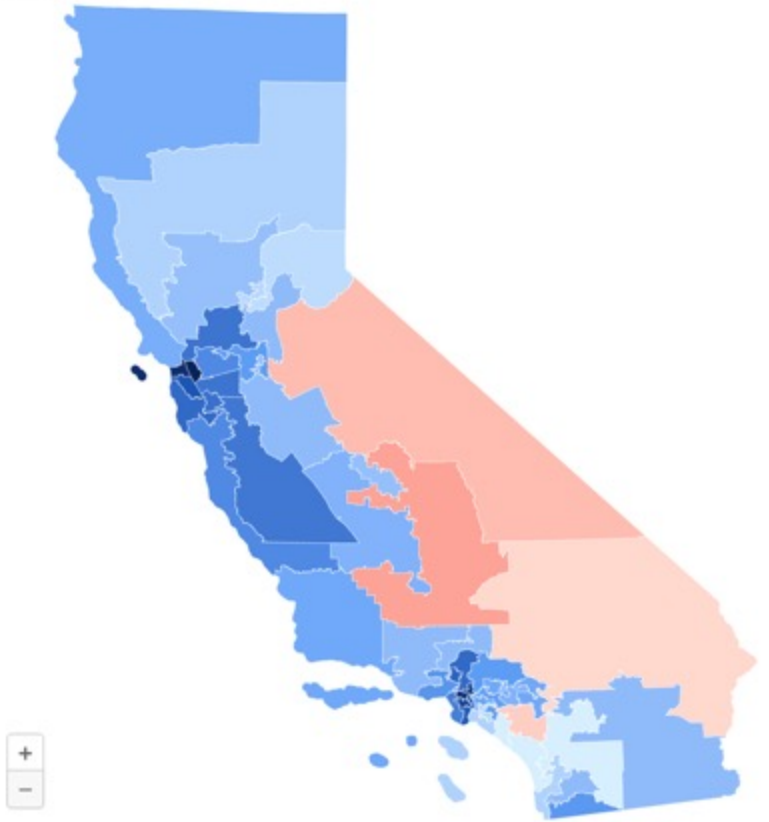
 **Listen to this article**

Rep. Ami Bera said Tuesday he'll challenge Rep. Kevin Kiley in a Sacramento-area district whose lines are being redrawn to give Bera an advantage.

California's proposal for new congressional districts

These are the 52 new districts contained within Prop 50, which is on the ballot for the 2025 midterms. Democrats hope to gain five seats in Congress if the newly drawn maps are approved.

See versions of this map for California's current congressional districts and who won each district in the 2024 House elections.



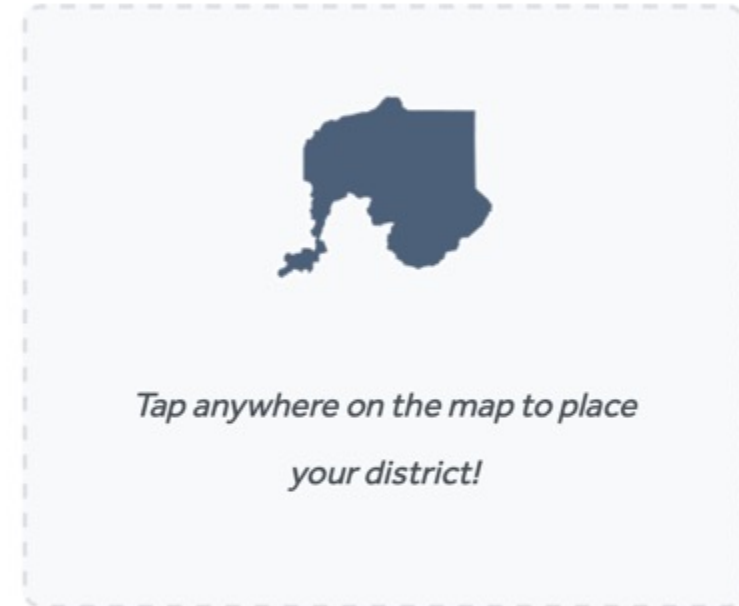
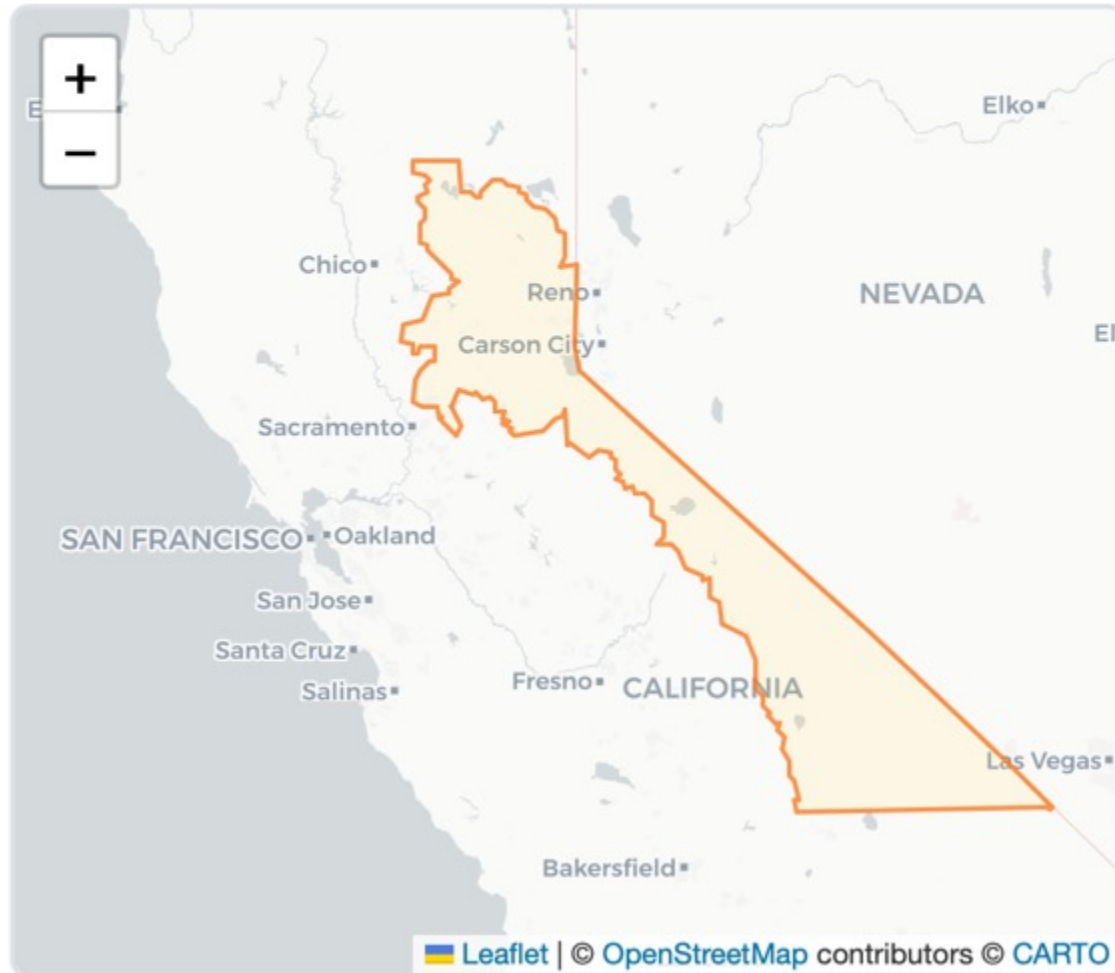
Map: Nicki Camberg/Get the Facts Data Team • Source: [California State Assembly, Redistricting Partners](#)



Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

District 3

The redrawn District 3 would include parts of Democratic-leaning Sacramento County and removes a large swath of the Eastern Sierra.



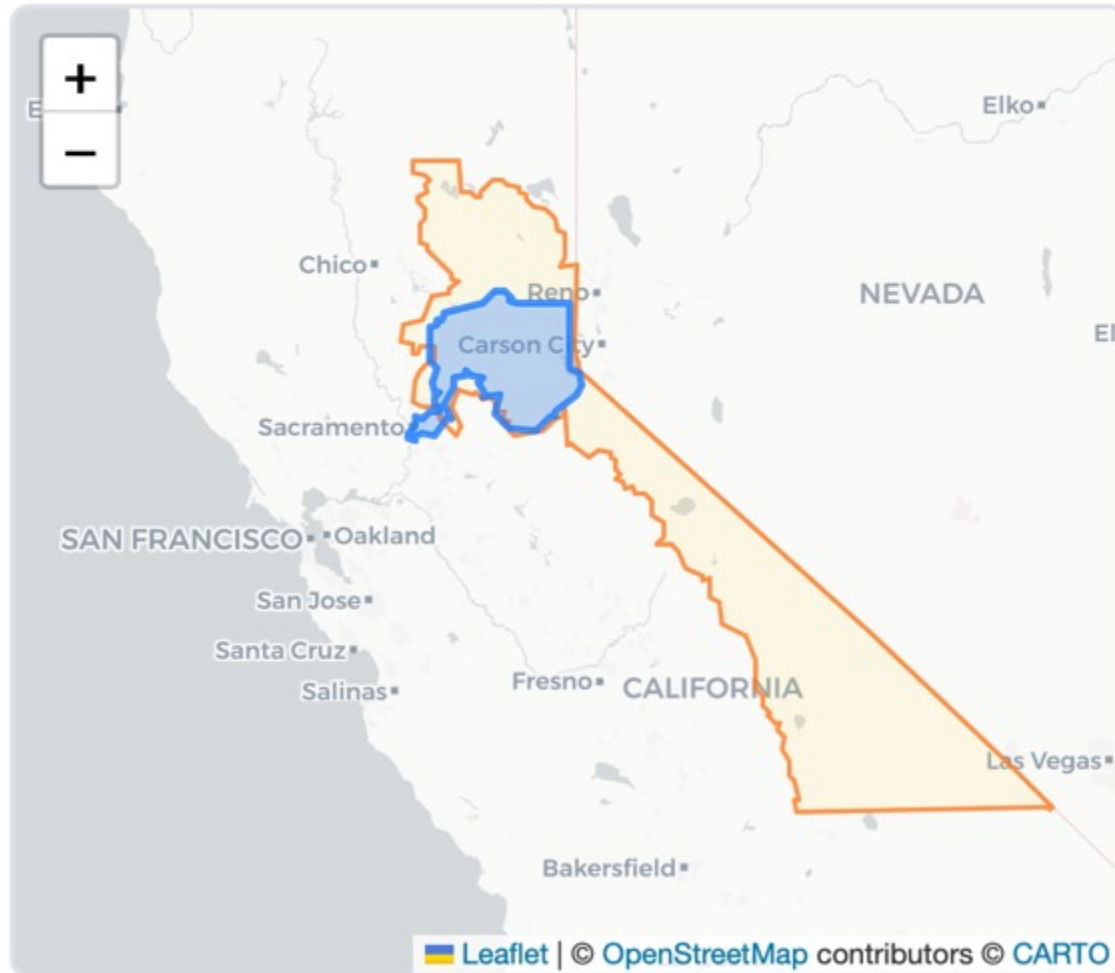
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Clear Map

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

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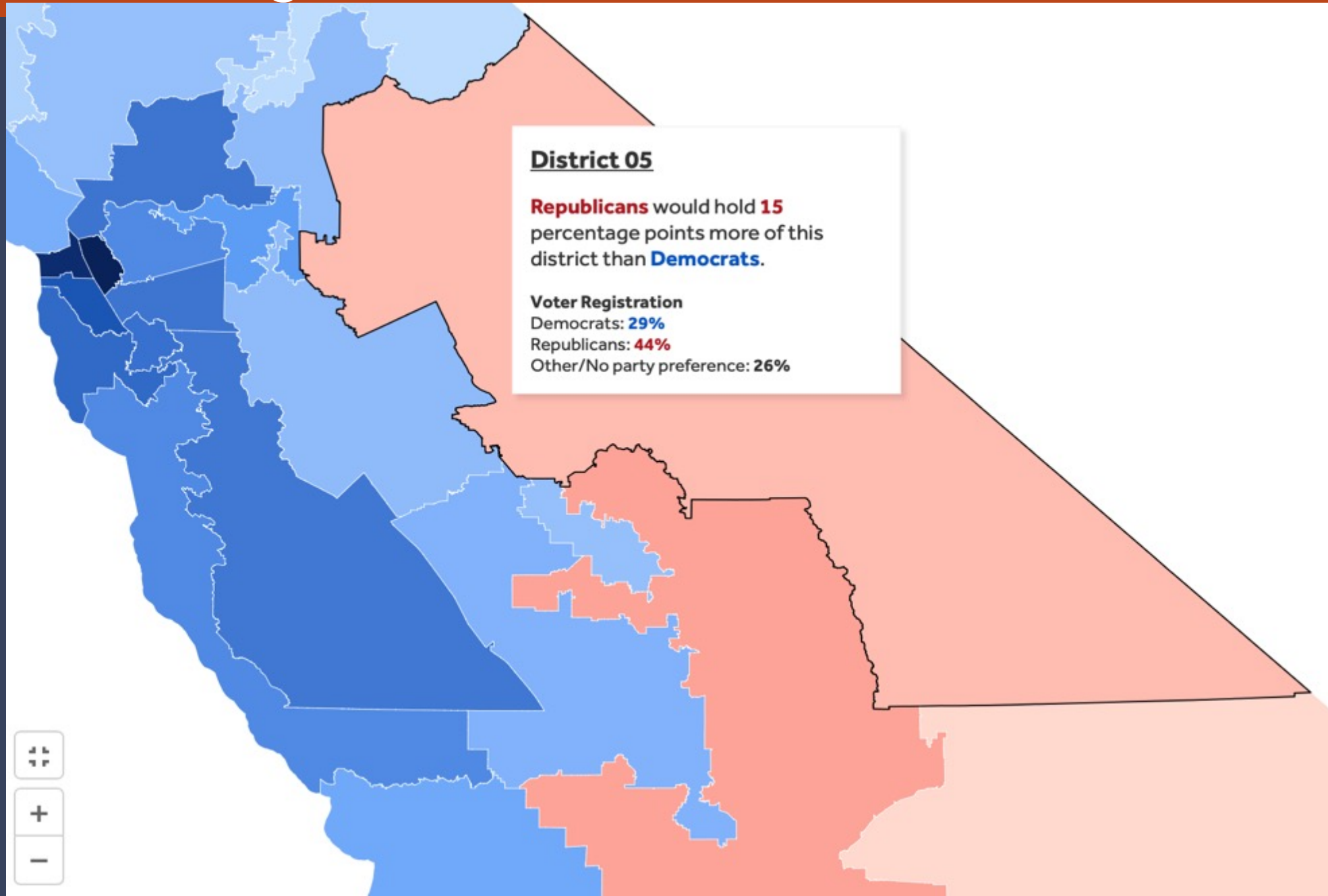


*1 district shape(s) placed. Click
"Check Results" to see how you
did!*

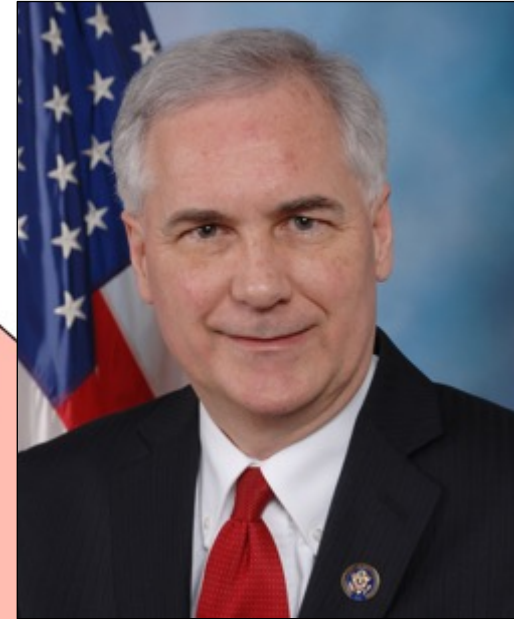
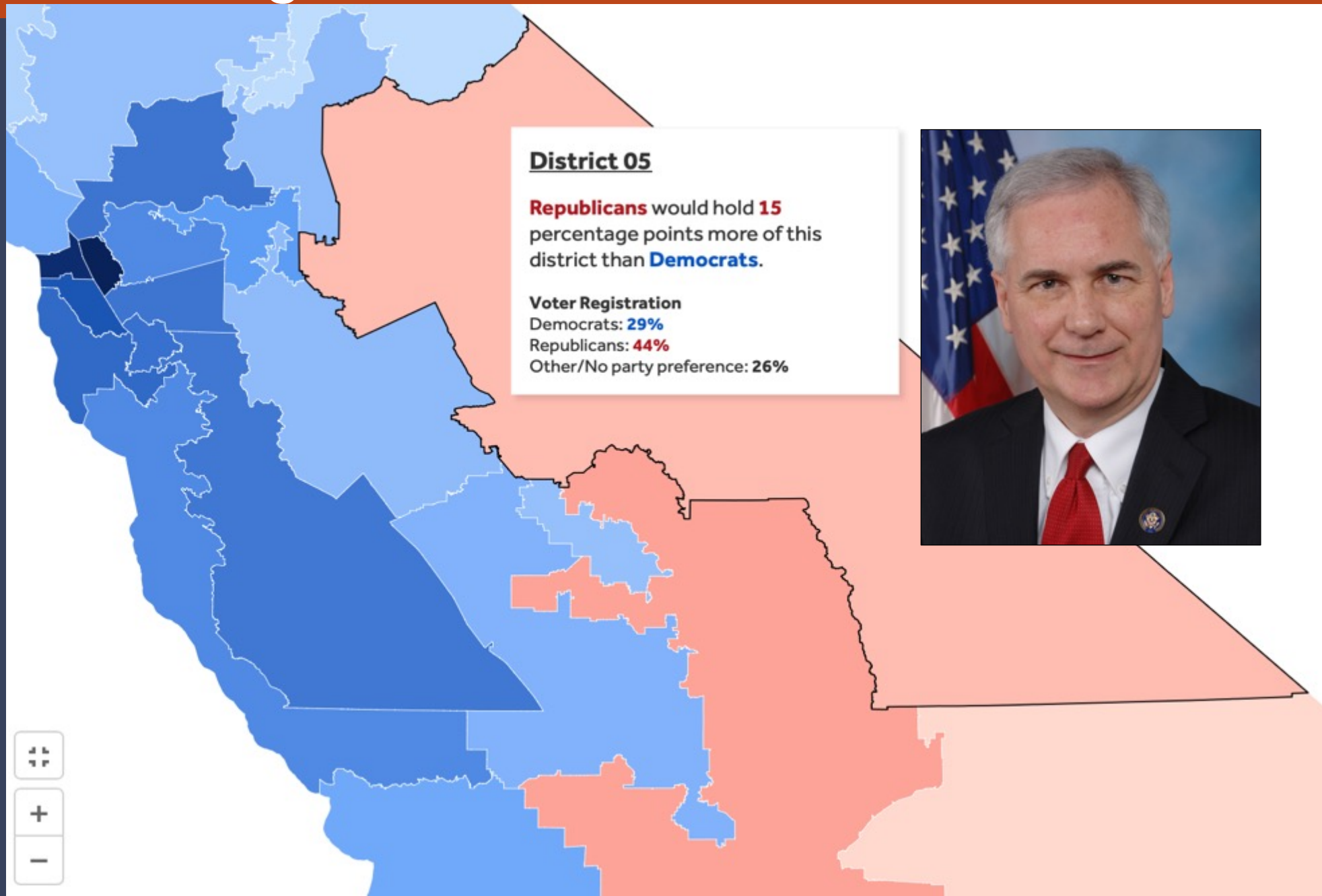
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[Clear Map](#)

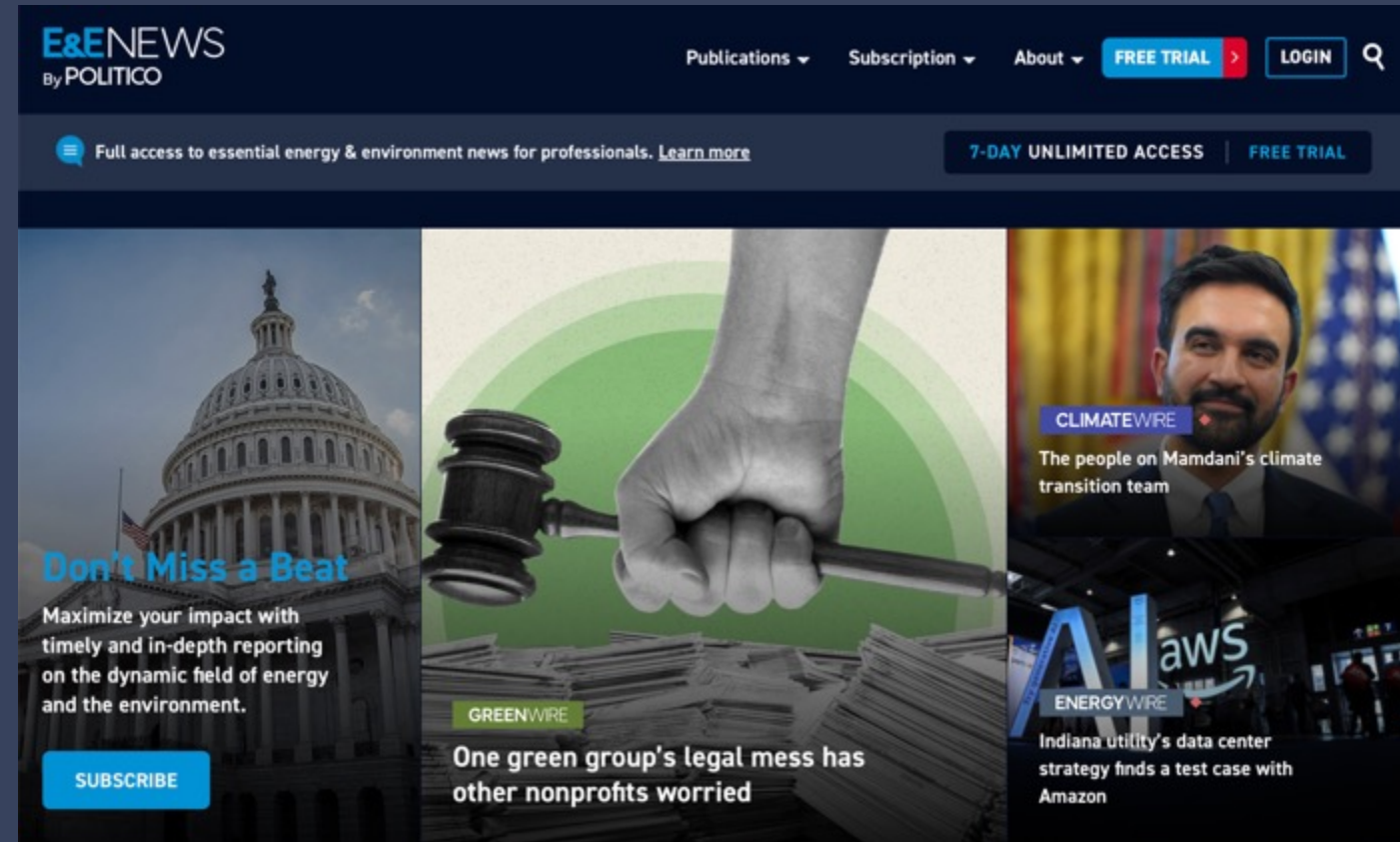
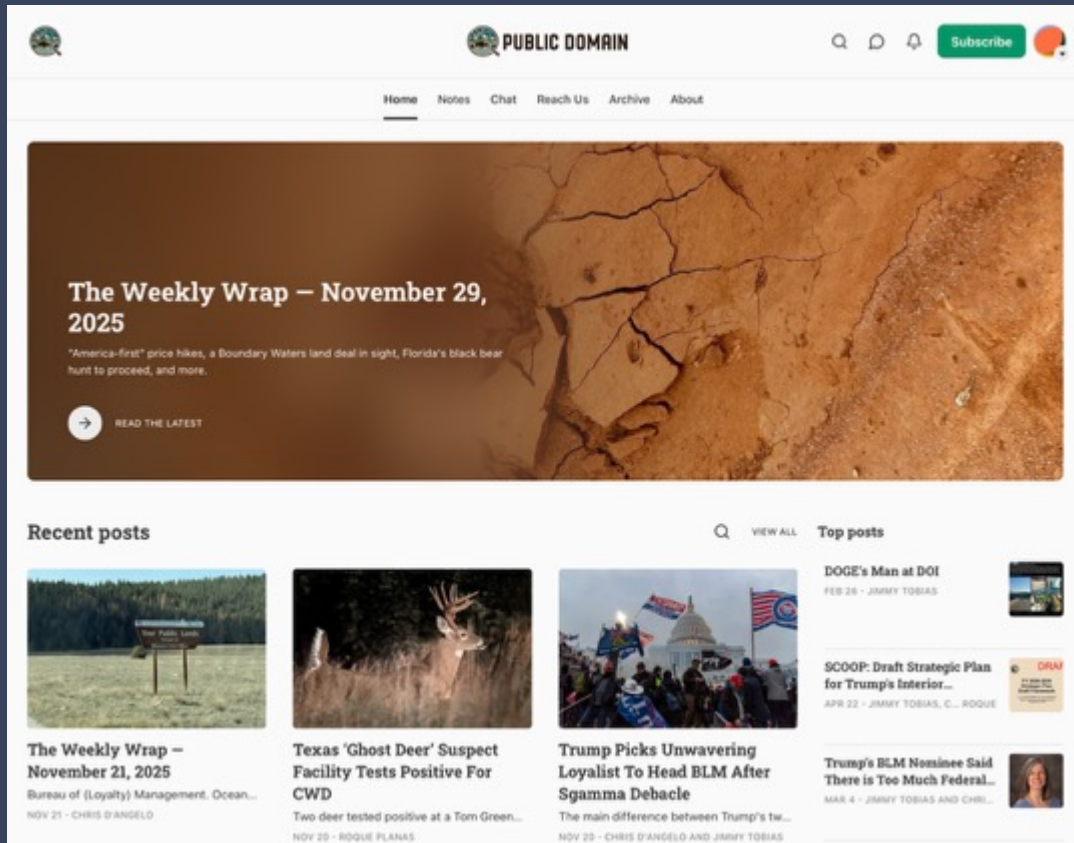
Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



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Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

November 26, 2025 by Sharon



Tree-based pie...American persimmon pie w/ chestnut flour crust & maple whipped cream

Wes Siler's Newsletter



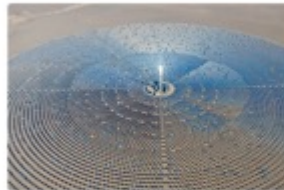
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DOGE Just Took Over National Parks
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Outside Just Fired Me Because Of My Politics
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Lee, Daines Up Public Land Sell Off To 258 Million...
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186 49 105

Elon Musk's DOGE Sowing Chaos In National Park...
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Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

THE MOUNTAIN PACT

THE MOUNTAIN PACT NEWS

180 Western Leaders Urge Trump Administration to Abandon Push to Gut BLM Public Lands Rule

"Our communities are asking for a more balanced approach to land management that reflects the full range of ways people live, work, and recreate on these lands."

On November 6, 2025, 180 elected mountain community leaders from across the West urged the Trump Administration to abandon its shortsighted push to roll back the Public Lands Rule - a [critical rule](#) the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) finalized last year that balanced stewardship on public lands by putting conservation on equal footing with other uses of BLM land like energy development, livestock grazing and recreation.

OUTDOOR ALLIANCE
CONSERVATION POWERED BY OUTDOOR RECREATION

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Outdoor Alliance Testifies in Front of Congress About the Value of Outdoor Recreation on BLM Lands

Outdoor Alliance's CEO, Adam Cramer, testified in front of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee about the value of outdoor recreation and the importance of the land use planning process at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

[Read More →](#)

Public Lands and Waters Deserve Real Funding

After a year of record staffing losses and the longest shutdown in history, public lands need stable, full-year funding.

[Read More →](#)

Outdoor Alliance Welcomes Charles Cooper to the Board of Directors

An interview with Charles Cooper, one of the newest members of Outdoor Alliance's Board of Directors.

[Read More →](#)

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Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



States must modernize stream crossing standards to protect communities from flooding

More than half of the culverts protecting roads from flooding in the United States do not meet modern design standards, endangering communities and local economies. New standards and replacement programs must be adopted.

[Read more](#)

"Aquatic Stream Crossing" by Brent Powell with elements generated by Im

Rural Economy

Wildfire

Flooding

Outdoor Recreation

Public Lands

Tools

Assisting communities



FIELDNOTES:

A LOOK INTO THE INNER-WORKINGS OF HEADWATERS ECONOMICS.

Easily find data to compare rural and metro areas

Curious how your state's rural and metropolitan areas compare? The [Economic Profile System](#) makes it easy. Search for your state, click "add more places" on the map, then choose "metro/rural portion"

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

Outdoor Recreation

Access to trails and outdoor recreation is an important part of local economies, attracting businesses and drawing in new residents and visitors. Our research analyzes the scope and scale of the outdoor recreation economy and how communities can benefit from trails and other natural amenities.

Featured research



Building disaster preparedness in the outdoor recreation economy

As floods and wildfires grow more damaging, recreation leaders and emergency managers must team up to protect visitors, economies, and the landscapes we love.



Future-proofing the outdoor recreation economy

Many outdoor recreation communities face outsized wildfire and flood risks. They must prioritize updating infrastructure, community planning, and emergency response.

Outdoor Recreation Research

Our outdoor recreation program produces original research and data analysis that helps communities leverage their natural amenities to diversify their economies. We help community leaders make the case for improved public lands access, bring advanced data methods into land management decisions, and balance the growing pains that many communities face as they attract new visitors and

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

Public Lands

Protected federal lands—such as wilderness, national parks, or national monuments—are important economic assets that attract people and businesses, as well as new jobs and income. Our research helps communities understand the benefits of nearby public lands.

Featured research



National public lands are vital to local economies

The growing connection between livelihoods and public lands calls for more investments in public access, preserving ecosystems, and minimizing privatization.



Housing on public lands will be limited by wildfire risk and development challenges

Federal public lands may offer opportunities to improve housing affordability in a limited number of states, but will face significant barriers from wildfire risk, water availability, and conflicts with existing resource or recreation uses.

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[Contact us](#)

Public Lands

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Featured research



National public lands are vital to local economies

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Housing on public lands will be limited by wildfire development challenges

Federal public lands may offer opportunities to increase housing affordability in a limited number of states, but wildfire risk, water availability, and conflicts with existing resource or recreation uses are significant barriers.

Senate panel sets long-awaited hearing on public land, wildfire bills

The Energy and Natural Resources Committee had postponed the hearing because of the government shutdown.

BY: GARRETT DOWNS | 12/01/2025 06:40 AM EST



A panel lead by Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) will hold a hearing for several bills, including his "Wildfire Prevention Act." | Mark Schiefelbein/AP

E&E DAILY | A Senate Energy and Natural Resources subcommittee will weigh a list of public land and wildfire bills Tuesday after the federal shutdown thwarted a previous effort to hold a hearing on the legislation.

The Public Lands, Forests and Mining Subcommittee — led by Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) — will consider [more than two dozen](#) proposals from both sides of the aisle.

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Mammoth Community Foundation

Fire Relief for the Pack Fire - McGee Creek



Firefighters strengthen containment around Pack Fire

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



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Mammoth Community Foundation

Fire Relief for the Pack Fire - McGee Creek

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to Donate: Pack Fire FUND

Please contact us if you have been impacted by the Pack Fire.

If you have been affected by the Pack Fire — or if you know someone who has — **please email** the Mammoth Community Foundation (info@mammothlakeschamber.org) with **your contact information**. We are compiling a confidential list to ensure every impacted household receives the support they need.

Please email the following: your full name, cell phone number, physical and mailing addresses, and the number of adults and children in your household. (info@mammothlakeschamber.org)

The Foundation also has additional resources available specifically for affected households that will not be posted on this public webpage.

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

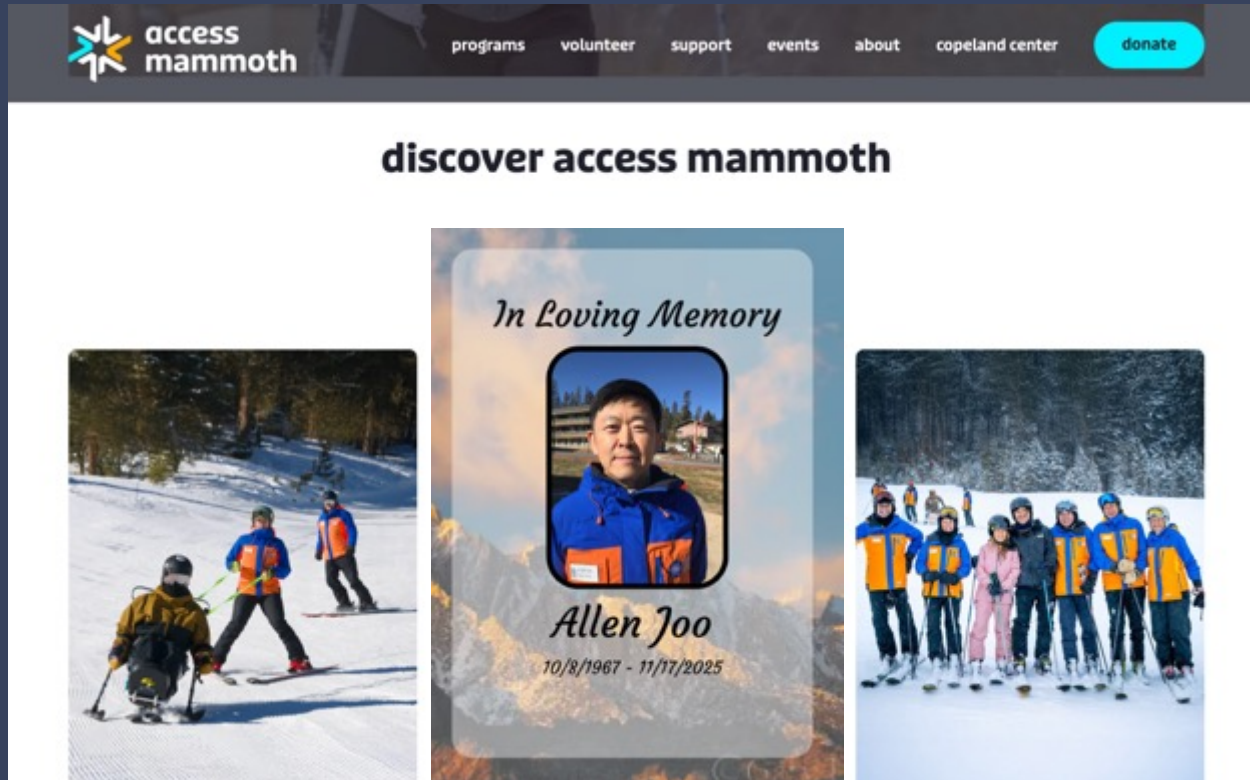


Visit Mammoth

John Urdi – *Executive Director*

- Leaving to become the President & CEO at Visit Huntington Beach
- Relaxed farewell gathering at Bar Sierra on Thursday, December 11th from 5:00-8:00 PM

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Access Mammoth

Allen Joo 10/8/1967 - 11/17/2025

- Board Member
- Longtime Volunteer Instructor
- A friend to everyone

Hot Links December 1, 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
- Sierra Works
 - Sierra Works: Discover
- Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells
 - Government Shutdown Ends
 - Welcome Back Federal Partners
 - The Senate hopes for a weekend shutdown miracle
 - Government to reopen after House votes to end longest-ever shutdown
 - Both Nevada senators spurned their party. They were reading the room.
 - US Government Reopens: What To Know
- Election Day 2025
 - Welcome New Congressional Districts



Happenings of Interest for Eastern Sierra Recreation

Happenings of Interest

[Home](#) > Department of The Interior Announces Modernized...

Department of the Interior Announces Modernized, More Affordable National Park Access

Share

New digital passes, new annual pass artwork, America-first pricing and expanded motorcycle access launch under President Trump's leadership

11/25/2025

Last edited 11/25/2025

Contact Information Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

WASHINGTON – The Department of the Interior today announced the most significant modernization of national park access in decades, delivering new digital America the Beautiful passes, updated annual pass artwork, expanded motorcycle access and a new resident-focused fee structure that puts American families first. These improvements, launching on Jan. 1, 2026, reflect President Donald J. Trump's commitment to making national parks more accessible, more affordable and more efficient for the American people.

Under the new system, the America the Beautiful passes – including Annual, Military, Senior, 4th Grade and Access – will be available in a fully digital format through Recreation.gov. Visitors will be able to purchase and use their passes instantly, store them on mobile devices and link them to physical cards for added convenience. Digital validation tools and updated training for field staff will ensure faster entry and a smoother visitor experience across the National Park System.

"President Trump's leadership always puts American families first," said **Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum**.

"These policies ensure that U.S. taxpayers, who already support the National Park System, continue to enjoy affordable access, while international visitors contribute their fair share to maintaining and improving our parks for future generations."

E&E NEWS PM

 [Gift article](#) 

NPS to hike fees for international visitors, launch digital passes

The national parks will also be free next year to residents on eight holidays, including President Donald Trump's birthday.



BY: **HEATHER RICHARDS** | 11/25/2025 04:03 PM EST



A park ranger passes out park information to visitors at the entrance to Zion National Park on Oct. 12, 2013, in Springdale, Utah. | David Becker/Getty Images

E&E NEWS PM | The Trump administration will begin its plan to increase national park fees for international visitors starting next year, the Interior Department announced Tuesday.

Interior said the America the Beautiful annual pass will continue to cost \$80 for U.S. residents, while nonresidents next year will have to pay \$250. The pass allows access to national parks across the country over a year.

Happenings of Interest

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US federal government shutdown 2025

National parks facing 'nightmare' under Trump, warns ex-director of service

Jonathan Jarvis, who led the agency from 2009 to 2017, laid out the dire consequences of not closing parks in shutdown



People gathered at Glacier Point at Yosemite national park on 25 October 2025. Photograph: Frederic J Brown/AFP/Getty Images

Callum Jones

Fri 14 Nov 2025 09:00 EST

Share

Americans should "raise hell" to protect US national parks through the "nightmare" of Donald Trump's presidency, according to a former National Park Service director, amid alarm over the impact of the federal government shutdown.

Jonathan Jarvis claimed the agency was now in the hands of a "bunch of ideologues" who would have no issue watching it "go down in flames" - and see parks from Yellowstone to Yosemite as potential "cash cows", ripe for privatization.

SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD

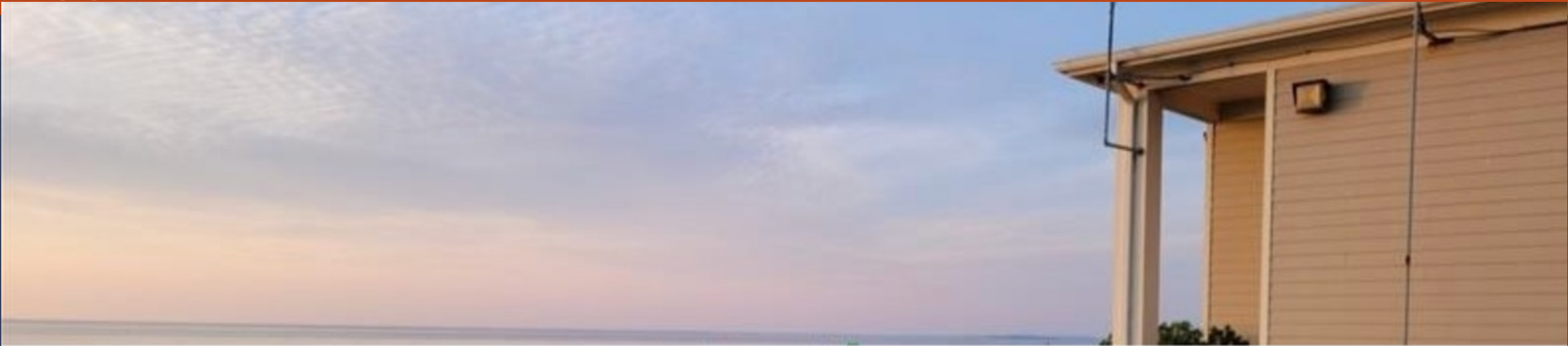
Account



An image of an annual park pass for national parks.

U.S. Department of the Interior/Getty Images/Illustration by SFGATE

Happenings of Interest



Using Existing NPS Global Navigation Satellite Systems Stations to Determine Water Levels in Parks

Details

When GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems) sensors have an unobstructed view of a water surface, they pick up signals that come straight from satellites and signals that bounce off the water. By comparing the travel times of these two signals, we can estimate the height of the water. With enough high-quality data collected over time, we can track how those water heights change.

To do this, we identify the areas where each sensor is likely to receive reflected signals. We've built a system that can process both archived GNSS data and new data on the same day it's recorded, allowing us to update water-height estimates in near real time. In places without tide gauges, this method offers valuable insight into water levels and how they rise and fall throughout the day. Here, we show how the system works and share examples from various NPS stations.

[Register](#)



Thu, Dec 11



12:00 PM - 1:00 PM PST



Online event

RecReady^{NH}

Your community is your canvas. Create outdoor adventure with Rec Ready NH.

This guidebook will help spark ideas, rally community and demystify the process. From a trail renovation to a new master plan, the possibilities are endless.

RecReady^{NH}

Choose Your Path

Rec Ready NH helps you build your outdoor recreation project, providing 21 practical tools to get the job done.

Browse these tools step by step or by project type:

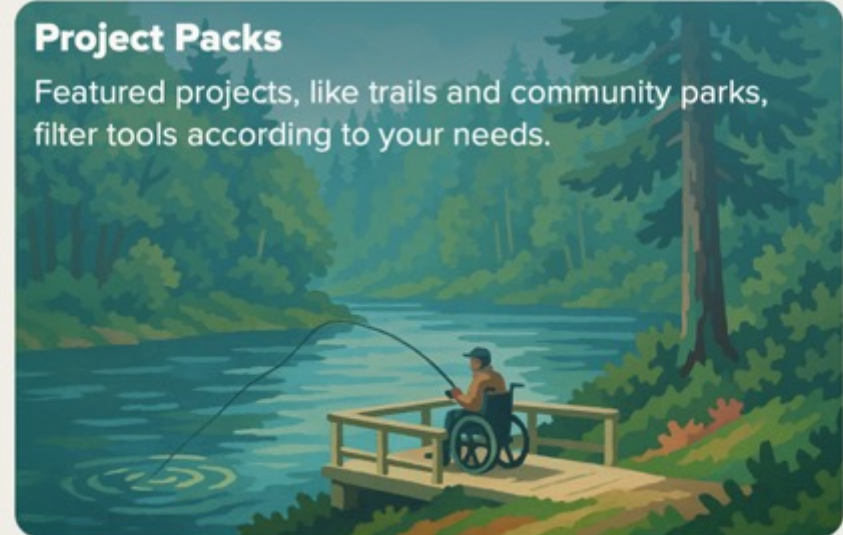
Step-by-Step Guide

Six instructional modules, organized by phase, walk you through the process from start to finish.

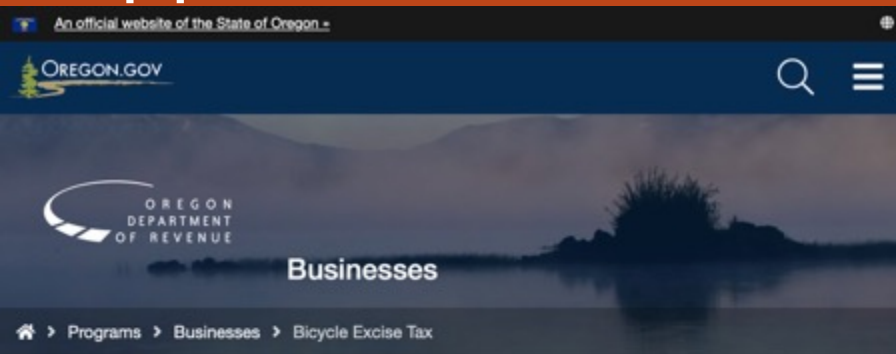


Project Packs

Featured projects, like trails and community parks, filter tools according to your needs.



Happenings of Interest



Bicycle Excise Tax

About Bicycle Excise Tax

The Oregon Bicycle Excise tax was established by the Legislature in 2017. The Bicycle Excise Tax is a flat tax of \$15, to be collected at the point of sale. Revenue from the bicycle excise tax goes into the Connect Oregon Fund to provide grants for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects.

Which bicycles are taxable?

The tax is applied to the purchase of each new bicycle that meets **all** the following criteria:

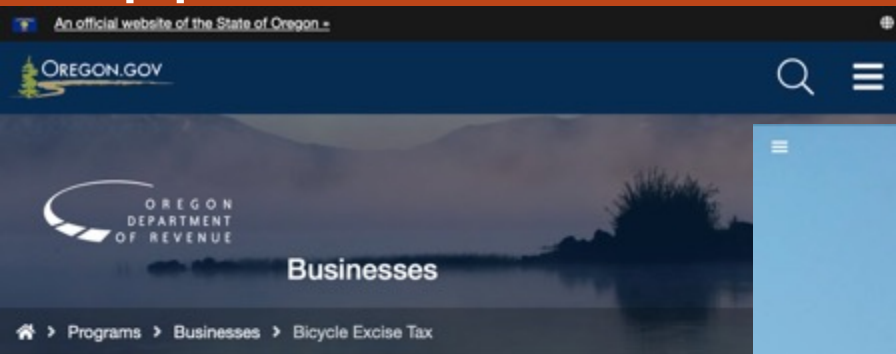
- Is exclusively human powered or is electric-assisted;
- Is new or not previously owned by a consumer;
- The retail sales price is \$200 or more.

In 2019, the Legislature clarified that bicycle does not include: carts, durable medical equipment, in-line skates, roller skates, skateboards, stand-up scooters, strollers designed for the transportation of children, trailer cycles, or other bicycle attachments or wagons.

What else do I need to know as a retailer?

- If you're in the business of selling bicycles to consumers in Oregon—in-store or online—you're responsible for collecting the tax from your customers.
- You must register with us before your first return and payment are due. See the "Registrations" section below for more information.
- You must provide your customers with an invoice, receipt, or other similar proof-of-sale documentation with a separate line showing the tax they paid.
- Returns and payments are due quarterly. See Returns and Payments below for more details.
- Keep your records on taxable sales for five years.
- There's no exemption for taxable bicycles sold to nonprofit organizations or state agencies; however, those sold to federal entities are exempt.

Happenings of Interest



Bicycle Excise Tax

About Bicycle Excise Tax

The Oregon Bicycle Excise tax was established by the Legislature in 2017. The Bicycle Excise is a flat tax of \$15, to be collected at the point of sale. Revenue from the bicycle excise is deposited into the Connect Oregon Fund to provide grants for bicycle and pedestrian transportation.

Which bicycles are taxable?

The tax is applied to the purchase of each new bicycle that meets **all** the following criteria:

- Is exclusively human powered or is electric-assisted;
- Is new or not previously owned by a consumer;
- The retail sales price is \$200 or more.

In 2019, the Legislature clarified that bicycle does not include: carts, durable medical equipment, line skates, roller skates, skateboards, stand-up scooters, strollers designed for the use of children, trailer cycles, or other bicycle attachments or wagons.

What else do I need to know as a retailer?

- If you're in the business of selling bicycles to consumers in Oregon—in-store or online—you are responsible for collecting the tax from your customers.
- You must register with us before your first return and payment are due. See the section below for more information.
- You must provide your customers with an invoice, receipt, or other similar proof of documentation with a separate line showing the tax they paid.
- Returns and payments are due quarterly. See Returns and Payments below for more information.
- Keep your records on taxable sales for five years.
- There's no exemption for taxable bicycles sold to nonprofit organizations or state agencies; however, those sold to federal entities are exempt.



The Shocking Crash That Led One County to Reckon With the Dangers of E-Bikes

Unregulated e-bikes are a growing danger on American streets. In one Bay Area town, a terrible accident finally led to reform.

Listen to this article · 32:47 min [Learn more](#)

[Share full article](#) [1.2K](#)

By David Darlington

David Darlington is a lifelong cyclist who has received a National Magazine Award for public interest for a previous article on traffic laws and bike safety.

Nov. 30, 2025

In September 2023, Amelia Stafford was 15 and beginning her sophomore year at Terra Linda High School in eastern Marin County, Calif. An honor student who loved reading, played the trumpet, did well at science and aspired to work for NASA, Amelia often rode her bike to school. Both of her parents — Monica, who works for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and Scot, an Emmy-winning composer and a founder of the Pollen Music Group — have histories as cyclists: He grew up riding to school in San Francisco, and she commuted to her job on her bicycle across the Golden Gate Bridge. “It was very important to me that my kids grow up learning how to ride bikes,” Scot says.

Happenings of Interest

Travel > News and Analysis

The Fastest Growing Mountain Towns in America

The mountain states of America hold within them some of the fastest growing towns in the country. Here they are.

1

8

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Leavenworth, Washington at Christmas (Photo: Getty)

- Leavenworth, Washington
- Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- Kalispell, Montana
- Alpine, Wyoming
- Sundance, Utah
- Mesquite, Nevada
- Paradise, California
- Elizabeth, Colorado
- Show Low, Arizona
- Barton, New Mexico

HighCountryNews



Welcome to the *Landline*, a monthly newsletter from *High Country News* about land, water, wildlife, climate and conservation in the Western United States.

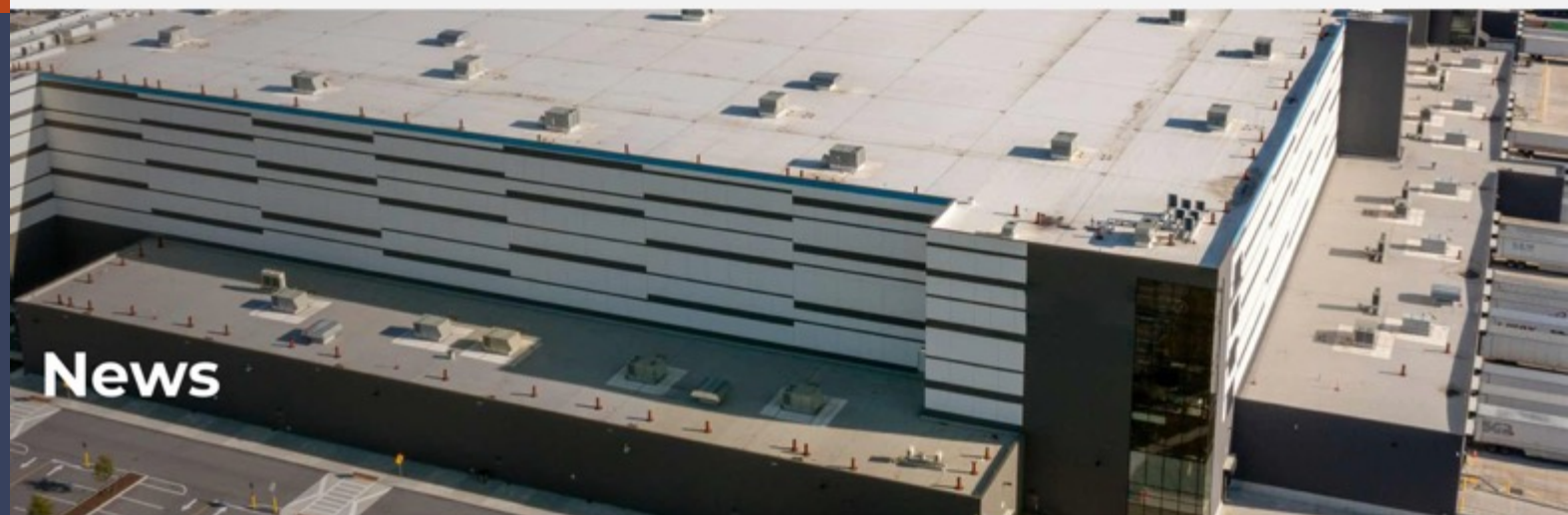
NOVEMBER 26, 2025

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON

The big data center buildup

An AI server farm tsunami threatens to overwhelm the West's power grid and water supplies.

In early November, Texas-based New Era Energy & Digital announced plans to build a "hyperscale," meaning massive, **AI-processing data center complex** in Lea County, New Mexico, the epicenter of the Permian Basin oil and gas drilling boom. The campus will be so big, and use so much power, that, if and when it is built, it will come with its own nuclear and gas power plants, with a mind-blowing combined generation capacity of about 7 gigawatts. That's like piling the West's largest nuclear and natural gas plants — Palo Verde and Gila River, both near Phoenix — on top of one another, and then adding another 800 megawatts. That kind of

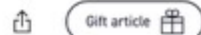


New Era Energy & Digital Enters into Land Option Purchase Agreement for 3,500 Acres in New Mexico for 7GW AI Data Center Hub; Marks first Wholly Owned Development, Separate from TCDC Joint Venture

MIDLAND, Texas—November 6, 2025. New Era Energy & Digital, Inc. (Nasdaq: NUAL) ("New Era" or the "Company"), a developer and operator of next-generation digital infrastructure and integrated power assets, today announced it has entered into a land option purchase agreement for approximately 3,500 acres in Lea County, New Mexico for the development of a large-scale AI data center campus. If completed, this strategic initiative will transform the site into a multi-gigawatt AI hub, featuring more than 2 gigawatts (GW) of natural gas generation and a planned 5+ GW nuclear installation, positioning New Mexico as a key participant in the global AI infrastructure ecosystem. Initial power delivery is expected in 2028.

Happenings of Interest

ENERGYWIRE



Litigators build toolkit to fight AI data centers

The Trump administration's plans to advance data centers and the energy to support them are sparking a legal backlash.



BY: NIINA H. FARAH | 12/01/2025 07:25 AM EST



Illustration by Claudine Hellmuth/POLITICO (source images via Getty and iStock)

ENERGYWIRE | Critics of data centers that power artificial intelligence are writing a playbook for challenging the energy-hungry facilities in court.

So far, opposition to data centers is largely taking place outside the courtroom. But critics are eyeing potential legal challenges over encroachment on state powers and disturbances to vulnerable species.

ENERGYWIRE



Data center boom may need 36% more power than previously thought

The findings from BloombergNEF include 140 data center projects announced in just the past few months.



BY: CHRISTA MARSHALL | 12/01/2025 07:24 AM EST

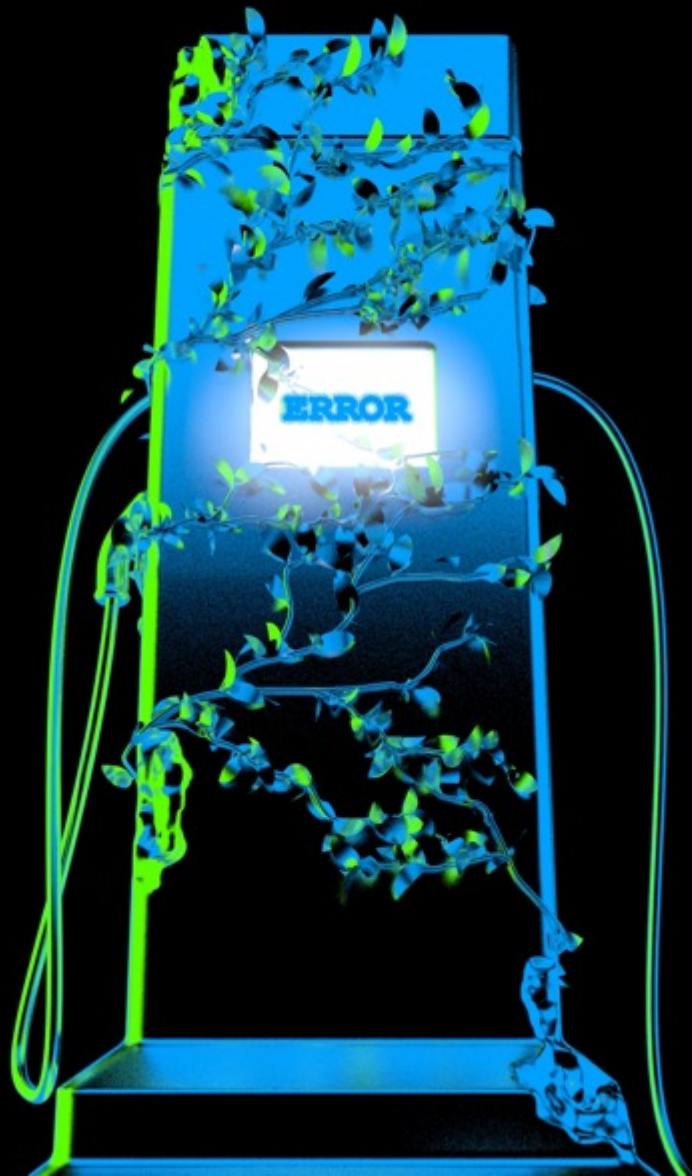


An Amazon Web Services data center is shown situated near single-family homes on July 17, 2024, in Stone Ridge, Virginia. | Nathan Howard/Getty Images

ENERGYWIRE | Electricity demand from U.S. data centers is projected to be 36 percent higher over the next decade than forecast a few months ago, signaling how quickly the industry is changing amid the artificial intelligence boom, according to a new report.

Why Trump Couldn't Stop the Electric Vehicle Dream

We never got those promised EV chargers — but we did get a future for EVs.



Unbiased. Straight Facts.

News Media Miss Video Podcasts

U.S.

USDA backing Washington ranchers in standoff with state authorities

Nov 08, 2025 at 09:00 AM PST

[Cole Lauterbach](#) (Managing Editor)



Image credit: Courtesy of the King family

05:07 min listen



Summary

Federal intervention:

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins has announced plans to intervene on behalf of ranchers in Washington state who are under criminal investigation for their use of public lands.

Legal dispute:

The Washington Department of Ecology has fined King Ranch nearly \$268,000 for 23 alleged illegal excavations of protected wetlands and ordered the ranch to restore damaged areas.

Wetland protection:

Alkali wetlands are rare in Washington and considered important for local wildlife, according to the Department of Ecology.

Why this story matters

A dispute between a Washington state ranch and regulators over alleged damage to protected wetlands has drawn the attention of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, raising questions about state and federal roles in land management and environmental enforcement affecting farmers and ranchers.

Federal intervention

The involvement of U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins highlights tension between state and federal authorities and may influence how similar disputes are resolved in the future.

Environmental regulation

The conflict centers on alleged violations of environmental protections for rare wetlands, illustrating ongoing debates about responsible stewardship, land use, and enforcement actions.

Agricultural livelihoods

Impacts on the King Ranch family underscore broader concerns facing ranchers and farmers about their ability to operate under increasing regulatory scrutiny and potential legal and financial consequences.

Happenings of Interest

The New York Times

Account ▾

The Sierra Club Embraced Social Justice. Then It Tore Itself Apart.

The environmental group gave up its singular focus on climate change for a broader agenda. The ensuing internal strife left it weakened as it takes on the Trump administration.



Happenings of Interest

The New York Times

OPINION
GUEST ESSAY

The Salmon That Surprised Everyone

Nov. 29, 2025



singletracks

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Connected Communities completes first town-to-town singletrack link in California's Sierra Nevada

California's ambitious Connected Communities project has completed its first town-to-town singletrack connection, linking Quincy and Taylorsville with 13.5 miles of trail.

By [Greg Heil](#)

November 24, 2025

[4 comments](#)

Singletracks may receive compensation for purchases made through any affiliate links in this article.



Happenings of Interest

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

NEWS SPORTS POLITICS RESTAURANTS OPINION GAMES OBITUARIES FINANCE CLASSIFIEDS CAREERS GUIDES

LOCAL

Exclusive: California kills 4 wolves, removes pack after Sierra cattle attacks

By Sharon Bernstein

Updated October 24, 2025 9:58 AM



Paul Roen, a rancher and Sierra County Supervisor, talks on Sept. 12, 2025, about the impact of wolves on cattle in the Sierra Valley area, despite efforts by federal and state agencies to deter them from approaching livestock. By RENÉE C. BYER

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

U.S. & WORLD // CALIFORNIA

A dramatic stretch of desert is being proposed as California's next national monument

By Kurtis Alexander, Staff Writer

Nov 23, 2025

Gift Article



Ancient Lake Tecopa, with Tecopa Peak in the background, would be part of a proposed Amargosa Basin National Monument in the Mojave Desert. Bob Wick/Friends of the Amargosa Basin

Happenings of Interest

LOS ANGELES Follow +

The bold plan would've ringed Los Angeles with parks. Elites killed it.

The quiet death of a 95-year-old dream



A hiker walks on a path through lush greenery in Angeles National Forest in California.
Ekaterina Chizhevskaya/Getty Images

By **Erin Rode**, Contributing LA Outdoors Editor
Nov 19, 2025



CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR
RECREATION PARTNERSHIP



EDUCATION SERIES WEBINAR

How to create,
**implement, and
grow an Office of
Outdoor Recreation**

with guest,
Jason Curry,
Utah Division of
Outdoor Recreation

Wednesday, November 12

12-1 PM Pacific | 1-2 PM Mountain

Happenings of Interest

#CABudget

October income taxes \$2 billion above target

LAO's first surplus/deficit projection for 2026 budget expected later this month

JASON SISNEY
NOV 05, 2025



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Preliminary data from California's state tax agencies shows that personal and corporate income taxes in October came in approximately \$2.0 billion more than projected in the June 2025 state budget act. The month's tax receipts include a few billion dollars of 2024 and 2025 taxes from Los Angeles County delayed for months due to the January wildfires.

As I noted recently in [describing the state budget's temporarily improving prospects](#), this \$2 billion gain for October comes on top of \$6.5 billion of prior revenue gains since the June budget was passed. For future months of the 2025-26 and 2026-27 fiscal years—the revenues of which will affect next June's budget—the current investment bubble in the so-called "artificial intelligence" ("AI") industry could generate many billions more of added state revenues. Half or more of those revenues may boost public schools and budget reserves above prior projections, while the rest could reduce the size of deficits the Legislature and Governor otherwise have to close in next June's state budget.

Personal income tax (PIT) strength in October was focused on 2025 estimated tax payments, including Los Angeles payments delayed from prior quarters, which came in \$3.1 billion (72%) above projections. PIT payments accompanying 2024 final returns, including both Los Angeles and other extension returns, were \$498 million (15%) above projections. In contrast to some prior months, PIT withholding was close to estimates, coming in just \$122 million (1%) above projections, according to the preliminary data.

Corporation tax receipts, net of refunds, were \$75 million below projections for the month, offsetting the month's more than \$2 billion PIT gain.

The Legislative Analyst's Office typically releases its first surplus or deficit estimate for the next year's budget in its annual fiscal outlook the week before Thanksgiving. The Newsom administration must release its new estimates and proposed 2026 budget plan on or before Saturday, January 10, 2026. I expect there may be considerable differences in deficit projection numbers between now and next June due to the evolving revenue situation, as well as considerable uncertainty about the precise budget effects of [recent federal policy changes](#). If booming revenues unexpectedly produce a temporary surplus for 2026-27, depositing some surplus funds in the recently created [Projected Surplus Temporary Holding Account](#) would be one option to guard against the "AI" bubble subsiding or bursting later.

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Top Latest Discussions



California biggest "donor state" to rest of U.S.

Updated 2022 data shows \$83 billion of federal taxes more than spending here

JAN 24 • JASON SISNEY



Happenings of Interest

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KTLA 5 News

KTLA 5

LA'S VERY OWN

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LOCAL NEWS

Mammoth Mountain delays ski season opening again, no new date set

by: Iman Palm

Posted: Nov 13, 2025 / 02:57 PM PST


Updated: Nov 13, 2025 / 02:57 PM PST

5 LIVE MAX DOPPLER





Thursday 1:30 PM

RAIN MIX SNOW

HEADLINES Disneyland ktl.com Woman caught on video tossing dog over fence in Or 1:33P



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[Mammoth Mountain](#) has once again delayed its opening day for the upcoming ski season due to an incoming storm.

No new opening date has been announced. Mammoth Mountain's ski season was slated to kick off on Saturday.

"Due to changes in the current storm cycle, we will not be opening for skiing and riding this Saturday, Nov. 15. However, colder temperatures and snowfall are in the forecast in the coming days. We will be assessing conditions daily and are committed to getting open as soon as conditions allow. We will provide 24-hour notice once Mother Nature gives us the green light. Stay tuned," the ski resort said in a statement.

[A large storm](#) is expected to move into Southern California on Thursday night, bringing bursts of heavy rain, possible flooding, and debris flows.

Happenings of Interest

LIVE NOW KTLA 5 News





KTLA 5
LA'S VERY OWN

Watch Live News Weather Morning News Video Get

LOCAL NEWS

Mammoth Mountain delays ski season opening again, no new date set

by: Iman Palm
Posted: Nov 13, 2025 / 02:57 PM PST
Updated: Nov 13, 2025 / 02:57 PM PST

SHARE    

[Mammoth Mountain](#) has once again delayed its opening day for the upcoming season due to an incoming storm.

No new opening date has been announced. Mammoth Mountain's ski season was originally set to open on Saturday, Nov. 15.

"Due to changes in the current storm cycle, we will not be opening for skiing and snowboarding on Saturday, Nov. 15. However, colder temperatures and snowfall are in the forecast for the weekend. We will be assessing conditions daily and are committed to getting open as soon as conditions allow. We will provide 24-hour notice once Mother Nature gives us the green light," the ski resort said in a statement.

[A large storm](#) is expected to move into Southern California on Thursday night, bringing heavy rain, possible flooding, and debris flows.

Mountain Photos from this week.



11-26-25 – Face of Five – Photo: Jamie



11-26-25 – Climax / Upper Dry Creek – Photo: Jamie



11-26-25 – Top of Rock Garden – Photo: Jamie



11-26-2025 – Center Bowl – Photo: Jamie

Happenings of Interest

WEATHER // WEATHER FORECASTS

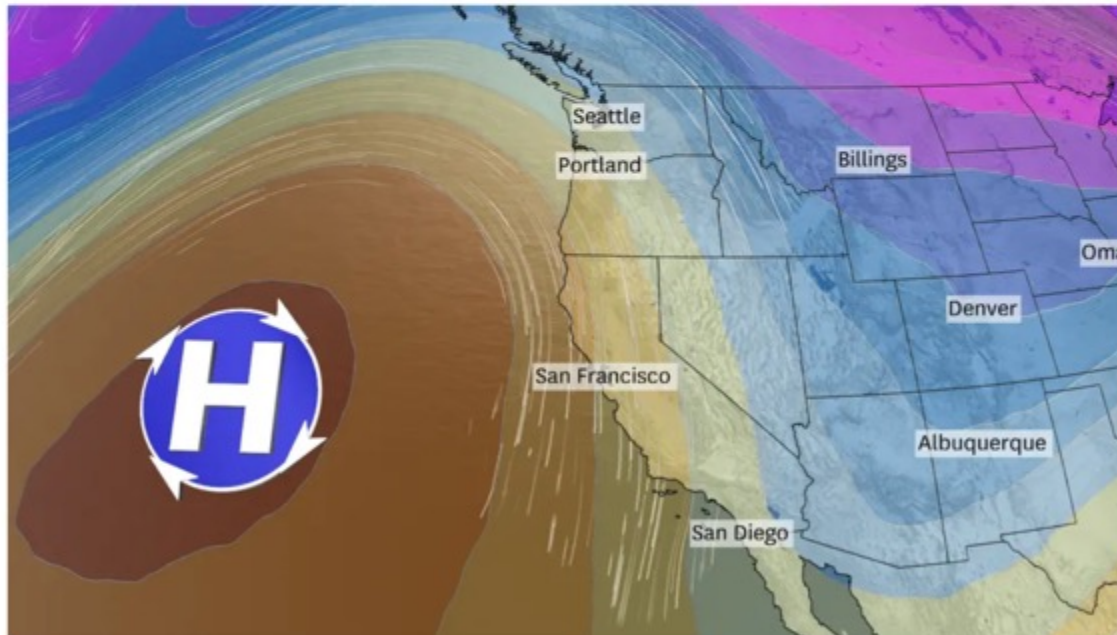
Something big is blocking California's winter storms — here's what that means

By **Anthony Edwards**, Newsroom Meteorologist
Nov 30, 2025



Future air mass: Thursday 4 p.m.

Colder Warmer



A high-pressure system just off the West Coast is expected to deflect storms toward Canada and keep the Western U.S. drier than normal in early December. Any storms that impact California are predicted to drop out of the north, which tend to bring colder air but are also limited in moisture.


Baron/Lynx

Happenings of Interest

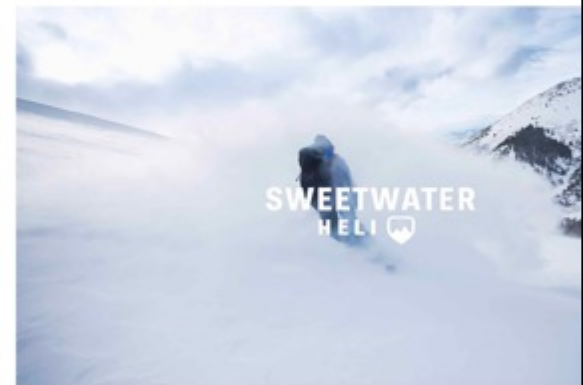
SKI NEWS

California's Only Heli-Skiing Operation Launching In 2026

Combining Sweetwater Heli's standards of safety, precision, with the unmistakable California ski culture, the operation marks a milestone for the state — and a long-awaited opportunity for world-class heli-skiing closer to home.

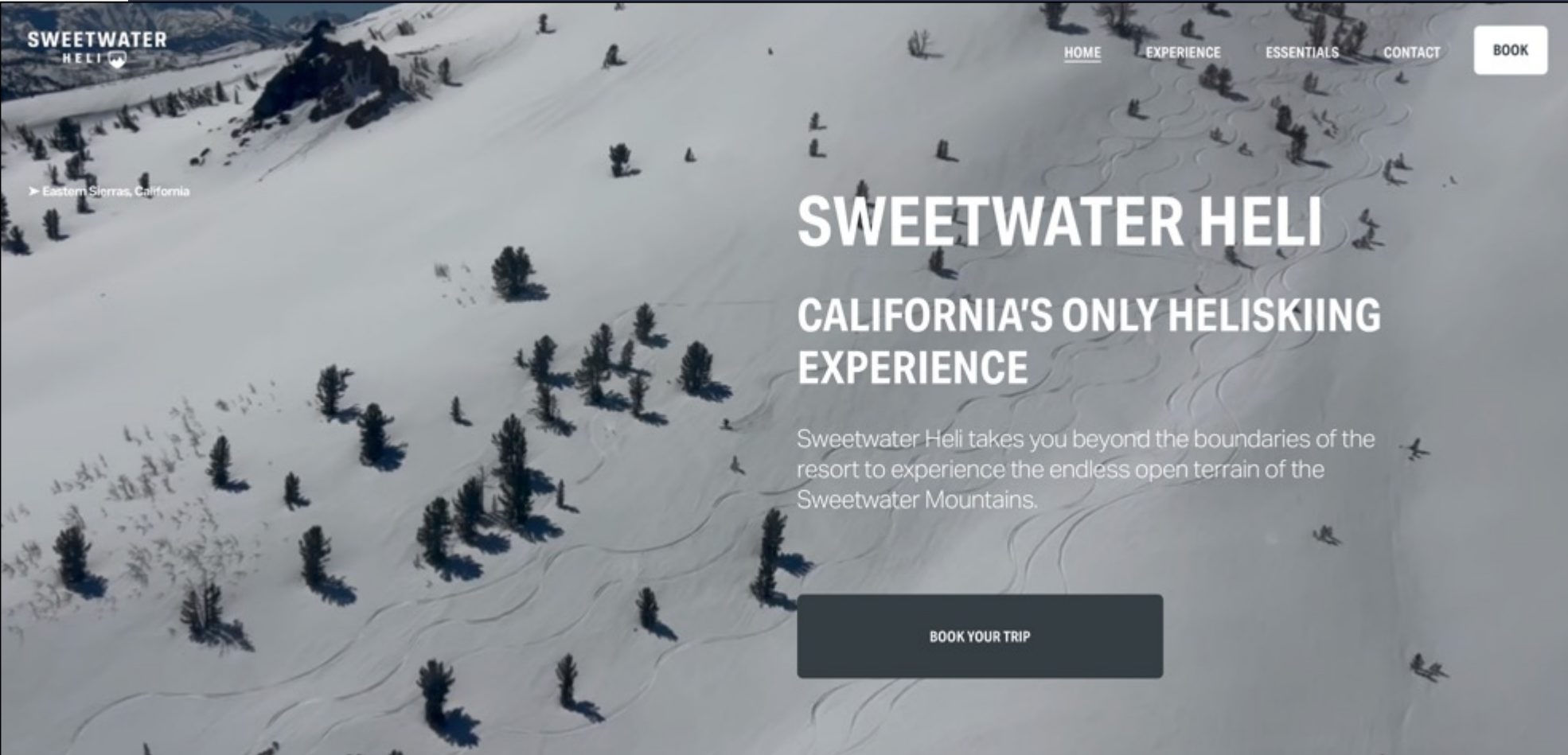
 by Francis Xavier
November 12, 2025



Sweetwater Heli, California's only heli-skiing operation.

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, California – Amazing new terrain in the Golden State where [Sweetwater Heli](#) just announced the launch of California's only heli-skiing operation. Operations kick off January 2026 and will cater to small-group tours with access to over 100 miles of new terrain in the Sweetwater Mountains located in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (**one of the least explored mountain ranges in California**). The massive tenure spans 288 square miles and includes 6 peaks exceeding 10,000 feet with the highest being Mount Patterson, a majestic volcano reaching 11,673 feet. Sweetwater Heli will conveniently provide helicopter transfers within the Mammoth and Tahoe/Reno area.



SWEETWATER HELI
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, California

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SWEETWATER HELI

CALIFORNIA'S ONLY HELISKIING EXPERIENCE

Sweetwater Heli takes you beyond the boundaries of the resort to experience the endless open terrain of the Sweetwater Mountains.

[BOOK YOUR TRIP](#)

Happenings of Interest

TRAVEL | TAHOE

A Tahoe town found a mistake on its official seal. Changing it is causing tears.

'This ridiculous waste of money, time, and effort.'



Consent Agenda
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE CITY COUNCIL | November 4, 2025

Screenshot from the Lake Tahoe Council meeting Nov. 4, 2025.
Screenshot via YouTube

By **Andrew Pridgen**, Central California Editor
Nov 7, 2025



TRAVEL | TAHOE

Tahoe's billionaire enclave might have a poop problem

Celebrities and moneyed tech CEOs have settled in the region for years

By **Ariana Bindman**, News Features Reporter
Nov 4, 2025





The beach and docks at Lake Tahoe's Incline Village community.
George Rose/Getty Images

Incline Village, one of Tahoe's wealthiest towns, is known for its serene blue waters and lakeside mansions, serving as a safe haven for billionaires and celebrities seeking refuge from the grind of city life. But this week, "Income Village" is facing an unsavory problem.

According to a Nov. 3 notice from the Incline Village General Improvement District, due to an "event that resulted in loss of pressure in the distribution system," there is a "high potential" that fecal matter and disease-causing organisms have entered the town's infrastructure.

Happenings of Interest

[ENGLISH](#) [TRIP PLANNER](#) 



FLIGHT DISCOUNTS

[HOME](#) > [COMMUNITY RESOURCES](#) > [FLIGHT DISCOUNTS](#)

LOCALS' FLIGHT DISCOUNT

Get away from the east side at a reduced cost when you take advantage of locals-only flight offers, brought to you by Mammoth Lakes Tourism.

Fly out of Mammoth Lakes (MMH) to two Southern California airports on Advanced Air. Or connect to any cities around the country from Bishop (BIH) on United.

Learn more about how locals from anywhere on the east side from Bridgeport to Ridgecrest can access these discounts.

AIR SERVICE



United Airlines

Bishop (BIH) to San Francisco (SFO)

Winter Service

- Daily flight service **December 11, 2025 – April 4, 2026**
- TWO EXTRA FLIGHTS on Saturdays are offered:
 - December 20 – January 3
 - February 14 – April 4

Bishop (BIH) to Denver (DEN)

Winter Service

- Daily flight service **December 18, 2025 – April 27, 2026**
- TWO EXTRA FLIGHTS on both Fridays and Saturdays are offered December 19 – April 4:
 - Flights arrive Friday PMs & depart Saturday AMs
 - Flights arrive Saturday PMs & depart Sunday AMs

Advanced Air

Mammoth Yosemite Airport (MMH) to Hawthorne-LA (HHR) or Carlsbad (CLD)

Winter Service

- Flight service offered on Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays, and Mondays
- Service Dates: **NOW through April 27, 2026**
 - *Holiday Exceptions:*
 - Thanksgiving: No service on Thanksgiving Day – service will operate today (Wednesday 11/26) instead
 - Christmas: No service on Christmas Day – service will operate on Wednesday 12/24 instead

Fly more, save more! Check out Advanced Air's bulk ticket specials with their **Altitude Annual Passes**. These 10 one-way flight packages include tickets that are fully transferable to family and friends. [Learn more here.](#)

Happenings of Interest



Central Sierra
Economic Development District

REV 2.0

As promised, here are the webinar times we have confirmed to enable several opportunities for regional business owners to learn more about this initiative, ask questions, and submit their business for consideration of EV Charging Stations. **We are asking that everyone who wants to attend RSVP via this intake form:**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecml_6T3GL_0tYLLCzGd7xOJxu7ib2rDWmggaqc0gsyqDudw/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=112072931652121792461

Monday, Dec 8: 3pm - 4pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84333052854>

Thursday, Dec 11: 1pm - 2pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81796589152>

Monday, Dec 15: 5pm - 6pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82846814717>

Thursday, Dec 18: 9am - 10am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89761038611>

Here is the event title and description:

EV Charging for Central Sierra Businesses: Funding, Benefits & How to Get Started

Are you a business or property owner in the Central Sierra region interested in hosting EV charging stations? Join us for a short, informative session on how local businesses can participate in the new regional EV charging expansion funded through the REV 2.0 grant program. This session will be led by representatives from Momentum and/or EV Range, the project's implementation partners, alongside the Central Sierra Economic Development District (CSEDD).

California Wildfire and Recreation



CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE & FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE



U.S. EPA Issues Policy Guidance to Remove Barriers for Prescribed Fires



USDA California Climate Hub and Partners Release New Reforestation Planning Resources

The Latest

SEE WHERE TANGIBLE, ON THE GROUND PROGRESS IS BEING MADE NOW.



Senate Advances Bipartisan Fix Our Forests Act



Governor Newsom Signs Executive Order to Address Economic Consequences of the State's Climate and Wildfire Crisis



U.S. Forest Service Invests Nearly \$32 Million to Protect California Communities from Wildfire



CNRA and Partners Install First Ever Redwood Forest Observatory

UPCOMING MEETINGS

STAY UP TO DATE WITH TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES AT OUR ONGOING STATUS MEETINGS.

**DECEMBER
12
2025**

CNRA AUDITORIUM
SACRAMENTO

9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

In person: No
registration necessary

Via Zoom: Registration
required

ZOOM
REGISTRATION

**MARCH
19-20
2026**

REGIONAL - SIERRA

CHICKEN RANCH
CASINO RESORT,
JAMESTOWN, CA

**JUNE
5
2026**

CNRA AUDITORIUM
SACRAMENTO

9:00 AM TO 12:30

INFORMATION
TO COME

**OCTOBER
1-2
2026**

REGIONAL - NORTH
COAST

RIVER LODGE
CONFERENCE CENTER,
FORTUNA, CA

UPCOMING MEETINGS

STAY UP TO DATE WITH TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES AT OUR ONGOING STATUS MEETINGS.

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12
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**ZOOM
REGISTRATION**

**MARCH
19-20
2026**

REGIONAL - SIERRA

**CHICKEN RANCH
CASINO RESORT,
JAMESTOWN, CA**

**JUNE
5
2026**

CNRA AUDITORIUM
SACRAMENTO

9:00 AM TO 12:30

**INFORMATION
TO COME**

**OCTOBER
1-2
2026**

REGIONAL - NORTH
COAST

**RIVER LODGE
CONFERENCE CENTER,
FORTUNA, CA**

California Wildfire and Recreation



Action Plan Timeline – Draft 2025-10-16

Internal State Working Draft Review Period (7/28-9/18)

Develop Internal Partner Review Draft (8/15-10/16)

Internal Partner Review Window (10/16-11/17)

Develop External Partner Materials (9/29-10/24)

External Partner Briefing Sprint (10/27-12/12)

Develop Executive Review Package (11/1-12/9)

Executive Review Window (12/10-1-10)

Develop Final Action Plan (12/15-1/23)

Publish Action Plan (1/26-2/5)

AUDIENCE

Internal State Partners

Internal Task Force Partners

External/Regional Partners

Executives/GO

Public

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

FEB











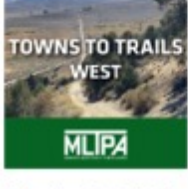





Sacramento Task Force
Meeting

Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Contracting Complete!



- Finalized contracting for all 38 Catalyst projects
 - Two of the originally awarded projects declined funding by mutual agreement
- Developing plan to ensure distribution of all remaining funds by September 2026
- Detailed project information coming available at SierraJobsFirst.org/projects
- \$2,437,957 = Total funding awarded to 11 Recreation & Tourism projects

PROJECT INFORMATION, NEWS & UPDATES

 Tri-County Economic Impact Analysis Of Recreation In Inyo, Mono And Alpine Counties Learn More	 Sierra Sourced Learn More	 Sierra Regional Arts Organization Collaborative Network Learn More	 Sierra Founders Academy Learn More
 Remaking The Eastern Sierra Food System Learn More	 Nuumo Waste Management Authority Project Learn More	 Local Food Feasibility And Development Project Learn More	 Keep Sierra Green Learn More
 Investing In Our Shared Future Learn More	 Hybrid EM&S Training Program Learn More	 Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System And Jobs Creation Learn More	 Eastern Sierra Regional Campground Improvements And Jobs Creation Project Learn More
 Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative Learn More	 Eastern Sierra Education And Recreation Jobs Creation Learn More	 CHIP&S Forestry Learn More	 Chipmunk Canyon Trails Existing Conditions Analysis Learn More

Sierra Jobs First: Transition & Future Planning

- Transition & Future Planning Survey closed November 24
- December 12 Governing Council meeting ([virtual](#))
 - Agnew::Beck presenting findings from their interviews, survey, and research
 - SBC will present and celebrate Catalyst funding impacts



Seana Doherty
Senior Manager



AGNEW
::BECK



Sierra Region

California Jobs First: Project Financing Webinars

Recordings:

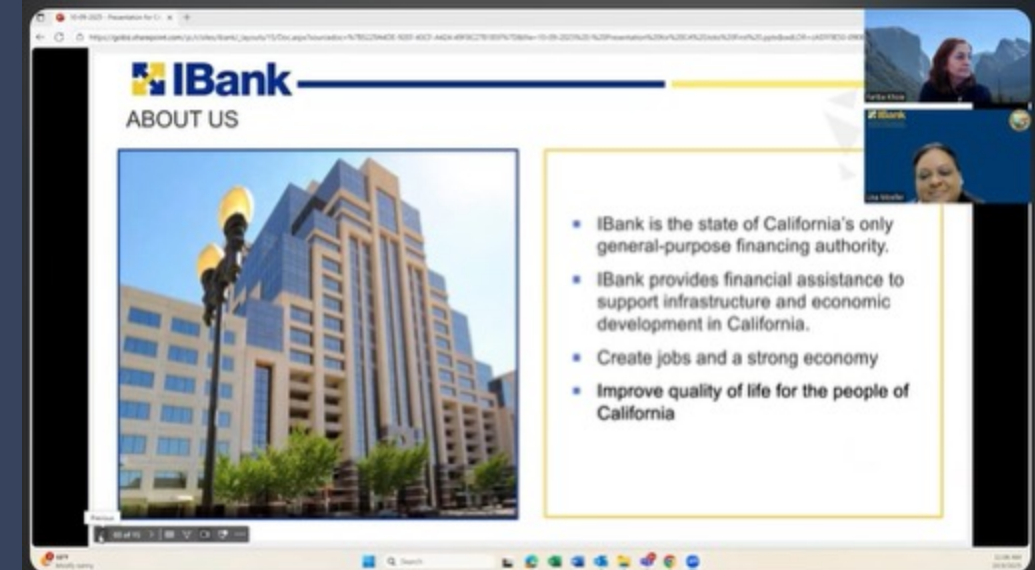
- Unlocking Public-Private Partnerships
- Tax Increment Financing Tools
- State Financing Tools
- EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program

Upcoming Webinar Dates:

- Dec 11, 2025 @ 11 am



Tax Increment Financing Tools with Kosmont Companies



State Financing Tools | Project Financing Webinar Series



TRANSITION & FUTURE PLANNING

Shaping the Future, Together

Sierra Jobs First: Transition & Future Planning

Transition & Future Planning Overview

Updated September 30, 2025



Background: "With state funding for the Sierra Jobs First Collaborative scheduled to sunset in September 2026, now is the time to work on what comes next. In service of this, Sierra Business Council, with support from Agnew::Beck Consulting, is facilitating a planning process to define the Collaborative's future."

Update from CA Economic Summit



- Position of CA FWD
 - Unify economic development efforts under one agency (building off GO-Biz) to align funding across state programs and articulate clear, statewide strategy
 - Establish formal state-regional relationships using consistent regional boundaries
 - Create regional economic councils with dedicated, annual funding tied to regional plans
- Timeline for implementation will not be fast enough to bridge the funding gap

LEADING A MOVEMENT

We support economic growth using a regions-up approach, stewarding state resources, and building resilience in the face of a changing climate



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Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Projects - Recreation & Tourism

English



About

Collaborative

Strategic Plan

Regional Summary

Catalyst Projects

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SIERRA JOBS FIRST CATALYST PROJECTS

In March, 2025, the Governing Council **finalized its vote** approving 40 projects that best fit the pre-implementation, planning-phase criteria for Catalyst funding under California Jobs First, and with the most potential to align with the **Regional Strategic Plan** to grow climate-resilient, equitable jobs in Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne Counties.

These projects were selected from 47 project applications that were received during the three-month RFP period and reviewed over 600+ people-hours, assessing each project's alignment with the Regional Strategic Plan and state Catalyst criteria.

The contract period to expend the funds began April 1, 2025 and ends September 30, 2026, during which time the projects will receive practical and technical support from the Sierra Jobs First team and Industry Sector Coordinators to ensure they have the maximum positive impact on the Sierra region for generations to come.

We are honored to share their journeys with you here, and hope you'll help spread the word!

Note: Projects are being added to this archive as contracting and information is finalized. For a PDF listing all projects contracted to date, click the button below.

[View PDF](#)



Tri-County Economic Impact Analysis Of Recreation In Inyo, Mono And Alpine Counties
[Learn More](#)



Sierra Sourced
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Sierra Seven Arts Alliance
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Sierra Founders Academy
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Remaking The Eastern Sierra Food System
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Pathways To Prosperity
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Nuumu Waste Management Authority Project
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Local Food Feasibility And Development Project
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Keep Sierra Green
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Hybrid EMS Training Program
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Eastern Sierra Regional Trail System And Jobs Creation
[Learn More](#)



Eastern Sierra Regional Campground Improvements And Jobs Creation Project
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Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative
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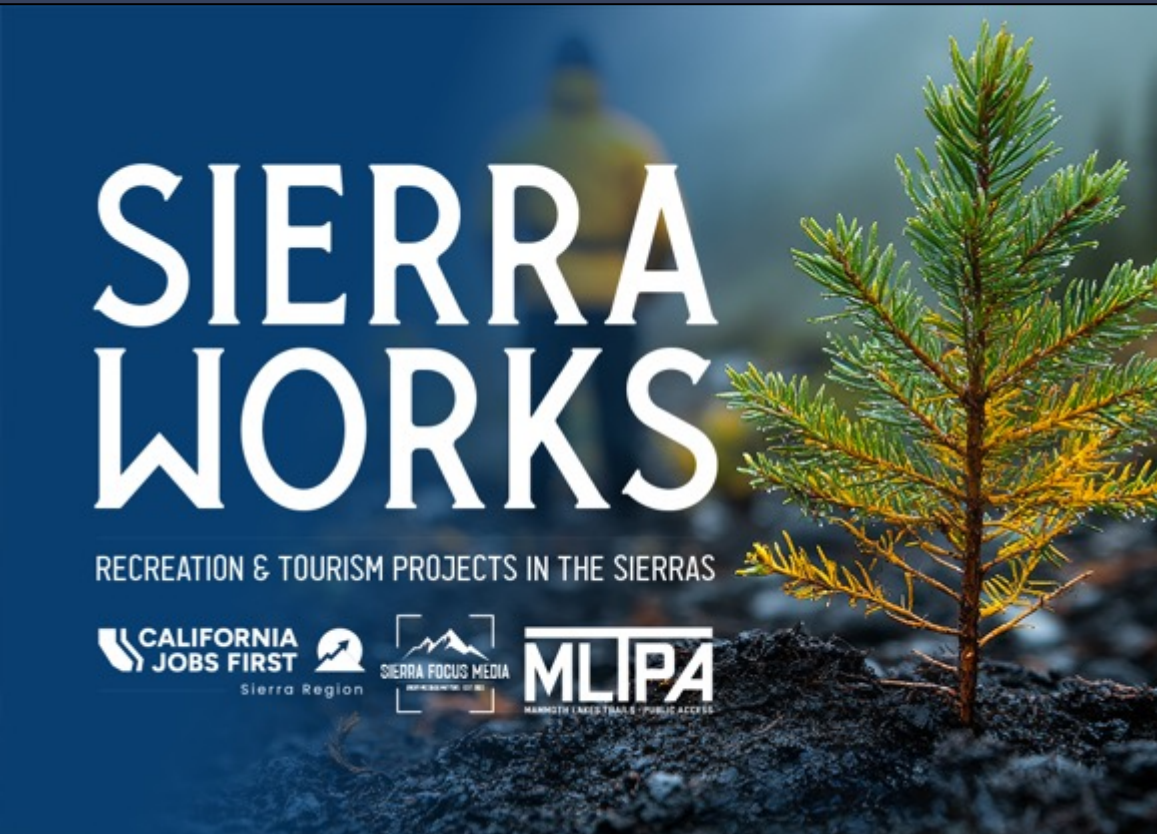


Eastern Sierra Education And Recreation Jobs Creation
[Learn More](#)

Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism

Projects

- Contracted Catalyst Projects
- Contracted via "Other" sectors
- "Walk-On" Projects
 - Projects that did not apply for Catalyst funding, but qualify for Technical Assistance



Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism



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2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT →

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CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT - REGIONAL FIRE & FORESTRY (RFFC) PROGRAM
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Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism

the sheet

News, Views & Culture of the Eastern Sierra

Saturday, November 29, 2025

FREE

Vol. 23, No. 48

NOT AT EASE JUST YET

By Libre

The debate over the "exclusive" easement on 54 Mono Street reared its head again during a public hearing at Mammoth Lakes Town Council meeting last Wednesday. And this time, everyone brought a lawyer.

The players were Keith and Kim Erickson, homeowners of 56 Mono Street, versus Biptin Morari, who wants to transform his property, 54 Mono Street, into six units of housing for his employees. Both sides were accompanied by legal counsel.

The Council decided in a 3-1 vote to delay its decision on this matter by another month, with the expectation that the parties would seek an expedited legal process to make a decision on the matter for them.

The easement issue was first presented at a Planning and Economic Development Commission (PEDC) meeting in August. During that meeting, PEDC decided to extend the issue until their October meeting. When October rolled around, PEDC voted in favor of Morari, granting him approval to move forward with his building plans. The Ericksons then appealed this decision, which resulted in the public hearing last Wednesday.

The crux of this dilemma lies in the term "exclusive." The Ericksons claim they were sold their property in 2002 under the conditions that only they would have access to their driveway. However, when Morari was sold his property, which is currently an empty lot, the seller told him the easement was shared.

"The sole condition of our escrow was that our driveway access remained exclusive," Kim Erickson said during the meeting. "Yet, 23 years later, the same seller promised Mr. Morari he could use our driveway as shared for his over ambitious project."

The Ericksons remained determined not to share their easement, despite Morari's project plan's inclusion of an underground garage with seven parking spaces and three exterior spots.

Both sides presented legal documents supporting their perspective on the issue. Most of these documents came from the town.

Morari's legal team especially relied on two town documents: a draft memo from 1990 and private letter from 2023, which confirmed the easement was to be shared between the two properties.

The Erickson legal team argued these documents were invalid, and instead looked to California state laws civil code 801, 803, and 845. Each of the laws state recorded easements are binding and cannot be changed.

Many council members felt this debate was out of their jurisdiction, a stance that inhibited them from making decision in the hearing.

"I'm not a judge. I'm not a lawyer. I am a public service volunteer," Mayor Chris Bubb said.

Despite these legal misgivings, town attorney Andrew Morris strongly encouraged the

more EASEMENT, pg.



Mountain man Doug Nidever in his element. For Libre's interview with the 72-year-old icon, see p. 19.

MADLY HATTED



CHIPPING IN OR CHIPPING AWAY?

By Fisher

"Where have the philanthropists gone?" lamented Robert Joki, president of the Southern Mono Historical Society, as he reflected on the organization's uncertain future.

For decades, the Society has preserved local history through the Mammoth Museum at the Hayden Cabin. But in recent years, membership has thinned, and the days of a full board and a dedicated group of paying members are largely in the past. Many former members and donors have aged, moved away, or passed on.

Joki, involved for 14 years, remembers better times. "When I took over, we had a decent board of longtime Mammoth residents and about a hundred members," he said.

These days, just three board members remain, and funding barely covers basic operations.

Even the trolley program, which once staffed Mammoth's public transit with staging historical guides, stalled last year after the person who trained the employees moved away.

With this all at the forefront of his mind, Joki worries about the organization's longevity.

"My original plan was to sit on my porch playing the banjo until I forget what my name was," he said. "It wasn't to have the stress of keeping an organization afloat."

He's not alone in his experience or anxiety. Over the last few weeks, The Sheet spoke to several non-profit leaders, and many told the same story. The current volunteer class is aging out, and nobody's taking their place. And with monetary giving seemingly declining too, it's a challenge to operate a non-

profit at all.

Juliana Olinka-Jones is an active volunteer at the Mammoth Lakes Lions Club, which raises money to distribute funds to various causes within the community, and serves on a few other non-profit advisory boards in Mammoth.

She, like Joki, is worried about succession planning for the organizations she's a part of. "The biggest challenge [for organizations right now] is spreading your message widely enough so that you can continue to bring new people in and have them carry on the mission of the organization."

The Lions Club started with a group of passionate individuals, she said, but that fleet of volunteers is dwindling in size and in capability.

more VOLUNTEER, pg. 6

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THE SHEET | Saturday, November 29, 2025

VOLUNTEER

continued from page 1

The July 4 Pancake Breakfast is the club's biggest annual fundraiser. While attendance has remained relatively consistent over the years, there has been a decline in the number of volunteers available to man the grill and fewer people with large trucks to transport materials.

"There were a lot of people who worked in construction or who had businesses [when the organization started], and those people are aging out," Olinka-Jones said. "The new people coming in don't necessarily have the same interest."

Alicia Olson is the Lions Club's youngest member and has been for several years, even though she's in her mid-thirties. Given the struggle to maintain the annual breakfast, she said the club may have to change the kind of fundraiser it does to meet the age and abilities of its members.

"As long as there's some kind of community fundraising event, [the club] will still exist," Olson said.

In light of the apparent lack of volunteers, organizations have taken different approaches to future planning.

At Wild Iris, a domestic violence victim support organization, Executive Director Dominic Hays is shifting away from relying on volunteers altogether.

He once dedicated a lot of effort to recruiting volunteers, but despite his efforts, Wild Iris has struggled to recruit enough people.

While other domestic violence victim support organizations across the state are able to train large groups of volun-

teers, Wild Iris has to conduct one-on-one training due to its limited volunteer pool.

This is a problem because volunteers for the organization are required to go through 30-70 hours of training before they can start working, and, when they do, many realize they're not ready for the commitment and drop out.

"It would be very beneficial for us to have a big volunteer pool, but because we tend to invest a lot of time -- which is money -- into training volunteers, just for them to leave pretty quickly, we've decided to stop actively recruiting volunteers," he said.

Across the board, he said people are choosy with where they want to donate their time and money, and it's just too hard to "compete" with other causes in the area to rely on a volunteer or philanthropic base.

Other organizations, however, aren't ready to give up yet.

At the Laws Museum & Historical Site in Bishop, for one, Administrator Jessi Robbins has been working to digitize the organization's outreach, and has seen marginal success in expanding the organization's volunteer base.

Everything was very "pen and paper" when she first took office, she said.

"A lot of [our volunteers] are a little bit older, which is fantastic because they have a lot of history and a lot of knowledge," she said. "But we don't get a lot of younger people, and so the hope is that with social media we can start reaching younger populations [...]" and get a

variety of people volunteering."

In doing more social media work and updating the website, she's seen volunteer rates return slightly.

Friends of the Inyo, meanwhile, has dedicated significant time and effort to recruiting volunteers and creating engaging volunteer events... and it's paying off.

In part, it may come down to timing and circumstance. As an organization dedicated to protecting public lands in Mono and Inyo Counties, Friends of the Inyo benefits from strong local support in an area largely defined by, and valued for, its public lands. Especially as public lands have become a hot-button political topic.

"In a sense, it boils down to marketing," explained Lizzy Taylor, Stewardship Director for Friends of the Inyo. "What we do may align more with what the public values. We are a public land advocacy nonprofit in an area where public lands make up most of the economy."

As a result, both volunteer numbers and volunteer hours have increased in recent years, she said.

"We're seeing an increase in volunteerism because everybody's very aware that the national parks and public lands are under a lot of strain this year," she said.

What the future of volunteerism may ultimately come down to is what the local public cares about.

In Juliana Olinka-Jones' words, "How do you get people to care about a civic organization like the Lions Club?"

People are willing to show up for a trash clean-up or line the streets for a protest, but what's happening here might signal something more concerning: a loss of community.

In the eyes of Robert Joki and Dominic Hays at least, the Eastern Sierra population is becoming "increasingly transient."

They feel there is an increasing gap between vacationers and the strong local pride that has historically driven volunteerism and philanthropic efforts. The wealthiest individuals in the area, often second-homeowners, are spending their time and money primarily in the places where they live full time.

In years past, the history of the town, the stories of its people, and the effort to preserve its heritage were deeply personal to those who lived here. The challenge now is that as the community becomes more fluid, fewer people have that long-term, invested connection to these ideals.

Retired people have long formed the backbone of volunteer labor: people with time, experience, and a desire to give back. But hasn't changed. What has changed is that there isn't a new class of retirees stepping in to fill the gaps left by the old guard. And that absence raises uncomfortable questions.

If nothing else, the values of the area are evolving. But whether those priorities are moving toward new causes or are a sign people are distancing themselves from civic involvement altogether will determine the fate of several local nonprofits.

Thirty-six Views of Mount Tom

Stephen Ingram



"Each essay is perfectly paired with a photo that complements its subject and adds context and nuance. As it should, Mount Tom finds its way into every single image."

- John Evans, Editor

"Every great mountain deserves a book like this, but few have them. Stephen Ingram has assembled a portrait of Mount Tom (Inyo) that is both informative and beautiful--his photos are superb. This book is a gift to all Sierra lovers."

- Kim Stanley Robinson, The High Sierra: A Love Story



Stephen Ingram
ingramphoto.com

Available wherever books are sold in the Eastern Sierra and at ingramphoto.com

December Blood Pressure Clinics

Free for patients seen in the last year.



December 5th and 19th
from 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00

Call 760.924.4045 to schedule your visit.
Walk-Ins also welcome!

In the birdhouse

Kids on Rocks

p. 7/

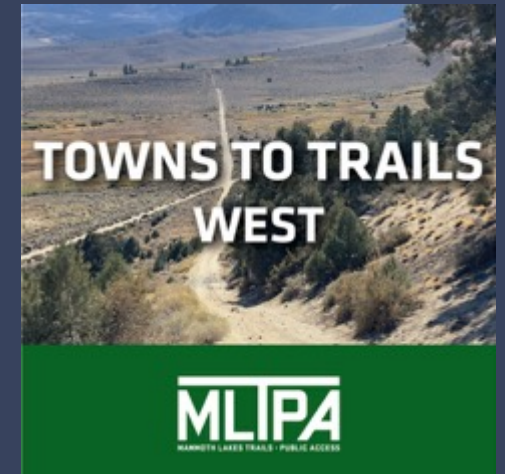
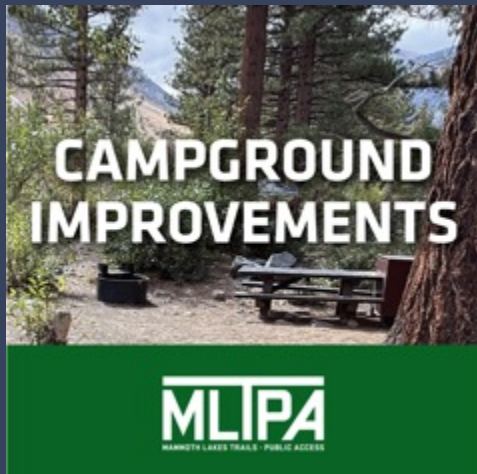
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p. 2/

p. 8/

Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism



Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism



Who We Are ▾

Our Work ▾

What's New

Contribute



Advancing Wildfire Resilience Workforce & Career Development

About this report:

The Sierra Business Council and the Watershed Research and Training Center have released *Advancing Wildfire Resilience Workforce & Career Development*, a nonprofit-led roadmap recommending how California can grow and sustain the skilled workforce needed to protect communities and restore healthy landscapes in the face of wildfire.

Developed in coordination with the California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force, this strategy outlines how the state can strengthen its wildfire resilience efforts by investing in the people and organizations driving this critical work.

Key recommendations include:

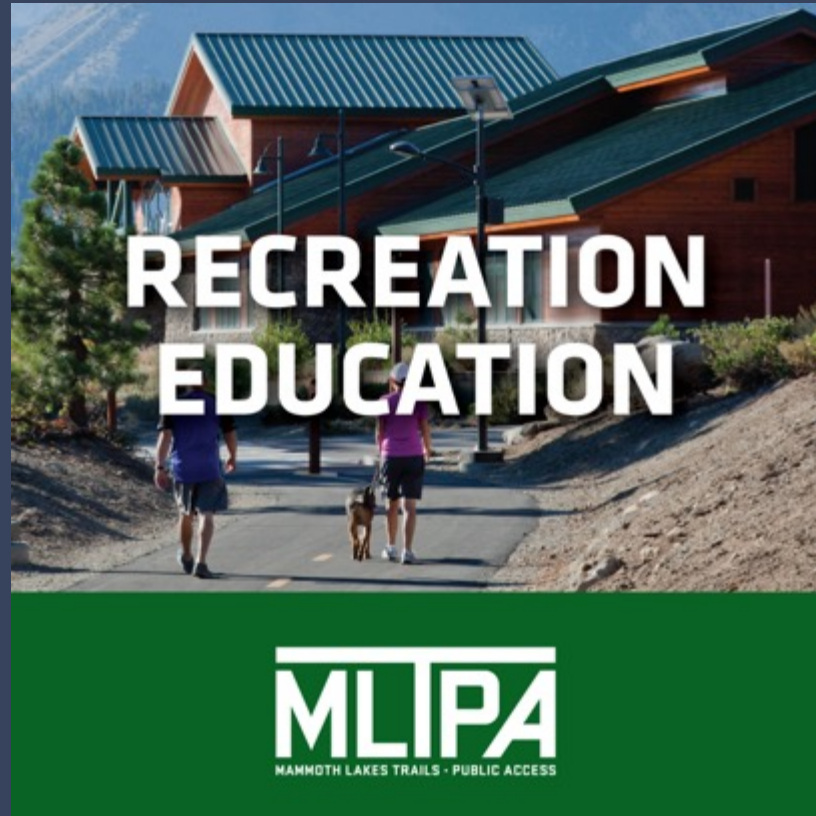
- Building education, training, and professional development pipelines
- Supporting high-quality, well-paying jobs with clear career pathways
- Pairing wildfire resilience investments with workforce capacity investments statewide—urban, rural, and Tribal communities alike
- Removing barriers to recruit, train, and retain a robust wildfire resilience workforce

By integrating solutions to two of California's most pressing challenges—wildfire risk and economic opportunity—this roadmap charts a path toward both community safety and statewide prosperity.



CALIFORNIA
WILDFIRE
& FOREST
RESILIENCE
TASK FORCE

Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects"



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WILDLAND FIRE

NWCG Type 2/FFT C50-C55
NWCG Type 1/FFT C70-C74
FRCC C191X - Work Experience



FORESTRY TECHNICIAN

FRCC C101 - Land Management 1
FRCC C102 - Land Management 2
FRCC C191X - Work Experience



OUTDOOR RECREATION

SORL C101 - Intro to Recreation & Leisure
SORL C102 - Access in Outdoor Rec
SORL C103 - Demographics in Outdoor Rec
FRCC C191X - Work Experience

Register for spring semester!

Questions?

joshua.pighetti@cerrocoso.edu

Sierra Jobs First: "Catalyst Projects" - Recreation & Tourism



Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative

TOM McCLINTOCK UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN
NEWSROOM ISSUES VOTES AND LEGISLATION CONSTITUENT SERVICES ABOUT CONTACT
Enter keyword

HOME / NEWSROOM / PRESS RELEASES

Secretarial Order Supporting Gateway Communities Issued by the Department of the Interior

A photograph showing Congressman Tom McClintock seated at a desk, signing a document. Two men stand behind him: one in a blue suit (likely a staff member) and another in a dark suit (likely Interior Secretary Doug Burgum). An American flag and a map of the United States are visible in the background.

June 26, 2025 | Press Release

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Tom McClintock lauded the secretarial order signed yesterday by Interior Secretary Doug Burgum, ordering the National Park Service to enhance coordination between the parks and the Gateway communities that rely on them.

At signing ceremonies at the Department of Interior, McClintock said "Our gateway communities depend on tourism for a large part of their economies. Many make their livelihoods by making visitor stays as comfortable and enjoyable as humanly possible. They comprise people who have spent their whole lives in and around Yosemite National Park and know it far better than the park employees who rotate in and out every few years. And yet, one of the greatest frustrations they have expressed to me is that they feel largely ignored and excluded from decisions that directly affect the park, its visitors, their local businesses and their communities."



Sierra Jobs First: Funding and Technical Assistance

Funding Support



Project Description: As the Industry Sector Coordinator for Sustainable Recreation & Tourism projects, MLTPA is committed to providing funding and policy support to help bring your project to life. To assist you, we have developed a comprehensive database featuring:

- [Funding Opportunities](#) – A curated list of grants and financial resources available in the sustainable recreation and tourism sectors.
- [Policy Documents & Data Resources](#) – A collection of relevant policies, regulations, and data to help inform and guide your project's development.

Beyond these resources, MLTPA offers personalized support to ensure your project aligns with available funding opportunities and meets current policy requirements. MLTPA is here to assist in the grant

application process, helping you navigate funding requirements and maximize your chances of success. We are also here to provide one-on-one policy consultation, offering expert guidance on how to develop your project within the existing regulatory framework.

For more information or to discuss how we can support your project, contact us at sjfadmin@mltpa.org. We look forward to helping you turn your vision into reality.



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 Sierra Jobs First Regional Strategy.



ANDREA STEWART, RESEARCH & POLICY ANALYST

Andrea is a policy analyst with a career dedicated to working at the intersection of environmental justice and human rights, including many years of living and working in the West Bank on questions of law and ethics. Andrea is adept at navigating diverse social and political landscapes. A JD candidate residing in Mammoth Lakes, Andrea combines her legal expertise with a deep understanding of policy development and a passion for fostering a more just and equitable Eastern Sierra. She analyzes federal, state, and local policies

impacting the Eastern Sierra region and beyond, seeking to identify and address systemic inequities. In her free time, Andrea can be found peak bagging, backcountry skiing, climbing, or exploring the foothills on her horse. She holds M.A. and B.A. degrees in Human Rights Law and Political Science, respectively, and hails from a university town in Kansas.

Contact: andreastewart@mltpa.org

Sierra Jobs First - Andie Stewart, Technical Assistance Update

Funding Corner:

- Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grant, due November 10th
- SNC's Wildfire & Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program, due November 17th
- Sustainable Transportation Planning, CalTrans, due November 21st
- SNC's Sustainable Rec, Tourism, & Equitable Outdoor Access, due December 1st
- WCB's Public Access Grant Program, Rolling Deadline





“Cohort of Practice”



California Jobs First: Recreation and Tourism Statewide Cohort



Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Cohort

Monthly Meeting
December 5, 2025: 1:30 - 2:30
[Google Calendar Link](#) | [Zoom link](#)

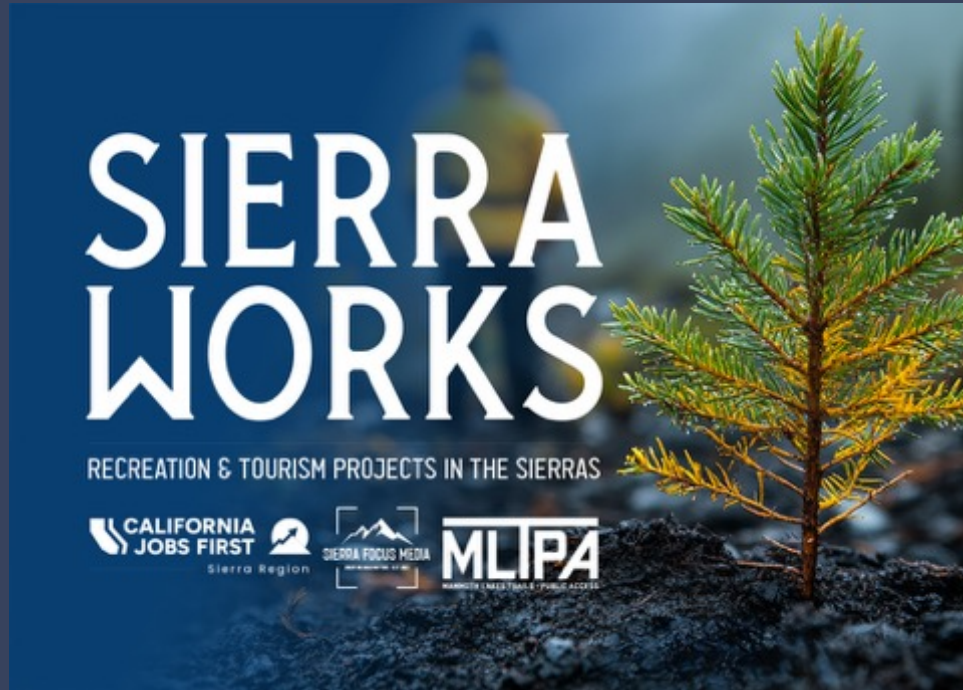
AGENDA

TIME	GOAL	PRESENTED BY
1:30-1:35	Welcome & Check-in	All
1:35-1:45	Field Notes <ul style="list-style-type: none">Updates on newsworthy developments in the sector	John
1:45-2:25	Presentations - Session Five <ul style="list-style-type: none">Justi Hansen - Siskiyou Outdoor Recreation Alliance (North State Region) - South Siskiyou Sustainable Recreation PlanLexie Grittlefield - California Outdoor Recreation Partnership	Justi/Aaron
2:25-2:30	"Rays of Sunshine" <ul style="list-style-type: none">Sharing new projects, innovative practices, and other positivity	All
2:30	Adjourn Meeting	

December 5 @ 1:30 PM



Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group



Recreation and Tourism Working Group

WORKING GROUP SIGN-UPS

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

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

Sign-up Today!

[Join Our Working Groups](#)

SIERRA WORKS

SIERRA JOBS FIRST
RECREATION & TOURISM

WORKING GROUP MEETING



NOVEMBER MEETING

11/17/2025

THIS MEETING IS
BEING RECORDED



Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

WORKING GROUP LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mathew Galvan
Owner & Marketing Strategist
Sierra Focus Media



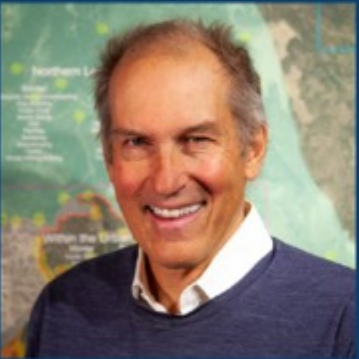
Travis Nabahe
Nabahe Global Group



Bill Keene
President/CEO
Climate Equity Solutions



Austin McInerny
Senior Facilitator
Climate Equity Solutions



John Wentworth
CEO & Board President
MLTPA



Andie Stewart
Research & Policy Analyst
MLTPA



Chelsea Taylor
Comms Program Manager
MLTPA



Erin Murphy
Operations Manager
MLTPA

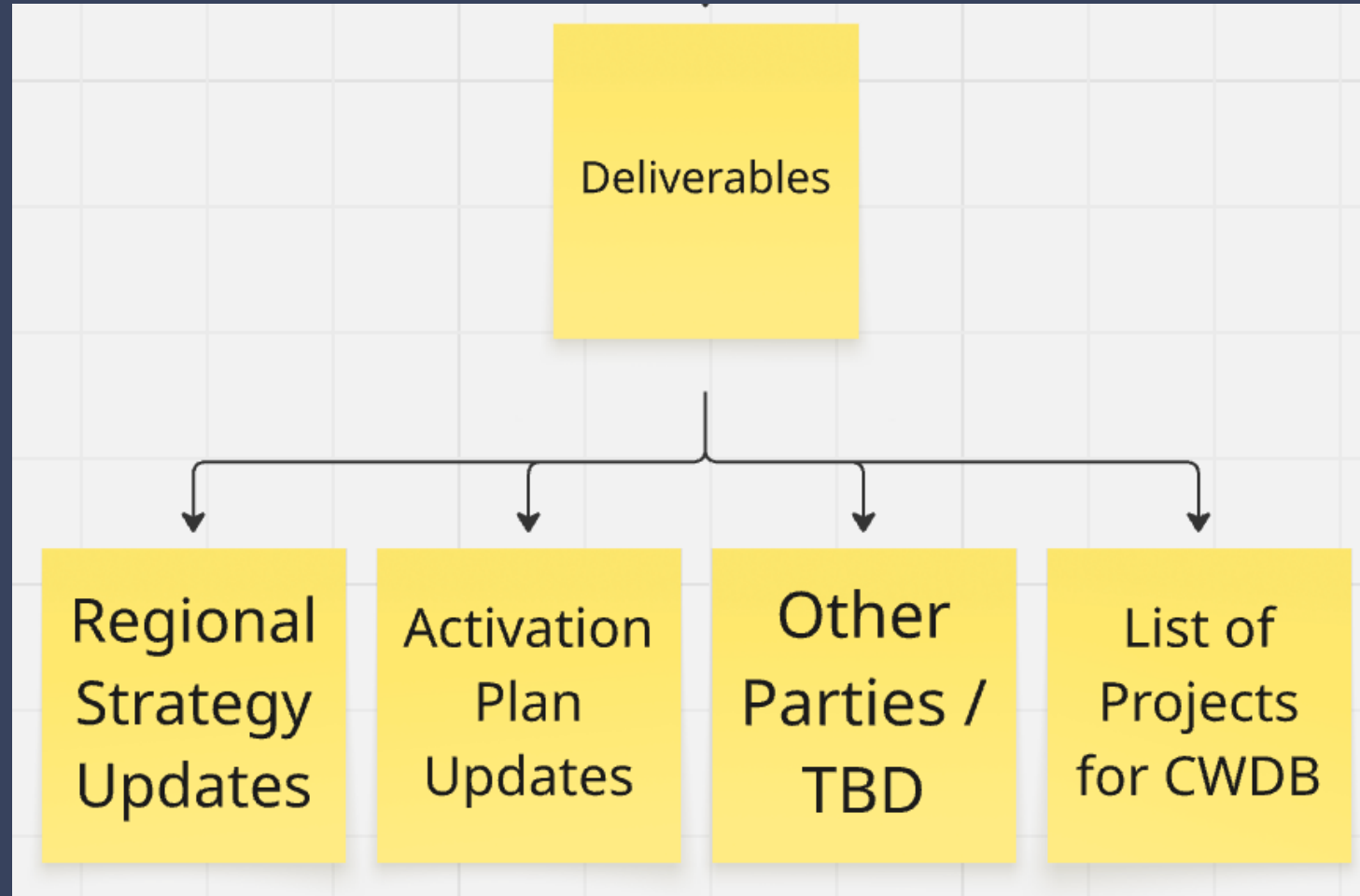


Goal of the Working Group

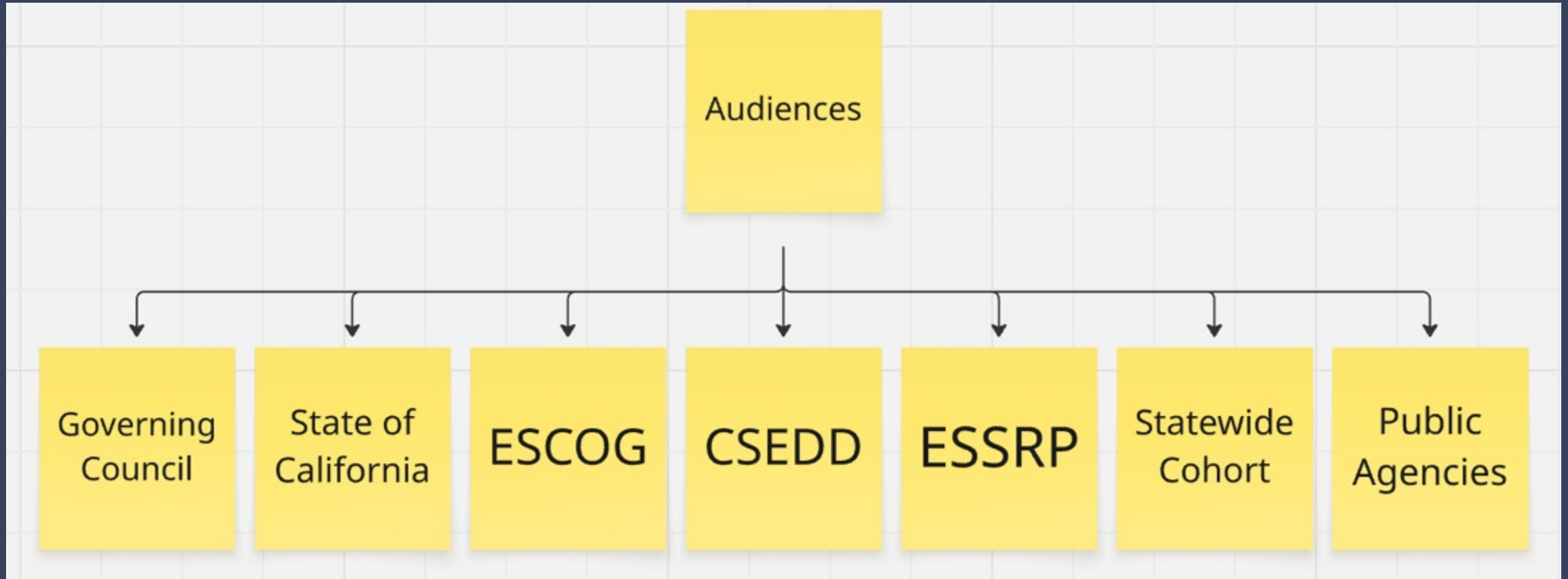
**"Recommendations for
Implementation and Collaborative
Action" (RICA)**

Recommendations for how we build on the work done so far and carry it forward to align with the funding opportunities that currently exist and those that will exist in the future.

Goal of the Working Group



Goal of the Working Group



Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

Goal of the Working Group



Erin Murphy <erinmurphy@mltpa.org>

Agenda for MLTPA Progress Report Call 11/18

Kaela Frank <kfrank@sierrabusiness.org>

Tue, Nov 18, 2025 at 3:47 PM

To: Erin Murphy <erinmurphy@mltpa.org>, John Wentworth <johnwentworth@mltpa.org>, Andrea Stewart <andreastewart@mltpa.org>, Chelsea Taylor <chelseataylor@mltpa.org>

Cc: Erika Harvey <eharvey@sierrabusiness.org>

Hi MLTPA team,

Thank you for all the updates and conversation today. I wanted to follow up on John's question about the Regional Strategic Plan.

Due to timing and capacity constraints, we are not going to produce an updated version of the Regional Strategic Plan. We've decided that the version that was submitted to the state and approved by the Governing Council will be a closed and dated version that will be archived on the Sierra Jobs First website and it can be cited and referred to in future documents.

I know this updated guidance is different from what we previously discussed. If you have questions or concerns, please follow up directly with Erika. Hopefully this clarity is helpful and lends additional weight to the value of the RICA and the time you are putting into developing it with your working group. You can focus it specifically on the needs of your industry sector, and maintain ownership over it when CJF funding sunsets.

Thank you,
Kaela



Kaela Frank (she/her)
Project Coordinator, Sierra Jobs First

kfrank@sierrabusiness.org | (530) 582-4800 ext 115 |
sierrabusiness.org | sierrajobsfirst.org

Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

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Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

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INTRODUCTION TO REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

Chapter 4

Foundational Element

Sustainable Recreation & Tourism

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.

Regional Strategic Plan – pg. 76



PROJECT PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS



John Wentworth
MLTPA & ESSRP



Elaine Kabala
Regional Collaborative



Practitioners &
Stakeholders



BREAKOUT GROUPS

Room 1: Does it make sense to draft a mission statement for a regional entity or several 'regional entities' and, if so, what might be in that mission statement?

Room 2: How might a "regional recreation entity" play a role in expediting project development, with each or any of the following: Federal government, state government, county government, and/or local government.

Room 3: Based on what you've heard from the two projects, how should the recreation/tourism sector work with tribes to partner/move forward with work in this region?

Room 4: What are the most important and practical components of a regional recreation and tourism governance structure to most benefit the sector?



Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

Room 1: Does it make sense to draft a mission statement for a regional entity or a number of 'regional entities' and, if so, what might be in that mission statement?

Do you support the creation of a mission statement?

Yes but, should arrive organically as we identify the shared priorities.

Yes but, this should be something that permeates from the ground-up.

No, it's already there.

What 1-3 words would you like to see represented in a regional recreation tourism entity's mission statement?

Collaborative	Efficiency	Expertise	Idea Sharing	Funding resources
Contact Sharing	Bottom-up approach	Realistic & grounded	Support & Listen	

What do we want to avoid in a mission statement?

Avoid being too granular & duplicative of other efforts.	Aiming too high, not staying rounded.	Heavy handedness.
Avoid duplicative efforts	Keeping the mission statement attainable.	

Room 2: How might a focused, and geographically specific, regional recreation entity play a constructive role in engaging with each or any of the following:

Federal government, state government, county government, local government, for a regional recreation governance entity?

Not a 'Tennessee' thing and focus on the

How Might a Regional Recreation Entity Enhance & Strengthen Engagement w/ each type of agency?

Should be helpful if this entity could provide some technical expertise and assistance. Agencies work differently, have different priorities. Need to have someone to coordinate, coordinate, coordinate, coordinate.

Represent different entities. Need to have someone to coordinate, coordinate, coordinate, coordinate.

Could help to establish a shared vision for the region. Could help to establish a shared vision for the region.

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What Challenges May Exist?

Challenge: Decision making. How does it make decisions? How does it make decisions?

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Challenge: Decision making. How does it make decisions? How does it make decisions?

Room 3: Based on what you've heard from the two projects, how should the recreation/tourism sector work with tribes to partner/move forward with work in this region?

What ideas do you have for strengthening tribal relations and NGO/nonprofit relations?

What does it look like for the tribe to be represented at the Tri-County fairgrounds?

Is there a methodology to quantify existing tribal efforts? Is there a communication mechanism beyond ESOP?

How and Tourism sector can work to recruit funds back to tribal resources, with an emphasis on the ESOP?

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How do we overcome challenges when there are competing interests?

By having an environment of collaboration and working together to find solutions.

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Room 4: What are the most important and practical components of a regional recreation and tourism collaborative to benefit the sector?

Prioritize the most important elements of a regional recreation collaborative:

LEAST IMPORTANT

MOST IMPORTANT

Identifying needs	Identification of funding sources	Clarifying priorities	Developing a clear plan	Defining roles and responsibilities of participants	Defining the scope of work
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Based on the project presentations, what should this entity do?

Breaks Silos	Asset Mapping	Conducts a needs assessment (regularly)	Two coherent tracks: info sharing and asset mapping?
More transit connecting tourists to assets equitably	Do the jobs have common master plans? May be we should?	Less planning more doing/funding actual jobs	Balance natural resources in a coordinated manner?
Get right players and right participants in the room, resource share	Project prioritization	Where is the overlap?	Communicate common issues across the region
Centralized communication source, regular/ scale ESOP	2x2 matrix to assess where greatest ROI and effort expenditure value (x = high value, y = low to high effort)	Get to know all sectors and identify ops to coordinate	Break silos by doing deep listening to all partners
Get close to projects, partners and capitalize on real needs	regional policy advocate	Connecting neighbors	Think creatively! Let's try new things... we have tried the same strategies over and over again/let's break out of the box

Benefit all 7 counties?

who are the participants (visitors bureau, museums, arts council, chambers, parks districts)?	Define participants AND define roles/responsibilities then leverage to collaborate	Maybe we are trying to do too much all at the same time.
Can this group do advocacy work? push initiatives to be a common value?	Map our communities and who are visitors are/need commonality (roles in this collaboration)	

Based on the project presentations, what should this entity NOT do?

Identify work that belongs to other sectors and do redo work	Should not be formal - NO regional governance should be an outcome, emphasis on informal	Do not compromise natural resources	Split formal coordination into west/east and identify ops to combine, don't always be a large collaborative	Low-impact/ hard to do things should be avoided
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Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

SIERRA WORKS

THANK YOU FOR COMING



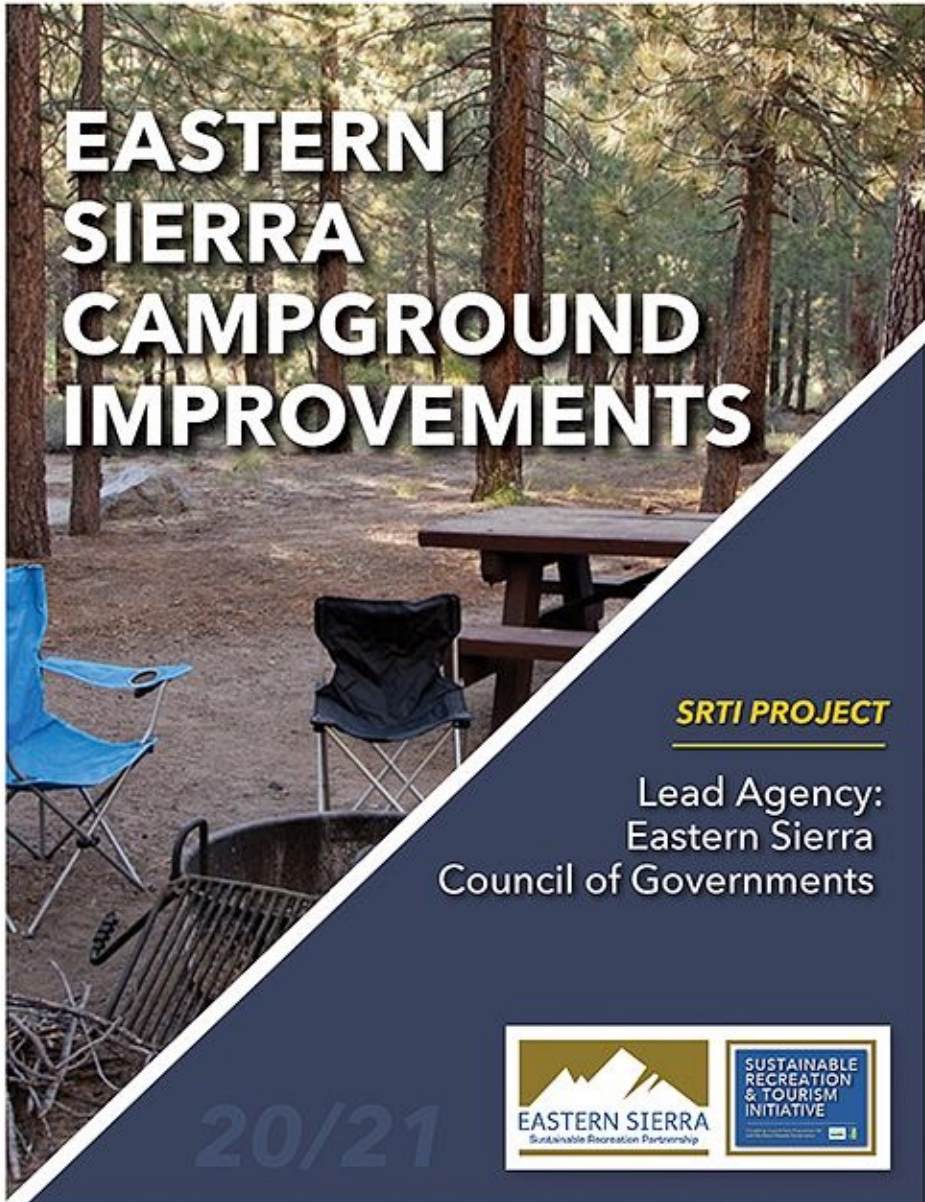
Next Meeting:

January 20, 2026

Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group

Working Group Dates & Topics

- Nov. 17th – Regional Governance
- Jan. 20th – Inventory Mapping
- Feb. 16th – Policy Barriers
- March 16th – Regional Branding & Financing
- April 20th – Climate Resiliency
- May 18th – Arts & Culture
- June 15th – Workforce Capacity
- July 20th – Final Meeting and Review of RICA Updates





EASTERN SIERRA CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

SRTI PROJECT

Lead Agency:
Eastern Sierra
Council of Governments

20/21





MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

USDA Forest Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		FS-1500-19 (VER. 05/24) OMB No. 0596-0217 EXP: 05/31/2027	
MODIFICATION OF GRANT OR AGREEMENT		PAGE 1 OF 8	
1. U.S. FOREST SERVICE GRANT/AGREEMENT NUMBER: 24-CS-11050400-006		2. RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR GRANT or AGREEMENT NUMBER, IF ANY: 001	
3. MODIFICATION NUMBER: 001			
4. NAME/ADDRESS OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE UNIT ADMINISTERING GRANT/AGREEMENT (unit name, street, city, state, and zip + 4): Pacific Southwest Region, Grants and Agreements 1323 Club Dr. Vallejo, CA 94592-1111		5. NAME/ADDRESS OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE UNIT ADMINISTERING PROJECT/ACTIVITY (unit name, street, city, state, and zip + 4): Inyo National Forest 351 Pacu Lane Bishop, CA 93514	
6. NAME/ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR (street, city, state, and zip + 4, country): MLTPA Foundation PO Box 100 Pmb #432 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-6324		7. RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR'S IHS SUB ACCOUNT NUMBER (For IHS payment use only):	
8. PURPOSE OF MODIFICATION			
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This modification is issued pursuant to the modification provision in the grant/agreement referenced in item no. 1, above. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHANGE IN PERFORMANCE PERIOD: extend to June 30, 2027 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHANGE IN FUNDING: add \$435,000 <input type="checkbox"/> ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify type of modification): additional scope item			
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the Grant/Agreement referenced in 1, above, remain unchanged and in full force and effect.			
9. ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR DESCRIPTION OF MODIFICATION (add additional pages as needed): see attached			
10. ATTACHED DOCUMENTATION (Check all that apply):			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised Scope of Work <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised Financial Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: justification for modification			
11. SIGNATURES			
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: BY SIGNATURE BELOW, THE SIGNING PARTIES CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTIES AND AUTHORIZED TO ACT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS FOR MATTERS RELATED TO THE ABOVE-REFERENCED GRANT/AGREEMENT.			
11.A. MLTPA FOUNDATION SIGNATURE John Wentworth <small>Digitally signed by John Wentworth Date: 2025.05.15 15:11:00 -07'00'</small>		11.B. DATE SIGNED	
11.C. U.S. FOREST SERVICE SIGNATURE Lesley Yen <small>Digitally signed by LESLEY YEN Date: 2025.05.17 08:36:00 -07'00'</small>		11.D. DATE SIGNED	
(Signature of Signatory Official)		(Signature of Signatory Official)	
11.E. NAME (type or print): JOHN WENTWORTH		11.F. NAME (type or print): LESLEY YEN	
11.G. TITLE (type or print): CEO/Board President		11.H. TITLE (type or print): Forest Supervisor	
12. G&A REVIEW			
12.A. The authority and format of this modification have been reviewed and approved for signature by: HUGO MARTINEZ-ROACHO <small>Digitally signed by HUGO MARTINEZ-ROACHO Date: 2025.05.15 15:05:01 -07'00'</small> HUGO MARTINEZ-ROACHO U.S. Forest Service Grants & Agreements Specialist		12.B. DATE SIGNED	

U.S. Forest Service

OMB 0596-0217
FS-1500-17B

Attachment:

USFS Agreement No.: **24-CS-11050400-006**

Mod. No.: **1**

Cooperator Agreement No.:

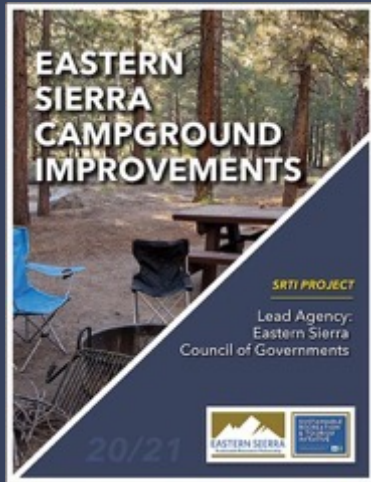
Note: This Financial Plan may be used when:
(1) No program income is expected and
(2) The Cooperator is not giving cash to the FS and
(3) There is no other Federal funding

Financial Plan Matrix: Note: All columns may not be used. Use depends on source and type of contribution(s).

COST ELEMENTS	FOREST SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS		COOPERATOR CONTRIBUTIONS		(e) Total
	(a) Noncash	(b) Cash to Cooperator	(c) Noncash	(d) In-Kind	
Direct Costs					
Salaries/Labor	\$6,290.00	\$392,875.50	\$100,000.00	\$12,844.80	\$512,010.30
Travel	\$0.00	\$2,579.04	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,579.04
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies/Materials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other					
Subtotal	\$6,290.00	\$395,454.54	\$100,000.00	\$12,844.80	\$514,589.34
Coop Indirect Costs		\$39,545.45	\$0.00		\$39,545.45
FS Overhead Costs	\$0.00				\$0.00
Total	\$6,290.00	\$434,999.99	\$100,000.00	\$12,844.80	\$554,134.79
Total Project Value:					\$554,134.79

Matching Costs Determination	
Total Forest Service Share = (a+b) + (c) = (f)	(f) 79.64%
Total Cooperator Share (c+d) + (e) = (g)	(g) 20.36%
Total (f+g) = (h)	(h) 100.00%

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

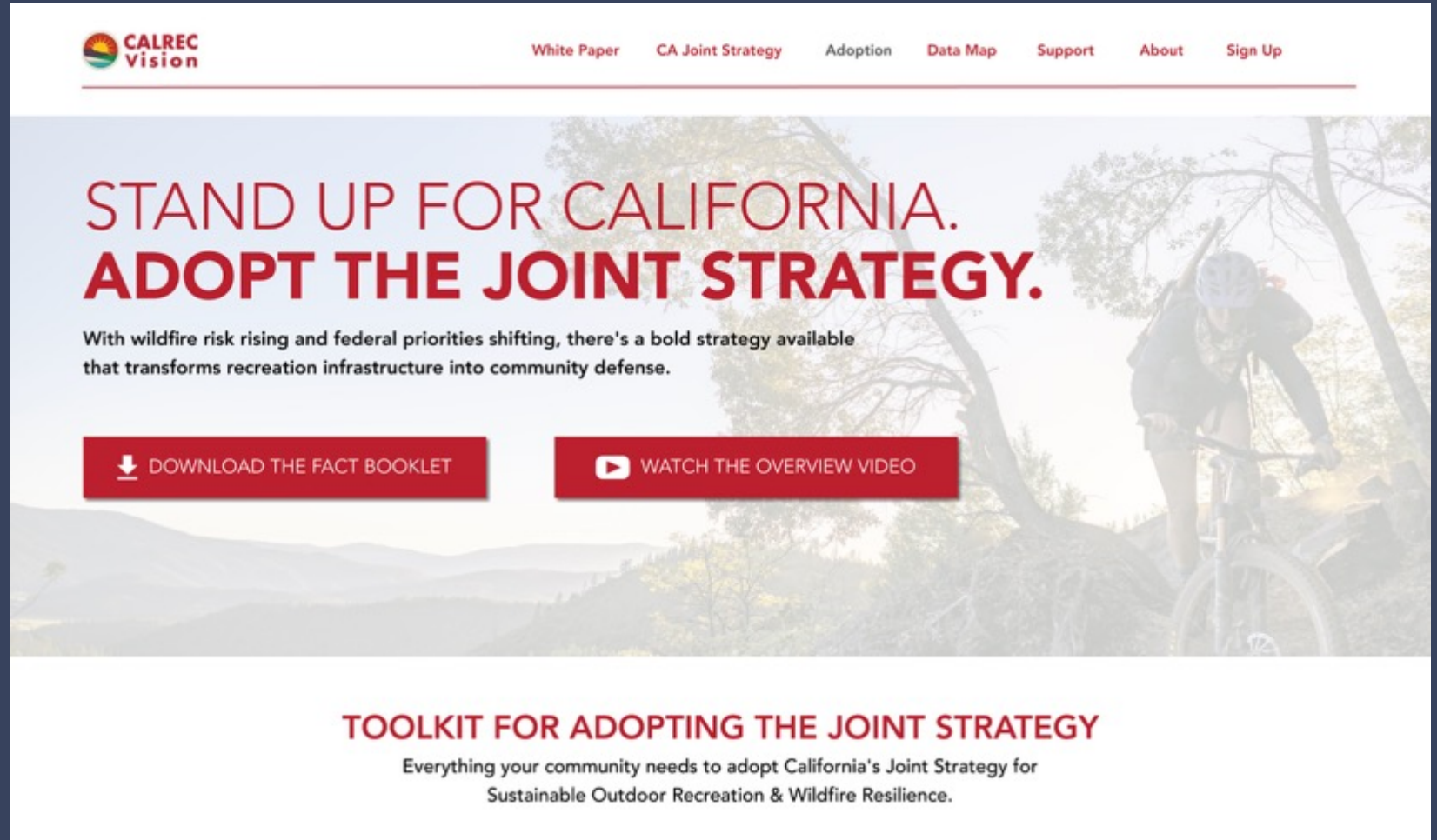




CALREC
Vision

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Bishop
- City of Richmond
- City of Truckee
- East Bay Regional Park District
- East Bay Wildfire Coalition
- Humboldt County
- Marin County
- Mariposa County
- Napa County
- Nevada County
- Placer County
- Plumas County
- Sierra County
- Tuolumne County



The screenshot shows the homepage of the CALREC Vision website. The header includes the CALREC Vision logo and a navigation menu with links: White Paper, CA Joint Strategy, Adoption, Data Map, Support, About, and Sign Up. The main content area features a large background image of a person mountain biking in a forest. Overlaid on this image is the text: "STAND UP FOR CALIFORNIA. ADOPT THE JOINT STRATEGY." Below this, a sub-headline reads: "With wildfire risk rising and federal priorities shifting, there's a bold strategy available that transforms recreation infrastructure into community defense." Two red buttons are present: "DOWNLOAD THE FACT BOOKLET" with a download icon, and "WATCH THE OVERVIEW VIDEO" with a play icon. At the bottom, a white section contains the text: "TOOLKIT FOR ADOPTING THE JOINT STRATEGY" followed by "Everything your community needs to adopt California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience."

CALREC Vision

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

STAND UP FOR CALIFORNIA. ADOPT THE JOINT STRATEGY.

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

DOWNLOAD THE FACT BOOKLET

WATCH THE OVERVIEW VIDEO

TOOLKIT FOR ADOPTING THE JOINT STRATEGY

Everything your community needs to adopt California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience.

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
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CALREC Vision

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

STAND UP FOR CALIFORNIA. ADOPT THE JOINT STRATEGY.

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

[↓ DOWNLOAD THE FACT BOOKLET](#) [▶ WATCH THE OVERVIEW VIDEO](#)

TOOLKIT FOR ADOPTING THE JOINT STRATEGY

Everything your community needs to adopt California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience.

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Bishop



Napa County: “Hi John and Stacy. It was great talking to you this week. I shared some of this with NCRPOSD Staff Chris Cahill and Andrew Brooks and they are interested in learning more. Chris and Andrew are copied on this email, so feel free to set up a conversation with them. Thanks all, and hope you have a great Thanksgiving break!”

- Mariposa County
- Napa County
- Nevada County
- Placer County
- Plumas County
- Sierra County
- Tuolumne County



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Bishop



Placer County: “Good morning, Mr. Wentworth! We’d love to invite you/your team to a future Board meeting to present the item. We’d like to propose February 10th or February 24th. This would be a joint item from RFH and the Division of Parks, Trails, and Open Space, both part of the Department of Agriculture, Parks, and Natural Resources.”

- Mariposa County
- Napa County
- Nevada County
- Placer County
- Plumas County
- Sierra County
- Tuolumne County



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



Other Events & Important Dates

Under the Redwoods: Sempervirens Fund Webinar Series

In this webinar series, Sempervirens invites experts and thinkers to join them to explore our magnificent redwood forests, what makes redwoods so special, why they thrive here and nowhere else in the world, and what they mean to us in our lives. **Webinars are the last Tuesday of each month (January - October) from 1 - 2 PM PT.**

- [Register for the July 26th Webinar:](#) Researching Redwoods, Michael Jones, Ph.D., Univ. of California
- [Learn more >>](#)

Winter Wildlands Alliance Grassroots Advocacy Conference

September 11-14th, 2025

With climate disruption, agency underfunding, and mounting pressure on our public lands, this year's conference will explore how we can build more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable systems for the future. Expect dynamic workshops, engaging panel discussions, shared meals, and plenty of time for music and outdoor fun in the spirit of "summer camp for winter advocates."

- [Learn more and register here.](#)

BRING SOME
OF THESE!

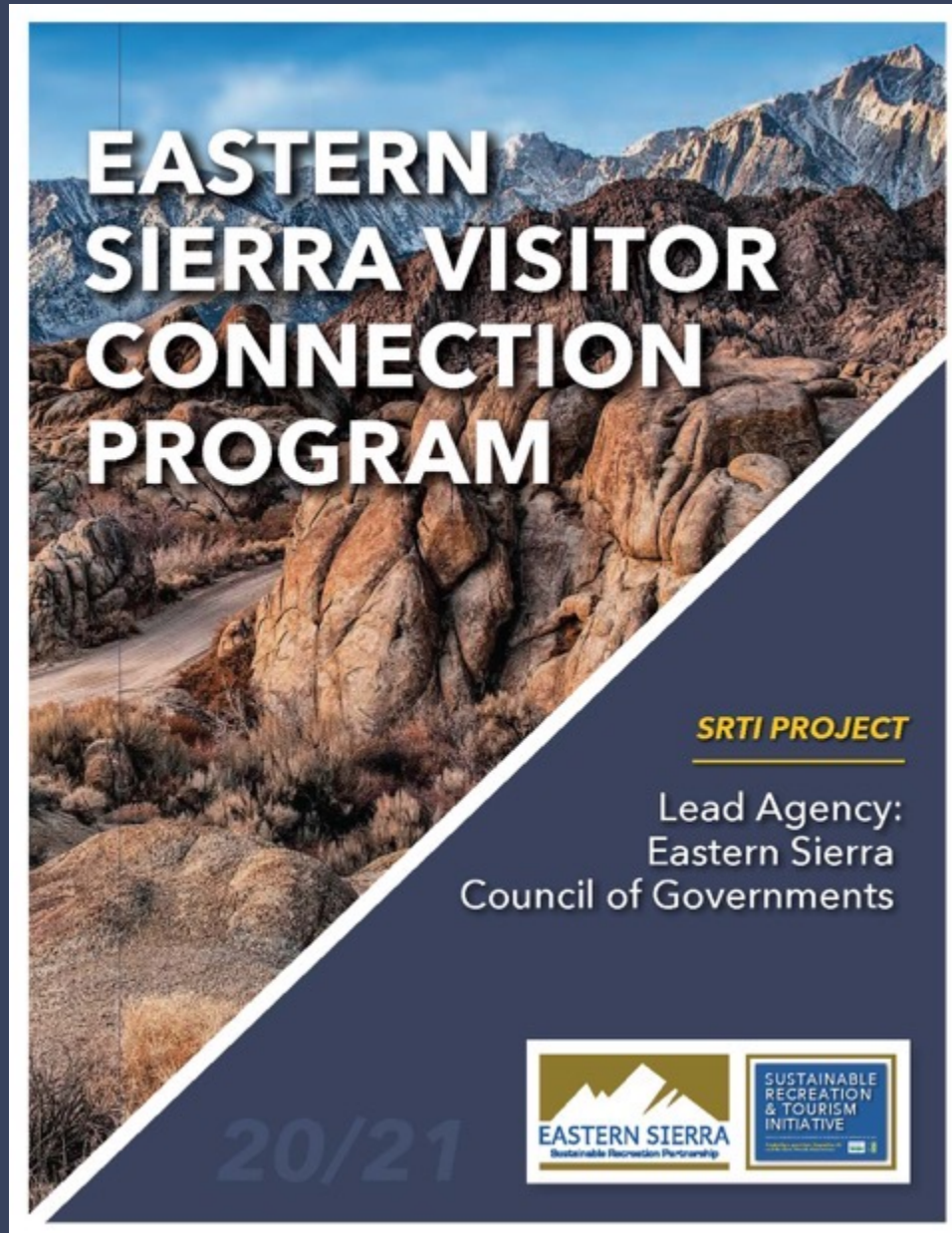


Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA) is providing these communication services.

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

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

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



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

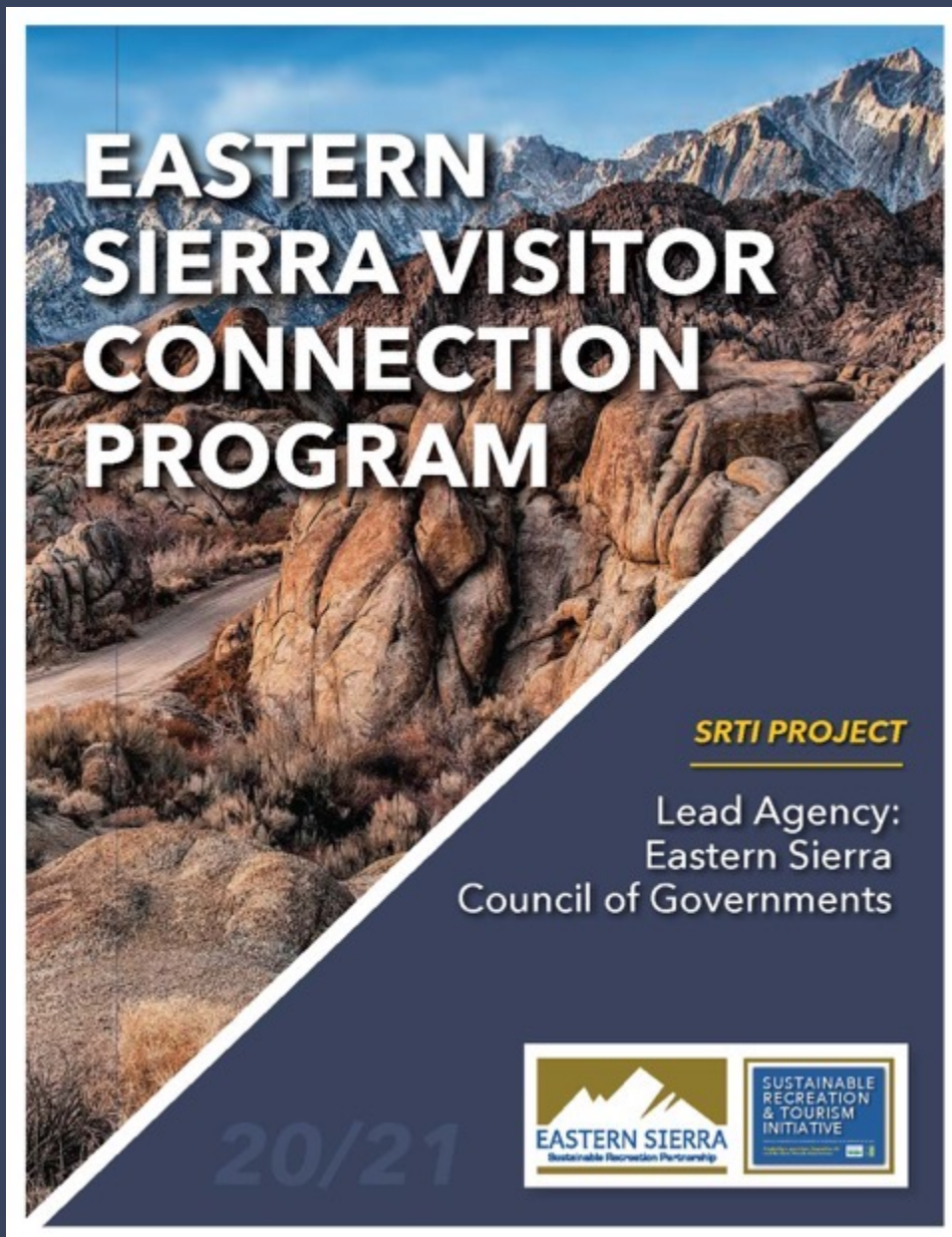


Collaborations & Campaigns

- Current collaborations underway with Mammoth Mountain, PCTA, and Friends of the Inyo.
- A full analytics report covering the year's campaign is in development.

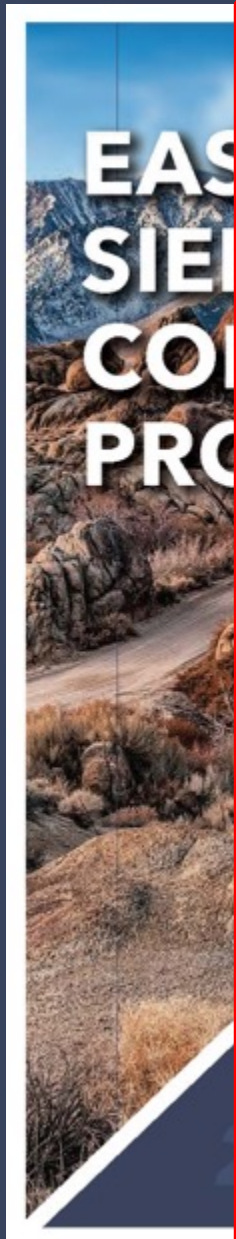
MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

Partial Partner List (33 total)



Alabama Hills Stewardship Group
Alpine County / Watershed Group / Chamber / Fire Safe Council
Bishop Climbers Coalition & Climbing Rangers
Bishop Visitor Bureau & Chamber of Commerce
Bureau of Land Management
California State Parks
Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra
Eastern Sierra Conservation Corps
Eastern Sierra Four Wheel Drive Club
Sierra Forever (formerly ESIA)
Friends of the Inyo
High Sierra Energy Foundation
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Inyo County & Inyo National Forest
LA Department of Water & Power
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
Mammoth Lakes Recreation & Tourism
Mammoth Resorts (Mammoth Mountain)
Mono County
Mono Lake Committee
National Park Service

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



Golden Mussel Threat

ewardship Group
Fire Safe Council
Climbing Rangers
ber of Commerce
and Management
fornia State Parks
rts Eastern Sierra
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Wheel Drive Club
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riends of the Inyo
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of Water & Power
ber of Commerce
eation & Tourism
nmoth Mountain)
Mono County
Lake Committee
National Park Service

ESCOG Sustainable Recreation Projects

Eastern
Sierra
Council of
Governments

[ABOUT](#)

[WHAT WE DO](#)

[MEETINGS](#)

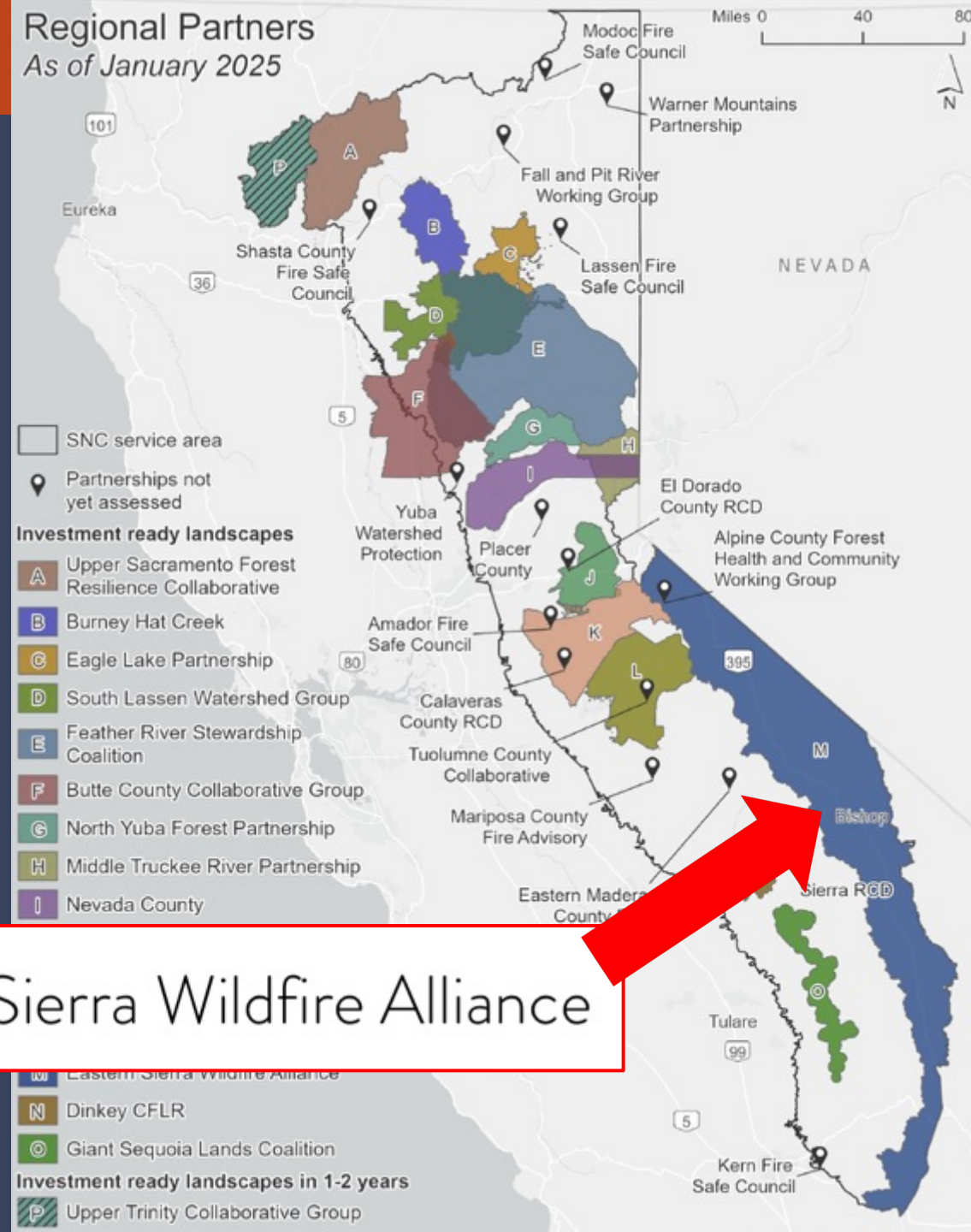
[CONTACT](#)

Eastern
Sierra
Council of
Governments

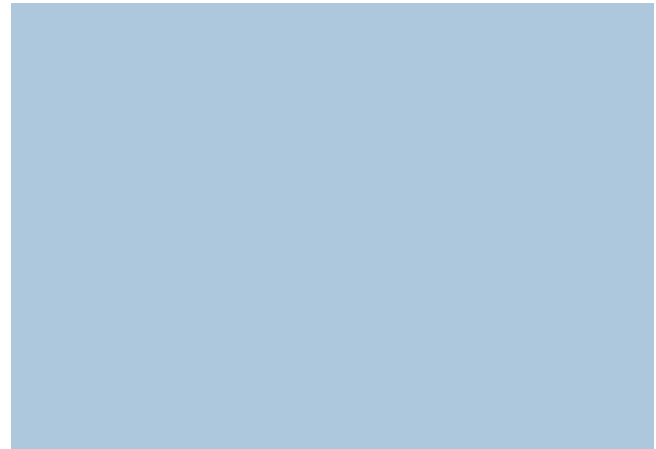
SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



California Wildfire and Recreation



Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance



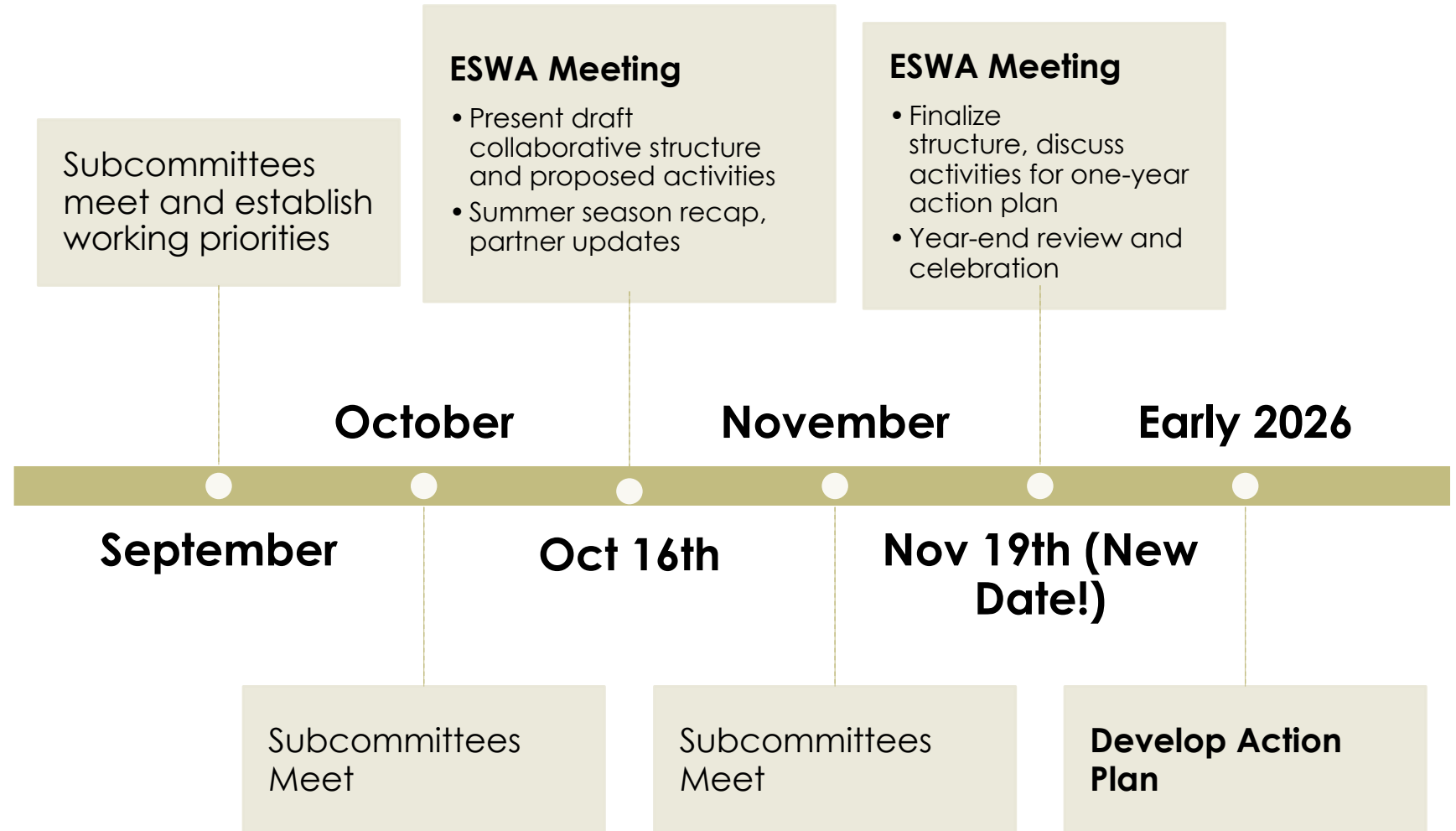
Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance

- Collaboration of agencies, communities, non-profits, utilities, Tribes, and others working to advance regional resilience
- 2025 effort to refine collaborative structure & decision-making
- Focus on communities & landscapes throughout region
- Strong collaborative approach that includes diverse partners is essential to demonstrate funding readiness
- Next Meeting: November 19th – Bishop

ESWA 2025 Timeline



ESWA 2025 Timeline



Partner Updates – In 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, January 5, 2026 @ 3:30