

It's time to scale up life in space.

Aurelia Institute is a nonprofit space architecture R&D lab, education and outreach center, and policy hub dedicated to building humanity's future in space for the benefit of Earth.



Ariel Ekblaw, PhD



Summer



REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



July 6, 2026





REGULAR PARTNER MEETING



July 6, 2026



Recording in Progress

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

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

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

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

What is the ESSRP



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

What is the ESSRP

Alpine

SIERRA WORKS

RECREATION & TOURISM PROJECTS IN THE SIERRAS

CALIFORNIA
JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

SIERRA FOCUS MEDIA
AN ORGANIZATION OF THE

MLTPA
MANMOUTH LINKS TRAIL & PUBLIC ACCESS



Sierra Jobs First

Recreation and Tourism Industry Sector

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

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



American Indigenous Tourism Association

- Sherry L. Rupert
 - *Chief Executive Officer*

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



American Indigenous Tourism Association

- Hannah Peterson
 - *Development Director*

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells

SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD

Account

NEWS

California returns stretch of coast to Indigenous tribes. 'This is beyond huge'

By Alex Wigglesworth, *Los Angeles Times*
July 3, 2026



Governor Gavin Newsom (D-CA) speaks to reporters inside the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC on May 20, 2026.

Anadolu/Anadolu via Getty images

HighCountryNews

Donate

FISH

The Klamath Tribes couldn't get federal dollars for salmon. Then the Yurok stepped in

For more than 100 years, salmon had been absent from the Klamath Tribe's lands — a fact that cut them off from funding sources to fix that.

B. 'Toastie' Oaster July 2, 2026

Post Email Save Article More



Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



Sierra Nevada Conservancy

- Board Meeting
- Mono County
- September 2-3

Welcomes, Giving Thanks, and Farewells



MIT PKG Center for Social Impact

- Allie Larman
 - *Fellow w/MLTPA*

Hot Links July 6, 2026

Welcome

It's time to scale up life in space.

Watch Ariel Ekblaw's TED Talk

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

Welcome

Sherry L. Rupert - Chief Executive Officer Paiute/Washoe

Sherry L. Rupert (Paiute/Washoe) is the Chief Executive Officer of the American Indigenous Tourism Association

Happenings of Interest



**SIERRA
WORKS**

AMADOR | ALPINE | CALAVERAS | INYO | MONO | MARIPOSA | TUOLUMNE
CALIFORNIA
JOBS FIRST
Sierra Region

RICA

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION
AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION

RICA Draft Review

Please provide your feedback on these draft Recommendations for Implementation & Collaborative Action (RICA) for the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Sector in the Sierra Region of the California Jobs First initiative.

These recommendations have been compiled from the Sierra Works/Jobs First "Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Working Group" convenings from November 2025 through June 2026.

Don't Miss Out: Please share your feedback using a desktop machine for the best experience! You're going to miss out if you just use your phone.

Have Fun!

Start

Happenings of Interest

CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

GAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNOR

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 9
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET | BISHOP, CA 93514
(760) 874-8330 | FAX (760) 872-0678 TTY 711
WWW.DOT.CA.GOV



June 29, 2026

Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)
437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite 230
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Dear ESSRP Team:

On behalf of Caltrans and the Gateway communities we serve, I am pleased to express our strong support for the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership's (ESSRP) RICA program and its vision for sustainable recreation, tourism, and community development across the Sierra Jobs First region.

Gateway Communities Supported by Caltrans

Caltrans is committed to supporting Gateway communities—those cities, towns, Tribes, and unincorporated areas adjacent to public lands, as defined by Department of the Interior Order 3434. These communities are vital partners in visitor management, conservation, and economic vitality. The State transportation infrastructure provides essential access, safety, and connectivity for residents, visitors, and System unit operations.

Highways Supporting RICA Vision and Goals

The State highways, including the US 395 and US 6 corridors, are integral to the RICA vision. They connect communities, facilitate tourism, and enable collaborative stewardship of natural and cultural resources. Caltrans' ongoing work on the US 395 and US 6 Corridor Plan is designed to enhance regional mobility, safety, and economic opportunity. For a description of Caltrans corridor and system planning, please visit the [Caltrans Corridor and System Planning website](#).

Alignment with RICA's Four Goals

The RICA program's four goals—regional information sharing, addressing implementation barriers, workforce development, and climate resilience—are closely aligned with Caltrans' mission and the priorities of Gateway communities:

1. **Facilitating Regional Collaboration:** Caltrans supports information-sharing entities and collaborative hubs that connect federal, state, and local partners.
2. **Removing Barriers:** We work to address policy and regulatory obstacles, ensuring equitable access and sustainable project implementation.
3. **Workforce Development:** Our projects foster year-round, career-focused opportunities in recreation, tourism, and land management.

Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP)
June 23, 2026
Page 2

4. **Climate Adaptation:** Caltrans is committed to climate-resilient infrastructure and adaptive visitor management, supporting regional sustainability.

Reference Materials

This letter draws upon the RICA Draft Review, the Sierra RICA Companion Guide, and Department of the Interior Order 3434, which collectively outline the framework for partnership, stewardship, and community engagement.

Contact Information

For further information or collaboration, please contact:

- Ben Downard, Highway Corridor Planning Lead, ben.downard@dot.ca.gov, (760) 874-8319
- Catherine Carr, LDR Coordinator, catherine.carr@dot.ca.gov, (760) 874-8318

We look forward to continued partnership with ESSRP and all stakeholders in advancing the RICA vision for the Eastern Sierra.

Sincerely,

Catherine E. Carr

Catherine E. Carr
Senior Transportation Planner
Local Development Review Coordinator
Division of Planning & Environmental
Caltrans - District 9
Cell: 760-874-8318



Happenings of Interest



NACo ACTION ALERT

OMB Proposes Major Overhaul of Federal Grant Rules

Counties Must Submit Comments by July 13

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has published a proposed rule rewriting 2 CFR Part 200 — the Uniform Guidance — the largest overhaul of federal grant rules since 2013. This rule governs every federal grant your county receives, covering public safety, transportation, housing, public health, emergency management and more. The public comment period closes **July 13, 2026**.

To assist counties, NACo has developed an [online resource hub](#) and [comprehensive analysis](#).

3,069

3,069 counties will be directly impacted

\$1.1T

\$1.1 trillion in federal grants governed by this rule annually

What Your County Should Do Now

1. **County attorneys:** Review the [proposed rule](#) — particularly the new discretionary grant termination authority, expanded pass-through entity obligations, new event-services requirements and the reclassification of 2 CFR Subtitle A from policy guidance to binding federal regulation.
2. **County officials:** Use [NACo's template comment letter](#) to submit formal comments, personalized with your county's specific grant programs and local examples of how the proposed changes could affect service delivery and budgets.
3. **Submit comments by July 13.** Every county comment on the record strengthens NACo's advocacy and ensures local government realities shape the final rule.

Key Provisions at Stake for Counties

- New discretionary federal authority to terminate grant awards mid-program
- Expanded pre-award review requirements that could delay and deter grant applications
- Increased pass-through entity obligations and sub-recipient monitoring requirements
- Reclassification of Uniform Guidance from policy guidance to binding federal regulation

We Want to Hear from You: OMB Uniform Grants Guidance Office Hours

NACo wants to hear directly from counties about what's at stake.

Join us for a series of live office hours sessions where NACo staff will listen to how the proposed rule could affect your county's federal grant programs, operations, and capacity.

Sessions run **4–5 p.m. ET** on the following dates:

- Thursday, June 25
- Tuesday, June 30
- Thursday, July 2
- Tuesday, July 7

Your input will directly shape NACo's formal comment letter ahead of the July 13 deadline.

[Join via Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 270 302 425 517 545 | Passcode: 4oL9XY9q

Happenings of Interest

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
COUNTIES

NACo®

What Your County Should Do Now

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“The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposes to revise the Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance to improve government-wide policies and requirements related to the management of grants, cooperative agreements, and other forms of assistance.”

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[Join via Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 270 302 425 517 545 | Passcode: 4oL9XY9q

Happenings of Interest

Countdown to America's 250th Anniversary  **Is happening now!**

An official website of the United States government.
[Here's how you know](#) -

[News](#) [Blog](#) [Employee Resources](#)

 **U.S. Department of Agriculture** [MENU](#)



← **Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

IN THIS SECTION

About OCFO 

Vision

OCFO leads the way to fiscally sound, cost effective program delivery, supported by reliable financial management information and infrastructure.

Mission

The OCFO will shape an environment in which USDA officials have and use high quality financial and performance information to make and implement effective policy, management, stewardship, and program decisions.

Responsibilities

OCFO operations are led by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), who is assisted by the Deputy CFO, three Associate CFOs for: Financial Systems, Financial Operations, Financial Policy and Planning, and the Director, National Finance Center (NFC). OCFO is responsible for:

2 CFR 200.204

- Requirement for all discretionary awards, including noncompetitive awards, to be issued pursuant to a NOFO

2 CFR 200.201(b) and 2 CFR 200.333

- Prohibition of the issuance of fixed amount awards and subawards unless otherwise authorized by statute

2 CFR 200.329

- New performance monitoring requirements for recipients and the Federal awarding agency

2 CFR 200.341

- Creation of an option to issue a stop work order

2 CFR 200.421

- Imposing significant limitations on advertising and marketing costs.

Happenings of Interest



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2 CFR 200.421

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Happenings of Interest

The screenshot shows the Federal Register website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Sections', 'Browse', 'Search', 'Reader Aids', and 'My FR'. Below this is the 'FEDERAL REGISTER' header with the National Archives logo and the tagline 'The Daily Journal of the United States Government'. A blue banner indicates a 'Proposed Rule'. The main heading is 'Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance'. Below this, a long list of participating agencies is provided, including the Management and Budget Office, Health and Human Services Department, Agriculture Department, State Department, Agency for International Development, Veterans Affairs Department, Energy Department, Treasury Department, Defense Department, Transportation Department, Commerce Department, Interior Department, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, United States Agency for Global Media, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Corporation for National and Community Service, Social Security Administration, Housing and Urban Development Department, National Science Foundation, National Archives and Records Administration, Small Business Administration, Justice Department, Labor Department, Homeland Security Department, Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Education Department, Export-Import Bank, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Peace Corps, Election Assistance Commission, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, Federal Communications Commission, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Delta Regional Authority, Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Marine Mammal Commission, Millennium Challenge Corporation, and National Credit Union Administration, dated 05/29/2026.

Below the agencies list, there's a section for submitting comments. It states: 'You are submitting an official comment to Regulations.gov. Comments are due 07/13/2026 at 11:59 pm EST.' There's a 'regulations.gov' logo and a 'close comment form' link. A thank you message follows: 'Thank you for taking the time to create a comment. Your input is important.' It then explains the review process: 'Once you have filled in the required fields below you can preview and/or submit your comment to the Management and Budget Office for review. All comments are considered public and will be posted online once the Management and Budget Office has reviewed them.' It also provides an alternative way to comment: 'You can view alternative ways to comment or you may also comment via Regulations.gov at <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/0408-2026-0034-0001>.' There's a 'Comment' label and a large text area for the comment. Below the text area is an 'Upload File(s)' section with a '+ Add a file' button and a note: 'Note: You can attach your comment as a file and/or attach supporting documents to your comment. Attachment Requirements.' At the bottom, there's an 'Email' field with a note: 'this will NOT be posted on regulations.gov' and a checkbox: 'Opt to receive email confirmation of submission and tracking number?'

2 CFR 200.204

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2 CFR 200.201(b) and 2 CFR 200.333

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2 CFR 200.421

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Happenings of Interest

Sections + Browse + Search + Reader Aids + My FR + Search Documents

 **FEDERAL REGISTER**
The Daily Journal of the United States Government 

 Proposed Rule

Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance

A Proposed Rule by the Management and Budget Office, the Health and Human Services Department, the Agriculture Department, the State Department, the Agency for International Development, the Veterans Affairs Department, the Energy Department, the Treasury Department, the Defense Department, the Transportation Department, the Commerce Department, the Interior Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Agency for Global Media, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Social Security Administration, the Housing and Urban Development Department, the National Science Foundation, the National Archives and Records Administration, the Small Business Administration, the Justice Department, the Labor Department, the Homeland Security Department, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Education Department, the Export-Import Bank, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Peace Corps, the Election Assistance Commission, the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, the Federal Communications Commission, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, the Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, the Marine Mammal Commission, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the National Credit Union Administration on 05/29/2026

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Comments are due 07/13/2026 at 11:59 pm EST.

 [close comment form](#)

Thank you for taking the time to create a comment. Your input is important.

Once you have filled in the required fields below you can preview and/or submit your comment to the Management and Budget Office for review. All comments are considered public and will be posted online once the Management and Budget Office has reviewed them.

You can view alternative ways to comment or you may also comment via Regulations.gov at <https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/OMB-2026-0034-0001>.

Comment 

Upload File(s)  [Add a file](#) Note: You can attach your comment as a file and/or attach supporting documents to your comment. Attachment Requirements.

Email
this will NOT be posted on regulations.gov

☐ Opt to receive email confirmation of submission and tracking number?

 You are submitting an official comment to Regulations.gov.
Comments are due 07/13/2026 at 11:59 pm EST.
[close comment form](#)



79711 comments received. [View posted comments](#)

Comments are Due
July 13 by Midnight

Happenings of Interest

CarsonNOW

Menu

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

Invasive golden mussels intercepted at Lake Tahoe

By Jeff Cowen, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Sunday, June 7, 2026 - 5:00pm



Meyers Boat Inspection Station. Credit: Photos via Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

CAL MATTERS

Donate

California scales back golden mussel safeguards at vital reservoir, alarming experts

BY RACHEL BECKER
JUNE 12, 2026



A sampling plate covered with golden mussels that was removed from the Spooner Channel at the Port of Siskiyou on Oct. 31, 2025. Detection plans are used to monitor the spread and density of golden mussels. Photo by Fred Greenlee for CalMatters

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

U.S. & WORLD // CALIFORNIA

California's waterways could get clogged by a problem that didn't exist two years ago

By Kurtis Alexander, Staff Writer
JUNE 14, 2026



California Department of Water Resources Utilities District Supervisor Nick Barletta works to replace a wing gate covered with mussels during annual maintenance at the John E. Skinner Delta Fish Procreative Facility in Contra Costa County, as seen in May.

Archives//California Department of Water Resources

KOLO 8 newsNOW abc

83°

News Election Results Weather Sports Watch Now Telemundo Reno

Inspectors intercept vessel laden with invasive species at Tahoe



WATERCRAFT INSPECTORS FIND GOLDEN MUSSELS
AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTED FROM LAKE TAHOE

Inspectors intercept vessel laden with invasive species at Tahoe

SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD

Account

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE

'No point of return': Calif. won't keep golden mussels from second-largest reservoir

Each mussel can spawn thousands of offspring



Water is released on the main spillway at Lake Oroville on Jan. 12, 2026, in Oroville, Calif.

Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD

Account

TRAVEL | TAHOE

6 boats caught attempting to launch illegally onto Lake Tahoe

A similar case last year resulted in a \$5,000 fine

By Julie Brown Davis, Mountain Times Editor
June 26, 2026



A view of Lake Tahoe in California and Nevada. Golden mussels have not yet been found in Lake Tahoe, and officials hope they'll never be here. But they are nonetheless one of the biggest existential threats facing the region.

Getty Images

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THE BEE

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NEWS SPORTS WORLD CUP POLITICS RESTAURANTS OPINION GAMES OBITUARIES FINANCE CL

61°F

VIEWPOINTS

Increased vigilance crucial to keep golden mussels out of Lake Tahoe | Opinion

By Julie W. Regan Special to The Sacramento Bee
July 2, 2026 9:28 AM



The spread of Golden Mussels, a highly invasive species first detected in Sacramento County in 2024, was declared a local emergency by Sacramento County Board of Supervisors on June 16, 2026. Lake Tahoe faces a rising threat from golden mussels. Strengthened inspections and clean-drain-dry practices protect clarity and shoreline health. California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Read today's Edition

THE BEE

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NEWS SPORTS WORLD CUP POLITICS RESTAURANTS OPINION GAMES OBITUARIES FINANCE CL

88°F

LOCAL

Invasive mussels found in and around Port of West Sacramento, CA officials say

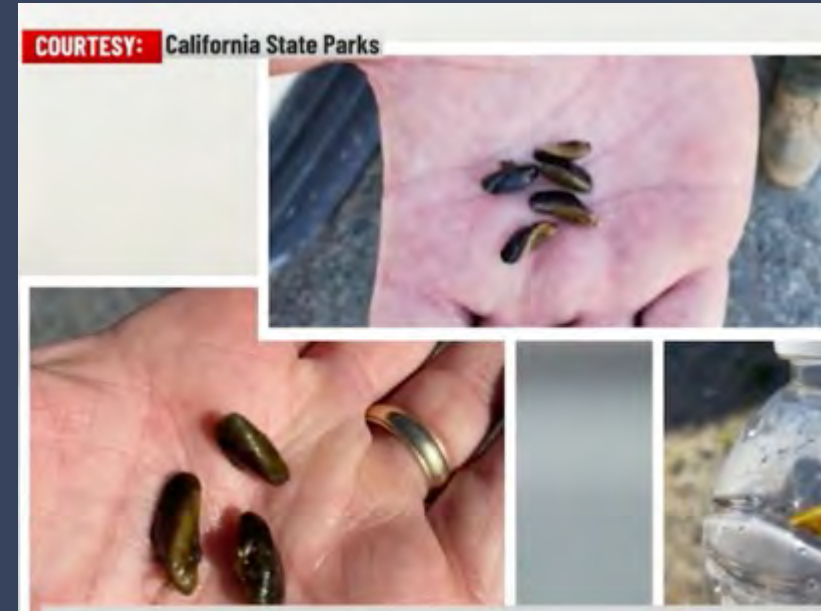
By Sofia Williams
Updated June 27, 2026 12:35 PM



Invasive golden mussels are seen at the state Department of Water Resources' lab in West Sacramento in November. Xavier Mataré/PA Department of Water Resources

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife confirmed Saturday that golden mussels have been found in and around the Port of West Sacramento, the northernmost detection of the invasive species to date.

Happenings of Interest



Outreach

- EASTERSIERRAWID.com
- Other Resources:
 - Business/Local one sheet
 - Visitor handouts: postcard, table tent
 - Poster
 - Email/Website banner
 - A-Frames and road signage
 - Social media and digital assets
- <https://monocounty.ca.gov/economic/page/mono-county-fish-wildlife-programs>
- <https://www.vcptoolkit.org/golden-mussels>



2026 Inspection Required Before Launch



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

Happenings of Interest



Happenings of Interest

The New York Times

Why Scientists Retired the Dire Climate Scenario Used for Over a Decade

While global warming is still a threat, the decision to back away from a worst-case outlook raises questions about whether some risks have been overstated.

Listen · 12:48 min

Share full article



674



ESCOG Sustainable Recreation Projects

Eastern
Sierra
Council of
Governments

[ABOUT](#)

[WHAT WE DO](#)

[MEETINGS](#)

[CONTACT](#)

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SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Co-LAB Summit 2026

- *Eastern Sierra Collaborative Initiative*

July 9-10, Bishop, California

RSVP on the ESCOG Website

escog.ca.gov/summit

Hurry! Limited Space Available!



Sustainable Recreation

Wildfire Resiliency

Working Lands & Agriculture

Economic Development

The Co-LAB Summit

Advancing Regional Collaboration in the Eastern Sierra

Brought to you by:

Eastern
Sierra
Council of
Governments

**CALIFORNIA
JOBS FIRST**
Sierra Region

Day 1: Thursday, July 9 *Small Business Resource Center*

1:00 PM	Co-LAB Summit Kick-Off	Welcome Co-LAB overview Region's Longest Stewardship Story
1:30 PM	Opening Remarks	Danna Stroud , Associate Deputy Director, Regional Engagement & Development Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and TBA
1:45PM	Panel 1: Opportunities and Challenges: How Collaboration Moves Us Forward	Explore the realities of working across landscape, jurisdictions, and stakeholder interests
3:15 PM	Panel 2: Positioning the Region for Opportunity	Presentations from collaboratives in the four Core Areas celebrating the range of vibrancy in our region
5:30 PM	Curated Dinner Crawl Around Downtown Bishop	Visit local Bishop establishments
7:00 PM	"Firelines" Movie + Q&A	C5 Studios screening and Q&A

Day 2: Friday, July 10 *Cerro Coso Community College*

8:30 AM	Coffee and Mingle	
9:30 AM	Welcome and State of the Region	Setting Tone for the Day Team Intros State of the Region
9:50 AM	Opening Remarks	Stew McMorrow , Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship, Professional Forester, and Staff Chief of Wildfire Resilience for CAL FIRE and TBD
10:30 AM	Panel What Makes it Pay	Beyond the region- leaders who have successfully implemented creative policy and funding tools
11:45 AM	Pre-Lunch: Knitting it all Together	Short facilitated reflection session to weave together different conversations of the CO-Lab Summit so far.
12:00 PM	Lunch (Provided on-site)	
1:45 PM	Getting to Work	Agnew::Beck presentation, Q&A, small group working session, and regional visioning activity to set collective vision and guiding principles
4:15 PM	Closing Remarks	
5:00 PM	Happy Hour and Farm Dinner	After dinner panel discussion on local food systems

Chipmunk Canyon *Existing Conditions Analysis*

Survey and Input Map- May 27-June 29

353 Survey responses

250 Input Map Comments

(81 unique participants)

SURVEY CLOSES: JULY 15!



Happenings of Interest

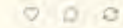
Ghost Tree Journal

Can A.I. Help Us Save Nature?

Or: How I Neglected to Take a Photo of My Firstborn at the Trailhead



DAVID PAGE
JUL 22, 2019



Share

Sometime before noon on June 16th I dropped off my 21-year-old son and his friend Gavin by the ice cream stand at Mono Village at the west end of Twin Lakes on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. The place where Jack Kerouac and Gary Snyder had set off for their famous scramble up the Matterhorn in 1955 was now swarming with oversized, plastic-clad pickup trucks hauling motorboats and luxury travel trailers. There was a line of vehicles waiting to check into pre-reserved campsites and cabins for the long weekend. There were all manner and size of specialty-breed dogs parading about through the woods on retractable leashes, kids playing ball games in the dirt, adults lounging in folding chairs drinking canned beer. There was at least one rock climber sorting his extensive rack out of the back of his Subaru.



Ghost trail, Mono Wilderness, California

Resilient California Summit

Explore • Imagine • Catalyze



October 20-22, 2026
SAFE Credit Union
Convention Center
Sacramento

Organized by:



Presented by:



ABOUT THE SUMMIT

The inaugural Resilient California Summit, taking place October 20-22, 2026, at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center in Sacramento, will convene people from across the state to make progress on the policies, partnerships, and practices needed to build resilience as climate change accelerates.

The Summit will feature a diversity of interactive sessions aimed at fostering conversation, sparking new ideas, and giving attendees the resources and tools they need to be successful in their work and communities. Participants will **explore** key insights from California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment, **imagine** the best possible future that remains within reach, and **catalyze** the actions needed to turn that vision into reality.

Organizers:

The Summit is being organized by the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, Climate Resolve, Farallon Strategies, the California Natural Resources Agency, UC Davis Institute of the Environment, and Indigenous Futures Society – with core support from the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, Resources Legacy Fund, and Resilient Cities Catalyst.

Intended Audience:

We anticipate **1,000 attendees** representing local and regional government, community-based organizations, state agencies, Tribes, nonprofits, academia, the private sector, and additional key partners.

Resilient California Summit

Explore • Imagine • Catalyze

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Help Shape the Summit

The Call for Proposals for the inaugural Resilient California Summit is officially open!

We invite you to join us in shaping a dynamic and inclusive program that reflects the priorities and experiences of California's diverse communities.

Contributing to the Summit will give you an opportunity to share your expertise, elevate your community's story, and spark new collaborations with a statewide audience.



CALL FOR SESSIONS

Dozens of breakout sessions of varying formats scheduled across the Summit's three-day program. A downloadable application template with additional guidelines can be found on the submission form.

SUBMIT SESSION PROPOSAL



CALL FOR POSTERS

Visual presentations that highlight research, programs, projects, and partnerships through a printed display at the Summit. A downloadable application template with additional guidelines can be found on the submission form.

SUBMIT POSTER PROPOSAL



CALL FOR ART

Visual and interactive art interspersed throughout the Summit. A downloadable application template with additional guidelines can be found on the submission form.

SUBMIT ART PROPOSAL

Submission Details: Call for Sessions, Posters, and Art



Deadline:

Friday, July 17, at 11:59 PM PT.

Happenings of Interest

SFGATE

CAMINI CROSSWORDAccount

FOOD

**Northern California roadside staple
Ikeda's tops list of best pie shops in US**

By **Katie Dowd**, Managing editor
June 21, 2026



The marionberry pie is one of Ikeda's favorites.
Courtesy of Ikeda's



*A Guide for
Economic Development Practitioners*

**Growing
Stewardship Economies**

A practical framework for regional
development professionals ready to build
durable, place-based economies rooted in the
health of the natural resources and the rural
communities that steward them.

Proudly Supported by Wallowa Resources &
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2026

StewardshipEconomy.org

SFGATE

CAMINI CROSSWORDAccount

NATIONAL PARKS

**Glacier National Park's best loophole
is a car-free delight**

SFGATE's Kylie Mohr biked one of America's most famous national park roads before it
opened to cars



Looking down the Going-to-the-Sun Road about 1 mile from the Logan Pass summit.
Courtesy of Michael Callahan

Looking down the Going-to-the-Sun Road about 1 mile from the Logan Pass summit.
Courtesy of Michael Callahan

By **Kylie Mohr**, Big Sky Country Contributing Parks Editor
June 26, 2026



Happenings of Interest

SFGATE CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

FOOD

Northern California roadside staple Ikeda's tops list of best pie shops in US

By **Katie Dowd**, Managing editor
June 21, 2026

f x



The marionberry pie is one of Ikeda's favorites.
Courtesy of Ikeda's

SFGATE CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

Every summer, this 63-year-old Calif. drive-in gets mobbed for its peach shakes

Whitey's Jolly Kone is a 63-year-old West Sacramento institution



Customers line up to order at the window while others wait for their orders and eat at picnic tables at Whitey's Jolly Kone in West Sacramento, Calif., on May 15, 2026.

Douglas Zimmerman/SFGATE

CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

NATIONAL PARKS

National Park's best loophole for car-free delight

one of America's most famous national park roads before it opened to cars

Looking down the Going-to-the-Sun Road about 1 mile from the Logan Pass summit.

Going-to-the-Sun Road about 1 mile from the Logan Pass summit.

Contributing Parks Editor

f x w

Happenings of Interest

SFGATE CA MINI CROSSWORD Account

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE

'Obscenely damaging': Video catches off-roader in California's ancient forest

By **Anna FitzGerald Guth**, Science and climate reporter
June 6, 2026

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



FILE: A view of a bristlecone pine in California's Inyo National Forest.
Getty Images/iStockphoto

90° your central valley.com 24 47

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WEATHER ALERT
Lake Wind Advisory: West Side Mountains north of 198 >

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TOILET TROUBLE

LOCAL NEWS

Man falls into vault toilet in Fresno County trying to rescue sunglasses

by: [Karen Melrose](#)
Posted: Jun 21, 2026 / 04:12 PM PDT
Updated: Jun 23, 2026 / 10:31 AM PDT

Happenings of Interest

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER ENGLISH

BAY AREA Ridge Trail MAPS & TOOLS OUR WORK EVENTS VOLUNTEER SUPPORT THE TRAIL ABOUT US **DONATE**

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[Explore trail maps →](#)

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER ENGLISH

BAY AREA Ridge Trail MAPS & TOOLS OUR WORK EVENTS VOLUNTEER SUPPORT THE TRAIL ABOUT US **DONATE**

Kirsten Saenz Tobey named the Ridge Trail's next Executive Director

[Learn More](#)

400 miles (and growing!) of trail adventures in San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Berkeley, Oakland, the Peninsula, San Jose, Fremont, and beyond!

[Explore trail maps →](#)

POTRERO GROUP

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council Executive Director

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council selects Kirsten Saenz Tobey as Executive Director.

Bay Area Ridge Trail Council welcomes Kirsten Saenz Tobey as its next Executive Director. A lifelong Bay Area resident and mission-driven executive with two decades of leadership experience, Kirsten brings deep expertise in organizational strategy, operations, community engagement, and conservation to one of the region's most beloved public resources.

Most recently, Kirsten served as Chief Operating Officer of Save the Redwoods League, where she led organization-wide strategy and operations, guided the organization through a CEO transition, and served as Interim CEO. She introduced annual planning processes that strengthened cross-functional alignment, launched a new leadership development function, and oversaw implementation of a landmark landscape-scale conservation strategy.

Happenings of Interest

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

California's next great trail system is taking shape — and it could transform these forgotten towns

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer
June 29, 2016

Gift Article

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Jack Menard of the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship ground-truths proposed trail routes in the mountains near the town of Loyalton (Sierra County).

Gregory Thomas / S.F. Chronicle

Jack Menard hiked 1,000 tough vertical feet — bushwhacking through a dense pine forest, hopping over deadfalls and scrambling over loose scree — on a beeline for the top of Crystal Peak, a remote summit in the mountains north of Truckee.

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

Their route traced a high ridge to Crystal's bare summit crag, which overlooks Stampede Reservoir and has stellar panoramic views of distant ridgelines and flowery alpine meadows.

But it wasn't just about reaching the top of Crystal. The stewardship, a nonprofit based in Quincy (Plumas County), is chasing a much more ambitious goal: to build a giant web of hiking and biking trails linking 15 disparate mountain towns in the Northern Sierra. The vision calls for building 500 to 800 miles of new singletrack trails, depending on funding and approvals, to create a 1,000-mile network.



Crystal Peak, north of Truckee, doesn't yet have a summit trail. From the top, Stampede Reservoir looms in the distance.

Gregory Thomas / S.F. Chronicle

When completed, it will open up an intriguing array of new thru-hiking and bike-packing possibilities in the vast alpine landscape between Truckee and Lassen Volcanic National Park — with a spur out to Reno as well. Leaning into outdoor recreation could open an economic lifeline to a region that has struggled with the decline of industrial logging and mining.

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

Connecting the Lost Sierra

The stewardship launched its Connected Communities program about five years ago as a pie-in-the-sky concept to create California's next great trail system.

Fully realized, it would be a network of single track woven through 1 million acres of forested mountains that would enable people to travel on multiday adventures carrying little more than a day pack, knowing there would be hot meals and hotel rooms along the way. Williams' group named it the Lost Sierra Route.

Connecting communities

The Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship wants to build a network of hiking and biking trails connecting 15 mountain towns. The vision calls for building between 500 miles and 800 miles of trails, depending on funding and approvals.

Lost Sierra Route
Plan A Proposed
Plan B Existing roads and trails



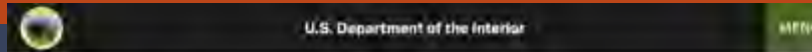


Happenings of Interest

OUTDOOR
INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATION

8 WAYS THE EXPLORE ACT POSITIVELY IMPACTS THE OUTDOOR INDUSTRY

DISCOVER HOW THE EXPLORE ACT
EMPOWERS THE OUTDOOR INDUSTRY,
FROM BOOSTING RECREATION ACCESS
TO DRIVING ECONOMIC GROWTH.



Home Interior Seeks Nominations For Long-Distance Biking Trails

Interior Seeks Nominations for Long-Distance Biking Trails on Public Lands

07/02/2026
Last edited 07/02/2026

The Department of the Interior are seeking public input related to identifying and developing long-distance biking trails, as part of work underway to implement provisions of the [Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences Act](#).

The Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act, Section 121 of the EXPLORE Act, directs the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to identify no fewer than 10 long-distance biking trails that make use of existing trails and roads, and no fewer than 10 areas where there is an opportunity to develop or complete future long-distance biking trails. The Departments will ensure the appropriate tribal consultation takes place prior to the establishment of trails.

"Our public lands belong to the American people, and the Trump administration is fully committed to expanding access, supporting rural economies, and promoting robust multiple-use recreation on federal acreage," said **Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum**. "By cutting red tape, harnessing the power of local partnerships, and utilizing existing infrastructure, this initiative will establish premier long-distance biking corridors that fuel local tourism while ensuring we remain responsible stewards of our nation's abundant natural resources."

Members of the public may nominate trails and areas for consideration using the Bureau of Land Management's web-based [National Biking on Long-Distance Trails Act Nomination Tool](#). Trail and recreation managers, partner organizations, and other parties with an interest in biking on public lands are especially encouraged to provide input. Nominations will be accepted through August 3, 2026.

The online nomination tool allows individuals to draw proposed routes on a digital map and input information about the routes in the system. People may nominate existing or potential trails using the following parameters:

- The trail is at least 80 miles long and publicly accessible.
- A majority of the trail is on federally managed public land (including lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation).
- The proposed route makes use of existing designated or otherwise officially available roads and trails.
- The trail is primarily on dirt or natural surface (short connector routes on paved or improved roads may be acceptable).
- The trail is open to bicycle use (not located within designated wilderness areas).
- The trail avoids conflicts with other trail uses, specifically other bicycling, hiking, horseback riding or pack and saddle stock uses; and purposes for which a trail was established under the National Trails System Act, if applicable.
- Ideally, nominated trails or areas have partner organizations or volunteer groups identified to assist with trail development and maintenance.

LONG LIVE LONG TRAILS

A report by the Biking on Long Distance Trails (BOLT) Coalition



CONTENTS

History of the BOLT Act
What Does the BOLT Act Do?
Formation of the BOLT Coalition
Developing a Trails Inventory
Criteria Used to Classify Trails
Summary of Existing Trails*
Summary of Potential Trails*
Honorable Mentions
Our Vision for the Future of Long Distance Trails

Existing Trails
Potential Trails

*This is not intended to represent an exhaustive list nor is it representative of trails that will ultimately be selected for recognition by the Federal Land Management Agencies, but we believe that it captures many of the candidates based on the BOLT criteria in the law.

Cover: Arizona Trail | Kurt Belander
Back Cover: Kenai MTB Trail | Cameron Sanders

Kenai MTB Trail | Cameron Sanders

Happenings of Interest

LONG LIVE LONG TRAILS

A report by the Biking on Long Distance Trails (BOLT) Coalition



SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL TRAILS

The review identified 13 trails as "potential" trails; these are trails that are projects in progress towards meeting the criteria for "existing trails."

There are varying reasons that trails have been included on this list as potential and not existing. Some of the trails do not yet have 80 miles of contiguous trail that is built, published and ready to ride. In other cases, the trail might be fully mapped out but it has not yet been published and promoted, or the trail is a proposal to link together existing trails that is not yet recognized as a specific long-distance trail.

Generally, we see identifying them as potential as being a great stepping stone to completion of some of these large ambitious projects that already have a lot of backing behind them.



Orogenesis | Huw Oliver

Trail Name	State(s)	Total Distance Currently (mi)	Total Distance When Complete (mi)	Federal Agency
Alpine #7	Montana	75		USFS
Bonneville Shoreline Trail	Utah	100	280	USFS
Chugach Mountain Bike Trail	Alaska	200	325	USFS, BLM, DoD (Fort Richardson)
East Side Sierra Towns to Trails	California		355	USFS, BLM
Great Basin Trail	Nevada	657	657	BLM, USFS
Highline National Recreation Trail	Arizona	67	82	USFS
Orogenesis	Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California	~3,500	~3,500	USFS, BLM
Ring the Peak Trail	Colorado	63	87	USFS
Santa Ana Mountains Traverse	California	85	85	USFS
Southern Trek Iditarod Trail	Alaska	84	107	USFS
Tour de Poudre	Colorado	90	90	USFS
Velomont Trail	Vermont	86	485	USFS
Verde Valley Circle Trail	Arizona	~70	150	USFS

See the Potential Trails section for more details on each trail and what is needed to complete or further develop the trail to meet the criteria of an existing trail.

Happenings of Interest



TOWNS TO TRAILS PLAN

Alpine County, Mono County, Inyo County

East Side Sierra
Towns to Trails

California

355

USFS, BLM

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL TRAILS

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See the Potential Trails section for more details on each trail and what is needed to complete or further develop the trail to meet the criteria of an existing trail.

West Side t2t
By [Dillon Osleger](#)

Details [Reviews & Comments \(0\)](#)

📍 267.9 mi + 34,558 ft ↗ 18.3 %
⌚ 0:00 - 38,823 ft ↘ -20.3 %

[Send to Device](#)

📍 Dorado County, CA [Public \(6 views\)](#)
📅 Created Jun 24, 2026 🔄 Updated Jun 24, 2026

Photos
From the Ride with GPS community.

[Fullscreen](#)

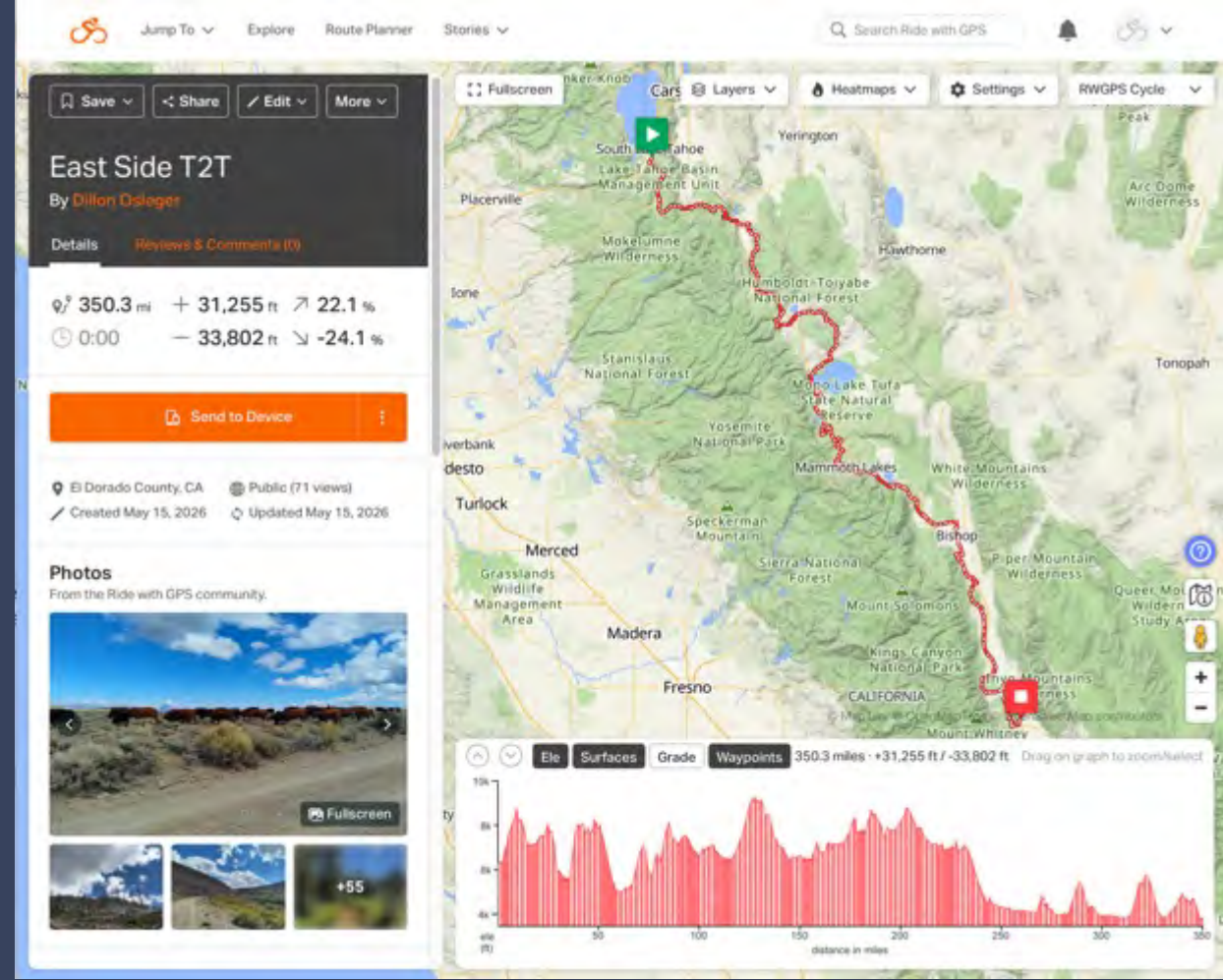
[+18](#)

Map & Profile

Map controls: [Fullscreen](#) [Layers](#) [Heatmaps](#) [Settings](#) [RWGPS Cycle](#)

Profile controls: [Ele](#) [Surfaces](#) [Grade](#) [Waypoints](#) 267.9 miles · +34,558 ft / -38,823 ft [Drag on graph to zoom/pan](#)

Profile graph: Elevation (ft) vs. Distance (miles)



Happenings of Interest

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

USDA **Forest Service**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alerts and Fire Danger Status



Forest Service Home > Pacific Southwest Region > Inyo National Forest > Natural Resources > Rangeland and Grazing > Wild Horses

Wild Horses

About the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory

The Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory spans roughly 200,000 acres in California and Nevada, including 65,942 acres on the Inyo National Forest. The remaining territory acres occur on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, and Stillwater and Bishop Field Offices of the Bureau of Land Management. Located east of Mono Lake, in the southern portion of the Excelsior Mountains, this area is about 40 miles north of Bishop, Calif., along the Nevada-California state line.

The origin of the Montgomery Pass Herd is unknown. The herd may have originated in connection to mustang drives between the Owens Valley and Nevada. In 1972, the population of the territory was documented as 50 horses. No wild burros live in this wild horse joint management area, and no genetic work has been done on this herd. The herd consists of horses of many colors.

The Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory is managed for a wild horse herd size of 138 to 230 animals. A 2024 census counted around 694 horses in the herd. This is 3 to 4 times the appropriate management level established in 1988, with the majority of them outside the territory. Wild horses are documented about 20 miles outside the established territory, causing sensitive resource damage and visitor impacts at Mono Lake and other properties.

An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

USDA **Forest Service**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alerts and Fire Danger Status

Forest Service Home > Pacific Southwest Region > Inyo National Forest > Newsroom > Press Releases > Inyo Wild Horse Gather Starts July 8

Inyo Wild Horse Gather Starts July 8

Release Date: June 22, 2026
Contact Information: sm.fs.inyowh_b@usda.gov

The Inyo National Forest plans to gather 450 wild horses from outside the Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory beginning on July 8. These excess wild horses are damaging sensitive habitats and causing safety concerns. The gathered horses will be transported to Forest Service off-range corrals, where they will be checked by a veterinarian and prepared for adoption programs.

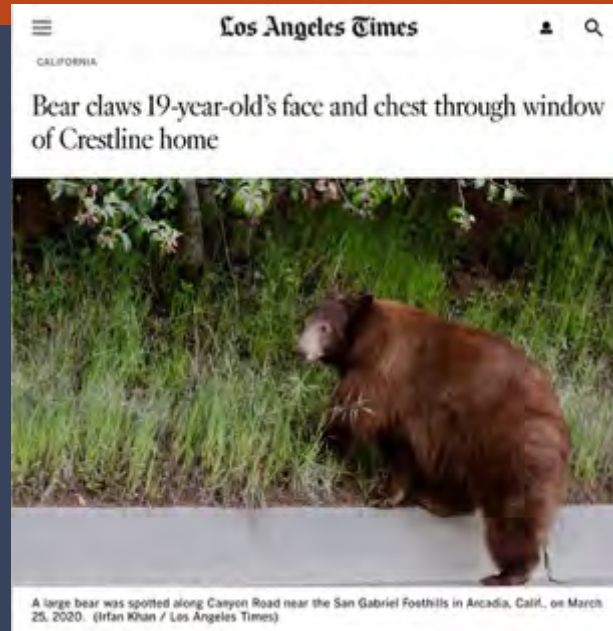
The Montgomery Pass Wild Horse Territory is managed by the Forest Service for a wild horse population between 138 to 230 animals under the [2019 Inyo National Forest Land Management Plan](#). A 2024 population census estimated there were 699 horses, with most of those roaming outside the territory in areas not designated for their management. They are impacting sensitive wildlife habitat, riparian areas, and tufa geological formations, and posing safety concerns for motorists and cyclists.

Wild horses that stray from their established areas may be removed to reduce conflicts with other resources in accordance with the [Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971](#). Gathering animals from an overpopulated herd is the best and most humane way to quickly reduce the impacts of overpopulation. With an overpopulation there is sustained competition among the horses for limited resources and ongoing risk for vehicle-horse collisions near roadways.

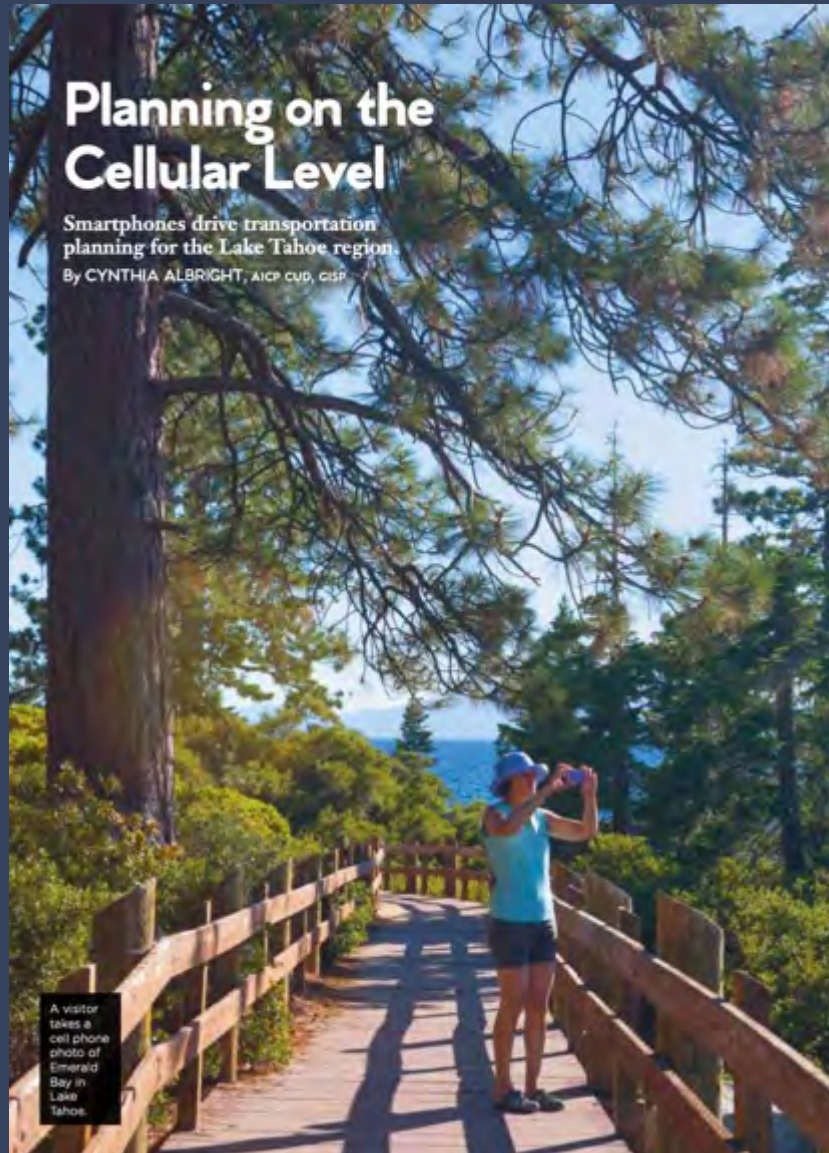
The Inyo National Forest will work with a contractor to conduct the gather. Gather contractors will utilize motorized vehicles, including helicopters, to gather horses. Forest Service helicopter-assisted gathers are humane, and often more effective and efficient than other types of gather methods when large numbers of animals need to be removed over wide areas or rugged terrain.

Viewing of gather operations will be offered by reservation for up to 5 viewers each day of the gather. The gather is planned for 7-14 days but may end sooner depending on the number of horses gathered each day. To request a reservation, please email sm.fs.inyowh_b@usda.gov and include your name, phone number, and requested viewing date. Meeting location and time will be provided with the reservation confirmation.

Happenings of Interest



Happenings of Interest



Planning on the Cellular Level

Smartphones drive transportation planning for the Lake Tahoe region

By CYNTHIA ALBRIGHT, AICP-CUP, GISP



Tahoe's plan to solve Emerald Bay's traffic headaches is working

Emerald Bay is one of the most dangerous sections of road in Lake Tahoe. Officials are making it safer.

By Julie Brown Davis, Mountain Towns Editor
June 6, 2016



FILE: Cars park along the road of Emerald Bay in Lake Tahoe. Parking restrictions and a shuttle program will soon be in place for the second summer in a row.
Janice Oswald/Getty Images



Mining Cell Phone Data to Create a Multimodal Transportation Plan for Lake Tahoe

by Cynthia Albright, AICP-CUP, GISP

Lake Tahoe is an awe-inspiring destination that straddles the border of California and Nevada. It is the second deepest—and one of the largest—fresh water lakes in the U.S. A 72-mile, mostly two-lane roadway encircles the lake connecting visitors to popular beaches, mountain hiking trails, boat ramps, golf courses, live entertainment venues, casinos, restaurants, and ski resorts. Millions travel to the Lake Tahoe Basin annually, with more coming each year. Tracking visitors historically relied in large part on transient occupancy tax collections (TOT), license plate surveys, and state-implemented traffic counts. These methods of data collection involve a great deal of time, financial resources, and extrapolation.



The Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run is the world's oldest 100 mile trail race.



Public is invited to attend a ribbon cutting to celebrate opening of new segment of the Martis Valley Trail

News News | July 7, 2016

NORTHSTAR, Calif. — Placer County and the Northstar Community Services District will celebrate the completion of a new segment of the Martis Valley Trail with a public ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, June 3, starting at 12 p.m. at the new trailhead near the Northstar Preferred Parking Lot.

The completion of Segment 3f closes the mile-long gap between Northstar's Castle Peak parking lots and Northstar Village, further expanding the paved Class 1 trail system connecting the Town of Truckee to one of the region's most popular recreation destinations.



Martis Valley Trail new segment proposed

Happenings of Interest



Happenings of Interest

THE TRAILBLAZER

CHARTING OUR PROGRESS 🌿 BUILDING AN OUTDOORS FOR ALL

Bringing you updates on California's Outdoors for All movement

July 2026

Explore the Outdoors

Tips to Safely Celebrate America's 250th Anniversary in California's State Parks

Story by: California State Parks



Celebrating America's 250th anniversary this Fourth of July holiday weekend is the perfect opportunity to have fun in the sun at one of California's 280 (and growing) state parks. Whether you're interested in swimming, hiking, boating, recreating in an off-highway vehicle, or watching fireworks over San Francisco Bay, the nation's largest and most diverse state park system has something for everyone.

San Francisco Chronicle

e-Edition

Account

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

Big change coming to California campsite reservations

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer

Updated June 23, 2025 8:48 a.m.

Gift Article



The California Department of Parks and Recreation is about to enact new cancellation policies for its 15,000 campsites, including Sunrise Camp on Angel Island State Park, seen here.
Stephen Lam/S.F. Chronicle

The long-awaited crackdown on no-shows at California's campgrounds is here.

Starting in July, the Department of Parks and Recreation will enact stricter rules and heftier penalties for campers who cancel their site reservations at the last minute or don't show up at all. The idea is to incentivize people who won't show up on their scheduled dates to cancel earlier, thereby increasing availability for folks hoping to score a site — particularly at high-demand campgrounds where bookings are competitive.

Weather

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WEATHER · 4 MIN READ

The 'earthquake gate' stopping a San Andreas disaster is under its highest stress in 1,000 years

JUN 25, 2025

By Kasha Patel



(An aerial view of the 11-mile San Andreas fault line in Central California. (Timothy Swanson/Lens)

19

It's like a scene from a Hollywood movie: A major earthquake along the San Andreas fault ripples through Los Angeles, decimating infrastructure, sparking fires and triggering landslides. For decades, scientists have been investigating when and how this disaster could unfold.

Now, researchers report that such a quake could be more widespread and damaging than previously thought. [Their study](#) found that southern portions of the San Andreas fault and parts of the adjacent San Jacinto fault line are locked and loaded to their highest stress levels in 1,000 years — increasing the probability of a significant earthquake. If a strong earthquake hits either fault zone, the researchers say the seismic rumbles could cascade into its neighbor through an "earthquake gate" and spread damage from north of Los Angeles through San Bernardino, Riverside and the Coachella Valley simultaneously.

Happenings of Interest

The SNC awards new wildfire resilience and recreation grants; starts two new grant programs

Board approves investments to help Sierra-Cascade region, starts new landscape-scale and forest-health programs

Jun 5, 2026 | SNC Updates



A biker enjoys a ride through Hidden Falls Regional Park. With a grant from the SNC, Placer County Division of Parks, Trails, and Open Space will upgrade and connect a trail from the popular park to the nearby Big Hills Preserve. Photo courtesy Placer County.

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

USDA subpoenas California Department of Social Services for SNAP participant data

By Lizzie Kane

June 14, 2026 5:00 AM  Gift Article



USDA is requiring California, and three other states, to turn over records with personal information related to individuals' eligibility for the food assistance program, known as CalFresh in California, according to a June USDA Office of Inspector General news release. CalFresh offers low-income state residents aid through monthly allocations of food stamps to purchase items at grocery stores and markets.

Happenings of Interest

 e-Edition Account

TRAVEL // OUTDOORS

'Monumental' deal will bring new hiking trail to California's forbidden waterfall

By Gregory Thomas, Staff Writer
Updated June 25, 2026 12:34 p.m.

 Gift Article





Public access at Mossbrae Falls has been an issue for the city of Dunsmuir for decades.
Courtesy photo

After decades of efforts to open public access to Mossbrae Falls, a spectacular water feature in California's far north, the pieces appear to be in place for a legitimate trail to be installed.

 Curated by Copilot • 34r ago

Interior cuts 43 partnerships tied to DEI, migrant aid

What was cut?: Interior ended 43 partnerships tied to DEI, environmental activism, and migrant support, removing over \$4 million in planned funding.

Why the change?: A department-wide review found many agreements no longer aligned with administration priorities or failed to provide clear public benefit.

Who is affected?: Groups losing support include Hispanic Access Foundation, Conservation International, and The Cultural Landscape Foundation, among others.





 U.S. Politics World Opinion Media Entertainment Sports More Log in Watch TV

ADMINISTRATION

Trump admin axes ties to dozens of progressive groups in 'direct opposition' to mission: 'Decisive action'

A department-wide review found nearly 3,000 active agreements with about 2,000 outside groups

By Kiera McDonald, Andrew Mark Miller • Fox News
Published June 11, 2026 6:00am EDT

 Comments



927 83 12 12



Laura: DEI-obsessed Dems are in a 'heck of a bind' right now

Fox News' host Laura Ingraham discussed the wider impact of DEI policies on 'The Ingraham Angle'.

FIRST ON FOX: The Department of the Interior is cutting 43 partnerships with outside groups it says no longer align with the Trump administration's priorities, eliminating more than \$4 million in planned funding for programs tied to DEI, environmental justice and support services for illegal immigrants.

Happenings of Interest



Task Force Releases Draft Five-Year Wildfire and Landscape Resilience Action Plan

Partner Review Period Through August 7, 2026

[LEARN MORE, VIEW PLAN & SHARE FEEDBACK](#)

[REGIONAL WEBINARS](#)

Happenings of Interest



DRAFT WILDFIRE AND LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE **ACTION PLAN** (2026-2031) **REGIONAL WEBINARS**



Learn about the key components of the Action Plan including the framework for mobilizing regional action.

Webinar attendees will:

- Learn about the development and key components of the draft Action Plan.
- Ask Task Force staff questions about the Action Plan and the process for submitting comments.
- Explore the Action Plan's framework for mobilizing regional action.
- Hear directly from regional partners working collaboratively to advance wildfire resilience in their region.

Agenda

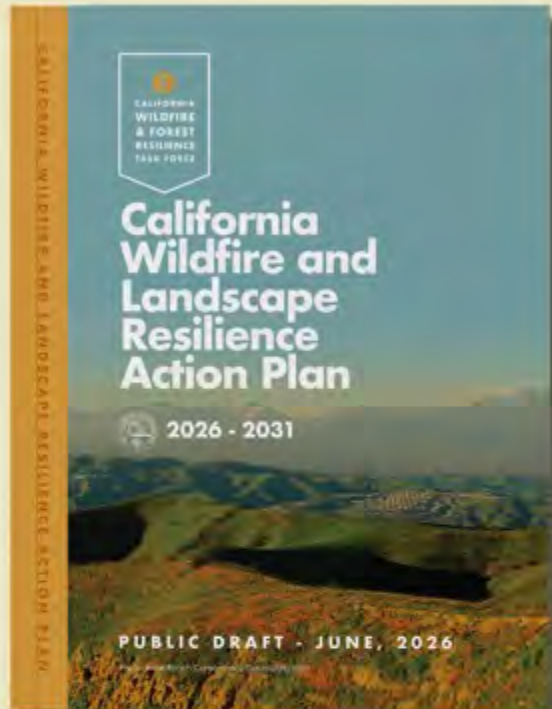
- Introducing the draft Wildfire and Landscape Resilience Action Plan (2026 – 2031)
 - Patrick Wright, Task Force Director
- Mobilizing Regional Action through the Wildfire and Landscape Resilience Action Plan
 - Patrick Wright, Task Force Director
- Q&A about the Action Plan – Patrick Wright, Task Force Director
- Regional Wildfire Resilience Presentations – Regional Speakers
- Q&A for Task Force Leadership & Regional Speakers
- How to Provide Feedback on the Draft Plan and Stay Engaged



Click on the region to sign up

- **Sierra Nevada:**
July 9, 2:00 – 3:15 PM
- **Southern California:**
July 14, 1:00 – 2:15 PM
- **Northern California:**
July 16, 10:00 – 11:15 AM
- **Central Coast:**
July 16, 2:00 – 3:15 PM

Happenings of Interest



DRAFT WILDFIRE AND LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE ACTION PLAN (2026 - 2031)

Will set the course for addressing California's most pressing wildfire challenges over the next five years. Learn more, view the plan and provide your comments during the partner review period, which closes August 7, 2026.

[SEE THE PLAN](#)

 **DIGITAL DEMOCRACY**
CALIFORNIA



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[Bills](#)

SB 899: Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.

Session Year: 2025-2026
House: Senate
Latest Version Date: 2026-05-14

Current Status: IN PROGRESS (2026-06-24: June 24 set for first hearing. Placed on suspense file.)

 Introduced

 In Committee

 First Chamber

 In Committee

 Second Chamber

 Enacted

[Summary](#) [Bill Text](#) [Status](#) [Votes](#) [Supporters & Opponents](#) [Analysis](#)

Version:
Amended Senate (5/14/2026)

Existing law requires the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to develop a comprehensive implementation strategy to track and ensure the achievement of the goals and key actions identified in the states Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, as provided. Existing law requires, on or before March 1, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter, the task force to update the action plan.

Happenings of Interest



CA MINI CROSSWORD

Account

NEWS | BAY AREA & STATE

Stanford study finds surprising upside of prescribed burns

By **Anna FitzGerald Guth**, *Science and climate reporter*
June 15, 2026





FILE: Expert uses a drip torch to light a controlled burn in Angwin, Calif.
Justin Sullivan/Getty Images



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Senate Bill 973: Advancing California's Wildfire County Coordinator Program

SB 973 is a California bill that codifies and strengthens the Wildfire County Coordinator Program, a proven statewide initiative that helps communities reduce wildfire risk through coordinated local action.

VIEW THE FULL SB 973 BILL

Current Bill Status SB 973

Introduced

Passed Senate

Passed Assembly

Signed By Governor

In Committee Senate

In Committee Assembly

Delivered To Governor

Happenings of Interest



Webinars & Presentations

The American Indigenous Tourism Association has teamed up with industry and federal partners to develop a regular series of webinars on resource development opportunities and other tourism-related topics. Most webinars are designed to equip organizations with the information needed to find and apply for funding opportunities that support cultural heritage tourism development. Others provide needed information on challenges and obstacles facing the tourism industry. All webinars are free to members and the general public can attend for a per webinar fee. Join us for one or for the entire series.



[White Paper](#) [Joint Strategy](#) [Adoption](#) [Maps](#) [Support](#) [About](#)

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.

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National Park Service & Tribal Relations
American Indigenous Tourism Association
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE & TRIBAL RELATIONS
JUNE 10, 2026
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Monitoring Your Burn Rate: How to Monitor Your Burn Rate: How to Monitor Your Burn Rate
American Indigenous Tourism Association
MONITORING YOUR BURN RATE: HOW TO MONITOR YOUR BURN RATE: HOW TO MONITOR YOUR BURN RATE
MAY 13, 2026
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Sexy Budget Narratives
American Indigenous Tourism Association
SEXY BUDGET NARRATIVES
MAY 6, 2026
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Session 2: Engaging Responsible Visitors Through Your Story
American Indigenous Tourism Association
SESSION 2: ENGAGING RESPONSIBLE VISITORS THROUGH YOUR STORY
FEBRUARY 17
10 AM MDT
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Session #1: Engaging Responsible Visitors Through Your Story
American Indigenous Tourism Association
SESSION #1: ENGAGING RESPONSIBLE VISITORS THROUGH YOUR STORY
FEBRUARY 3
10 AM MDT
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Culturally Appropriate Fire Response
American Indigenous Tourism Association
CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE FIRE RESPONSE
DECEMBER 9, 2025
10 AM MDT
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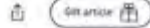
Session #2 - Troubleshooting Federal Award Challenges
American Indigenous Tourism Association
SESSION #2 - TROUBLESHOOTING FEDERAL AWARD CHALLENGES
DECEMBER 3, 2025
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Protecting Night Skies and Economic Benefits: Incorporating Dark Sky Programming in Support of Your Recreation and Land Use Plans
American Indigenous Tourism Association
PROTECTING NIGHT SKIES AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS: INCORPORATING DARK SKY PROGRAMMING IN SUPPORT OF YOUR RECREATION AND LAND USE PLANS
NOVEMBER 18, 2025
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Session #1: Federal Procurement
American Indigenous Tourism Association
SESSION #1: FEDERAL PROCUREMENTS
NOVEMBER 5, 2025
10 AM MDT
[Watch on YouTube](#)

Happenings of Interest

ENERGYWIRE



Used EV sales surge in US car market strained by \$200 gas bills

A growing number of Americans are finding refuge from soaring fuel prices in a used-car market that's awash in affordable EVs that automakers struggled to sell at higher prices when they were new.

By BLOOMBERG | 06/08/2024 06:55 AM EDT



A line of 2024 Ford F-150s and Expedition pickup trucks at a Ford dealership in Detroit. AP

ENERGYWIRE | Eric Flickinger reached his breaking point this spring while filling up his Ram 1500 pickup with diesel that cost \$7.39 a gallon. When the pump clicked off, it read exactly \$200.

As if that weren't painful enough, when he hopped back in his truck and started it up, the needle on his gas gauge still didn't hit full. Turns out, his bank only preauthorizes a maximum of \$200 at a gas pump. Topping off his 33-gallon tank would have required nearly \$50 more.

"I was like, what the hell?" said Flickinger, 47, a mechanical engineer who lives outside Seattle. "It pushed me to really think, 'OK, what can I do to resolve this?' Because I don't see prices going down any time soon."



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

BUSINESS • AUTOS

Will Anyone Buy This Cheap EV Truck With Hand-Crank Windows and No Radio?

Slate Auto's all-electric truck aims to prove that affordable cars can be profitable—and adored



1216



Gift unlocked article



Listen (0:00)



By Ryan Felton | Photography by David Fouts for WSJ

Updated June 24, 2024 at 8:03 am ET

A new automotive startup is betting that Americans are so fed up with high car prices they will consider buying a two-seat, all-electric pickup truck with hand-crank windows and no radio.



POLITICO



The past is present in Trump's EV assault

By ALEX NIEVES | 06/29/2024 07:30 PM EDT

With help from Camille von Kaenel

TOP OF THE DAY



California is fighting the traffic on its climate authority. | Damian Dovarganes/AP

WAIVER WARS: California's latest brawl with the Trump administration is over a decade-old air pollution regulation with little impact on the current car market. The outcome, though, could have a lasting effect on the state's power to set its own climate policies.

Happenings of Interest



An official website of the United States government

USDA Forest Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alerts and Fire Danger Status

Forest Service Home > Pacific Southwest Region > Tahoe National Forest > Projects > Project Summary (#302695)

Tahoe National Forest E-Bike Trail Designation

Proposed designation of select trails as open to Class 1 E-Bikes within Tahoe National Forest.

Project Summary

Project Overview

Current Status:
Developing Proposal

Location Summary:
Forest-wide on Tahoe National Forest

Project Milestones:

Milestone	Date
NEPA Start Date	9/6/2024
Finding/Decision Date	

Expected Analysis Type:
Environmental Assessment

Lead Management Unit:
Tahoe National Forest

electrek

EBIKES

E-bikes bring both bad and good, but one greatly outweighs the other

Mitch 100 | Jul 1 2026 | 11:23 pm PT | 53 Comments

Spend enough time reading the news and you'd be forgiven for thinking e-bikes are society's newest menace. Every week seems to bring another headline about reckless teenagers weaving through traffic, riders flying down sidewalks, battery fires, or politicians introducing bills to crack down on electric bicycles.

Those stories are real, and coming up on two decades of covering the e-bike industry, I've written about many of those issues. But with that experience, including riding hundreds of e-bike models and countless thousands upon thousands of miles on electric bikes around the world, I can't help but feel that we've lost sight of the bigger picture.

Happenings of Interest



FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON OUTDOOR RECREATION

FY 2024 Interagency Recreation Visitation Data Report

June 2026

An official website of the United States government. [Here's how you know](#)



U.S. Department of the Interior

MENU

[Home](#) > Interior Releases First-Ever Interagency Recrea...

Interior Releases First-Ever Interagency Recreation Visitation Report and Announces Nationwide Pilot Projects to Improve Recreation-Use Modeling

06/25/2026

Last edited 06/25/2026

The Department of the Interior today announced the release of the [Interagency Recreation Visitation Data Report](#), the first unified compilation of recreation visitation estimates across all federal land and water management agencies, as directed by the [EXPLORE Act](#). The landmark report provides a comprehensive, standardized view of how millions of people experience outdoor recreation across hundreds of millions of acres of federally managed public lands and waters.

"Outdoor recreation is a powerful economic engine and a defining part of the American way of life," said **Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum**. "With the first unified interagency visitation report, we now have clearer insight into how millions of people engage with their public lands and waters. This information will help federal agencies work together to improve visitor services, support rural and gateway communities and ensure that these opportunities remain accessible to all."

Outdoor recreation continues to be a cornerstone of American life by supporting \$1.2 trillion in economic output, 5 million jobs, and 2.3 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product each year. Activities such as hiking, camping, boating, wildlife viewing and nature study deliver health, cultural, and community benefits while strengthening small businesses and rural and gateway communities. Escalating participation in nature-based recreation underscores the public's growing demand for access to America's natural spaces.

The federal government manages vast and varied outdoor landscapes, including lands and waters overseen by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. The new visitation report standardizes data reporting across 11 recreation activity categories, creating the most consistent and comparable interagency dataset to date. Agencies contributed visitation estimates for activities such as biking, motorized and non-motorized boating, camping, fishing, hiking, hunting, interpretation and education programs, off-highway vehicle use, sightseeing and other recreation.

Happenings of Interest

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

BUSINESS + EARNINGS

Vail Resorts Cuts Outlook Again as Low Snowfall Weighs on Visits

The ski-resort operator says weather conditions remained unfavorable during the recent quarter, weighing on visits and revenue.

By Connor Hart
Updated June 8, 2026 at 7:04 pm ET



Skiers at a Vail Resorts location in Vail, Colo. © AP/WIDE WORLD/GETTY IMAGES

Vail Resorts MTN 3.38% cut its outlook for the second time this year after visits to its Rocky Mountain resorts cratered due to historically low snowfall levels.

SKI
Powered by Outside

Culture

How the Great Salt Lake's Collapse Could Rewrite Skiing in the West

From reduced snowfall to dust-driven melt, an evaporating lake is already reshaping ski seasons in Utah and beyond.

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2

2

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SONY DSC (Photo: Mariah Maynes)

Aspen Daily News

Support Us

SkiCo execs paint uncertain future, describe reinvestment as at risk

By Karl Dequins, Aspen Daily News Staff Writer | Jun 28, 2026



Aspen Skiing Co. CEO Geoff Buckwalter addresses the opening of Cochet Creek lift at Snowmass resort in 2014. (Staff Chamber/Aspen Daily News)

Is Aspen a ski town? That was the question asked by executives from Aspen Skiing Co. and parent company Aspen One, who made the rounds in June giving presentations to the Aspen City Council, Snowmass Village Town Council and Pitkin Board of County Commissioners.

THE ASPEN TIMES

SNOWMASS SKI

Conservation fund supported by skier donations to support U.S. Forest Service projects in Eagle and Summit counties

The award includes a \$700,000 donation from Vail Resorts, according to the National Forest Foundation

News | June 2, 2026

AT Staff report | June 2, 2026

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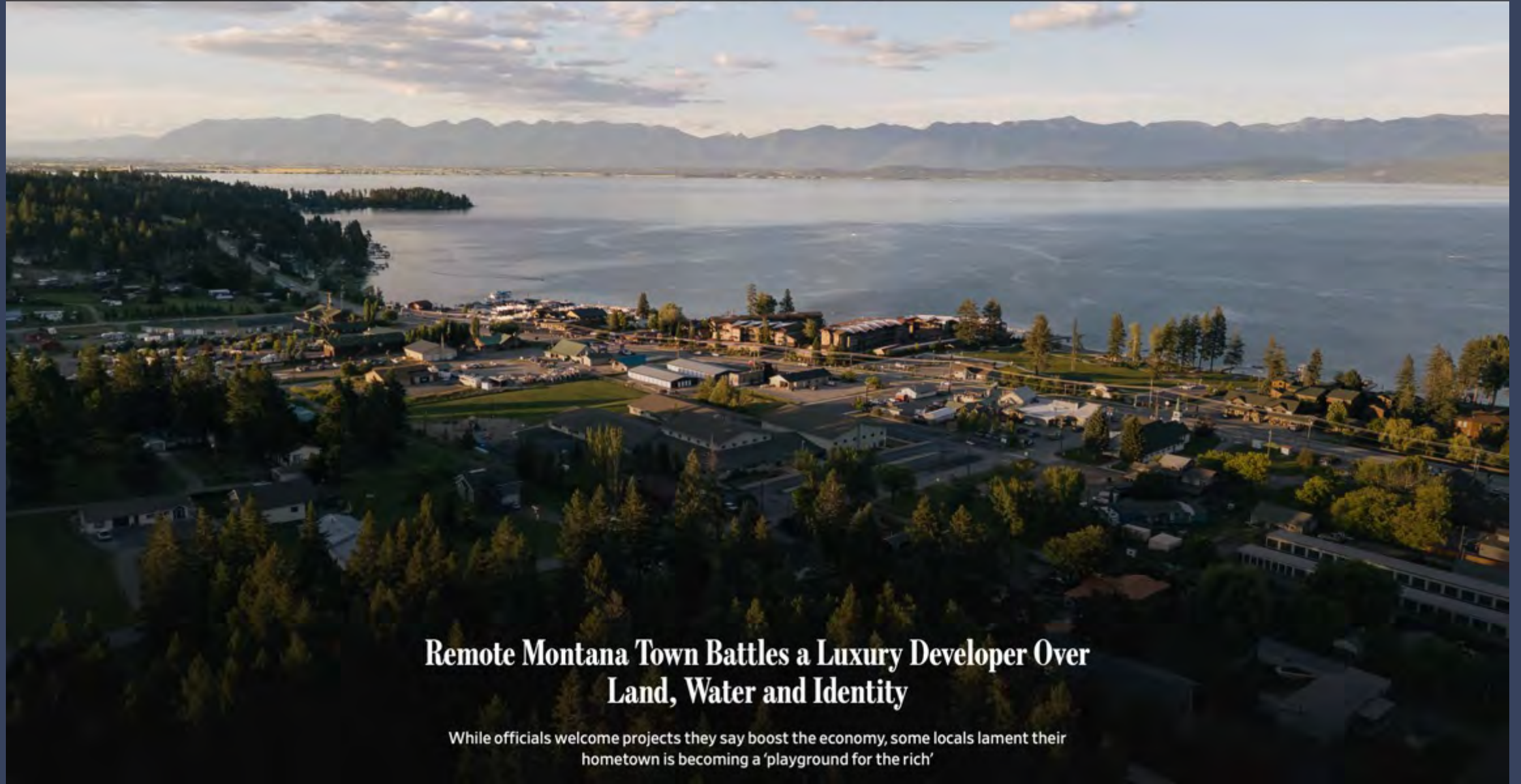


The National Forest Foundation's Ski Conservation Fund will provide \$700,000 to support trail work, youth programs and conservation efforts on U.S. Forest Service land in Summit and Eagle counties. (Austin Chiles/The Aspen Times)

Happenings of Interest



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



Remote Montana Town Battles a Luxury Developer Over Land, Water and Identity

While officials welcome projects they say boost the economy, some locals lament their hometown is becoming a 'playground for the rich'

Happenings of Interest

The Salt Lake Tribune

Cottonwood Fire burns through Utah ski resort, now 'most destructive' in state history, Cox says

The wildfire left significant damage at Eagle Point Resort as it continues to spread across thousands of acres in southwestern Utah.



By Samantha Moilanen | June 24, 2026, 3:48 p.m. | Updated: June 25, 2026, 9:41 a.m.

[Add as Preferred Source](#) [Comment](#)

KSL.com

Cottonwood Fire might set cost records after destroying southern Utah resort, Cox says

By Carter Williams and Kennedy Camarena, KSL | Updated - June 24, 2026 at 9:20 p.m. | Posted - June 24, 2026 at 9:24 a.m.



CHOPPER

FIRE WATCH

COTTONWOOD FIRE NEARING RECORD DESTRUCTION

147 [f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [c](#)

Listen: 8 Minutes [Learn in español](#)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The Cottonwood Fire in southern Utah has destroyed Eagle Point Resort.
- Gov. Spencer Cox calls it potentially the most destructive fire in state history.
- Fire remains 0% contained, threatening over hundreds of primary and secondary homes.

BEAVER — A fast-moving fire burning through southern Utah could be one of the most destructive in state history after sweeping through a private resort and an area filled with hundreds of mountain cabins and condominiums, Gov. Spencer Cox said after touring the area on Wednesday.

Jul 4, 2026

Governor Newsom announces deployment of California firefighters and equipment to Colorado, as sister state battles wildfires



What you need to know: California is deploying 15 fire engines and 53 personnel to help Colorado fight the over 85,000-acre Aspen Acres Fire, marking the first-ever CAL FIRE deployment to Colorado under a national mutual aid partnership.

Happenings of Interest

Home / Mountain Bike Trails / United States / Utah / News

Deer Valley now charges for pedal-up access to DH trails, with funds helping to maintain trails

For years, locals and visitors have skipped the lifts at Deer Valley, opting to "pedal up" and ride the DH mountain bike trails for free. Well, those days are over.

By [Travis Reill](#)

June 17, 2026

[3 comments](#)

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Deer Valley Resort, photo: Jim Cummings

Home / Mountain Bike Trails / United States / News

A new NEPA process could make trail approval faster, but it may come at a cost

Speeding up the NEPA process sounds wonderful, but IMBA and other organizations are worried that a reformed NEPA takes away many of the safeguards that protect our public lands.

By [Travis Reill](#)

June 24, 2026

Last Updated: June 25, 2026

[5 comments](#)

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File photo.

Happenings of Interest

E&E DAILY



Gift article

Mike Lee sets markup of energy, land, wildfire bills

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee may consider dozens of bills this week.

BY: JENNIFER YACHNIN, MARC HELLER, HANNAH NORTHEY | 06/08/2026 06:20 AM EDT



Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chair Mike Lee (R-Utah) at the Capitol in May. | Francis Chung/POLITICO

E&E DAILY



Gift article

House Natural Resources to vote on public land, wildlife bills

One bill would fund bird habitats in urban areas. Another would secure land for military training.



BY: MANUEL QUIÑONES | 06/08/2026 06:19 AM EDT



Legislation from Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.) would secure land for the military's Yuma Proving Ground. | Rod Lamkey Jr./AP

Happenings of Interest

Westerman, Huffman pitch Outdoors Act revamp

The bipartisan legislation follows weeks of negotiation to reauthorize expired portions of the Great American Outdoors Act.

BY AMELIA DAVIDSON | 04/16/2024 04:27 AM EDT



House Natural Resources Chair Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) and ranking member David Huffman (D-Calif.) are seen at a hearing. Westerman is on the left, wearing a light-colored suit and tie, and Huffman is on the right, wearing a dark suit and tie. They are seated at a wooden desk with microphones and nameplates.

House Natural Resources Chair Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) and ranking member David Huffman (D-Calif.) are seen at a hearing. Westerman is on the left, wearing a light-colored suit and tie, and Huffman is on the right, wearing a dark suit and tie. They are seated at a wooden desk with microphones and nameplates.

Natural Resources schedules markup on Outdoors Act reauthorization

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee passed its version last week. Now it's the House's turn.

BY MANUEL QUIÑONES | 04/22/2024 04:55 AM EDT



Senators Bruce Westerman and David Huffman are seated at a hearing table. Westerman is on the left, wearing a light-colored suit and tie, and Huffman is on the right, wearing a dark suit and tie. They are both looking down at documents on the table.

Lawmakers move on Outdoors Act reauthorization

House Republicans unveiled draft legislation that would revamp a major public land and parks maintenance fund.

BY AMELIA DAVIDSON | 04/28/2024 04:28 AM EDT



Senators Bruce Westerman and David Huffman are walking in a hallway. Westerman is in the foreground, wearing a dark suit and tie, and Huffman is slightly behind him, also in a dark suit and tie. They are both looking towards the camera.

Momentum sputters for Outdoors Act reauthorization

With a self-imposed July 4 deadline now out of reach, the House doesn't plan to vote on the legislation this week.

BY AMELIA DAVIDSON | 04/27/2024 04:23 AM EDT



Senators Bruce Westerman and David Huffman are walking in a hallway. Westerman is in the foreground, wearing a dark suit and tie, and Huffman is slightly behind him, also in a dark suit and tie. They are both looking towards the camera.

Senate leaves without passing Outdoors Act reauthorization

Negotiators were looking to get the bill to the White House by July 4.

BY AMELIA DAVIDSON | 04/25/2024 04:16 AM EDT



Senators Bruce Westerman and David Huffman are walking in a hallway. Westerman is in the foreground, wearing a dark suit and tie, and Huffman is slightly behind him, also in a dark suit and tie. They are both looking towards the camera.

Happenings of Interest

Government Executive

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Trump signing an executive order on April 30, 2020. Schedule F was first proposed via executive order in October 2020 and was rescinded during the Biden administration. ANDREW HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES

Workforce

Trump signs order moving thousands of federal employees into Schedule F

Roughly 8,000 career federal employees were stripped of their civil service protections Wednesday, making them effectively at-will employees.

JUNE 3, 2026

SCHEDULE F | WHITE HOUSE | CIVIL SERVICE





ERICH WAGNER

President Trump on Wednesday signed an [executive order](#) formally converting nearly 10,000 career federal workers into Schedule Policy/Career, making them effectively at-will employees.

The edict marks the culmination of a years-long push to make it easier to fire federal employees in “policy-related” jobs by removing them from the federal government’s competitive service and placing them in a new job category, initially called Schedule F and now referred to as Schedule Policy/Career. Employees placed into

Government Executive

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The Partnership for Public Service found that 76% of Americans view the federal civil service as a “strong foundation” for the government, a finding that supports the need for a strong civil service. JUNE 11, 2026

Workforce

Most Americans think government workers are competent and should be nonpartisan, according to recent surveys

A survey from the Partnership for Public Service also found that a majority of Americans oppose the Trump administration’s changes to government.

JUNE 11, 2026

CIVIL SERVICE | SCHEDULE F | DIVERSITY





SEAN MICHAEL NEWHOUSE
Staff Reporter

Support for a nonpartisan civil service rebounded this year, according to a report released Wednesday by the Partnership for Public Service. A recently launched survey series from a Harvard research center also found that majorities of Americans view public sector employees positively.

In total, 76% of respondents in the [spring Partnership survey](#) agreed that a nonpartisan civil service is important for a strong democracy in the U.S., which is a 10% increase compared with last year. The upswing was driven by Republicans and Independents; both of whom experienced double-digit increases in support since 2025.

Happenings of Interest

E&E DAILY

GOP prepares amendment to fell roadless rule

The amendment may come up during an Energy and Natural Resources Committee markup on Wednesday.



BY JENNIFER YACHNIN | 06/10/2024 06:19 AM EDT | UPDATED 06/11/2024 10:12 AM EDT



Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chair Mike Lee (R-Utah) will hold a markup Wednesday on a roster of bills. (Francis Chang/POLITICO)

E&E DAILY | Senate Energy and Natural Resources Republicans are expected to unveil legislation Wednesday that would nullify the Clinton-era roadless rule, opening up road construction and timber harvesting to tens of millions of acres of national forest lands.

HighCountryNews

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LANDLINE

Sen. Mike Lee targets the Roadless Rule

The Utah senator launched another unpopular assault on public lands.

Jonathan Thompson June 10, 2024



This is an installment of the *Landline*, a monthly newsletter from High Country News about land, water, wildlife, climate and conservation in the Western United States. Sign up by going to the [newsletter page](#).

In early June, as blazes raced across the drought-baked and heat-addled Western U.S., Wyoming Republican Sen. John Barrasso's Wildfire Prevention Act seemed to be sailing toward easy approval. If signed into law, it would direct federal land agencies to increase thinning and prescribed burning on public lands and make it easier for utilities to manage vegetation near power lines.

These tactics have often raised questions: Does a forest need to be "managed," for example? Are high-intensity wildfires really so bad for forests? And is the urge to "thin" forests simply another excuse for logging? The bill's provision directing agencies to step up public-land grazing as a wildfire mitigation tool is especially questionable.

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MOST POPULAR STORIES

The Klamath Tribes couldn't get federal dollars for salmon. Then the Yurok stepped in.

E&E DAILY

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States may be caught in crosshairs of forest rule repeal

A Republican proposal to open roadless areas of national forests to logging creates confusion for states that want to keep some restrictions.



BY MARC HELLER | 06/12/2024 04:45 AM EDT



Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee hearing on the Roadless Rule. (AP Photo/Mark Schrad)

E&E DAILY | A Republican-led effort to open more areas in national forests to road construction and logging would let two states — Idaho and Colorado — keep their restrictions, but other states may have a hard time if they want similar protections.

That's one of the wrinkles in the Republican proposal to rescind the 25-year-old roadless-area conservation rule that blocks new roads and logging on tens of millions of acres of national forests.

Happenings of Interest



Oregon Lawsuit Could Upend Federal Management of Public Lands

By [Michigan Advance](#) Published on June 26, 2026

In This Article

[The Congressional Review Act](#)

[Oregon Lawsuit](#)



A harvester crane processes a log on a thinning project in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest in Washington state. A new lawsuit targeting a timber harvest in Oregon could upend management of federal lands across the West.

Credit: Photo courtesy of Washington State Department of Natural Resources



Conservationists Appeal Trump Admin's Plan to Evict Bison from Montana Public Land

American Prairie and Western Watersheds Project say the changes amount to illegal rule-making.



JIMMY TOBIAS, CHRIS D'ANGELO, AND ROQUE PLANAS

JUN 08, 2026



44



3



16

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A bison grazes at the American Prairie reserve in 2021. Photo by Christopher Michel. ([Wikipedia](#))

Happenings of Interest

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INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM FOR PUBLIC LANDS.
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GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT ★ **FEATURED**
FIGHTING FIRES, DODGING OVERSIGHT
Montana Republican Tim Sheehy tried to cut aviation inspections on wildfire planes the same month his former company failed one.
12 min read

WATER POLICY
THE COLORADO RIVER MATH PROBLEM
With federal guidelines expiring and reservoirs near record lows, a veteran attorney explains how seven states might—or might not—divide what's left.
11 min read

OPINION
YOUNG WOMEN AND FIRE
As Americans celebrate Independence Day, fires blaze across the country, with terrible costs for wildland firefighters. Plus: we follow up with three men walking the 211-mile length of Alaska's proposed Ambler Road.
8 min read

POLITICS
THE PACS FOR PUBLIC LANDS
In deep-red Idaho and Wyoming, a new breed of single-issue political action committee is turning a bipartisan cause into primary-season firepower.
13 min read

OPINION
BARGAIN BASEMENT PRICES!
Colorado's biggest oil and gas lease sale in fifteen years moved 134,000 acres of public land. And most of it went for the lowest price the law allows.
12 min read

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State governments are suddenly being embedded into federal forest decision-making. (Photo by Porter Reed / Drapsteen)

OPINION
THE SALAMI STRATEGY

The Trump administration's transfer of national forest management to the states is hiding in plain sight—a coordinated strategy visible only if you're tracking all of it at once.

By [Christopher Keyes](#) • Jun 12, 2020

When you turn fifty, it can be a little humiliating to realize how little you've retained from your college years. It can also be hilarious to catalog the random facts and learnings that actually *did* stick. For me, one of those is a term of art I learned about in a public policy seminar my junior year: salami tactics.

The Hungarian phrase *szalámitaktika* was coined by Mátyás Rákosi (that part I had to look up!), the communist leader who slowly consolidated one-party control of postwar Budapest. He was describing his strategy of cutting the opposition into slices thin enough that no individual cut provoked the resistance a frontal assault might have. The concept lives on today because the underlying logic applies whenever a large transformation needs to be achieved through smaller moves that won't trigger the alarm of the opposition.

I was reminded of the term recently while watching what the Trump administration is doing on our national forests. Their decision-by-decision dismantling of federal forest stewardship is a perfect encapsulation of salami tactics. The moves are all real and public: a March 2025 executive order declaring domestic timber production a national security priority; a secretarial "emergency" declaration to bypass environmental review on more than half of Forest Service land; the elimination of nearly 6,000 Forest Service positions; a proposed budget cutting billions from agency funding; the March 2026 reorganization relocating Forest Service headquarters to Salt Lake City and dissolving its nine regional offices into 15 state directors.

These events have all been out in the open, but none of them individually have triggered a unified pushback—at least not on order of what we saw in response last summer to Utah Senator Mike Lee's proposal to sell off millions of acres of public lands.

Happenings of Interest



Protect Wyoming's launch event in Cody, Wyoming, March 2016 (Credit: Craig Dickrucks)

NEWSLETTER

THE SINGLE-ISSUE SOLUTION

In deep-red Idaho and Wyoming, a new breed of political action committee is turning a bipartisan cause into primary-season firepower.

By [Alex Heard](#), [Elizabeth Hightower Allen](#) • Jun 23, 2018

In this mid-term election year, attention has turned to federal congressional races, including U.S. Senate contests in Maine, North Carolina, Alaska, and Georgia. Those states will be pivotal in determining the balance of power in Congress. But often, some of the most impactful races are those for state-level offices—particularly when it comes to public lands.

That's where two Mountain West political action committees—Protect Wyoming and Idaho's PAC for Public Lands—are focusing. As Alex Heard writes this week in "The PACs for Public Lands," their mission is to get sportsmen out to vote. "We're trying to turn hunters into voters in Wyoming," Protect Wyoming co-founder Zach Lentsch said. "We're really focused on sportsmen, because that's a large group in our state."

Over in Idaho, Heard writes, the PAC for Public Land got out some "240,000 text messages, 18,000 phone calls, 119,000 mailers, and nearly 7,000 door-knocks to send the message that 'selling off public lands is a political non-starter in the Idaho Statehouse.'"

And that's the message from voters. In a Conservation Voters for Idaho poll, notes Heard, "95 percent of Republicans and 97 percent of Democrats agreed with the statement that Idaho's public lands should remain public and protected."

Happenings of Interest



WATER POLICY

THE COLORADO RIVER MATH PROBLEM

With federal guidelines expiring and reservoirs near record lows, a veteran attorney explains how seven states might—or might not—divide what's left.
11 min read



POLITICS

THE PACS FOR PUBLIC LANDS

In deep-red Idaho and Wyoming, a new breed of single-issue political action committee is turning a bipartisan cause into primary-season firepower.
13 min read



OPINION

YOUNG WOMEN AND FIRE

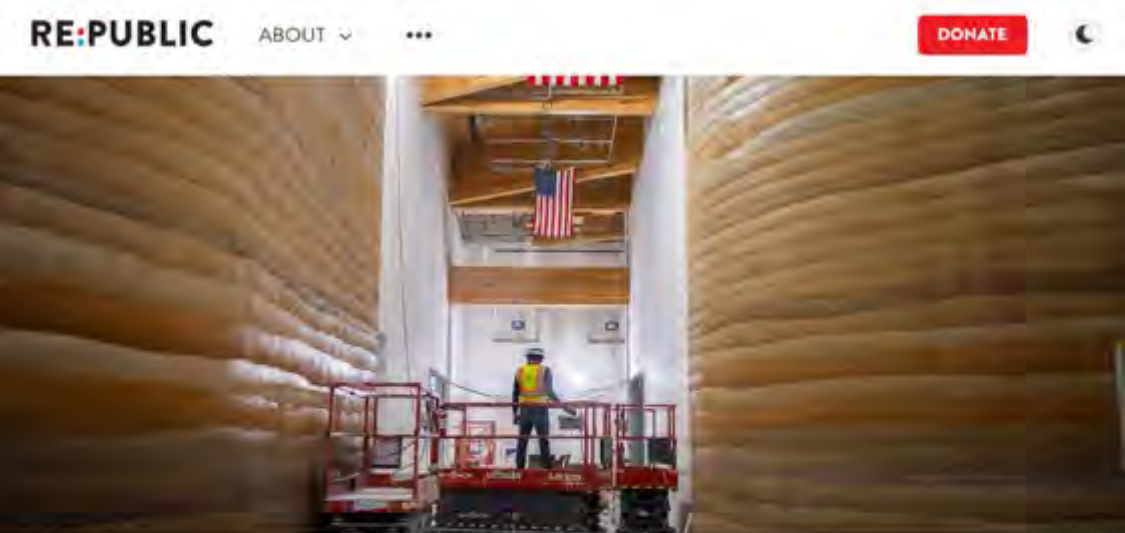
As Americans celebrate Independence Day, fires blaze across the country, with terrible costs for wildland firefighters. Plus: we follow up with three men walking the 211-mile length of Alaska's proposed Ambler Road.
8 min read



OPINION

BARGAIN BASEMENT PRICES!

Colorado's biggest oil and gas lease sale in fifteen years moved 134,000 acres of public land. And most of it went for the lowest price the law allows.
12 min read



The Theodore Roosevelt Library under construction in January 2024 (Credit: Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library)

NEWSLETTER

UNDOING T.R.'S LEGACY

Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has been the loudest booster of the new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library. As for safeguarding his conservation achievements? Not so much.

By [Alex Heard](#), [Elizabeth Hightower Allen](#) • Jan 20, 2024

Tomorrow, President Trump will board his new Qatari-gifted Air Force One and head to the Badlands for the dedication of the new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota—which Alex Heard reported on in the **RE:PUBLIC** story "[The Hollow Man in the Arena](#)."

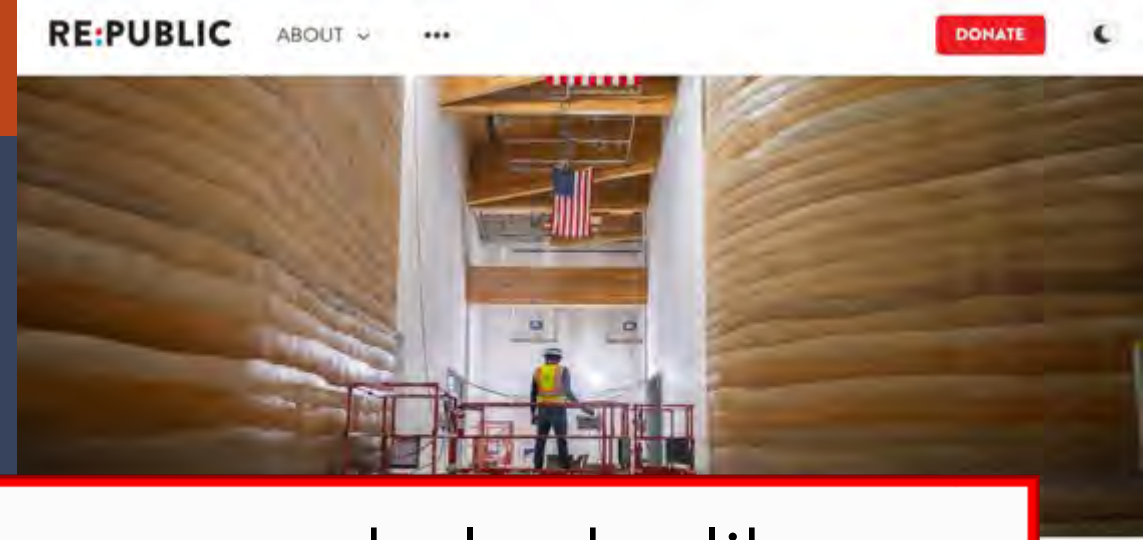
According to a press release from Freedom 250, there will be a "ceremonial Freedom 250 rail arrival that pays tribute to the railroads that opened the American West." There will be a procession of mounted Rough Riders to the new library itself. And there will be inspiring remarks from President Trump on a predecessor who inspired future Americans to dream big and act boldly.

"The dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library will show how Roosevelt's passion inspired the creation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, dramatic expansion of our National Parks and the stewardship of our public lands," said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum.

Let's see, how's that going? U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service—staffing down 18 percent, with more than half of National Wildlife Refuges lacking the resources and staff to fulfill their missions, National Park Service—down 4,000 positions, or nearly 25 percent of its staff. Stewardship of our public lands: A+ if you are interested in mining, drilling, or off-road driving; F- if you support wildlife and ecosystem health.

As Alex Heard writes, "The man who did as much as anyone to help the library reach its impressive scale—Doug Burgum, the current U.S. Secretary of the Interior—has overseen deep cuts in public-lands agencies for Donald Trump, the least conservation-minded president in modern history."

Happenings of Interest



“The man who did as much as anyone to help the library reach its impressive scale—Doug Burgum, the current U.S. Secretary of the Interior—has overseen deep cuts in public-lands agencies for Donald Trump, the least conservation-minded president in modern history.”



WATER POLICY

THE COLORADO RIVER MATH PROBLEM

With federal guidelines expiring and reservoirs near record lows, a veteran attorney explains how seven states might—or might not—divide what's left.

11 min read



POLITICS

THE PACS FOR PUBLIC LANDS

In deep-red Idaho and Wyoming, a new breed of single-issue political action committee is turning a bipartisan cause into primary-season firepower.

13 min read



OPINION

BARGAIN BASEMENT PRICES!

Colorado's biggest oil and gas lease sale in fifteen years moved 134,000 acres of public land. And most of it went for the lowest price the law allows.

12 min read

the new library itself. And there will be inspiring remarks from President Trump on a predecessor who inspired future Americans to dream big and act boldly.

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Happenings of Interest



[GIVE THE TIMES](#)

Going to a National Park This Summer? Here's What to Expect.

Huge visitor numbers, sharply reduced staffing, scrapped reservation systems and higher entry fees for nonresidents could make your trip a bit less serene.

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 553



More than 323 million people visited U.S. national parks last year. The crush has caused traffic jams at marquee locations like Yellowstone. [Manó Tama/Getty Images](#)



An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

U.S. Department of the Interior

MENU

[Home](#) / Department of the Interior Announces \$461 Milli...

Department of the Interior Announces \$461 Million for Parks and Outdoor Recreation across America

Investments will leverage more than \$900 million for parks, trails and outdoor recreation projects nationwide

06/08/2026
Last edited 06/08/2026

The Department of the Interior today announced the distribution of more than \$327 million in formula grants and \$134 million in competitive grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to all 50 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, a major investment in the parks, playgrounds, trails and open spaces that bring communities together across the country. These funds will be matched at least 1:1, for a total outdoor recreation investment of more than \$900 million.

Permanently funded through President Donald J. Trump's Great American Outdoors Act, the Land and Water Conservation Fund is one of the nation's most successful conservation and recreation programs, helping communities create and improve outdoor spaces that enhance quality of life and expand access to recreation.

The funding, administered through the National Park Service, will support the development and rehabilitation of parks, conservation areas and outdoor recreation facilities in communities large and small. These investments will help expand access to outdoor recreation, improve visitor amenities and support projects that enhance quality of life for local residents.

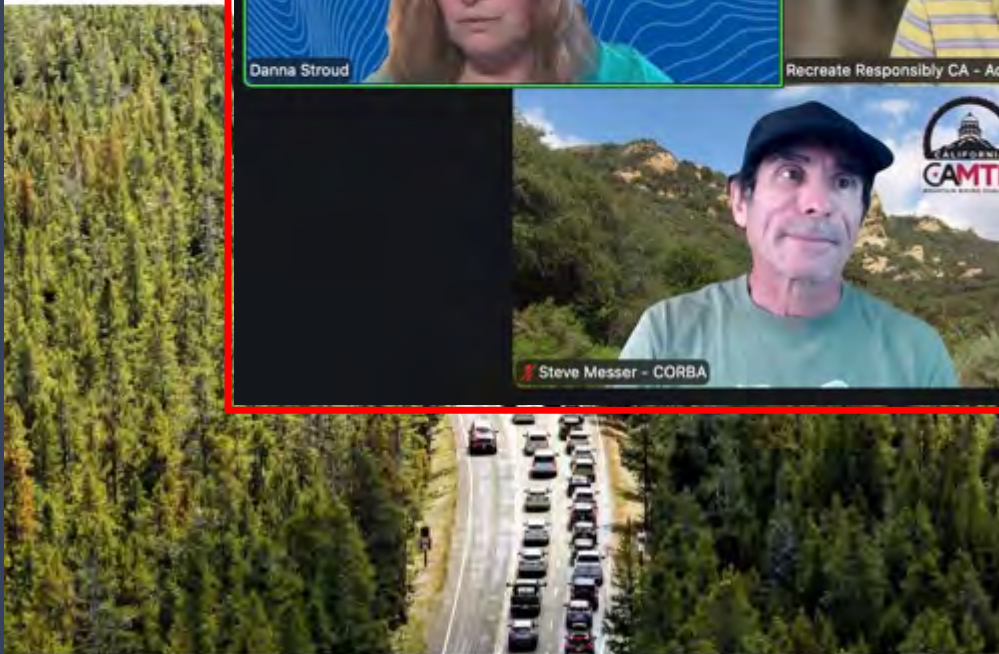
"The Land and Water Conservation Fund has helped connect generations of Americans to the outdoors and remains one of our nation's most successful conservation and recreation programs," said Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum. "We are grateful for President Trump's leadership in permanently funding the fund through the Great American Outdoors Act. These investments are helping communities create and improve parks, trails and recreation opportunities while supporting local economies and ensuring future generations can enjoy the outdoors."

Happenings of Interest



Huge visitation
reservations
make you

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More than 323 million people visited U.S. national parks last year. The crush has caused traffic jams at marquee locations like Yellowstone. *Manó Tama/Getty Images*



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Happenings of Interest

CNN Politics

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POLITICS | 8:54 PM (13:42)

Judge orders Trump administration to restore signs changed at national parks

UPDATED JUN 13, 2026

by Kaurita Iyer



People mark information signs near Sleeping Ute Lake in August 8, 2025, in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. (Gregory Fier/Getty Images)

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A federal judge in Massachusetts has ordered the Trump administration to restore all signs that were changed or removed at national parks across the country as part of President Donald Trump's controversial directive last year.

In a scathing [63-page ruling](#) on Friday, Judge Angel Kelley wrote, "Under the guise of promoting American dignity, this Administration seeks to share a limited history by ordering the removal of all signs, displays, and interpretive exhibits at National Parks that do not align with its preferred narrative, thereby telling half-truths."

Kelley, an appointee of President Joe Biden, ordered that the restoration be complete by July 3, ahead of the nation's 250th birthday. In the ruling, she also blocked the Trump administration from making any further changes to exhibits at national parks.

The New York Times

Give the Times

Judge Dismisses Lawsuit by Ranger Who Hung Trans Pride Flag at Yosemite

The ranger, who was fired after hanging the flag, sued the government on free speech grounds. On Friday, a judge dismissed the case, saying the court lacked the authority to rule.

Listen - 4:44 min

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Shannon Joslin, a quantitative wildlife biologist with the National Park Service, helped to hang a transgender pride flag at Yosemite National Park in May 2025. Dr. Joslin was fired that August. (Tracy Berube/Reuters)

BREAKING: Appeals Court Lets Trump Keep Stripping National Park History

Last month a judge ordered the slavery, climate, and civil-rights exhibits restored by the Fourth of July. On Thursday a higher court paused that order and handed the administration back its eraser.



WILL PATTIZ AND MORE THAN JUST PARKS

JUL 03, 2026

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The white-out pen is back in Trump's hand.

Happenings of Interest

E&ENewsPM

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House appropriators bicker over Trump's arch

Republicans blocked an amendment that would have prevented construction of the project.



By: CASSANDRA DUMAY | 06/09/2025 04:08 PM EDT



Rep. Mike Higgins (R-Maine), chair of the Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, opposed an amendment against President Donald Trump's arch project during a markup Wednesday. (Frank O'Connell/Politico)

E&E NEWS PM | The House Appropriations Committee broke into a partisan debate Wednesday over President Donald Trump's arch project.

The panel voted 32-24, along party lines, to block an amendment from Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) that would prevent construction of Trump's proposal to build a "triumphal arch" in Washington. Democrats wanted the legislative language included in the Interior-Environment funding bill for fiscal 2027, which members were marking up Wednesday afternoon.

"The historic view from Arlington National Cemetery should not be desecrated by this arch," said Pingree, the ranking member of the Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee. "It should not be overshadowed by a monument to one man's ego."

Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) said lawmakers needed to send a message to Trump that "we are the policymakers" who get to decide what projects get built on federal land using government dollars.

The New York Times

Interior Department Moves to Relax Rules for Drilling on Public Lands

A pair of proposals from the Trump administration would lower costs and weaken requirements for fossil fuel companies that drill on federal property.

Listen · 4:19 min

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One proposal would lower the cost of the bonds that fossil fuel companies must pay the Interior Department before they start drilling or mining on public lands. Paul Ratje for The New York Times



By Maxine Joselow
Reporting from Washington

June 22, 2025

The Trump administration on Monday moved to relax environmental rules governing the extraction of oil, gas and coal from public lands across the country.

Happenings of Interest

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PRESS RELEASE

USDA Issues Directive to Restore Grazing on National Forest Lands and Strengthen Support for America's Ranchers

PUBLISHED: June 12, 2026

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The Smokey Wire : National Forest News and Views

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Where's the (Legal) Beef or Brief?: New York Times Piece on Leaked USDA Memo

June 6, 2026 by Sharon

Thanks to Ted Z. for finding [this NY Times piece](#).

According to the NY Times, there is an undated secretarial memorandum which they obtained (?). They could have linked to the memo, but did not, which always makes me curious.

The undated Agriculture Department secretarial memorandum, which was reviewed by The New York Times, directs the U.S. Forest Service to identify which closed "roads, trails, areas, airstrips and waterways" in each national forest might be considered for year-round recreation access.

The memo would also immediately allow off-road vehicles in areas that the Forest Service has recommended to Congress should be granted wilderness protections. Right now, ATVs are not allowed in many of those areas, which are treated as if they were protected already. That move alone affects about 5 million acres, primarily in Idaho and Montana.

Recommended Comment Considerations

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

2026

The New York Times

[Administration](#) [Discrimination Cases](#) [Past Presidents](#) [Trump's Personal Earnings](#) [Approval Rating](#)

U.S. Forest Service to Open Millions of Acres to Off-Road Vehicles, Memo Shows

The forthcoming order echoes President Trump's decision to repeal executive orders that have protected other public lands from vehicles for decades.

Listen · 4:55 min

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The memo directs the U.S. Forest Service to identify which closed "roads, trails, areas, airstrips and waterways" in each national forest might be considered for year-round recreation access. Paul Ratje for The New York Times

Happenings of Interest

The New York Times

Administration Discrimination Cases Past Presidents Trump's Personal Earnings Approval Rating

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June 6, 2026 by Sharon

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PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

REMOVING UNNECESSARY AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS TO FEDERAL LANDS

Executive Orders

May 29, 2026

Millions
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her public lands

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The memo directs the U.S. Forest Service to identify which closed "roads, trails, areas, airstrips and waterways" in each national forest might be considered for year-round recreation access. Paul Ratje for The New York Times

Happenings of Interest

GREENWIRE



Political hires break with tradition at the Forest Service

By bringing political appointees to the Forest Service, the Trump administration puts accountability to the White House at the top of the agency's agenda.



BY MARC HELLER | 06/29/2026 01:44 PM EDT



Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz speaks during a hearing with the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in the Dirksen Senate Office Building on May 13 in Washington. | Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

GREENWIRE | Tom Schultz's appointment was already unusual when Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins plucked him from the timber industry to lead the Forest Service in February 2025, bypassing the agency's career foresters.

Now Schultz, in what's historically a nonpolitical position, is in another atypical situation: He's sandwiched between a presidentially appointed undersecretary he reports to and new political hires who work for him as "senior advisers."

All of these officials are now leading a big reorganization of the agency, which is relocating the headquarters to Salt Lake City, replacing regional offices with state-based leadership and consolidating dozens of research facilities.

"It's different from the history of the agency," said retired Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell, who worked for the agency for more than 30 years before he was picked to lead it during the Obama administration.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Keep in Touch

Forest Service announces proposed pilot projects to enhance recreation monitoring

Public invited to provide feedback during 30-day comment period

Press Office

(Washington, D.C., June 25, 2026) – The Forest Service is publishing a Federal Register notice announcing an interagency effort to monitor recreation use by implementing pilot projects across public lands. This effort is geared towards improving recreation resource management, visitor services, and planning.

The purpose of these pilot protocols is to model recreation use patterns, including low-use and dispersed recreation activities, that may not be effectively measured by existing general and opportunistic survey and monitoring protocols. The Federal Register notice will be available for public inspection tomorrow and will officially publish on Monday, initiating a 30-day public comment period on the proposed pilot projects. The notice will direct the public to [BLM's e-planning website](#) for comment collection.

"Understanding visitor recreation use patterns is important for the Forest Service to gain a better understanding of the demand so we can improve visitor experiences," said **Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz**. "These pilot projects will incorporate a variety of on-site techniques including activities such as manually counting visitors, summarizing trail permit data, installing mechanical counters, and providing logbooks for visitors to record their use."

There will also be the incorporation of emerging data sources and technologies, such as leveraging anonymized digital data generated by visitors to recreation sites to describe recreation-use patterns at those sites. This will include scanning social media to research photo and review sharing applications, understanding anonymized location-based services from smart phones, and incorporating remotely sensed data like aerial photography and satellite imagery to corroborate on-data pulled from recreation usage.

These pilot projects are one of the many ongoing actions identified in the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act, enacted January 4, 2025, and is specifically tied to section 133.

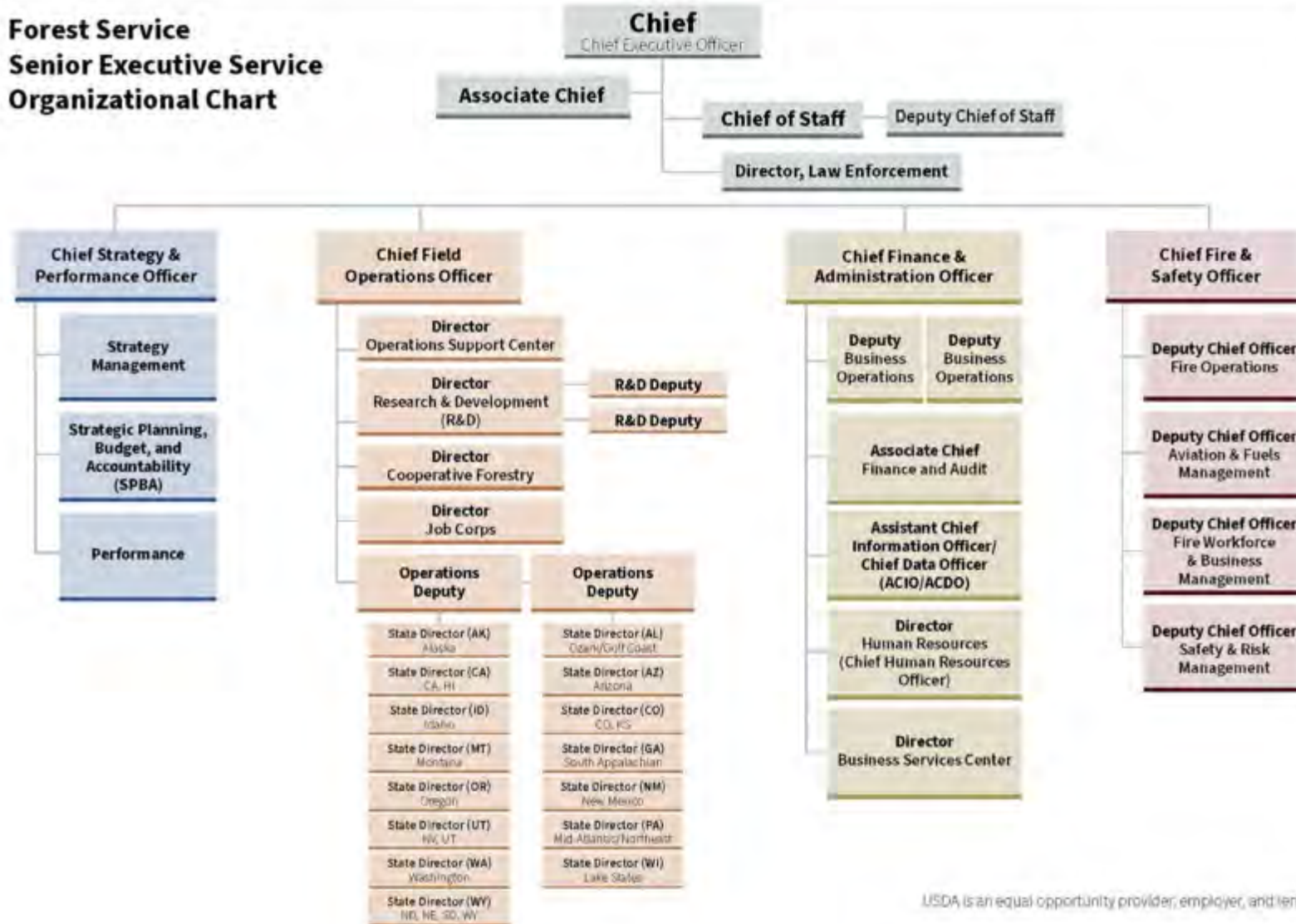
The Forest Service is proposing pilot projects alongside the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DRAFT DELIBERATIVE

Forest Service Senior Executive Service Organizational Chart



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Happenings of Interest - Climate

America at 250

National Mall fireworks reward those who had to sweat out a long wait

The 40-minute spectacle that started just before midnight capped off a day of extreme heat, lightning strikes, an evacuation order and widespread confusion.

Today at 12:37 p.m. EDT

10 min Summary 652 Make us preferred on Google



The Lincoln Memorial seen through the Independence Day fireworks in Washington. (Christine Kuo/The Washington Post)

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PBS NEWS HOUR

The growing dangers of record heat waves like the one engulfing July 4th celebrations

Jul 3, 2026 6:55 PM EDT



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July 4th: The Hottest Month Is Getting Hotter After 250 Years of Climate Change

KEY FACTS

- July is the hottest month for most of the U.S. and it's getting hotter as the planet warms.
- Since 1970, July has warmed in 94% of 243 U.S. cities analyzed — by 2.6°F on average.
- Free graphics show July temperature trends and records for the hottest and coolest July 4th in each city.
- The United States celebrates its 250th anniversary this July 4. The nation's history has unfolded during a period of unprecedented and accelerating global climate change.
- Climate change poses growing risks, but there are many opportunities to reduce heat-trapping pollution and progress toward a safer future.

This Climate Matters analysis is based on open-access data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). See Methodology for details.

VISUALS



Happenings of Interest - Climate

The New York Times

See How Europe's Heat Waves Melted the Alps' Glaciers

The snowfall from last winter disappeared a month sooner than usual, after two early hot spells. Huge volumes of exposed ice are now starting to vanish.



The Rhône Glacier in the Swiss Alps in 2025. The melting is already at levels typical of the end of summer. Fabrice Coffrini/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images



By **Raymond Zhong** and **Mira Rojanasakul**

July 2, 2026

GREENWIRE



'This is climate change': European heat wave impossible without warming, scientists say

Human-made warming made this heat wave far more likely and hotter than it would have been even a few decades ago, research finds.

BY **ZIA WEISE** | 06/26/2026 12:27 PM EDT



People refresh in from a water-sprinkling system brought by Rome's municipality to relief tourists visiting the Colosseum and Roman Forum as temperatures reach record highs in Italy's capital on Friday. | Andrew Medichini/AP

GREENWIRE | BRUSSELS — This week's extraordinary heat wave is the worst to ever hit Western Europe and could not have occurred without humans heating the planet by burning fossil fuels, scientists say.

Europeans from Spain to the United Kingdom have been sweltering under extreme heat this week, with temperatures surging to near or above 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) even before peak summer takes hold. New research published Friday finds that this kind of event would have been "virtually impossible" just 50 years ago and has become vastly more likely even over the past two decades due to global warming.

The World Weather Attribution consortium, which includes scientists from Imperial College London and the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, used peer-reviewed methods to compare this week's heat wave to other hot European summers in 1976 and 2003.

The New York Times

Without Climate Change, U.S. Heat Wave Called 'Virtually Impossible'

Scientists have said the conditions are the result of a climate that is "fundamentally different" from the time before fossil fuel use started rapidly warming the world.

Listen 2:17 min

Share full article



Cooling off in New York City on Thursday. Daily Tribune/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images



By **Raymond Zhong**

July 2, 2026

Heat and humidity as severe, prolonged and far-reaching as this week's would have been "virtually impossible" in the Northeast and eastern Canada before humans began warming the planet, a team of scientists said on Friday.

Emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the burning of oil, gas and coal have trapped more of the sun's heat at Earth's surface, raising temperatures worldwide for more than a century. Summer hot spells are nothing new, but because of the excess heat around the planet caused by global warming, they can produce higher temperatures today than they once did.

Happenings of Interest - Climate

ENERGYWIRE

Trump admin in 'active dialogue' on strategic petroleum reserve in California

The plan would almost certainly run into opposition from Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom.

BY NOAH BAUSTIN, BEN LEFEBVRE | 5/29/2024 11:15 AM EDT



Energy Secretary Chris Wright speaks at a podium during a press conference in Santa Barbara, California, on Friday. (Photo: Ben LeFebvre/POLITICO)

ENERGYWIRE | SANTA BARBARA, California — The Trump administration is in "active dialogue" on creating a petroleum reserve in California, Energy Secretary Chris Wright told POLITICO on Friday, a move that would boost oil infrastructure in the state and undermine Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom's bid to shrink the state's fossil fuel footprint.

A June 2 document that lawyers for Sable Offshore Corp., which owns a trio of oil platforms off the California coast, sent to the Energy Department and seen by POLITICO shows the company has proposed a West Coast Strategic Petroleum Reserve "in response to the inquiries made by the Trump administration and in the furtherance of Sable's ongoing discussions with the Department of War for the supply of oil and gas to California." Wright confirmed in an interview that such a facility is under discussion but didn't offer details.

The New York Times

OPINION
GUEST ESSAY

The Tiny Solar Panel That Could Change America

June 14, 2026



Rui Pu

CLIMATEWIRE

DOE restores federal funding for Nevada lithium mine

The nearly \$58 million Biden-era grant will go to a project to turn claystone into battery-grade lithium for electric vehicles.

BY BENJAMIN STORROW | 5/29/2024 11:45 AM EDT



Mountain view looking through Nevada, 12 miles from the Silver Peak mine. The Trump administration has restored a grant for a lithium refinery in the area. (Benjamin Storrow/POLITICO)

CLIMATEWIRE | The Department of Energy has restored a \$57.7 million grant for a proposed lithium refinery in Nevada, according to the project's developer.

DOE canceled the grant last fall as part of a wider round of cuts to Biden-era clean energy programs. But the department reinstated the funding after the American Battery Technology Co. appealed via DOE's internal appeal process. CEO Ryan Melsert said the company pitched the project's strategic importance to department officials, arguing that the planned facility is one of few in the U.S. poised to make battery-grade lithium.

"I think when the light was really shown on it, and a handful of projects went into this type of dispute resolution, the ones that really were able to demonstrate that they had strategic benefit to the U.S. are now being reversed and being reinstated," he said in an interview.

Happenings of Interest - Climate

San Francisco Chronicle e.Edition Account

WEATHER

El Niño is here — and likely to be historic. Here's how California will be impacted

by Anthony Edwards, Newsroom Meteorologist
June 11, 2025

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El Niño has arrived. It is expected to be particularly strong and to bring more rain and storms to California, though that is not a guarantee. Here, a rainy San Francisco day is seen in 2013.

Image: Reuters / Chronicle

El Niño is here, and it's only getting stronger.

The New York Times

NOAA Officially Declares *El Niño Is Here and Flashing Danger Signs*

The global weather pattern threatens to worsen floods and heat waves already intensifying due to climate change. But it may also mean fewer hurricanes.

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Drought-stricken wheat in a field in Kansas last month. David Swain / Associated Press

Weather West
California weather and climate perspectives.

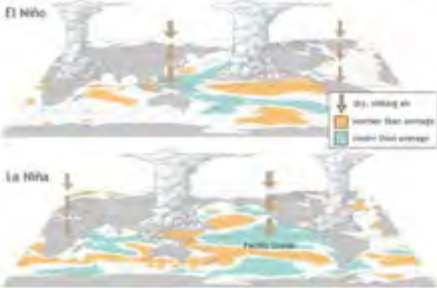
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Special update: Rising odds of a strong-to-historic El Niño event in 2026, with growing likelihood of significant regional-to-global scale impacts

2737 Comments / [Research Summary, Weather/Climate Discussion](#) / [Daniel Swain](#) / June 11, 2025

View all posts by Daniel Swain

A quick refresher: What is El Niño and how can it affect global weather patterns?



Schematic diagram showing the large-scale atmospheric effects of El Niño and La Niña. The diagram shows how El Niño shifts the primary region of deep tropical thunderstorm activity southward across the basin, which is the primary mechanism through which it alters global weather patterns. (Image via the NOAA Climate.gov)

El Niño is the warm phase of the **El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)**, a semi-regular recurring cycle that transfers vast amounts of heat and momentum from the tropical Pacific to the global atmosphere. It is triggered every 3-7 years when the prevailing easterly trade winds weaken or reverse, allowing warm water from the western Pacific to surge eastward while suppressing the vertical upwelling of cool water typically found off the coast of Peru.

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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El Niño is forecast to intensify, increasing likelihood of extreme weather

[PRESS RELEASE](#)

3 July 2025

Geneva, Switzerland (WMO) - El Niño conditions have developed in the tropical Pacific and are forecast to strengthen rapidly over the coming months, increasing the likelihood of heatwaves, droughts, heavy rainfall and other extreme weather events in many parts of the world, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

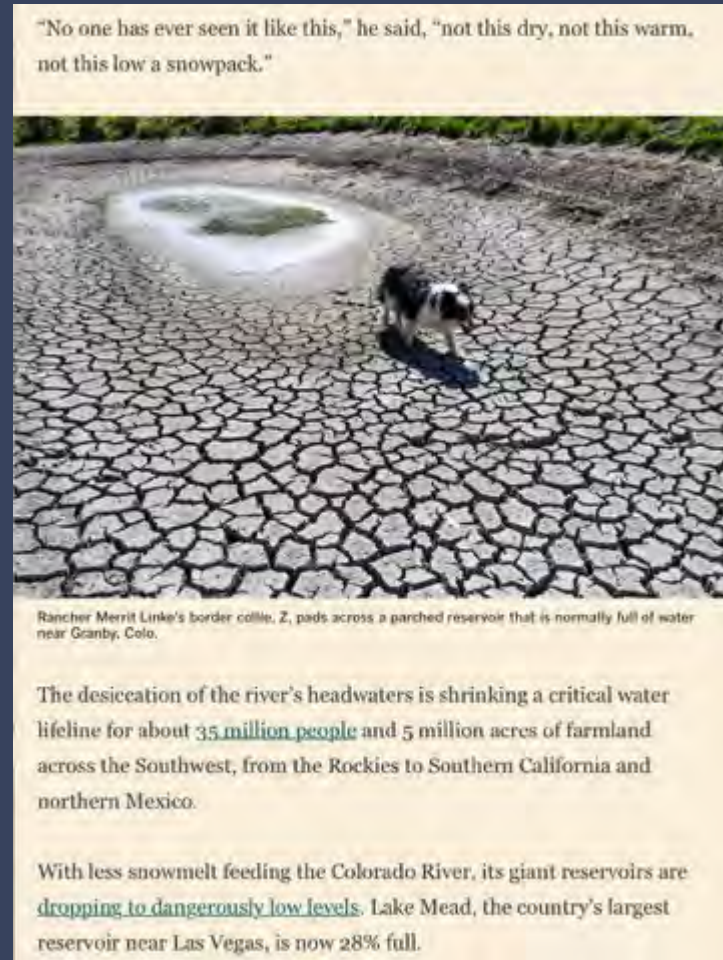
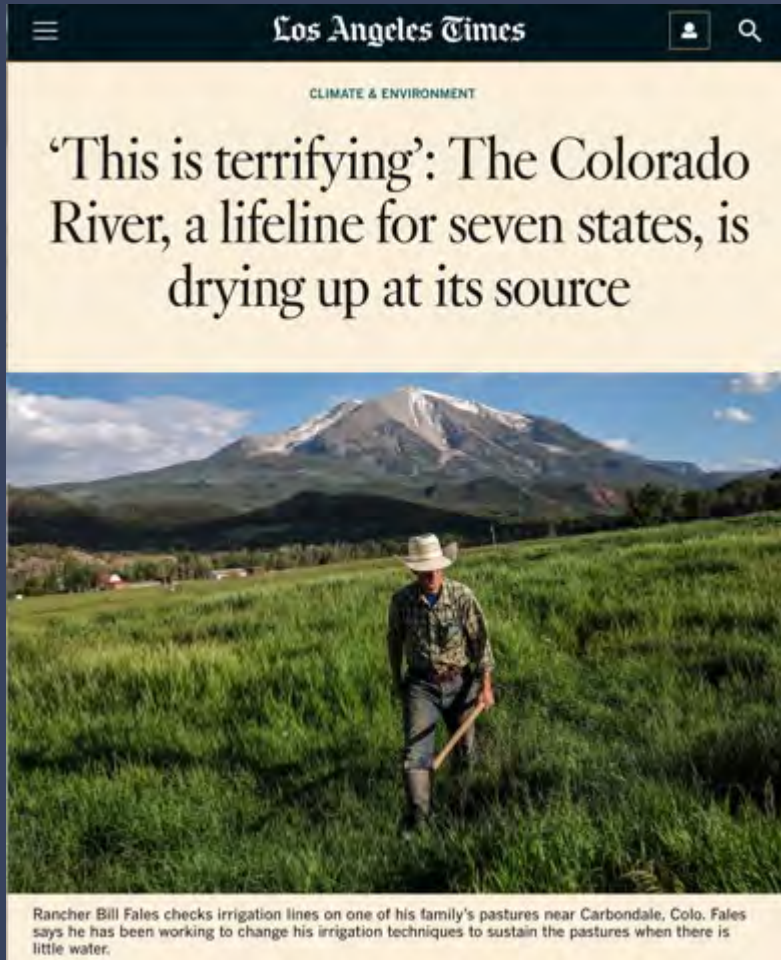
Key messages

- El Niño has developed in tropical Pacific
- Global Seasonal Climate Update indicates rapid development from July-September
- El Niño typically peaks between November and February
- WMO community mobilizes to save lives and livelihoods
- Climate information and services support decision-making

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Happenings of Interest - Climate



Happenings of Interest - Climate

CLIMATEWIRE  

Supreme Court energy wins set up a blockbuster climate fight

The justices gave big business key victories this term. Next comes a showdown that could reshape climate lawsuits nationwide.

BY **PHILIP KIM** **LESLEY CLARK** / 11/22/2024 3:23 AM EDT



© 2024 American Courtroom in Washington on View / U.S. & Irish Architectural Foundation

CLIMATEWIRE  

Spain saw record heat deaths for June after temperature spike in Europe

Deaths attributable to high temperatures reached 1,028 in Spain last month, the highest for June since records started in 2015, according to a research center.

BY **BLOOMBERG** / 11/22/2024 6:45 AM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE  

'More people die in the winter': Wright downplays Europe's deadly heat wave

The U.S. Energy secretary made his comments as the EU warned of life-threatening dangers from record-high temperatures.

BY **SARA SCHONHARDT** **ARIEL WITTENBERG** **CHARLIE COOPER** **NICHOLAS BARL** / 11/22/2024 4:43 AM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE  

World Bank drops climate finance target amid US pressure

The bank said it would no longer abide by its commitment to direct 45 percent of its financing to climate-related projects.

BY **SARA SCHONHARDT** / 11/22/2024 3:53 AM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE  

Greece fights poisonous pufferfish invasion fueled by warming waters

Athens is paying subsidies to fishermen to try to contain the proliferation of the marine pest.

BY **HEKATERIA STAMBOULI** / 11/22/2024 3:48 AM EDT



© 2024 The Associated Press / Reuters

CLIMATEWIRE  

'We are screwed': People near data centers dread heat wave pollution.

Extreme temperatures threaten to strain the grid as data centers are increasing energy demand. What could go wrong?

BY **ARIEL WITTENBERG** **BENJAMIN STODOLN** / 11/22/2024 5:17 PM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE  

Trump fuels unprecedented wave of climate lawsuits, report finds

The administration sparked a surge in legal action defending climate policy, as it used the courts to challenge state climate action.

BY **LESLEY CLARK** / 11/22/2024 5:17 PM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE  

Greece bets on space technology to contain wildfires

Four satellites were launched into low orbit in May. That made Greece the first nation in the world to integrate a dedicated satellite array into its national firefighting system.

BY **ASSOCIATED PRESS** / 11/22/2024 3:47 AM EDT



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CLIMATEWIRE | ATHENS, Greece — In the scorching Mediterranean summer, wildfires are a constant threat. Greece is now the first nation in the world to integrate a dedicated satellite array into its national firefighting system.

Happenings of Interest - Climate

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

The New York Times

GIVE THE TIMES

Climate and Environment

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



UNITED STATES/REUTERS

Bombs Bursting in Air Means Hours of Smoke and Confused Dogs in D.C.

Organizers want the July 4 fireworks in the nation's capital to break the world record. But the fun will also come with air pollution and possibly headaches for pet owners and zoo keepers.

July 3, 2026 · By QUINN GLABICKI, CATRIN EINHORN and MAXINE JOSELOW



The New York Times

Tracking Dangerous Heat in the U.S.

See detailed maps of the latest heat index forecasts in the United States.

15h ago · By MATTHEW BLOCH, LAZARO GAMIG, ZACH LEVITT, ELEANOR LUTZ, BEA MALSKY and JOHN-MICHAEL MURPHY

A Wildlife Regulator's Family Business Had a Permit to Renew. She Stepped In.

Jenifer Chatfield, a top official at the Interior Department, faces scrutiny from ethics experts for actions that could help her family's business.



July 3, 2026 · By MAXINE JOSELOW

U.S. to Overhaul Radiation Safety Rules to Spur Nuclear Expansion

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission plans to end longstanding guidance that radiation exposure be "as low as reasonably achievable."



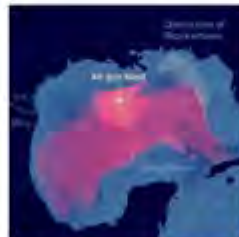
July 3, 2026 · By BRAD PLUMER



See How Europe's Heat Waves Melted the Alps' Glaciers



Inside the Quest to Mine the Bottom of the Sea



Dive Into a Very Noisy Sea With Some Very Rare Whales



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



Trash or Recycling? Why Plastic Keeps Us Guessing.

July 3, 2026

Heat Wave Will Make the Fourth of July a Brutally Hot Holiday for Many

The Midwest will get a break but temperatures for much of the East Coast will again climb above 100 degrees. Stay indoors as much as possible, experts said.

By AMY NASEF and ERIN MCCOMB



July 3, 2026

Trump Pardons Violators of the Clean Air Act and a Major Donor

The president used his clemency power to further undermine environmental laws and to help a political supporter who pleaded guilty in a fraud involving Jack Abramoff.

By KENNETH P. VOGLER and KAREN ZERNICKE



July 3, 2026

To Stay Cool, Wear Flowing Robes and Throw Water Around? Yes, Says Science.

Throughout history, people have come up with surprising ways to beat the heat that actually work.

By VERONIC TABACH



July 3, 2026

Without Climate Change, U.S. Heat Wave Called 'Virtually Impossible'

Scientists have said the conditions are the result of a climate that is "fundamentally different" from the time before fossil fuel use started rapidly warming the world.

By RAYMOND ZHONG



July 3, 2026

ESSAY E Pluribus Algae: Why Green Pond Scum Is as American as Red, White and Blue

And why the most patriotic approach to the Reflecting Pool may be to let the algae take over.

By ALAN BURDICK



July 3, 2026

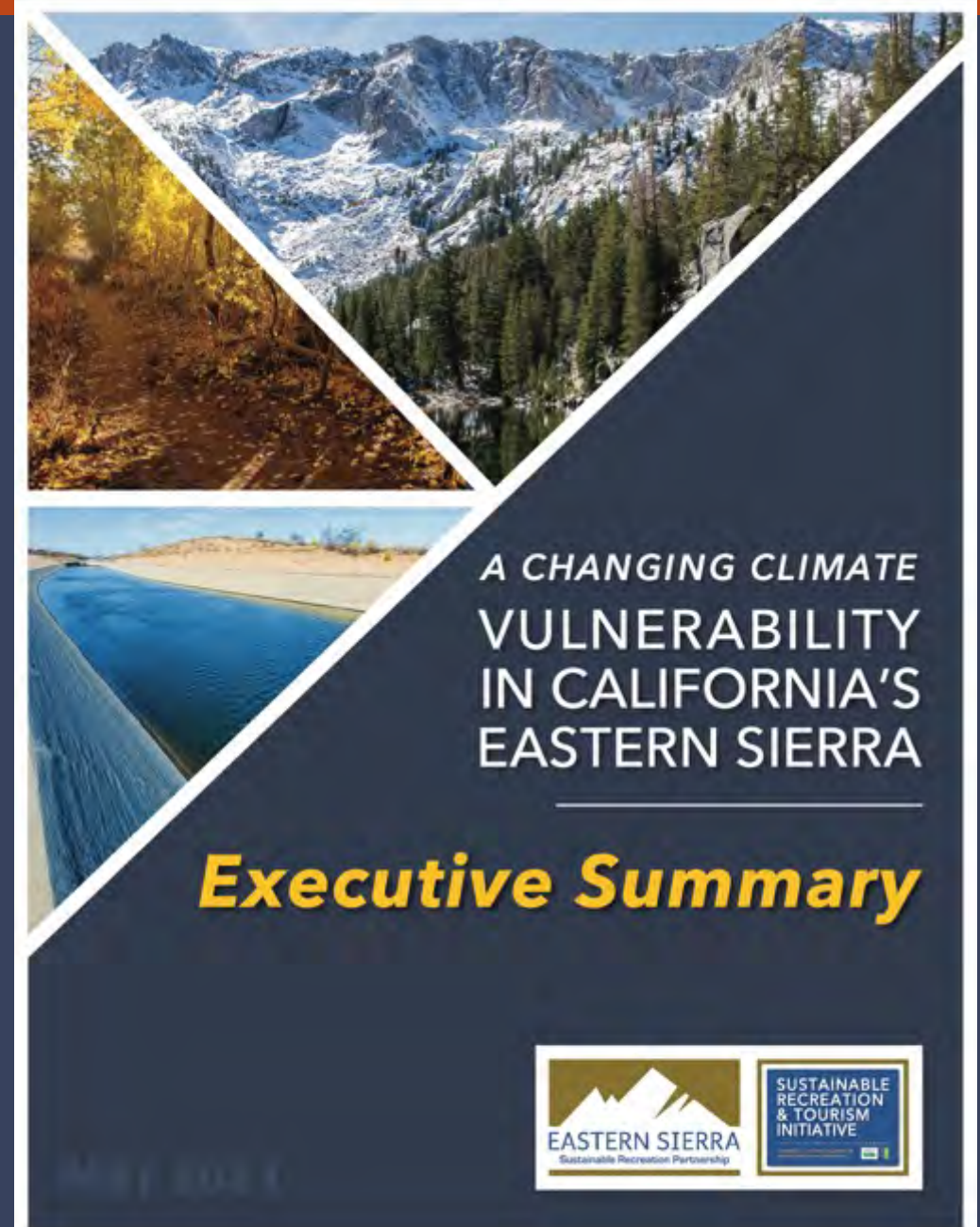
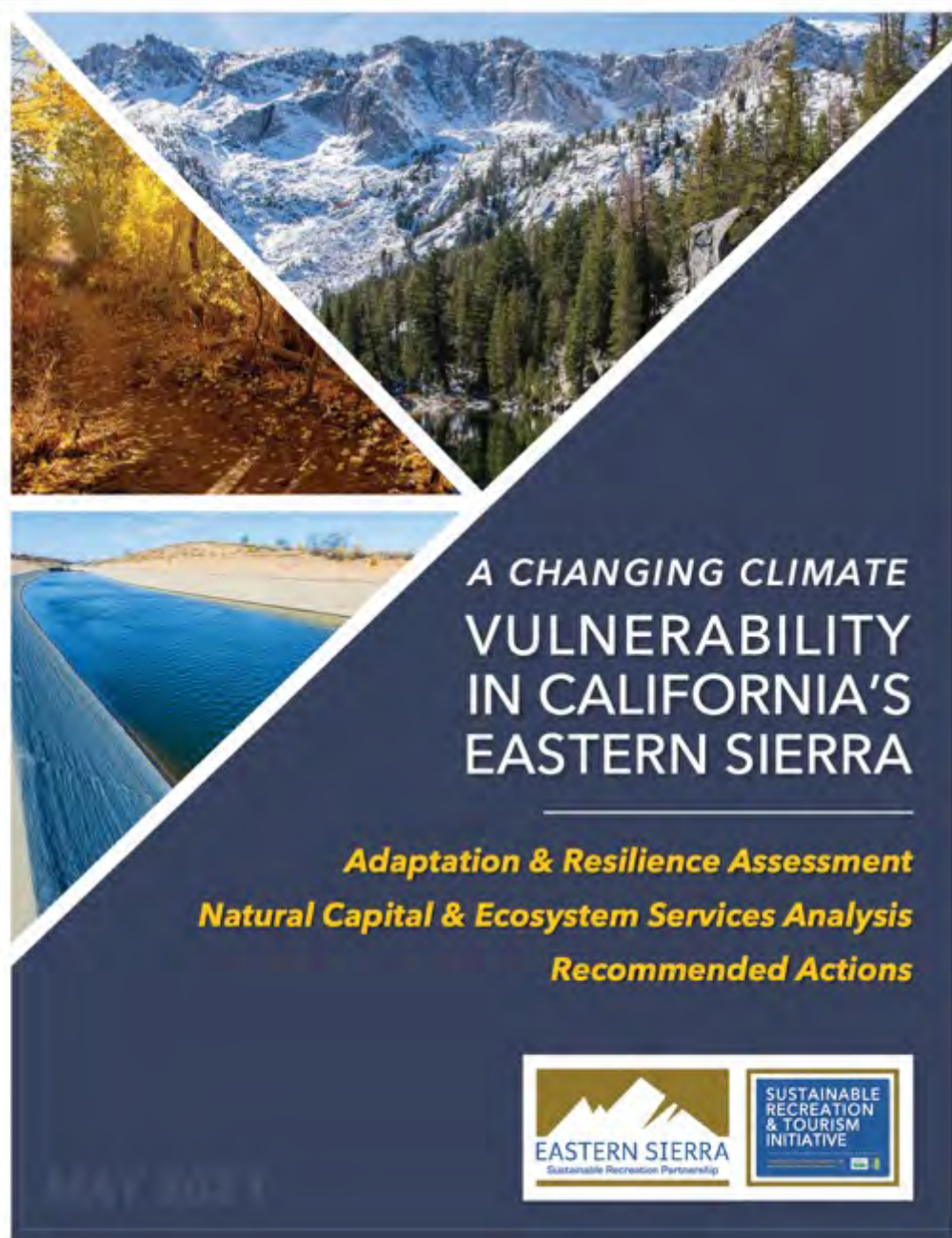
Burger vs. Bratwurst: A Climate Guide to Your July 4 Cookout

Beef is far worse for greenhouse gas emissions compared with other meats.

By FRANCESCA RAY



Happenings of Interest - Climate



Happenings of Interest - Climate

Recommended Actions

The Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative (SRTI) is an effort funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to support the outdoor recreation economy and natural resources of the Eastern Sierra region. The initiative has four tracks, or areas of focus, including a Climate Adaptation & Resilience Assessment. The Project Team for this assessment included an inter-disciplinary technical consulting team and the Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation who worked together to produce a final report entitled "A Changing Climate | Vulnerability in California's Eastern Sierra."

The Project Team developed a set of Recommended Actions for the SRTI Study Area to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change-related hazards and increase opportunities for sustainable, resilient recreation in the short and long-term. These Recommended Actions are based on the results of regional analyses of how the regional ecosystem and recreation economy may be affected by climate change, state and federal guidance, feedback from regional stakeholders, and current resources. The five Recommended Actions are:

- SRTI Climate: Funding-Ready Projects
- SRTI Climate: Regional Asset Inventory
- SRTI Climate: Gap Assessment
- SRTI Climate: Sustainable Infrastructure Master Plan
- SRTI Climate: Sustainable Recreation Outreach and Education

Along with these Recommended Actions, the Project Team and has also developed a screening tool to evaluate specific proposed SRTI projects and actions, including those from the other three SRTI tracks, for their ability to support climate resilience and to be implemented effectively.



1

EASTERN SIERRA SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM INITIATIVE
A CHANGING CLIMATE | VULNERABILITY IN CALIFORNIA'S EASTERN SIERRA

SRTI Climate: Funding-Ready Projects

The Funding-Ready Projects include projects that have climate resiliency and/or sustainability co-benefits, providing these beneficial features along with sustainable recreation improvements. They have been identified by the SRTI "Recreation Stakeholders" or proposed by the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and other regional partners. These projects are ready to fund plan preparation, permitting, or construction.

To identify as a Funding-Ready Project, a project must meet three criteria, at a minimum: 1) have a defined location, 2) include steps that can be funded, and 3) provide or include physical structures or hazard-reduction programs. Funding-Ready Projects are intended to be implemented in the short-term (one to five years) as funding becomes available through federal, state, or public-private partnership sources.



Timeline	One to five years
Potential Funding	Federal and state programs, grant funding, funding via partnerships

Example Projects:

	Wildfire fuel reduction program Enhances resilience		Evacuation route mapping and signage Enhances resilience
	Buttermilk Climbing Area Recreation Plan Supports sustainable recreation		Markleeville EV Charging Station Improves existing infrastructure

3

EASTERN SIERRA SUSTAINABLE RECREATION AND TOURISM INITIATIVE
A CHANGING CLIMATE | VULNERABILITY IN CALIFORNIA'S EASTERN SIERRA

Help Shape California's Climate Adaptation Planning Guide

Communities, Tribal Nations, local governments, nonprofits, and practitioners are invited to **join Sierra Business Council's virtual workshop on Thursday, August 6, from 12:30–1:30 p.m.** to provide feedback on the 2026 update to California's Adaptation Planning Guide (APG).

Developed to help communities prepare for climate change impacts, the APG is a foundational resource for resilience planning across California. The 2026 update incorporates the latest science, policy, tools, and examples to support local adaptation efforts.

Thursday August 6, 2026

12:00 – 1:30 PM

VIRTUAL ONLY

Register for the Zoom Workshop Here

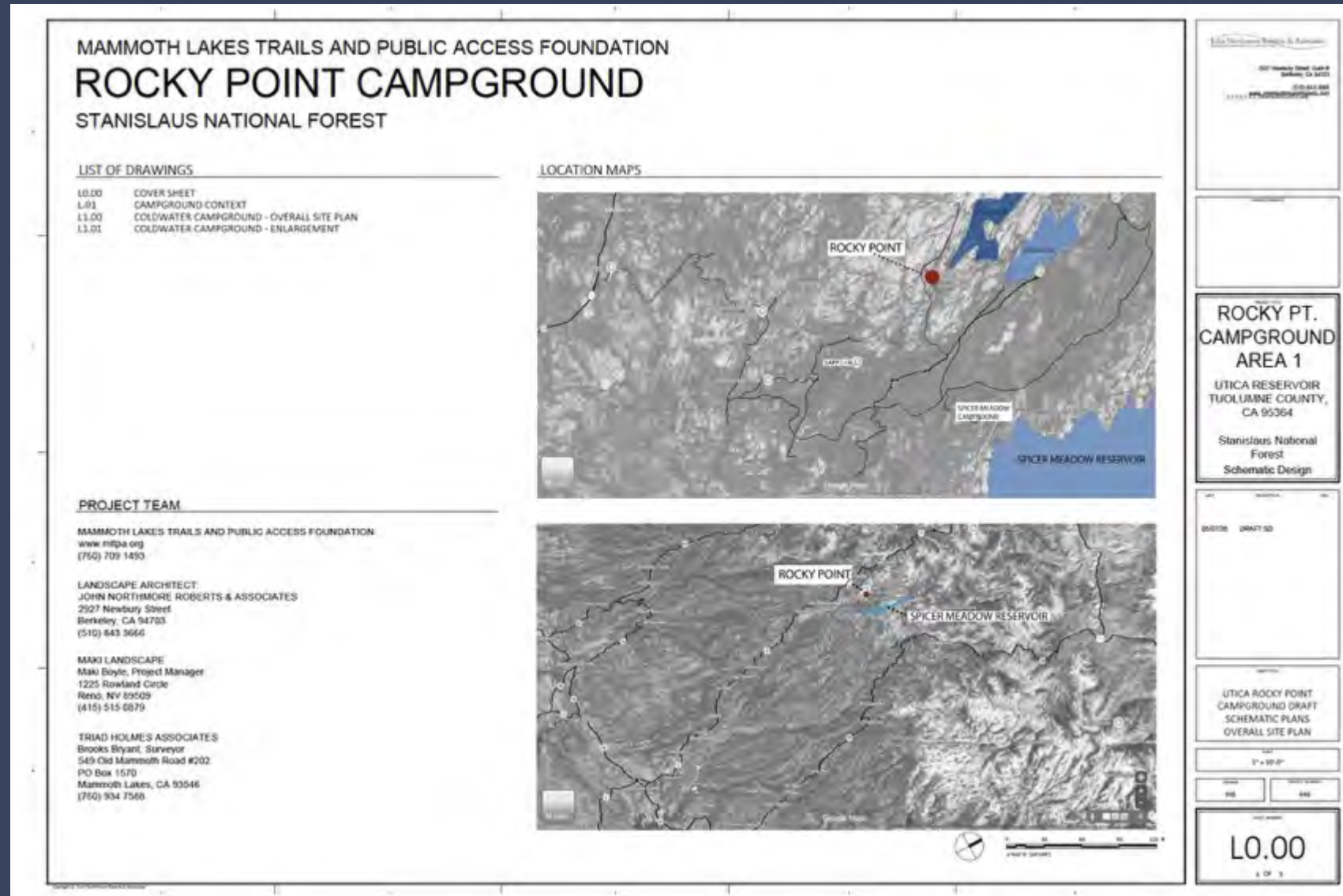
Hosted by Sierra Business Council in partnership with Cal OES, the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, and the California Natural Resources Agency, the workshop will provide an opportunity to review the draft guide, ask questions, and help shape a resource used by communities throughout the State.

The draft 2026 Adaptation Planning Guide will be available in the Summer of 2026 at:

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/ca-adaptation-planning-guide/>



Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



Sierra Jobs First: Catalyst Project Updates



Kristy Williams

Follow Up & Feedback for Incorporation in Sch...

To: Casey Jardine & 6 more

7/2/26

[Details](#)

Hello Todd, Casey, and Kieth,

I wanted to check in on any comments or feedback you have to provide after our 5/21 Zoom review of the draft schematics for Rocky Point. There were some areas that you planned to field check - specifically the parking/wall suggestion.

Please let us know any adjustments you would like the JNRA team to make - or if anything requires further discussion.

We are on a tight timeline (due to funding) to finish these in the next few months, so we would love to have your final edits/comments/suggestions back to us next week, if possible.

Thank you.

Kristy Williams
(she/her)
Project Management Specialist
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation
www.mltpa.org
760.709.1493 [cel]



Kristy Williams

Follow Up & Feedback for Incorporation in Sch...

To: Meaghan McCammon Cc: & 3 more

7/2/26

[Details](#)

Hello Meaghan,

I wanted to check in on any comments or feedback you have to provide after our 5/28 site visit during which we reviewed draft schematics for Pleasant Valley CG. Our notes are that the you and your team were going to field check and give us feedback on the general arrangements we had proposed as well as the specific roadway adjustments JNRA had suggested along the narrow river frontage at the public road. In addition to the campsite layouts, the JNRA team is also looking for feedback on the pavilion/gathering area, the public use areas, and possibly eliminating access to the narrow peninsula.

I also have a note to myself that as the project winds down to review the budget to see if there is any funding available for JNRA to create renderings and/or provide cost analysis for the project. This will stay on my radar as final costs become clearer in the next month or so.

As you know, we are on a tight timeline (due to funding) to finish these in the next few months, so we would love to have your final edits/comments/suggestions back to us next week, if possible.

Hope you have a great 4th!

Thank you.

Kristy Williams
(she/her)
Project Management Specialist
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation
www.mltpa.org
760.709.1493 [cel]



Kristy Williams

Follow Up & Feedback for Incorporation in Sch...

To: Adam (Barnett), Chris (Barnett), & 5 more

7/2/26

[Details](#)

Hello Adam and Chris,

I wanted to check in on any comments or feedback you have to provide after our 5/28 site visit during which we reviewed draft schematics for Coldwater CG. Chris - were you going to mark up the drawings and provide notes? I know we went back and forth on that a couple of times.

Here are some notes from John Northmore Roberts about next steps:

"For Coldwater, on the plan that we reviewed in the field, we have some adjustments to make to the walk in sites, the accessible parking arrangements, some of the campsite/parking layouts, and the addition of speed bumps, but that scheme is generally in good shape. Chris said that he was going to mark up the drawing set and provide other specific suggestions."

"In addition, the USFS asked that we prepare a second option study with a two-way road directly to the day use area, thereby avoiding the conflicts with the campers. Chris thought that we might be able to relocate all the campsites along the creek side of the new road (heading in), but our initial quick assessment indicates that there isn't sufficient room on the main site for all to be relocated. We'll take a first look at this option as a concept to begin to understand the ramifications. It is likely that the issues that will need to be addressed to fully assess the implications of this option - alignment, grading, drainage, campsite relocation, campsite access along the road, tree protections, costs, etc - will be significant enough that civil engineering assistance and more detailed design will be required and may not be possible to achieve within the current schedule. However, the interest in such an option is very high, with significant potential benefits, so we would like to jump into this as soon as we can. But before we do, we should get feedback and direction from the USFS based on our site visit."

As you know, we are on a tight timeline (due to funding) to finish these in the next few months, so we would love to have your final edits/comments/suggestions back to us next week, if possible. Would you prefer to send notes via email or should we schedule a team check in?

Hope you have a great 4th!

Thank you.

Kristy Williams
(she/her)
Project Management Specialist
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation
www.mltpa.org
760.709.1493 [cel]



Sierra Jobs First: Recreation & Tourism Working Group



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

RICA Draft Review

Please provide your feedback on these draft Recommendations for Implementation & Collaborative Action (RICA) for the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Sector in the Sierra Region of the California Jobs First initiative.

These recommendations have been compiled from the Sierra Works/Jobs First "Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Working Group" convenings from November 2025 through June 2026.

Don't Miss Out: Please share your feedback using a desktop machine! for the best experience! You're going to miss out if you just use your phone.

Have Fun!

[Start](#)



Form closes at 11:59 tonight - !

SIERRA WORKS

SIERRA JOBS FIRST
RECREATION & TOURISM

WORKING GROUP MEETING



**JUNE – ARTS, CULTURE,
PLACEMAKING**

06/15/2026

This meeting is
being recorded

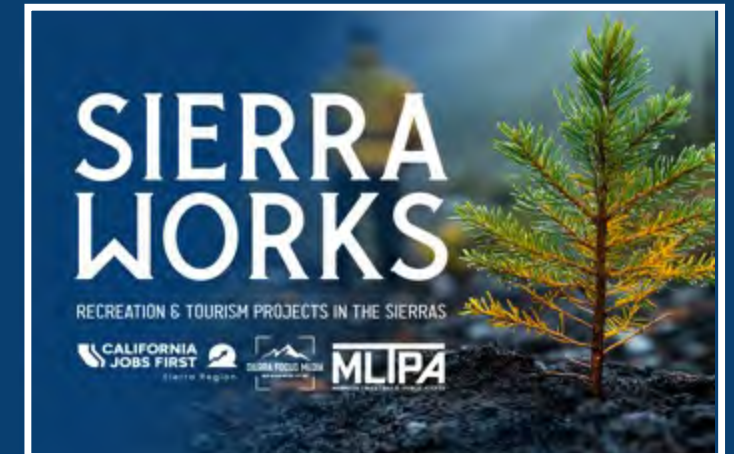
Project presentations & Interviews



Towns to trails west
Dillon Osleger

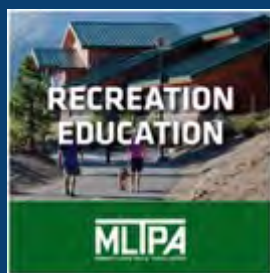


Sierra 7 arts alliance
Naomi Hart Johnson



Industry sector coordinator
Andie Stewart





MEETING RECAPS

Workforce Development

- *May 18th*

Climate Resiliency

- *April 20th*

Regional Identity and Funding

- *March 16th*

Policy Barriers

- *February 23rd*

Asset Mapping

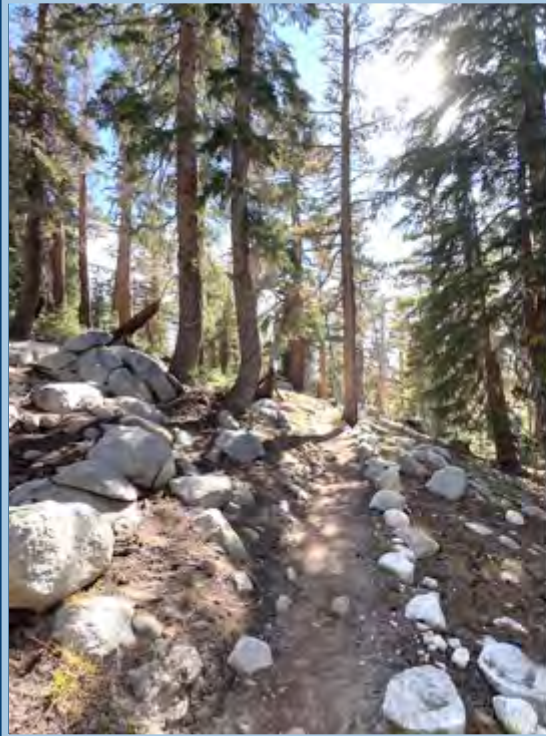
- *January 20th*

Regional Governance

- *November 17th*



RICA FEEDBACK



RICA Draft Review

Please provide your feedback on these draft Recommendations for Implementation & Collaborative Action (RICA) for the Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Sector in the Sierra Region of the California Jobs First initiative.

These recommendations have been compiled from the Sierra Works/Jobs First "Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Working Group" convenings from November 2025 through June 2026.

Don't Miss Out: Please share your feedback using a desktop machine for the best experience! You're going to miss out if you just use your phone.

Have Fun! We think this will take about 20 minutes of your time to share your golden insights.

Start

Comment Period

June 19 - July 6th

GOAL # 1

Fund a Regional Info-Sharing Entity That Facilitates Implementation

GOAL # 2

Address Barriers that Obstruct Project Implementation

GOAL # 3

Build a Year-Round, Equitable, Career-Focused Recreation Workforce

GOAL # 4

Regional Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change

HOW THIS TRANSLATES TO THE RICA

Each policy recommendation in the RICA is expressed in the following structure:



California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot at the Jobs First "Symposium of Practice" – April 23, 2026

The (AGENCY) will (ACTION) through (MECHANISM) to achieve (OUTCOME).

- *Agency = who owns the action*
- *Action = what the agency will do*
- *Mechanism = policy, funding, program, pilot, etc.*
- *Outcome = what changes or results*

"The state of California's funding agencies will fund, through their grant programs, a regional information-sharing and project facilitation entity to expedite project implementation."



RICA FEEDBACK

GOAL #1

Fund a Regional Info-Sharing Entity That Facilitates Implementation

"Fund a reliable regional entity for the seven-county recreation and tourism network to share information of relevance and broker opportunities between federal agencies, local governments, counties, and community-based practitioners that will advance the interests of the Region's Sustainable Recreation and Tourism sector."

Do you support Goal #1? *

☐ Strongly Support

☐ Support

☐ Do Not Support

☐ Strongly Do Not Support



There are four "Goals" that you will be asked to rate from:

"Strongly Support"

to

"Strongly Do Not Support"

RICA FEEDBACK

Action Step #1:

Regional Information-Sharing and Project Facilitation Entities

The state of California, through its relevant agencies and their grant programs, will fund regional information-sharing entities to support collaboration, project development, and implementation.

Do you support Action Step #1? *

☐ Strongly Support

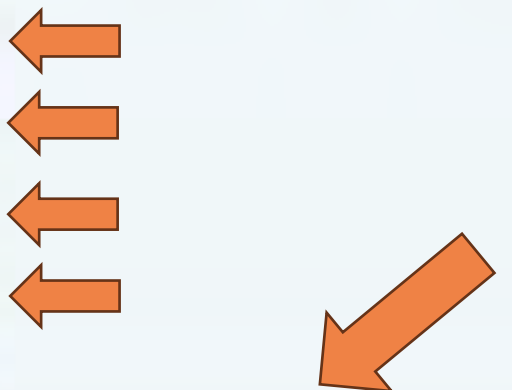
☐ Support

☐ Do Not Support

☐ Strongly Do Not Support

Feedback for Action Step #1

Optional



Each "Goal" has 4-9 "Action Steps" that you will be asked to rate from:

"Strongly Support"

to

"Strongly Do Not Support"

You will also be able to provide written feedback for each "Action Step".

Introduction to ARTS, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING

Strategy 3: Diversify and leverage the region's recreation economy with tourism events, amenities, and attractions focused on the unique histories, arts, and cultures of the region's communities and establish new business opportunities in related industries.

ACTION STEP 1

Invest in tourism assets and amenities beyond outdoor recreation that increase the region's overall attractiveness and identity as a destination, especially small businesses, arts/culture institutions and events, and local food systems and agritourism, in coordination with regional collaborative governance as needed.

- a.** Assess capital investment plans for local governments, recreation districts, and the private sector and prioritize investment projects.
- b.** Determine the potential for regional, collaborative investments to strengthen funding applications and determine if a regional master plan is necessary.
- c.** Conduct feasibility studies on prioritized projects, identify potential funding sources, and plan for implementation.
- d.** Ensure long-term sustainable funding is considered for the ongoing maintenance of assets, support for management, and preparation of communities for greater visitation.



Regional Strategic Plan – pg. 79



Introduction to ARTS, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING

Strategy 2: Promote sustainable tourism for the region's recreation economy based on the agreed-upon values of partners.

ACTION STEP 1

Develop visitor management plans, including **regional branding and marketing**. Work with regional destination marketing organizations (DMOs) and regional collaborative governance partners to develop visitor management, branding, and marketing strategies.

a. Perform regional gap analysis on needs to advance strategy and identify strengths to leverage and weaknesses to address.

b. Leverage TakeCareSierra.org's efforts for communications and education.

c. Work with regional DMOs and collaborative governance partners to develop and promote regional tourism, including establishing regional branding, tourism itineraries, and destination and event promotion.



Regional Strategic Plan – pg. 79



Introduction to ARTS, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING

Strategy 2: Promote sustainable tourism for the region's recreation economy based on the agreed-upon values of partners.

ACTION STEP 3

- a.** Build regional lifestyle and business brand identity.
- b.** Identify opportunities to expand, attract, and retain recreation and tourism-supporting businesses that align with regional lifestyle/business branding, including gear and clothing manufacturers, outdoor guides, cultural tourism, agricultural companies, artists, resort operations, gear shops, and high-altitude training centers, in coordination with regional collaborative governance as needed.



Regional Strategic Plan – pg. 79



Introduction to ARTS, CULTURE & PLACEMAKING

Strategy 3: Diversify and leverage the region's recreation economy with tourism events, amenities, and attractions focused on the unique histories, arts, and cultures of the region's communities and establish new business opportunities in related industries.

ACTION STEP 3

Reinforce regional connection through visitor infrastructure. Develop regionally consistent locally branded wayfinding programs to direct visitors to recreation and tourism amenities in coordination with regional collaborative governance as needed.

- a.** Inventory wayfinding needs and prioritize installation locations.
- b.** Identify a designer to work on branding.
- c.** Source funding to support the project.



Regional Strategic Plan – pg. 79



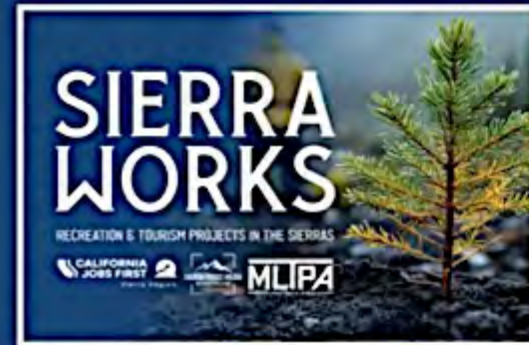
PROJECT PRESENTATIONS & INTERVIEWS



TOWNS TO TRAILS WEST
Dillon Osleger



SIERRA 7 ARTS ALLIANCE
Naomi Hart Johnson



INDUSTRY SECTOR COORDINATOR
Andie Stewart



Andie Stewart-MLTPA



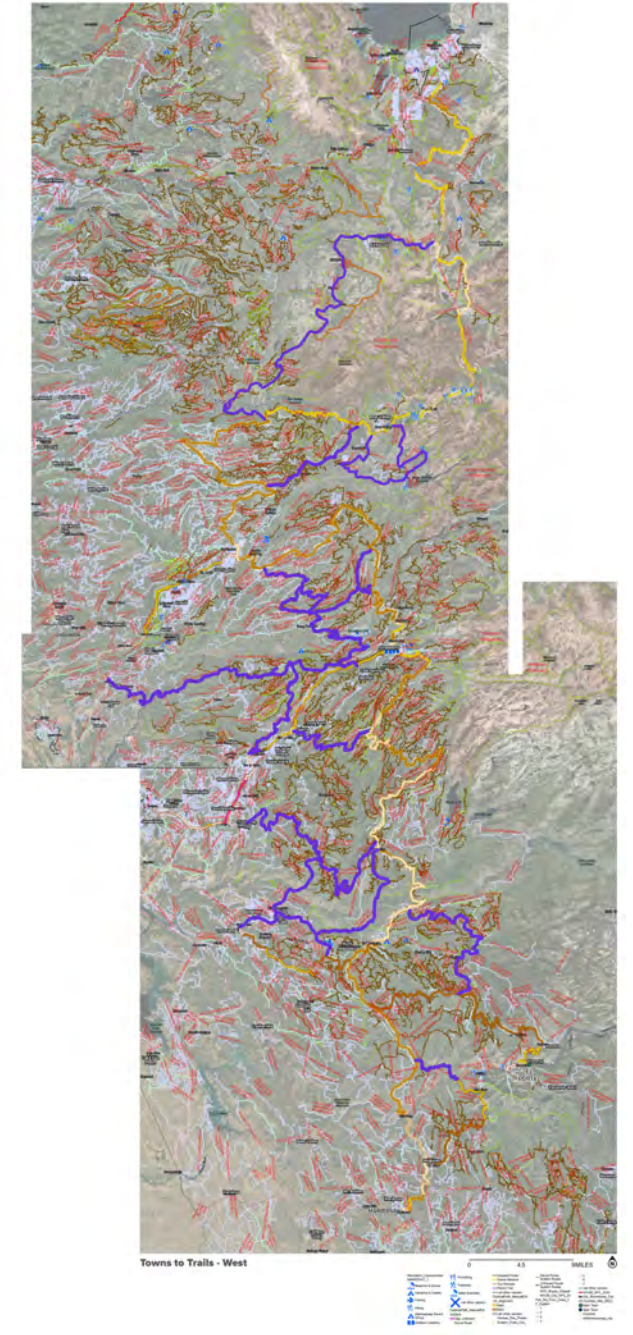
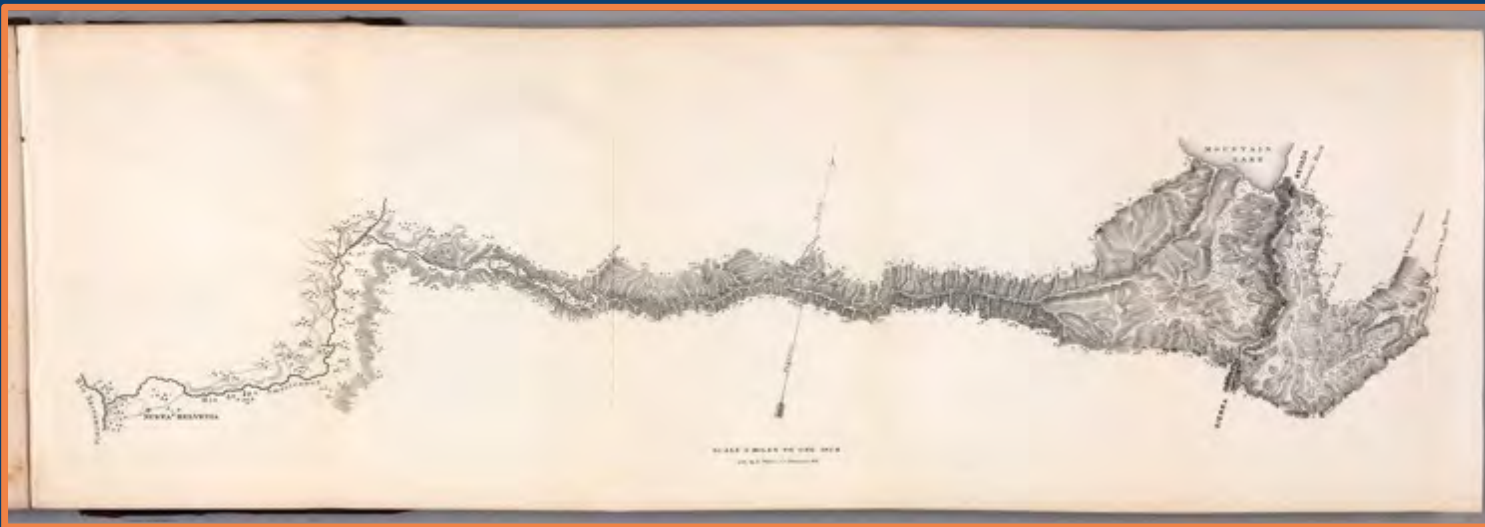
Dillon Osleger



Naomi Hart Johnson / C5 Studios



TOWNS TO TRAILS WEST



SIERRA SEVEN ARTS ALLIANCE – from here to there



NEXT STOPS:

Amador/Calaveras:

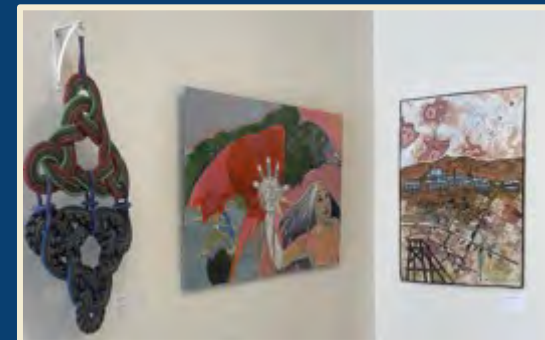
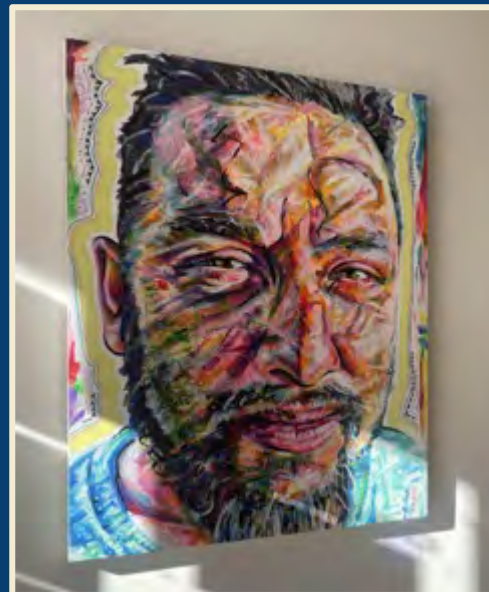
June 12 – July 10

Alpine County:

July 17 – Aug 14

Tuolumne County:

Aug 21 – Sept 18



INYO FEB. 20 - MAR. 20

- 1 C5 Studios: 210 S Warren Street, Bishop AND
- 2 Inyo Council for the Arts: 150 Willow Street, Bishop

MONO MAR. 27 - APR. 24

- 3 Mono Arts Council: 501 Old Mammoth Road, #5, Mammoth Lakes

MARIPOSA MAY 8 - JUNE 5

- 4 Mariposa Arts Council: 5009 CA-140, Mariposa

AMADOR/CALAVERAS JUNE 12 - JULY 10

- 5 Calaveras County Arts Council: 22 Main St., San Andreas

ALPINE JULY 17 - AUG. 14

- 6 Alpine County Administration Building: 99 Water Street, Markleeville

TUOLUMNE AUG. 21 - SEPT. 18

- 7 Chakachi-no Learning Center: 18141 Main Street, Jamestown

Photo credits: C5 Studios

Meeting Recaps – 6 Working Groups Meetings to Date



A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN

For California's Creative Sector

Defined by six key strategies, this milestone document marks California's first sector-specific plan to bolster and grow \$288 billion creative sectors and support its over 820,000 creative workers.

EXPLORE THE PLAN



Helping civic leaders **plan**, **build**,
and **promote** vibrant Main Streets,
destination-quality parks, trails &
recreation areas.

THANK YOU FOR COMING



Next Meeting:

July 20th, 2026

FINAL MEETING! RICA REVIEW

THANK YOU FOR COMING



Next Meeting:

Please Sign up Now!

FINAL MEETING! RICA REVIEW

Sierra Jobs First: Funding



June 26, 2026

Governor Newsom announces \$1.3 billion in new private investment, creating thousands of new jobs in key industries across California

On Monday, Governor Newsom announced six companies have been awarded [California Competes Tax Credits](#) (CalCompetes) from the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. Together, these awards are projected to create more than 2,000 new jobs with a weighted average annual salary of over \$110,000 and generate more than \$1.3 billion in private investment across California.

Since 2019, CalCompetes has awarded tax credits to 271 businesses committed to creating 75,577 full-time jobs based in California and generating more than \$37 billion in private investment.

"California is where the future is built. Through investments like CalCompetes, we're helping companies expand manufacturing, advance breakthrough technologies, and create high-quality jobs that will further strengthen our economy and communities for years to come."

— Governor Gavin Newsom

Mono County/Cerro Coso internship program 'SOARs'

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

By Louis Medina/Mammoth Times Staff Jun 11, 2026

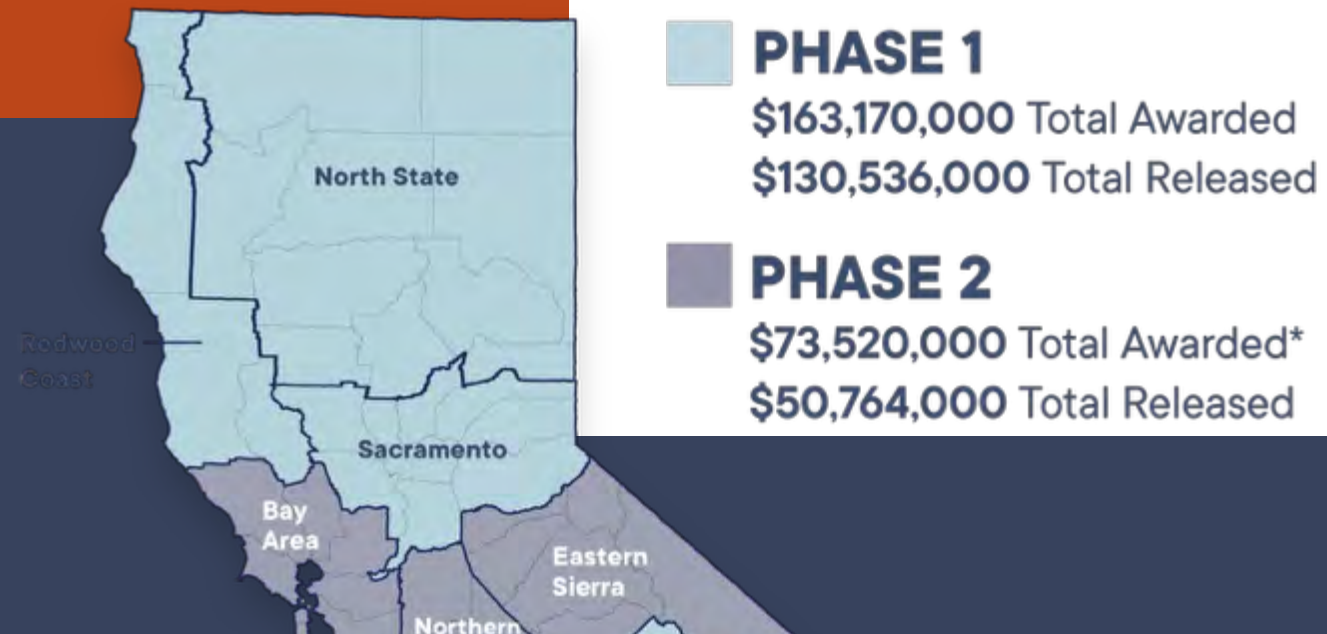


Mono County Sustainable Outdoors & Recreation division boasts its first intern, Stephanie UrbanWolff, thanks to a partnership with Cerro Coso Community College.

Stephanie UrbanWolff/Courtesy

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

Sierra Jobs First: Funding



REGIONAL K-16 EDUCATION COLLABORATIVES GRANT PROGRAM

Powered by
FOUNDATION for CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Released Amount as of 1/10/2025

* Includes \$250,000 from Phase 2: Planning Grant

Sierra Jobs First: Funding



Internet Technician Pre-Apprenticeship
17 Jun

Scan me to apply



PC Hardware and Software installation and repair A+ Cert.

Network Administration Network + Cert.

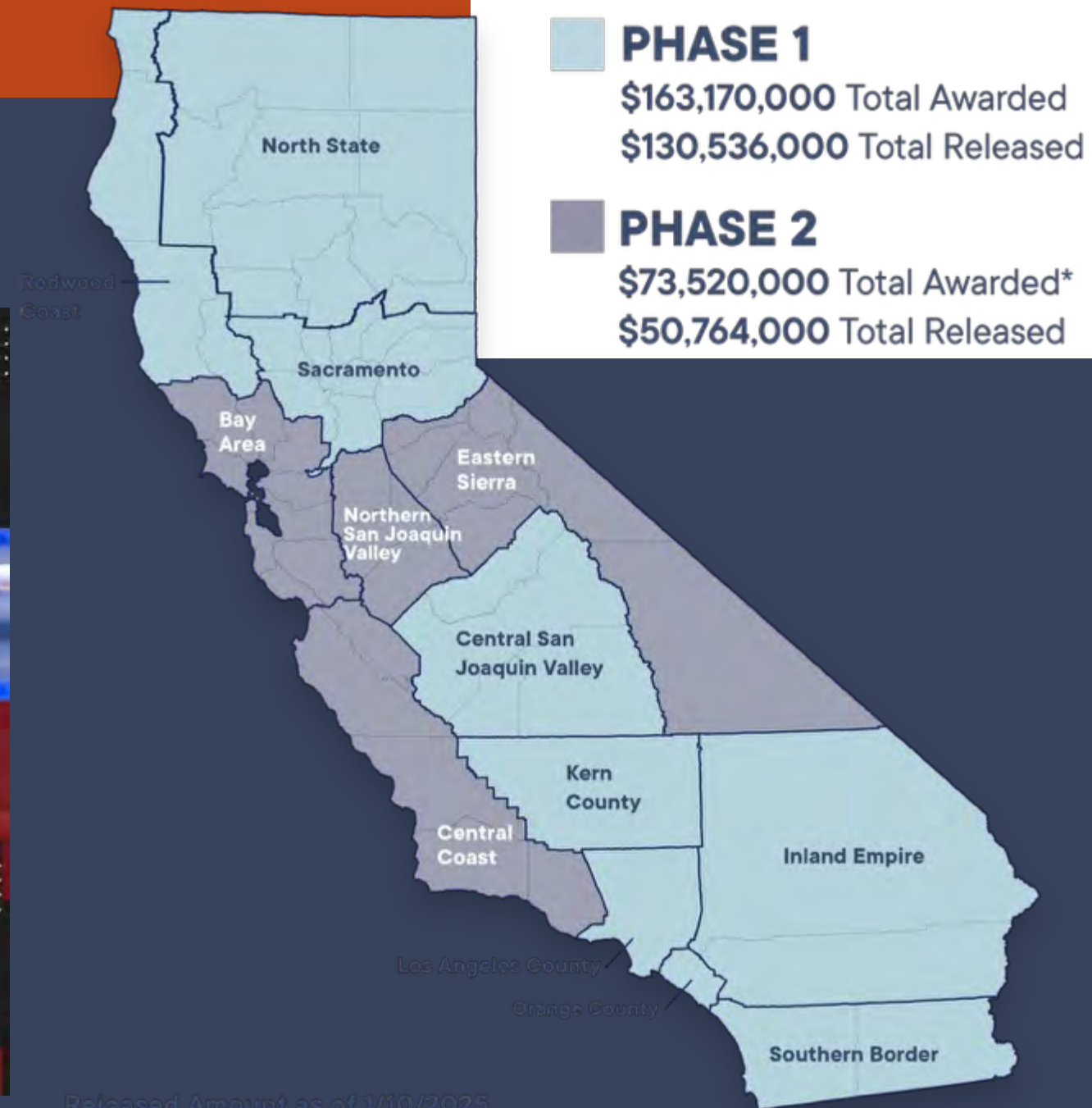
Cyber Security Security+ Cert.

Free Pre-Apprenticeship: Internet Technician

Our Pre-apprenticeship is a 5 course sequence designed to get you industry certificates to jump start your career in IT in two semesters. Join our program for workshops, field trips to employers and other colleges, as well as special events! Cohorts start every Fall semester in late August.

Hardware and Software courses	Networking course	Cyber Security Course
COMP 40: Intro to PC Hardware Comp 41: PC Hardware (A+ Prep) Comp 42: PC Operating Systems (A+ Prep)	COMP 61: Windows Server Network Infrastructure	COMP 50: Introduction to Security

Contact Person: Bo Locke
lockeb@yosemite.edu | 209-588-5202



Released Amount as of 1/10/2025

* Includes \$250,000 from Phase 2: Planning Grant

Sierra Jobs First: Funding

[About the Fund](#)[Frequently Asked Questions](#)[Stewards Fund Application](#)[Public Lands Program](#)



 **AllTrails** | **Stewards Fund**
Supported by  **Expedia**

Thank you for your interest.

The 2026 AllTrails Stewards Fund applications are open from May 19 - July 17, 2026. Apply using the form below and check out our FAQs to learn more.



Tapping Tourism Revenue to Fuel Investment in Communities

Climate Finance Jun 22

Policy shifts are turning visitor-generated revenue into a financing opportunity for community priorities

By *Coilin O'Brien-Feeney*, Senior Director

Gas taxes help pay for roads. Airline fees help pay for airports and air traffic control. Imagine if instead those dollars were required to be spent primarily on advertising campaigns encouraging people to drive and fly more. Meanwhile, the roads, bridges, runways, and infrastructure that make those trips possible were left scrambling for funding.

This may sound like a fictional scenario, yet for decades, this is effectively how tourism has worked in many communities across the United States – especially those reliant on outdoor recreation. When you spend a night in a hotel near a tourist destination, the lodging tax you pay is often required to be primarily spent on advertising, marketing, and tourist venues to attract more visitors, instead of on improving local infrastructure and public services.

Sierra Jobs First: Funding

 Official website of the State of California

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 State of California**Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation**[Home](#) / [Getting Started with Climate Change](#) / [Integrated Climate Adaptation](#) / [ICAP Grant Programs](#) / [Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program](#)

More About EHCRP

Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program Round 1 Grant Awards

Overview

The Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program supports local, regional, and tribal efforts to mitigate extreme heat impacts, prioritizing the most heat-burdened communities through funding, technical support, and evaluation. The first round of funding in FY 2024-25 awarded nearly \$32 million across 46 projects, with strategies including heat action plans, cooling solutions, and surface reflectance improvements.

Round 2, anticipated in FY 2025-26, will be funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) and Prop 4. Governor's budget proposes \$16m of the \$50m in Prop 4 funding to be available to the program in FY25-26. Additionally, \$7.5 million remains in the GGRF, and \$14 million is available from the Allso Canyon Recovery Settlement for future program implementation.

Program Structure

Round 1: Awarded FY 2024-25, Round 1 of funding is comprised of nearly \$32 million across 46 awards. Awarded projects are led by local and regional public entities, California Native American Tribes, community-based organizations, and academic institutions. Over 95% of projects represent a disadvantaged community. Round one received over \$300M in requests for the limited funding available.

Round 2: Expected in FY 2025-26, funded through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) and Prop 4.

Large Implementation Grants

Total Awarded: \$ 15,765,669

Community Resilience Center and Extreme Heat Response

Lead Applicant: California Parenting Institute

Total Funding Amount: \$1,529,669

Project Overview: Create heat-resilient play spaces with natural elements and shade structures to provide safe spaces during extreme heat events. Convert a warehouse into a cooling center for program planning and emergency response and enhance outdoor areas with a shade structure.

Sierra Jobs First: Transition & Future Planning



TRANSITION & FUTURE PLANNING

Shaping the Future, Together

Wrap Dates

Industry Sector Coordinators
August 31

All Catalyst Projects
September 30

Sierra Jobs First: Transition & Future Planning



TRANSITION & FUTURE PLANNING

Shaping the Future, Together

Wrap Dates

Industry Sector Coordinators
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All Catalyst Projects
September 30

California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice



Quick Links

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Funding

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Giving



HOME / SCHOOL OF APPLIED HEALTH / CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR ECONOMY SUMMIT

California Outdoor Economy Summit

Join the Inaugural Outdoor Economy Summit

At a defining moment for **California's outdoor economy**, this inaugural summit convenes those working in and alongside outdoor recreation to build more **resilient economic development**, through equitable careers, stronger natural landscapes, and place-based futures for communities across the state.

California Outdoor Economy Summit
June 3rd-5th, 2026
Eureka, CA

Registration

Stay updated

I Walked These Redwoods a Dozen Times Before I Found the Grove of Titans

It's the closest thing I've found to a window into the deep past, a stand of primeval giants older than almost anything alive. Here's what they are, how they were nearly lost, & how to visit yourself.



WILL PATTIZ AND MORE THAN JUST PARKS

JUN 27, 2026 • PAID



101



20



32

Share

...



California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice

Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Check-in/Breakfast
8:30 AM	
9:00 AM	Opening Welcome to the Summit
9:15 AM	Land Acknowledgment
9:30:00 AM	Opening speaker: Glorla Sandoval, Deputy Secretary Outdoors for All, California Natural Resources Agency
10:00 AM	
	Break/Networking Time
10:30:00 AM	The State of Outdoor Recreation and the Role of State Government This panel will assess the current outlook for outdoor recreation in the state of California and beyond, as well as explore the various models of agencies and governance used by states across the nation to guide and enhance outdoor recreation economic development.
11:30 AM	
11:30:00 AM	Investing in the Recreation Economy Realizing the full economic potential of outdoor recreation requires coordinated and targeted investment. This panel brings together leaders from across the business development landscape to explore how capital, policy, and partnership can work together to build thriving outdoor recreation ecosystems and incubate new business opportunities.
12:30 PM	
12:30 PM	Lunch lead by Redwood Coast Mountain Biking Association (short movie included) - Trail building in Humboldt County
1:00 PM	
1:30:00 PM	The Road Less Traveled: Building a Sustainable and Inclusive Outdoor Economy Through Gravel Cycling
2:30 PM	
2:30:00 PM	Tribal Stewardship & Community Revitalization: This session explores how Tribal Nations are advancing conservation, revitalizing communities, and shaping outdoor recreation through stewardship and cultural knowledge. Featuring work such as Save the Salmon, Stone Lagoon, Tribal Workforce Trade Association and Hoopa Valley Swim Team, we'll examine how these efforts support ecological health, cultural continuity, and long-term resiliency.
3:30 PM	
3:30 PM	Day One Closing Remarks
4:00 PM	Optional Outdoor Activities: Kayaking, Stand-up Paddle Board, Guided Nature Walks, Tours of the Sequoia Park Zoo and Skywalk
4:30 PM	
5:00 PM	
5:30 PM	
5:30 PM	



California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice

TIME	Activity
8:00 AM	Breakfast/ Check-in for day 3
8:30 AM	
9-9:30 am	Opening remarks from Victor Bjelajac, District Superintendent, North Coast Redwoods District State Parks, California State Parks
9:30 AM	Title: Recreation Business Roundtable Small businesses make up 90% of the Outdoor Recreation economy. In this roundtable, recreation business owners will explore and discuss the challenges and opportunities that face the industry, and how outdoor recreation small businesses can thrive in California.
10:30 AM	
	Break
#####	
12:00 PM	Agritourism and Economic Development: From farm tours to low-impact camping, agritourism is a vital part of not just the outdoor recreation economy, but a crucial funding stream for small farmers. In this panel, experts in the field will explore the current state of agritourism in California, it's economic impact, and it's future potential.
12:00 PM	Themed lunch: Pick a topic of interest and walk to a local restaurant with your new "peers" to discuss your common interest.
1:00 PM	
1:00 PM	Regional Recreation Projects Outdoor recreation development projects are often regional in scope, encompassing vast amounts of territory, including multiple communities, and requiring extensive collaboration to reach fruition. This panel will include presentations from four examples of regional projects located across the state, exploring their process, challenges, and progress.
2:00 PM	Conservation as an Economic Driver During this session, we will explore how land and water conservation efforts support sustainable outdoor recreation and long-term regional economic growth. By looking at restoration efforts, land stewardship models, and recreation projects, we'll highlight how communities are building resilience while creating lasting economic opportunities.
3:10 PM	
3:15 PM	The Recreation Economy and CA Jobs First CA Jobs First is a program of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic



California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice



**OUTDOOR
ECONOMY**
— SUMMIT —

What's next?!

HOME NEWS STREAM ABOUT REDHEADED BLACKBELT OUR NEIGHBORHOODS HUMBOLDT LAST WEEK RADIO
ADVERTISING RATES ADVERTISERS INFORMATION & SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

FROM ORICK TO GARBERVILLE: A NEW VISION FOR CALIFORNIA'S OUTDOOR ECONOMY (GUEST COLUMN)

Wednesday, 10 June 2026, 8:21 am Staff 11 comments



[Photo courtesy of Cal Poly Humboldt]

Guest column from Samantha Montoya Wilson, a freelance travel and culture writer based in Southern Humboldt, California:

It's noon on June 3rd, and Dr. Geneviève Marchand is a few hours away from watching something she's been building since last fall finally come to life. The Cal Poly Humboldt professor and co-organizer of the inaugural California Outdoor Economy Summit is calm, grounded, and — if you listen closely — quietly fired up.

"Why not now?" she says, when asked what took California so long to convene this kind of gathering. "We know it's something that's growing. We know that people want more outdoor recreation. They want more access to trails."

It's a fair question. According to Dr. Marchand — who noted in our interview that the figure has since been updated — California's outdoor economy now generates \$87 billion annually, surpassing the \$81.5 billion cited in official summit materials. The state supports more than 545,000 jobs statewide. Yet 24 other states, soon to be 25, already have dedicated outdoor recreation offices. California doesn't. Marchand has been watching those states grow their outdoor economies and asking herself why her home state, with all its staggering natural assets, hasn't done the same.

California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice



**This film is dedicated to all
future generations of land stewards.**

California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice

ABOUT OUR WORK DONATE **BLUE SKY CENTER** EVENTS VISIT RESOURCES



Welcome to Blue Sky Center

Blue Sky Center is an artist-led organization serving the rural and remote Cuyama Valley. We employ creative community engagement as we promote resilient, thriving, and inclusive rural economies. As a place-based community organization, our mission strengthens our rural communities within the Cuyama Valley by supporting entrepreneurs and building our regional creative and economic resources.

Data is sovereignty.

Jack Forinash of Blue Sky Center

Cuyama Valley, California (inland Santa Barbara County)
For the CA Jobs First Recreation & Tourism Cohort Meeting
June 12, 2026

CA Jobs First Catalyst Project in Cuyama

\$500,000 awarded to Blue Sky, our single largest grant ever
Project partners: Blue Sky Center, Quail Springs, and Cuyama school district

\$132,500 for 2 new positions at Blue Sky: Arts Director and Development Director
\$100,000 for 2 new computer labs in the local school
\$77,500 for 2 "earn and learn" HVAC installation / trainings for 16 local residents and a job and opportunities fair
\$15,000 for staff-wide professional development training for BSC and Quail Springs
\$14,000 to send 3 local residents to water/climate advocacy conferences
\$14,500 for upskilling 8 ag workers through forklift training and certification
\$10,000 for 6 fire readiness/home hardening workshops (in schools and for adults)
\$1,300 for 2 dry farm tours
\$50,000 for grant admin and project management for Blue Sky
\$44,700 for grant admin and project management for Quail Springs
\$45,500 toward indirect costs (10%)

Sustainable Recreation & Tourism Cohort Monthly Meeting June 12, 2026: 1:30 - 2:30 Google Calendar Link Zoom Link		
AGENDA		
TIME	GOAL	PRESENTED BY
1:30-1:45	Welcome & Check-in	All
1:45-2:30	Presentations & Roundtable	Jack Forinash
	→ Jack Forinash, Executive Director of Blue Sky Center	
	→ Chris Smith, Executive Director of Quail Springs	
2:30	Adjourn Meeting	



WELCOME !

— TO THE —
CALIFORNIA JOBS FIRST
Symposium of Practice
For Tourism and Outdoor Recreation



April 23, 2026



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COLLABORATIVE ACTION

California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice



State Cohort Draft RICA

Please provide your feedback on these draft Recommendations for Implementation & Collaborative Action (RICA) for the Statewide Recreation & Tourism Cohort of Practice.

These recommendations have been compiled from the "Recreation and Tourism Symposium of Practice". The full-day facilitated session was held at the California Natural Resources building and focused on lessons learned during the Catalyst phase of California Jobs First in our respective regions, the barriers to success for developed projects, and recommendations to the state to encourage the implementation of Catalyst projects developed through California Jobs First.

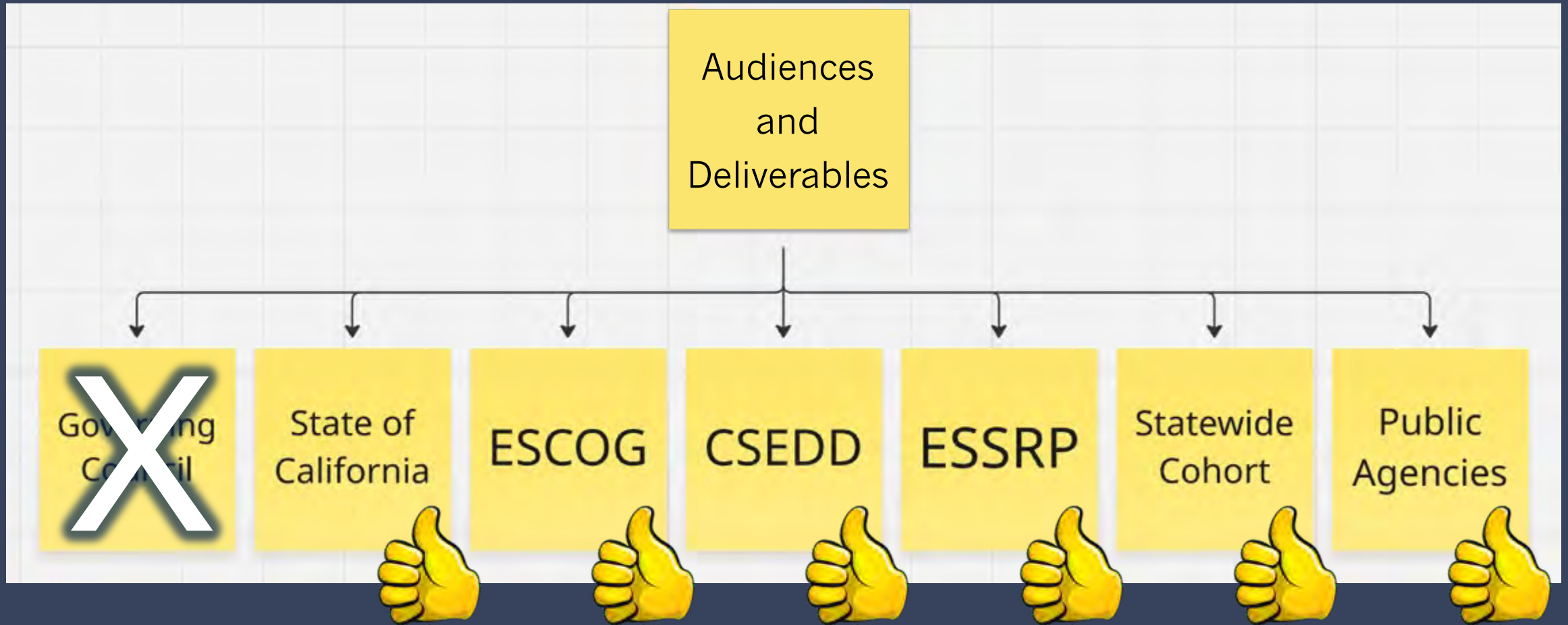
Don't Miss Out: Please share your feedback using a desktop machine for the best experience!

Have Fun!

Start

Form Opens July 10 - !

Goals for the Sierra + State Cohort RICAs



California Jobs First: Investment Summit of Practice



April 9, 2026



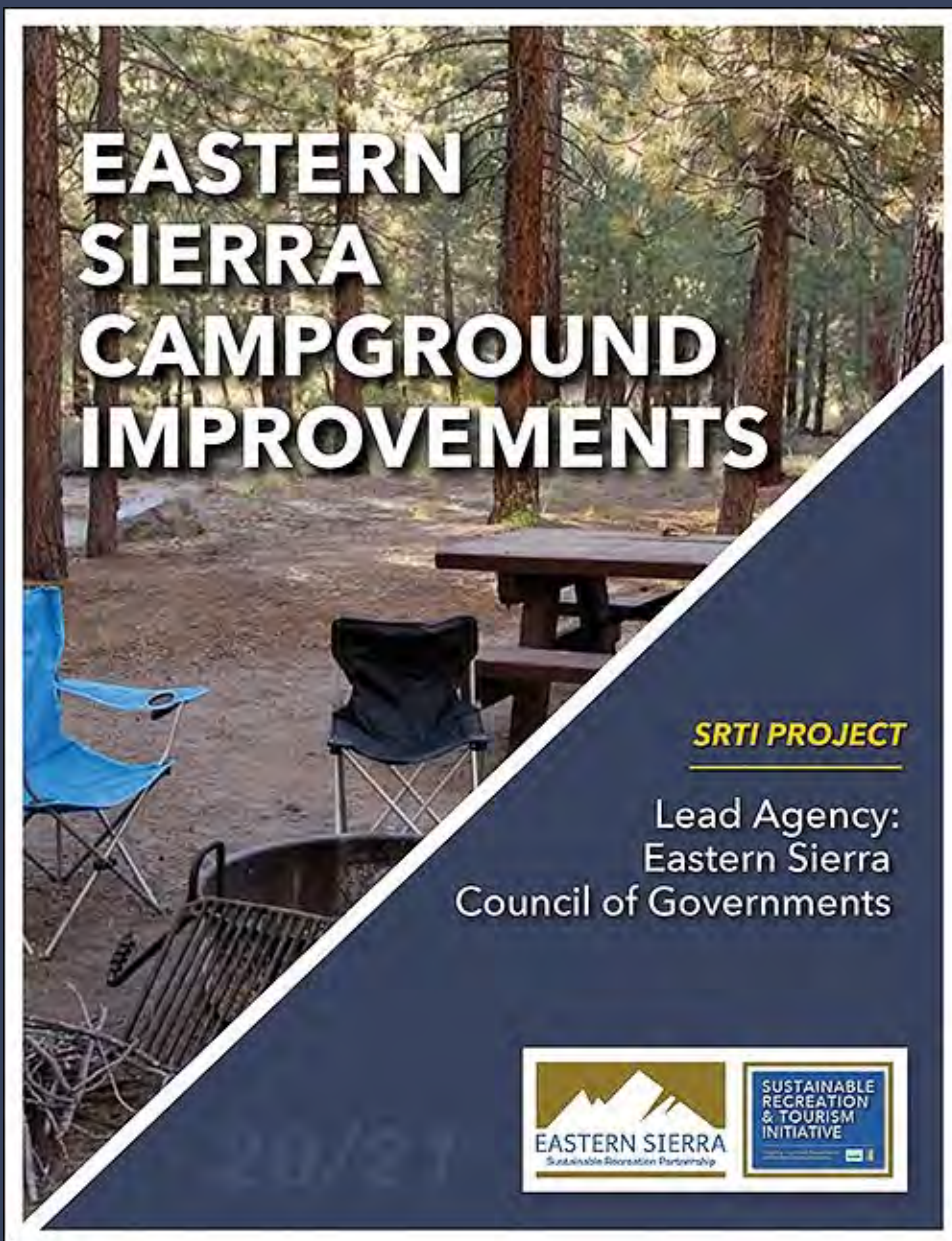
STATE LEADERSHIP

From Blueprint
to Breakthrough

California Jobs First: Statewide Cohort of Practice



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



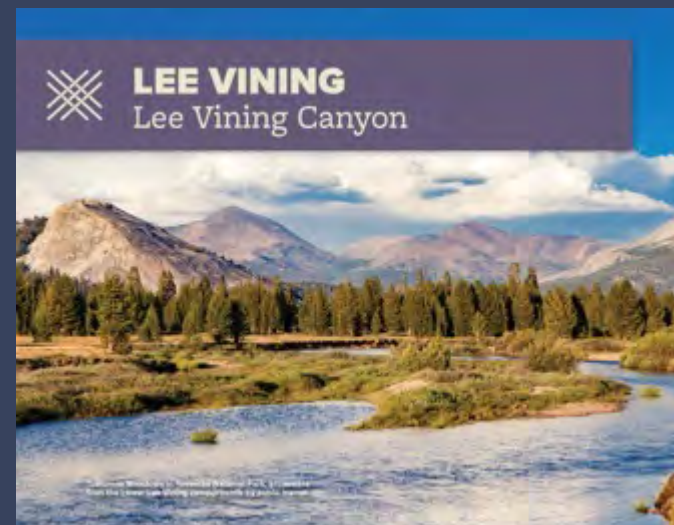
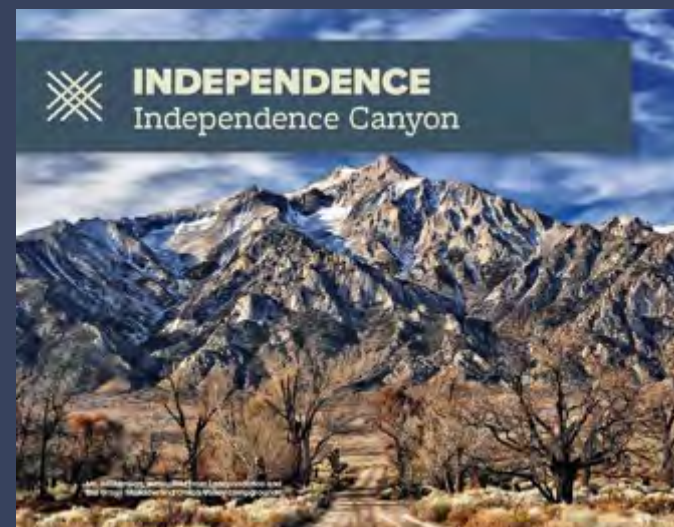
**EASTERN
SIERRA
CAMPGROUND
IMPROVEMENTS**

SRTI PROJECT

Lead Agency:
Eastern Sierra
Council of Governments

EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

**SUSTAINABLE
RECREATION & TOURISM
INITIATIVE**



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



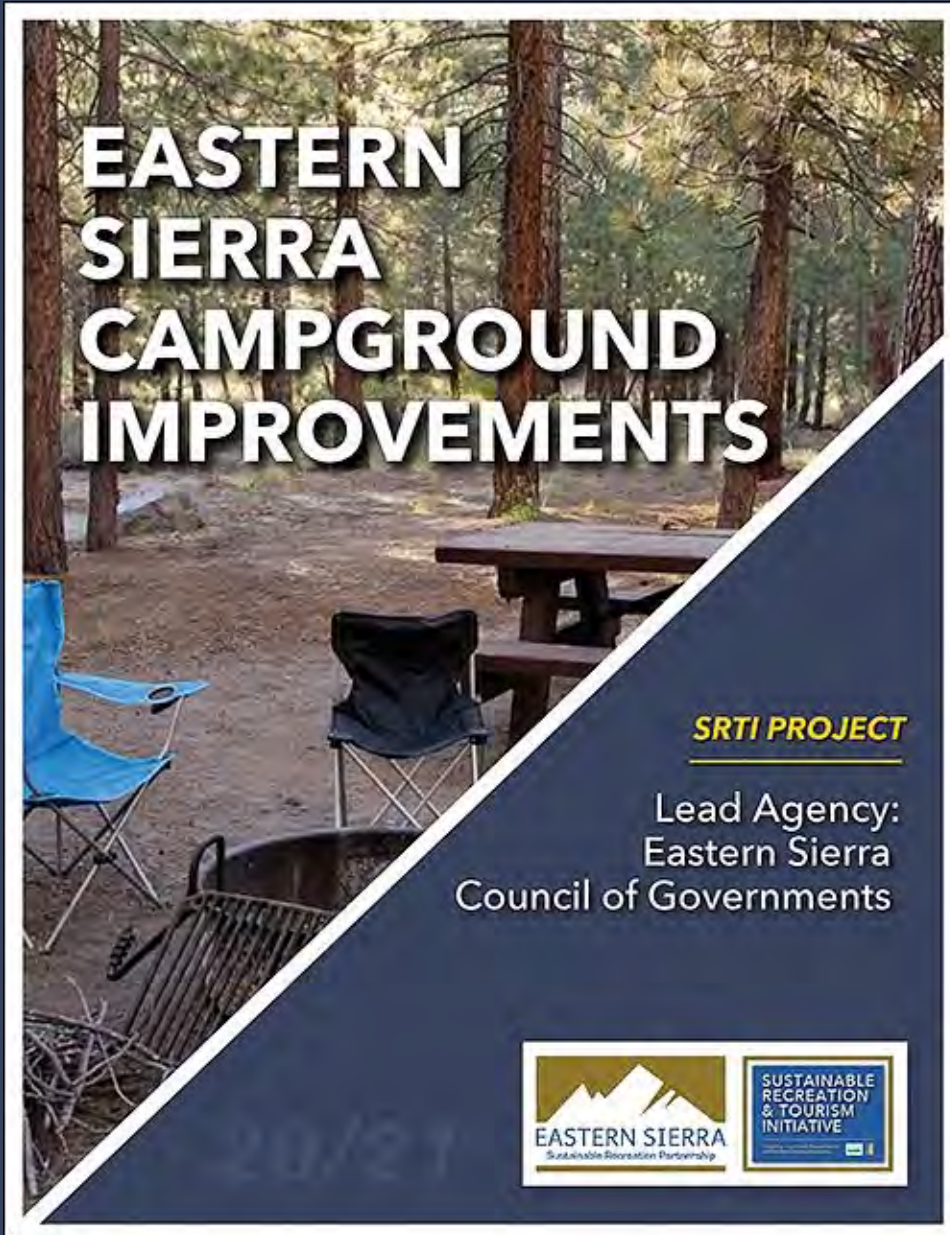
MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



- Inyo County
- Mono County



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

A graphic for the Eastern Sierra Campground Improvements project. The top half features a photograph of a forest clearing with a wooden picnic table, a blue folding chair, and a black folding chair. The bottom half is a dark blue diagonal banner with white and yellow text. The text reads: "EASTERN SIERRA CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS" in large white letters, "SRTI PROJECT" in yellow letters, "Lead Agency: Eastern Sierra Council of Governments" in white letters, and two logos at the bottom: "EASTERN SIERRA Sustainable Recreation Partnership" and "SUSTAINABLE RECREATION & TOURISM INITIATIVE".

**EASTERN
SIERRA
CAMPGROUND
IMPROVEMENTS**

SRTI PROJECT

Lead Agency:
Eastern Sierra
Council of Governments

EASTERN SIERRA
Sustainable Recreation Partnership

**SUSTAINABLE
RECREATION
& TOURISM
INITIATIVE**



Kristy Williams

July 2, 2026 at 9:45 AM

Fwd: MLTPA Campgrounds (1586-RT)

To: Matt Driscoll, Cc: John Wentworth

[Details](#)

Hi Matt,

We have reached an exciting milestone with the completion of the Design Drawings for all 6 Campgrounds. Please use the link below to download the design sets if you would like copies. In addition, I have created a simple one-page pdf listing the deliverables (attached.)

Barring any unforeseen glitches, we look to be on track to deliver the final "CD" (Construction Documents) by mid December.

Please let me know if you have any questions or trouble with the link/downloads. Happy 4th!

Kristy Williams
(she/her)
Project Management Specialist
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation
www.mltpa.org
760.709.1493 [cel]



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects



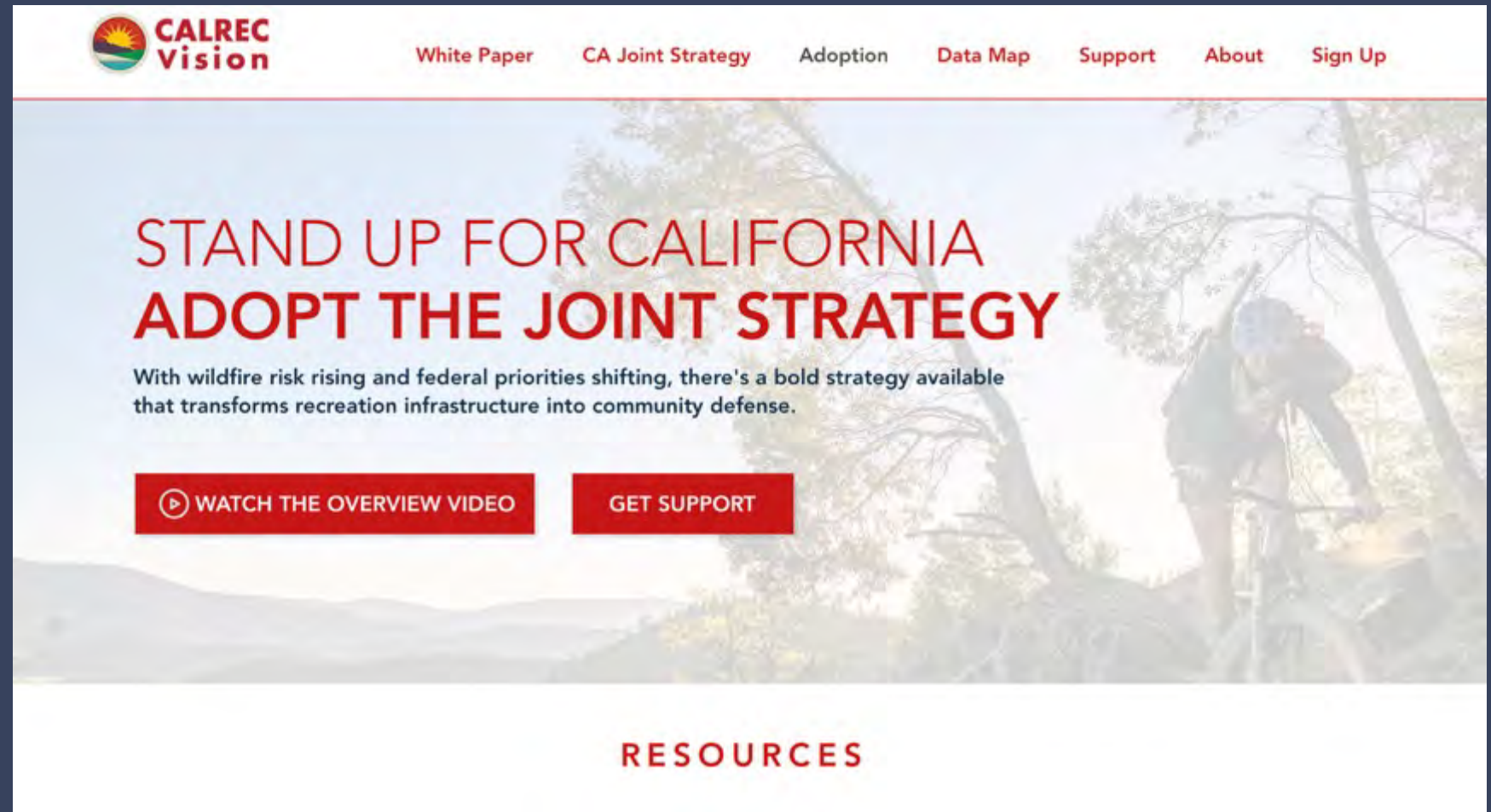
Next Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, July 28



CALREC
Vision

MLTPA Sustainable Recreation Projects

- Alpine County
- Amador County
- Butte County
- Calaveras County
- City of Truckee
- Contra Costa
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Glenn County
- Humboldt County
- Lake County
- Marin
- Mariposa County
- Mendocino
- Napa County
- Plumas County
- RCRC
- Santa Barbara
- Shasta
- Sonoma County
- Trinity County
- Tuolumne County
- Ventura



MLTPA Sustainable Recreation

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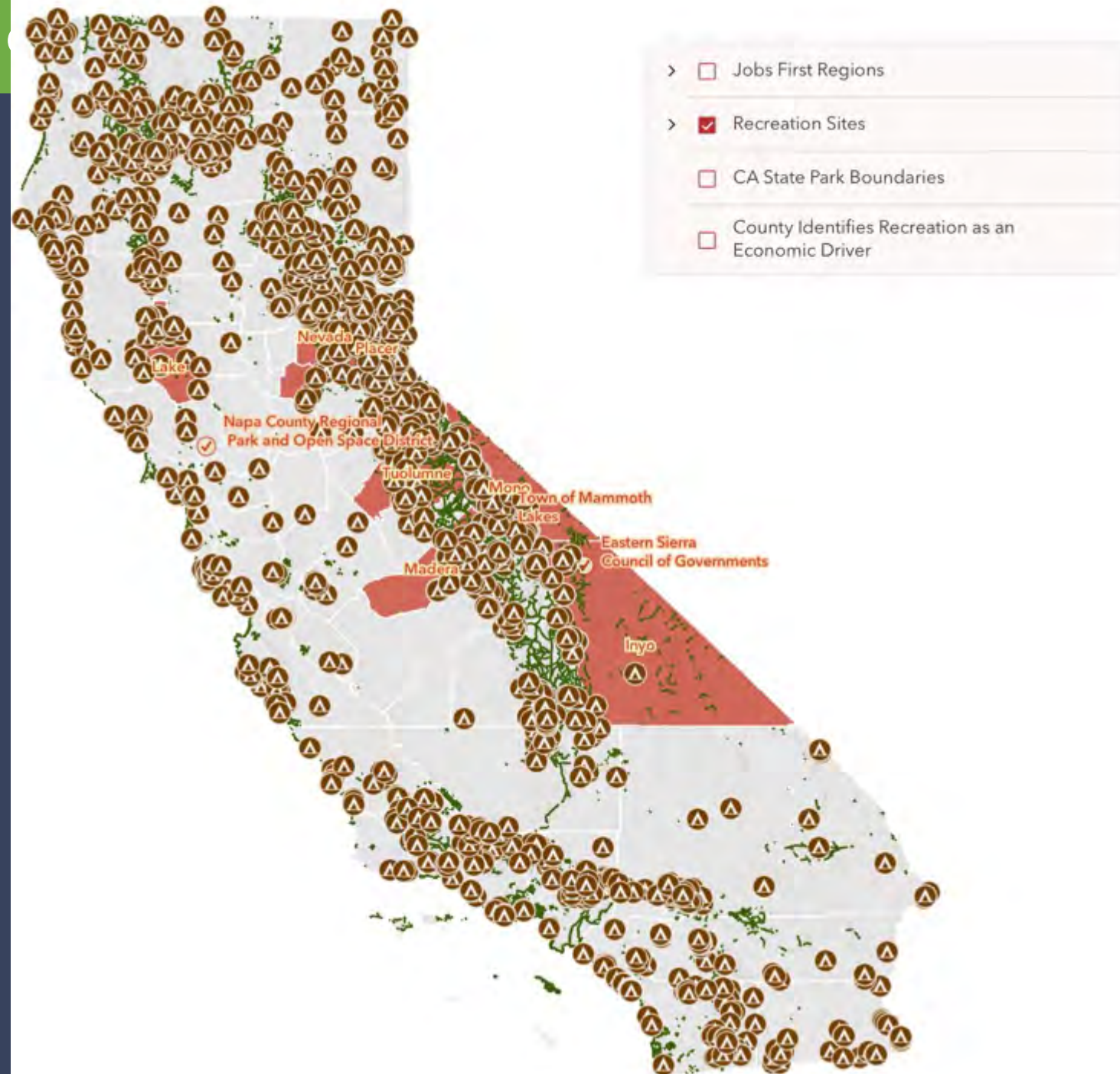
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- Tuolumne County
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California Association for
Local Economic Development

Everything Econ Dev ▾

Legislation ▾

Econ Dev Resources ▾

Trainings & Events ▾

Membership ▾

CALED Rural Economic Development Exchange

In May of 2018, the CALED Board approved the creation of a Rural Economic Development Exchange that allows CALED to direct some resources to support our efforts to help rural economic developers connect, share resources, and engage in policy conversations/initiatives. Specifically, CALED is committed to:

Exchange Goals:

- Convene rural economic development stakeholders at least one time per year (outside of CALED's Annual Conference)
- Include a Rural Exchange opportunity at the conference for resource providers to share updates on how they can support rural economic development as well as showcase best practices
- Work with USDA Rural Development in California to identify ways CALED can support their priorities and promote their work/grants.
- Share what we learn with partners that may be in a position to assist in addressing priorities, challenges, solutions, and resources to grow rural economies

If you haven't seen it yet, make sure to check out the [California Rural Infrastructure Finance Guidebook](#).

CALED Rural Economic Development Exchange will be held on July 23, 2026 at the Hotel Winters, Winters, CA

We are happy to announce that the 2026 Summer Rural Economic Development Exchange will be held at Hotel Winters, 12 Abbey Street, Winters, CA on **Thursday, July 23, 8:15 am - 3:15 pm**.

Please join us the evening before (Wednesday, July 22) at 5 pm for a rooftop reception at this beautiful hotel.

Don't Move a Mussel - !

Eastern Sierra VCP Toolkit

[Current Campaigns](#)

[Archive](#)

[About](#)

[Launch A Campaign](#)



EASTERN SIERRA

VISITOR CONNECTION PROGRAM TOOLKIT

Welcome to our resource page for organizations in California's Eastern Sierra that are interested in promoting coordinated sustainable recreation and educational messaging to our visitor audience.

ON THIS WEBSITE YOU WILL FIND:

- Content for social media posts including instructions and suggestions for captions
- Source websites, links to videos, and downloadable print materials
- Information about creating campaigns
- Gratitude: thank you for participating in this information sharing effort dedicated to educating our audiences and protecting the recreation experience in our region.



Don't Move a Mussel - !



Don't Move a Mussel - !

MLTPA Board's Commitment To the "Eastern Sierra Golden Mussel Outreach Committee"

- Adding the committee's digital assets to www.vcptoolkit.org
- Regular communication to the VCP Partners requesting they share the digital assets on their own social pages/channels.
- Coordinating efforts for synchronized, collaborative, and boosted social media posts.
- Reporting total impressions
- \$15,000 to stand up and provide initial support for this element of the program.



Eastern Sierra Visitor Connection Program Digital Campaign Implementation Stop the Golden Mussel March 2026 – November 2026

To: Eastern Sierra Golden Mussel Outreach Committee

From: The Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA Foundation)

Date: February 27, 2026

Brief – Sustainable Recreation Issue

Eastern Sierra waters are at risk of severe and devastating impacts if the Golden Mussel invades. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has raised the alarm that this is an issue with massive environmental and recreational impacts. Key to preventing the invasion is public outreach, and a regional, multi-jurisdictional Outreach Committee has been formed.

Outreach Plan

The committee has developed an outreach plan that is supported by committee member organizations. The plan includes on-the-ground efforts to support boat inspections and decontamination stations, as well as messaging to "Recreational Waterbody Users," including analog collateral (posters, flyers, etc.) and digital assets for websites and social media.

The Eastern Sierra Visitor Connection Program ("VCP")

Originated in 2021 by a group of regional agencies and organizations funded by a Proposition 68 grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, the **Visitor Connection Program** supports partners in sharing sustainable recreation campaigns across the Eastern Sierra—expanding reach, increasing awareness, and delivering consistent messaging to visitors through a coordinated regional platform.

Currently, the program is being shepherded by the non-profit MLTPA Foundation, and the systems and processes outlined in the 2021 framework are in place and ready for use. These tools support consistent, region-wide sustainable recreation messaging for both the original working group partners and new organizations interested in participating.



WHITEBARK
INSTITUTE

ESSRP Update

July 6, 2026

Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance

- SNC Landscape Grant Program
 - \$8 to \$10 Million Prop 4 Grants
 - Highly competitive; Strong Collaboration required
 - ESWA included in Phase II Evaluation 
- Project Database
 - Hybrid Prioritization Process
 - Submissions Due 7-31-2026
- Monitoring Workshop
- RFFCP Guidelines Available for Public Comment
 - Due July 21
- Next Meeting: Aug 5
 - Mammoth Civic Ctr



REGIONAL FOREST AND FIRE CAPACITY (RFFC) PROGRAM

DRAFT CLIMATE BOND GUIDELINES

Public Comment Period Now Open!
Closes: July 21, 2026

The RFFC Program supports community and landscape resilience to wildfire through regional capacity building funding.

Join a virtual public comment workshop to learn more and share your feedback. **Find the Zoom registration links on the DOC RFFC Resource Page, or scan the QR codes below.**

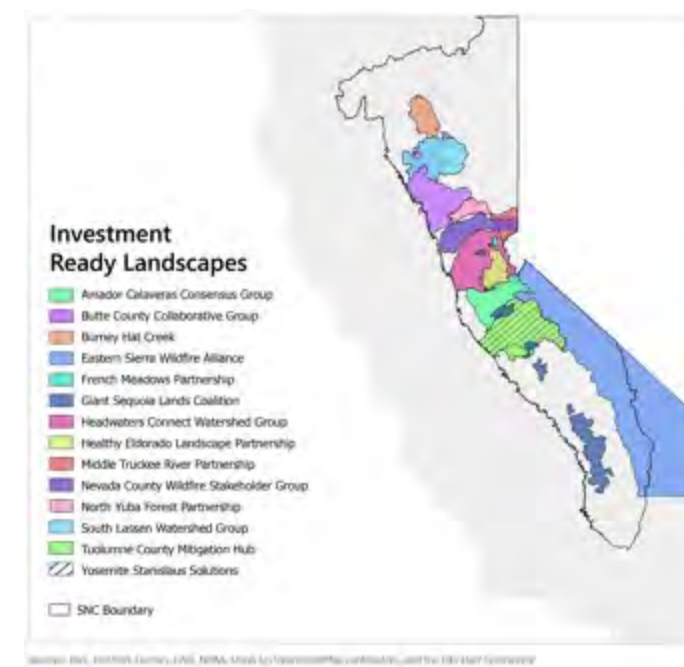
Mon, Jul 6, 2026
1:30PM–3:30 PM



Wed, Jul 8, 2026
10:00AM–12 PM



Submit Written Comments or questions at rffc@conservation.ca.gov



2026 Eastern Sierra Climate & Communities Resilience Project

- Implementation Underway!
 - **Restore & promote healthy forests**
 - Shady Rest
 - Mammoth Mountain
 - Reds Meadow
- Impacts & Closures
 - Carefully coordinated to **balance safety & access**
- Up to date information by area:
 - <https://whitebarkinstitute.org/2026mammothfuelsreduction/>



Upcoming Opportunities

• Science on Tap

- Latte Da – August 5th
- Distant Brewing – September 8th

• Tending: Art, Fire & Community in a Changing Climate

- Mono Arts Council thru Sept 14

• Mono Basin

- Workshops & Field Trips announced soon



WHITEBARK INSTITUTE

SCIENCE ON TAP SERIES 2026

Alexandra Urza, Ph.D.
Research Ecologist

Pinyon-Juniper Ecology and Stewardship in an Era of Rapid Change

August 05, 6:00 pm

Latte Da Cafe
Lee Vining, CA

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



Join us for a special seasonal show

tending:

ART, FIRE, AND COMMUNITY IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

an exhibition exploring the relationships between forests, fire, and community in the Eastern Sierra. The exhibit is a special collaboration with the Whitebark Institute and guest curator, Jenny Kane.

RECEPTION
Saturday, June 20th from 5pm to 7pm
Jakes Arts Council Gallery and Community Art Center
500 The Marketplace Road, Suite 100
Arts: Discover and enjoy artwork from the Whitebark Institute

EXHIBIT
Exhibit opens June 15th and runs through September 14th.

MONO ARTS COUNCIL WHITEBARK INSTITUTE



WHITEBARK INSTITUTE

SCIENCE ON TAP SERIES 2026

Hugh D. Safford, Ph.D.
Vegetation and Fire Ecologist
Department of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of California-Davis

Nutcrackers and Nighttime Warming: Unexpected Treeline Dynamics in the Southern Sierra Nevada

September 08, 6:00 pm

Distant Brewing
Mammoth Lakes, CA

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

Partner Updates – In REVERSE Alphabetical Order

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

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

Thank You - !

Next Regular ESSRP Partner Meeting

Monday, August 3, 2026 @ 3:30

NB: Move the Sept. 7 meeting to Aug. 31 - !