



Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership
Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative

Planning and Economic Development Commission

July 14, 2021



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.



EASTERN SIERRA

Sustainable Recreation Partnership





**SUSTAINABLE
RECREATION
& TOURISM
INITIATIVE**

*Funded by a grant from Proposition 68
and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy*



- “Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative”
 - Grant Awarded March 7, 2019 - \$618,750
 - Proposition 68 - Sierra Nevada Conservancy
 - Awarded to the Town on Behalf of Regional Partners
 - Work Initiated July 1, 2019

THE EASTERN SIERRA REGION

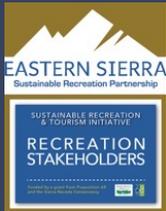
- UNITED STATES
- CALIFORNIA
- THE EASTERN SIERRA REGION



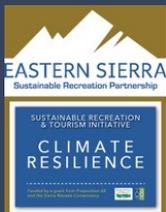
0 25 50 100 Miles

• Contractors Delivering Services

- HighBar Global Consulting
 - "Recreation Stakeholders" – *Track #1*
 - "Projects and Funding" – *Track #4*
- Placeworks + ICF
 - "Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment" – *Track #2*
- SMG Consulting
 - "Visitor Connection Working Group" – *Track #3*
- Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA)
 - Project Management + Progress and Final Grant Reporting
 - Staff Support for all Tracks

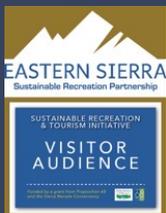


"Recreation Stakeholders" – *Track #1*



"Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment" – *Track #2*

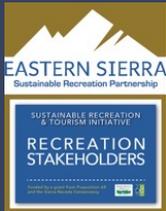
- Completion: April, 2021 / ESSRP Report Out May



"Visitor Audience" – *Track #3*

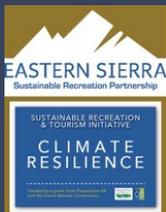


"Projects and Funding" – *Track #4*



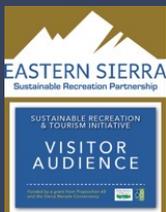
“Recreation Stakeholders” – *Track #1*

- Final Tally of Projects: 183
- Completed February 1, 2021



“Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment” – *Track #2*

- “Vulnerability Assessment” + “Natural Capital Assessment”
- Completion: May 2021



“Visitor Audience” – *Track #3*

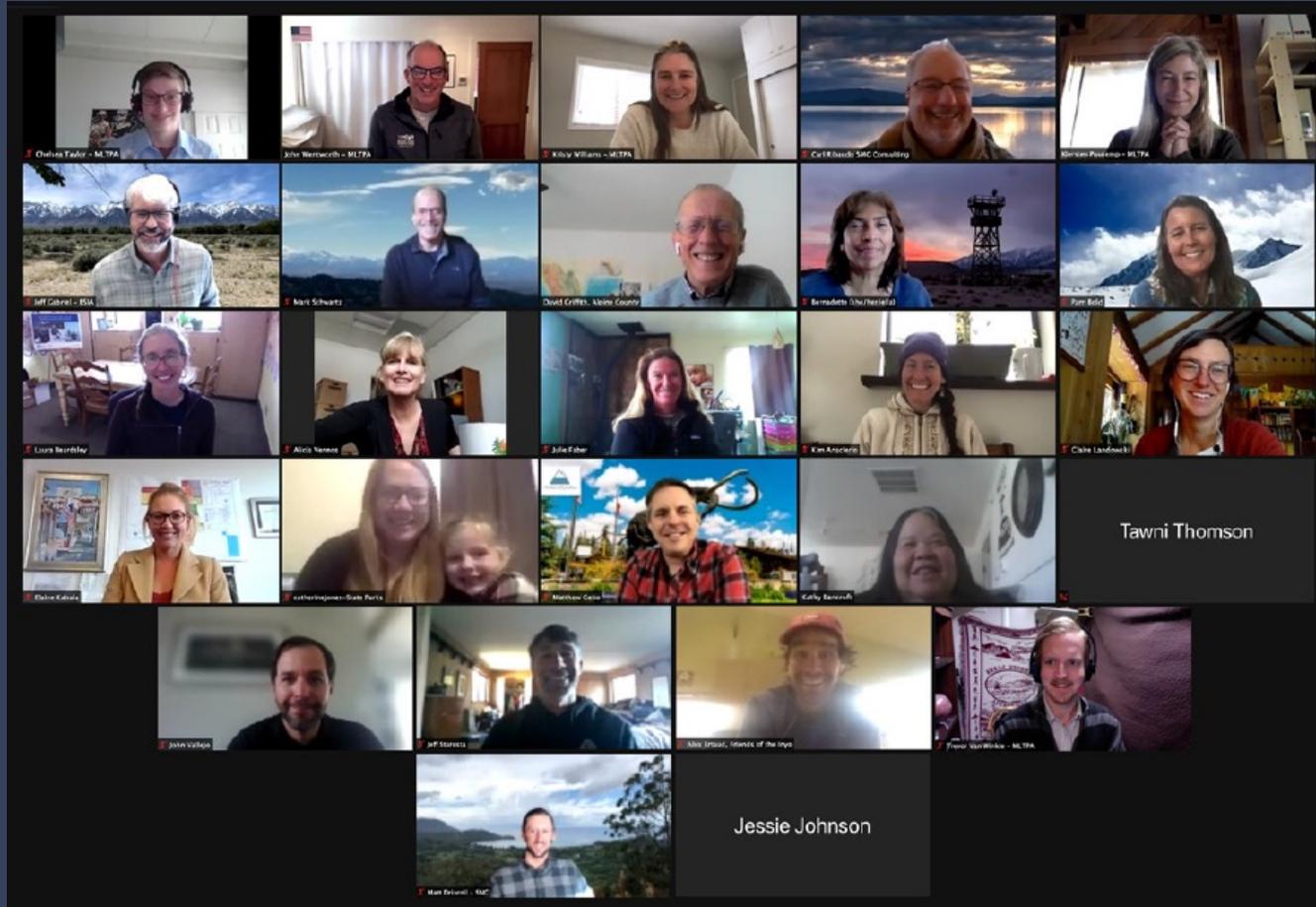
- “Visitor Connection Package”
- Completed February 22, 2021

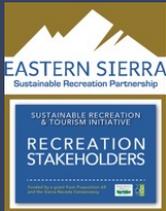


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- Completion: December 2021

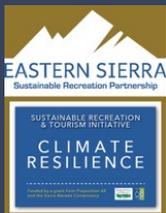
..... To Zoom!





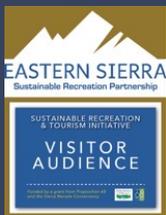
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“Visitor Audience” – *Track #3*

- “Visitor Connection Package” + 8 Working Group Meetings
- Completed February 22, 2021



“Projects and Funding” – *Track #4*

- Completion: December 2021

"Recreation Stakeholders" – Track #1 – 183 Project Ideas

ESSRP Projects 1 to 183 - Sorted by Type and Composite Desirability Scores Above "18"

ID	Score	Stewardship	Access	Benefits	Project Name	Project Location	Project type	Short summary
3	22.28	7.95	6.68	7.65	This is Our Home: Treat this like your home	Southern Inyo County	Outreach and Communications	A three-pronged education program to reach visitors, engage local businesses, teach local kids how to care for the environment.
143	21.71	7.07	7.33	7.31	Eastern Sierra Visitor Centers Exhibit Inspection and Review, Repair and Replacement.	Visitor Centers in Lone Pine, the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, the White Mountain Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes, and Lee Vining	Education	Visitor Center exhibits provide information and education for visitors. This project will inspect, repair, and/or replace exhibits needing rehabilitation because of wear, or to be more current.
5	21.64	7.6	6.95	7.09	Where to "Go" in the Alabama Hills	Alabama Hills; Regional	Outreach and Communications	Leverage agency partnerships to provide regular on the ground presence and establish a regionally coordinated information network (Signs, websites, apps) on etiquette, way finding and interpretation.
108	21.11	6.96	7.13	7.02	Celebrating Indigenous History and Culture	Entire east side	Education	Interpretive tours of local Indigenous sites, by local Indigenous guides
112	20.98	6.98	7.09	6.91	Kids in Nature	Mammoth Lakes area	Education	Provides science and nature-based outdoor education programs to get kids outside exploring and learning about nature and how to responsibly enjoy the outdoors
150	20.98	6.89	7.11	6.98	Eastern Sierra Visitor Center and Regional Interpretive Program and Visitor Services Review, and Development and	Lone Pine, Ancient Bristlecone Pines Forest, White Mountain Ranger Station, Mammoth Lakes, and Lee Vining	Education	All Eastern Sierra Visitor Centers and the region need quality interpretive programs and visitor services. This project would review these current programs and develop and implement improvement plans.

“Recreation Stakeholders” – 183 Project Ideas Scored

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SRTI Projects and Funding – Dispersed Camping 2021





RECREATION STAKEHOLDER PROJECT IDEAS

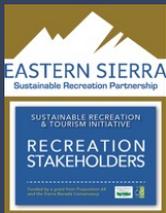
**Sustainable Recreation
Opportunities for
Eastern Sierra Communities**



2020

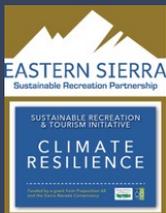
- "Recreation Stakeholder Project Ideas"
 - 183 Stakeholder Generated Projects Ideas
 - Funding Opportunities for Individual SRTI Project Ideas
 - ESSRP / SRTI Project Portfolio Prospectus (June 2021)

Web Page: <https://mltpa.org/essrp/sustainable-recreation-and-tourism-project/rec-stakeholders>



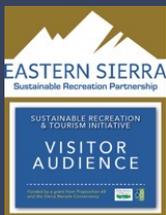
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- **Completion: May 2021**



“Visitor Audience” – *Track #3*

- “Visitor Connection Package”
- Completed February 22, 2021

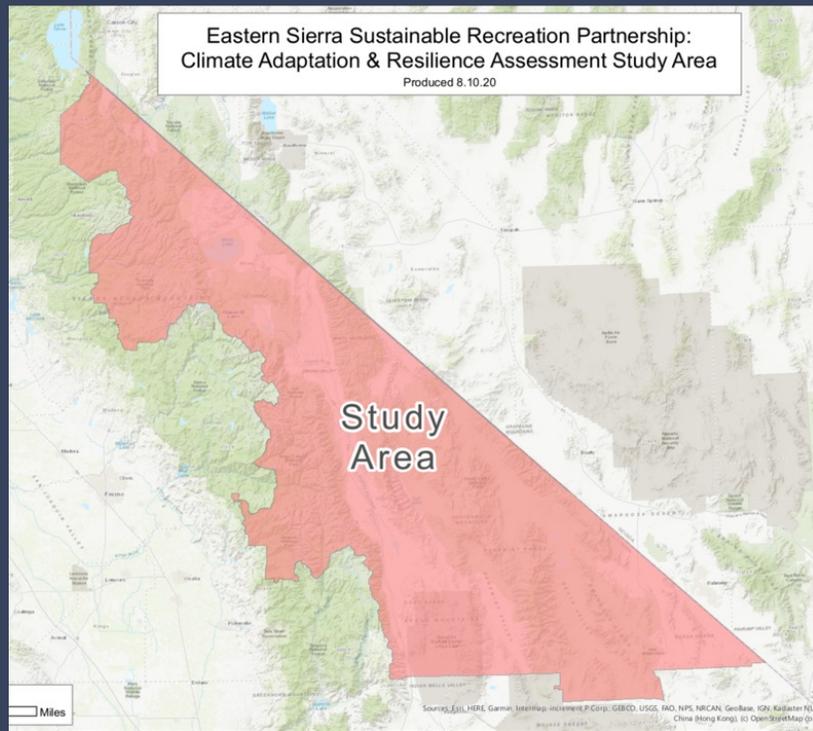


“Projects and Funding” – *Track #4*

- Completion: December 2021

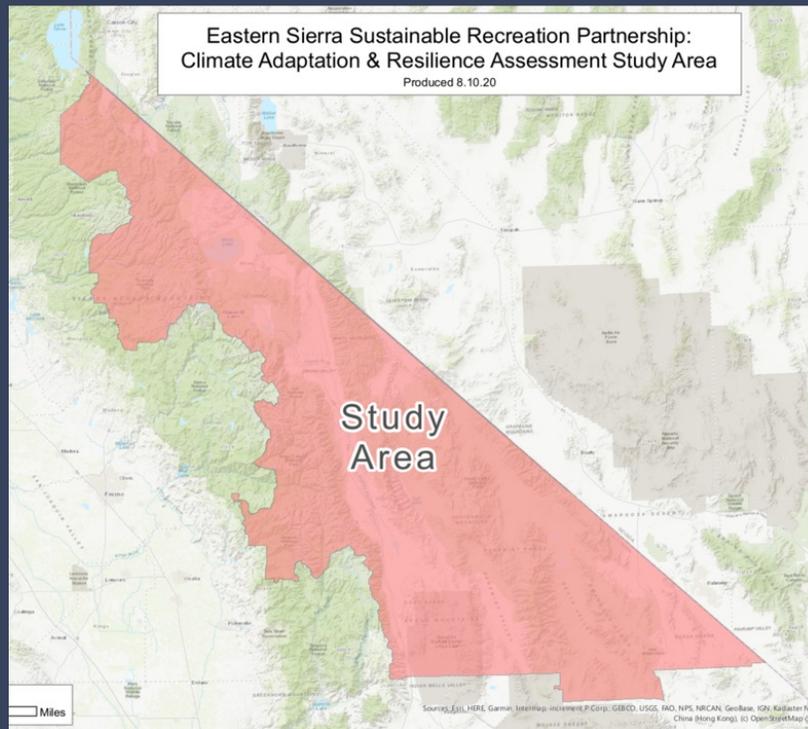


Vulnerability Assessment





Vulnerability Assessment



Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative: Baseline Natural Capital Assessment

Draft

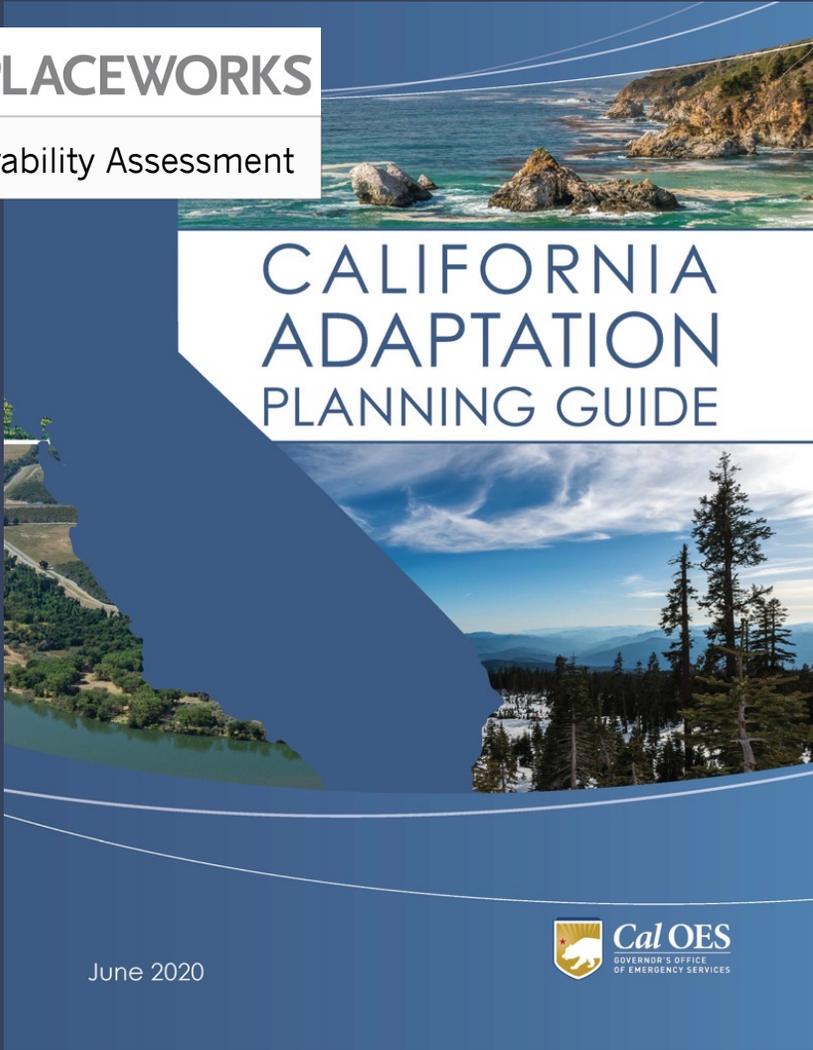
November 17, 2020

Submitted to:
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public
Access Foundation (MLTPA)

Submitted by:
ICF Incorporated, L.L.C.



Vulnerability Assessment

The cover image for the California Adaptation Planning Guide is a composite of two photographs. The top half shows a rocky coastline with waves crashing against the shore under a clear blue sky. The bottom half shows a mountainous landscape with evergreen trees and a river winding through a valley, with mountains in the distance under a cloudy sky.

CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION PLANNING GUIDE

June 2020



Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative: Baseline Natural Capital Assessment

Draft

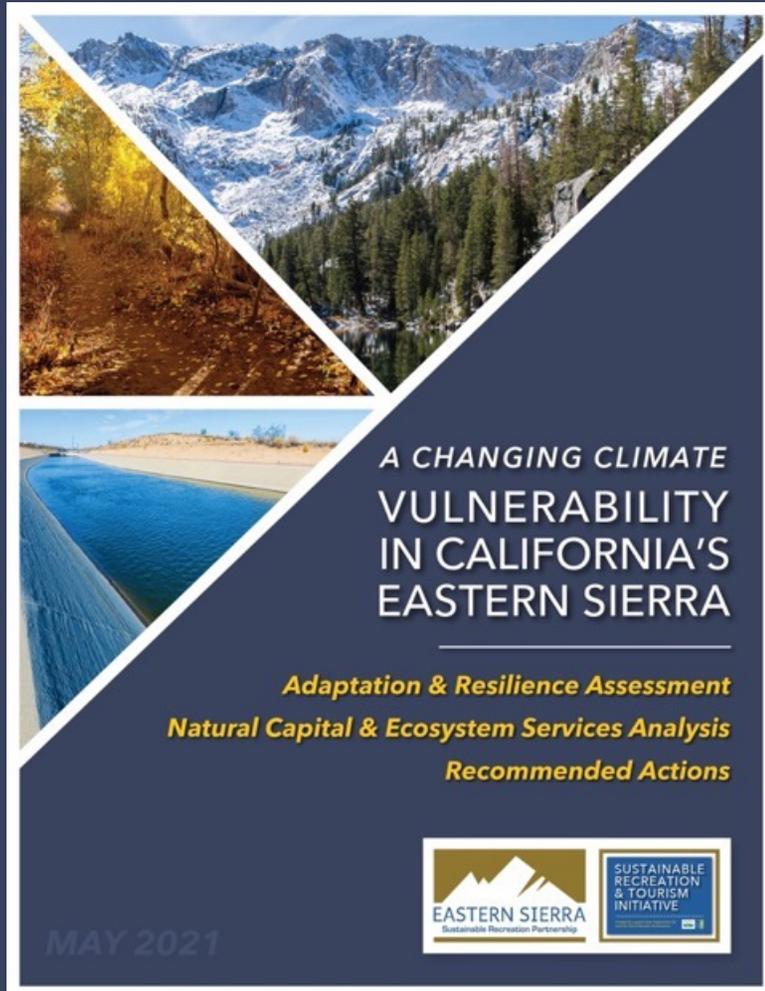
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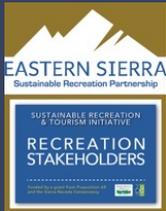
ICF prepared and published this report, draft, as follows.

"Climate Adaptation and Resilience Assessment" Track #2 - May 13, 2021



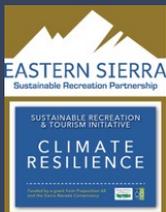
- Executive Summary
- Adaptation & Resilience Assessment
- Natural Capital & Ecosystem Services Analysis
- Recommended Actions
- Appendices:
 - A: Natural Capital Assessment Technical
 - B: Populations And Assets
 - C: Vulnerability Assessment Results Matrix

Web Page: <https://mltpa.org/essrp/sustainable-recreation-and-tourism-project/climate-resilience>



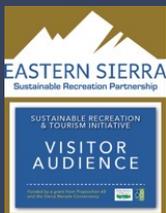
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- **Completed February 22, 2021**



“Projects and Funding” – *Track #4*

- Completion: December 2021

MESSAGING THEMES FOR THE EASTERN SIERRA

RESPECT - APPRECIATION - STEWARDSHIP

ESCAPE - ADVENTURE - SURPRISE

MEMORY - TRADITION - CONNECTION

EXPANSIVE - DRAMATIC - TIMELESS

RESPECT - APPRECIATION - STEWARDSHIP



ESCAPE - ADVENTURE - SURPRISE



MEMORY - TRADITION - CONNECTION



EXPANSIVE - DRAMATIC - TIMELESS

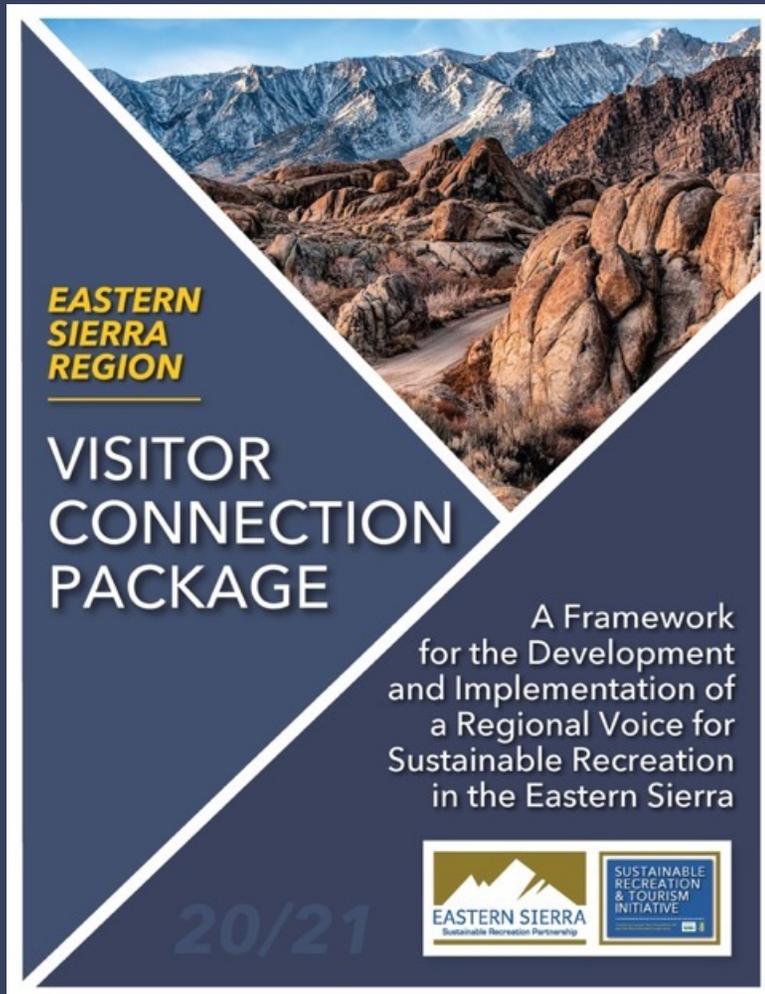


GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ★ Focus on stewardship education and the celebration of local culture.
- ★ Be reliable, implementable, and forward thinking.
- ★ Utilize informed and collaborative decision-making.
- ★ Employ a phased approach to develop tools and capacity.
- ★ Leverage existing communication assets to engage visitors throughout their “sequence of encounter.”
- ★ Not compete with existing efforts in the region.

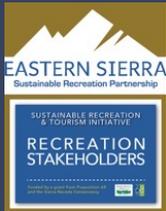
“Visitor Audience” – Visitor Connection Working Group





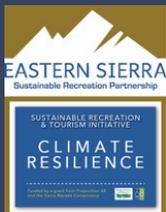
- "Visitor Connection Package"
 - Visitor Connection Working Group
 - Visitor Connection Strategy

Web Page: <https://mltpa.org/essrp/sustainable-recreation-and-tourism-project/visitor-audience>



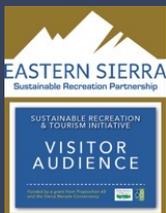
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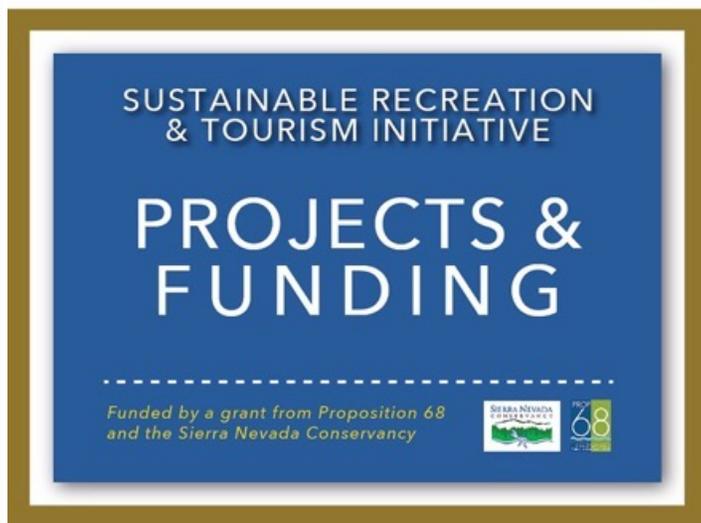
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“Projects and Funding” – *Track #4*

- **Completion: December 2021**



SRTI Project

- 8 Final Projects - ESSRP Partner Lead
 - Portfolio of Projects - ESSRP
-
- All "ESSRP Projects"
 - All "Sustainable Recreation Projects"
 - All "Project Ideas"

ideas

filters



ideas

projects



filters



ideas

projects



filters



ideas

- SRTI Recreation Stakeholders; SRTI Climate Report; SRTI Visitor Connection Package
- ESSRP Partner Projects

projects



filters

- From Desirability to Feasibility
- Funding: Highest Probability for Success



ideas

- SRTI Recreation Stakeholders; SRTI Climate Report; SRTI Visitor Connection Package
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projects

- Identified Applicants Funding
- ESSRP Partners / Regional Authority (*ESCOG JPA*)



filters

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filters



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- **Funding: Highest Probability for Success**

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projects



filters



ideas

- Identified Applicants Funding
- ESSRP Partners / regional authority (ESCOG / JPA)

- **Funding: Highest Probability for Success**

- **8 Project Summaries**

projects



filters



ideas

- Identified Funding Applicant

- Funding: Highest Probability for Success

- 8 Project Summaries

ESSRP SRTI Project Portfolio Prospectus- Draft 3

Prospectus for Portfolio Investments

Original Intent – SRTI: The purpose of the Project is to support the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP), a unique and locally generated public/public partnership between Eastern Sierra governments and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). As documented in the Partnership’s agreement, the stated goal of the ESSRP is to “...design, plan, implement, and report out projects to improve and maintain recreational opportunities as well as restore ecosystems to their natural resiliency and functions.” (SRTI Target is “6” Final Projects – with the Prospectus Focused on “Near-Term Funding” During 2021-2024)

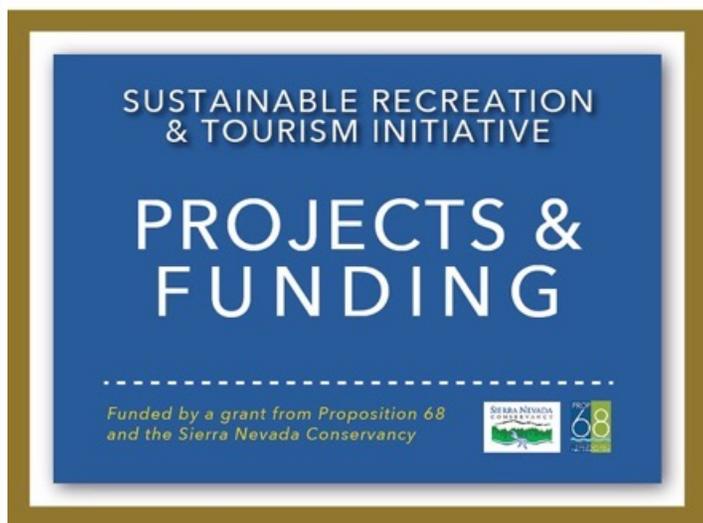
Regional Investment Priorities: Ecosystem Resilience & Recreation Economy

#	¹ SRTI Investment Priorities	² Stakeholder/ Partner/ Consultant Preferred Projects: ID #'s - Desirability & CV Scores (if applicable)	³ 10 Year Goals/ Indicators (++) SRTI Performance Measures)
1	Visitor Connection and Management	<p>* Visitor Connection Phase 1 Action Plan, Tools, and Channels as a macro project with relevant stakeholder projects bundled</p> <p>** Sustainable Recreation Education Programs - 511</p> <p>Campground Inspection, Repair, and Replacement: 151 - 22.44 - 10</p> <p>Day Use Recreation Facility Inspect, Repair, Replace: 154 - 21.13 - 10</p> <p>Celebrating Indigenous History and Culture: 108 - 21.11 - 10</p> <p>Friends of the Inyo Trail Ambassadors: 54 - 21.04 - 8</p> <p>Dispersed Camping: 129- 22.71 - 6</p> <p>Natural History Education: 201</p> <p>Improve Education, with a many pronged approach (BLM): 222</p>	<p>Congressionally approved funding for managing visitation is supported by public advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visitors are active stewards of the public lands • better signage or information call in system is in place to guide visitors consistent with regional priorities • (automated) kiosks better serve people in the moment • better data to track activity • variety of tools engage visitors and support distribution • campgrounds dispersing impact and giving people more options to stay • "Invisible trailhead" app/ data collection visitor count shows where people are, where they have gone, to support ownership/ stewardship, improved planning
2	Climate Adaptation/ Mitigation	<p>** Evacuation Route Mapping and Signage - 502</p> <p>** Air Quality Improvements: Owens Lake - 503</p> <p>** Water Stations and Shade Cover at Trailheads/Parks - 504</p> <p>** Airport Upgrades for Recreation Travel/Emergency Services - 505</p> <p>** Emergency Notification System for Residents and Visitors - 506</p> <p>** Recreation Building Weathertization Program - 507</p> <p>This is Our Home: Treat this like your home: 3 - 22.28 - 5</p> <p>Kids in Nature: 112 - 20.98</p> <p>Eastern Sierra Rails to Trail (ESR2T): 21 - 20.4</p> <p>Free ESTA For All: 32 - 20.07</p> <p>Southern Mono Trail System/ Non-motorized: 19 - 20.03</p> <p>Science-Based Conservation Conversations: 113 - 19.54</p> <p>Inventory and Description of all Eastern Sierra Fire-Related Resources, Create Clearinghouse for Information: 158 - 18.14</p>	<p>Reporting on climate impacts are fully integrated into management tools, planning, and documentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more solar on public buildings • fire ecology education • fewer car trips (visitors are "out of cars" via a people moving infrastructure)

¹ Direct ecosystem investments to achieve resilience; Primary (direct user activities), Secondary (product supply chain and cultural assets) and Tertiary (jobs)

² Projects bundled by strategy and deliverable alignment (Phase 1 implementation); subject to Stakeholder Scoring and Critical Vulnerability Scores

³ Goals and Indicators defined by ESSRP Partners and Subject to Regional Pillars/ Leadership Principles/ Feasibility Requirements

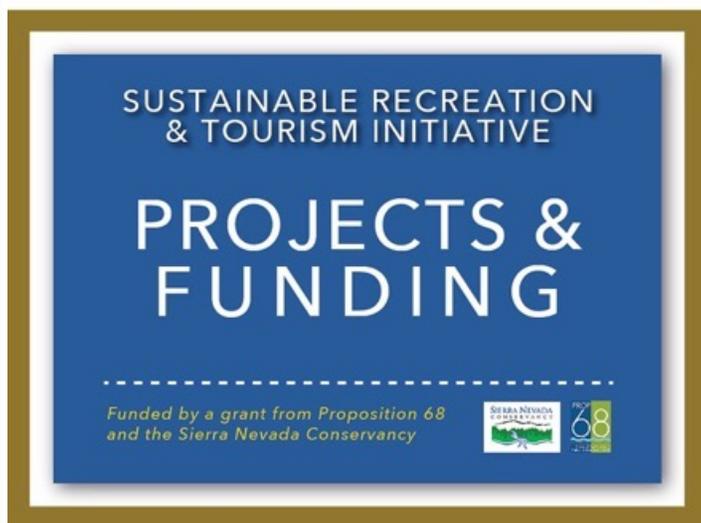


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 - On Time and On Budget
 - Volunteer Hours = \$70,000
 - Cash donations = \$5,000

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 - On Time and On Budget
 - Volunteer Hours = \$70,000
 - Cash donations = \$5,000
 - Roadshow Presentations
 - Mammoth Lakes Town Council - *March 3, 2021*
 - Mono County Board of Supervisors – *April 6, 2021*
 - USFS: HT + Inyo NF - *April 14, 2021*
 - City of Bishop – *April 12, 2021*
 - Alpine County – *April 20, 2021*
 - Regional: Vulnerability Assessment – *May 12, 2021*
 - ESIA Board of Directors – *June 22, 2021*
 - MLT Board of Directors – *July 7, 2021*
 - Mammoth Lakes PEDC – *July 14, 2021*

Convergence 2021: ESCOG and IFNF Grant Program

ESCOG Joint Powers Authority



- ESCOG Meeting - Friday, August 13 @ 08:30
- "Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program"
 - CDFW Grant Awarded

IFNF Grant Program



Quantified
Ventures



- A Business Plan to Leverage Outside Resources
- ESSRP: Opportunities for SRTI April 5

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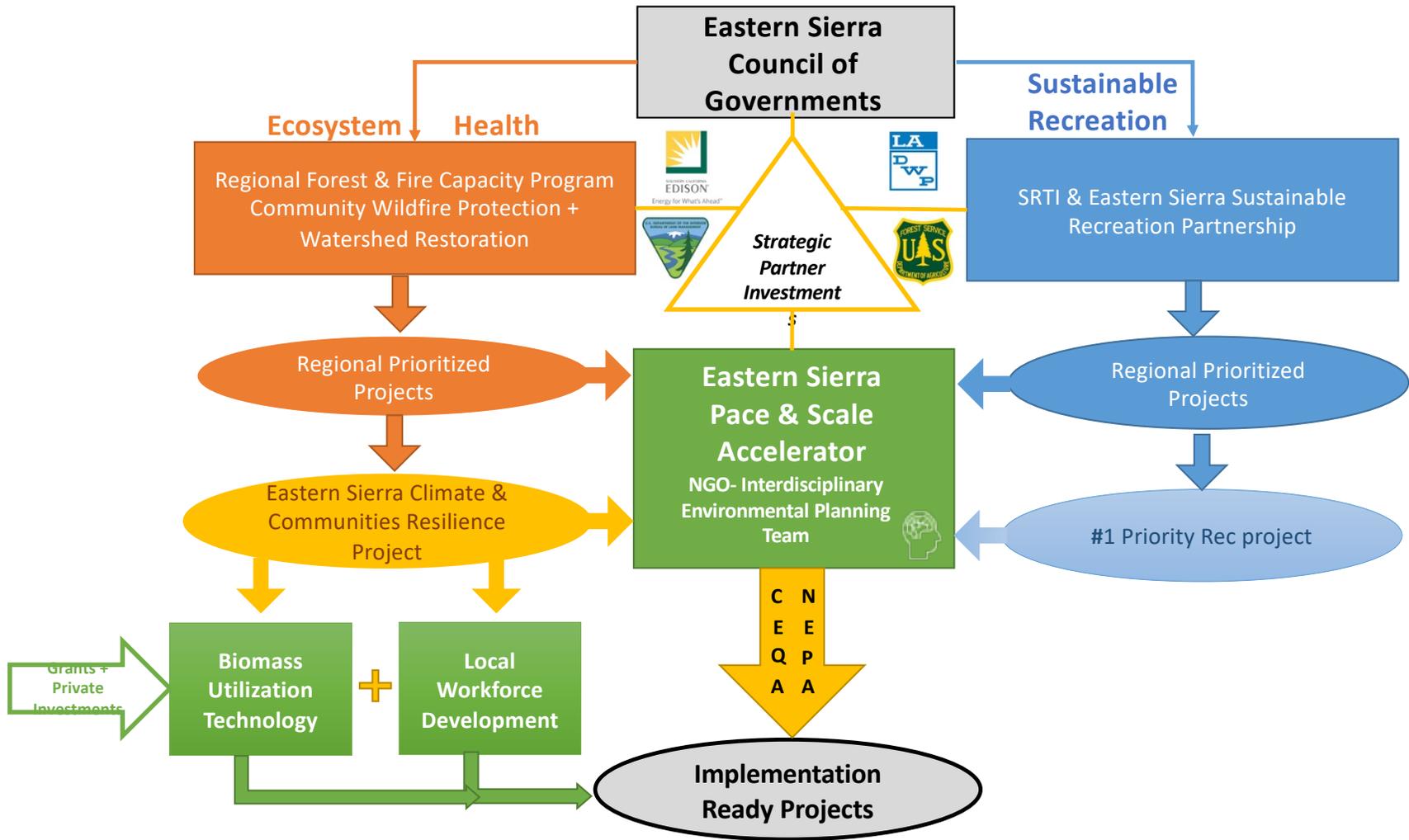
IFNF Grant Program



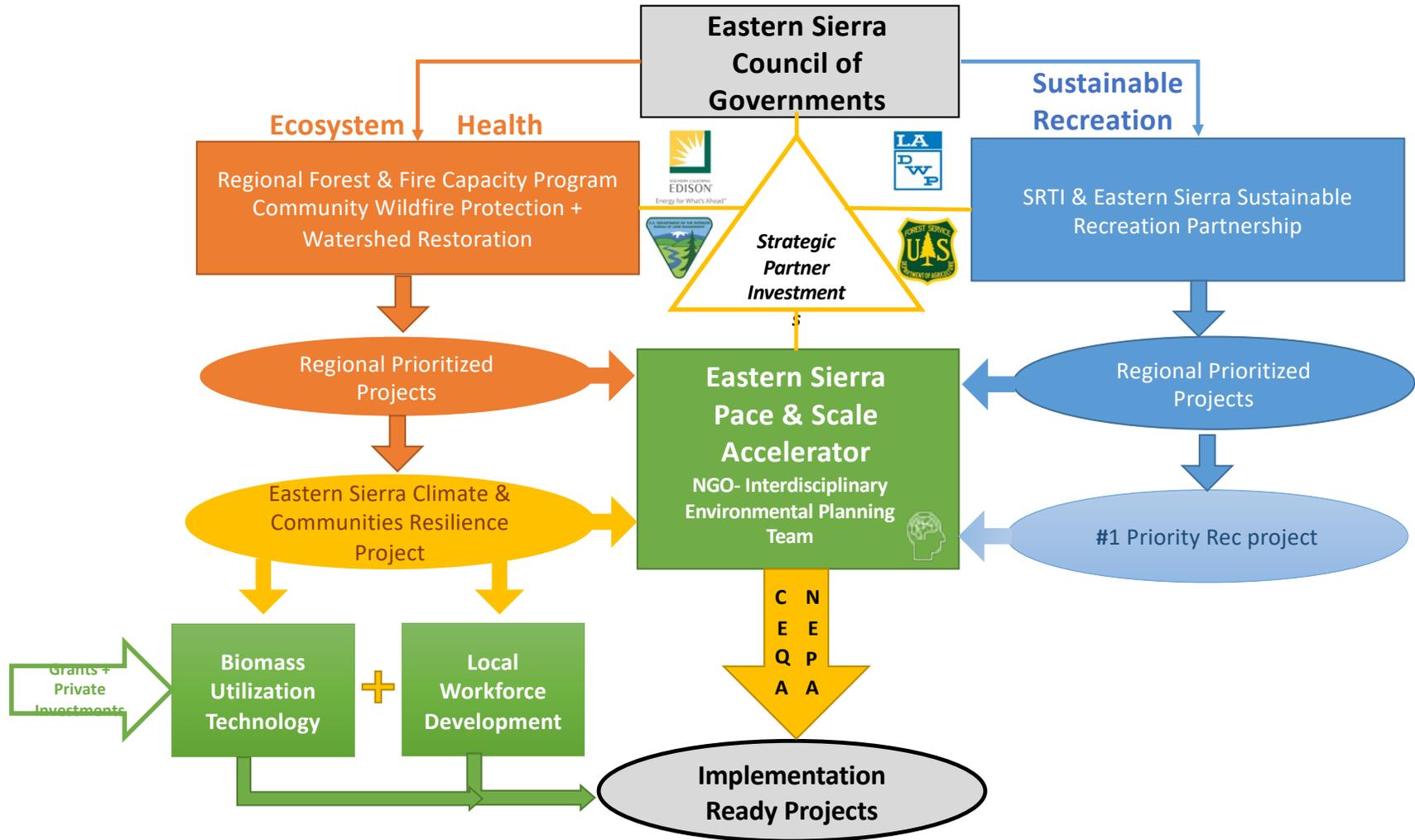
Quantified
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- A Business Plan to Leverage Outside Resources
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ESCOG Grant Award: \$3,384,269 for NEPA ID Team



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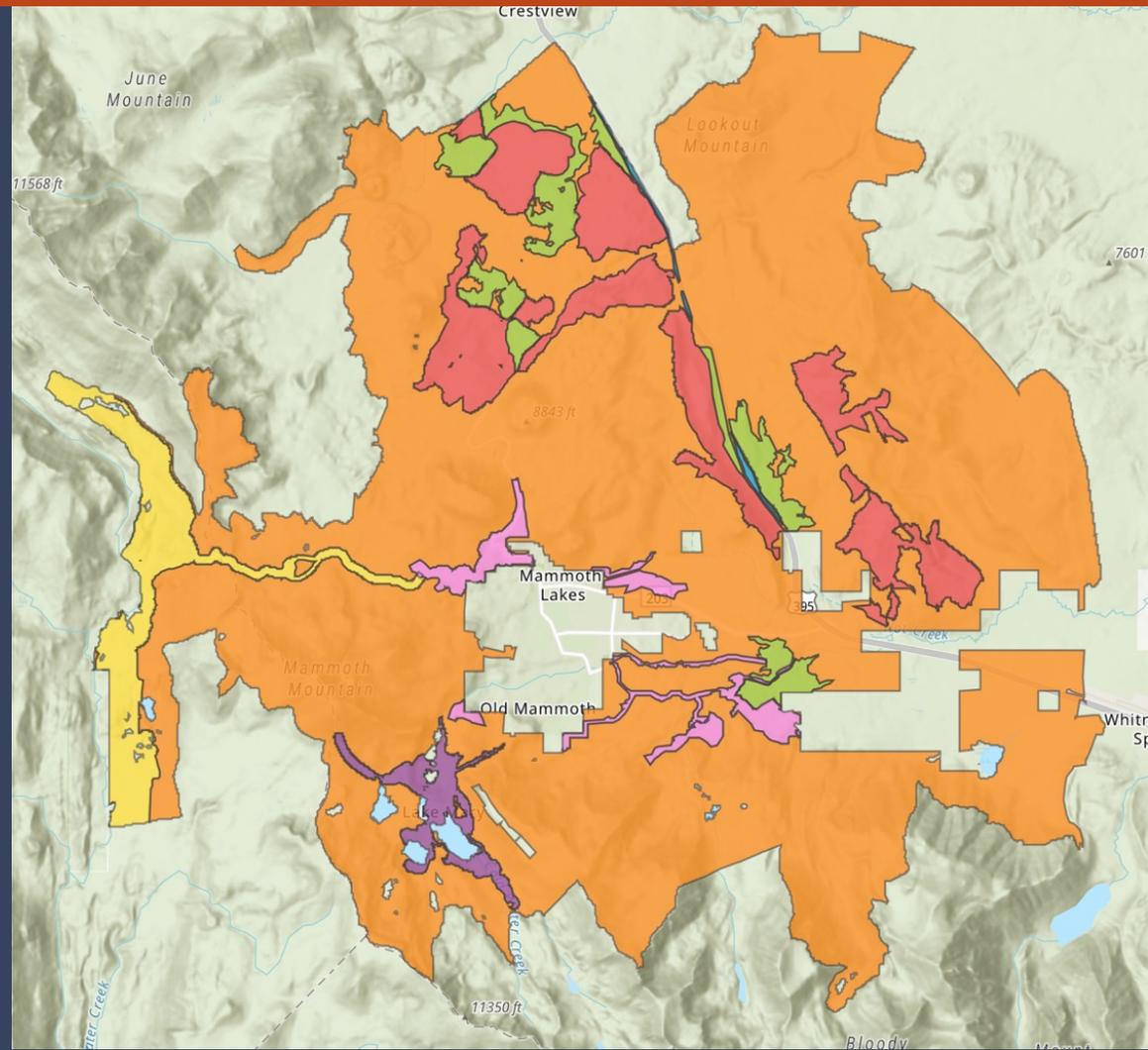


PROP 1

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM
WATER BOND 2014
RELIABILITY | RESTORATION | RESILIENCE

Proposition 1 Restoration Grants

[Grant Program Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)



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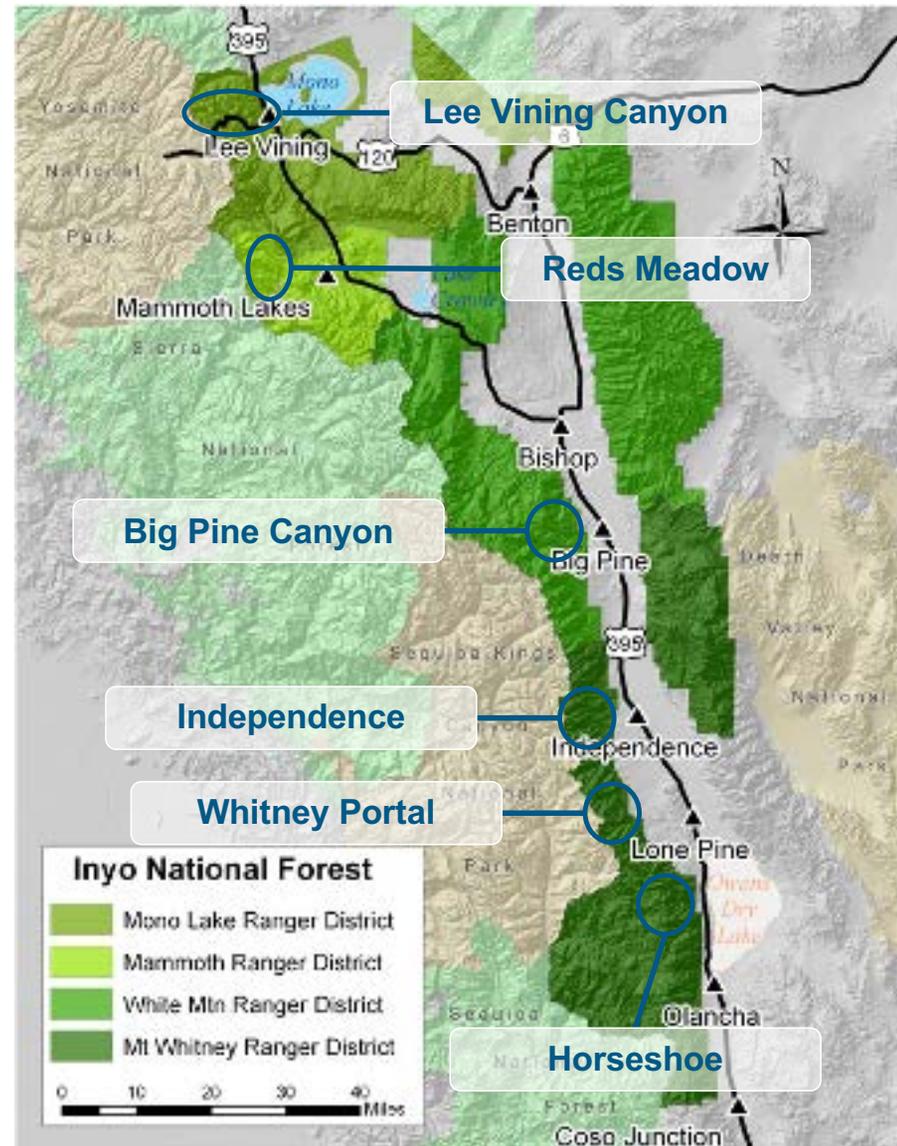
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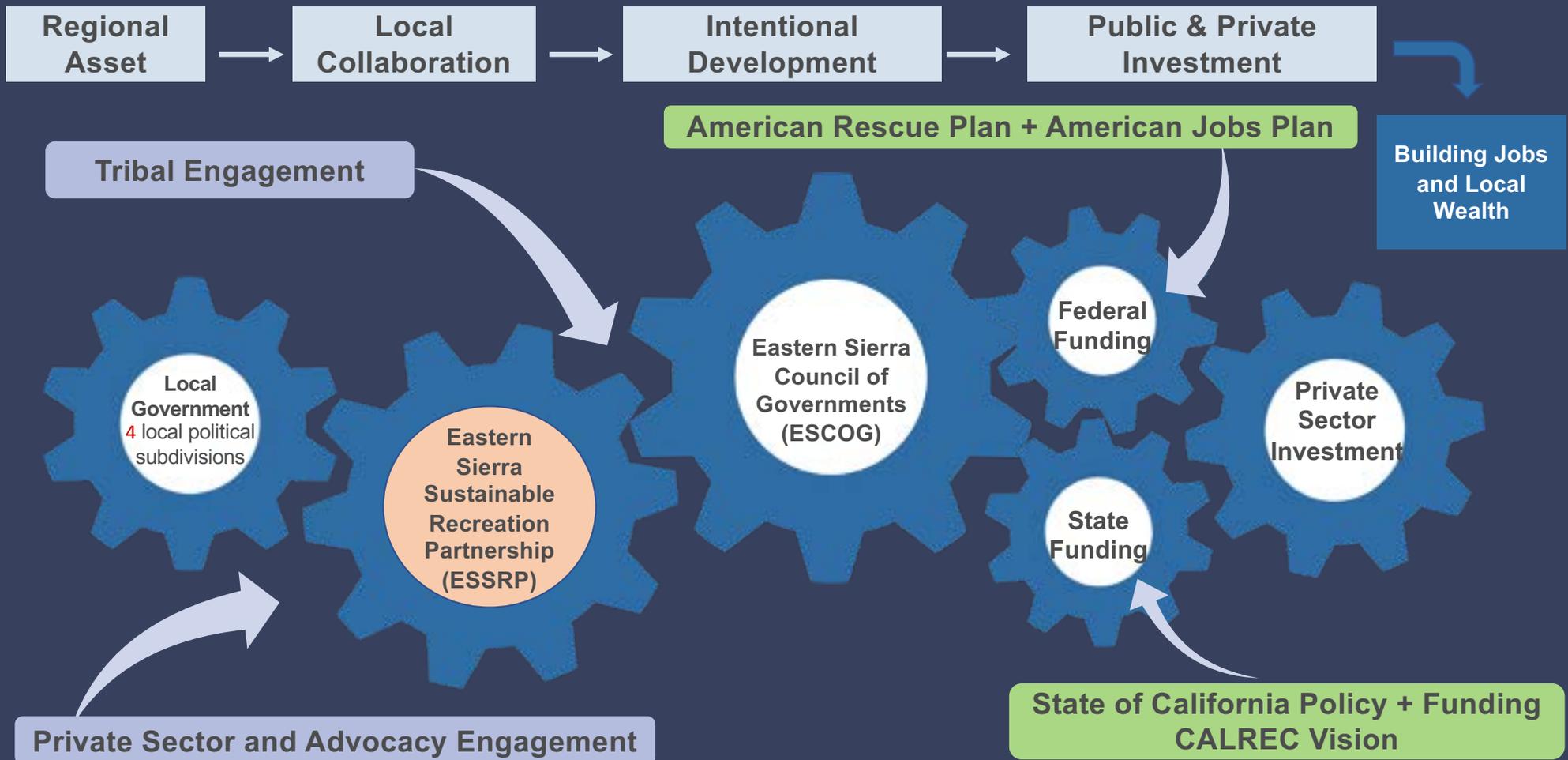
- **A Business Plan to Leverage Outside Resources**
- **ESSRP: Opportunities for IFNF and SRTI**

Status: We have defined geographic areas of focus for the business plan.

- We identified **geographic areas** with high potential.
- We are defining a high-level concept of a project for each area to use in our business plan.
- The final business plan will be delivered in September 2021.
- In the later design phase, multiple campgrounds within this area would be examined, delivering a design plans that makes sense for the geographic area as a whole.



IFNF + QV: Building Jobs and Local Wealth Through Sustainability



Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth

“Following the tour of the Shaver South Fuel Break project, Governor Newsom announced that he is expanding and refocusing the Forest Management Task Force to deliver on the key commitments in the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan issued in January, including the \$1 billion in investments.

“The reconstituted Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force will be co-chaired by California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot and U.S. Forest Service Regional Forester Randy Moore. They will be joined by CalEPA Secretary Jared Blumenfeld, Governor’s Office of Planning and Research Director Kate Gordon, CAL FIRE Director Thom Porter, California State Association of Counties President James Gore, Rural County Representatives of California Chair Stacy Corless and Don Hankins of the Inter-Tribal Indigenous Stewardship Project.”

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CALIFORNIA RE

AGREEMENT FOR SHARED STEWARDSHIP OF CALIFORNIA'S FOREST AND RANGELANDS
Between the
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
And the
USDA, FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is hereby made and entered into by and between the State of California, hereinafter referred to as "the State," and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, hereinafter referred to as "the U.S. Forest Service" and together referred to as "The Parties."

TITLE: Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forests and Rangelands

PURPOSE:

This MOU establishes a joint framework to enhance science-based forest and rangeland stewardship in California. The U.S. Forest Service and the State of California commit to maintain and restore healthy forests and rangelands that reduce public safety risks, protect natural and built infrastructure, and enhance ecological habitat and biological diversity. The Parties agree to develop shared tools, coordinated processes, and innovative approaches to increase the pace, scale, and effectiveness of forest and rangeland stewardship in California.

The U.S. Forest Service and the State of California, through the California Natural Resources Agency, make this commitment in accordance with the following provisions.

STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:

Restoring healthy forests and rangelands in California will yield both ecological and community benefits. Healthy forests will improve climate resilience and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, safeguard water quality and air quality, protect fish and wildlife habitat, enhance biological diversity, sequester carbon, improve recreational opportunities, and generate good jobs and economic opportunities.

BACKGROUND:

Home to some of the largest, tallest and oldest trees in the world, rich biological diversity, vast watersheds, and spectacular recreation, the grandeur of California's wildlands has captivated generations. California's forests naturally adapted to low-intensity fire, nature's preferred management tool, but Gold Rush-era clearcutting followed by a wholesale policy of fire suppression resulted in the overly dense, ailing forests that dominate the landscape today.

Compounding risks have made it nearly impossible for nature to self-correct. A cycle of catastrophic wildfires, longer fire seasons, severe drought, intense wind, tree mortality, invasive species, and human population pressure threaten to convert conifer forests to shrublands and shrublands to invasive grasses.



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EXECUTIVE ORDER N-82-20

WHEREAS the well-being of our communities and California's economic sustainability are interconnected with our natural and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS the State's long-term vitality is threatened by the loss of biodiversity - the variety and variability of plant and animal life in our State - and the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS California's natural and working lands - our forests, rangelands, farms, wetlands, coast, deserts, and urban greenspaces - sustain our economy, support our unique biodiversity, contribute to the global food supply, support outdoor heritage and provide clean water and air; and

WHEREAS since time immemorial, California Native Americans have stewarded, managed and lived interdependently with the lands that now make up the State of California; and

WHEREAS California is home to more species of plants and animals than any other state, and this biodiversity accounts for about one third of all species found in the nation; and

WHEREAS soils are home to more than a quarter of the world's biodiversity and California boasts more than 2,500 different soil types; and

WHEREAS California's rich biodiversity is increasingly threatened by loss of habitat, spread of invasive species, decreasing water supplies, and increasingly frequent and severe climate impacts; and

WHEREAS the climate change crisis is happening now, impacting California in unprecedented ways including intensifying wildfires, mud slides, floods and drought, sea level rise and extreme heat, that threaten our economy, communities, public safety, and cultural and natural resources; and

WHEREAS as we work to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, we must also accelerate actions to enable the State to adapt and become more resilient to the impacts of climate change, including expanding nature-based solutions - the use of sustainable land management practices to tackle environmental, social and economic challenges; and

WHEREAS national, subnational and indigenous leaders across the globe are coming together to accelerate implementation of nature-based solutions to our climate and extinction crises, improve the way land is managed to absorb carbon pollution from the atmosphere, build resilience by protecting communities and natural places from climate-driven disasters, and restore healthy ecosystems; and

WHEREAS addressing the biodiversity crisis and accelerating nature-based solutions requires inclusive partnerships and collaboration among federal, state



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“Provide input on meeting the State’s commitment to conserve 30 percent of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030 and accelerate nature-based solutions to address climate change.”

Save the Date Virtual Regional Workshops

Provide input on meeting the State’s commitment to conserve 30 percent of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030 and accelerate nature-based solutions to address climate change.

MEETING DATE/REGION

- April 20 — Sacramento Valley Region
- April 21 — San Francisco Bay Area Region
- April 27 — Central Coast Region
- April 28 — Sierra Nevada Region
- April 29 — San Joaquin Valley Region
- May 4 — North Coast Region
- May 5 — Los Angeles Region
- May 6 — Inland Deserts Region
- May 11 — San Diego Region

All meeting times are 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.



Visit: <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Expanding-Nature-Based-Solutions>

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



“Provide input on meeting the State’s commitment to conserve 30 percent of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030 and accelerate nature-based solutions to address climate change.”

Sierra Nevada - April 28 4:00 – 6:00 PM

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Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



“Join the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) for a topical workshop exploring opportunities for the state to protect and maintain its unique biodiversity through conservation of lands and coastal waters.”

July 27, 2021 – 3:00 PM

Save the Date  **Virtual Regional Workshops**

Provide input on meeting the State's commitment to conserve 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030 and accelerate nature-based solutions to address climate change.

MEETING DATE/REGION

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The map shows California divided into several regions, each color-coded: North Coast (blue), Sacramento Valley (red), San Francisco Bay Area (green), Central Coast (purple), Sierra Nevada (purple), San Joaquin Valley (green), Los Angeles (green), Inland Desert (orange), and San Diego (pink).

Visit: <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Expanding-Nature-Based-Solutions>

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2021 State Climate Adaptation Strategy

Building Resilience and Reducing Risks

EXTREME HEAT | WILDFIRE | DROUGHT | FLOODS | SEA LEVEL RISE

Public Overview

March 26, 2021

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



Nesting Existing Efforts

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth

Priorities

The Strategy should drive action toward critical priorities:



Strengthen protections for climate vulnerable communities



Protect public health and safety in the event of climate disasters



Reduce climate risks to California's economy



Help nature adapt to climate change, and accelerate nature-based solutions



Make decisions based on best available climate science



Leverage resources for climate action through partnerships and collaboration

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Help nature adapt to climate change, and accelerate nature-based solutions



Leverage resources for climate action through partnerships and collaboration

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Approach

Our approach reflects the Administration's broader effort to integrate and coordinate existing adaptation efforts.

Utilizing the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program as a resilience coordination hub

Pulling the pieces together so that our overarching strategy is easily understood.

Accelerating strategic implementation

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CALIFORNIA REF

Public Law 116-152
116th Congress

An Act

To amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Indian Education, and to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Great American Outdoors Act".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle II of title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 2003 the following:

"CHAPTER 2004—NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND

*Sec.

*200401. Definitions.

*200402. National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund.

"§ 200401. Definitions

"In this chapter:

"(1) ASSET.—The term 'asset' means any real property, including any physical structure or grouping of structures, landscape, trail, or other tangible property, that—

"(A) has a specific service or function; and

"(B) is tracked and managed as a distinct, identifiable entity by the applicable covered agency.

"(2) COVERED AGENCY.—The term 'covered agency' means—

"(A) the Service;

"(B) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

"(C) the Forest Service;

"(D) the Bureau of Land Management; and

"(E) the Bureau of Indian Education.

"(3) FUND.—The term 'Fund' means the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund established by section 200402(a).

"(4) PROJECT.—The term 'project' means any activity to reduce or eliminate deferred maintenance of an asset, which

Aug. 4, 2020
(H.R. 1957)

Great American
Outdoors Act.
54 USC 100101
note.

54 USC 200401
prec.

54 USC 200401.



Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



The Department of Finance welcomes you to the

California Budget 2021-22

Gavin Newsom Governor
State of California

“California lawmakers voted tonight to approve a record-busting state budget that reflects new agreements with Gov. Gavin Newsom to expand health care for undocumented immigrants, spend billions to alleviate homelessness and help Californians still struggling through the pandemic.” – *June 28, 2021*

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



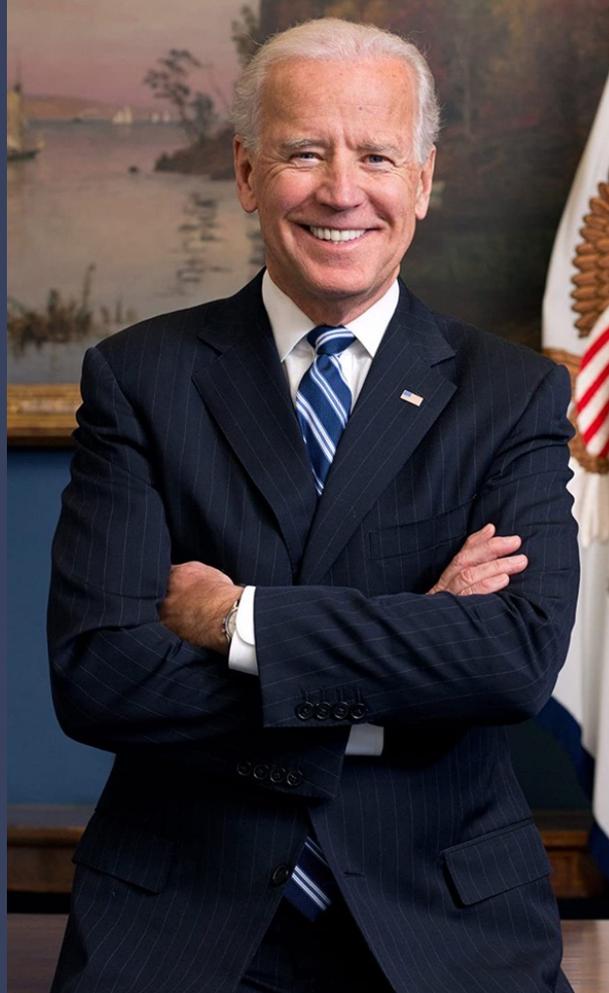
The Department of Finance welcomes you to the

California Budget 2021-22

Gavin Newsom Governor
State of California

“They did not decide exactly how to spend billions of dollars to address the threats posed by wildfires and drought. The budget includes \$1 billion over several years for wildfire prevention, \$3 billion to alleviate drought and \$3.7 billion over three years to mitigate dangers posed by climate change — but Newsom and legislative leaders are still figuring out how to spend the funds.”

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Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



BRIEFING ROOM

President Biden Announces American Rescue Plan

JANUARY 20, 2021 • LEGISLATION

Emergency Legislative Package to Fund Vaccinations, Provide Immediate, Direct Relief to Families Bearing the Brunt of the COVID-19 Crisis, and Support Struggling Communities

The COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding economic crisis are devastating families across the country. More than [20 million Americans](#) have contracted COVID-19, and at least 370,000 have died. From big cities to small towns, too many Americans are barely scraping by, or not scraping by at all. And the pandemic has shined a light on the persistence of racial injustice in our healthcare system and our economy. The need to act is clear in the lines at food banks, the small businesses that are closed or closing, and the [growing](#) number of Americans experiencing housing insecurity. After nearly a year of the public health crisis, our nation remains in this dark winter of the pandemic and facing a deep economic crisis.

President Biden is laying out the first step of an aggressive, two-step plan for rescue, from the depths of this crisis, and recovery, by investing in America, creating millions of additional good-paying jobs, combatting the climate crisis, advancing racial equity, and building back better than before.

While Congress's bipartisan action in December was a step in the right direction, it was only a down payment. It fell far short of the resources needed to tackle the immediate crisis. We are in a race against time, and absent additional government assistance, the economic and public health crises could worsen in the months ahead; schools will not be able to safely reopen; and vaccinations will remain far too slow.



Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth

NACo Analysis of the American Rescue Plan Act

Mar. 12, 2021

[DOWNLOAD ANALYSIS](#)

[COUNTY-BY-COUNTY ALLOCATION ESTIMATES](#)

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R. 1319) into law. The \$1.9 trillion package, based on President Biden's American Rescue Plan, is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts.

As part of the \$362 billion in federal fiscal recovery aid for state and local governments, \$65.1 billion is provided in direct aid to counties and an additional \$1.5 billion for public land counties. The American Rescue Plan Act also allocates hundreds of billions of dollars for public health and vaccines, assistance for vulnerable populations, education and housing stabilization, economic recovery assistance and direct assistance for families and individuals.

This analysis highlights key provisions for county governments.

In a major victory for America's counties, the State and Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Funds legislation, part of the American Rescue Plan Act, was signed into law by President Biden on March 11. The bill includes \$65.1 billion in direct, flexible aid to every county in America, as well as other crucial investments in local communities, including \$1.5 billion over two years for public lands counties.

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BRIEFING ROOM

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BRIEFING ROOM

FACT SHEET: The American Jobs Plan

MARCH 31, 2021 • STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

While the American Rescue Plan is changing the course of the pandemic and delivering relief for working families, this is no time to build back to the way things were. This is the moment to reimagine and rebuild a new economy. The American Jobs Plan is an investment in America that will create millions of good jobs, rebuild our country's infrastructure, and position the United States to out-compete China. Public domestic investment as a share of the economy has fallen by more than 40 percent since the 1960s. The American Jobs Plan will invest in America in a way we have not invested since we built the interstate highways and won the Space Race.

The United States of America is the wealthiest country in the world, yet we rank 13th when it comes to the overall quality of our infrastructure. After decades of disinvestment, our roads, bridges, and water systems are crumbling. Our electric grid is vulnerable to catastrophic outages. Too many lack access to affordable, high-speed Internet and to quality housing. The past year has led to job losses and threatened economic security, eroding more than 30 years of progress in women's labor force participation. It has unmasked the fragility of our caregiving infrastructure. And, our nation is falling behind its biggest competitors on research and development (R&D), manufacturing, and training. It has never been more important for us to invest in strengthening our infrastructure and competitiveness, and in creating the good-paying, union jobs of the future.

Like great projects of the past, the President's plan will unify and mobilize the country to meet the great challenges of our time: the

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



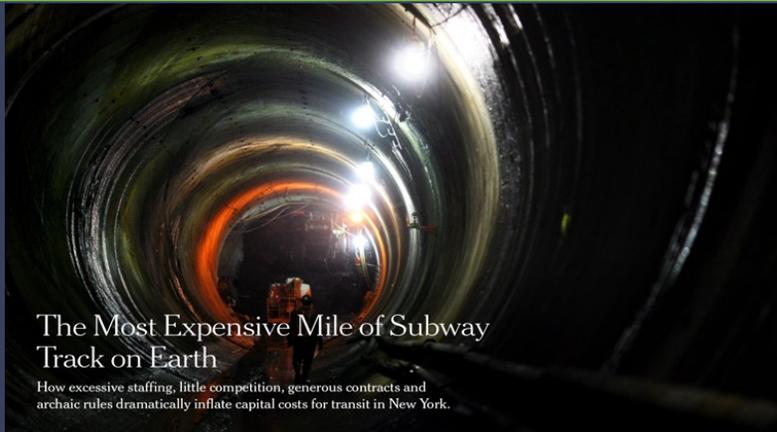
NYC's brand new subway is the most expensive in the world — that's a problem

The tragedy of the Second Avenue Subway.

Matthew Yglesias • Jan 1, 2017, 10:00am EST



Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth



The Most Expensive Mile of Subway Track on Earth

How excessive staffing, little competition, generous contracts and archaic rules dramatically inflate capital costs for transit in New York.

NYC's brand new subway is the most expensive in the world — that's a problem

The tragedy of the Second Avenue Subway.

Matthew Yglesias • Jan 1, 2017, 10:00am EST



REVISED DRAFT 2020 BUSINESS PLAN

California Assembly wants bullet train contract deferred in rebuke of project's current plan

By Ralph Vartabedian • June 5, 2020 10:20 AM PT

In the strongest challenge to the California bullet train project in the past decade, a majority of the California Assembly has co-sponsored a resolution directing the state rail authority to defer awarding a contract this year to build a partial high speed system between Merced and Bakersfield.

California high-speed rail board delays key finance plan after lawmakers push back

By Ralph Vartabedian • June 24, 2020 5 AM PT

Following a stunning rebuke by the State Assembly, the board of California's high-speed rail authority this week put off approving a crucial 2020 business plan, a sign it has agreed to reassess the project's current blueprint.

Situational Awareness: Nature + Jobs and Wealth

Secretary Tom Vilsack announces the 20th Chief of the Forest Service

June 28, 2021

I am pleased to announce Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Randy Moore will serve as the 20th Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service beginning on July 26, 2021.

Throughout his long Forest Service career, Randy has been a catalyst for change and creativity in carrying out the Forest Service's mission to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. In his role as regional forester, Randy has been a conservation leader on the forefront of tackling climate change, most notably in leading the region's response to the dramatic increase of catastrophic wildfires in California over the last decade. His proven track record of supporting and developing employees and putting communities at the center of the Forest Service's work positions him well to lead the agency into the future at this critical time in our country.



Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack

Randy Moore selected as new Chief of the U.S. Forest Service

Bill Gabbert June 28, 2021 Uncategorized Randy Moore, Victoria Christiansen

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that Randy Moore will serve as the 20th Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service.

“Randy Moore has been a catalyst for change and creativity in carrying out the Forest Service’s mission to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations,” said Secretary Vilsack. “In his role as Regional Forester, Randy has been a conservation leader on the forefront of climate change, most notably leading the Region’s response to the dramatic increase in catastrophic wildfires in California over the last decade. His proven track record of supporting and developing employees and putting communities at the center of the Forest Service’s work positions him well to lead the agency into the future at this critical time in our country.”



Randy Moore, 20th Chief of the U.S. Forest Service.







Thank You

Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership
Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative

Planning and Economic Development Commission

July 14, 2021

