



**Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG)
Joint Powers Authority**

STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority
From: Elaine Kabala, ESCOG Executive Director
Subject: 1) Establish Ad Hoc Committee for Project Oversight of the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative
Meeting date: August 27, 2025
Prepared on: August 20, 2025
Attachments: A) None

BACKGROUND:

The Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative (ESRC) capacity incubator project intends to expand the existing ESCOG Sustainable Recreation and Ecosystem Management Program (SREMP) program in the Eastern Sierra region to build collaboratives to facilitate strategic planning and implementation capacity in sustainable recreation to increase coordination for regional project funding and implementation.

Objectives include:

- Developing a shared vision for recreation.
- Strengthening regional capacity through organizational mapping and assessing organizational readiness, capacity and partnership opportunities.
- Identifying and prioritizing implementable, high-impact initiatives aligned with regional needs and strengths.
- Exploring governance and funding frameworks, including development of a project prioritization framework and consideration of public / non-profit partnerships.
- Integrate workforce development strategies to build local career pathways in sustainable recreation, conservation, agriculture, and cultural tourism.

Due to the importance of ensuring sub-regional on and inclusion in the implementation of the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative, staff requests the Board form an ad hoc “project oversight committee” to participate in regular project management meetings

with the selected Recreation Coordinator contractor. The project oversight committee will provide regular guidance and support to the Recreation Coordinator contractor, ensuring alignment with the objectives of the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative capacity incubator project. By offering jurisdictional input, monitoring progress, and addressing challenges as they arise, the committee will help keep the project on track, foster collaboration across partners, and ensure outcomes meet regional needs.

Staff requests the Board either create an ad hoc committee, or direct the Executive Director to create a project oversight committee. Staff recommends the committee also include regional managers and the ESCOG Executive Director.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

There are no budget impacts associated with this item.

LEGAL REVIEW:

ESCOG Counsel John-Carl Vallejo has reviewed this item and found that it complies with the law.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Provide direction to staff to establish an ad hoc committee for the Eastern Sierra Recreation Collaborative project.