



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

STAFF REPORT

To: ESCOG Joint Powers Authority
From: Ken Etzel, ESCOG Regional Recreation Coordinator
Subject: Regional Recreation Coordinator Report
Meeting date: April 22, 2026
Prepared on: April 14, 2026
Attachments: None

Recreation/ Sierra Jobs First: Staff Action Items

- Staff finalized scope of work with Alta Planning and Design for the current conditions analysis of Chipmunk Canyon trail system.
- Facilitated meetings with Alta Planning and Design and Stakeholders establishing roles and responsibilities of work.
- Staff formalized the leadership team and coordinated meetings to launch the project.
- Staff along with the leadership team and Alta Design and Planning formalized study area and communication strategy.
- Staff is coordinating with Alta and subcontractors for data collection and field work.
- Staff is identifying and meeting with interest groups regarding the Chipmunk Canyon Recreation Area including the Bishop Area Climbers Coalition (BACC), the Bishop Area Bike organization (BABO) and an OHV focused working group.
- Staff participated in Sierra Jobs First Sustainable Recreation and Tourism working Group.
- Staff participated in the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP).
- Staff reviewed and finalized scope of work in coordination with Agnew::Beck for regional collaboration initiative.
- Staff refined scope and project design while onboarding consultant Agnew::Beck (A::B) for regional collective initiative.
- Staff worked with A::B to develop a steering committee from an established list of regional leadership.
- Staff coordinated invites and formation and eventual meeting facilitation of the steering committee to help guide collaborative process along A::B.
- Staff has met with partners to develop a regional summit. This includes developing schedule, location, branding, logistics and communications surrounding the event.
- Staff has facilitated meetings with key leaders in each of the four core areas of our planning effort (sustainable rec, working lands/ag, wildfire, econ dev) to ensure that we are accurately capturing all of the good work, people, orgs, and plans in each of the areas as well as inquiry into how the ESCOG collaborative work can serve to enhance existing collaborative work underway.
- Staff has been identifying key NGO partners for collaboratives in four core areas of collaboration: sustainable recreation, wildfire resilience, agriculture and working lands and economic development for organizational capacity mapping exercise.
- Staff has been conducting ongoing case study research and analysis of governance and

funding structure for regional collaboratives and organizations to inform collaborative project.

- Staff has been preparing study design and interview questions to identify any overlap, gaps, strengths or weaknesses in regional partners as part of capacity mapping study.