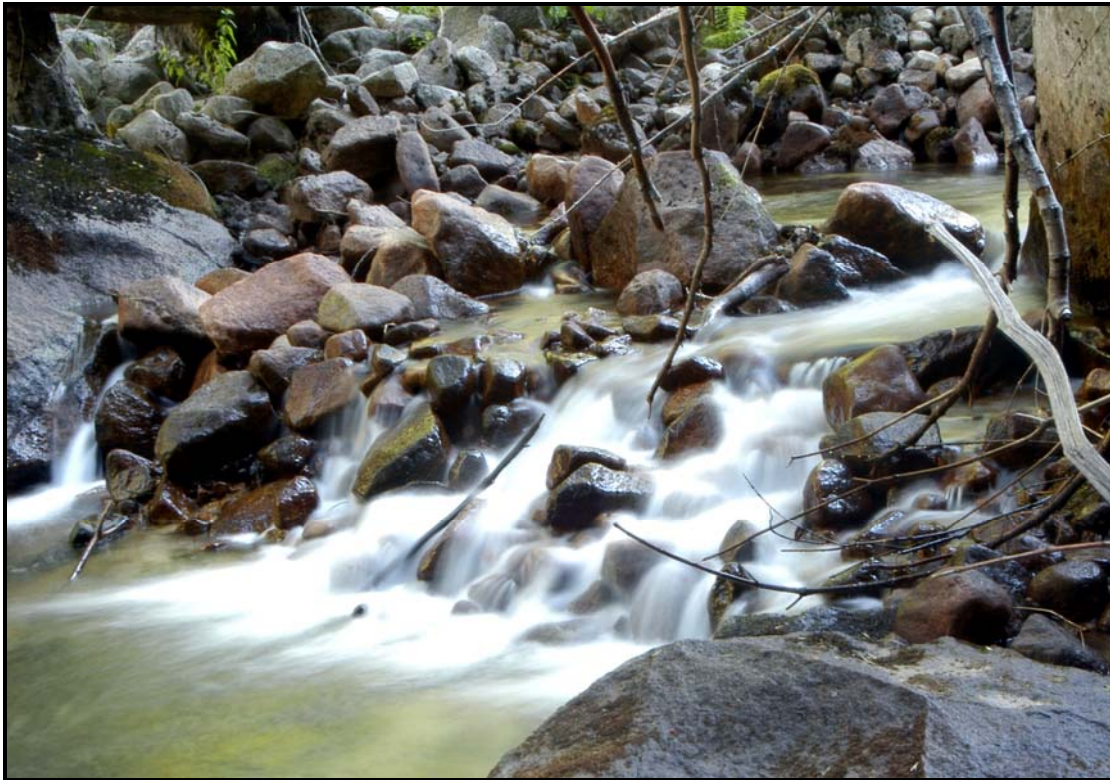


SIERRA WATERSHED COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

SEPTEMBER 2008



SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

Keeping light in the range.

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Introduction

The following is a directory of watershed councils, organizations, coordinated resource management processes, and conservation groups that work to conserve, protect, and restore watershed health in the Sierra Nevada. The Sierra Nevada Alliance prepared this directory to assist watershed groups, agencies and others in locating watershed groups in the Sierra Nevada and learning more about what watershed work is happening in the region. We work to build capacity of conservation organizations in the Sierra and want to keep in touch with each active watershed group in the region. In other words, we want to stay in touch. Please send any changes to the Sierra Nevada Alliance and we will update our website and future additions.

The main directory is listed in alphabetical order by group name. If you do not know the name of the group you are looking for, but know the region you are interested in, check the map of the Sierra's 24 watersheds on page 3 or the list of groups and efforts by region. You can also search the list of groups or efforts by their type.

The Sierra Nevada is made up of 24 major watersheds, according to Calwater, California's system of identifying and delineating watershed boundaries. There is a map on page 3 of these major watersheds.

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Regions

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy will establish funding for environmental preservation while providing support for economic sustainability across 25 million acres from the Oregon border to Kern County. As California's largest conservancy, the Sierra Nevada will provide grants to local governments and non profit organizations for environmental protection, resource conservation, recreational opportunities and economic growth. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy divided the Region into 6 subregions, based on counties rather than watersheds.

North:	Modoc, Lassen & Shasta
North Central:	Butte, Plumas, Sierra & Tehama
Central:	El Dorado, Nevada, Placer & Yuba
East:	Alpine, Mono & Inyo
South Central:	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, & Tuolumne
South:	Fresno, Kern, Madera, & Tulare

Water Quality Monitoring Programs

Water quality monitoring is an essential part of many watershed organizations in the Sierra. The main categories for water quality monitoring are: **ambient monitoring**, which tests basic water quality parameters such as pH, turbidity, conductivity, temperature, and total dissolved oxygen; **benthic macroinvertebrate collection (BMI)**, which gathers aquatic organisms living in the stream to assess stream health, and **streamwalk surveys**, which collect qualitative data about the stream and its shores.

Types of Groups

We distinguished these groups or efforts into distinct types since their decision-making boards or committees operate in different manners:

1. Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Groups

Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Groups are watershed groups with diverse stakeholders on the decision making board or steering committee who represent public and private interests. These groups have a minimum of four diverse interests on their board. Stakeholders can include local elected officials, teachers, local conservation activists, agency representatives, tribal members, ranchers or farmers, local business owners and other community members who collaboratively work together to restore and protect their watershed.

2. Coordinated Resource Management & Planning

Coordinated Resource Management & Planning (CRMP) is a voluntary, locally led planning process to manage natural resources. CRMP is a People Process that allows local people to actively participate in the development and implementation of proactive natural resource management decisions. CRMP brings all the affected interests, both private and public, together to establish Common Goals and to resolve issues as a team.

3. Sierra-based Conservation Groups

Sierra-based Conservation groups are groups with community members on their board of directors or steering committee focused on conservation issues. For the purposes of this directory we only list groups who work to promote, protect and restore their local

watershed(s). These groups may work in collaboration with different stakeholders such as agencies, local elected officials and school programs. However their main decision making body is only local conservationists.

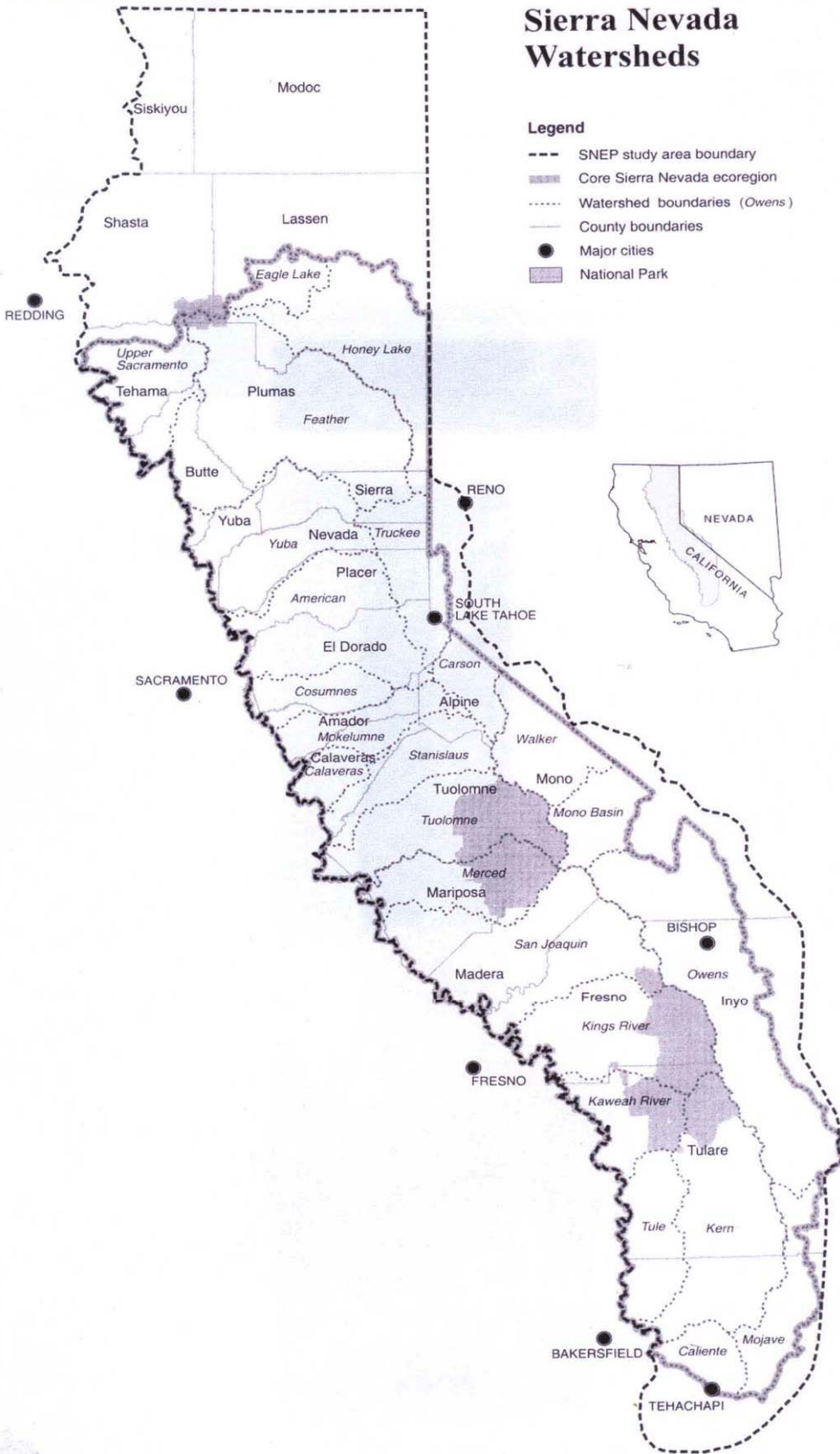
4. Statewide and National Organizations

Statewide and National Organizations in this directory are groups who work to promote, protect and restore watersheds throughout the state and /or nation. We have only listed groups who are active in assisting watershed efforts in the Sierra.

5. Sierra-Based Water Related Agencies

Sierra-Based Water Agencies work with quality, quantity, delivery, and economics of water. They often work to educate the public about water quality and conservation. While most focus on one county or state, some expand that vision to multiple states or counties. For the purposes of this directory, we have only listed Sierra water agencies.

Sierra Watershed Map



List of Watershed Efforts by Group Type

Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Groups

Alpine Watershed Group
American Basin Council of Watersheds
American River Watershed Group
Bear Creek Watershed Group
Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance
Calaveras River Watershed Management Program
Carson River Coalition
Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development
Central Sierra Watershed Committee
Cherokee Watershed Alliance
Chowchilla/Fresno Rivers Watershed Stakeholders Group
Clavey Watershed Council
Clear Creek Watershed Council
Dry Creek Watershed Council
Foothills Water Network
Friends of the South Fork Kings
Friends of Squaw Creek
Little Chico Creek Watershed Group
Millerton Area Watershed Coalition
Mono County Watershed Group
Oakhurst River Parkway Partnership
Pit River Watershed Alliance
Sacramento River Watershed Program
South Fork American River Watershed Group
Truckee River Watershed Council
Upper Merced River Watershed Council
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council
Wolf Creek Community Alliance
Yuba Watershed Council

Coordinated Resource Management & Planning

Cosumnes River Task Force
Feather River CRM

Sierra-Based Agencies

Carson Water Subconservancy District
Chowchilla Red Top Resource Conservation District
El Dorado County/Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District
Nevada County Resource Conservation District

Sierra-based Conservation Groups

American River Conservancy
American River Watershed Institute
California Trout-Eastern Sierra
Dry Creek Conservancy
Ebbetts Pass Rivers and Trails Alliance
Foothill Conservancy
Friends of Butte Creek
Friends of Deer Creek
Friends of the Inyo
Lassen Land and Trails Trust
League to Save Lake Tahoe
Mono Lake Committee
Owens Valley Committee
Protect American River Canyon
Restore Hetch-Hetchy
River Ridge
RiverTree Volunteers
San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust
Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships
South Lake Tahoe Monitoring Program
South Yuba River Citizens League
Tahoe-Baikal Institute
Traverse Creek Stewardship
Tuolumne River Preservation Trust
WildPlaces
Yuba Watershed Insitute

Statewide or National Organizations

American Rivers
California Hydropower Reform Coalition
California Watershed Network
Friends of the River
Pacific Rivers Council
River Network
California Save Our Streams

Local Government Planning Department

Placer County Planning Department

Watershed Efforts by Watershed

American River

Alpine Watershed Group
American Basin Council of Watersheds
American River Conservancy
American River Watershed Group
American River Watershed Institute
Bear Creek Watershed Group
El Dorado County/Georgetown Divide RCD
Protect American River Canyons
South Fork American River Watershed Group
Traverse Creek Stewardship

Calaveras River

Foothill Conservancy

Caliente River

Carson River

Alpine Watershed Group
Carson River Coalition
Carson River Subconservancy District
Clear Creek Watershed Council

Cosumnes River

American River Conservancy
Foothill Conservancy
El Dorado County/Georgetown Divide RCD

Eagle Lake

Feather River

Feather River CRM

Honey Lake

Lassen Land & Trails Trust

Kaweah

WildPlaces

Kern

WildPlaces

Kings

Friends of the South Fork Kings

Merced

Central Sierra Watershed Committee
Oakhurst River Parkway Partnership
Upper Merced River Watershed Council

Mokelumne

Alpine Watershed Group
Foothill Conservancy
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council
Ebbetts Pass Rivers and Trails Alliance

National/State/Regional

California Hydropower Reform Coalition
California Save our Streams
California Watershed Network
Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development
Friends of the River
Pacific Rivers Council
River Network

Mono Basin

Mono County Watershed Group
Mono Lake Committee
Friends of the Inyo

Owens River

Friends of the Inyo
Mono County Watershed Group
Owens Valley Committee
California Trout – Eastern Sierra

Pit River

Pit River Watershed Alliance

San Joaquin River

Chowchilla/Fresno Rivers Watershed Stakeholders Group
Millerton Area Watershed Coalition
Oakhurst River Parkway Partnership
RiverTree Volunteers
San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

Stanislaus River

Alpine Watershed Group
Ebbetts Pass Rivers and Trails Alliance
Foothill Conservancy

Truckee River

Alpine Watershed Group
Friends of Squaw Creek
Feather River CRM
League to Save Lake Tahoe
Placer County Planning Department
Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships
Truckee River Watershed Council
Tahoe-Baikal Institute
South Lake Tahoe Monitoring Program

Tule

River Ridge
WildPlaces

Tuolumne

Clavey Watershed Council
Restore Hetch-Hetchy
Tuolumne River Preservation Trust

Upper Sacramento

Bear Creek Watershed Group
Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance
Dry Creek Conservancy
Dry Creek Watershed Council
Little Chico Creek Watershed Group
Sacramento River Watershed Program
Friends of Butte Creek

Walker

Mono County Watershed Group

Yuba

Cherokee Watershed Alliance
Foothills Watershed Network
Friends of Deer Creek
Nevada County RCD
South Yuba River Citizens League
Wolf Creek Community Alliance
Yuba Watershed Council



SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

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Sierra Nevada Alliance Watersheds Program

Since 1993, the Sierra Nevada Alliance, a non-profit organization, has been protecting and restoring Sierra lands, water, wildlife and communities. The goal of our Sierra Watersheds Program is to ensure that Sierra watersheds have active, informed efforts to restore and protect their rivers, lakes and streams thereby protecting critical habitats and restoring watershed health. The Sierra Nevada Alliance Watershed Program works to build the organizational capacity and technical abilities of watershed efforts to achieve maximum watershed protection and restoration.

The Sierra Watersheds Program:

Provides Watershed Networking in the Sierra: The Alliance has a list-serv for the Sierra Watershed Community, a web directory, and provides online resources. The Alliance refers groups as needed to technical experts, government staff, academics, and consultants who can assist them.

Distributes Information: The Alliance issues an electronic monthly newsletter *Sierra Watershed Currents*. This provides updates to keep groups abreast of relevant issues, opportunities, trainings and events. The Alliance also passes on notices and alerts to our watershed network.

Offers Financial Support: The Alliance offers small grants and assists groups in applying for private foundation and government program grants.

Hosts Trainings: The Alliance's annual conference offers watershed specific workshops on topics such as: Assessments, Restoration, Capacity Building and Citizen Monitoring.

Consults and Facilitates: The Alliance provides consultation on strategy, tactics, and referrals to our network of watershed groups. We also offer facilitation of new groups, strategic planning and other developmental assistance.

Educates communities: The Alliance conducts presentations to communities who have no watershed groups about nonpoint source pollution control, watershed management and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Advocates for the region: The Alliance is a regional voice for the importance of Sierra watershed collaborative efforts. We release reports on the state of Sierra watersheds, conduct media campaigns, and advocate for the region.

For More Information Contact:

Sierra Nevada Alliance
PO Box 7989 • S Lake Tahoe • CA • 96158
p . 530.542.4546 • f . 530.542.4570
info@sierranevadaalliance.org, www.sierranevadaalliance.org

Sierra Nevada Watershed Community Directory

2008

Alpine Watershed Group

Contact: Chris Katopothis, Watershed Coordinator

Address: P.O. Box 296
Markeeville, CA 96120

Phone: 530-694-2327

Email: watershed@alpinecountyca.com

Web: http://www.alpinecountyca.gov/other_organizations/alpine_watershed_group

Watersheds: American, Carson, Mokelumne
Stanislaus, & Truckee

Sub-Region: East

County: Alpine

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI and streamwalk.

Description: The Alpine Watershed Group works to preserve and enhance the natural system functions of Alpine County's watersheds for future generations. The group works by inspiring participation to collaborate, educate and proactively implement projects that benefit and steward the county's watersheds. The group is comprised of diverse stakeholders including ranchers, business owners, interested citizens, the Washoe Tribe, government agencies and districts and conservation groups. The Alpine watershed group holds the annual Markleeville Creek Day - a creek restoration and education event for the entire community, and determines restoration projects for the future. The headwaters of five watersheds are located in Alpine county: Upper Carson, Upper Mokelumne, Upper Stanislaus, Upper Truckee, Upper Mokelumne, and Upper American (Silver Fork).

Accomplishments: Water Quality Monitoring Program, including Ambient, BMI, Streamwalk and the successful creation of The Markleeville Guard Station Project Plan.

Challenges: The creation of a secure financial platform for the Alpine Watershed Group and increasing the Alpine Watershed Group's outreach by bringing in more community stakeholders and volunteers.

American Basin Council of Watersheds

Contact: Gregg Bates, Coordinator

Address: PO Box 1311

Roseville, CA 95678

Phone: 916.771.2013

Fax: 916.773.6575

Email: dcc@surewest.net

Web: www.drycreekconservancy.org

Watershed: Sacramento

Sub-Region: Central

County: Placer, Sacramento & Sutter

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Watershed stakeholders meet in a voluntary and cooperative commitment to develop Coordinated Resource Management to improve resource management and maximize collaboration among landowners, land users, recreational users, government agencies and conservation groups. The American Basin Council of Watersheds works to protect and restore the watershed to enhance fish, wildlife, and other natural resources; to educate on the function and management of a healthy watershed; to promote projects that protect and enhance the fishery and riparian corridors; and to promote flood management to conserve built and natural resources. Stakeholders include the Adelante High School, California Conservation Corps, California Department of Fish and Game, California Native Plant Society-Sacramento Valley Chapter, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, City of Roseville, Granite Bay Flycasters, Dry Creek Conservancy, Placer County Board of Supervisors, Placer County Department of Environmental Health, Placer County Fish and Game Commission, Placer County Flood Control District, Placer County Resource Conservation District, Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District, Roseville Joint Union High School District, Sierra College, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Sacramento Urban Creeks Council, Sacramento Valley Open Space Conservancy, and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Accomplishments:

- We have a strong working group that has developed a number of cooperative grant proposals.
- Carried out public education activities such as Creek Week and the fall salmon spawning survey.

Challenges:

- To coordinate the many local jurisdictions to improve stormwater management beyond the requirements of the current stormwater permits.
- To find the resources to participate in the many management processes taking place in the American Basin Watersheds.

American Rivers

Contact: Steve Rothert,

Associate Director of Dam Programs

Address: 409 Spring Street

Nevada City, CA 95959

Phone: 530.478.5672

Fax: 530.478.5849

Email: srothert@americanrivers.org

Web: <http://www.americanrivers.org>

Watershed: United States

Sub-Region: United States

County: N/A

Type: Statewide or National Organization

Description: American Rivers is a national non-profit conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring healthy natural rivers and the variety of life they sustain for people, fish, and wildlife. Our field office in Nevada City, California, focuses on two campaigns: hydropower dam reform and dam removal.

American River Conservancy

Contact: Elena DeLacy, Conservation Project Coordinator
Address: P.O. Box 562 – 348 Highway 49
Coloma, CA 95613
Phone: 530.621.1224
Fax: 530.621.4818
Email: elena@arconservancy.org
Web: <http://www.arconservancy.org>

Watershed: American & Cosumnes
Sub-Region: Central
County: Western El Dorado & Placer
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Monitoring program: Ambient and BMI.

Description: Our mission: The American River Conservancy serves our community by protecting and enhancing natural habitats where biodiversity can flourish. Through education we promote a broad ethic of stewardship, assuring healthy ecosystems now and for future generations.

The American River Conservancy conducts conservation, education, and stewardship programs to protect and enhance native fisheries, vanishing plant and animal communities, scenic vistas, cultural heritage and recreational lands within the American and Cosumnes River watersheds, in the foothills of the central Sierra Nevada. We also provide quality nature programs to thousands of school age children each year. The Conservancy conducts monthly guided nature walks, seasonal volunteer training, natural history lectures, and educational programs many of which are offered free or at a low cost to the general public.

Accomplishments: 1) In 2008 we reached 10,081 acres protected since 1989; 2) In 2007-2008 we planted approximately 800 acorns in the upper American River watershed.

Challenges: 1) Securing funding for environmental education programs and stewardship projects; 2) Outreach to citizens interested in protecting and monitoring their watershed.

American River Watershed Group & Upper American River Foundation

Contact: William Templin, Watershed Coordinator
Address: PO Box 743
Carmichael, CA 95609
Phone: 916.601.9954
Email: wetemplin@att.net
Web: <http://arwg.net>

Watershed: American
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer & El Dorado
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The American River Watershed Group (ARWG) was founded in 1996 after a call for collaboration in resource management issues in the North and Middle Forks American River. ARWG interests are centered around five themes: 1) Safety of life, property and resources; 2) Healthy forests; 3) Abundant and high quality water; 4) Sustainable economics; & 5) Education. ARWG operates under a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that signatories voluntarily participate using a process of consensus around member issues. Committees are formed to shepherd work from the initial concept phase through implementation. Signatories organize themselves in pursuit of grants and other opportunities to advance ARWG interests. ARWG has been successful in knitting together the agency, business, education, non-profit and citizen communities.

Accomplishments: 1) Completion of a "Sediment Study for the North Fork American River Watershed" a GIS risk assessment for sediment sources with BMPs; 2) Completion of a "Concept Proposal" and a "Full Proposal" (as requested by the CALFED Watershed Program) for "Sediment Studies for the North Fork American River Watershed: Next Steps - Vegetation Management to Catastrophic Fires and related water quality degradation"

Challenges: 1) FERC Relicensing efforts for the Upper American River Project (SMUD) and the Middle Fork American River Project (PCWA); 2) Integrated Regional Water Management Planning: the CABY (Cosumnes, American, Bear & Yuba River Watersheds) IRWMP.

American River Watershed Institute (ARWI)

Contact: Otis Wollan, Board President
Address: PO Box 1750
Colfax, CA 95713
Phone: 530.346.7967
Email: otis@foothill.net

Watershed: North & Middle Fork American
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The American River Watershed Group is a consortium of governmental agencies, environmental groups, and interested individuals who are working towards integrated resource management to preserve the special characteristics of this magnificent resource. Goals include to sustain environmental and economic health within the American River Watershed and ensure public and firefighter safety. ARWI Mission Statement has been published as the Objectives and Purposes of our non-profit submittal: "The primary objectives and purposes of this corporation shall be: 1) to support and enhance the research and educational work of the American River Watershed Group in its coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) activities 2) to conduct public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures, workshops, design charrettes, and conferences to produce public interest educational materials, including, but not limited to, newsletters, pamphlets, books, radios, television, recorded audio and video, electronic media, etc. 3) to complement and enhance the educational and research opportunities for both adults and children about watershed issues, and as necessary to provide and maintain facilities for education and research in, but not limited to, the ecosystems of the American River Watershed, and its forest systems, biology, hydrology, natural systems, as well as the socio-economic human systems in the watershed, as well as the areas having impact on the American River Watershed."

Bear Creek Watershed Group

Contact: Lee Delaney, Watershed Coordinator
Address: Western Shasta RCD
6270 Parallel Rd Sierra
Anderson, CA 96007-4833
Phone: 530.365.7332 x 203
Fax: 530.365.7271
Email: lee@westernshastarc.org
Web: www.westernshastarc.org and <http://wim.westernshastarc.org>

Watershed: Sacramento
Sub-Region: Northern
County: Shasta
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Monitoring Program: Annual water quality monitoring

Description: Bear Creek is in the south central part of Shasta County and is in the Cascade - Sierra Nevada interface. Stakeholders include ranchers, residents, conservation groups, California Department of Fish & Game, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the local timber companies. The group/WSRCD has completed an assessment on all aspects of their watershed including anadromous fish, flora, fauna, water quality and quantity, geology, etc.

Bear Creek Watershed Group is not incorporated.

Accomplishments: (1) Bear Creek Watershed Assessment (2) Bear Creek Watershed Management Strategy (3) Fish weir study to determine salmonids use of Bear Creek.

Challenges: (1) Overdraft of ground water (2) Fuels reduction and management/wildland urban interface

Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance

Contact: Susan Mason, Watershed Coordinator

Address: PO Box 461
Chico, CA 95927

Phone: 530.892.2196

Fax: 530.894.1308

Email: coordinator@bigchicocreek.org

Web: www.bigchicocreek.org

Watershed: Sacramento

Sub-Region: North Central

County: Butte & Tehama

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI, streamwalk.

Description: The mission of the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance (BCCWA) is to protect and enhance the ecological integrity and economic vitality of the Big Chico Creek watershed through cooperative efforts. In partnership with landowners, interested citizens, government agencies and private enterprise, BCCWA works to foster education, understanding, sustainable land management, and ecosystem and water quality restoration and conservation. BCCWA focuses its work on three main programs: their Citizen Monitoring Program, their Dirt Road Rehabilitation program, and their Basin Management Objectives Education program.

Accomplishments: 1) Worked with the mountain community of Forest Ranch to develop a volunteer invasive broom removal program that resulted in the removal of more than 50,000 broom plants in its first eradication season; 2) Received funding to restore a 16-acre city-owned wetland on Lindo Channel and to do several bioengineered bank stabilization projects on Big Chico Creek.

Challenges: 1) Seeking funding to restore a Big Chico Creek fish ladder to allow upstream passage of spring-run Chinook salmon; 2) Working with stakeholders on several creeks to help find solutions for flooding problems.

California Hydropower Reform Coalition

Contact: Keith Nakatani, Director

Address: 436 14th St, Suite 801
Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510.251.0164

Fax: 510.251.8234

Email: knakatani@calhrc.org

Web: <http://www.calhrc.org/>

Watershed: California

Sub-Region: N/A

County: N/A

Type: Statewide or National Organization

Description:

1. *Protect and restore California's rivers:* restore self-sustaining populations of native species by restoring the functioning components of the ecosystem, including water quality, and natural flow regimes and aquatic and riparian habitat. It is also important to maintain public access for the responsible, sustainable enjoyment of these public resources.
2. *Manage natural resources in accord with sound science:* Sound science helps identify the necessary components of a healthy ecosystem and specific restoration actions to protect and restore ecological integrity. Relicensing and other hydropower policy processes should achieve environmental benefits in a cost-effective manner.
3. *Build partnerships and alliances:-* Strive for consensus amongst the diverse constituency of river advocates, and work with resource agencies, licensees, and others.
4. *Manage natural resources in the public interest:* California's rivers belong to its people and should be managed to provide benefits to anglers, boaters, hikers, and others.

California Save our Streams

Contact: Lloyd Carter, President
Address: 2863 Everglade Ave.
Clovis, CA 93619
Phone: (559) 304-5412
Email: lcarter0i@comcast.net
Website: lloydgcarter.com

Watershed: San Joaquin

Type: Statewide Organization

Description: Support efforts to restore fishery flows to the dewatered portion of the San Joaquin River and halt degradation of the lower river by agricultural, industrial and municipal waste water discharges.

Accomplishments: Recent Op-ed articles in Fresno Bee and Sacramento pointing out the irrational and error-ridden management of the state's aquatic resources by the State Water Board. Regular letters to the editor in the Fresno Bee and other publications.

Challenges: Primary goal to restore a living San Joaquin River with year around flows. Second goal to halt abuse of lower river as a putative sewer line for Ag, municipal and industrial waste waters

California Trout-Eastern Sierra Program

Contact: Mark Drew, Eastern Sierra Program Manager
Address: Mailing: PO Box 28
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Physical: 3399 Main St. Suite W5
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Phone: (760) 924 1008
Email: mdrew@caltrout.org
Website: caltrout.org

Watersheds: Owens, Walker, Mono Basin
Sub-Region: East
County: Inyo, Mono, Tulare
Type: Sierra Based Conservation Group

Water Monitoring Program: Eastern Sierra Water Watchers-Community volunteer water quality monitoring of Mammoth Creek (ambient, BMI, and Stream walk surveys)

Description: Working collaboratively and through building of partnerships, caltrout is focused on protecting wild and native trout and the habitats they depend on throughout the Eastern Sierra.

Accomplishments: (1) Launching of an Eastern Sierra/Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Planning project (2) Established Native and Wild Trout Internship for the Eastern Sierra Program targeting the conservation of native trout in the South Sierra Nevada.

Challenges: (1) to build out the Eastern Sierra Program to become a more effective partner in the conservation of natural resources in the Eastern (2) to ensure resource management and policy decisions are based on sound science and an understanding of the livelihoods that are impacted by such actions.

California Watershed Network (CWN)

Contact: Mike Wellborn, Director
Address: 9840 La Amapola, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
Phone: 714.932.8689
Email: michael@watershednetwork.org
Web: <http://www.watershednetwork.org/>

Watershed: California
Sub-Region: California
County: N/A
Type: Statewide or National Organization

Description: California Watershed Network (CWN) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 2000, with the mission to help people protect and restore the natural environments of California's watersheds while ensuring healthy and sustainable communities. CWN works to develop a coordinated network of community-based watershed management in California. CWN is run by a dedicated, volunteer Board of Directors. The primary goals of CWN include working to:

- enhance involvement in watershed management at the local, regional and State levels
- improve the effectiveness of watershed groups by collaborative communications, shared learning, and public policy
- enhance coordination between government agencies, public stakeholders and local watershed groups in developing watershed initiatives and programs at the State level
- promote the use of science for water and watershed management
- promote conservation education

CWN's volunteer Board of Directors has been working hard for local watershed groups and enhancing watershed stewardship activities in California.

Carson River Coalition (CRC)

Contact: Genie Azad, Watershed Coordinator
Address: 777 E. Williams Street, Suite 110A
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775.887.9005
Fax: 775.887.7457
Email: genie@cwsd.org
Web: www.cwsd.org

Watershed: Carson
Sub-Region: East
Counties: Alpine, Douglas
Carson City, Lyon, & Churchill, NV
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: In 1998, the Carson Water Subconservancy District began serving as coordinator for the integrated watershed planning process involving stakeholders within the Carson River Watershed. The Carson River Coalition or CRC is the steering committee for this process. Participants in the CRC include private individuals; local, state and federal agencies; and citizen-driven groups. The goal of watershed process is to establish a program for the long-term management of the resources of the Watershed that addresses the diverse needs and concerns of all stakeholders. The most notable accomplishment of the CRC is the development of eleven "Guiding Principles" that have been adopted by all five counties within the watershed plus approximately 20 agencies and organizations. The guiding principles are the backbone of the watershed management plan that is being developed. The group meets on a bi-monthly basis to discuss current issues and provide information on watershed programs and activities. These meetings are open to the public.

Accomplishments: (1) Regional Floodplain Management Plan for the Carson River Watershed that will be adopted by all five counties along the Carson River this month. CRC is the steering committee, Carson Water Subconservancy District is the lead. (2) Environmental Education Program – CRC works with all the schools in the 5-county Carson Basin to provide hands-on watershed learning experiences with the River Wranglers program and Carson River work days. (3) Stewardship Plan – to guide the integrated watershed planning process and track river restoration projects. Meets the EPA 319 program criteria for watershed plans.

Carson Water Subconservancy District

Contact: Genie Azad, Watershed Coordinator
Address: 777 E. William Street, Suite 110A
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775-887-9005
Fax: 775-887-7457
Email: genie@cwsd.org
Web: www.cwsd.org

Watershed: Carson
Sub-Region: East
Counties: Alpine, Douglas, Carson City, Lyon, Churchhill
Type: Agency

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient

Description: The Carson Water Subconservancy District, or CWSD, is a unique multi-county, bi-state agency dedicated to establishing a balance between the needs of the communities within the Carson River Watershed and the function of the river system. Our thirteen member Board of Directors consists of representatives from each of the five counties within the watershed plus two representatives from the agricultural community. Granted no regulatory authority of its own, the CWSD's mission is to work within existing governmental frameworks to promote cooperative action for the watershed that crosses both agency and political boundaries. The CWSD strives to involve all counties and communities within the watershed in the efforts to preserve the rich history and unique resources of the Carson River Watershed.

Accomplishments: Completion of Carson River Watershed Stewardship Plan and the AB380 Water Rights Program.

Challenges: Floodplain Protection and Management and regional water supply.

Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development

Contact: Valerie Kleinfelter, Chairperson
Address: 235 New York Ranch Rd. #D
Jackson, CA 95624
Phone: (209)257-1851
Fax: (209)257-0910
Email: vkleinfelter@csrncd.org
Web: www.csrncd.org

Watershed: Cosumnes, Carson, Mokelumne, Mono Basin, Tuolumne, Walker, Stanislaus
Sub-Region: East & South Central
County: Almador, Alpine, Calaveras, Mono, Tuolumne
Type: Multi-stakeholder collaborative group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Mokelumne and Dry Creek with expansion into Calaveras and Walker watersheds.

Description: The CSRC&D is a non-profit organization established in 1998 to provide economic and natural resource aid to the people of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, northern Mono, and Tuolumne counties. It engages in activities that support economic development, enhances the standard of living, and increases conservation of natural resources. This year's successes include creating a Markleeville Creek Guard station Plan, completing an Upper Mokelumne Assessment, and establishing the Amador Dry Creek Watershed Council.

Accomplishments: (1) Completion of the three year Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Staffing Grant and the three year Amador Dry Creek Watershed Assessment Grants. (2) Establishing the Stewardship Through Education LLC and the watershed education program, Youth Watershed Stewardship. (3) Establishing a multi watershed volunteer water Quality Monitoring program.

Challenges: (1) Introducing Proper Functioning and Condition assessment on privately owned watersheds; (2) Maintaining a volunteer WQM Program; (3) Maintaining Coordinator staff funding.

Central Sierra Watershed Committee

Contact: Jeannie Habben, Facilitator/Coordinator

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Coarsegold, CA 93614

Phone: 559-642-3263

Fax: 559-658-7170

Email: info@cfwatershed.org

Web: <http://www.crcd.org/wtrshed.html>

Watersheds: Upper Merced, Upper San Joaquin,
Upper Fresno, & Upper Chowchilla

Sub-Region: South & South Central

Counties: Mariposa, Fresno, & Madera

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Central Sierra Watershed Committee (CSWC) began in 1997 to develop a cooperative effort to improve and protect our area's watersheds and other resources. The CSWC has developed common ground solutions/agreements for improving watershed and local habitat. Through the monthly public forums the CSWC members have learned to air their differences while working together to provide solutions to watershed issues. The CSWC provides a non-political/ad hoc venue for all the participating members to resolve problems; share knowledge; provide innovative solutions with each other; and learn that positive communication is the key to everyone's success. The CSWC is the key to a long-term watershed effort for three counties, involving more than 60 public, tribal, and private representatives participating in a consensus building effort. Committee management includes a facilitator, ground rules, code of ethics, and is solution oriented. The CSWC success has been rooted in its ability to bring all those involved in watershed issues to the table and focus on capacity building, while the members/partners focus on the implementation of projects, the education of the communities in the watersheds, and the distribution of information. The mission of the Central Sierra Watershed Committee is to promote the quality, quantity, and aesthetic values of our water resources through the conservation and restoration of our watersheds.

Accomplishments: The Central Sierra Watershed Committee completed the informational brochure "Sierra Smart; Information for the Private Well Owners Living in California's Fractured Hard Rock Groundwater Areas" and printed 24,000 for distribution in the Sierra Foothills (Mariposa and Eastern Madera Counties). They have also completed a property owner's brochure to assist in living in the foothills and mailed them out to all property owners in two counties. They have recently become the Technical Advisory Committee for two major Watershed Assessments in the area.

Challenges: One of the greatest challenges is covering such a large geographic area and being the Technical Advisory Committee for more than one major project. It is quite a juggling act to make sure that all projects and all organizations get enough time to report and get advice.

Cherokee Watershed Alliance

Contact: Susan St Germaine, Coordinator

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Durham, CA 95938

Phone: 530.893.9039

Fax: 530.893.5903

Email: susansgm@comcast.net

Watershed: Cherokee

Sub-Region: North Central

County: Butte

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The Cherokee Watershed Alliance is a collaborative, non-regulatory effort that involves the active participation of various social, economic, and environmental interests, both private and public, working together to achieve the enhancement of water quality and aquatic habitat in the Cherokee Watershed. The mission of the Cherokee Watershed Alliance is to foster partnerships that will contribute to the integrated long-term cultural, economic, and environmental health of the watershed through active community participation. The Cherokee Watershed is a place of natural beauty with rangeland, forest, mining, agricultural productivity, and environmental integrity whose stakeholders strive to integrate cultural, economic, and environmental health. Citizens, businesses, organizations, landowners, and government will collaborate to make informed, responsible decisions that will enhance and conserve the cultural, economic, and environmental qualities of the watershed for present and future generations.

Chowchilla Red Top Resource Conservation District

Contact: Norman Kuhr, President & Jack Fry, Vice President
Address: 11791 Avenue 22, Chowchilla, CA 93610-8311
Phone: 559.665.9645

Watershed: San Joaquin
Sub-Region: South
County: Madera
Type: Agency

Description: The mission of the Chowchilla Red Top RCD is to provide education and technical guidance in sustainable resource conservation and management to our communities and landowners and managers both current and future. Watershed Coordinator Program strives for a comprehensive watershed approach to improve on the fragmented approach that has been used in the past. For example, they provide outreach workshops to dairies, farmers and ranchers in the county and watershed.

Chowchilla/ Fresno Rivers Watershed Stakeholders Group

Contact: Jeannie Habben, Watershed Coordinator
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Coarsegold, CA 93614
Phone: 559.642.3263
Fax: 559.658.7170
Email: info@cfwatershed.org
Web: www.cfwatershed.org

Watershed: San Joaquin
Sub-Region: South
County: Madera
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Chowchilla/Fresno Watershed Goals and Objectives:

- Support and promote the integration among watershed efforts with the coordination of stakeholders working together through community involvement and providing public education regarding watershed issues.
- Support and promote grants and program applications that achieve our goal for sustainable watershed health and the continuance of Watershed Council Coordinator.
- Provide expertise, advice, educational information and present opportunities to landowners, government agencies and the general public.

Objectives:

- Establish the Chowchilla and Fresno River Watershed Council to facilitate and improve coordination of stakeholders; provide collaboration and assistance among government agencies, local watershed groups and organizations.
- Implement a strategy that will ensure long-term sustainability of local watershed activities supporting ecosystem restoration; water quality; water use efficiency and watershed management while integrating the Watershed Program and other CALFED program elements.
- To support education and stakeholder outreach. Improve water management by working with local communities at a watershed level. Emphasize local participation and government cooperation at all levels.

Clavey Watershed Council

Contact: Rebecca Cremeen,
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Sonora, CA 95370-8655
Phone: 209. 588 . 8636
Fax: 209.
Email: rebecca@tuolumne.org
Web: www.claveyriver.net

Watershed: Tuolumne
Sub-Region: South Central
County: Tuolumne
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The Clavey Watershed Council (CWC) was formed to develop a Master Plan for the Clavey River Watershed based on the results of the Clavey River Watershed Assessment completed in March, 2008. The Watershed Assessment provides an expanded scientific foundation for management decisions in the watershed. The Council is comprised of a collection of stakeholders collaboratively guiding the planning process with the assistance of the Tuolumne River Trust, input from community members and technical experts. The Master Plan will improve watershed management capacity by rigorously evaluating stewardship projects for future implementation feasibility.

Accomplishments: Establishment of the Watershed Council in May, 2008. Identification of "pilot projects" such as trail improvements, outreach and interpretative signage within the watershed.

Challenges: Prioritization of and feasibility analysis of potential projects identified in the Watershed Assessment.

Clear Creek Watershed Council

Contact: Margie Evans, Watershed Coordinator
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Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775-887-7450
Email: www.clearcreekwcblogspot.com

Watershed: Carson
Sub-Region: Central
County: Carson City, Douglas
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water quality monitoring program: The Council does photo monitoring as volunteers are available and conditions warrant.

Description: The Clear Creek Watershed Council's mission is to protect, conserve, and restore the unique and valuable resource of Clear Creek and its watershed through collaboration, education, planning, and project implementation. The Clear Creek Watershed Council is comprised of landowners, concerned citizens, politicians, and natural resource managing agencies that share a common interest and responsibility to address the issues regarding the quality and health of the Clear Creek watershed. The Council's goals will be attained by means of identifying and assessing potential issues of importance in the watershed, enhancing relationships between agencies and stakeholders, educating the members of the council and the community, and coordinating efforts or activities that have and impact on the watershed. Through collaboration, education, planning, and project implementation the goals of the Clear Creek Watershed Council may be achieved and the primarily natural, ecologically functioning watershed that Clear Creek is today will be protected, conserved, and restored for tomorrow.

Accomplishments: Establishment of a quarterly newsletter to watershed residents and a two-year grant to increase educational outreach and Clear Creek Watershed Council visibility. Established as a presence in watershed education outreach.

Challenges: Stormwater runoff from Highway 50 and construction in the watershed.

Dry Creek Conservancy

Contact: Gregg Bates, Executive Director
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Email: dcc@surewest.net
Web: www.drycreekconservancy.org

Watershed: lower Sacramento
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer, Sacramento & Sutter
Type: Sierra based conservation group

Description:

The mission of Dry Creek Conservancy is to:

- Facilitate watershed conservation, restoration, and education within the American Basin located in the counties of Placer, Sutter, and Sacramento and surrounding areas, and including the Dry Creek, Pleasant Grove, Auburn Ravine, and Coon Creek watersheds.
- To preserve, protect, and restore the resources of the 100-square-mile Dry Creek Watershed and to promote a continuous trail and open space greenway connecting with the American River Parkway at Discovery Park and Folsom Lake, forming a 70-mile loop.

Accomplishments:

- Completed the Steelhead Creek Drinking Water Quality Study and Watershed Assessment. This project assesses the impact of Steelhead Creek on Sacramento River water quality, and relates the impact of Dry Creek Watershed, a major tributary of Steelhead Creek experiencing rapid growth, on Steelhead Creek flows and water quality.
- Completed the Preliminary Report on Dry Creek Benthic Macroinvertebrate Data 2000 to 2006. The purpose of the program was to assess Dry Creek stream and watershed condition.

Challenges:

- Watershed development continues to increase stormwater runoff that degrades stream quality.
- Most major funding has ended and it's difficult to maintain programs that have been ongoing.

Ebbetts Pass Rivers and Trails Alliance

Contact: Ron Szymanski
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Arnold, CA 95223
Phone: 209-795-8260
Fax: 209.795.2672
Email: info@epfw.net
Web: <http://www.epfw.org/>

Watershed: Stanislaus & Mokelumne
Sub-Region: South Central
County: Calaveras
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Ebbetts Pass Rivers and Trails Alliance focuses on education, outreach, and advocacy primarily on the local scale.

El Dorado County/Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

Contact: Mark Egbert, District Manager

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Placerville, CA 95667

Phone: 530-295-5630

Email: Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov

Web: www.eldoradorcd.org, www.georgetowndividercd.org

Watershed: American & Consumnes

Sub-Region: Central

County: El Dorado

Type: Agency

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Citizen Monitoring (<http://www.watershedsummit.org>): Ambient, BMI, Steamwalk, Discharges from Irrigated Agricultural Lands

Description: The El Dorado County/Georgetown RCD promotes the responsible stewardship our natural resources.

Accomplishments: 1) Community Wildfire Protection; 2) Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands Program; 3) Fish Friendly Farming Certification Program; 4) Livestock & Land Program Development; 5) Regional Fire and Resource Assessment Model; 6) South Fork American River Stewardship Strategy; 7) CABY IRWMP & South Fork American River Watershed Management Plan Collaboration; 8) Storm Water and Pollution Prevention; 9) Conservation Planning and Technical Assistance on Private Lands.

Challenges: 1) Community Wildfire Protection; 2) Finnon Lake Dam Restoration; 3) Land use issues in the area

Feather River Conservation Resource Management (CRM)

Contact: Gia Martynn, Watershed Coordinator & Jim Wilcox

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Quincy, CA 95971

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Email: gia@plumascounty.org, jim@plumascounty.org

Web: www.feather-river-crm.org

Watershed: Feather & Truckee

Sub-Region: North Central

County: Plumas, Lassen & Sierra

Type: Coordinated Resource Management & Planning

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient including 12 continuous recording flow and temperature stations. Begun in 1999.

Description: The Feather Coordinated Resource Management (FRCRM) group is a partnership of public and private sector groups who formed in 1985 to collectively improve watershed health in the upper Feather River Watershed. To address cumulative watershed effects on water quality, desertification, and reduced biodiversity on public and private lands using education, innovative restoration technology, and demonstration projects to encourage cooperation and participation, rather than regulation.

Accomplishments: Four on-the-ground restoration projects were completed in 2007, that reconnected 7.39 miles of channel with 890 acres of floodplain. Two projects have already been completed in 2008. These projects have stabilized .76 miles of stream bank in the Spanish Creek Watershed. Two more projects are currently being constructed, and by November 2008 a total of 3.3 miles and 168 acres will have been restored.

Challenges: Keeping up with the workload, and meeting ever increasing funding and agency mandates.

Foothill Conservancy

Contact: Chris Wright
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Pine Grove, CA 95665-1255
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Email: fhc@foothillconservancy.org
Web: www.foothillconservancy.org

Watershed: Mokelumne, Calaveras, Cosumnes
& Stanislaus
Sub-Region: South Central
County: Amador & Calaveras
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: This community-based organization is actively involved in issues affecting the quality of life and natural environment in Amador and Calaveras counties, including: land use planning, restoration and protection of the Mokelumne River, hydroelectric project operation and re-licensing, sustainable economic development and community building, mining, forests, watershed restoration, and North Fork Mokelumne Wild and Scenic status. We publish a periodic newsletter, Foothill Focus, an e-mail news service for members, and hold occasional informational public meetings and special events, including an annual Mokelumne River cleanup.

Accomplishments: Amador and Calaveras County are updating their General Plan, and the Foothill Conservancy is very heavily involved with both of those processes. They are helping to sponsor a region wide smart growth conference in mid Sept, 2007 in Tuolumne City. The Conservancy will be video taping the conference so it will be available to purchase (DVD).

Foothills Water Network

Contact: Julie Leimbach
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Web: www.foothillswaternetwork.org

Watershed: Yuba & Bear
Sub-Region: Central
Counties: El Dorado, Placer & Nevada
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Foothills Water Network provides a forum that increases the effectiveness of conservation organizations to achieve river and watershed restoration and protection benefits for the Yuba, Bear, and American. This includes negotiations at the county, state, and federal levels, with an immediate focus on the simultaneous FERC relicensings taking place from 2007-2013. To an extraordinary degree, the waters of the Yuba, Bear, and American watersheds mix from headwaters through tunnels and canals between basins. Therefore, for the conservation community to succeed in restoring degraded resources in the Yuba, Bear and American watersheds through the hydropower relicensing process, representatives of private and public entities, watershed groups, and advocacy groups must engage in a coordinated discussion. Accordingly, specific objectives of the Foothills Water Network include: 1) Facilitating a dialogue on cross-basin issues and strategies to enhance overall watershed balance; 2) Working towards a common "vision" for overall watershed health across the basins; 3) Analyzing the Yuba, Bear, and American (NF and MF) as the "problemshed" in order to explore constructive interbasin solutions; 4) Conducting public outreach to raise awareness of water supply issues and the unique opportunities in the three interlinked watersheds.

Accomplishments: The Foothills Water Network has successfully united the voices of the conservation groups working on the Yuba-Bear, Drum-Spaulding, and Middle Fork American Relicensings. We continue to work closely with the Resources Agencies and licensees to find solutions to enhance watershed health and recreational opportunities through re-operation of hydropower facilities.

Friends of Butte Creek

Contact: Allen Harthorn
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Chico, CA 95928
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Email: allen@buttecreek.org
Web: www.buttecreek.org

Watershed: Butte
Sub-Region: n/a
County: Butte, Glenn, Sutter
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Friends of Butte Creek work to protect, restore and enhance the natural habitats of wildlife in the Butte Creek Watershed.

Accomplishments: Increased spawning flows for salmon and received consideration by PGE for ladders and screens on their project dams.

Challenges: Increased flow for salmon and completion of other mitigation for the DeSabra Centerville Hydroelectric Project

Friends of Deer Creek (FODC)

Contact: Joanne Hild
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Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530 265-1929
Email: Joanne@friendsofdeercreek.org
Web: www.friendsofdeercreek.org

Watershed: Yuba
Sub-Region: Central
County: Nevada
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI, nutrients, bacteria.

Description: To further community understanding and stewardship of the Deer Creek watershed ecosystem through research, planning and education. Friends of Deer Creek was incorporated in September of 1999 by a small group of local citizens, out of a desire to protect this small creek nestled in the Sierra foothills. The group obtained Prop 204 funding early in 2000 to do baseline water quality monitoring, restore a segment of channelized creek, do storm water studies in Nevada City, and assist the local stakeholders in developing a Coordinated Resource Management Plan for the watershed.

Accomplishments: 1) Obtaining enough data through a watershed assessment (that also included sediment, stormwater, and BMI data) to establish the bases for 303(d) listing for mercury pollution in the Deer creek watershed; 2) FoDC published BMI identification manual, "The Bug Book," for the Sierra Nevada foothills streams; 3) Conducted restoration programs educating about invasive species and coordinating over 200 volunteers to remove invasives and replace them with natives.

Challenges: 1) Building the Tribute Trail, a five mile trail along Deer Creek with evasive plant removal and native replanting and a 5 acre wetlands restoration. 2) Assessing heavy metal contamination at five gold era mining sites on public lands in Nevada City and developing a remediation plan at any site showing sufficient contamination; 3) Communicating our goals to land users in a way that maintains good standing relationships and helps improve the ecological integrity of the Deer Creek Watershed.

Friends of the Inyo

Contact: Paul McFarland, Executive Director
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Bishop, CA 93514
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Watershed: Mono & Owens
Sub-Region: East
County: Mono & Inyo
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI, & streamwalk.

Description: Friends of the Inyo's general mission statement is to preserve the public lands and wildlife of the Eastern Sierra. Our watershed work ties into our mission by looking at the land uses on our public lands and how they are effecting water quality. We have linked our monitoring sites with areas where we have completed restoration, are currently involved in an active restoration project, or there is the potential for restoration.

Accomplishments: Successfully started the citizen-based water quality monitoring program with a great group of volunteers and completed several restoration projects near the water quality monitoring sites including a large fence exclusion, campsite delineation, and road restoration.

Challenges: Learning all the different aspects and protocol that are involved in watershed monitoring as this is a new area of work for Friends of the Inyo and communicating with stakeholders and experts about the importance of citizen-based monitoring.

Friends of the River

Contact: Steve Evans,
Conservation Director
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Sacramento, CA 95814
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Fax: 916.442.3396
Email: sevans@friendsoftheriver.org
Web: <http://www.friendsoftheriver.org>

Watershed: California
Sub-Region: California
County: N/A
Type: Statewide Organization

Description: Friends of the River was founded in 1973 during the struggle to save the Stanislaus River from New Melones Dam. Following that campaign, the organization grew to become California's statewide river conservation group. Friends of the River is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and restoring California's rivers, streams, and watersheds. The organization accomplishes its mission by providing public education, citizen activist training and organizing, and expert advocacy to influence public policy decisions on land, water, and energy management issues. Friends of the River played an instrumental role in the protection of the Tuolumne, Kern, Kings, Merced, East Carson, West Walker, and South Yuba Rivers as Wild & Scenic Rivers. In addition, Friends of the River was the lead organization in the decade-long campaign to defeat the destructive and costly proposed Auburn Dam on the American River.

Accomplishments: (1) Encouraged Rep. Buck McKeon and Senator Barbara Boxer to introduce federal legislation in 2008 to protect the upper Owens River in the Eastern Sierra as a Wild & Scenic River. (2) Successfully lobbied for the decision, funding, and implementation of the project to restore the North Fork American River, where it flows through the former Auburn Dam site. (3) Negotiated and signed settlement agreements with utilities to restore river flows for fish, wildlife, and recreation as part of the federal relicensing of hydroelectric projects on the American, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Kern, and Feather Rivers.

Challenges: Becoming known to the public for our good work at the local level in the Sierra Nevada.

Friends of the South Fork Kings

Contact: Bill Templin, Coordinator
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Carmichael, CA 95609-0743
Phone: 916.601.9954
Email: wetemplin@att.net
Web: <http://sfkingsriver.org/>

Watershed: Kings
Sub-Region: South
County: Fresno
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Periodic checks & photo monitoring

Description: We are a non-profit association with a mission to conserve and preserve the natural resources in the South Fork Kings River watershed. To carry out this mission we are increasing awareness and sharing knowledge about changes that are taking place in the South Fork Kings watershed. Some of these changes are natural and some are caused by human activity. Our objectives include ensuring that future generations will continue to be able to enjoy the experiences that we have enjoyed during our lifetimes in this area. Our approach includes working with existing resource-management agencies to increase the level of appreciation for the resources in this area. Where existing knowledge is limited we will find ways to enhance information and increase awareness of changes taking place in this watershed. There are several issues that we are focusing on: 1) **Plans** for development & management in the Cedar Grove area; 2) **Fire** related effects on water quality; 3) **Fisheries** and the impacts that they receive from existing natural and human uses of water and land resources; 4) **Monitoring** for sources of nutrients that may be degrading high-quality water in the Kings River; and 5) **Awareness** on the part of visitors and those working in the area about these various issues and their potential impact on this watershed

Accomplishments: 1) Annual River Clean Up events, often in the spring and the fall; 2) Maintaining an active website to exchange information and provide a communication network

Challenges: 1) Building Capacity for this watershed when the access is closed to the public for half of the year; 2) Funding Watershed Coordination

Friends of Squaw Creek

Contact: Ed Heneveld, Chairman
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Olympic Valley, CA 96146
Phone: 530.583.1817
Fax: 530.583.1557
Email: doiced@att.net

Watershed: Truckee
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The Friends of Squaw Creek (FoSC) seek to provide a forum for facilitating and coordinating efforts to promote a naturally sustainable environment for the Squaw Creek Watershed through education, communication, science, and community involvement. We recognize that Squaw Valley is a world class summer and winter resort and recreation area. We are a forum seeking to help maintain a balance between the economic interests of the community and the environmental concerns, with the goal of maintaining sustainable growth while continuing to protect the mountain community environment. Goals include promoting Squaw Creek's ecological system to perform its natural, physical, and biological function considering its uses and constraints, recognizing the efforts of participants in fulfilling the goals of the FoSC, becoming the community source for integrating communication and education between landowners, residents, businesses and the governmental agencies involved in the Squaw Valley community, and providing a forum for information and discussion. We function in a sustainable and practical manner while advancing communications within the community; improving fish and wildlife habitat within the natural cycle of the watershed with the cooperation of the private property owners, responsible citizens, and concerned agencies and educating all parties by providing access to experts and materials that might otherwise be unavailable or unknown.

Accomplishments: FoSC coordinated with Placer County on an extensive grant-based study of the watershed, with a focus on restoration opportunities for the meadow reach of Squaw Creek. FoSC was awarded a Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant to continue this creek restoration planning and implementation by hosting forums which seek community consensus on restoration goals and by engaging technical groups to find optimal stream enhancement opportunities. FoSC successfully has pulled over 1000 pounds of tall whitetop, an invasive weed, that is threatening to take over the SV meadow. FoSC is currently in the process of organizing into a non-profit 501(c)3 to improve our effectiveness as an organization.

Challenges: Finding additional grants which will ultimately implement the optimal plan of creek restoration. Work with all stakeholders to balance economic and environmental concerns of our community.

Lassen Land & Trails Trust

Contact: Nancy Nordenstern, Executive Director
Address: PO Box 1461
Susanville, CA. 96130
Phone: 530.257.3252
Email: lltt@psln.com
Web: <http://www.psln.com/lltt/>

Watershed: Honey Lake
Sub-Region: North
County: Lassen
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: Lassen Land & Trails Trust's mission is "the preservation and restoration of land and improvements for historical, educational, recreational, productive, scenic and open opportunities within Lassen County, California." The group is also very active in their watershed. In partnership with Lassen High School and the City of Susanville, LL&TT helped develop a parkway along the Susan River, restoring the riverbank, constructing new trails and building a fishing platform for disabled persons. In cooperation with the City of Susanville, Lassen County and the Susanville Consolidated Sanitary District, LL&TT helped create the greenway that connects Susanville Ranch to Parkdale via a trail along Piute Creek. Future plans include restoration, flood management and land acquisitions along the creek.

League to Save Lake Tahoe (Upper Truckee River Watershed Stewardship Group)

Contact: Raina Patrocinio
Address: 955 Emerald Bay Rd
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone: 530.541.5388
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Email: info@keptahoeblue.org
Web: <http://www.keptahoeblue.org/>

Watershed: Truckee
Sub-Region: Central
County: El Dorado, Placer, Douglas, & Washoe
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Quality Monitoring: Assists with South Tahoe Monitoring Project. Ambient, streamwalk

Description: The League to Save Lake Tahoe is the leading environmental organization advocating for the protection and restoration of Lake Tahoe. We are a private not-for-profit membership organization composed of more than 5,000 individuals and families from around the United States and beyond. Since 1957, the League has worked to protect the public interest in the conservation of this extraordinary natural resource. To educate Tahoe Basin residents and visitors about the importance of a healthy Upper Truckee River to Lake Tahoe, fostering greater public engagement in efforts to protect and restore the watershed.

The Upper Truckee River Watershed Stewardship Group works to educate the public about the importance of watershed health/restoration, with a particular focus on projects under consideration within the watershed. Outreach focuses on residents of the watershed, outdoor enthusiasts, teachers and students, environmental advocates, and local businesses.

Quarterly watershed Forums, seasonal “Walk and Talk” tours, and “Film Series” evenings provide an opportunity for the public and agency staff to discuss watershed issues, projects, and visions for the future. Agencies with a stake in the watershed are encouraged to participate by distributing information about current projects and reports, create and present visual aids, and respond to related inquiries.

Accomplishments: (1) Conducted tours of completed and proposed restoration projects along the Upper Truckee River and (2) Hosted a spring Watershed Forum where members of the public and agency staff gathered to discuss projects and activities within the Upper Truckee River Watershed.

Challenges: (1) Attracting attendance to events that are focused on less contentious watershed issues. (2) Engaging the public during winter months when outdoor activities are not feasible.

Little Chico Creek Watershed Group

Contact Information: Jean Hubbell, Co-founder

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Chico, CA 95927-9229

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Email: jhubbell@csuchico.edu

Web: www.buttecounty.net/waterandresource/watershed_groups.htm

Watershed: Upper Sacramento

Sub-Region: North Central

County: Butte & Glenn

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Little Chico Creek Watershed Group’s (LCCWG) mission is to preserve, protect, restore and enhance the ecological integrity and economic vitality of the Little Chico Creek Watershed through the cooperative effort of private citizens and public agencies. We are a group of interested landowners, agency representatives and concerned citizens dedicated to the LCCWG mission. We pursue this mission by developing projects and studies that support it. A limited Existing Conditions Report with a stream survey, a fish survey, water quality data review and monitoring, land use and management plans review was completed in December 2002. A Steering Committee was formed in fall 1998 and meets approximately twice per year. The meetings are open to the public.

Millerton Area Watershed Coalition

Contact: Steve Haze, Program Coordinator

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Prather, CA 93651

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Watershed: San Joaquin

Sub-Region: South

County: Fresno & Madera

Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Since July 2002, the Millerton Area Watershed Coalition has been led by a Steering Committee representing landowners, residents and other stakeholders in the Millerton area of eastern Madera and Fresno counties. The group is operating under a grant from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The group is focused on the Millerton area watershed around the San Joaquin River in the foothills east of Fresno. The watershed encompasses the San Joaquin River drainage from Friant Dam for 26 miles up to Kerckhoff Dam.

Mono County Watershed Group

Contact: Greg Newbry, Senior Planner
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Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
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Fax: 760.924.1801
Email: gnewbry@msn.com

Watershed: Walker, Mono Basin, & Owens
Sub-Region: East
County: Mono
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: Mono County worked with the county Collaborative Planning Team (CPT) successfully and received two Prop 13 grants enabling an effort towards the creation of watershed management plans. The CPT is an active body representing most of the state, federal and local agencies in Mono County. The purposes of the grants are to develop watershed management plans for three of the principal watersheds of Mono County: Upper Owens River Basin, Mono Basin and the West Walker basin. For each basin, the watershed management plans will be developed with input from a watershed council of landowners, agencies, and other local stakeholders, and will be based on an assessment of watershed conditions.

Mono Lake Committee

Contact: Geoff McQuilkin, Executive Director
Address: P.O. Box 29
Lee Vining, CA 93541
Phone: 760.647.6595
Fax: 760.647.6377
Email: info@monolake.org
Web: www.monolake.org

Watershed: Mono
Sub-Region: East
County: Mono
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Mono Lake Committee is a non-profit citizen's group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Mono Basin Ecosystem; educating the public about Mono Lake and the impacts on the environment of excessive water use; and promoting cooperative solutions that protect Mono Lake and meet real water needs without transferring environmental problems to other areas. Since 1978, the Mono Lake Committee has fought to protect Mono Lake from excessive water diversions to Los Angeles. Through litigation, legislation, cooperation, and most importantly, public support, our efforts have been successful so far. However, the fight to protect and restore Mono Lake is far from over. Much work remains to restore desiccated waterfowl habitat and riparian vegetation, educate the public, promote water conservation, and maintain Mono Lake's protected status in state and federal political arenas.

Nevada County Resource Conservation District

Contact: Lisa Osterholm,
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Grass Valley, CA 95945
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Email: lesa.osterholm@ca.nacdn.net
Web: www.ncrcd.org

Watershed: Bear & Yuba
Sub-Region: Central
Counties: Nevada, Sierra
Type: Agency

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient.

Description: The Nevada County Resource Conservation District (NCRC) strives to educate and assist landowners and land managers with establishing a balance between a high quality rural environment, a biologically diverse landscape, and a healthy economy for the community. One of the main components of the NCRC is the Bear River Watershed Group. The members of the Bear River Watershed Group meet quarterly to discuss watershed health concerns, ongoing water quality monitoring and watershed projects, grant opportunities, and future projects intended to improve land management practices and watershed health. In addition, we often have fantastic presentations given by regional experts.

Oakhurst River Parkway Partnership

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Oakhurst, CA 93644
Phone: 559.683.7027
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Email: sandyb@stcg.net
Website: www.orptrails.org

Watershed: San Joaquin
Sub-Region: South
County: Madera
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The Oakhurst River Parkway is a 3 1/2 mile trail along three rivers in the Oakhurst basin. This is a volunteer, non-profit organization developed to preserve the rivers in their Urban Area for future generations. They established Watchable Wildlife areas, provided river restoration and sponsored an annual River Clean-up Day. This is a grassroots organization with many community volunteers maintaining the project with fundraisers and donations. They received several grants for pedestrian bridges and river restoration. The community is proud of the Oakhurst River Parkway and in the new Madera County Area Plan for Oakhurst, a new land designation has been established to provide proper development along the river front area of the Fresno River.

Accomplishments: (1) Erosion control along the Fresno River; (2) Stopped dumping along the rivers by educating the community. After 16 years we still provide a safe walking trail from our Library to all the local schools, churches and park.

Challenges: Regular maintenance is difficult with just volunteer labor. Grants do not provide for maintenance. Local agencies are struggling and cannot get as involved as before.

Owens Valley Committee

Contact: John C. Williams, Outreach Coordinator
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Bishop, CA 93515
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Email: info@ovcweb.org
Web: <http://www.ovcweb.org/>

Watershed: Owens
Sub-Region: East
County: Inyo
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: Owens Valley Committee is a non-profit citizen action group dedicated to the protection, restoration and sustainable management of water and land resources affecting Owens Valley. The Owens Valley Committee is a non-profit organization, which participates in water and land management issues on lands owned by Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Owens Valley Committee monitors the Long-term Water Agreement between Inyo County and the City of Los Angeles that is attempting to "cooperatively" manage water and land resources on 200,000 acres of the Owens Valley that is owned by Los Angeles. Issues include LADWP groundwater pumping for export and its impacts, T & E species, re-watering of 62 miles of the Lower Owens River (riparian and fishery), wildlife and wetlands protection at Owens Lake, native spring protection and restoration. The OVC is a member of the MOU Group that established the goals for and supervises the implementation of the Lower Owens River Project (LORP). OVC has been active since 1984.

Accomplishments: Victory in a court case that developed the incentive for LADWP to initiate and continue the Lower Owens River Project, which restores flow to 62 miles of river that had been dewatered since 1913. Leading entity in developing conceptual plans for four wetland restoration /creation projects in the Eastern Sierra.

Challenges: On-going attitude of LADWP that the water is theirs and the land is theirs and that they will do things their way. Legal action has long been our only option, although the new administration at LADWP promises some better interaction.

Pacific Rivers Council

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Email: info@pacrivers.org
Web: www.pacrivers.org

Watershed: Pacific
Sub-Region: N/A
County: N/A
Type: National Organization

Description: Our mission is to protect and restore rivers, their watersheds, and native aquatic species. For over 15 years, PRC has promoted a whole watershed approach to aquatic conservation based on sound science. Our projects are based on the recovery strategy of "protect the best, restore the rest," as the first step towards natural resource management based on conservation biology. Our collaboration with scientific and academic communities is bridging the gap between aquatic science and environmental policy.

Pit River Watershed Alliance

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Fax: 530-233-8869
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Web: www.pitriverriveralliance.net

Watershed: Pit River
Region: North
County: Modoc, Lassen, Siskiyou, Shasta
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Cooperative Group

Description: The Pit River watershed is located in northeastern California, at the western edge of the Great Basin Province. The headwaters are drained by the North and South Fork of the Pit River. The North Fork of the Pit River originates at the outlet of Goose Lake, an enclosed basin, except during rare peak water levels, when it spills over into the Pit River. The South Fork of the Pit River originates from several tributaries in the south Warner Mountains. Both forks join in the town of Alturas, and then flow in a southwesterly direction to Shasta Lake in Shasta County, and eventually into the Sacramento River, and the Bay Delta of San Francisco Bay. At the western limit of the upper watershed, the Pit River is joined by Fall River in Shasta County. In all, there are twenty-one named tributaries, totaling about 1,050 miles of perennial stream, and encompassing approximately 4,324 square miles.

Accomplishments: The Pit River Watershed Alliance has completed a Watershed Assessment in 2004, is conducting a water quality monitoring program, and is currently working on developing a Watershed Management Strategy. The Alliance members are also strategizing to develop an Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan.

Challenges: The Pit River is listed as impaired on the Clean Water Act 303d list for temperature, dissolved oxygen, and nutrients. The Pit River Watershed Alliance is preparing plans to implement improvements in the watershed to get the Pit River de-listed.

Placer County Planning Department

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Email: esulliva@placer.ca.gov
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Watershed: Truckee, Martis, Squaw
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer
Type: Local Government Planning Department

Water Quality Monitoring: Ambient and BMI monitoring in Squaw, Martis, and Truckee watersheds for Tahoe TMDL, fine sediment. As requested by Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Description: The Placer County Planning Department participates in watershed restoration, watershed plan development, habitat conservation planning, open space preservation, fish passage, and water quality.

Accomplishments: Waddle Ranch acquisition, Squaw Creek Restoration Plan, Truckee River Corridor Access Plan, Gould Acquisition, developing a low impact development (LID) guide for the Sierra.

Challenges: Implementing the Truckee River Corridor Access and Squaw Creek Restoration Plans. Balancing land use needs with conservation.

Protect American River Canyons (PARC)

Contact: Eric Peach
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Email: parc@jps.net
Web: <http://www.parc-auburn.org>

Watershed: American
Sub-Region: Central
County: Placer
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: Protect American River Canyons is a river education and conservation organization dedicated to the protection of the natural, recreational, cultural and historical resources of the North and Middle Forks of the American River and its canyons. PARC is very active in the community, sponsoring a variety of social, river service and educational events each year. PARC remains vigilant to the political threats to the river canyons.

Restore Hetch-Hetchy

Contact: Ron Good, Executive Director
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Sonora, CA 95370
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Web: <http://www.hetchhetchy.org/>

Watershed: Tuolumne
Sub-Region: South Central
County: Tuolumne
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: Our goal is to restore and protect Hetch Hetchy Valley located in Yosemite National Park and its associated natural resources, including the Tuolumne River; and to accomplish a "win-win" outcome for Hetch Hetchy Valley, and for the cities of the Bay Area and the Turlock and Modesto Irrigation Districts that rely on Hetch Hetchy water and power -- drop for drop, kilowatt for kilowatt, and dollar for dollar – to the extent that is technically feasible. Restore Hetch-Hetchy is currently raising funds to conduct a Feasibility Study by competent experts to outline – in detail – how Hetch Hetchy Valley can be restored in a way that presents a "win-win" outcome for water and power users in the Bay Area and the Turlock and Modesto Irrigation Districts; implementing an aggressive public education and outreach campaign that includes coalition building with like-minded organizations, and a petition drive targeted at the Secretary of the Interior.

River Network

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Email: info@rivernetnetwork.org
Web: www.rivernetnetwork.org

Watershed: All US Rivers
Sub-Region: United States
County: N/A
Type: Statewide or National Organization

Description: River Network is a national, nonprofit river conservation organization dedicated to helping people understand, protect and restore rivers and their watersheds. River Network's staff and its services help people at the local level to organize effective river protection efforts by: providing tools to help communities understand, monitor and assess the health of their rivers; providing state-of-the-art information through publications, referrals and hot-line; helping people build healthy organizations through training and personalized assistance in board development, fundraising and strategic planning; and helping people learn about available conservation techniques, program, and laws, and providing training on understanding and using the Clean Water Act.

RiverTree Volunteers

Contact: Richard F. Sloan
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Phone: 559.696.2971
Fax: 559.322.8620
Email: riverrich1509@aol.com
Web: www.rivertreevolunteers.com

Watershed: San Joaquin River
Sub-Region: South
County: Fresno, Madera & Kings
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: A nonprofit organization dedicated to maintenance of the San Joaquin River watershed by working with public land owners, educational groups and individual volunteers, on public lands to educate the public on environmental issues concerning the San Joaquin River watershed.

Accomplishments: RiverTree has removed 4,101 tires from the San Joaquin River and averages removing nine 40 cubic yard dumpsters of trash each year. We are maintaining two riparian restoration projects, and have given over 400 free canoe tours of the San Joaquin River this year.

Challenges: To maintain restoration projects during the drought and to remove invasive weeds.

River Ridge

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Springville, CA 93265
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Email: info@river-ridge.net
Web: http://river-ridge.net

Watershed: Tule River
Sub-Region: South
County: Tulare
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: Gary Adest and Barbara Brydolf bought 722-acre River Ridge on the North Fork Tule River in 2000 when it looked as if the land would end up as a major housing development on the Tule River. By working with the Sequoia Riverlands Trust they were able to place a conservation easement on the ranch and market the development rights. River Ridge is now fully protected in perpetuity and will remain a haven for people seeking personal restoration and recreation and for the flora and fauna that abound on the property.

Sacramento River Watershed Program

Contact: Mary Lee Knecht
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Web: www.sacriver.org

Watershed: Sacramento
Sub-Region: Central
County: See Description
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: The Sacramento River Watershed Program runs a monitoring program in the mainstream of the Sacramento River.

Description: The mission of the SRWP, as developed by the stakeholders, is: “To ensure that current and potential uses of the watershed’s resources are sustained, restored, and where possible, enhanced, while promoting the long-term social and economic vitality of the region.” The program provides a network for building a basin-wide context to improve watershed health. It operates through consensus-based collaborative partnerships, coordination of research and monitoring, and enhancing mutual education among the stakeholders of the Sacramento River watershed. The SRWP works to support and preserve the integrity of local efforts. It strives to resolve watershed issues with local participation and a watershed-wide perspective. The SRWP also helps disseminate information about the watershed and conducts monitoring activities to continually assess water quality and other indicators of watershed health. The program runs across the following counties: Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Lassen, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sutter, Tehama, Yolo, and Yuba.

Accomplishments: Public Outreach campaign that includes TV media and newspaper insert in Sacramento Bee and Water Quality Monitoring Summary Report.

Challenges: Addressing sprawl throughout the watershed and sustainable funding for the organization.

San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust

Contact: Sharon Weaver, Watershed Program Director
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Email: sweaver@riverparkway.org
Web: www.riverparkway.org

Watershed: San Joaquin
Sub-Region: South
County: Madera & Fresno
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group & Land Trust

Description: The mission of San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust is to preserve and restore San Joaquin River lands having ecological, scenic or historic significance, to educate the public on the need for stewardship, to research issues affecting the river, and to promote educational, recreational and agricultural uses consistent with the protection of the river's resources.

Accomplishment: Began implementation of the Jensen River Ranch Habitat Enhancement Project.

Challenge: Finding funding and skilled labor (both paid and volunteer) for project operations and maintenance.

Sierra Watershed Education Partnerships

Contact: Christine McMorrow, Executive Director
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Web: www.4swep.org

Watershed: Truckee
Sub-Region: Central
County: Douglas, El Dorado, & Placer
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Teach water quality testing to students as part of education work.

Description: SWEP promotes environmental stewardship by connecting students to their community and local environment through comprehensive watershed education and service-learning. SWEP's primary role is to build collaborative community partnerships that promote the implementation of hands-on watershed education.

Watershed projects are a primary focus of what we do with youth because SWEP strongly believes in experiential learning and using the watershed or our 'place' as the context for academic learning. SWEP programs allow youth to learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized projects that are conducted in and meet the needs of the local community. Students identify community watershed issues and priorities, then create and implement solutions through service-learning projects which enhance the community or natural environment.

Students learn how to monitor water quality, do vegetation studies and keep tabs on animals in the forest. In the process they learn about scientific investigation by adhering to specific protocol, collecting data and record keeping. Watershed restoration projects allow youth to take action and experience what stewardship means. SWEP works closely with our partners to involve youth in defensible space thinning, erosion control and habitat enhancement projects. Through public outreach projects such as, public service announcements, brochures, bumper stickers and letter writing youth get the word out to the community about the watershed issues they have been investigating.

SWEP recently completed a watershed education program with UC Davis' Tahoe Environmental Research Center as well as starting their own Sierra Junior Naturalist Program. They are working hard on getting outside the classroom and into programs outside of school.

South Fork American River Watershed Group

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Watershed: American
Sub-Region: Central
County: El Dorado
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Description: The Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District organized the first meeting of the South Fork American River Watershed Group (SFARWG) in November 2000 and the group continues to meet on a monthly basis. Participants represent a wide variety of interests including private landowners, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. The group's mission is to protect and improve the health and condition of the South Fork American River watershed through stewardship and education to a measurable extent. The group is working on a South Fork American River Watershed Stewardship Project to identify where specific on-the-ground projects in the watershed are needed to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and to improve water quality of the South Fork American River. Under Proposition 204 funding the District has completed a "Watershed 2000" Program that achieved "on-the ground" restoration and protection of significant watershed areas in El Dorado County and increased community awareness and involvement with watershed issues. This project improved and protected portions of the North Fork Cosumnes River Watershed (NFCR), specifically within the subwatersheds of Camp Creek, Jenkinson Lake (a.k.a. Sly Park Reservoir), and Big Canyon Creek. Principle project components were the development of Community Defense Zones to protect watershed areas from the potential of catastrophic fire (2500+ acres to be treated), the closure and/or obliteration of secondary roads and trails (28+ linear miles), and public education programs.

South Tahoe Monitoring Project (Sierra Nevada Alliance)

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Web: www.sierranevadaalliance.org

Watershed: Truckee
Sub-Region: Central
County: El Dorado
Type: Sierra-Based Conservation Group

Water Monitoring Program: Ambient, streamwalk.

Description: The Sierra Nevada Alliance coordinates a citizen volunteer water quality monitoring project, which began in 2007. The project monitors rivers and tributaries going into Lake Tahoe. The sites and project design reflect land use issues in the Upper Truckee watershed.

Accomplishments: Began a citizen monitoring project in South Lake Tahoe and had a successful first year with 3 trainings and 30 volunteers monitoring 10 sites.

Challenges: Continual funding and finding a local agency or organization to partner with on the project.

South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL)

Contact: Jason Rainey, Executive Director
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Nevada City, CA 95959
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Web: <http://www.syrcl.org/>

Watershed: Yuba
Sub-Region: Central
County: Nevada
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Water Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI, streamwalk, Mountain Meadow health index

Description: The South Yuba River Citizens League is a community-based educational nonprofit corporation committed to the protection, preservation and restoration of the entire Yuba Watershed. SYRCL works to fulfill its mission by aggressively seeking environmental solutions through the tools of education, organization, collaboration, litigation and legislation. SYRCL successes include: Permanent protection of the South Yuba from all future dam proposals, Stopped 7 proposed dams and hydro projects on the Yuba, Lead efforts to restore salmon and steelhead to the upper reaches of the Yuba by spearheading investigations of dam removal or modification, Include 114 miles of the North Yuba, South Yuba and Canyon Creek as federally recommended Wild and Scenic rivers, successfully include \$90 million in California's historic 2000 Water Bond Initiative for non-dam flood control and water restoration in the Yuba River, Successfully include \$90 million in California's historic 2000 Water Bond Initiative for non-dam flood control and water restoration in the Yuba River, implement a model citizen-based river monitoring program, create a membership of 4,500 supporters, including over 800 businesses, work with over 500 active volunteers in hosting more than 200 events, including river clean-ups, salmon watches, legislative days, educational forums, dances, and rallies, and Initiate numerous highly successful collaborations with businesses, property owners, and local, state and federal agencies in efforts to restore the Yuba Watershed.

Accomplishments: 1) Securing funding to conduct a full Watershed Assessment of the entire Yuba; 2) AmeriCorps members leading community habitat restoration projects.

Challenges: 1) Limiting road impacts to water quality through the USFS OHV route re-designation process; 2) Stopping a proposed 1000 unit development on Donner Summit (the S. Yuba headwaters).

Tahoe-Baikal Institute

Contact: Jennifer Smith
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Web: www.tahoebaikal.org

Watershed: Truckee & Baikal
Sub-region: N/A
County: El Dorado, Placer, Washoe,
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: TBI's annual Summer Environmental Exchange (SEE) immerses passionate people in an inspiring, place-based watershed curriculum to promote international understanding and global cooperation in meeting environmental challenges. The 10-week SEE program is facilitated in two of the world's premier freshwater ecosystems: Lake Tahoe in the Sierra Nevada and Lake Baikal in southern Siberia. Ultimately, SEE alumni strengthen the diverse coalitions of leaders, resource professionals, stewards—and cultures—building a future where sustainable communities thrive in concert with their environment.

Accomplishments: Completed Tahoe Basin portion of Summer Environmental Exchange for 18 participants from six countries; completed project with SNA for collecting baseline data for citizens' water quality monitoring program in Upper Truckee Watershed.

Challenges: Fundraising and the Angora Fire.

Traverse Creek Stewardship (TraCkS)

Contact: Susan McCormick or Susan Whittington
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or mcwoods47@sbcglobal.net (Susan M.)

Watershed: American
Sub-Region: Central
Counties: El Dorado
Type: Sierra-Based Conservation Group

Water Quality Monitoring: Ambient, BMI, streamwalk.

Description: Education and conservation of Traverse Creek.

Accomplishments: 1) Sampled for macroinvertebrates in 2005, 2006 and 2007 and identified our macros from the first 2 years to the family level (We will be starting the 2007 identification work in September); 2) Published a first year report (in 2006) which was presented to the community along with an informative program highlighting TraCkS' accomplishments.

Challenges: 1) Bringing in new volunteers and keeping volunteers committed to the program. 2) Writing SWAMP requirements such as the quality assessment program due to part time staff.

Truckee River Watershed Council

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Watershed: Truckee
Sub-Region: North Central & Central
County: Sierra, Nevada & Placer
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water quality monitoring program: Ambient, BMI & streamwalk.

Description: The Truckee River Watershed Council implements all aspects of habitat restoration in riparian, wetland and meadow areas. Assessment, pre- during- post- project monitoring, NEPA/CEQA, permitting, restoration design, implementation, public meetings and tours, adaptive management of the restoration sites. We work collaboratively with public land agencies, land trusts, and private landowners.

Accomplishments: (1) Implementation of meadow and stream restoration at Merrill Davies. (2) Completion design of meadow and stream restoration at Perazzo Meadows.

Challenges: (1) Educating about and regulating recreation use is becoming a top priority, as current patterns are causing serious impact to the environment. Prime examples are: boating from Tahoe City to River Ranch incurs trampling of in-stream, riparian and meadow habitat; illegally created mountain biking trails cause erosion and degrade habitat. It is hard for individuals to realize that their actions add up to a cumulative and significant impact on the river environment. (2) Re-introducing the Lahontan cutthroat trout, the only trout native to the Truckee River and an endangered species, will be a challenge as its compatibility with non-native species is sorted through.

Tuolumne River Preservation Trust

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Web: <http://www.tuolumne.org/>

Watershed: Tuolumne
Sub-Region: South Central
County: Tuolumne
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Tuolumne River Preservation Trust works to promote the stewardship of the Tuolumne River and its tributaries to ensure a healthy watershed. In the Sierra, the Trust's Clavey Campaign is building the groundwork for federal Wild and Scenic designation for the Clavey River. In the Central Valley, the Trust is working to expand the floodway, increase flows to restore salmon habitat, and partnering with other groups to create the Tuolumne River Parkway, a public/private mosaic of improved habitat and recreation on the lower Tuolumne River. In response to San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's plan to divert an additional 25 mgd from the Tuolumne River to meet growing demands, the Trust's Bay Area Program has been is working to promote a sustainable water plan that invests in water conservation an environmental stewardship.

Accomplishments: Completion of Clavey River Watershed Assessment in March, 2008. Publication of "From the Tuolumne to the Tap, Pursuing a Sustainable Water Solution for the Bay Area" July 2007. Establishment of the "Big Bend Floodplain Protection and Habitat Restoration project , a 240 acre project targeted at improving forest, river, and wildlife habitat along the Tuolumne River.

Upper Merced River Watershed Council

Contact: Holly Warner, Coordinator
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Email: watershed@sti.net
Web: www.merced-river.org

Watershed: Merced
Sub-region: South Central
County: Mariposa
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Quality Monitoring Program: Ambient, streamwalk & BMI.

Description: The Upper Merced Watershed Council includes everyone who cares about the Merced River Watershed, landowners, agency staff, outdoor enthusiasts, equestrians, and other interested citizens meet together to identify common concerns and carry out collaborative projects. Mission Statement: the mission of the Upper Merced River Watershed Council is to work with individuals and organizations to protect and enhance the natural, economic, and cultural resources of the Watershed through education, community-based projects, responsible planning, and stewardship.

Accomplishments: Reduction of invasives on 7-plus miles of trail and roadside, and expansion of water quality monitoring to include macroinvertebrates.

Challenges: Create organizational sustainability, and retain water quality volunteers.

Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council

Contact: Susan Snoke, Watershed Coordinator
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Jackson CA 95642
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Email: strangeaqua@volcano.net

Watershed: Mokelumne
Sub-Region: East & South Central
County: Amador, Calaveras, & Alpine
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Monitoring: Yes we had a monitoring program for over 3 yrs. however it is on hold awaiting funding.

Description: The Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council was originally formed with a state Proposition 204 grant in the spring of 2000. The council originally met on an intermittent basis. Since May of 2003, the group has refocused its efforts on water quality, watershed planning, watershed assessment/restoration, public outreach and education on the Upper Mokelumne River, Dry Creek, and Upper Calaveras River watersheds. The council meets on a monthly basis. In 2008, the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Council and Amador Dry Creek Watershed Council formed a collaborative partnership.

The mission of the council is: To establish a collaborative decision-making body and a forum composed of all parties with a vested interest, including local residents, agricultural, timber and other commercial entities, recreational users, and public agencies. We shall work to restore and maintain the Upper Mokelumne River watershed in a manner that ensures sustainable environmental, economic, educational, cultural recreational, and water quality benefits for present and future generations.

Accomplishments: The Council has gained nonprofit status with the State of CA and the IRS, we have posted signs along our watershed, created a 16 pg. insert in our local newspapers, created a final report that summarizes and evaluates 3 yrs. of water monitoring in our watershed and we have joined forces with the Amador Dry Creek Watershed Council.

Challenges: We did not receive funding from DOC this grant period and have no paid staff or funding to continue our water monitoring program.

WildPlaces

Contact: Mehmet McMillan, Executive Director
& Ian Herdell, Program Coordinator
Address: P.O. Box 853
Springville, CA 93265
Phone: 559.539.5263
Fax: 559.539.5263
Email: info@wildplaces.net
Web: www.wildplaces.net

Watershed: Tule, Kern, & Kaweah
Sub-Region: South
County: Tulare, Kern, & Los Angeles
Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: To protect and restore California's wild and rural places and the people who are a part of these native landscapes through volunteer driven habitat restoration, environmental and cultural education, career development and political action.

Accomplishments: We have expanded the Río Limpio and Tule River Outreach and Cleanup program this summer by adding more cleanups and a larger outreach and education program.

Challenges: Engaging river users in the issues confronting the Tule River and keeping the river clean after clean up days.

Wolf Creek Community Alliance

Contact: BJ Schmitt or Jonathan Keehn
Address: PO Box 477
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Phone: (530) 272-2347
Email: wolf@WolfCreekAlliance.org
Web: www.WolfCreekAlliance.org

Watershed: Yuba
Sub-Region: Central
County: Nevada
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Water Quality Monitoring: Ambient, BMI, Streamwalk

Description: Wolf Creek Community Alliance is a local volunteer organization whose primary mission is to preserve and restore Wolf Creek, its tributaries, and watershed. The goals of the group are to:

- Educate the general public about the aesthetic, recreational, economic, and ecological value a natural stream offers;
- Perform hands-on clean-up and restoration work;
- Seek funds to implement restoration projects that will make our creek an urban oasis;
- Improve the quality of life for residents through community involvement and pride in our Wolf Creek Watershed.

Wolf Creek Community Alliance also coordinates a citizen based volunteer water quality monitoring program (ongoing for 4 years), monthly informational public meetings on watershed issues, weekly informational booth at Thursday night Grass Valley street fair and at Saturday morning Nevada City Farmers Market..

Accomplishments: (1) Participated in Celebration of Nevada County Trails Day June 7, 2008 - led public hike along new trails on Wolf Creek. (2) Produced "First Annual Heal Yourself Heal Your Earth" Massage/Bodywork Fundraising Event at numerous venues downtown Grass Valley.

Challenges: Need funding for Executive Director

Yuba Watershed Council

Contact: Lynn Campbell, Watershed Coordinator
Address: 132 Main Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530.265. 5527
Email: nscscicen@earthlink.net
Web: www.yubawatershedcouncil.org

Watershed: Yuba
Sub-Region: Central
County: Nevada
Type: Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Group

Watershed Monitoring Program: Ambient, BMI, streamwalk.

Description: The Yuba Watershed Council works to protect the Yuba and Bear River watersheds and tributaries. The Yuba Watershed Council is a community forum of diverse stakeholders which is taking the initiative to: 1) Better appreciate the complex watershed relationships in the Yuba and Bear watersheds and their environments; 2) Protect, restore and enhance watershed resources where needed; and 3) Maintain a sustainable watershed resource base for future generations. Stakeholders include local, state, and federal agencies, conservation and environmental organizations, and neighborhood associations. The Yuba Watershed Council members are committed to addressing the social, economic, and environmental concerns in the watersheds through cooperating and coordinating with one another, and while respecting the mission, roles, and rights of each partnering organization. Current projects include assisting in developing a watershed assessment for the Yuba River; developing a county-wide noxious weeds program, collaboration efforts to identify data gaps and restoration needs, educate and involve community stakeholders concerning upcoming FERC licensing, participate in CABY IRWMP projects, and develop a land stewardship education program for private landowners.

Yuba Watershed Institute

Contact: Tania Carlone, Executive Director

Address: PO Box 2198

Phone: 530-265-4459

Email: taniacarlone@sbcglobal.net

Web: www.yubawatershedinstitute.org

Watershed: Yuba

Sub-Region: Central

County: Nevada County

Type: Sierra-based Conservation Group

Description: The Yuba Watershed Institute (YWI) is a non-profit, 501c(3) public interest organization dedicated to the ecologically sustainable management of the Yuba River watershed on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada. Our first project area, known as the Inimim Forest, is 1800 acres of BLM lands intermingled with privately owned lands on the San Juan Ridge in Nevada County. The San Juan Ridge is a narrow, 30 mile long ridge between the South and Middle Yuba Rivers and has a population of about 2,500 people. The long term vision is a healthy, diverse forest that is home to both wild creatures and human beings and is ecologically and economically sustainable over centuries. To this end YWI is involved in research projects for the understanding and protection of native flora and fauna as well as for the development of a forest based human economy.

Accomplishments: The Yuba Watershed Institute's education program entitled "The Nature of This Place" creates a forum for community discussion and exploration on topics of ecological concern, natural history, science and culture. We produce expert lectures and field seminars throughout the year. We are also collaborating with NGOs, public agencies and schools on projects ranging from meadow restoration to environmental field education in public schools within the Yuba Watershed.

Challenges: limited capacity

This directory will be updated on our website on a regular basis, www.sierranevadaalliance.org.

To be added, removed, or to make modifications to this directory, please contact: dan@sierranevadaalliance.org 530.542.4546. Thank you.



SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

Keeping light in the range.

Since 1993 the Sierra Nevada Alliance has been protecting and restoring Sierra lands, water, wildlife and communities. Our mission is to protect and restore the natural resources of the Sierra Nevada for future generations while promoting sustainable communities.

The organization is an Alliance of conservation groups that are based or work in the Sierra Nevada region. There are over eighty member groups that span the entire 400 mile mountain range.

If you would like to join the Alliance as a member group or as an individual supporter, please contact our office for benefits, dues, and other details: 530.542.4546 or email info@sierranevadaalliance.org

For more information on the Sierra Nevada Alliance visit: www.sierranevadaalliance.org