

Sierra Land Use Planning Directory 2008

*A list of land use planning groups working
in the Sierra Nevada*



SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

Keeping light in the range.

**SIERRA NEVADA
LAND USE PLANNING
DIRECTORY
2008**

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
Sierra Nevada Alliance’s Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign.....	3
Directory of Groups listed by Subregion:	
Northern Subregion (Modoc, Shasta, Lassen).....	5
North Central Subregion (Plumas, Tehama, Sierra, Butte).....	7
Central Subregion (Yuba, Placer, El Dorado, Nevada).....	9
South Central Subregion (Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa).....	14
Eastern Subregion (Alpine, Mono, Inyo).....	19
Southern Subregion (Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern).....	23
Nevada Subregion (Douglas, Carson, Washoe).....	26
Regional Organizations (entire Sierra).....	27
Current Large Land Use Projects in the Sierra Nevada.....	29

Introduction

The following is a directory of conservation organizations that work to shape land use planning decisions with a focus on conservation interests in the Sierra Nevada.

The Sierra Nevada Alliance prepared this directory to assist land use planning groups, agencies, conservation interests and others in locating fellow land use conservation and planning groups in the Sierra Nevada. This is the third edition of the directory. Our apologies if any group or effort is omitted or incorrect. Only groups that responded to our inquiries are included. Please send the Sierra Nevada Alliance changes or additions and we will update our website and future editions.

The directory includes a fact sheet on the Sierra Nevada Alliance's Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign and a list of groups by subregion (using the subregional boundaries established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy).

This directory is also available on our website: www.sierranevadaalliance.org

To be added/removed or to make modifications to this directory, please contact: do@sierranevadaalliance.org or 530.542.4546.

Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign

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SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

Keeping light in the range.

The Sierra Nevada is the third fastest growing region of California. According to the California Department of Finance, the current population of 600,000 is expected to triple to somewhere between 1.5 and 2.4 million residents by 2040. Due to poor planning, population growth in the Sierra too often comes at the expense of working landscapes, ecosystem health and community character.

Approximately 35,000 acres of large ranches and forest holdings are converted to residential development every year. Sierra Nevada Alliance's Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign works to advance sustainable land use planning in the Sierra Nevada region. We work with local land use groups across the Sierra to build and support a regional smart growth movement to protect working landscapes, preserve lands important for wildlife, watersheds, and ecosystem integrity, and maintain historic town-centered patterns of Sierra communities.

When people think of the Sierra they often envision a pristine wilderness encircling small historic towns. However, the Sierra faces tremendous challenges related to population growth and land use planning that threaten to undermine the ecosystems, communities and rural economies of the Sierra.

Poorly-planned growth threatens Sierra water, wildlife, working landscapes and rural communities

This population explosion threatens to destroy wildlife habitat, impair watershed health and permanently alter the rural character and economy of Sierra communities. The Sierra is home to half the animal and plant populations of California, provides over 60% of California's water and almost all of the water of Northwest Nevada, and is visited by over 40-50 million people each year because of its great recreation and rural character. Traffic, sprawling ranchettes, cookie cutter development, and destruction of wildlife and open space areas would drastically change the Sierra we all love.

The bulk of Sierra growth is taking place in unincorporated areas where county governments have the primary responsibility for regulating land use and guiding human settlement patterns. Consequently, the county general plan has taken on added significance, not only as the primary planning tool for individual counties, but also as arbiter of the collective growth of the region.

As a result of increasing concerns about growth, as well as pressure from state agencies to comply with planning laws, many Sierra counties are currently updating their general plans or anticipate that they will begin a general plan update in the next 5 years. This presents a significant opportunity to shape better planning in the region.

General Plan Updates are an Opportunity to shape the Future of our Region

With meaningful, organized community engagement, these general plans could be updated to protect working landscapes, conserve natural resources and foster growth that meets community needs. With the huge amount of growth expected to come into the region, it is even more important than ever before

for communities to be engaged in these general plan updates. Without active community engagement and oversight, these updates could become a blueprint for rural sprawl.

Sierra Nevada Alliance and the Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign

The Sierra Nevada Alliance was founded in 1993 to protect and restore the natural environment of the Sierra Nevada for future generations while ensuring healthy and sustainable communities. The Alliance works with our network of more than 100 member groups that span the range to strengthen their individual efforts and lead regional efforts to protect John Muir's 'Range of Light.'

In 2005, the Alliance created the Land Use Campaign program to advance sustainable land use planning in the Sierra. Working with dozens of grassroots land use groups across the region, the Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign strives to strengthen the skills and capacity of local advocates throughout the Sierra. We help local groups develop the tools of policy analysis, grassroots mobilization, media outreach and coalition-building to achieve better land use planning in their local communities. Our particular focus is on improving countywide general plans that are the primary blueprint for growth in the Sierra Nevada. Taken together, these local changes add up to major impacts across the region.

Goals of the Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign:

- 1. Protect working landscapes:** Maintain ranch, farming and timber lands in the Sierra and minimize conversion to rural sprawl.
- 2. Preserve lands important for wildlife, watersheds and ecosystem integrity.** Identify and protect important natural resource lands including wildlife habitat and migration corridors, riparian corridors, groundwater recharge zones, oak woodlands and unique plant communities.
- 3. Maintain the historic town-centered pattern of Sierra communities:** Ensure that new development mirrors historic Sierra development patterns. Accommodate population growth by developing neighborhoods that use land efficiently, provide a range of housing types, and are town-centered, compact and walkable.
- 4. Build a regional smart growth movement.** Work to ensure that every Sierra community has active, effective advocates to monitor local land use and take action on important issues.

To achieve these goals, the Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign utilizes a two-part 'breadth' and 'depth' strategy. The breadth strategy involves supporting smart growth efforts throughout the range, by providing policy information, campaign resources, networking and trainings to advance efforts in every community. The 'depth' strategy involves identifying target areas where land use plans are likely to have the greatest impact on the region as a whole – and where local advocates lack capacity -- and focusing our efforts to improve planning in those areas, hopefully creating model policies for the rest of the region.

For more information about the Sustainable Sierra Land Use Campaign, please contact Patricia Hickson at 530.542.4546 x 313 or patricia@sierranevadaalliance.org

Northern Subregion: (Counties of Lassen, Modoc & Shasta)

Inwood Taskforce

Contact: Stan Weidert
Address: 30646 100 Road
Shingletown CA 96088
Phone: 530-474-3180

County: Shasta

Mission Statement: Centered on a single land use development project: the “Ranches at Inwood”.

Current Work: Most of the work now is being done by the Bear Creek Watershed Group; however, we are ready to resurrect the Taskforce if any more developments are proposed in the area.

Successes: Successfully convinced the Ranches at Inwood developer to sell the land that was proposed for development to a local rancher. Inwood Task Force helped form the Bear Creek watershed group.

Lassen Land & Trails Trust

Contact: Matt Sayles
Address: PO Box 1461
Susanville, CA 96130
Phone: 530-257-3252
Email: lltt@psln.com

County: Lassen
Website: www.bizzjohnsontrail.com

Mission Statement: The Mission of the Lassen Land & Trails Trust is to conserve significant natural areas & agricultural landscapes, and to promote and enhance a public trail system throughout Lassen County.

Current work: A major fire (165 acres) burned our Lassen Creek Conservation Area this summer so we are working on a restoration plan to promote a healthy recovery of the ecosystem there. Most recently, we got approval to build 12 miles of new single track mountain bike trails! We have a big event coming up this summer: our Rails to Trails Festival (see website for details!). Another new exciting project we have is our Kids Nature Camp where we explore the Susan River, hike up the Bizz Johnson Trail, play games, explore the Susan River ecology, learn how the forest plants and animals live together, and how to sustain a healthy forest!

Successes: The 12 miles of new mountain bike trails just approved for funding by Lassen County is a huge and exciting success for us. The project in the Susanville Ranch Park will add roughly 12 miles of new trails and will likely be completed by late Summer/Fall of 2008. The new trails will be up to IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) standards of trail construction. Another big success for us is the reintroduction of our local Farmers Market!

Mountain Meadows Conservancy

Contact: Steven Robinson
Address: PO Box 40
Westwood CA 96137
Phone: 530-256-3982
Email: mmc@mtmeadows.org

County: Lassen
Website: www.mtmeadows.org

Mission Statement: To conserve, protect, and enhance the natural beauty of Mountain Meadows watershed, to protect its significant Mountain Maidu burial and cultural sites, and to provide recreation and public access for generations to come.

Current Work: We are working to secure permanent protection for Dyer Mountain and its incredible natural resources. We are also working with the Land Stewardship Council to protect 6,000 acres around Mountain Meadows Reservoir and determine proper land uses.

Successes: We had been working to stop the Dyer Mt. Development, a 7,000 acre development with 3 golf courses, ski runs with 13 lifts, and a new town with over 4,000 residents (pop. at build out 17,000 - non-prison pop. of Lassen Co. 24,000). On March 27, Dyer Mountain Associates filed for bankruptcy in the Federal Bankruptcy Court in San Francisco. Dyer Mountain is becoming another example of how we can work together to defend our favorite Sierra places.

North Central Subregion: (Counties of Tehama, Plumas, Sierra & Butte)

Butte Environmental Council

Contact: Barbara Vlamis
Address: 116 W 2nd St #3
Chico CA 95928
Phone: 530-891-6424
Email: barbarav@becnet.org

County: Butte
Website: www.becnet.org

Mission Statement: For 31 years, Butte Environmental Council has been a leading voice for protecting the environment and health of humans and other creatures in the northern Sacramento valley and foothills. BEC's mission is to educate and advocate for the protection of quality of life through preservation, conservation, and restoration of the land, air, and water.

Current Work: Stopping the export of the northern Sacramento Valley's and foothill's ground water; Protecting vanishing vernal pool habitat throughout California; and Educating the community about toxics in our air, water, and soil through our Chico Urban Streams Alliance program and our toxics outreach and education program.

Successes: Successful outcome in BEC's Vernal Pool Critical Habitat litigation on November 2, 2006. We were also successful with a recovery plan for more than 33 species dependent on vernal pools. We were also successful in the acquisition of 800 acres of land in Chico, finalized in March 2006. The 2007 and 2008 Endangered Species Faires were huge successes, attracting more than 7,000 visitors each year. 2009 will be BEC's 30th Annual Endangered Species Faire (May 2, 2009) and we have planned special performances. 140 volunteers at the 2007 Bidwell Park & Chico Creeks Cleanup pulled over four TONS of garbage and recyclables out of Chico's Parks & Creeks. (5,240 lbs of garbage, 3,040 lbs of scrap metal and 352 lbs of recyclables). In 2007, BEC launched litigation to protect the groundwater of Butte, Glenn and Tehama counties. In 2008, BEC initiated Code Blue, which is a new series of water lectures, workshops and presentations.

High Sierra Rural Alliance

Contact: Steeve Duber
Address: PO Box 65
Sierra City CA 96125
Phone: 530-862-1571
Email: steeve@cwo.com

Counties: Sierra and Plumas

Mission Statement: To preserve and restore the high Sierra Rural experience. Our objective is to ensure that requirements of Federal, State and County regulations are adhered to in County land use decisions. It has been said a vigilant, informed and well-prepared citizenry is the key to the enforcement of CEQA and better environmental decision making by state and local officials. HSRA will provide that service for the members of the Sierra County public who appreciate and depend on a functioning democracy responsibly making land use decisions.

Current Work: We are working on the Plumas County General Plan Update to ensure public participation, to challenge projects that lack open space and natural resources protection, collaborating with different community stakeholders, and monitoring and testifying at County meetings. In our work for ensuring compliance with the Sierra County's General Plan, we have been participating in Planning Commission meetings, challenging projects that lack rural and environmental values, and challenging Sierra Pacific Industries' rezone of over 7000 acres between Jackson Meadows Reservoir and Perazzo Meadows from a zone which protects California forests from development to a zone which encourages development. Our other projects include writing a Child Element for the Calaveras County General Plan Update in collaboration with a Calaveras County citizen's group and also

compiling data and material to create a GIS model of the Sierra Valley for use by local jurisdictions in planning.

Successes: We have protected the California public's right to participate in land use decisions by winning a precedent setting case banning certain "streamlined zoning" processes. We have established a de facto moratorium on development projects which encroach upon open space lands in Plumas County. We have partnered with the Sierra County Land Trust to purchase up to 1,000 acres in the Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin for water quality, habitat and open space protection. We aided the residents of the City of Loyalton to successfully derail a developer's plan for leap frog development into neighboring ranches. We convinced Plumas County that their Land Use Planning process is in need of revision. We galvanized the community of Sierraville in opposing plans for a gated-community development at the Sierra Valley Hot Springs site. We plugged a loophole in the Sierra County Zoning Code making measures to mitigate environmental impact enforceable.

Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin Coalition

Contact: Jan Hunt Boucher

County: Sierra

Address: PO Box 335

Sierra City CA 96125-0335

Phone: 530-862-1146

Email: jhbou@sccn.net

Mission Statement: We are dedicated to the Preservation of the Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin Special Treatment Area in Sierra County. We monitor proposed development in the STA to assure it the protections provided in the Sierra County General Plan and State law. We monitor the US Forest Service for proper adherence to state and federal laws in STA.

Current Work: We work on preventing development permits and since the formation of our coalition, there have been no developments in our county. We have also filed lawsuits many times opposing developments that violate the Sierra County General Plan and State Law.

Successes: We succeeded in getting 3 privately owned cabins that were illegally habited and built in upper Sardine Lake on public US Forest Service land to be taken out. We are in process on working to get another group cabin out of private ownership on this same land.

Central Subregion: (Counties of Yuba, Placer, El Dorado & Nevada)

Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation

Contact: Karen Schambach
Address: PO Box 603
Georgetown CA 95634-4057
Phone: 530-333-1113
Email: csnckaren@gmail.com

County: El Dorado
Website: www.sierraconservation.org

Mission Statement: The Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation works in the El Dorado National Forest/Sierra Nevada Mountains on private and public forestry issues, off-road vehicle management, wildlife issues, and land use.

Our current work includes private forestry, Forest Service ORV route designation, and a lawsuit against El Dorado County over their Oak Woodland Management plan.

Successes: Getting Forest Service to do OHV designation via lawsuit.

Citizens Concerned About Traffic (CCAT)

Contact: Gary Emanuel
Address: Po Box 1771
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530-271-5796
Email: info@ccatnc.org

County: Western Nevada County
Website: www.ccatnc.org

Mission Statement: To preserve a desirable quality of life in Western Nevada County by having development take place in a measured way, with governmental processes set in place and implemented in a manner in which potential traffic problems are mitigated and resolved before they occur.

Current work: Working with other community groups to have a ballot measure approved by the voters of the City of Grass Valley, requiring the City Council to adhere to its General Plan.

Successes: CCAT Membership has risen to over 500. Only minor traffic improvements have occurred, even though major efforts have been expended in attempting to change traffic policies in the City of Grass Valley and Nevada County. We continue to publish and distribute four times a year a newsletter to approximately 4,000 people in Western Nevada County via email and hard copy.

Challenges: CCAT has been particularly concerned about the need for additional analyses of the existing and proposed road networks regarding the ability of the residents to evacuate because of fire and other hazards. Both the City and County have indicated that there is no need for such concern. In mid 2007, CCAT and the City of Grass Valley agreed to conduct periodic liaison meetings. Two were held in 2007, but none have been conducted since.

Clover Valley Foundation

Contact: Marilyn Jasper
Address: PO Box 713
Loomis, CA 95650
Phone: 916-652-7005
Email: mjasper@accessbee.com

County: Placer
Website: <http://www.clovervalleyfoundation.org>

Mission Statement: Clover Valley Foundation is dedicated to protecting and preserving in perpetuity the pristine steep-sloped, narrow two-mile long valley known as Clover Valley in Rocklin, California, along with its prehistoric sites, wetlands, woodlands, wildlife, perennial creek, and scenic ridges. Instead of destroying its 622 acres with the proposed construction of 558 dwellings, roads, and infrastructure, we envision the valley as an open space buffer with living museums, interpretive centers, educational facilities, wildlife preserve, hiking trails, and other passive recreational activities.

Current Work: Saving Clover Valley from destruction via unnecessary development. We're working in three arenas: Establishing a consortium to purchase the property; fundraising for CEQA litigation; preparing for a referendum.

Successes: Have stalled the proposed development for eight years; have reduced the proposal from an original 974 units to the current 558, which is still too many.

North Fork American River Alliance – NFARA

Contact: Jim Ricker
Address: PO Box 292
Gold Run, CA 95717
Phone: 530-389-8344
Email: jvricker@colfaxnet.com

County: Placer
Website: <http://www.nfara.org>

Mission Statement: To preserve the wild, scenic and cultural heritage within the watershed of the North Fork American River

Current Work: Maintaining public access to our public lands; limiting off highway vehicle (OHV) use on public lands; challenging inappropriate timber harvests; and ensuring development on Donner Summit fits with the environment, maintains existing community identity and is economically sustainable. Main strategy is involvement throughout the process and working with locals, private property owners, public agencies and other conservation groups. We are currently taking legal action against the property owner blocking a historic road that leads to Tahoe National Forest lands.

Successes: NFARA is new at this. Being recognized as a constructive voice and raising awareness of issues is an accomplishment, as is forming coalitions with like minded organizations in addressing issues like OHV use and Donner Summit development.

Rural Quality Coalition & Foundation

Contact: Cathi Scarpa
Address: PO Box 1346
Nevada City CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-0642
Email: rqinfo@ruralquality.org

County: Nevada
Website: www.ruralquality.org

Mission Statement: The Rural Quality Coalition & Foundation are non-profit organizations dedicated to:

- a common Sierra Foothill mission and goals to
- conserve and enhance a vigorous and sustainable balance
- between people, the economy, and natural resources, and to
- the advancement of policies and programs that foster this balance.

Current Work:

- [Agricultural Land Preservation](#)
- [Harmony Ridge Proposed Subdivision](#)

Successes: The City Council in early 2007 told the developer of Loma Rica Ranch that he must cut his proposed 1200 unit project number in half or less before they would even accept his application. This was a big victory. In February of 2008 Measure N, a ballot measure for “Yuba Highlands”, a proposed 5,000 unit 15,000 residential project outside of Nevada City was soundly defeated by a 3 to 1 margin.

Sierra Club - Maidu Group

Contact: Karen Gaia Pitts
Address: 225 Bluebird Ln
Folsom , CA 95630
Phone: 916-599-4329
Email: kgp@karengaia.net

County: El Dorado, Amador
Website: www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/maidu

Mission Statement: The Maidu Group of the Sierra Club works in El Dorado and Amador Counties, working on land use planning and sprawl prevention; protection of water resources and watersheds; monitoring of privatization of hydro-electric and water delivery systems and transfer of systems from federal to local ownership; monitoring of waste treatment facilities; open space and habit protection; protection of endangered, threatened, and rare species; monitoring and enforcement of mining regulations; monitoring and enforcement of timber harvest activity and regulations.

Current Work: We are working on reorganization, forest issues, comments on a water plan and preparing to work on a new General Plan for El Dorado County.

Sierra Club - Sierra Nevada Group

Contact: Barbara Rivenes
Address: 12826 Newtown Rd
Nevada City CA 95959
Phone: 530-477-7502
Email: rivenes@sbcgloabl.net

County: Nevada, Yuba
Website: www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/sierranevada

Mission Statement: As a Group of 1300 members within the Sierra Club, we embrace the Sierra Club mission "To explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environments. We are active on behalf of local issues in support of that mission through educational meetings, involvement in land use and forest protection.

Current Work: We are also following other various land use and development projects in Nevada County. We are also tracking the project for re-opening Idaho Maryland Mine, a gold mine that would operate within the city limits of Grass Valley.

Successes: With different partners, we defeated through a referendum the Yuba Highlands development, 5100 home unit in Yuba County with leapfrog development 20 miles from any other developments and would have threatened the Spenceville Wildlife Refuge. We and our partners worked with the Board Supervisors to allow us to run a public referendum on the project and the results were 80% against the project.

Sierra Club - Placer Group

Contact: Marylyn Jasper

County: Placer

Address: PO Box 7167

Auburn, CA 95604

Phone: 916-652-7005

Email: mjasper@accessbee.com

Mission Statement: As residents of Placer County, which embraces the peaks of the Sierra Nevada down through the foothills to the valley floor, we support and promote the “Explore, enjoy, and protect” principles of the Sierra Club. Education to leave no trace and restoration of fragile ecosystems are necessary ingredients for appreciation, responsible use, and preservation of our magnificent environmental resources.

Current Work: We have about ten large, destructive projects that our shadow government (developers) has pushed on unsuspecting citizens. From Placer Vineyards (14,000 to 21,000 units, depending upon whom you talk to), Placer Parkway, Clover Valley, Colfax Wastewater Issues, Off Road Vehicle areas, a Habitat Conservation Plan which will protect the last vernal pool complexes that is being torpedoed.

Successes: Elected officials still talk to us.

Sierra Club - Tahoe Area

Contact: Michael Donahoe and/or Jennifer Quashnick

County: El Dorado

Address: Tahoe Area Sierra Club

Website: <http://motherlode.sierraclub.org/tahoe/>

PO Box 16936

South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151

Phone: 775-588-5466 (Michael) OR 530-577-4233 (Jennifer)

Email: donahoe@charter.net

Mission Statement: The Tahoe Area Sierra Club Group (TASC) is working to protect and preserve the Lake Tahoe area (and we like to get out and enjoy it too!). We meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Douglas County Fire Station in Round Hill. We are focused on several issues: watch-dogging the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) to make sure they protect Lake Tahoe; stopping the planned over-development for the Martis Valley; preserving sensitive parcels of raw land like Burke Creek. We also host outings: hike, snowshoe, XC ski, etc. with other conservation minded people!

Current Work: We are working to ensure that the new 20 year regional plan safeguards Lake Tahoe for future generations. We are also focused on preserving public access to the lake and preventing the proliferation of private piers and buoys.

Successes: We had a major success in preserving a threatened old growth stand at Heavenly Valley Ski Resort. We helped to drastically reduce the size and amount of development in Martis Valley. We also established a great outing program with an emphasis on flower hikes.

Sierra Foothills Audubon Society

Contact: Don Rivenes
Address: PO Box 1937
Grass Valley CA 95945
Phone: 530-477-7502
Email: rivenes@sbcglobal.net

County: Nevada, Placer, Yuba
Website: www.sierrafoothillsaudubon.org

Mission Statement: It is the mission of the Sierra Foothills Audubon Society to educate ourselves and others to the variety and the beauty of our natural environment and to protect our wildlife and natural places.

Current work: We are working in partnership with other groups to stop the egregious Yuba Highlands and Royal Gorge developments. We are submitting comments and getting legal help as needed.

Successes: We provided financial support for an important research project investigating the biology and population status of California black rails in the northern Sierra foothills. We jointly settled a Roseville development lawsuit resulting in 85 million dollars to be made available to the Placer Land Trust for acquisition of grassland habitats in Placer County, as well as major increases in funding for air quality improvements and public transit.

South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL)

Contact: Jason Rainey
Address: 216 Main Street
Nevada City CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-5961 x 207
Email: jason@syrccl.org

County: Nevada
Website: www.syrccl.org

Mission Statement: SYRCL's mission is to protect, preserve and restore the entire Yuba watershed. SYRCL was formed in 1983 to combat dam threats on the South Yuba River and has a 20-year record of measurable successes including achieving Wild and Scenic status for the Yuba in 1999. We have established a positive reputation as a model collaborator and built trust among diverse interests while aggressively advocating in defense of the Yuba. With the help of our 4500 supporters and 500 active volunteers SYRCL has developed five unique and effective programs to defend the Yuba ecosystem and have designed programs to be models for other groups.

Current work: The issues we are currently working on include restoring the last run of native Central Valley salmon and steelhead to the upper Yuba, monitoring water quality, preventing pollution, stopping dams and teaching the community how to protect their watershed.

South Central Subregion: (Counties of Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne and Mariposa)

Blue Mountain Community Renewal Council

Contact: Susan McMorris
Address: PO Box 1441
West Point CA 95255
Phone: 209-293-2272
Email: health2wealth@volcano.net

County: Calaveras

Mission Statement: The BMCRC is a steering group member and supporter of a grassroots, community effort to define and establish a Community Land Use and Zoning Plan, which will supersede the Calaveras County General Plan for our area. The county has not updated the General Plan in nearly 30 years, so our region's character and rural environment are at risk of excessive, poorly planned and managed development. Our goal is to change that by implementing local control by existing residents.

Calaveras Community Action Project (A Project of Ebbett's Pass Forest Watch)

Contact: Mickey Williamson, CAP Coordinator
OR Tom Infusino, Facilitator, Calaveras Planning Coalition
Phone: 209-728-0710 (Mickey)
209-295-8866 (Tom)
Email: cap@goldrush.com (Mickey)
tomi@volcano.net (Tom)

County: Calaveras

Website: <http://www.calaverascap.com>

Mission Statement: A land use subgroup of EPFW, the Community Action Project was formed to promote community-based democracy in Calaveras County so that local citizens have the maximum possible control of quality of life issues that affect them. Behind this mission lies a vision that by promotion of and participation in the local democratic process, CAP will serve to facilitate the adoption of sustainable timber harvest practices in the county and the maintenance of a high quality of life both in the county and the region.

Current Work: We are working on county-wide citizen participation in the county General Plan update process, community plan updates, monitoring and providing comment on proposed development projects, and education.

Successes: Mobilized citizen advocacy that led to county commitment to a comprehensive update of the general plan; gathered county grassroots groups and organizations into the Calaveras Planning Coalition; faithful public participation at Planning Commission meetings and all phases of the general plan update; community plan updates underway in several communities; educational workshops sponsored by community groups; input to and comment on the general plan Baseline Report; citizens have successfully worked to improve the process of the Planning Commission; influenced the Board of Supervisors toward wise planning – captured in a news headline: “A new visions for Calaveras; No more sprawl.”

Calaveras Planning Coalition

Contact: Tom Infusino
Address: P.O. Box 792
Pine Grove, CA 95665
Phone: 209-295-8866
Email: tomi@volcano.net

County: Calaveras
Website: www.calaverascap.com

Mission Statement: The mission of the Calaveras Planning Coalition is to promote public participation in land use and resource planning to ensure a healthy human, natural, and economic environment now and in the future. The Calaveras Planning Coalition is a group of community organizations and individuals united behind eleven "Land Use and Development Principles." We want a healthy, sustainable future that will be reflected in the people, the land, and the economy of Calaveras County. We are neighbors, friends, local businesspeople, parents, grandparents, and volunteers. Formed in 2006, the Coalition supports a comprehensive update of the Calaveras County General Plan and updates of individual community plans. We believe public participation is critical to a successful planning process and necessary to preserve the unique character of the region. We care about our agricultural heritage, our foothill oaks and mountain forests, and our Gold Rush history. We want to balance their preservation with jobs, housing, safety, and services.

Current Projects: The Coalition works on the General Plan Update, and comments on specific development projects. We use strategies and tactics from [Saving Sierra Places](#).

Successes: The CPC helped to convince Calaveras County to prepare a comprehensive update of its General Plan with public participation. We provided the County with two volumes of baseline information to assist them in updating the general plan, and a subsequent volume of corrections for their draft baseline report. We have publicized, attended, and spoken at community plan update meetings, and general plan update hearings. We have supported County policies to screen development project applications using some smart growth principles. We have helped new neighborhood groups to form and to participate effectively in the County's CEQA and project review processes. Member groups are soliciting and getting more scrutiny of local development projects by State and Federal agencies responsible for protecting public health, safety, and the environment. We have gotten the message out through the media and educational events that critical quality of life issues depend upon a good general plan being implemented by a good Board of Supervisors. We have helped to get the Planning Department and the Planning Commission to improve some procedures for distributing information to the public, and for conducting of public hearings. We have served as an educational resource and incubator for citizens with/seeking direct roles in local government agencies.

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

Contact: John Buckley
Address: PO Box 396
Twain Harte CA 95383-0396
Phone: 209-586-7440
Email: johnb@cserc.org

County: Tuolumne & Calaveras
Website: www.cserc.org

Mission statement: Identify threats to the environment, educate area residents about the threats, find feasible solutions, and advocate on behalf of those solutions.

Current work: CSERC reviews and provides written comments, testimony, and fieldwork for every proposed development project across 2,000,000 acres of the local region. We use public educational ads, fieldwork monitoring, detailed written input, and oral testimony at hearings to press for environmental mitigation measures, improved project design, and the denial of the worst projects.

Successes: CSERC has effectively gained improved protection for oaks in many projects in both Tuolumne and Calaveras Counties. In numerous projects we have gained open space, building envelopes, and setbacks from

streams or wetlands. More important, we believe we are one of the reasons why Calaveras County is updating and revising the County's General Plan, and why Tuolumne County is revising its grading ordinance and adopting a strict oak protection policy.

Foothill Conservancy

Contact: Chris Wright
Address: PO Box 1255
Pine Grove CA 95665-1255
Phone: 209-295-4900
Email: chris@foothillconservancy.org

County: Amador and Calaveras
Website: www.foothillconservancy.org

Mission Statement: To restore, protect, and sustain the natural and human environment in Amador and Calaveras Counties for the benefit of local residents.

Current Work: We work on 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. Amador and Calaveras County are updating their General Plans, and we are very heavily involved with both of those processes. We are also helping to sponsor a region wide smart growth conference in September 2007 in Tuolumne City.

Success: With the help of our local communities, we stopped the Jackson Hills proposal for a 540-house suburban-style golf course subdivision on French Bar Road on the edge of Jackson. In addition, with help of our local communities, we stopped the Pointe Ranch development (2000 units) in Valley Springs. This work protected thousands of acres of Oak woodlands. In addition, we stopped the over-expansion of a water pipeline for Plymouth siting insufficient environmental review.

Mariposans for the Environment and Responsible Government

Contact: Bart Brown
Address: PO Box 2121
Mariposa CA 95338-2121
Phone: 209-377-8262
Email: emlacc@hughes.net

County: Mariposa
Website: www.merg-mariposa.org

Mission Statement: Our purpose is to inform the public and decision makers about environmental issues so that the best choices can be made for a sustainable high quality of life for present and future Mariposans as change comes to our community.

Current work: We are working to implement the recently-adopted General Plan update for Mariposa County. We are trying to fend off the developers who want to water the new plan down. We are also advocating to have a water study conducted in Mariposa county and the foothill areas in order to try to direct development and preserve rural character. We are engaged in long term litigation with the National Park Service over their failure to produce a management plan for the Wild and Scenic Merced River, and the invalidity of the one finally produced.

Successes: Our biggest success has been the adoption of the Rural Preservation Alternative for Mariposa County's General Plan.

Tuolumne County Citizens for Responsible Growth

Contact: Lisa Vaughn
Address: PO Box 4056
Sonora, CA 95370
Phone: 209-588-1791

County: Tuolumne
Email: lisa@behappy.com

Mission Statement: Working to sustain and enhance the greater Sonora, California area's rural quality of life and historic value through activism and advocacy of policies supporting a livable rural community.

Current Work: We support and encourage responsible economic growth in the county, and work to provide protection for Sonora's scenic and historic gateways by advocating suitable uses for these properties. We strongly encourage developers to include responsible mitigation and submit thoughtful design solutions for site development. We initiate proposals for possible ordinances that will ensure the future of our unique community identity and encourage citizen participation in the county's future plans. Our current focus working on a settlement after winning a lawsuit against city of Sonora and Lowes Building Supply over a big-box development proposal. We will have decision by end of August, 2007.

Successes: We were successful in our lawsuit against the city of Sonora and Lowes Building Supply over a big-box development proposal. We are now working on settlement for a better proposal. In the proposal, the city and Lowes were trying to pass the project approvals without proper CEQA analysis by splitting the project into two parts – the Lowes building and the road improvements, which would impact a stream area. The court agreed with us saying that these were not separate projects and should be considered one single project which meant that the project approval was thrown out and now the full project is undergoing a full EIR instead of a negative declaration.

Voters Choice of Tuolumne County

Contact: Gil Farkas
Address: PO Box 602
Sonora CA 95370
Phone: 209-533-8525
Email: info@tuolumnevoterschoice.com

County: Tuolumne
Website: www.tuolumnevoterschoice.com

Mission Statement: Advocate for smart growth and quality of life in Tuolumne County. Disseminate information to the public and decision makers; monitor and submit comments on development proposals; attend public meetings.

Current Work: Mainly fighting a subdivision called Mountain Springs. We successfully defeated the developers via ballot referendum. Unfortunately however, they same developers are back proposing a new plan. We will do another ballot referendum again if need be. We are also fighting a golf course subdivision planned at the junction of 108 and 120 near Yosemite. There are five golf courses proposed for the area and we trying to fight them all.

Successes: We have successfully fought off division of agricultural land in the last year. We are also responsible for a change in developers building affordable housing in the area. An ordinance on affordable housing requirements is being voted on by the Board of Supervisors in the county that we helped enact. It is hopeful to see that developers are already following those guidelines today even though it hasn't been approved yet!

Wallace Citizens Serving Residents

Contact: Jackie Neill
Address: PO Box 43
Wallace, CA 95254
Phone: 209-763-5103
Email: jackieneill@comcast.net

County: Calaveras
website: wallcae@sr.com

Mission Statement: To promote conservation and protect rural living in Calaveras County.

Current Work: We are working to stop zoning amendments before completion of the new General Plan update. We are also working to make sure that water availability is a central issue in subdivision approval in the area.

Eastern Subregion: (Counties of Alpine, Mono & Inyo)

Advocates for Mammoth

Contact: Mary Ann Dunigan
Address: PO Box 2005
Mammoth Lakes CA 93546
Phone: 760-924-5982
Email: info@advocatesformammoth.org

County: Mono
Website: www.advocatesformammoth.org

Mission statement: Advocates for Mammoth has been formed to present an avenue for ensuring that community input is received and recognized in planning and zoning decisions made by the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Current Work: The General Plan update is our main focus of work right now. The main goal is to ensure a new, sound general plan that reflects the wishes of community.

Success: We are very hopeful that all of our hard work on creating a successful General Plan update will come to an end soon. We just need to give the City Council one final push and we feel that our work will be a success.

Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers

Contact: Andrea Lawrence
Address: Box 100 PMB 334
Mammoth Lakes CA 93546-0043
Phone: 760-934-2877
Email: andrea@alimar.org; alimarandrea@yahoo.com

County: Inyo, Mono, Alpine
Website: www.alimar.org

Mission Statement: ALIMAR serves as a catalyst for positive community change by developing, implementing and maintaining a cohesive regional vision integrating natural, cultural and spiritual values with economic and social needs.

Current Work: We are currently working on developing a film and speaker workshop festival. ALIMAR will also provide education forums, serve as a 'Regional Planning Repository' and provide General Plan analyses for Inyo and Mono Counties and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. If the Town of Mammoth Lakes general plan update becomes unduly contentious, which is likely, ALIMAR may seek a more active role to foster collaboration and consensus.

Successes: At a very successful 'think tank' held in February 2004, attendees identified six core issues they felt presented significant regional challenges and volunteered to serve on working groups to explore solutions. ALIMAR serves as a collaborative base for these groups, providing administrative support, convening meetings, moderating discussions, and synthesizing and disseminating information to achieve group consensus. The six 'working groups' are; Regional Identity, Sustainable Agriculture, Carrying Capacity, Community Involvement, Housing and Development Guidelines, and Science and Inventory.

Bristlecone Chapter CA Native Plant Society

Contact: Steve McLaughlin
Address: PO Box 819
Big Pine CA 93513
Email: spmjeb@qnet.com

County: Inyo, Mono
Website: www.bristleconecnps.org

Mission Statement: The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a state-wide non-profit organization of lay persons and professionals who share an interest in California's native plants. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase the understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. The **Bristlecone Chapter** covers all of Mono and Inyo Counties and northeastern Kern County.

Current Work: Working on issues applicable to native plants and vegetation. Commenting on groundwater pumping and diversion plans by Los Angeles Dept. of Water & Power in the Owens Valley. We are focusing attention on the excessive groundwater pumping conducted by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) and the destructive effects this pumping is having on Owens Valley alkali meadow habitat. This habitat is rare in California and is home to a number of rare species. We have many events coming up!

Eastern Sierra Audubon Society

Contact: James Wilson
Address: PO Box 624
Bishop CA 93515
Phone: 760-873-7520
Email: wilsons@telis.org

County: Inyo
Website: www.esaudubon.org

Mission Statement: Eastern Sierra Audubon Society is a local chapter of Audubon based in Eastern California. We have over 250 members. Our mission is working to conserve the wildlife and wild lands of our area, especially birds, through advocacy, stewardship, and education.

Current work: please see our website.

Successes: please see our website.

Friends of Hope Valley

Contact: Debbi Waldear
Address: P.O. Box 431
Markleeville CA 96120
Phone: 530-694-1701
Email: info@hopevalleyca.com

County: Alpine
Website: www.hopevalleyca.com

Mission Statement: The Friends of Hope Valley is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the historic, recreational and scenic values of Hope Valley, a spectacular alpine valley that lies just south of the Tahoe Basin. The lush meadowlands of Hope Valley, historically used for ranching, lend its open space and pristine beauty to many recreational activities: hiking, skiing, fishing, camping, and photography. Since 1985, "Friends" has worked to preserve the valley by playing a key role supporting public acquisitions. "Friends" also takes an active role with public agencies in the management of Hope Valley, contributing time and funds for special

projects and “sweat and muscle” annual workdays, whether that be in fence maintenance, stream restoration or other management needs.

Current Work: We are currently focused on a recreation winter use plan for Hope Valley and Eastern Alpine County. We are also working on a right of way issue in Pleasant Valley. We are also working on the Markleeville Guard station on Markleeville creek; we plan to re-design the USFS cabin to its original state.

Successes: Continued good work on issues listed above.

Friends of the Inyo

Contact: Paul McFarland
Address: 699 West Line St Suite A
Bishop CA 93514
Phone: 760-873-6500
Email: paulmc@friendsoftheinyo.org

Counties: Inyo & Mono
Website: www.friendsoftheinyo.org

Mission Statement: Our priority is preserving the ecological, cultural and recreational integrity of Eastern Sierra public lands through education, advocacy and stewardship programs, especially existing wilderness areas, BLM wilderness study areas, Forest Service RARE II areas. Focus on Mono-Inyo Counties, BLM and USFS land.

Current work: Working to create a sustainable and manageable route network in the Eastern Sierra for the US National Forest route designation process. Also working to sustain and improve public lands through direct public stewardship.

Successes: Within the last year we organized over 1000 volunteer and 6,000 hours of work on public lands, everything from creek restoration to creating a handicap fishing dock.

Mono Lake Committee

Contact: Lisa Cutting
Address: PO Box 29
Lee Vining CA 93541
Phone: 760-647-6595
Email: lisa@monolake.org

County: Mono
Website: www.monolake.org

Mission Statement: Assure protection of Mono Lake; restore damaged stream and lake habitats; educate public about Mono Lake, impacts of water use, water conservation, and cooperative solutions to problems. Interests also include saline lakes, creek restoration, Great Basin birds, hydro-relicensing and dam operations. Connect urban youth and constituency with Mono Lake and Sierra as source of their water through multi-day education programs. Also educate public through field seminars, public visitor center, and naturalist walks. Watchdog land and lake use in the Mono Basin for any adverse effects on the resource values of Mono Lake. Advocate protection and restoration of Mono Basin natural habitats. Develop overall policy on recreation in the heavily visited Mono Basin. Seek passive, quiet recreational opportunities consistent with the experience of solitude. Observe bird use of Mono Basin with a focus on migratory birds.

Current Work: Continued work as mentioned above. Also, we offer canoe tours and interpretive walks. Please see our website for more details.

Successes: Recently the Committee produced guiding principles to evaluate land development projects in the Mono Basin. These principles helped us work through a proposed development project inappropriate for the west

shore of Mono Lake. Various options were considered and pursued and ultimately Mammoth Mountain Ski Area purchased the majority of the parcel for trade into permanent protection to the Forest Service.

Save Round Valley Alliance Advocates for Smart Growth

Contact: Jennifer Fenton or Lynne Almeida
Address: 757 Rome Drive
Bishop CA 93514
Phone: 760-872-3839
Email: saveroundvalley@gmail.com

County: Inyo
Website: www.srva.net

Mission Statement: SRVA Advocates for Smart Growth is a grassroots organization working to protect and enhance the quality of life in Inyo County by encouraging appropriate planning and development that safeguard our natural environment, our regional economy, and the interests of local residents.

Current Work: Two projects we are currently working on are the Pine Creek Communities Development and the Whitney Portal Preserve. We brought a CEQA case against the Whitney Portal Preserve project before the Inyo Superior Court but did not win the case. We then won an appeal in December and the original judgment was overturned by a District court in Riverside on basis that the developer's EIR did not adequately look for suitable land trades. Recently, the Developer submitted a revised EIR, which is not worse or better and we have submitted comments.

Southern Subregion: (Counties of Madera, Fresno, Tulare & Kern)

Friends of Jesse Morrow Mountain

Contact: Gloria Unruh
Address: 36327 Hawthorn Lane
Squaw Valley, CA 93675
Phone: 559-338-3230
Email: glosquaw@aol.com

County: Fresno
Website: friendsofjessemorrowmountain.org

Mission Statement: Friends of Jesse Morrow Mountain's purpose is to prevent mining on Jesse Morrow, and protect Jesse Morrow Mountain's cultural, historical, biological, water and visual significance as a gateway to the National Parks and Monuments.

Current Work: Prevent mining on Jesse Morrow Mountain. We are creating public awareness of the health and safety factors involved with blasting a mountain.

Successes: Successfully put together events and fundraisers and attended public meetings.

Sierra and Foothill Citizens Alliance

Contact: Gary Temple
Address: PO Box 520
Prather CA 93651-0520
Phone: 559-855-5653
Email: mtntop@netptc.net

County: Fresno
Website: www.sierrafoothillwater.org

Mission Statement: The Sierra and Foothill Citizens Alliance (SAFCA) was created as a way to increase opportunities for involvement and local representation for residents in our mountain and foothill communities, pertaining to water and land use issues, within the unincorporated areas of eastern Fresno County.

Current Work: Our primary focus is to prevent or mitigate potentially adverse impacts of land use decisions in the mountains and foothills of eastern Fresno County. We are currently working on increasing our understanding of groundwater systems and how they are impacted by development in the foothill areas by partnering with local water agencies, universities and community partners to conduct various studies and identify policies for better protection of our water resources. We are also partnering with the Sierra Resource Conservation District as working members of the San Joaquin River Watershed Stewardship Council and active members of the South Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Planning effort.

Successes: The County conducted a regional foothill/mountain groundwater study, at our urging, and adopted the recommendations of that study. This is an important step towards sustainable groundwater management and land use planning in the foothills of Fresno County.

Sierra Club - Kern Kaweah Chapter

Contact: Arthur Unger
Address: 2815 La Cresta Drive
Bakersfield CA 93305
Phone: 661-323-5569
Email: alunger@juno.com

County: Kern, Kings, Tulare
Website: <http://kernkaweah.sierraclub.org>

Mission Statement: Explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth. Practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources. Educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment. Use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

Current Work: We are working in partnership with local land trusts to encourage the purchase of conservation easements to offset land lost to development.

Successes: We were instrumental in winning a lawsuit to rescind the disastrous Giant Sequoia Monument Management Plan that would have logged more in the Monument than before the Monument was created. We also won an injunction on four timber sales that would have further degraded habitat for the already beleaguered Pacific fishery.

Sierra Club Mineral King Group

Contact: Mary Moy
Address: P.O. Box 3543
Visalia, CA 93278
Phone: 559-761-0592
Email: mary.moy@kernkaweah.sierraclub.org

County: Tulare
Website: <http://kernkaweah.sierraclub.org/mineralking/>

Mission Statement: To explore, enjoy and protect the planet! The Mineral King Group carries on a variety of conservation and outdoor activities, working on city, county and regional conservation issues, and enjoying and working for the protection of the nearby Sequoia National Park and Sequoia National Forest.

Current Work: In February of 2007 we sent in comments for the draft Tulare County General Plan Goals and policy Report. The Club is concerned that the draft GPR lacks adequate implementation measures and mitigation to assure these values and goals will be achieved. We are also fighting the Boswell Yokohl Ranch development plans.

Tulare County Citizens for Responsible Growth

Contact: Ellis Norris (short-term contact)
Address: P.O. Box 1058
Three Rivers, CA 93271
Phone: 559-561-4479
Email: tccrg@earthlink.net

County: Tulare
Website: <http://www.tccrg.org/site/>

Mission Statement: Working to ensure that future growth protects our local economy, rural communities and natural resources.

Current Work: TCCRG is focused on a campaign to ensure Tulare County's General Plan Update reflects the expressed desire of residents to preserve agricultural land and open space, and direct growth into existing communities. We are also working to stop or scale back plans for a new town of up to 50,000 people in the remote Yokohl Valley in the Sierra foothills.

Successes: In our first 18 months, TCCRG has submitted three detailed comment letters on the draft General Plan and related policy issues, and we have created a strong base of 25 dedicated volunteers and conducted outreach to hundreds of local residents.

WildPlaces

Contact: Mehmet McMillan
Address: PO Box 853
Springville CA 93265
Phone: 559-539-5263
Email: mehmet@wildplaces.net

County: Tulare
Website: www.wildplaces.net

Mission Statement: WildPlaces Ecological Restoration and Education's mission is to protect and restore wild and rural lands and the peoples who live in and depend on them. We accomplish this through volunteer-driven habitat restoration, environmental education, and political action. Our Immersed in the Wild Program is a youth-attended education/outdoor classroom activity in a wild setting.

Current Work: we have a rangeland oak woodlands demonstration site on a private ranch. Landowners can come see how the blue oak landscape can intertwine with agriculture and livestock land uses at this site. We also incorporate other farms where people have implemented similar projects in the tour. We advocate for native plant use on private lands and have a native plant nursery that is open to the public.

Successes: Greatest success is the “Immersed in the Wild” youth programs which help expose kids to wild places. Also, the land advocacy program which has become more powerful than we thought helped create a new group called TCCRG. We are very proud to have been an instrumental part of their formation.

Nevada Subregion (Counties of Douglas, Washoe and Carson)

Sierra Club - Toiyabe Chapter

Contact: David Hornbeck
Address: PO Box 8096
Reno, NV 89507
Email: chair@toiyabe.sierraclub.org

County: Douglas, Washoe, Carson
Website: <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/>

Mission Statement: The Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club serves Nevada and eastern California. Founded in 1957 the Chapter has focused on wilderness protection, public lands issues, and water. The chapter has had campaigns protecting Lake Tahoe, Pyramid Lake, Lower Owens Valley River, Truckee River flood management, wetlands in Lahontan Valley, and protection of surface and groundwater in order to protect ecosystems and local economies. Members are active in access and trails development, land acquisition, and forest management. Its four groups in southern Nevada, eastern California, Lake Tahoe and Great Basin offer weekly outings and monthly programs. The chapter also joins coalitions to monitor and protect natural resources.

Current work: We currently are working on water withdrawal in Nevada and in Lake Tahoe. We are also active in responding to public lands issues.

Successes: Re-watering lower Owens River, won on a health and transportation issues in Los Vegas. We are successful in fighting water applications in eastern NV. Also, we are getting involved with public land bills that give away public lands to developers.

Regional Organizations:

Groups working throughout the entire Sierra Nevada

Sierra Business Council

Contact: Steve Frisch
Address: PO Box 2428
Truckee CA 96160-2428
Phone: 530-582-4800 x 311
Email: sfrisch@sbcouncil.org

County: all
Website: www.sbcouncil.org

Mission Statement: To pioneer and demonstrate innovative approaches and solutions that foster community vitality, environmental quality, economic prosperity, and social fairness in the Sierra Nevada.

Current work: Areas of interest include sustainable communities, affordable housing, recreation planning, rural economic development, and leadership development and public policy analysis and participation strategies.

Sierra Club - Mother Lode Chapter

Contact: Terry Davis
Address: 801 K Street, Suite 2700
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-557-1100 x 108
Email: terry.davis@sierraclub.org

County: Northern and Central Sierra Nevada
Website: www.motherlode.sierraclub.org

Mission Statement: The Sierra Club's members are over 700,000 of your friends and neighbors. Inspired by nature, we work together to protect our communities and the planet. The Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. Mother Lode Chapter serves 24 northern California counties. Volunteer leaders in 11 local groups work together to provide opportunities for Club members to explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

Current Work: We are involved in many projects including general plan updates, development proposals, habitat conservation plans, and national and private forestland issues. , We work on protection of wild rivers, flood control and water supply problems; flood control zoning, levees and reservoir operations. We support compact growth, affordable housing, and increased public transit. We seek an end to clear cutting in the Sierra, and support fuels reduction limited to small diameter fuels. We have an extensive outings and backcountry recreation program. We work for the protection of endangered, threatened and rare species and important habitat, and the protection of agricultural lands from sprawl.

Successes: Involved in stopping the largest timber sale in the Sierra. Tahoe group successfully protected old growth stand at Heavenly.

Sierra Watch

Contact: Peter Van Zant
Address: 408 Broad St. #12
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-2849
Email: pvanzant@sierrawatch.org

Website: www.sierrawatch.org

Mission Statement: Sierra Watch is a non-profit organization dedicated to defending the incomparable natural resources and unparalleled quality of life in the Sierra Nevada from sprawling development.

Current work: Sierra Watch continues to play a lead role in protecting Tahoe's Martis Valley. And we are spearheading and supporting efforts to protect threatened landscapes throughout the Sierra, providing strategic resources to defend Dyer Mountain in the North and Mount Whitney in the South, and playing a lead role in defending iconic Donner Summit.

Recent Successes: In Martis Valley, Sierra Watch has capped development, protected thousands of acres, raised tens of millions of dollars in conservation funding, and will lead directly to the construction of much-needed workforce housing. Elsewhere, we've greatly increased the likelihood of permanent protection of threatened landscapes on Dyer Mountain, the base of Mount Whitney, and on Donner Summit.

Sierra Fund

Contact: Izzy Martin
Address: 432 Broad St
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: 530-265-8454
Email: info@sierrafund.org

Website: www.sierrafund.org/

Mission Statement: The Sierra Fund was established in 2001 as the only community foundation dedicated exclusively to saving the Sierra Nevada.

Our mission is to protect and preserve the Sierra for all who love it and who depend on its abundant resources. We do this by partnering with public donors and private agencies to increase and organize conservation investments in the land, air, water and human resources of the Sierra Nevada.

Current work:

Recent Successes:

Current Large Land Use Projects in the Sierra Nevada

Rough criteria for inclusion in this list:

- ❖ Project must be a minimum of roughly 500 units or a minimum of around ~1000 acres
- ❖ Project must be in process or have EIRs pending
- ❖ Only projects recorded are those projects reported by land use groups to the Alliance. Therefore, this list is not comprehensive of all large projects proposed in the region, but does provide a snapshot of some major development proposals.

Northern Subregion (Modoc, Shasta, Lassen)

1) Project Name: Dyer Mt. Resort

- Location: Lassen County, near Lake Almanor, Westwood, California
- Size: 4,000+ homes not counting condos, three golf courses, ski resort with gondola and 10 chair lifts on approximately 7000 acres
- Project Description: The project is presently in bankruptcy. Opposed by: Mountain Meadows Conservancy, local Sierra Club group and Sierra Watch. Suit pending in Lassen Superior Court against the project. Potential lawsuits against Lassen County and Dyer Mt. Associates.

North Central Subregion (Plumas, Tehama, Sierra, Butte)

1) Project Name: Lakefront at Walker Ranch

- Location: Plumas County, on the west side of the Lake Almanor Peninsula
- Size: 1,674 residential dwelling units. 100,000 square feet on 9 acres for retail and convenience commercial floor area. 150-room resort hotel/spa on 14 acres. 18-hole golf course on 256 acres. 7-acre wastewater treatment plant facility. 37-acre recycled water storage ponds. Approximately 410 acres of open space (including the 188-acre Bailey Creek Open Space Dedication and 222 acres of open space buffers) are planned. Total acreage: 1,397 acres.
- Project Description: Permit proposes a mix of land uses including: single-family and multi-family residential uses, a commercial area, hotel/spa, an Open Space Dedication Area, open space buffers, and golf course land uses. Comments due on Draft Environmental Impact Report. For more information:
Jim Graham, Plumas Co. Planning Dept, at 283-6212.
Sharon (Sherrie) Thrall, Plumas County Supervisor, District 3, P.O. Box 368, Chester, CA 96020, (530) 258-3656

Central Subregion (Yuba, Placer, El Dorado, Nevada)

1) Project Name: Riolo Vineyards

- Location: Placer County, Dry Creek West Placer Community Plan (North of PFE Rd. between Watt Av. and Walerga Rd.)
- Size: 932 residential units consisting of low, medium, and high density on 676 acres
- Project Description: The applicant proposes development of a maximum of development as well as rural and agricultural residences. The proposal includes over 28 percent of the site for open space, pedestrian corridors, trails, parks and recreation areas, plus an additional 20 percent of the site for agricultural use.

2) Project Name: Clover Valley

- Location: Placer County, Rocklin, CA
- Size: Between 404 and 558 homes in the 622-acre valley.
- Project Description: Plan calls for between 404 and 588 residential units in the 622 acre valley. Discrepancy depends on whether the United Auburn Indian Community is able to purchase around 150 acres of the valley for historic/cultural preservation. Project site also calls for open space conservation, a

fire station and hiking and biking trails. Two lawsuits pending against the project. One filed by environmental organizations and one filed by the town of Loomis against on the project, both challenging adequacy of environmental review.

3) Project Name: Placer Vineyards

- Location: Southwest corner of Placer County, approximately 15 miles north of the City of Sacramento. The project site is bounded on the north by Baseline Road, on the south by the Sacramento/Placer County line, on the west by the Sutter/Placer County line and Pleasant Grove Road, and on the east by Dry Creek and Walerga Road.
- Size: 14,132 homes on ~ 5200 acres
- Project Description: The Plan will provide for 14,132 homes in a range of housing types, styles, and densities. At Plan build out, projected to occur over a 20 to 30-year time frame. Placer Vineyards will have a population of approximately 33,000 people, 274 acres of commercial uses, 641 acres of quasi-public (public facilities/services, religious facilities, schools, and major roadways) land uses, and 919 acres of park and open space land. The Board of Supervisors approved this Plan on July 16, 2007 and filed a Notice of Determination the same day.

4) Project Name: Royal Gorge Development by Royal Gorge LLC

- Location: Placer County, Donner Summit near Serene Lakes/Soda Springs
- Size: Not official, but possibly 950 units
- Project Description: No formal application has been submitted for the project

South Central Subregion (Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa)

1) Project Name: Mountain Springs Community Plan

- Location: 2-1/2 - 3 miles south of Sonora, in Tuolumne County on Lime Kiln Road, a narrow winding country passage.
- Size: 936 dwellings, 154 room hotel, 15,000 sq. ft. of retail, offices, (commercial center) on 1,056 acres.
- Project Description: It's a golf resort project which proposes to convert 1056 acres of agricultural land for residential and commercial zoning. A golf course, restaurant and shop have been in place for 15 years. Allowed to develop as open space, compatible with agricultural zoning.

2) Project Name: Wicklow Way subdivision

- Location: Amador County
- Size: Between 678 to 728 residential units on 200 acres
- Project Description: The subdivision of an approximately 200 acre parcel into 619 parcels consisting of a total of 678 to 728 residential units on 504 single family residential lots (ranging in size from approximately 6,000 square feet to over one acre), 99 town-home lots, 5.0 acres for a 75 to 125 unit apartment complex, four commercial parcels totaling approximately 29.4 acres (including approximately 226,000 square feet of commercial space and 133,294 square feet of self-storage), one parcel totaling 8.5 acres for a future school site, and nine parcels totaling 29.8 acres for parks and pathway areas

3) Project Name: Gold Rush Ranch-Sutter Creek

- Location: adjacent to Sutter Creek in Amador County
- Size: Approximately 1,350 residential units, an 18 hole golf course, a 60 room hotel and 300 timeshare units on ~945 acres
- Project Description: Gold Rush Ranch is a proposal for a golf course, resort and subdivision. It's very large in relation to the existing town, which has a current population of just under 3,000 people. The project includes: Nearly 1,350 homes, an 18-hole golf course, a 60-room hotel and 300 timeshare units. According to the California Oak Foundation in July 2008: "The Gold Rush Ranch and Golf Resort project in Sutter Creek (Amador County) describes its blue/interior live oak resources as covering 700 acres and 70 percent of the site. The population of trees measuring six inches in diameter and larger is 31,600 and development will remove 13,375 trees or 42 percent, including 1,950 (46 percent) of the trees greater than 16 inches in diameter."

- 4) Project Name: Grand Yosemite Golf & Wetland Preserve
 - Location: Tuolumne County, where Highway 120 splits off from Highway 108
 - Project Description: An 18-hole golf course, 50 houses, 300 time-share condos and a 150-room hotel on ~555 acres.
- 5) Project Name: Tuscany Hills project
 - Location: Tulloch Reservoir in Calaveras County
 - Size: 300+ residential units, a marina, a hotel, a golf course

Eastern Subregion (Alpine, Mono, Inyo)

1) Project Name: Bear Valley Village

- Location: Alpine County
- Size: 484 lodging new units, a new ski lift to Bear Valley-Mt. Reba, and a commercial complex
- Project Description: The Bear Valley Village project would replace the existing Lodge and Commercial Center at Bear Valley. The existing land uses (53 hotel rooms and approximately 14,400 square feet of commercial floor area) would be replaced with 486 lodging units (51 with lock-off units) plus approximately 24,400 square feet of retail floor area, 9,000 square feet of restaurant floor area, and 30,000 square feet of amenity/service space. This corresponds to a net increase of 484 units (counting all lock-off units as separate units) and 19,000 square feet of retail & restaurant floor area.

Southern Subregion (Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern)

1) Project Name: Yokohl Ranch

- Location: Remote part of Tulare County's foothills. (15 miles east and southeast of Visalia) off Highway 198.
- Size: 10,000 home planned community development. Yokohl Ranch is approximately 36,324 acres.
- Project Description: The project includes the phased development (over 20-30 years) of the Yokohl Ranch master planned community. The project is divided into 3 subareas: The Valley, The Meadows and The Oaks. Approximately 30 percent (9,500 acres) of the ranch is proposed for development with approximately 70 percent (26,000 acres) of the property to remain as open space and ranchlands. The project would construct 10,000 residential units, including active adult units; approximately 550,000 square feet of mixed use commercial areas; public/quasi-public areas; and infrastructure (e.g., roads, utilities, etc.) within three smaller planned areas on 36,324 acres. Yokohl Ranch would include fire and police facilities, public schools and public parks.

2) Project Name: Tulare Motor Sports Complex

- Location: Along the SE city limits of Tulare
- Size: Speedway racetrack and drag strip on a 711.09-acre site
- Project Description: The Tulare Motor Sports Complex, L.P. proposes to develop a 711.09-acre site with uses including a 1-mile, D-shaped oval super speedway racetrack; and drag strip. The proposed seating capacity is 52,800 spectators for the super speedway track and 39,800 spectators for the drag strip. The track and drag strip are expected to host a wide variety of national, regional, and local racing events. The racing venues would provide approximately six large events and numerous smaller events per year. A Go Kart Track would be constructed between the oval and the drag strip. In addition, the applicant proposes a mix of uses to be developed to include entertainment-related uses, luxury condominiums, commercial offices, a technology-oriented business park, retail stores, hotels, a 59-acre RV park, public services, and improved infrastructure.

Nevada Subregion (Douglas, Carson, Washoe)

None cited by Sierra Alliance Land Use Partners at this time.