

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Truckee Donner Land Trust

The County of Nevada Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing the Truckee Donner Land Trust and its more than 35 years of protecting and preserving open space in the greater Truckee Donner geographic region.

In 1990, a small group of passionate hikers founded the Truckee Donner Land Trust when the Coldstream Valley near Donner Lake was about to be lost to logging. In response, they raised \$150,000 to purchase 160 acres in the valley, preserving its legacy for years to come. Since that first successful effort, the Land Trust has continued to preserve open space in and around Truckee. Through conservation easements and the purchase of open space in strategic locations, the organization has helped to protect the character and quality of life for which Truckee is known.

A major focus of their work has been the ongoing effort to fill in the Sierra Nevada Checkerboard. This checkerboard land ownership pattern dates back to the 1860s and the transcontinental railroad, cutting the land into an every-other-square-mile ownership pattern and spanning several thousand acres. If left unprotected, these private parcels could be converted to rural sprawl in the coming years. This continued threat underscores the importance of the Truckee Donner Land Trust's mission and the lasting role the organization plays in protecting the region's open spaces.

Over the last 35 years, the Truckee Donner Land Trust has protected over 40,000 acres while ensuring continued recreational access and conserving lands for future generations. Even so, the mountains, canyons, meadows, lakes, and rivers that make the Truckee Donner region a great place to live, work, and recreate continue to face threats from growth and development. With the support of neighbors, donors, and partners, the Land Trust will continue working to protect this beautiful region.

The Land Trust's work, however, does not stop once an open space has been protected. Its ongoing stewardship efforts help ensure that these lands remain protected and accessible to future generations. This includes maintaining public access, managing forests to improve health and increase fire resiliency, constructing benches and kiosks, and building trails that promote responsible public use.

Therefore, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in recognizing the Truckee Donner Land Trust and its more than 35 years of protecting and preserving open space while providing ongoing stewardship in the greater Truckee Donner geographic region.

Lisa Swarthout, Chair

Heidi Hall, District I

Robb Tucker, District II

Susan K. Hoek, District IV

Hardy Bullock, District V