

## Coordinating the Roadmap to Wildfire Resilience in Nevada County

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The County Coordinator will lead efforts to create a cohesive and synergistic roadmap to wildfire resilience that will leverage agency partnerships and strategic community engagement toward robust action to protect the places the community values.

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The County Coordinator will serve in the role of central leader to foster wildfire resilience across Nevada County through stakeholder partnership, community engagement, strategic planning, and cross-county collaboration. Responsibilities include:

### **Support and Develop Collaboration and Partnership (20 hours per Week)**

- A. Administer and Facilitate Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings (Quarterly).
- B. Participate in cross-jurisdictional collaboratives: South Yuba Cohort, Yuba Forest Network, Convene Champion and Catalyze, and the Coalition of Firewise Communities (Monthly).
- C. Build Consensus and Develop New Partnerships (Daily/Weekly).
  - i. Support cross-county strategic planning such as CWPPs (Monthly).
  - ii. Incubate new wildfire resilience projects through grant funded research and implementation activities.

### **Lead Community Wildfire Education and Preparedness (20 hours per week)**

- A. Administer and implement the 2024 Nevada County OES Outreach and Engagement Strategy (Daily/Weekly)
    - i. Disseminate existing outreach materials such as “Ready, Set, Go” (Monthly).
    - ii. Develop new outreach materials for vulnerable populations including Spanish-speaking and youth (Monthly).
    - iii. Deepen educational resources for Firewise Communities to support increased capacity around wildfire mitigation (Daily/Weekly).
    - iv. Raise the visibility of opportunities and constraints for wildfire resilience in rural communities through public presentations at the state and national level (Quarterly).
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The County Coordinator was a monumental force in Nevada County. The County Coordinator was instrumental in positioning Nevada County as a leader in wildfire resilience.

Major accomplishments of the County Coordinator include:

- Centralizing Wildfire Outreach and Engagement through the 2023 Outreach and Engagement Strategy.
- Fostering collaboration in East Nevada County.
- Establishing a robust stakeholder forum with the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meeting.
- Diversifying wildfire mitigation efforts to bring in non-profit partners, Firewise Communities, and natural resource managers.
- Facilitating, supporting, or administering 117 outreach events in 2022 and 192 in 2023.
- Launching new outreach and engagement initiatives such as Virtual Office Hours.
- Managing the development of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and the Roadmap to Resilience.
- Administering the CWPP survey which collected 2,267 responses County-wide.
- Developing the Nevada County Wildfire Risk Assessment.

The most significant barrier that was encountered in the 2021 Project was identifying and hiring qualified staff for the position. However, the County Coordinator was successfully hired in July 2022. Upon the completion of the original grant, the position was carried forward in recognition of the position's vital importance. As such, the County Coordinator who was hired in the 2021 grant is still the County Coordinator in Nevada County and will remain the County Coordinator.

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Nevada County is a rural Sierra Nevada community with over 90% identified as a High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. The risk of wildfire poses a serious threat to all communities and is priority to address at the landscape/County, community, and individual levels. The initial Project allowed the County to develop momentum, build relationships, and become a trusted leader in wildfire mitigation. The County Coordinator is now positioned as vital resource to the community, leading new outreach initiatives, facilitating wildfire education forums, and fostering long-term partnerships with land managers, law and fire agencies, businesses, and non-profits.

This momentum needs to be sustained and extended - Nevada County has the attention and trust of diverse community stakeholders and the opportunity to advance wildfire resilience must be leveraged. The initial project was a catalyst to bring together diverse interests, build out a robust project portfolio that addresses needs at multiple scales (from new partnerships with Tahoe National Forest through a Good Neighbor Authority to micro-grants for Firewise Communities), and to fully integrate other Office of Emergency Services initiatives such as the Defensible Space Inspection program into the community.

The continuation of the County Coordinator project will allow Nevada County to remain at the forefront of wildfire mitigation and advance efforts toward resilience in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

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The new project will continue the two main core services of the County Coordinator: (1) Collaboration and Partnership and (2) Education and Preparedness. The County Coordinator will maintain and deepen existing collaboration and partnership efforts such as Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings, participation in cross-jurisdictional collaboratives, and support strategic planning such as the County-wide CWPP. It will also allow the County Coordinator to expand and bring on new initiatives such as the Nevada City/Nevada County Wildfire Education Partnership and Good Neighbor Authority with Tahoe National Forest.

In the 2021 project community outreach and education were a large focus of the County Coordinator program and this will continue. The new project will allow the County Coordinator to maintain the outreach program developed in the 2021 project such as the OES Outreach and Engagement strategy, Virtual Office Hours, and creation/dissemination of strategic outreach materials and resources. These will be expanded to include new outreach initiatives including education around defensible space, home hardening and evacuation routes, a Youth Engagement Plan, wildfire mitigation videos, and Spanish outreach. In addition the County Coordinator will work to raise the visibility of the need to direct state and federal investment to wildfire mitigation in the forested California headwaters by leading and participating in state, national, and international forums.

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We anticipate collaborating with new agencies and organizations in Nevada County should they form or cultivate interest during the grant period. However, given the extensive level of engagement during the 2021 Project, we anticipate that most of our focus during this next period will be around deepening the relationships that have been developed with stakeholders and building upon the collaborative capacity and desire to do more together. The County Coordinator position was successful in identifying numerous instances of mutual interests between diverse parties – such as between ski resort operators and fire protection districts, between water agencies and federal land managers, and between Firewise Communities and environmental non-profits. These alliances have opened major opportunities to plan and implement multi-benefit wildfire mitigation activities, lead educational campaigns, and build consensus around funding priorities and actions. By focusing on continuing to build out the collaborative vehicle that has been framed up over the last two years, we believe that by the end of 2024 Nevada County stakeholders will have developed a County-wide roadmap to resilience and more importantly will have built the social and political will to follow the roadmap as an outcome of this process.

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Based on the success of the initial program it is anticipated that this position will be needed in Nevada County over the next five years and beyond. As Nevada County has worked to address wildfire challenges it has become apparent that the need exceeds the capacity of a singular entity. Over the next five years, it is anticipated the OES will develop a dedicated wildfire mitigation program that will foster wildfire resilience at the individual, community, and landscape scales. Our vision is to have a County Coordinator that operates at each of these scales, leading activities around Collaboration and Partnership and Education and Preparedness that are tailored to the audiences at each level and strategically integrating information across all levels.

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Anticipated outcomes, in addition to the required deliverables, for the County Coordinator Project include:

- Improved understanding of collaborative wildfire mitigation and grant opportunities across the County with the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder meetings, cross-county collaboratives, and wildfire presentations such as to the Board of Supervisors.
- Enhanced awareness of wildfire mitigation activities and groups in Nevada County.
- Increased partnership and collaboration in wildfire mitigation projects, strategic planning, and outreach.
- Alignment in cross-jurisdictional strategic wildfire planning.
- Implementation of the 2024 OES Outreach and Engagement Strategy.
- Diversified wildfire outreach materials and events.
- Development of new outreach initiatives and materials to increase wildfire preparedness situational awareness and access to resources for vulnerable populations.
- Increased availability of wildfire preparedness education in Spanish.
- Increased awareness of different aspects of the wildfire challenge in Nevada County and opportunities to address the wildfire risk such as through roadside vegetation abatement along private roadways.
- Visibility of the need for investment in headwater wildfire mitigation projects at the state and national level as demonstrated by rural Sierra Nevada Communities being identified as funding priorities in grant programs and through support via Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS).

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The County Coordinator Program aims to increase collaboration and partnership and lead education and preparedness.

Success of collaboration and partnership will be measured by:

- Evaluation reports after the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder meeting and Wildfire stakeholder and organization contact list.
- Draft Land Management Plan as part of the CWPP update and number/diversity of stakeholders participating in the development and review process.
- Identification of critical data and need for the CWPP Dashboard and number of stakeholders that identify these factors.
- Support of CWPP and wildfire planning for the City of Nevada City, Grass Valley, and the Town of Truckee that leads to the development of multi-jurisdictional grant-funded projects.

Success of education and preparedness will be measured by:

- The number and diversity of outreach events, meetings, and collaborative activities conducted during the grant period including the community wide “Go Bag Party,” Town Halls held for the launch of wildfire mitigation projects, and the Children’s Health, Safety, and Wildfire Preparedness Carnival.

- The development of new outreach materials in both English and Spanish including material around defensible space, home hardening, and wildfire mitigation projects that are planned or underway across Nevada County.
- The development of the Youth Engagement Plan.
- Presentations at state/national forums including the American Geophysical Union Conference in Washington DC.

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The County of Nevada has seen the value in the County Coordinator program and the work to sustain County-wide collaboration. The position will be sustained at the close of the performance period as a full-time County position to ensure that the efforts of the County Coordinator continue to build in Nevada County. Furthermore, County of Nevada hopes during this next funding period to demonstrate the need and value of having coordinators that operate at the individual, community, and landscape scale as we continue to solidify trusting relationships and meaningful partnerships at all scales of wildfire mitigation.

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**Salary**

County Coordinator for 9 months. 18 pay periods @ 80-hour work week. Salary @ \$44/hour.

**Benefits**

County Coordinator for 9 months. 18 pay periods @ 80-hour work week. Benefits @ \$30/hour.

**Contractual**

Sim Table (“virtual sandbox”) demonstrations at Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings and project Town Halls. 4 demonstrations @ \$2,500 each.

City of Nevada City and County of Nevada Collaborative Wildfire Outreach Partnership Plan. 1 contract @ \$5,000.

Youth Engagement Plan. 1 contract @ \$15,000.

Defensible Space and Home Hardening Educational Films. 2 films (60 seconds) @ \$4,000 each.

Spanish Language Wildfire Preparedness Film. 1 film @ \$5,000.

**Travel**

Roundtrip Airfare, Sacramento to Washington, DC for American Geophysical Union Conference. County Coordinator, Senior Analyst, OES Director, County Supervisor. 4 plane tickets @ \$900 each.

Lodging in Washington, DC for American Geophysical Union Conference. County Coordinator, Senior Analyst, OES Director, County Supervisor. 5 nights at \$200/night x 4 people.

**Supplies**

Tote Bags for “Go Bag” Parties. 1,000 @ \$10/each.

Evacuation Zone Key Chains for Outreach Events. 1,000 @ \$1.50 each.

Stickers for Children’s Outreach Events. 4,000 @ \$0.25/each.

Vinyl Banners for Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings and Town Halls. 4 @ \$425/each.

Croc Charms for Children’s Outreach Events. 400 @ \$1.36/each.

Meeting Materials: Printing, Pens, Easel Paper. \$1,836.

**Other**

Abstract Submission for American Geophysical Union Conference in Washington, DC. 4 @ \$70 each.

Conference Registration for American Geophysical Union Conference in Washington, DC. 4 @ \$845 each.

**Indirect**

Direct Costs @ 12%



**TASK 1: Support and Develop Collaboration and Partnership in Nevada County**

**Activities:**

- A. Administer and Facilitate Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder Meetings.
- B. Maintain Wildfire Stakeholder and Organization Collaboration.
- C. Participate in cross-jurisdictional collaboratives such as South Yuba Cohort, Yuba Forest Network, Convene Champion and Catalyze, and Coalition of Firewise Communities.
- D. Build consensus and develop partnerships.
  - Support Nevada County CWPP Update
  - Support Nevada County Land Management Plan
  - City of Nevada City Collaborative Wildfire Outreach Partnership
  - Wildfire mitigation project outreach initiatives
- E. Support cross-county strategic planning such as Community Wildfire Protection Plans

Timeline: 4/15/24-12/31/24

Responsible Party: County Coordinator

Expected Outcome:

- Improved understanding of collaborative wildfire mitigation and grant opportunities across the county with the Quarterly Wildfire Stakeholder meetings, cross-county collaboratives, and presentations such as Board of Supervisors.
- Enhanced awareness of wildfire mitigation activities and groups in Nevada County.
- Increased partnership and collaboration in wildfire mitigation projects, strategic planning, and outreach.
- Alignment in cross-jurisdictional strategic wildfire planning such as CWPPs.
- Participate in Monthly County Coordinator Meetings.
- Identify, summarize and report on local groups, grants, and projects within the County at the onset and conclusion of the grant period.
- Track and monitor collaborative efforts, tasks, meetings, workshops, and plans developed by the County Coordinator.
- Host 1 collaborative event, workshop, or gathering with varied stakeholders.
- Maintain/update the CFSC GIS Portal and collect data to share.
- Attend the Fall 2024 County Coordinator Workshop hosted by CFSC.
- Attend CFSC Regional Calls.

Cost: \$71,816.00

TASK 2: Lead Community Wildfire Education and Preparedness

Activities:

- A. Administer and support the implementation of the 2024 Nevada County OES Outreach and Engagement Strategy.
- B. Maintain existing outreach materials for wildfire preparedness.
  - Outreach materials
- C. Develop new outreach materials for county-wide outreach and specific groups such as Spanish-speaking communities and youth.
  - New Home Hardening and Defensible Space Education.
  - Go-Bag Party.
  - Youth Engagement Plan.
  - Spanish Outreach Support.
  - Lead and maintain wildfire education resources for Firewise Communities in Nevada County.
- D. Virtual Office Hours
- E. Raise the visibility of opportunities and constraints for wildfire resilience in rural communities by attending and presentation at the American Geophysical Union Meeting in Washington, DC.

Timeline: 4/15/24-12/31/24

Responsible Party: County Coordinator

Expected Outcome:

- Implementation of the 2024 OES Outreach and Engagement Strategy.
- Diversified wildfire outreach materials and events.
- Development of new outreach initiatives and materials to increase wildfire preparedness situational awareness.
- Increased availability of wildfire preparedness education in Spanish.
- Increased awareness of different aspects of the wildfire challenge in Nevada County and opportunities to address the wildfire risk.
- Engage 1 local community wildfire mitigation event or similar hosted by organizations or agencies within Nevada County.
- Participate in DEIJ training hosted by CFSC.
- Meet with key policy makers, agency leaders, and legislators with Nevada County Office of Emergency Services Leadership and County Supervisor while in DC to incentivize investment in wildfire mitigation in rural, forested California headwaters.

Cost: \$105,584.00



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California Fire Safe Council

22 WF County Coordinator Program Northern

Deadline 3/13/2024

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Description [hide this]

The California Fire Safe Council (CFSC), in partnership with Cal Fire and California Climate Investments Program, is pleased to announce the 22 Wildfire CAL FIRE County Coordinator Program-Northern to assist counties with wildfire mitigation outreach and coordination. The objective of the County Coordinator Grant is to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups operating within counties. Funded counties will utilize funding to 1) Build a census of all wildfire mitigation groups in their county, 2) Analyze gaps in county-wide wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness and develop recommendations to fill those gaps, and 3) Develop mechanisms to improve outreach and coordination efforts.

This grant program and publication are funded in full by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) as part of the California Climate Investment Program, under the terms of grant numbers 5GG21100. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of CAL FIRE.

The County Coordinator Grant Program is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment--particularly in disadvantaged communities. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website at: <http://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov>.

Requirements [hide this]

This program is open to 2021 County Coordinator Grant Program recipients in the following counties. Applicants in these counties must have either have received the 2021 County Coordinator Grant Program funding OR, should the 2021 County Coordinator Grant Program original subrecipient wish to pass on the new funding, be a local government/agency/special district, tribal government/Native American Tribe, or a qualified 501(c)(3) organization designated as an applicant by the county's board of supervisor through a letter of support:

Alpine

Placer

**Amador****Plumas****Butte****Sacramento****Del Norte****San Mateo****El Dorado****Santa Cruz****Humboldt****Sierra****Lake****Siskiyou****Lassen****Solano****Mendocino****Sonoma****Modoc****Trinity****Napa****Yolo****Nevada****Yuba**

The program is also open to the following counties who have not yet received CFSC County Coordinator funding. Applicants from these counties must be either the county directly OR a local government/agency/special district, tribal government/Native American Tribe, or a qualified 501(c)(3) organization designated as an applicant by the county's Board of Supervisor through a letter of support:

**Alameda****Merced**

Imperial

San Francisco

Kings

Stanislaus

Nevada County Office of Emergency Services

# Coordinating the Roadmap to Wildfire Resilience in Nevada County

\$ 198,620.00 requested

Application Status: Submitted  
✓ Submitted: 3/13/2024 11:51:38 PM  
(Pacific)

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[Application Summary](#)

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## Application Summary

*(answers are saved automatically when you move to another field)*

**Application Title/Project Name**

Coordinating the Roadmap to Wildfire Resilie

**Amount Requested**

*Grant Funding Request Max  
\$200,000*

\$ 198620

### Applicant Information

First Name

Alex

Last Name

Keeble-Toll

Telephone

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Email

Alex.Keeble-Toll@co.nevada.ca.us

**Organization Information***(changes to this data will be reflected on all other applications for this organization)*

Organization Legal Name/Entity Name

Nevada County Office of Emergency Service

Address 1

950 Maidu Ave

Address 2

City

Nevada City

State/Province

CA

ZIP+4/Postal Code

95959

Country

United States

[Edit Address](#)

Telephone

1-530-470-2521

Fax (optional)

Website (optional)

<https://www.nevadacountyca.gov/3453/Read>

Federal Tax ID (EIN) (XX-XXXXXXX)

94-6000526

UEI Number

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(N)CAGE Code

010-97-902

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**CEO/Executive Director**

First Name

Alison

Last Name

Lehman

Title

CEO

Email

Alison.Lehman@co.nevada.ca.us

**Collaborators**

*Collaborators can only edit application data (answers). They cannot submit, archive, or delete this application.*

Next

Application ID: 467704