

Rural County Representatives of California

Craig Ferguson

RCRC Senior Vice President



Andrew Lincoln, Napa County
2025 RCRC Rural County Photo Contest Winner

RCRC Organization



Divisions

- Government Affairs
- Economic Development
- Business Development
- Administration and Finance

Affiliate Entities



Rural Counties
Environmental Services
Joint Powers Authority
ESJPA

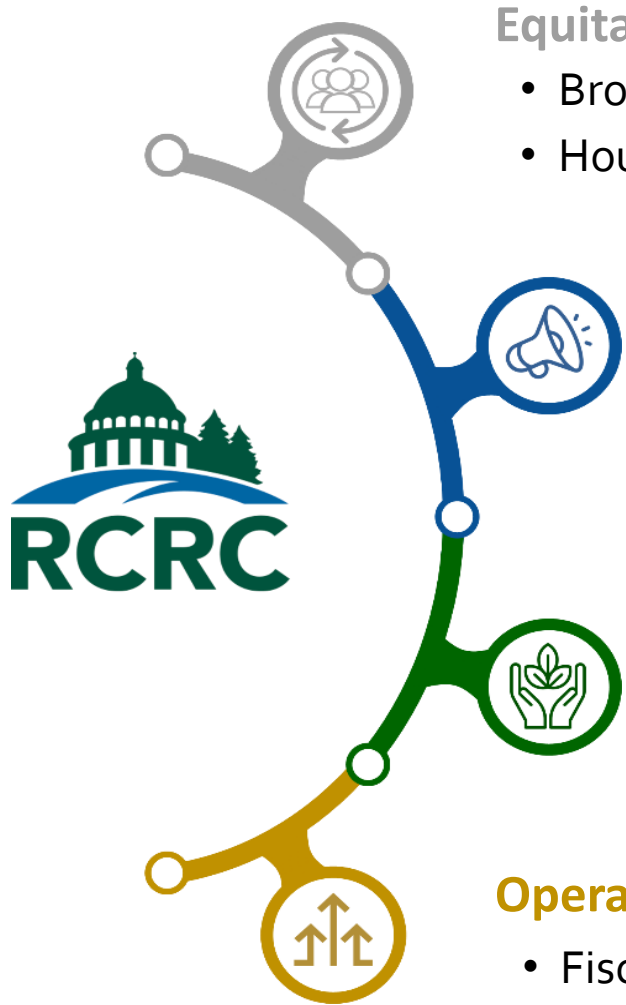


Rural
Advancement
Institute



golden state
connect
authority

RCRC 2025-27 STRATEGIC PLAN



Equitable Access

- Broadband
- Health Services
- Housing
- Insurance

Impactful Policy Advancement

- Rural Education and Research
- Innovative Approaches
- Local Control

Healthy Communities

- Forest Resiliency & Wildfire
- Economic Development
- Resource Management
- Tribal Collaboration
- Infrastructure

Operational Excellence

- Fiscal Health
- Member Engagement
- Technology
- Communication
- Human Resources

Vision

RCRC is the premier advocate and innovative service provider for rural counties in California

State & Federal Advocacy



**Impactful Policy
Advancement**



State Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/drought
- Broadband
- Housing
- Energy
- Health Access
- CPUC
- Agriculture
- Williamson Act
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare

Federal Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/Drought
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare

Key Topics

- Recruitment & Retention of Employees Ad Hoc
- Predator Management Ad Hoc
- State Mandate Reimbursement
- Jail Medical Services Study
- Indigent Health Planning / CMSP
- SGMA Ad Hoc Committee

Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) & National Homebuyers Fund, Inc (NHF)



Equitable Access

Golden State Finance Authority

- Provide affordable housing solutions
- Offer financing options for energy efficiency
- Secure infrastructure financing
 - Grant Advanced Line of Credit Program
 - Rural Broadband
 - Forest Resiliency



National Homebuyers Fund, Inc

- Expand Homeownership
- Strengthen Communities



**SINCE 1993 IN
NEVADA COUNTY**



Helped **128** individuals/
families purchase homes



Provided over **\$ 740 K**
in down payment
assistance

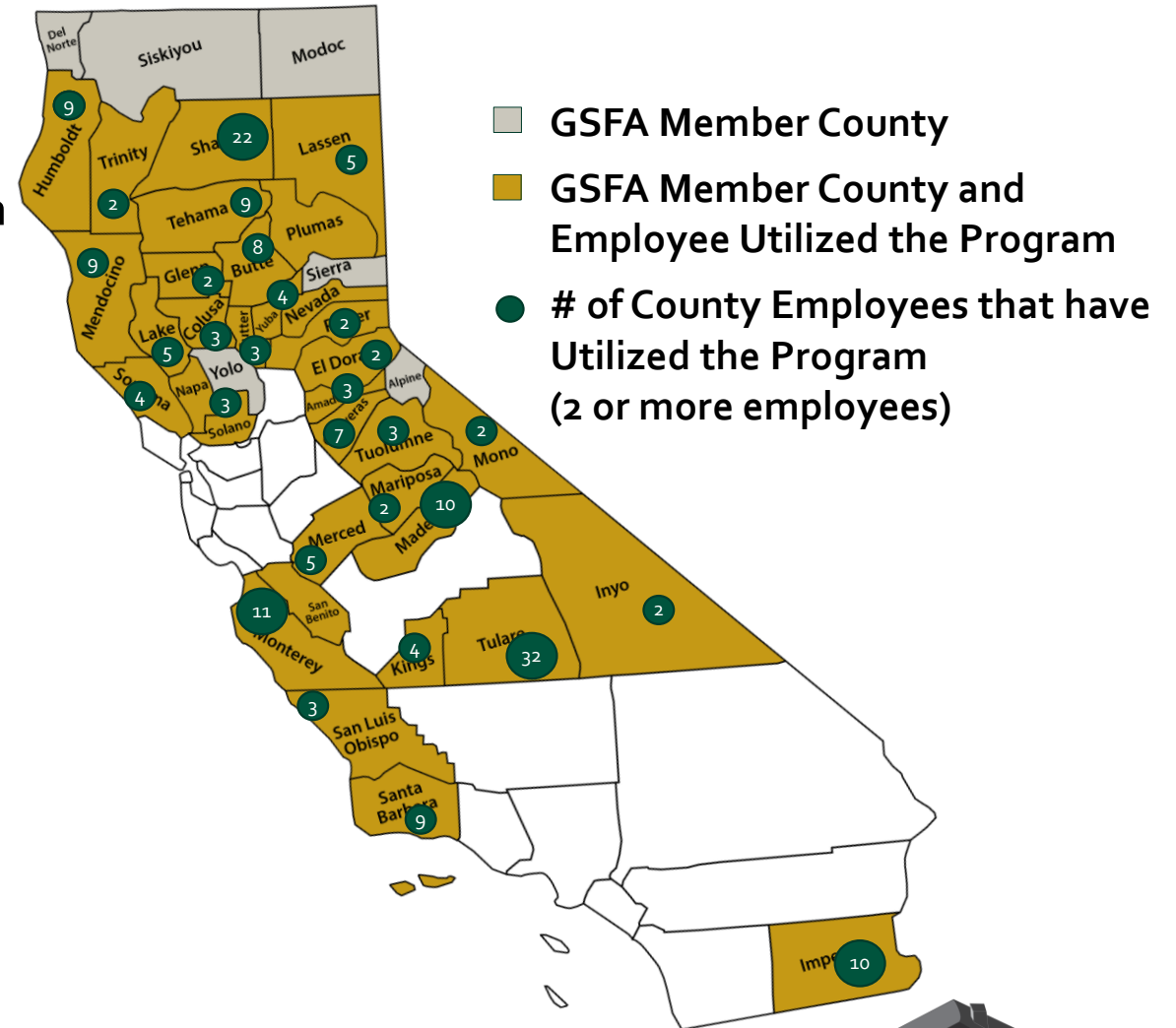
Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)



Equitable Access

Assist-to-Own Program

- Provides up to **5.5%** assistance for down payment and closing costs on primary residence purchases or refinances for GSFA Member County employees.
 - Enhances employee retention and recruitment
- **Flexible qualifying criteria:**
 - Accepts less-than-perfect credit (FICOs as low as 640)
 - Debt-to-income ratios up to 50%
 - No first-time homebuyer requirement
 - Not limited to low-income borrowers

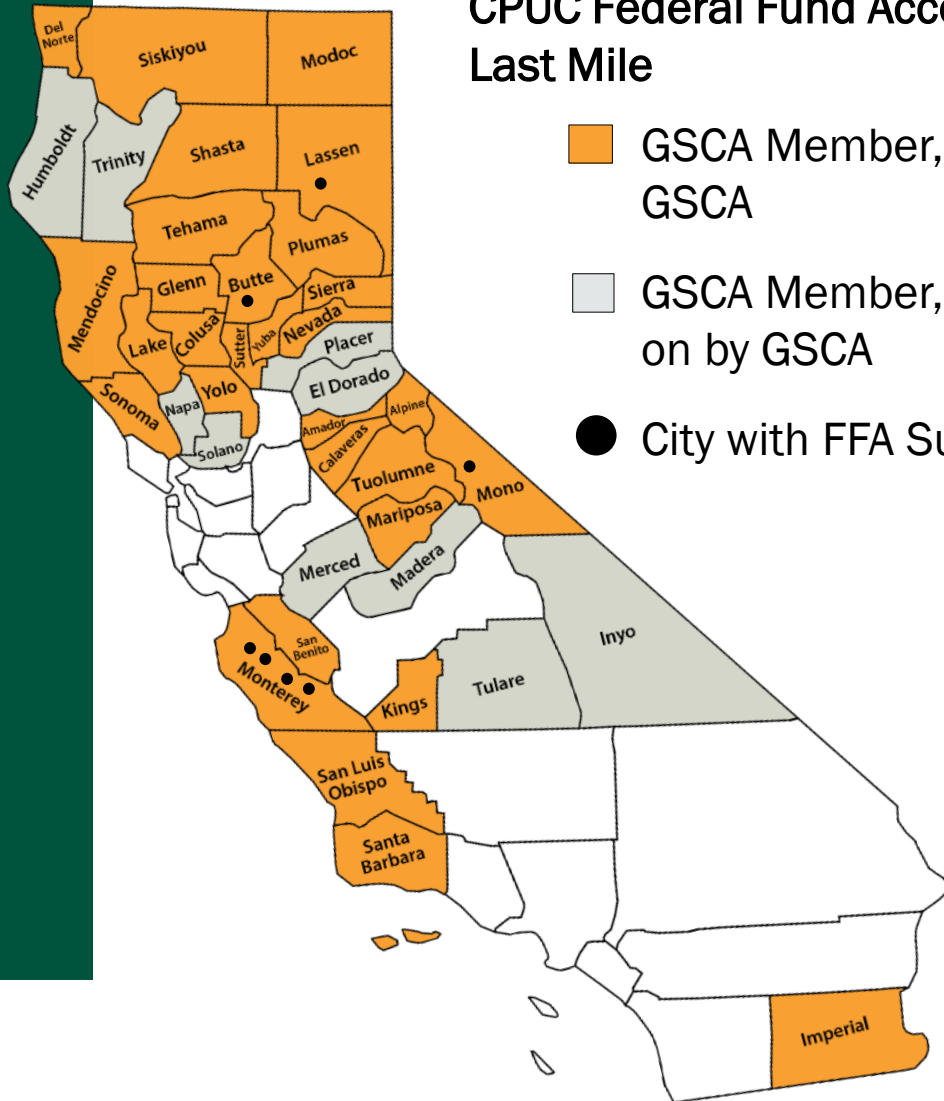


Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)



Equitable Access

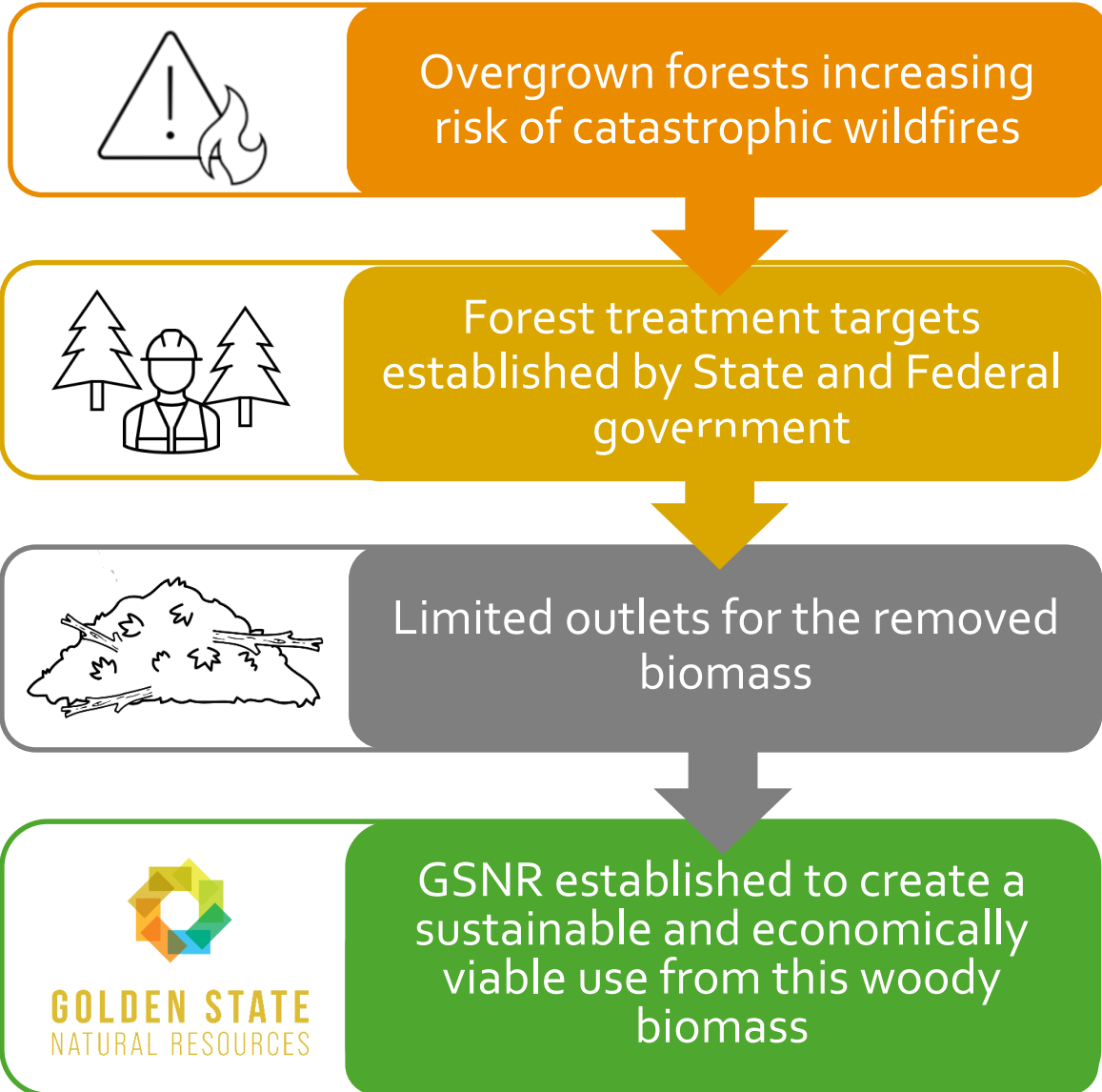
CPUC Federal Fund Account (FFA) Last Mile



GSCA FFA Last Mile Awards

Imperial County	\$13,834,949
Alpine County	\$ 6,985,978
Mammoth Lakes	\$ 4,158,014
Mono County	\$ 6,074,134
Amador County	\$57,180,300
Tehama County	\$74,798,880
Glenn County	<u>\$22,351,876</u>
Total	\$185,384,131

Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR)



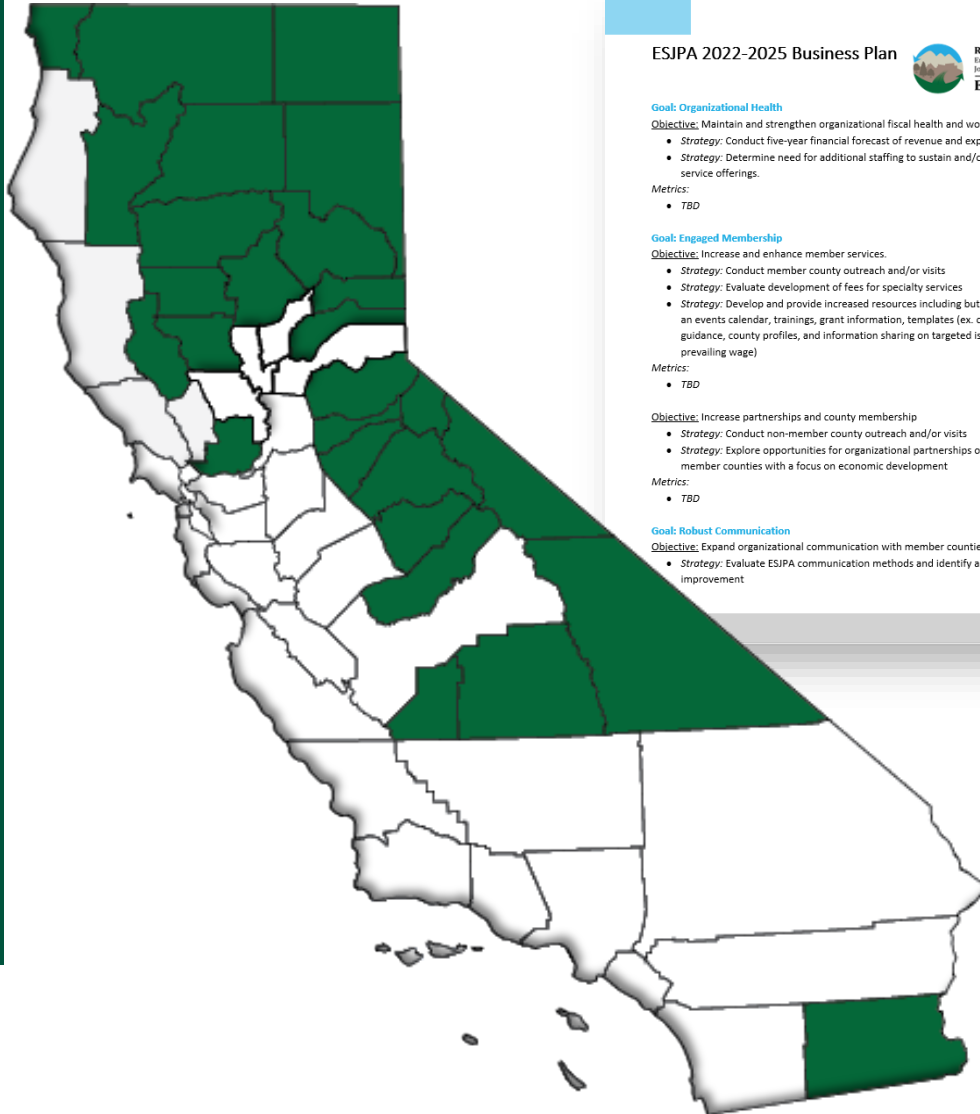
Modoc National Forest - Summer 2024



Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA)



Operational
Excellence



ESJPA 2022-2025 Business Plan



Goal: Organizational Health

Objective: Maintain and strengthen organizational fiscal health and workforce.

- **Strategy:** Conduct five-year financial forecast of revenue and expenses.
- **Strategy:** Determine need for additional staffing to sustain and/or expand service offerings.

Metrics:

- TBD

Goal: Engaged Membership

Objective: Increase and enhance member services.

- **Strategy:** Conduct member county outreach and/or visits
- **Strategy:** Evaluate development of fees for specialty services
- **Strategy:** Develop and provide increased resources including but not limited to an events calendar, trainings, grant information, templates (ex. compliance), guidance, county profiles, and information sharing on targeted issues (ex. prevailing wage)

Metrics:

- TBD

Objective: Increase partnerships and county membership

- **Strategy:** Conduct non-member county outreach and/or visits
- **Strategy:** Explore opportunities for organizational partnerships of benefit to member counties with a focus on economic development

Metrics:

- TBD

Goal: Robust Communication

Objective: Expand organizational communication with member counties

- **Strategy:** Evaluate ESJPA communication methods and identify areas for improvement

- Represents **26** rural California counties on solid waste regulatory and legislative policies.
- Advocates on the state and federal level
- Offers policy leadership, technical expertise and direct assistance to member counties



Rural Counties[®]
Environmental Services
Joint Powers Authority
ESJPA

Rural Advancement Institute (RAI)



Impactful Policy
Advancement

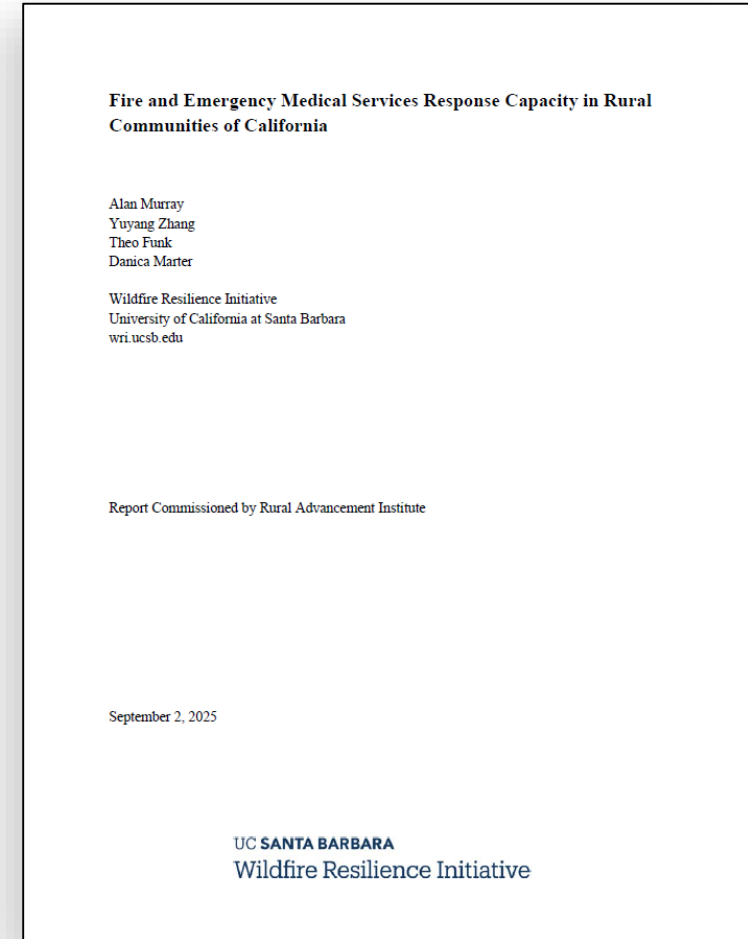
RAI facilitates academic research and educational opportunities that advance understanding of rural California amongst policymakers and the public.

- **Educational Tours:**

- Behind the Scenes of the Recreation Economy
- Beyond the Lettuce Curtain: Innovations and Challenges

- **Research and Projects:**

- Fire / EMS Capacity in rural counties – UCSB
- Housing Study – Sacramento State
- Healthcare workforce landscape in rural counties – UCSF



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QUESTIONS?

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- Follow us on social media:



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