



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



Nevada County Board of Supervisors
August 12, 2025



CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY
FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR
RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



PREPARED FOR THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE
AND FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE
DECEMBER 12, 2022



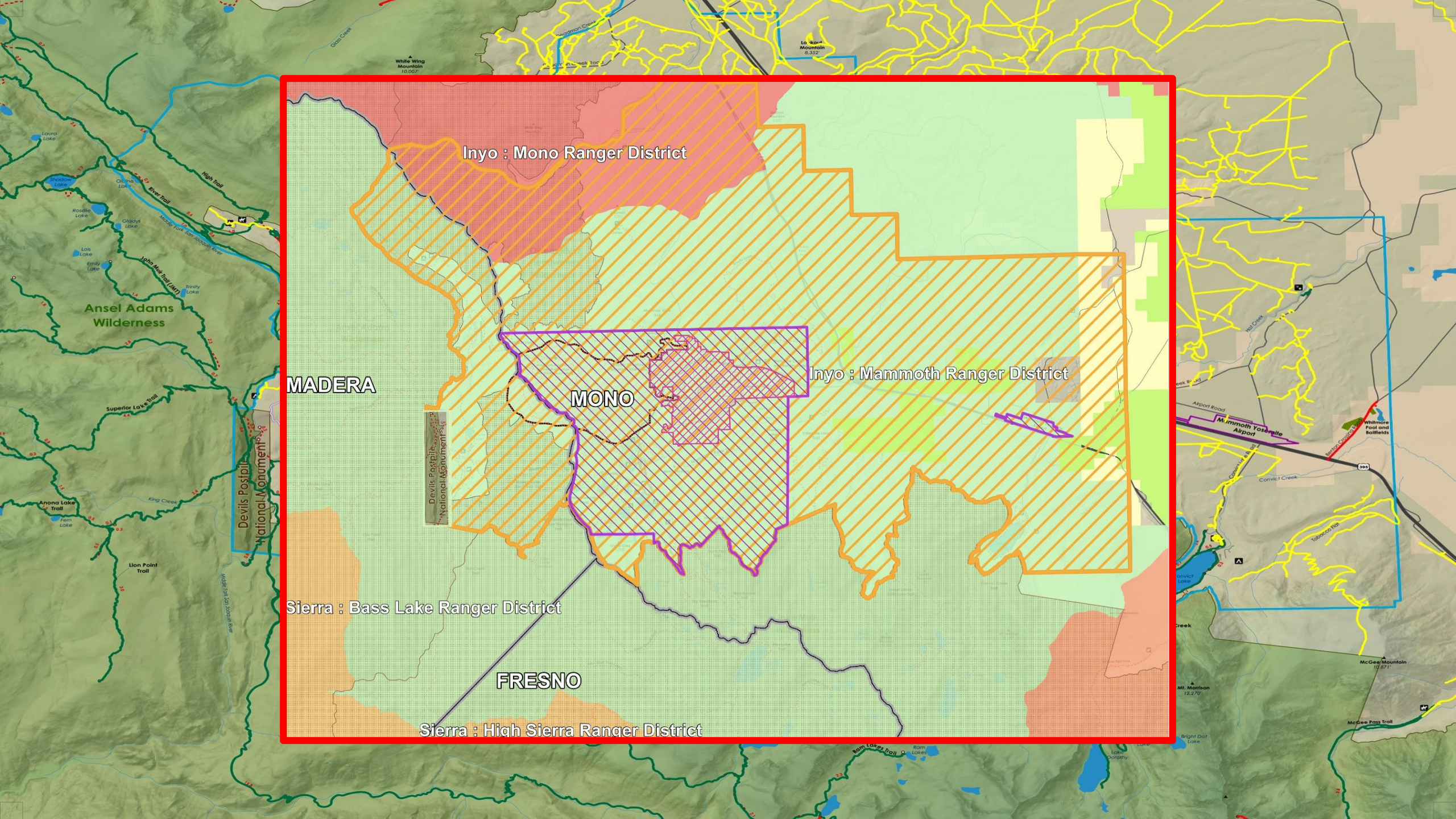


BACKCOUNTRY ACCESS



FRONTCOUNTRY TRAIL SYSTEMS





Inyo : Mono Ranger District

Inyo : Mammoth Ranger District

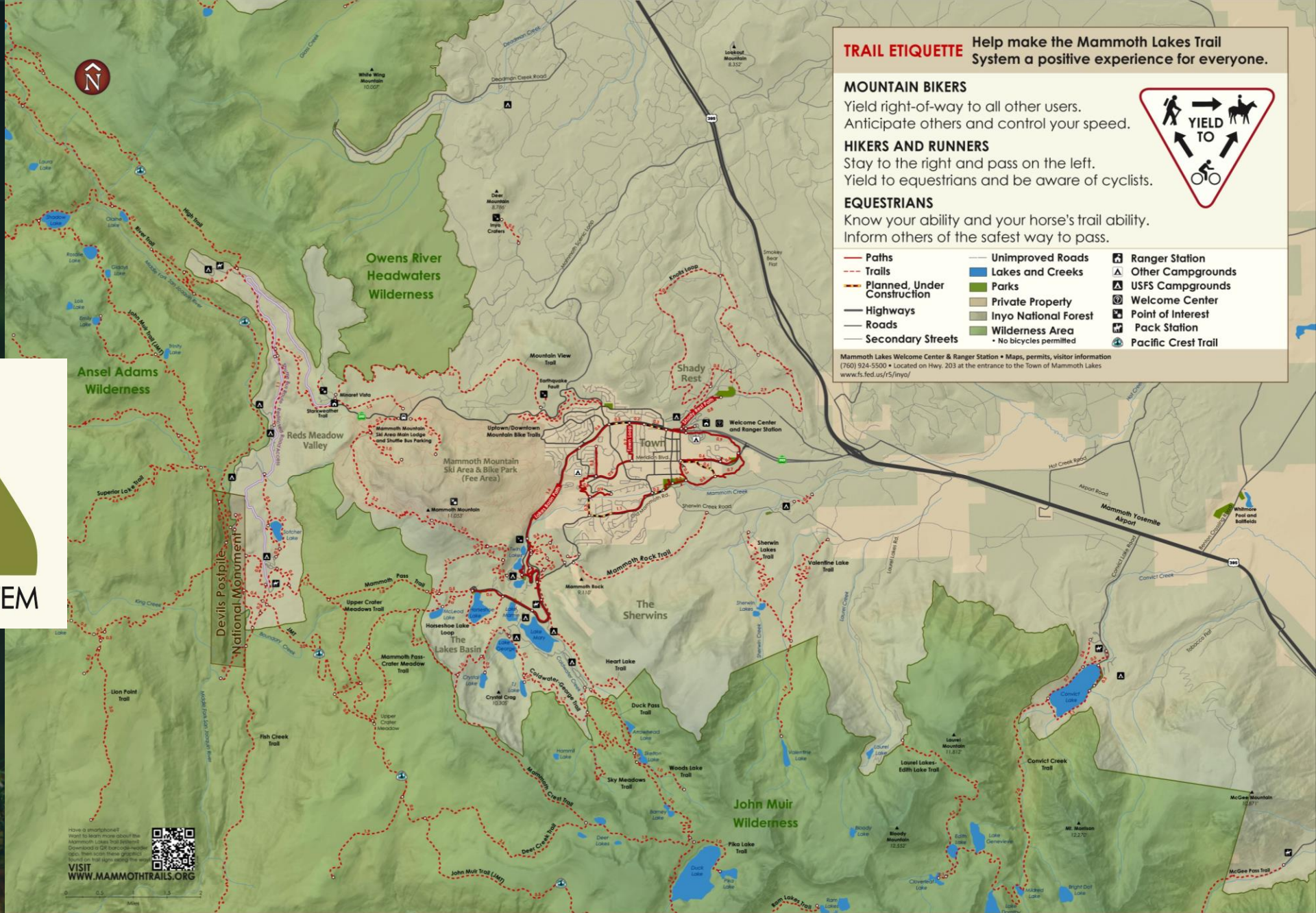
MONO

MADERA

Sierra : Bass Lake Ranger District

FRESNO

Sierra : High Sierra Ranger District



TRAIL ETIQUETTE
Help make the Mammoth Lakes Trail System a positive experience for everyone.

MOUNTAIN BIKERS
Yield right-of-way to all other users.
Anticipate others and control your speed.

HIKERS AND RUNNERS
Stay to the right and pass on the left.
Yield to equestrians and be aware of cyclists.

EQUESTRIANS
Know your ability and your horse's trail ability.
Inform others of the safest way to pass.

YIELD TO

Paths	Trails	Planned, Under Construction	Highways	Roads	Secondary Streets
Unimproved Roads	Lakes and Creeks	Parks	Private Property	Inyo National Forest	Wilderness Area
Ranger Station	Other Campgrounds	USFS Campgrounds	Welcome Center	Point of Interest	Pack Station
Pacific Crest Trail					

Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center & Ranger Station • Maps, permits, visitor information (760) 924-5500 • Located on Hwy. 203 at the entrance to the Town of Mammoth Lakes www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/

Have a smartphone?
Want to learn more about the
Mammoth Lakes Trail System?
Download a QR barcode reader
app, then scan these graphics
found on trail signs using the app.

VISIT
WWW.MAMMOTHTRAILS.ORG

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAIL SYSTEM

CALREC Vision



**Cross-Jurisdictional
Collaboration
To Advance Sustainable
Outdoor Recreation
In California**



INCENTIVES FOR COLLABORATION

Two recent policy actions signal potential for greatly advancing cross-jurisdictional collaboration for sustainable outdoor recreation in California. First, the newly passed **Great American Outdoors Act** (GAOA) brings increased federal funding to recreation facilities and amenities across local, state, and federal parks and recreation lands.² This new federal law dedicates up to \$1.9 billion annually for five years to address the deferred-maintenance backlog on federal public lands, including lands managed by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Bureau of Indian Education. The GAOA also provides full funding for the existing Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), ensuring up to \$900 million annually to be allocated to conservation and recreation projects across the United States. State-specific allocations will be made on a formula basis, and the combined size and needs of California's local, regional, state, and federal park systems are anticipated to place the state in a leading position for increased LWCF funding.

The second recent development is the August 2020 signing of the **Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forests and Rangelands** between the state of California and the United States Forest Service.³ Under the agreement, the state's Natural Resources Agency and the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region agree to "maintain and restore healthy forests and rangelands that reduce public safety risks, protect natural and built infrastructure, and enhance ecological habitat and biological diversity" and to "develop shared tools, coordinated processes, and innovative approaches to increase the pace, scale, and effectiveness of forest and rangeland stewardship in California." Significantly, one of the key actions identified in the agreement is the commitment by the state and its federal partner to work toward improving access to sustainable recreation through a commitment to "leverage resources and extend capacity through partnerships and alignment around a shared vision of access and diversity."

Together, these two new policies offer great promise, both as a key funding resource for sustainable infrastructure and programs and as a policy framework for elevating sustainable outdoor recreation across public-land managers and their partners in the state.

The GAOA and the Agreement for Shared Stewardship are important incentives to implement statewide initiatives using cross-jurisdictional collaboration to advance California policy goals:

- AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan (Air Resources Board)
- Access for All Initiative (California Natural Resources Agency)
- Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forest and Rangelands (California Natural Resources Agency)
- California 2030: Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan (Air Resources Board)
- Cutting Green Tape Initiative (California Natural Resources Agency)
- Destination Stewardship and Sustainable Travel Plan (Visit California)
- Health in All Policies (Strategic Growth Council)
- Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (Governor's Office of Planning and Research)
- Local Government General Plan Guidance (Governor's Office of Planning and Research)
- Regions Rise Together (Governor's Office of Planning and Research [OPR] and Governor's Business and Economic Development [GOBiz])
- Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Program (California Department of Parks and Recreation)



URGENCY

Passage of the GAOA and the signing of the Agreement for Shared Stewardship of California's Forests and Rangelands responds to the reality of the ongoing pressures on effective management of outdoor recreation-dependent natural and cultural resources. Deferred maintenance and neglected improvements to outdoor recreation infrastructure have diminished the availability of assets to the public. Agencies and local governments grapple with uneven visitation across public spaces; some of California's most popular natural resource attractions experience overcrowding, over-visitation, and adverse impacts that force periodic shutdowns, while other destinations struggle to maintain operations with little visitation and fewer available resources. Varying and conflicting access rules, policies, and fee structures on adjacent lands managed by different agencies lead to public confusion or resistance to such a patchwork of public access. COVID-19 has exacerbated these conditions and revealed systemic inequities and obstacles in institutions across the state and in the country. For outdoor recreation providers, land managers, and those promoting tourism and recreational pursuits, the current moment has proven especially acute.

In this same moment, an influx of recreation participants is requiring new ways of managing and enabling recreation. As under-resourced land managers navigate a pandemic, interest, awareness, and use of recreational resources has exploded as the public has turned to the outdoors as one of the few safe places to engage in social distancing. New uses of technology and changed operations and maintenance practices have been quickly implemented across recreation landscapes. Public-access limits have been instituted to protect visitors' and local residents' health while maintaining natural resources. The unprecedented public demand has created intense additional pressures on land-management institutions that were already underfunded and understaffed.⁴

² United States Public Law 116-152—Aug. 4, 2020

³ Retrieved from <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/08/13/california-u-s-forest-service-establish-shared-long-term-strategy-to-manage-forests-and-rangelands/>

⁴ "Pack it in, pack it out": Tahoe locals protest trash, tourism amid COVID-19" Tahoe Daily News, Aug. 21, 2020



CALREC Vision



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In California**



MOVING COLLABORATION FORWARD

Land-management agencies and their outdoor recreation partners work with the knowledge that increased resource impacts, uncertain public funding, and rising recreation demand are becoming “the new normal” for California. With this in mind, collaboration by willing partners across jurisdictions to achieve the environmental, economic, and social benefits of sustainable outdoor recreation in California is essential. To do so, state leadership, capacity building, and a focus on the state’s regions will be critical to success.

STATE LEADERSHIP

State leadership is imperative to facilitate, incentivize, and support the functional alignments required to achieve sustainable outdoor recreation.



BUILDING COLLABORATIVE CAPACITY

Building collaborative capacity and anticipating the needs for successful collaboration is essential.



CALIFORNIA'S REGIONS

California's regions are a vital lens for the state and her citizens.



CALREC Vision



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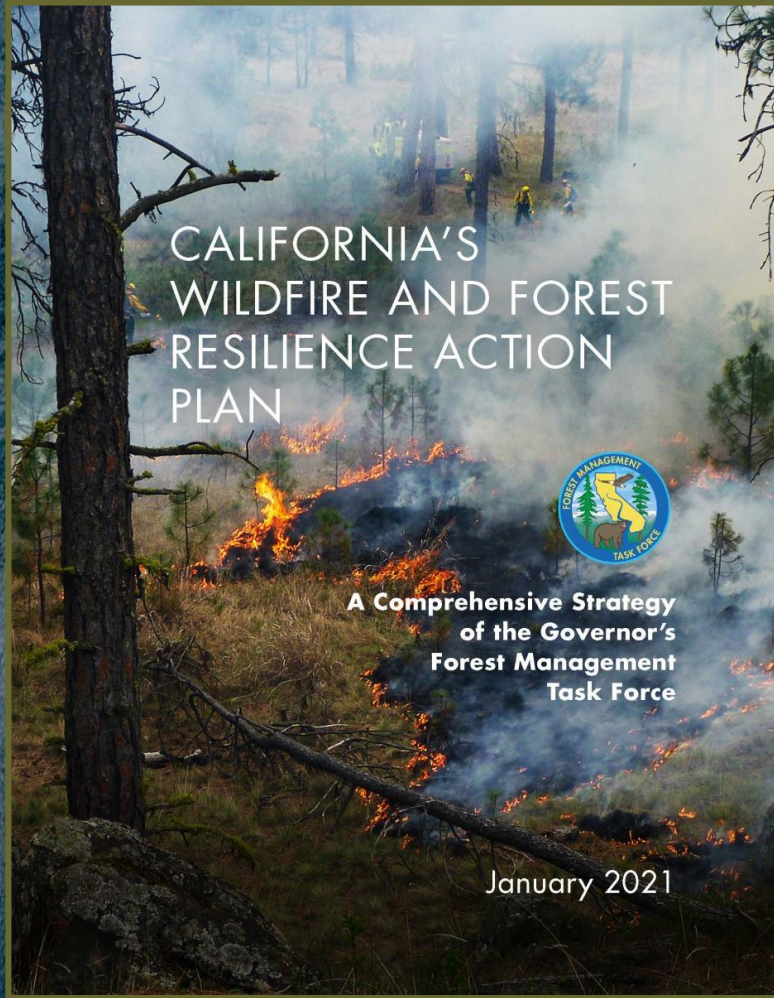


CALIFORNIA'S WILDFIRE AND FOREST RESILIENCE ACTION PLAN



**A Comprehensive Strategy
of the Governor's
Forest Management
Task Force**

January 2021



CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE & FOREST RESILIENCE ACTION PLAN

GOAL 3: MANAGE FORESTS TO ACHIEVE THE STATE'S ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

3.14 Develop Joint Strategy to Improve Access to Sustainable Recreation: In accordance with the Shared Stewardship Agreement, the USFS will coordinate the development of a joint strategy to improve access to sustainable recreation.



**SUSTAINABLE
RECREATION
CALREC Vision
KEY WORKING GROUP**



MLIPA

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAILS • PUBLIC ACCESS



**SUSTAINABLE
RECREATION
CALREC Vision
KEY WORKING GROUP**



- Bureau of Land Management
- CA Landscape Stewardship Network
- CA Natural Resources Agency
- CA State Parks
- L.A. County Parks and Recreation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service
- Recreate Responsibly CA Coalition
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- U.S. Forest Service



V6 Draft – Incorporating Feedback from KWG Meeting #11

STRENGTHEN SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION IN CALIFORNIA

To protect our natural resources and recreational assets, California's existing outdoor recreational infrastructure needs to be retooled and new facilities designed such that resiliency and adaptation to climate change are core functions, while still providing a positive user experience that connects outdoor recreational users with the natural world. Through education and awareness, recreational users will become stewards who contribute to and protect the natural resources located across California's public lands and waters. Wildfire prevention and response, as well as forest health efforts, must anticipate the safety, hazards, infrastructure, and programming needs of our outdoor recreation communities, recognize our communities' strengths, and where possible enlist their support to improve conditions on the ground. By ensuring healthy lands and waters, outdoor recreation users feel connected to nature in places and communities that are socially, economically, and environmentally rich and resilient.

Goal 1: California and its federal partners will promote wildfire resilience and healthy ecosystems by developing and maintaining a sustainable outdoor recreation system that connects outdoor recreation users to the benefits and wonders of the natural world.

Key Actions

Communication & Visitor Management

- 1.1 **Maintain Public Access as the Climate Changes:** Develop climate-smart best practices for programs that enhance public access to recreation on public lands and waters. Best practices may include implementing resilience measures such as forest thinning and vegetation management, communicating in real time with visitors about current conditions, and transitioning to adaptive management. Recreation sites may require increased capacity to anticipate and respond to shifting seasonal recreation patterns. Land managers will monitor use, mitigate over-use in high use areas, and provide transportation alternatives to reduce congestion.
- 1.2 **Develop Educational Materials Targeted at All Human Causes of Ignition:** Create and distribute educational materials in multiple languages targeted at all human causes of ignition, which may include fireworks, smoking, shooting, campfires, debris burning, motorized vehicles, and dragging chains. Provide information on how to report wildfire incidents to authorities.
- 1.3 **Provide Communications Staffing and Information During Wildfires:** Provide staffing and information during wildfires to help guide visitor use patterns and bolster visitor safety. Partner with Destination Management Organizations (DMOs), chambers of commerce, outdoor recreation and stewardship groups, and local media to communicate in multiple languages with residents and visitors regarding closures, restrictions, and open facilities.

11 Meetings – Key Working Group discussions and review sessions

100+ Documents – Reviewed research, post-fire reports, planning documents, and existing recreation and wildfire policy

25+ Wildfire Stakeholders Participants – Gathered input from stakeholders of communities impacted by wildfire; five listening sessions,

80+ Recreation Stakeholders – Collected feedback from recreation stakeholders including tribes; four listening sessions, August 2022

30+ Survey Responses – Garnered additional feedback via survey and email; August 2022

Key Working Group and Leadership Team – Reviewed all inputs + incorporated recommendations into final Goals and Key Actions



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Presentation to Wildfire Taskforce
September 29, 2022





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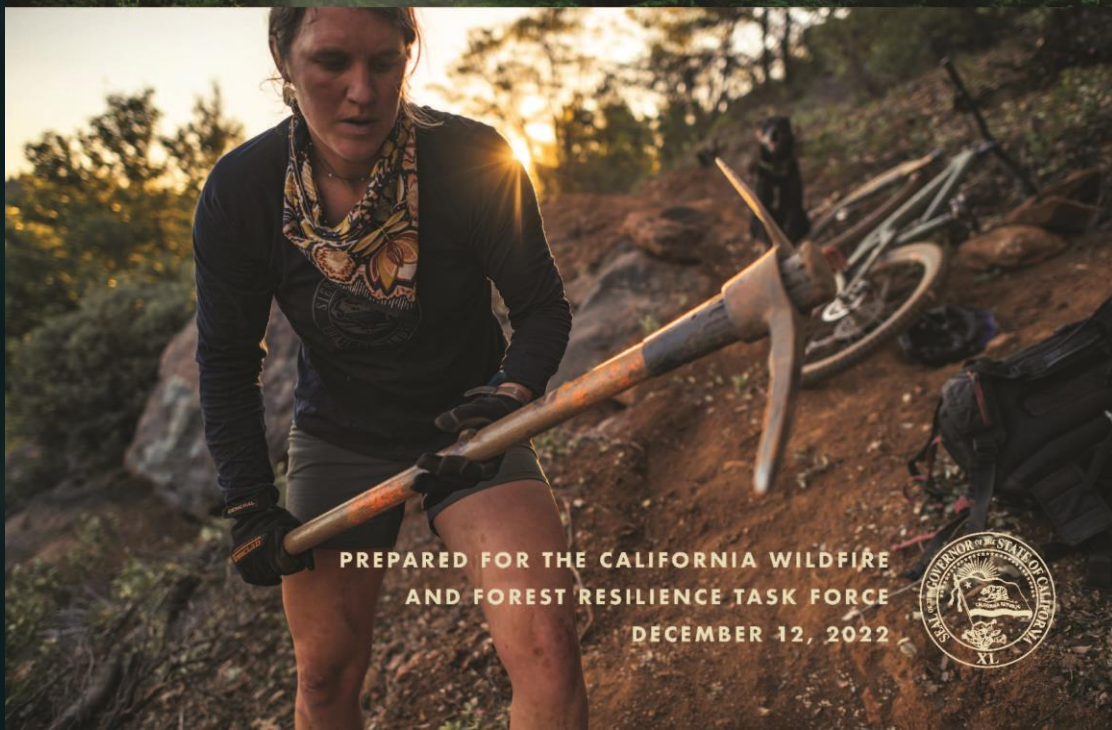
Greg Williams + CNRA Secretary Wade Crowfoot

Presentation to Wildfire Taskforce
September 29, 2022





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REGIONAL
FORESTER
2022
Honor Awards
STRONGER  TOGETHER
WINNERS & NOMINEES
ANNOUNCEMENT

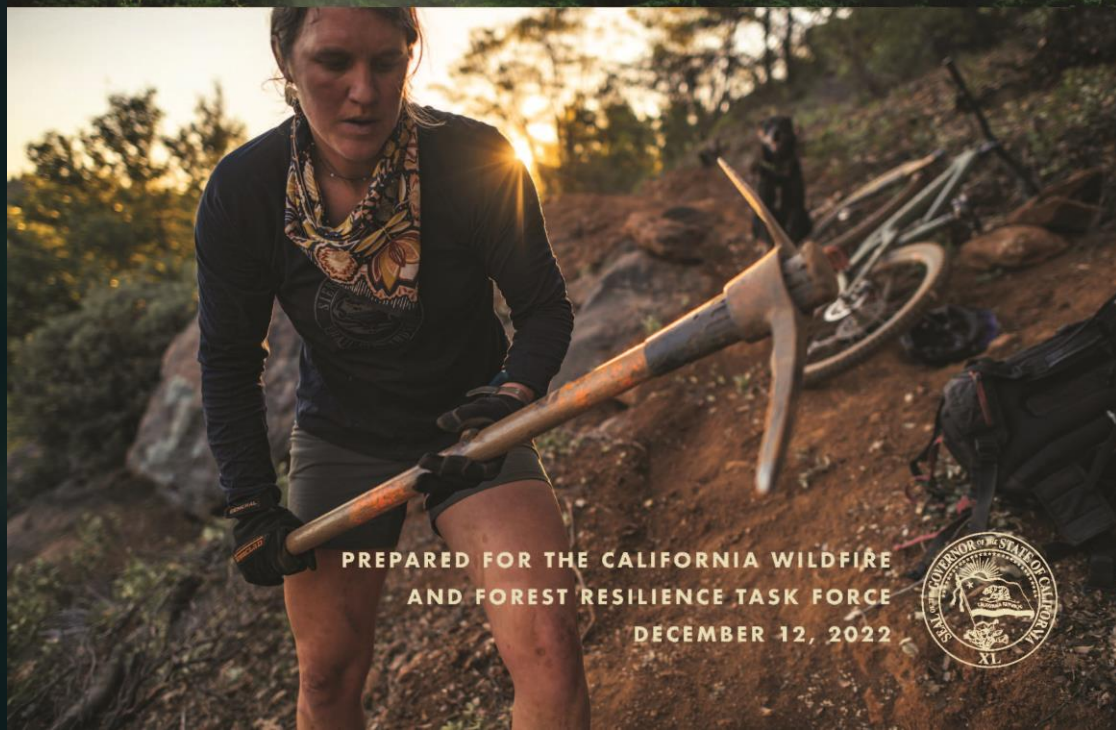


Partnership of the Year for 2022





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OUTDOOR RECREATION IN CALIFORNIA...



*Source: 2015 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), California Department of Parks and Recreation



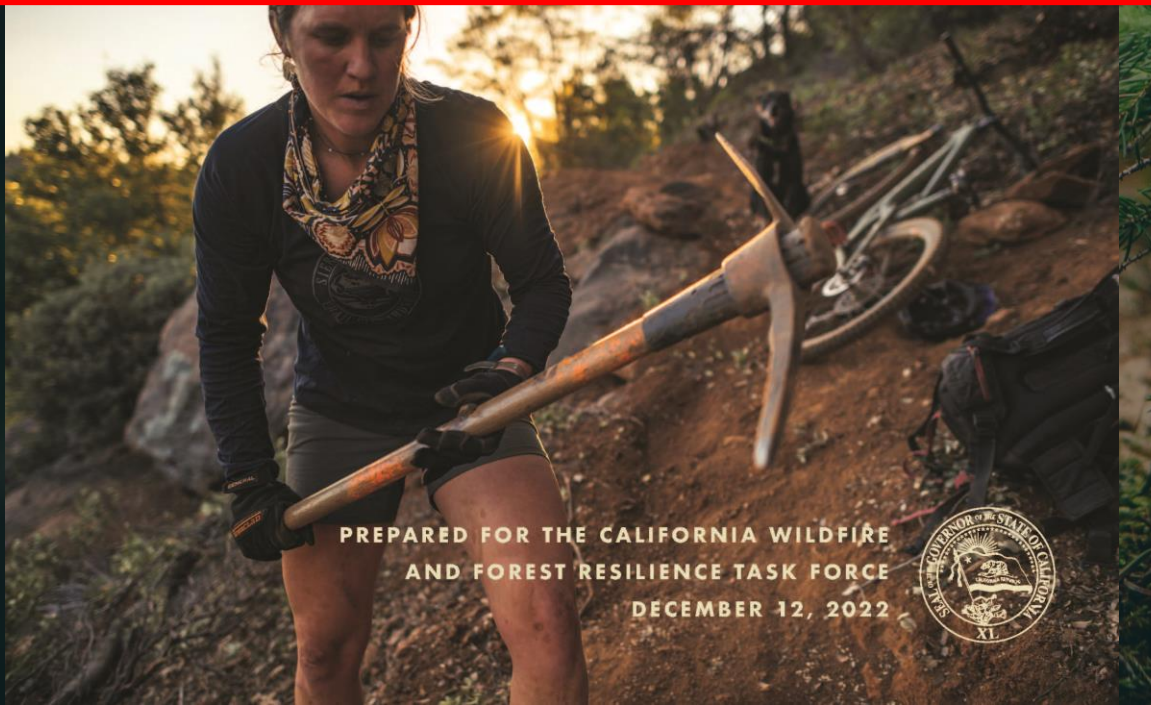
OUTDOOR RECREATION
IN CALIFORNIA...



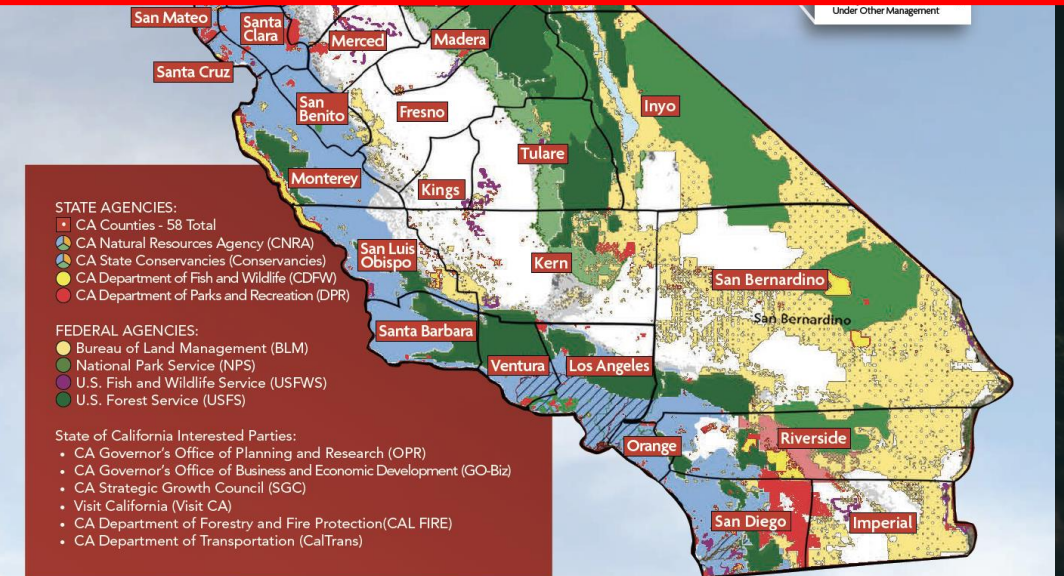
100M
ACRES

THE CHALLENGE

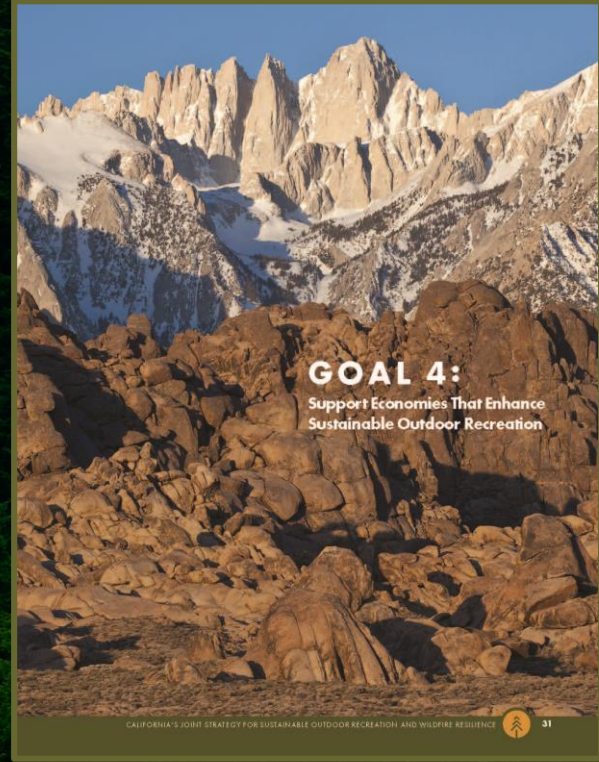
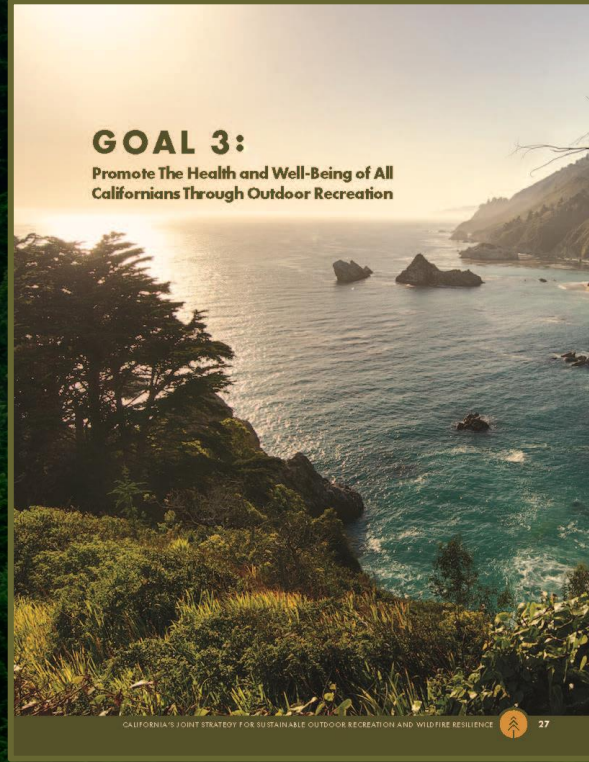
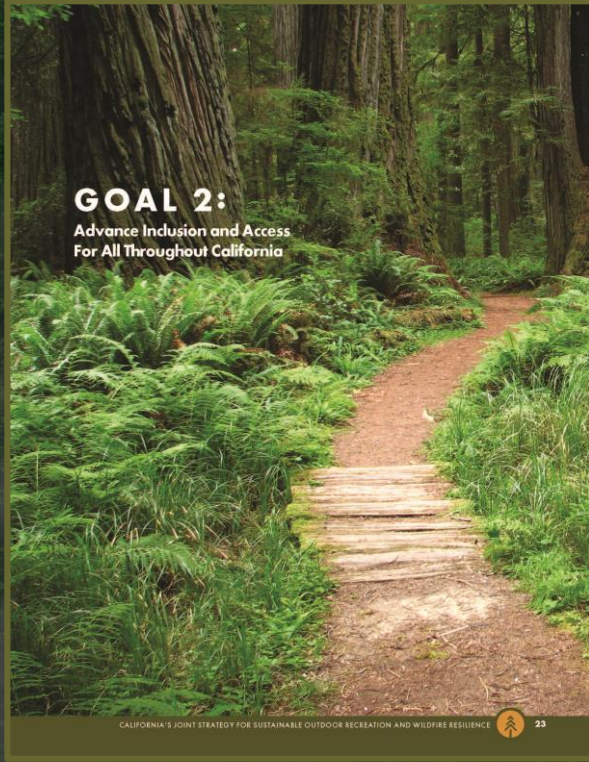
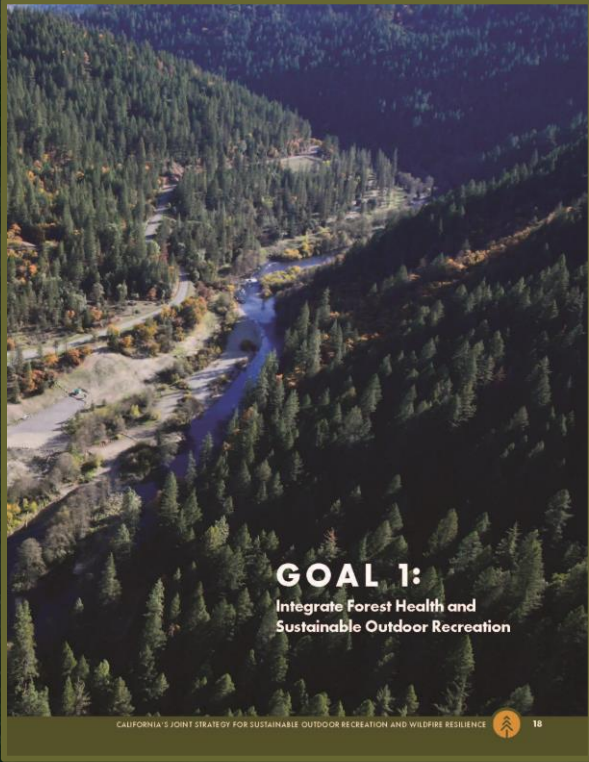
A STRATEGIC CHANGE IN CALIFORNIA'S APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION AND WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



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*Source: 2015 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation
Plan (SCORP), California Department of Parks and Recreation



INTEGRATE FOREST HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION



Goal #1



12 Key Actions

“Integrate the provision of high-quality, sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities with forest health and resilience and wildfire and climate mitigation efforts so that all people can connect to the benefits and wonders of the natural world.”



Goal #1

Maintain Public Access as the Climate Changes

**Develop Educational Materials Targeted at
Reducing the Human Causes of Ignition**

Develop Integrated Communications Systems

**Incorporate Sustainable Outdoor Recreation into
the State Department of Conservation's Regional
Forest Fire Capacity (RFFC) Program**

Add Public Education to Forest Health Projects

ADVANCE INCLUSION AND ACCESS FOR ALL THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA



Goal #2



7 Key Actions

“Plan for and provide a diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities to foster inclusive and equitable access for all Californians.”



Goal #2

Create Statewide School Programming

Create Interpretive, Historical, and Stewardship Educational Opportunities at Key Recreation Facilities

Minimize Impact of Wildfire–Related Area and Facility Closures to Public Access and Recreational Use

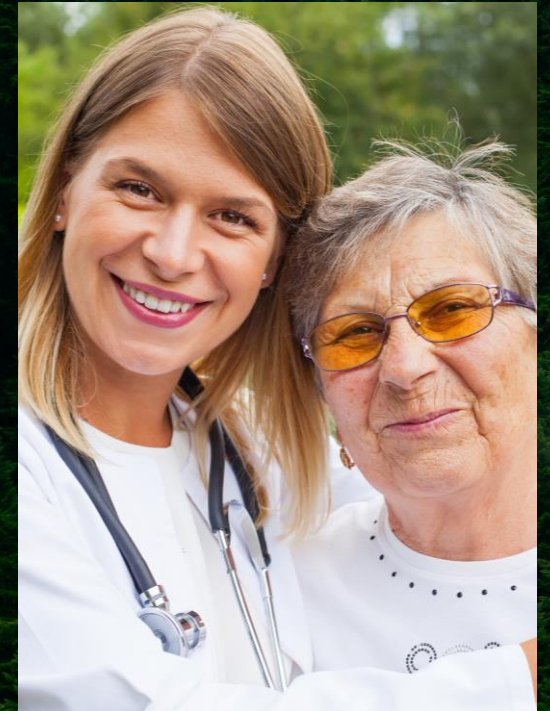
Engage with Local Communities During Post–Fire Recovery to Expedite the Resumption of Outdoor Recreation Access

Develop Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Across the State That Provides for a Diversity of Recreation Experiences

PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL CALIFORNIANS THROUGH OUTDOOR RECREATION



Goal #3



4 Key Actions

“Provide health information, training, and alternative recreation opportunities that promote the health and well-being of all peoples, with consideration of people’s needs before, during, and after wildfires and other natural disasters.”



Goal #3

Improve Air Quality Advisory Communication

**Train First Responders, Community Planners, and
Outdoor Recreation Staff in Mental Health First Aid and
Utilize Medical Reserve Corps and Similar Volunteer
Groups to Provide Psychological Support During
Disasters**

**Build Partnerships Between the Health and Outdoor
Recreation Sectors**

Increase Opportunities for Indoor Recreation

SUPPORT ECONOMIES THAT ENHANCE SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION



Goal #4



8 Key Actions

“Foster and support robust and diversified economies that enhance sustainable outdoor recreation while investing in the resilience necessary to withstand the impact of climate change, wildfires, and other disasters.”



Goal #4

Build Sustainable Outdoor–Recreation–Based Economies

Support Fundamental Community Infrastructure

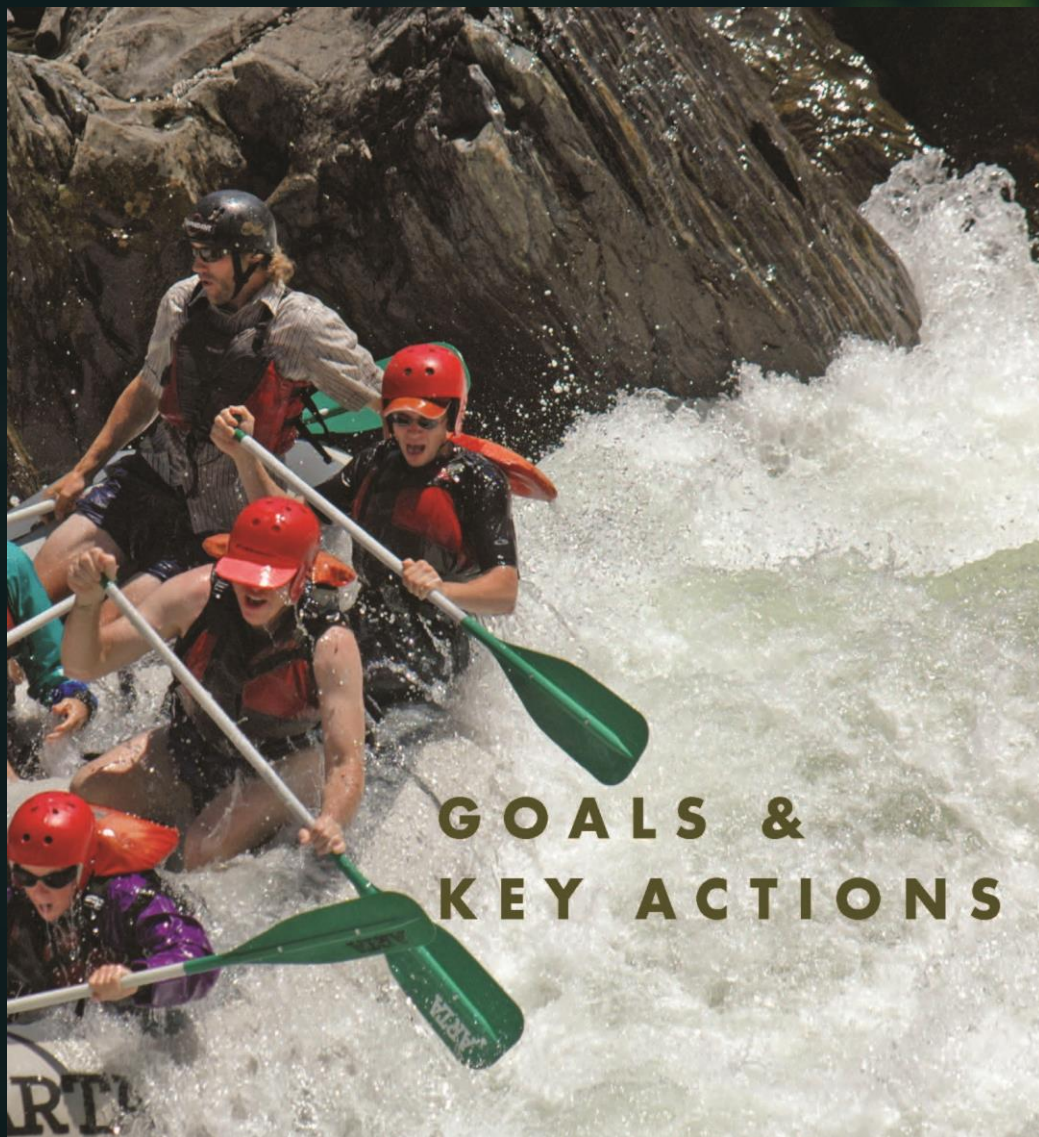
Engage Communities Regarding Emergency Response and Land–Management Planning

Create Post–Fire Educational and Marketing Materials

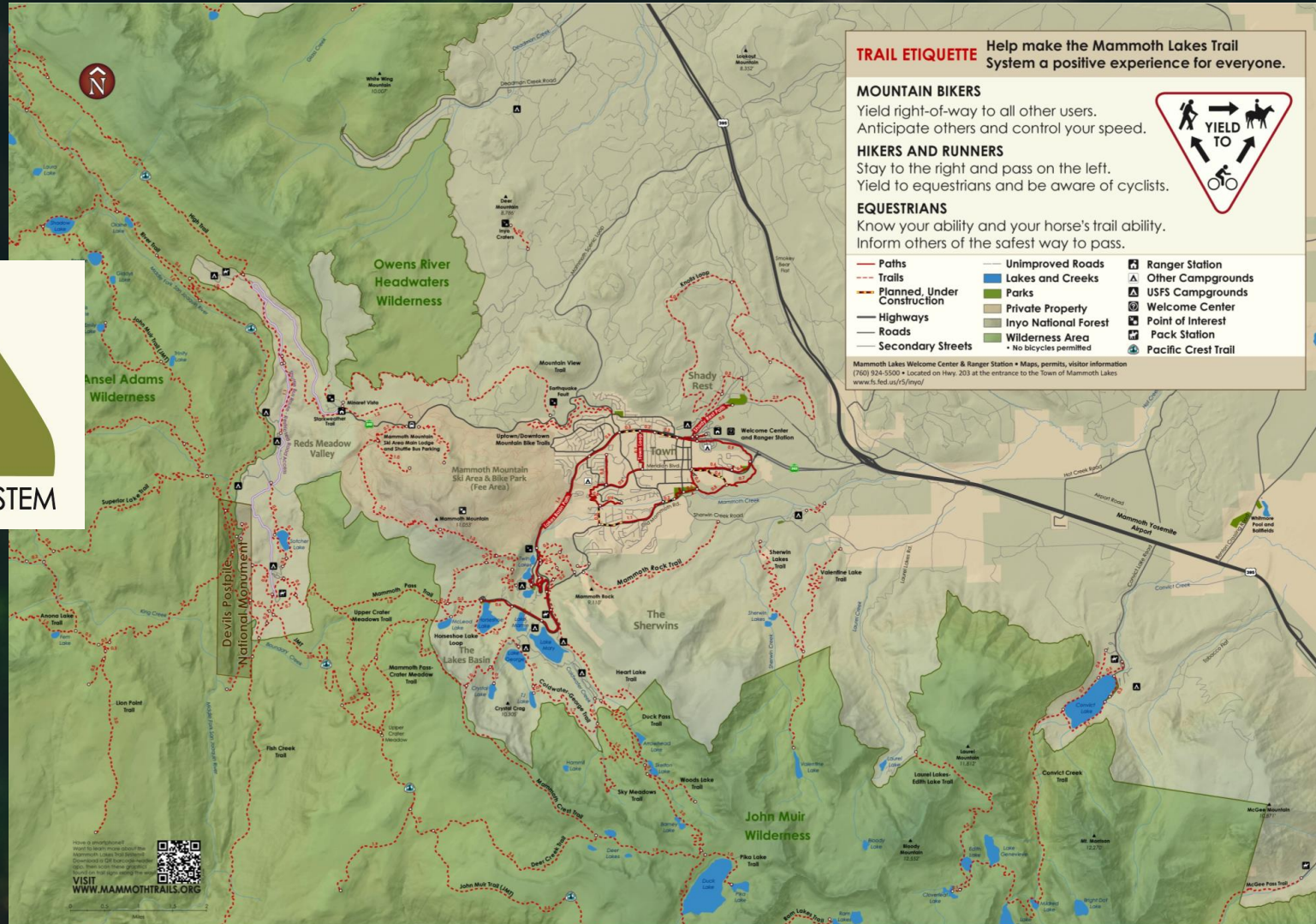
Provide Technical Assistance to Local Businesses

Develop Post–Fire Insurance Program for the Outdoor Recreation Economy

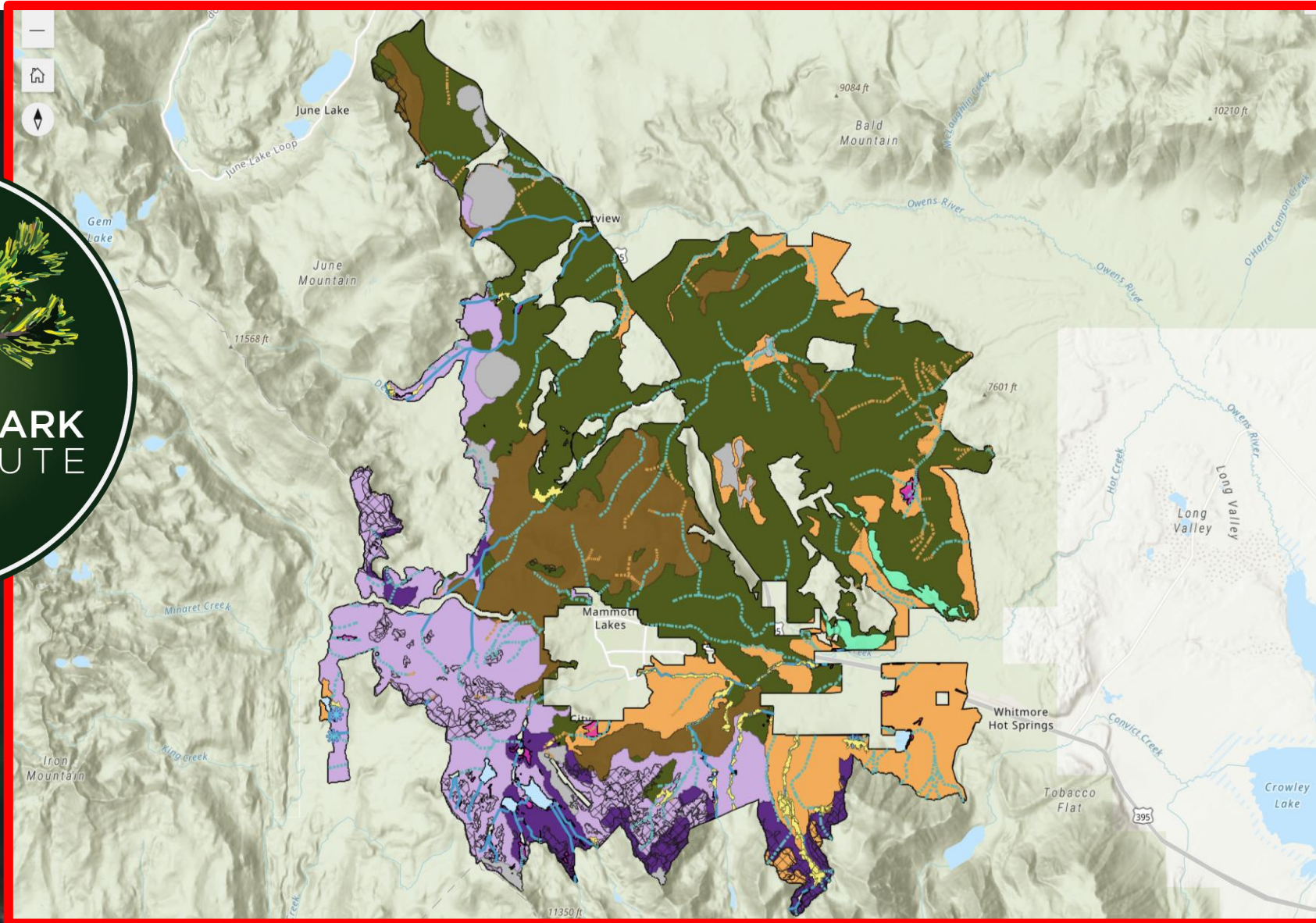
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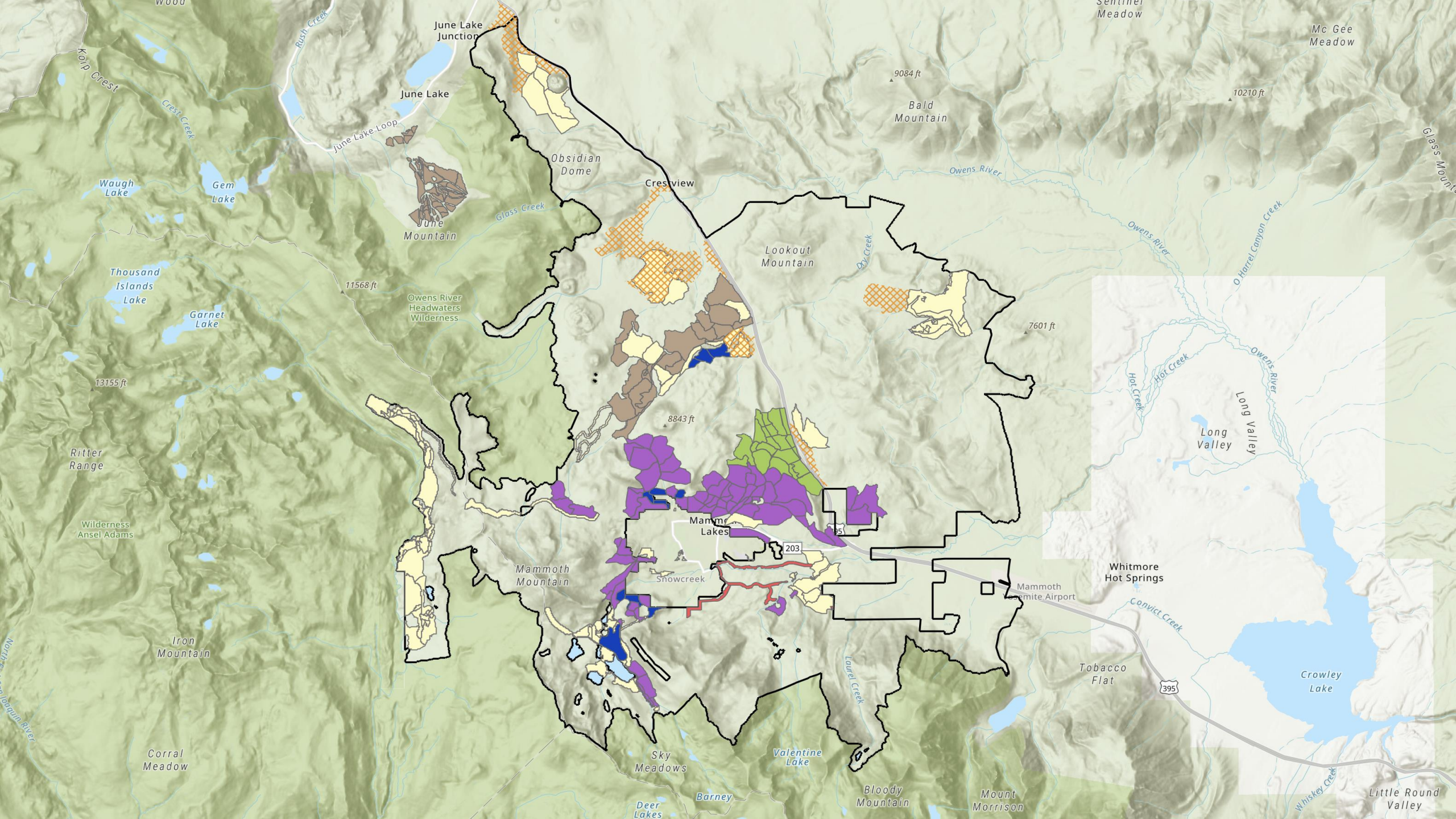


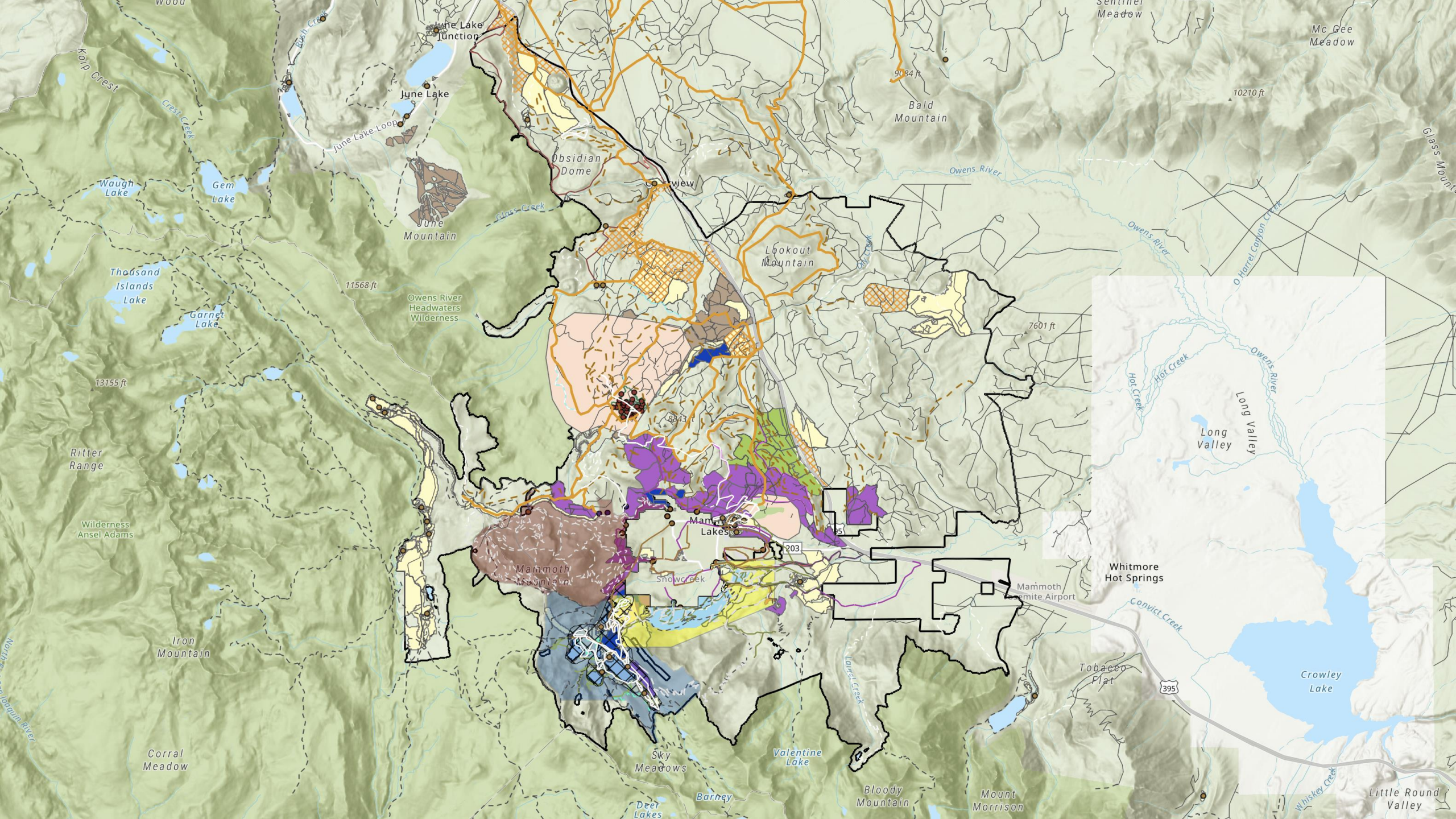
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IMPLEMENTATION

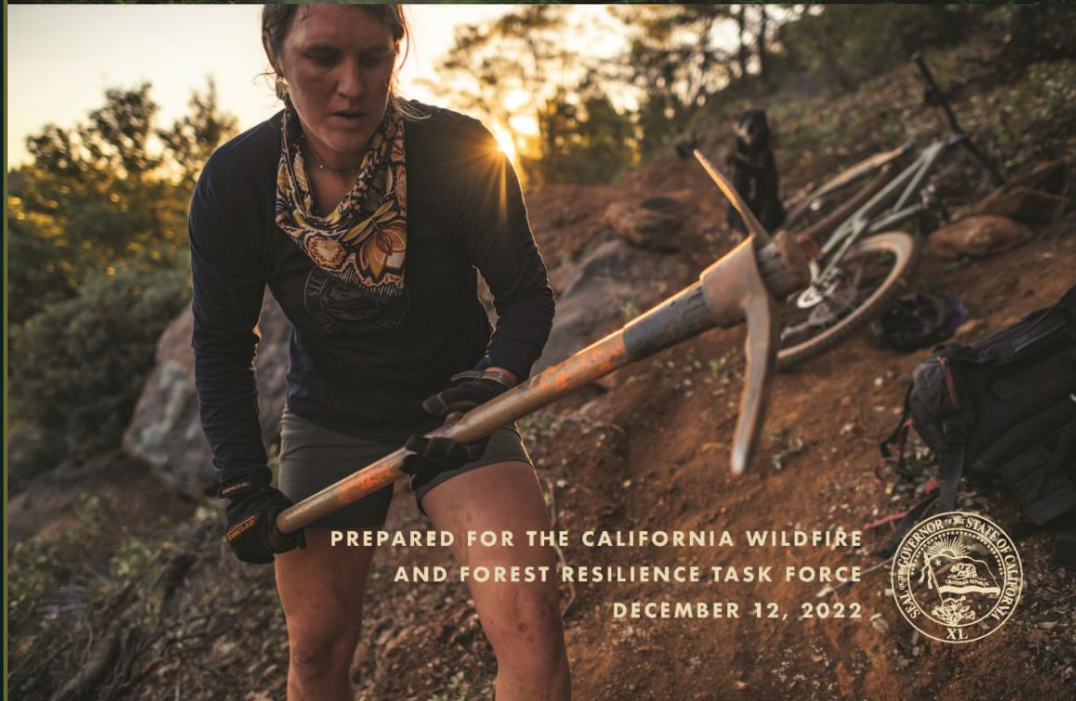








CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE



TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Title: Town Council Adoption of California Joint Strategy for Sustainable Recreation & Wildlife Resilience

Meeting Date: January 15, 2025

Prepared by: Rob Patterson, Town Manager



RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Town Council review and adopt "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience," as published by The California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force in March of 2023, as a guiding document in the Town's effort for resource protection, community investment, and public safety.

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Mammoth Lakes, like many communities and regions in rural California, has an economic model centered around recreation, tourism and the natural environment, most of which is managed by the federal government. These vital natural resources are under pressure from both overutilization and the threat of catastrophic wildfires. The principal economic driver in our Eastern Sierra region is our recreation-based tourism economy and without the natural resources for these activities, the Town loses the ability to sustain itself financially. To rebuild from a natural disaster like a wildfire would take many years and require dependence on outside resources to recover. In light of the current and anticipated wildfire risk environment in California, the recovery may not even be economically feasible. The goal of adopting "California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience" is to engage on a state and federal level with programs that can provide funding to mitigate our exposure to these catastrophic events before they happen. A part of our success has been to leverage programs that are complementary to our own stated goals. This force multiplier, using state and federal initiatives that align with our own goals, allows us to achieve more than we could on our own, with our own funding sources. Adopting this plan should enhance our eligibility to receive state-level and federal funding for programs that will be generated from the recent passing of Proposition 4 and the reauthorization of the Great American Outdoors Act, which provide funding for wildfire prevention, recreation infrastructure and programming, and the protection of communities and natural lands from climate risks. By adopting this plan, the Town would become the first in the state to recognize this strategy, and the implementation of its key actions that will address our unique concerns.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

The joint strategy consists of four goals with a number of specific key actions to address the effects of climate change and the threat of wildfire on sustainable outdoor recreation infrastructure and programs that drive economic activity. The Sustainable Recreation/CALREC Vision Key Working Group, which developed the joint strategy, was awarded Partnership of the Year from the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region in recognition of their efforts. The joint strategy

Multi Use Paved Paths
Soft Surface Trails

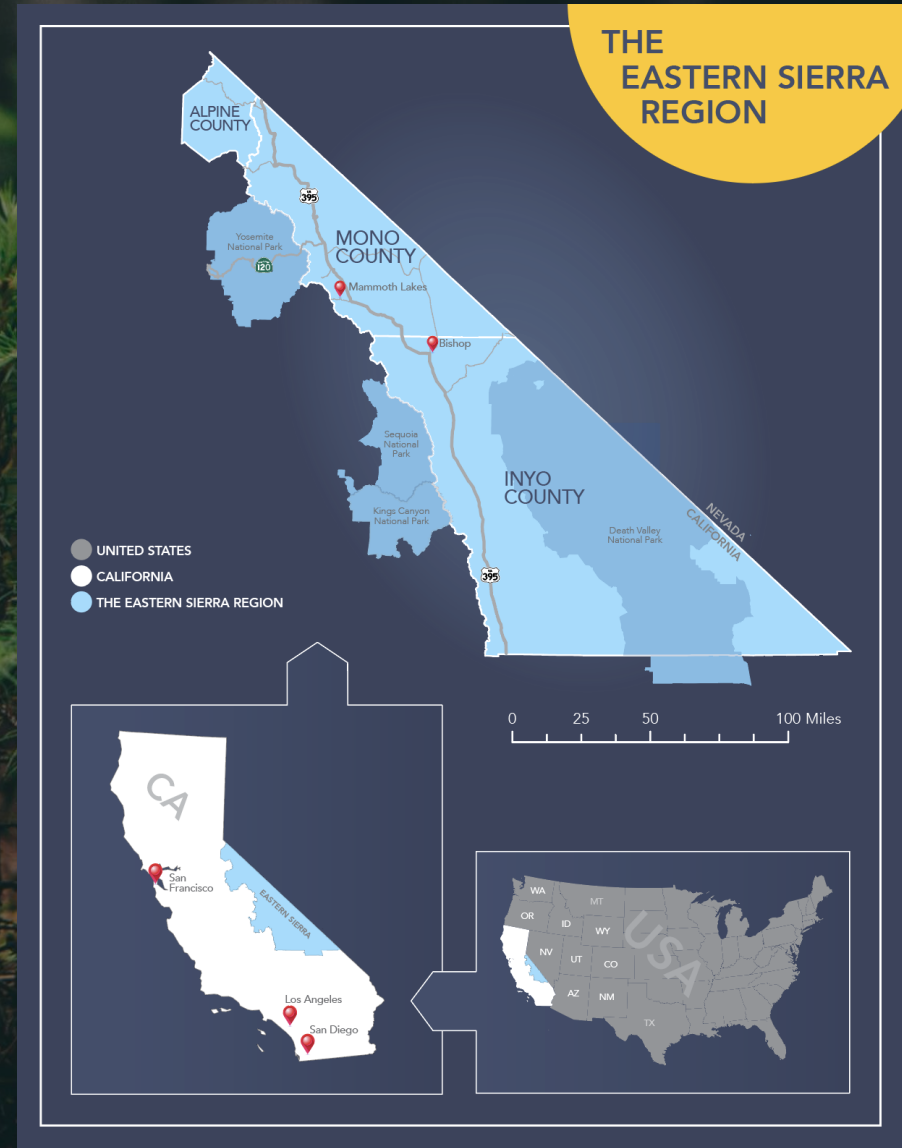


- Multi Use Paved Path with Fuel Break Treatment
- Fuel Break - Along Private/Federal Property line
- Multi Use Paved Paths
- Soft Surface Trails



IMPLEMENTATION

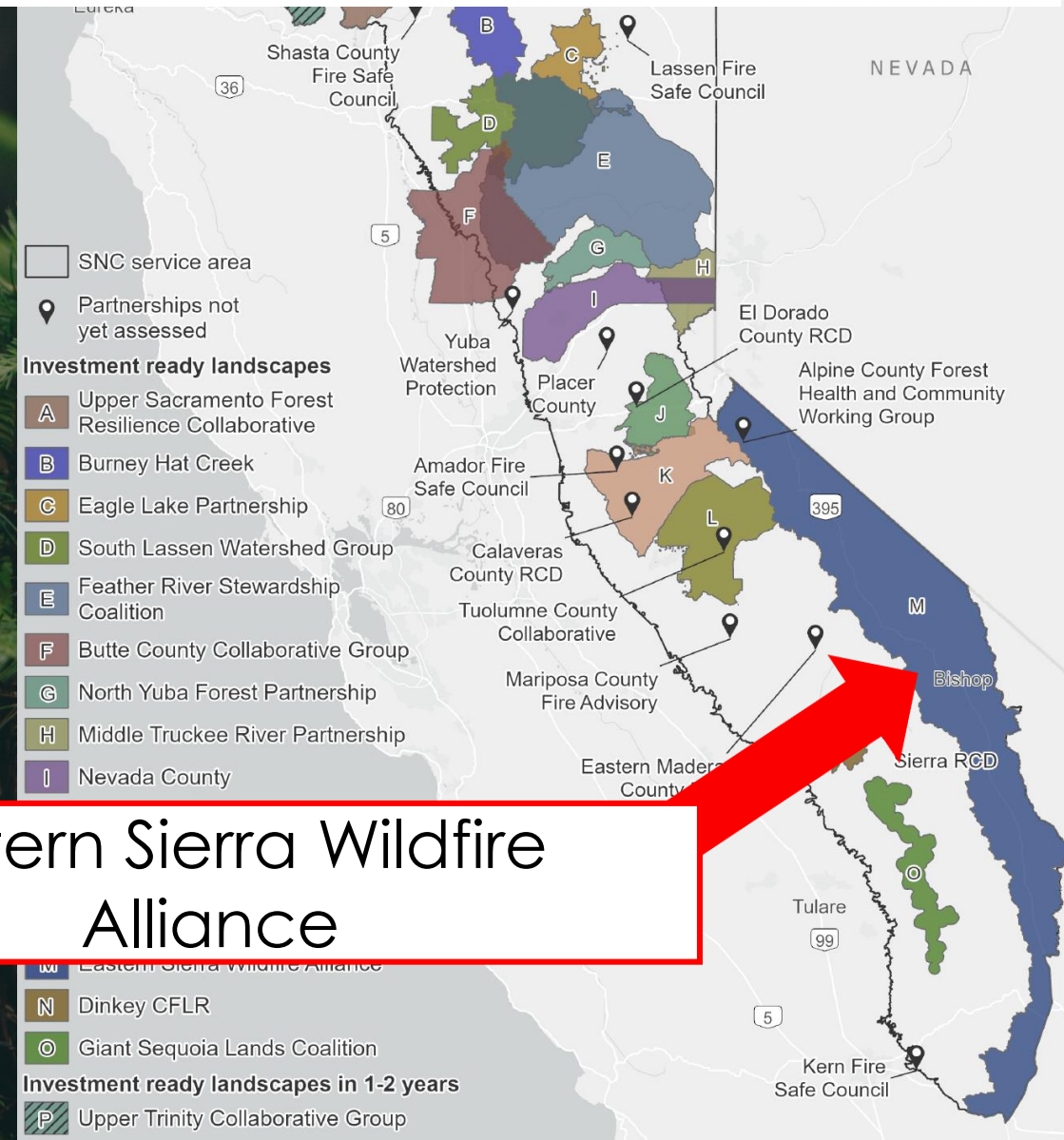
30,000
Residents
7,000,000
Visitors



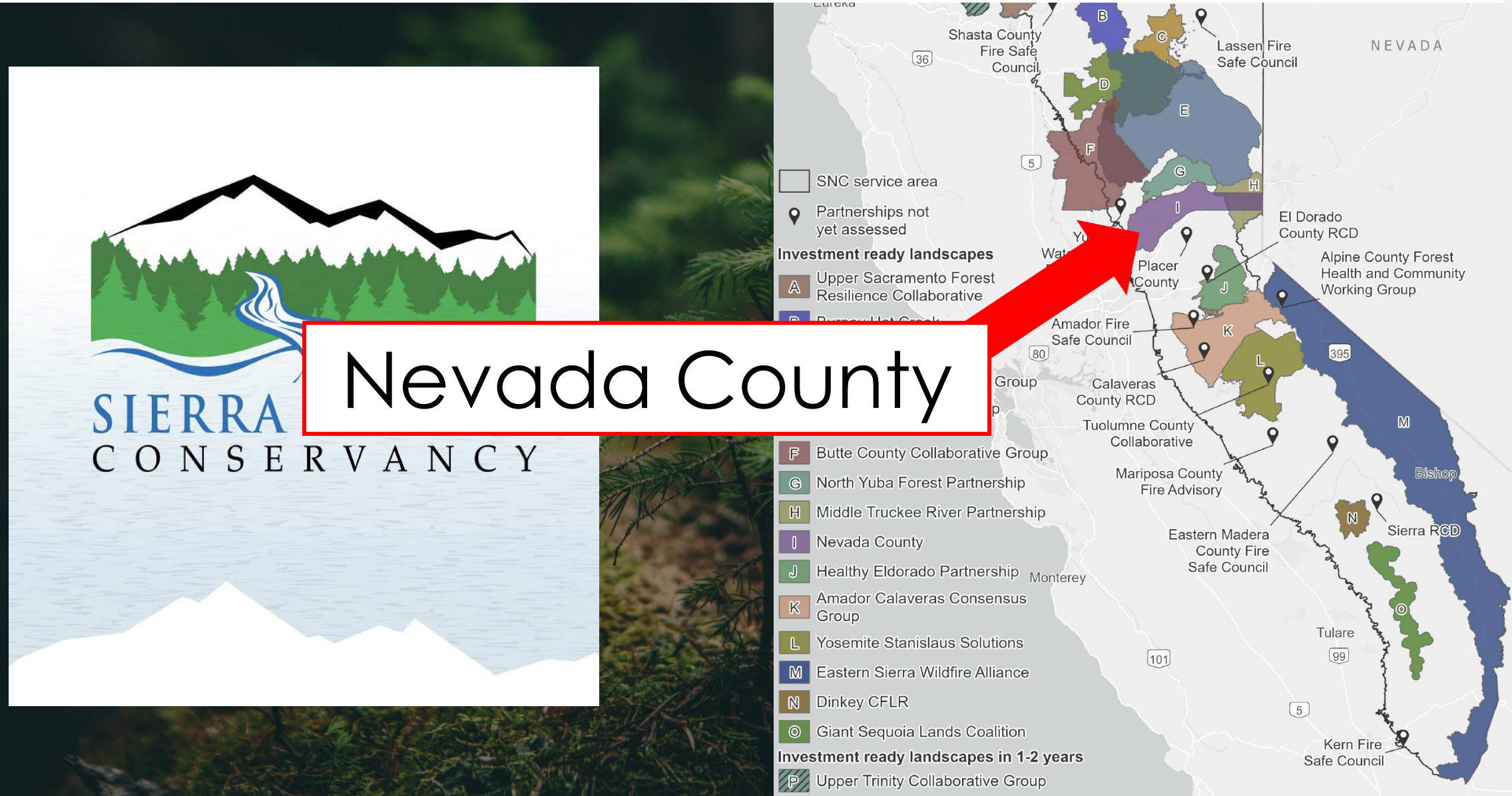
IMPLEMENTATION



Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance



IMPLEMENTATION



RECREATION MASTER PLAN POWERED BY COMMUNITY

Shavati Karki-Pearl – Senior Administrative Analyst- Recreation



NEVADA
COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

Trump admin declares emergency in California's federal forests

The executive action spans the entire state

A memo from the secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture released last week outlines the Trump administration's plans to quickly expand logging operations in the country's national forests, which could dramatically reshape the landscape of popular recreation areas in California.

Opening up California's national forests for commercial logging in the immediate future is just the latest change to public lands in the state during the Trump administration. National parks like Channel Islands and Yosemite are in a state of chaos and crisis due to federal funding cuts and job terminations, and the future of two national monuments designated at the end of the Biden administration also seems uncertain.



Thank You



Nevada County Board of Supervisors August 12, 2025