

Board of Supervisors Workshop

RECREATION OBJECTIVE



NEVADA
COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

2023



OVERVIEW

Background

2022 Highlights

Key Insights + Trends

2023 Objective and Initiatives

2022 Recreation Board Objective

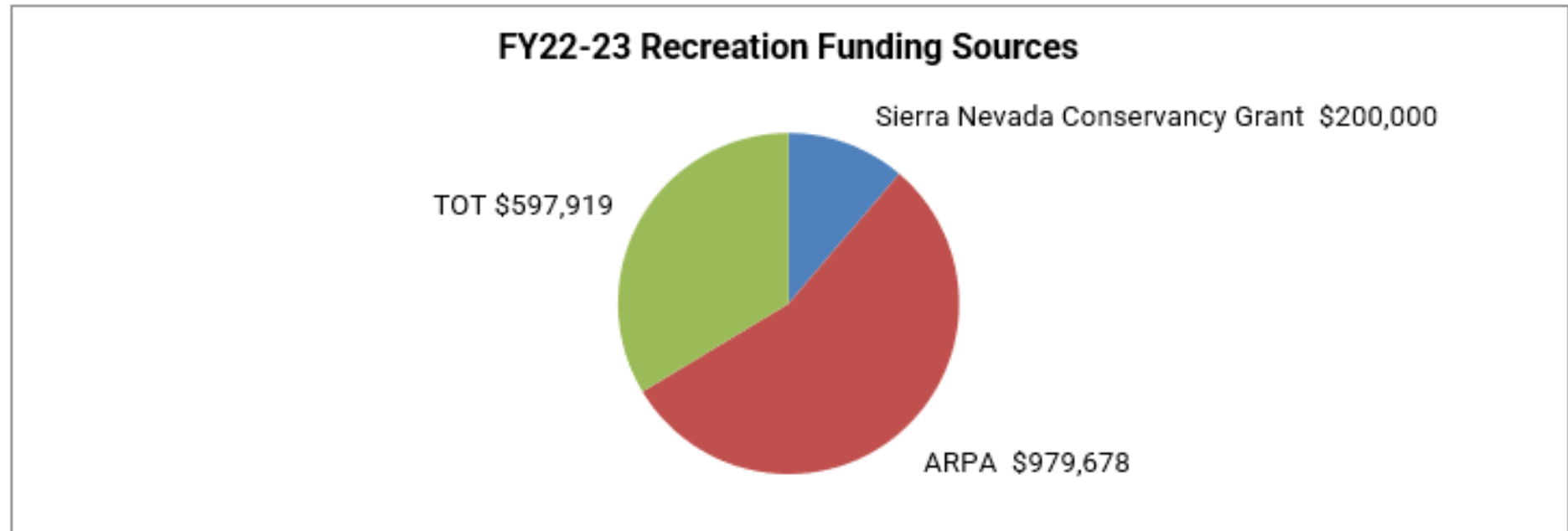
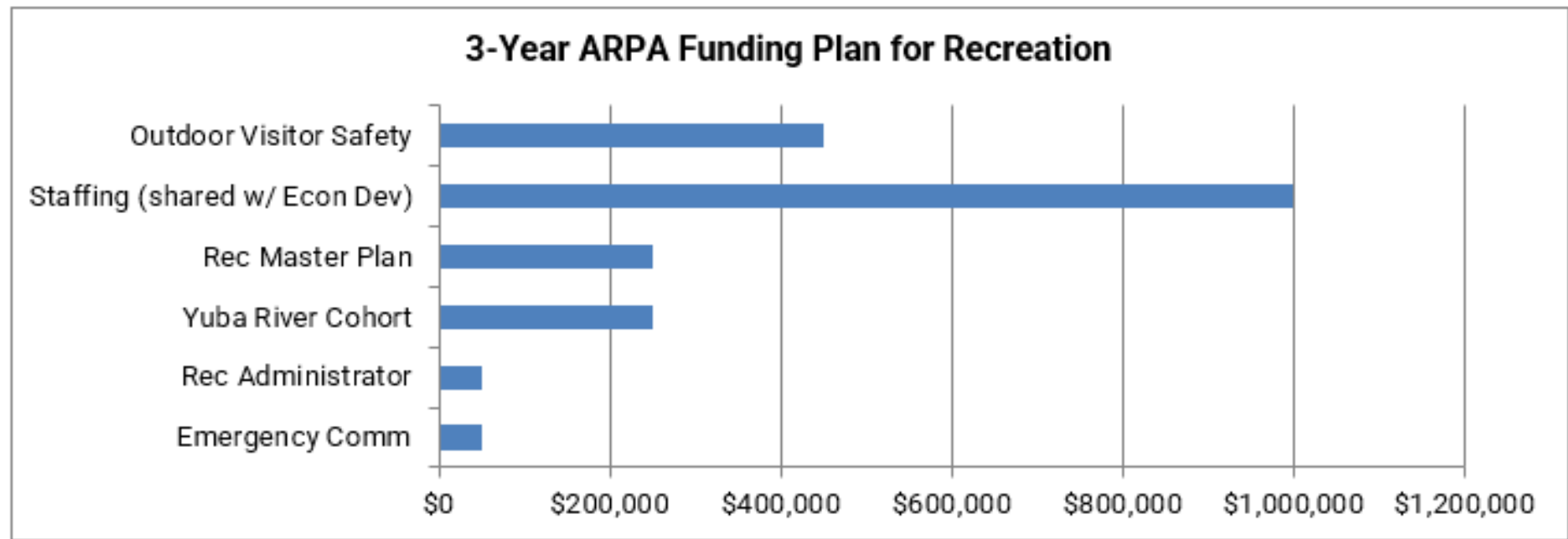
Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers and other jurisdictions to **enhance recreational access**, **support public health and safety**, **realize economic opportunities**, and **preserve natural resource assets**.



Initiatives

1. Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan
2. Strategies to promote health and safety
3. Collaborate w/ organizations and jurisdictions to leverage resources + efforts
4. Capacity + sustainability for Western County organized recreation
5. Interim + long-term funding and advocacy to sustain recreation
6. Staff + manage Collaborative and Plan

Funding Sources and Plan





Recreation Highlights

Recreation

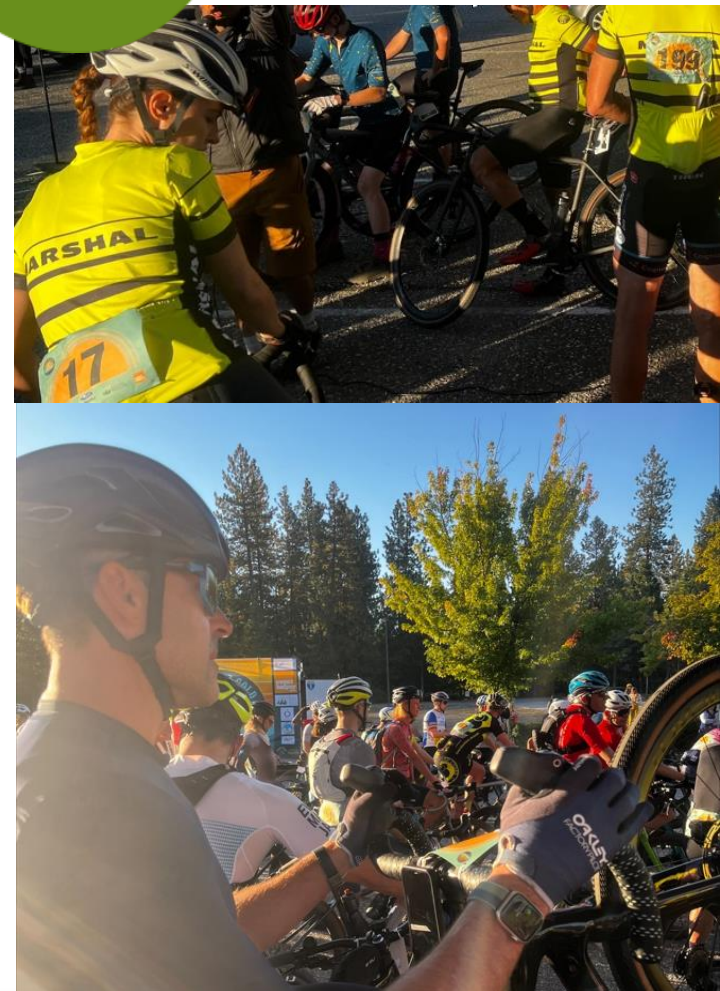
- ❑ Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan in development; \$200K SNC grant award
- ❑ South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort celebrated 5 years of health + safety solutions
- ❑ Convene, Champion and Catalyze unites east County sustainability leaders
- ❑ 9 Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund grant projects received \$415,570 with more in progress – vault toilets, parking, trail improvements, and trail/river ambassadors
 - Bear Yuba Land Trust
 - South Yuba River Citizens League
 - Bicyclists of Nevada County
 - Nevada Irrigation District
 - Truckee Trails Foundation
 - And 3 countywide ambassador programs





Recreation Highlights

Recreation



- ❑ **7 Community Resiliency Grants** awarded \$262,762 to rec providers – turf field replacement, adapting venues/facilities, improving water quality, trails and forest health, safe family activities
- ❑ **Nevada County Library Recreation Collection** increases access to recreation
- ❑ **\$1.1M+ for Western Gateway RV Park + Fields, plus Oak Tree RPD Prop 68 gap loan**
- ❑ **Convened 200+ stakeholders; sharing best practices, funding & collaboration opportunities**
 - Internal teams CCC and the Cohort CA Wildfire + Forest Resilience Task Force
 - Recreation Coalition Western County RPDs Nevada County Sustainability Summit
- ❑ **Heart of Gold Gravel Race raises \$100K for nonprofits** and serves as local economic multiplier

Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund Addresses Immediate Impacts

"It is inspiring to see the County making our public lands and natural resources a priority with the ARPA funds."

- Melinda Booth, SYRCL

❑ River Ambassadors Report – SYRCL

- 54,632 visitors at Bridgeport, Highway 49, and Purdon Crossings; up 314% from previous year
- Removed 6,101 pieces of garbage, 519 pieces of recycling, 478 pieces of glass, 393 piles of dog waste, and 299 cigarette butts
- Dismantled 8 fire rings and responded to 9 incidents
- Bilingual messaging and outreach



Ambassadors Serve as Recreation Concierges + Stewards

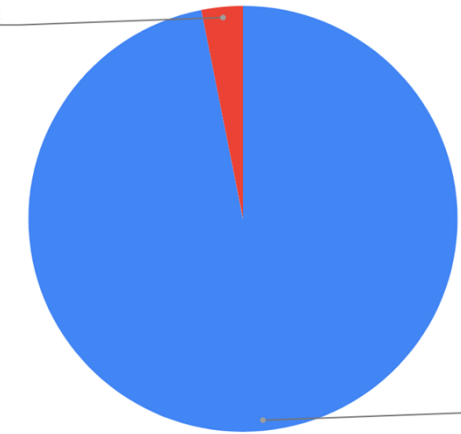


❑ Trail Ambassadors Report – Truckee Trails, BYLT

- 4506 hikers, 3561 bicyclists, 182 Donner Lake sunworshippers, 1030 dogs
- (West) 5 trailheads (East) reservoirs, Johnson Canyon, PCT trailheads, Donner Lake
- Approx. 45% not from Nevada County
- Newer uses: electric skateboards, hoverboards and mountain unicycles
- ***Positive stewardship, assistance with first aid and bike repairs***

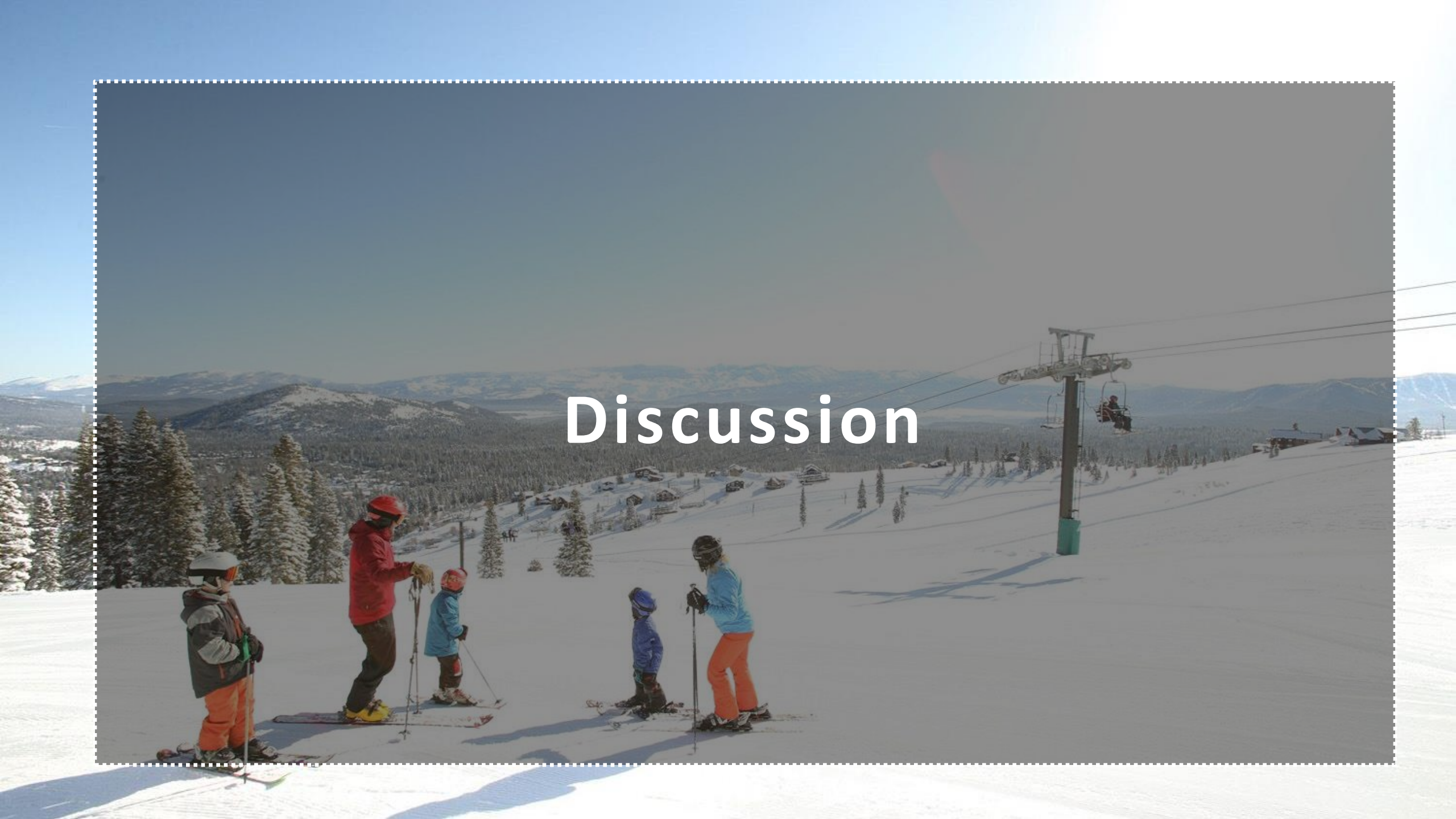
How Important are trails to you?

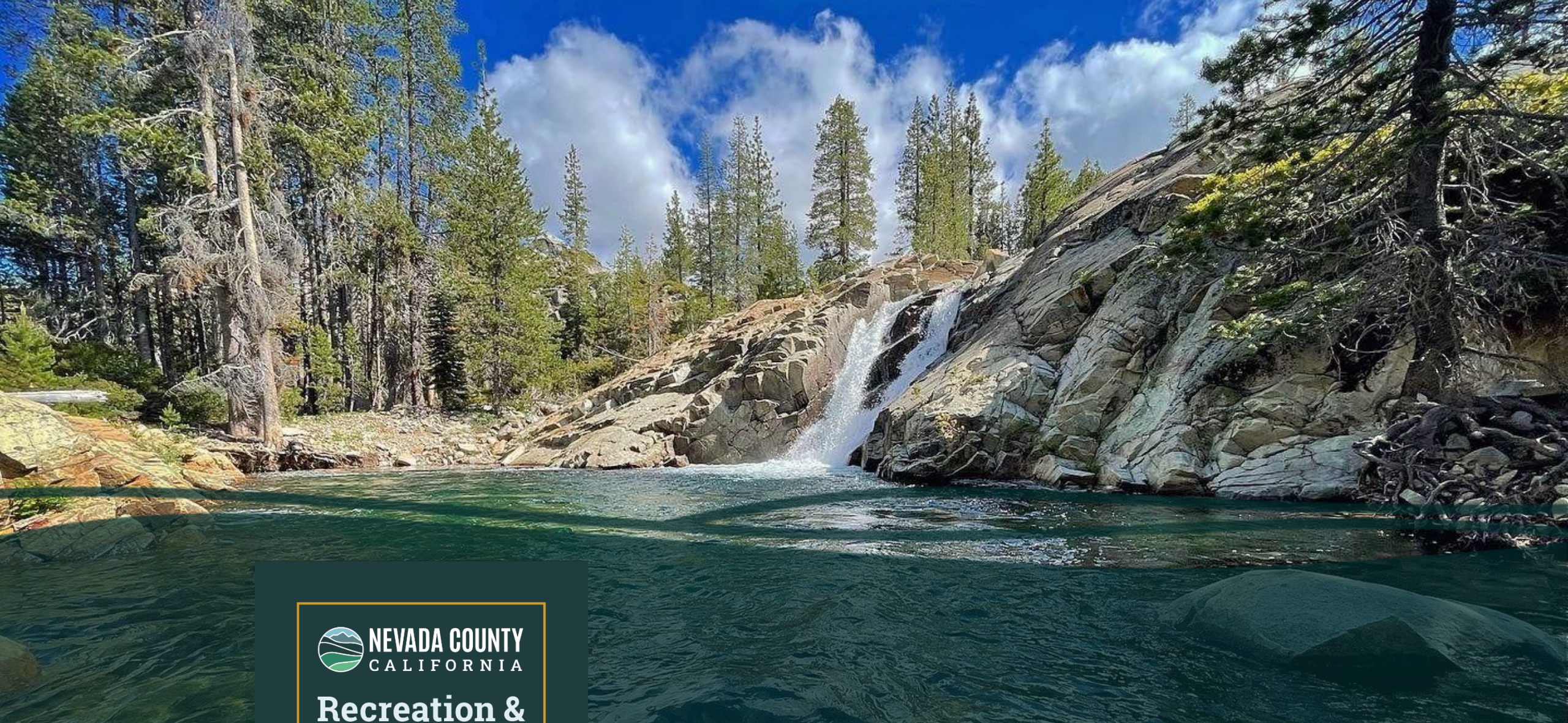
Somewhat Important
3.1%



Very Important
96.9%

Discussion





NEVADA COUNTY
CALIFORNIA
**Recreation &
Resiliency
Master Plan**

Project Update | Design Workshop

January 2023

What is a Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan?

Recreation Planning Objectives:

- Long-term vision for managing open space and recreation resources with 1 to 5-year immediate actions plan
- Capture the spirit of Nevada County
- Define recreation needs & opportunities
- Identify viable projects
- Devise implementation strategy

Multi-Benefit Projects to Support Safe & Equitable Access



Resiliency Objectives:

- Establish County as a resiliency leader to address climate change through the lens of recreation and make county a great place to live
- Planning for shocks and stressors that have acute impacts (ex: wildfire, floods, pandemic)
- Planning for events that occur over time (ex: temp increase, precipitation patterns, economic stressors, health changes, ecosystem degradation)

Resiliency: an initial definition

Resiliency is the capacity of any entity (community, organization, individual, or social or natural system) to maintain its essential function and identity while recovering from shocks and stresses or adapting and learning from a disruptive experience.

Examples of Stressors Facing Nevada County

Events with acute impacts:

- Wildfire
- Flood
- Pandemic
- Recession

Events that build over time:

- Temperature increase
- Changing precipitation patterns
- Health changes
- Economic stressors
- Drought
- Forest health and ecosystem degradation



Stakeholder Outreach to Date

Four Focus Groups

- Organized Sports, Youth & Recreation
- Recreation Access, Tourism, Agriculture and Economic Development
- Conservation, Trails and Open Space
- Health, Wellness, Arts & Culture

Facilitated Conversations in Existing Organization's Meetings

- Recreation Coalition
- Western Nevada County RPD's
- South Yuba River Public Safety Cohort
- Convene, Champion, Catalyze (CCC)

One-On-One & Small Group Stakeholder Interviews

Over 90 Organizations Invited To Participate



Ideas Shared So Far | What Makes Nevada County Special



Ideas Shared So Far | Challenges



Ideas Shared So Far | Risks and Stressors



Ideas Shared So Far | Opportunities for the Future



Looking Forward

- Distilling input and findings to share with Core Team and Stakeholder Working Group
- Input will shape countywide survey and help the team prepare for engaging a broader audience in 2023
- Community engaged through year to provide feedback on analysis and recommendations
- Stakeholders engaged to help spread the word and provide input



Next Steps

We're Here

Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct

Inventory & Map

- Gather existing data to map and summarize current conditions
- Review previous plans and projects and summarize
- Summarize environmental vulnerabilities (shocks & stressors) and existing funding sources
- Meet with partner agencies and stakeholders
- Conduct countywide survey

Analysis & Opportunities

- Benchmark comparisons
- Demographics, levels of service and recreation trends and needs
- Document climate change adaptation strategies
- Prepare potential project matrix version 1.0
- Community forums, working group, and partner agency meetings

Refine Strategies & Implementation

- Prepare potential project matrix version 2.0
- Strategies for financing, implementation, operations, and management
- Community workshops, working group, and partner agency meetings

Document

- Draft and final plan
- Community meeting, working group, and partner agency meetings

A scenic view of a river with rapids and a waterfall, framed by a dotted white border. The river flows through a rocky canyon with lush green vegetation on the banks. Two people are visible in the rapids: one in a blue kayak and another in a green kayak. The word "Discussion" is overlaid in the center of the image.

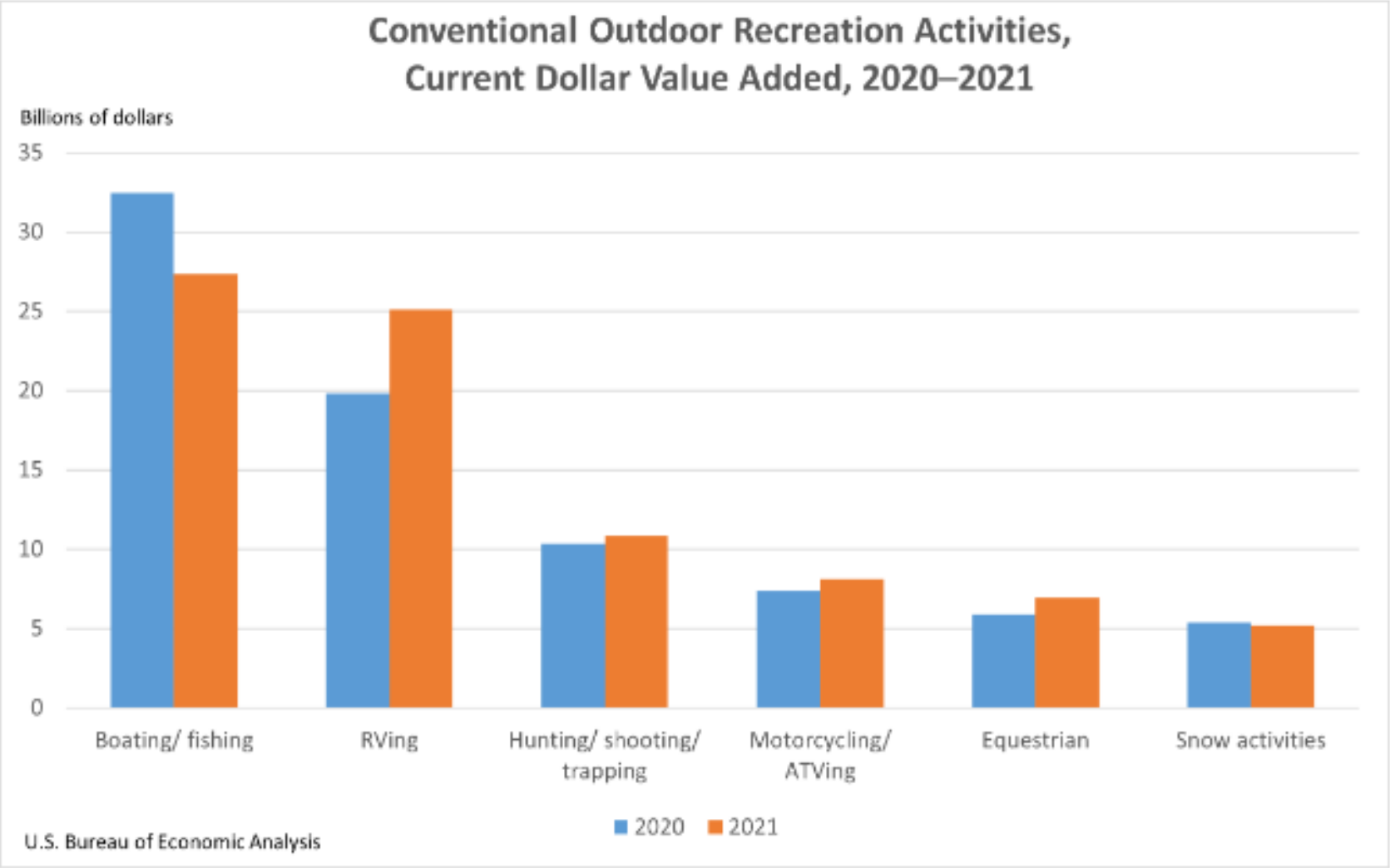
Discussion

*WHY is this objective
relevant now?*

**KEY INSIGHTS
+ TRENDS**



Outdoor Recreation and Participation Trends



*Record High 164 Million
Participants in 2021*

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Outdoor Recreation and Participation Trends

- Urban to rural travel range increasing, not a barrier
 - > 100 miles in winter and summer
 - 95% drive to a destination trailhead
 - Day vs. Overnight trips
- Remote work, digital nomads
- Rural Recreation Economy

Source: Outdoor Industry Association

Parks and Recreation Trends

PARKS & RECREATION AGENCIES AND LIBRARIES: A PERFECT MATCH

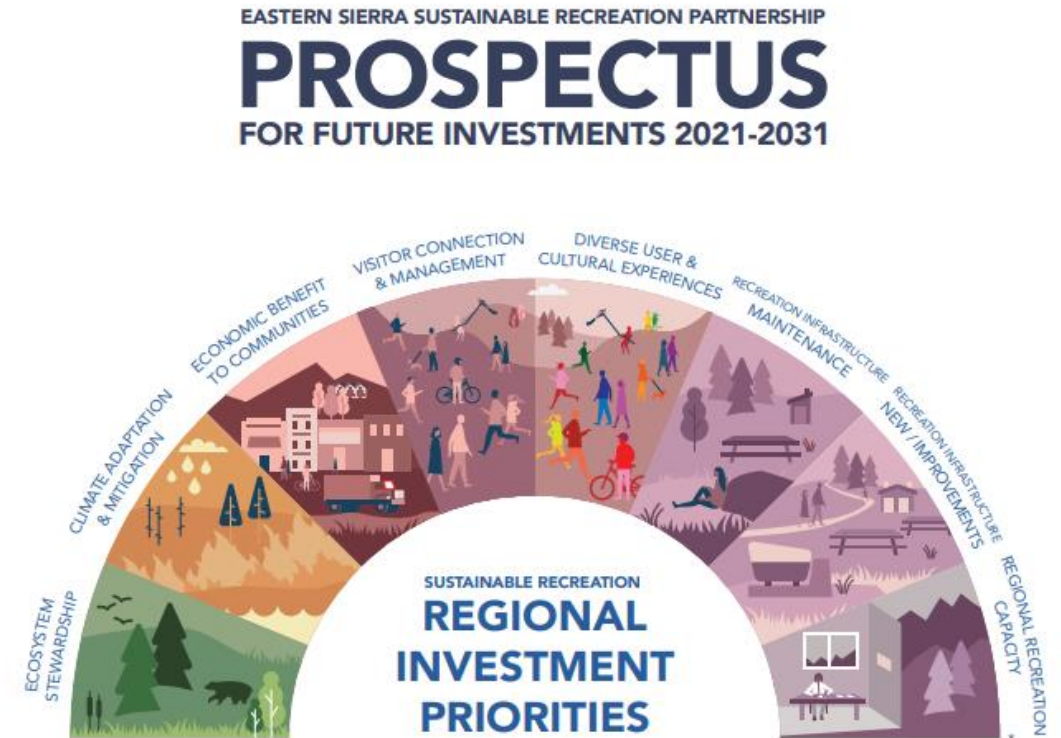
More and more local libraries are working with their Parks & Recreation departments to support healthy play, fitness, and access to nature.

- Parks and Recreation + Public Libraries = partners advancing community well-being
 - Address inequities and gaps in existing systems
 - Bring holistic programming and services into trusted spaces
 - Low to no barrier entry and connecting point
 - Resilience and Wellness Hubs

Source: National Recreation Park Association

Rural Identity and Alignment

- **Limited resources** – must align, collaborate, leverage and maximize
- **Proactive, coordinated messaging** to residents, visitors and downstream
- **Best standards and practices** - recreation, mountain and gateway communities

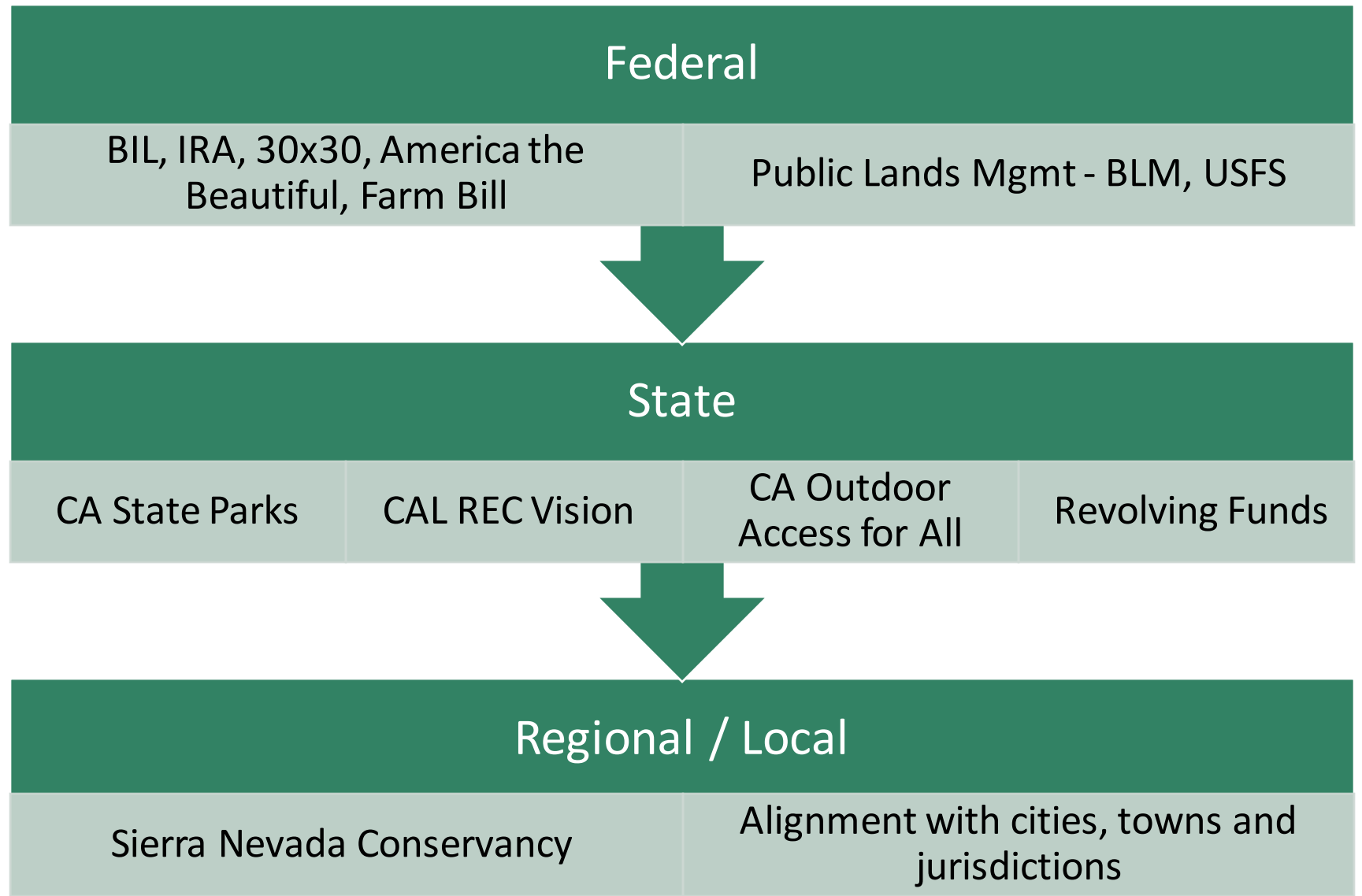


Best Practice Models

Quality of Life | Visitor Experience | Sense of Place



Policy + Funding Trends



CALREC Vision



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



OBJECTIVES FOR...

Public Access & Visitor Experience

Deliver consistent, high-quality outdoor recreational experiences across diversified landscapes, regardless of agency management.

Remove barriers and increase equitable outdoor recreation access opportunities for all Californians.

Increase the inclusion of sustainable outdoor recreation practices in appropriate state policy initiatives.

Enhance the public's understanding of California's outdoor recreation opportunities and their benefits.



Public Land Management

1 Increase the ability of state, federal, and regional agencies to jointly construct, maintain, and operate recreational infrastructure and programs.

2 Align and enhance consistency in public messaging across agencies for outdoor recreation that reflects a shared California point of view.

3 Align outdoor recreation, tourism, and public-health sectors to achieve shared goals across contiguous landscapes.

4 Encourage the dispersment of visitation to outdoor recreation amenities throughout the state.



Local Economic Benefits

1 Build resilience into the economies of gateway communities to sustain their affordability and quality of life.

2 Elevate the benefits of sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism that steward and protect natural resources.

3 Align capacity, share resources, and decrease duplication across land-management agencies through partnerships.

4 Diversify economies of tourism- and recreation-based gateway communities through high-quality and well-paying jobs.

2023 Recreation Board Objective

Promote sustainable recreation in partnership with community providers & other jurisdictions to:

enhance recreational access,
support public health and safety,
realize economic opportunities,
and preserve natural resource assets.

2023 Proposed Direction – 6 Initiatives:

1. Finalize and approve the Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan.
2. Identify, coordinate and implement strategies to promote health and safety.
3. Collaborate to leverage resources and optimize efforts to enhance recreation access, health and safety, economic development, and resource conservation.
4. Build capacity and provide administrative support for Western County organized recreation.
5. Identify funding and act on advocacy priorities to sustain recreation objective.
6. Staff and manage collaborative effort to identify immediate high-level projects and promote coordination

Expand Scope and Impact

- Disburse Outdoor Visitor Safety Fund grants (round 2) and AB1600 funds
- Elevate benefits of sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism
- Align with and support efforts to enhance or establish community centers and resilience hubs
- Develop & strengthen connections, resources and recreation opportunities with Library
- Track metrics, report on progress and tell our story
- Establish a Recreation and Resiliency Internship/Fellowship program

And begin implementation of Master Plan!



Discussion