

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is a State Agency created by bipartisan legislation in 2004. The State of California recognized that the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada and its communities are closely linked and that the State and the Region would benefit from an organization providing a strategic direction. The SNC supports the Sierra Nevada Region by providing funding for local projects, offering technical assistance, and supporting collaborative projects in partnership with local government, nonprofit organizations, state and federal government organizations, and tribal entities.

## Our Programs

- Increasing the opportunity for tourism and recreation in the Region
- Protecting, conserving, and restoring the Region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources
- Aiding in the preservation of working landscapes
- Reducing the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfire
- Protecting and improving water and air quality
- Assisting the Regional economy through the operation of the SNC's program
- Enhancing public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public



## Governing Board

The Governing Board consists of 16 members: 13 voting and three nonvoting liaison advisers. Five of the voting members are Governor's appointments, two are Legislative appointments, and six are county supervisors who represent the various subregions. The three nonvoting members are appointed from federal agencies: U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service.

## Sierra Nevada Region

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy Region includes more than 25 million acres in all or part of 22 counties and is organized into six Subregions:

**North Sierra: Modoc, Shasta, Lassen counties**

**North Central Sierra: Tehama, Butte, Plumas, Sierra counties**

**Central Sierra: Yuba, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado Counties**

**South Central Sierra: Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa counties**

**South Sierra: Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern counties**

**East Sierra: Alpine, Mono, Inyo counties**

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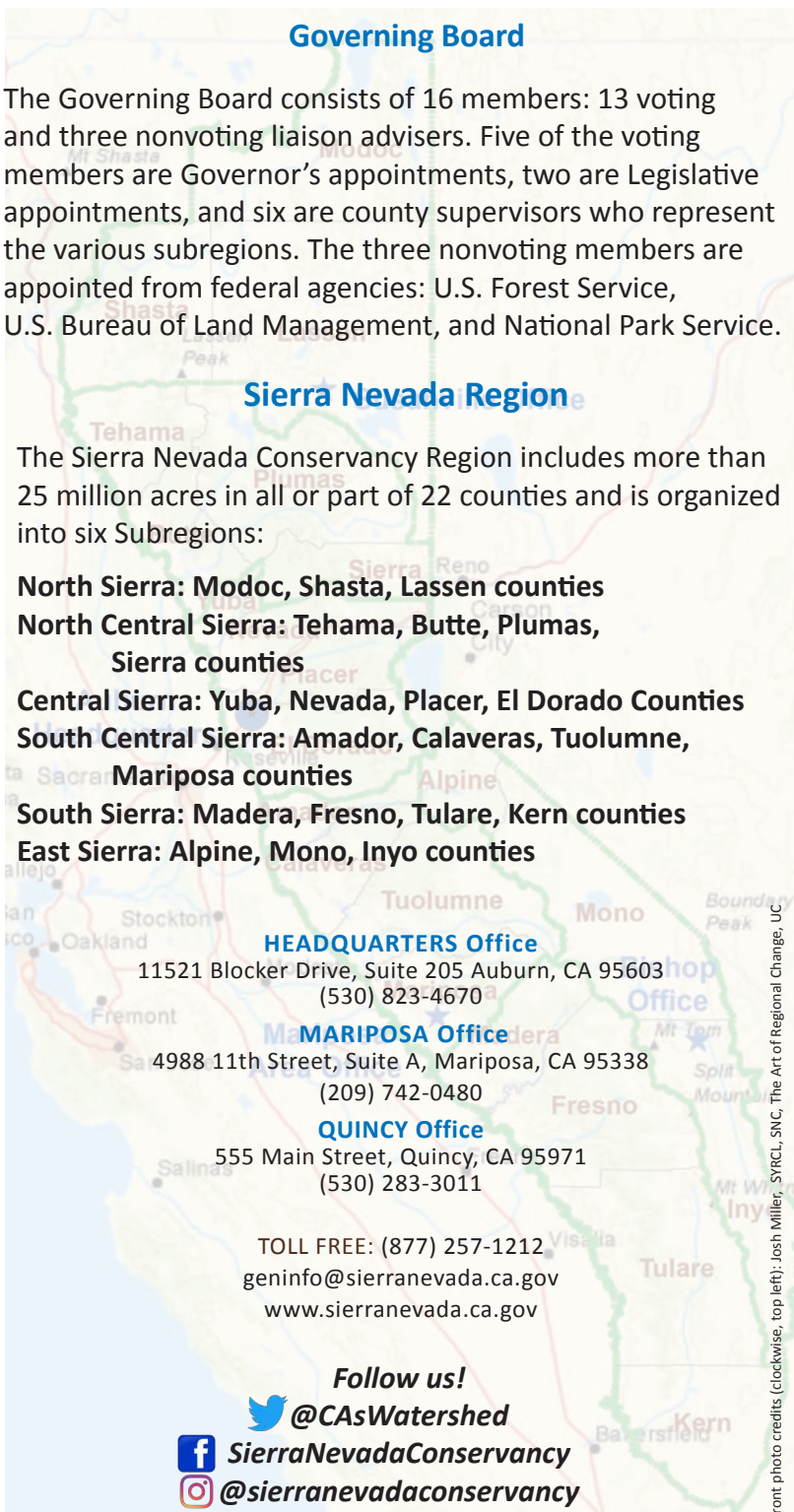
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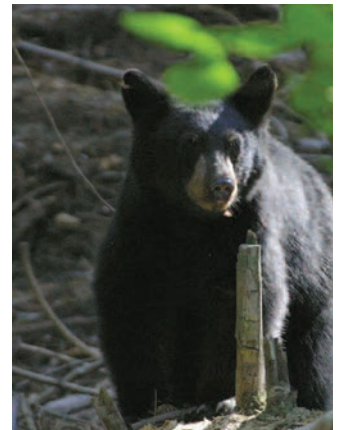
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Front: photo credits (clockwise, top left): Josh Miller, SYRCL, SNC, The Art of Regional Change, UC



SIERRA NEVADA  
CONSERVANCY



## Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program

Sierra Nevada forests and watersheds are at a critical point. A multi-year drought, a century of fire suppression, widespread tree mortality due to insect attacks and disease, and a changing climate have led to an increased risk of large, damaging wildfires.

The Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Program is a coordinated, integrated, collaborative program to restore the health of California's primary watershed through increased investment and needed policy changes.

Objectives include:

- Restoring and protecting the health of forests, soils, streams and meadows.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and stabilizing carbon storage.
- Reducing the risk of large, damaging wildfires.
- Improving habitat conditions, preserving working landscapes, and improving local socio-economic conditions.
- Protecting air quality.
- Improving the quantity and quality of water throughout the year.

For more information visit: [www.restorethesierra.org](http://www.restorethesierra.org)



## Abandoned Mine Lands

Remnants of the legendary Gold Rush at the turn of the century continue to have major impacts within the Sierra Nevada Region and outside the Region. About half of the 47,000 known Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) are located within the Region. Human, wildlife, and environmental health and security are threatened by the ongoing impacts of AML such as contamination of soils and water from toxins, including Mercury; high sedimentation in rivers, streams and reservoirs; and physical safety hazards. The SNC works with state, federal, and non-governmental partners to:

- Facilitate protection of the Region's resources through mindful and informed decision making.
- Work with our partners to educate policy-makers and to identify and pursue AML remediation work.
- Explore funding opportunities, and provide information and assistance regarding these opportunities to entities seeking to implement AML cleanup projects.



## Grant Program

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy administers competitive grant programs to encourage and support local projects that restore watershed health. Funding has been awarded to government entities, nonprofit community groups, and tribal entities for local projects that improve water quality, reduce the risk of wildfire and other natural disasters, protect important natural resources and habitat, promote sustainable recreational use (when tied to resource conservation), improve resource management practices, protect working farms and ranches, and address climate change impacts.

The Sierra Nevada Region is home to 60% of the state's animal species & almost 50% of its plants

Funding for projects comes from Proposition 84 passed by voters in 2006 and Proposition 1 passed by voters in 2014.



## Tourism & Recreation

The Sierra hosts more than 50 million recreational visits annually and offers world-class outdoor recreational opportunities and experiences for all levels of expertise.

You can challenge yourself with physical activities such as hiking, biking, climbing, and river rafting or pursue more tranquil opportunities such as bird watching, picnicking, and exploring the millions of acres of public lands.

Learn about our Region's cultural and heritage sites by visiting [www.sierranevadageotoursim.org](http://www.sierranevadageotoursim.org).

