



# SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

## NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) will hold its next Board meeting on February 7 and 8 in Jackson, California. A business meeting of the Board will be held at the Amador County Board of Supervisors' Chambers, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The following day, a field tour of the Jackson area focusing on local economic and environmental issues will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (the tour departs from the Amador Inn in Jackson). All meetings and field tours are open to the public.

The SNC was created by legislation signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in September of 2004. Its mission is to initiate, encourage, and support efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities and the citizens of California. The Conservancy will provide funding, technical assistance, information and other community assistance in order to achieve its mission. The agency will coordinate and cooperate with local governments and other partners in developing and implementing its programs across 25 million acres from the Oregon border to Kern County (about 25% of the state). The Region includes all or part of 22 counties and more than 200 communities.

SNC Chair, Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman urges area residents to attend the meeting and participate in the process. "We move our board meetings around the SNC Region so that the Board can better understand local issues, needs and concerns," Chrisman stated. "Public attendance and participation is a critical part of this process and we urge local citizens to take advantage of our visit to this beautiful part of the central Sierra Nevada."

Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed 2007-08 State Budget includes \$17.5 million in funding to the SNC that will be distributed throughout the region in the form of grants. At the February 7 meeting, the Board will review draft program guidelines that will be used in determining priorities for grant funding. The Board will also discuss the SNC's plans to seek the creation of an environmental license plate that will generate additional funding for community projects. It also anticipated former Senator and Assemblyman Tim Leslie will be honored by the Board for his efforts in creating the Conservancy.

Information about the Conservancy, including a copy of its Strategic Plan and Action Plan, can be found at [www.sierranevada.ca.gov](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov).

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