

STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY

*Sierra Nevada Conservancy Vibrant Tourism and Recreation
Grant Program*

*California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection,
and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68)*

SNC ID Number: RT001

Applicant: Town of Mammoth Lakes

Project Title: Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

SNC Subregion: East

County(ies): Mono, Inyo, Alpine

Funding Amount Requested: \$618,750

Funding Amount Recommended: \$618,750

Total Project Cost: \$618,750

PROJECT SCOPE / DESCRIPTION

This Project will utilize SNC Proposition 68 Vibrant Recreation and Tourism directed grant funds to support project and program development by the Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism (Office). The Office will support and build on the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) and provide coordination and technical assistance to collaboratively developed sustainable recreation and tourism projects and programs. The Office will work with partners throughout the counties and municipalities in the SNC's East subregion. The applicant, Town of Mammoth Lakes, will oversee the Office on behalf of, and in coordination with, its regional Eastern Sierra partners.

The Office will convene and facilitate regional recreation stakeholder engagement through regular meetings to identify collaborative support for efficient project prioritization and implementation. The Office will also provide much needed capacity to partners through technical assistance for project planning and development; identification and pursuit of appropriate funding opportunities; and the development of an Eastern Sierra climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy related to the region's recreation and tourism economy that will help inform future investment in sustainable recreation and tourism projects. Finally, through the established collaborative, the Office will develop a focused regional identity and media

products to tell the story of sustainable recreation and tourism in the Eastern Sierra to its broad visitor audience.

Eastern Sierra recreation partners formed the ESSRP as an outcome of forest management planning for the Inyo National Forest with the intent to build better working relationships between partners on a common landscape. By supporting and expanding the partners of the ESSRP, the Office will ensure the efficient planning and implementation of projects and programs region-wide and across jurisdictions. This landscape-scale collaborative effort will also establish the region’s presence in the larger national outdoor recreation movement and serve as a replicable model for other SNC subregions.

Project partners have provided support for the creation of the Office and demonstrated commitment to sustainable recreation and tourism in many ways. The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County have created a shared position that is responsible for direct sustainable recreation project development and management. The Inyo National Forest has provided staff support for the establishment of the ESSRP and stated that priorities identified through the Office will be the focus of the Forest’s workplan. Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access has also committed staff time to support the ESSRP. The creation of the Office will leverage these efforts to maximize the public benefits of SNC Vibrant Recreation and Tourism grant funds.

The Office will directly support and achieve multiple strategies identified in the Vibrant Recreation and Tourism Regional Goal of the SNC’s Strategic Plan. A few examples of the strategies that the establishment of the Office will accomplish include: “assess conditions, existing resources, needs, and opportunities to support or promote recreation and tourism throughout the Region and identify highest priority activities”; “Identify, create, and participate in partnerships to support the development of vibrant recreation and tourism throughout the Region”; and “providing funding and/or technical support to partners in establishing pilot recreation collaboratives”.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

PROJECT TASKS / DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Regional recreation stakeholder engagement	May 2019 – January 2022
Technical assistance for project planning and development	May 2019 – January 2022
Climate adaptation and resilience assessment	May 2019 – September 2020
Connection to Eastern Sierra visitor audience	May 2019 – January 2022
SNC Progress Reports	Every 6 months
SNC Final Report	January 2022
Estimated Project Completion Date	January 1, 2022

PROJECT COSTS

BUDGET CATEGORIES	SNC FUNDING
Project Costs:	
Regional recreation stakeholder engagement	\$60,000
Technical assistance for project planning and development	\$230,000
Climate adaptation and resilience assessment	\$65,000
Connection to Eastern Sierra visitor audience	\$140,000
Project Management	\$74,250
Administrative:	
Administrative Costs	\$49,500
TOTAL:	\$618,750

PROJECT LETTERS OF SUPPORT / OPPOSITION

SUPPORT:

- N/A

OPPOSITION:

- N/A

PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

There are four Performance Measures common to all grants. In addition, grantees are required to identify one to three project specific Performance Measures in their application. Please note, Performance Measures listed here represent those proposed by applicants and may be modified before the grant agreement is executed.

- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments

CEQA Documentation

SNC #: RT001

Project Title: Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism

Applicant: Town of Mammoth Lakes

CEQA:

The project is Statutorily Exempt under Section 15262. Feasibility and Planning Studies and Categorically Exempt under Class 6 Section 15306. Information Collection.

- **Notice of Exemption:** See Below

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: (Public Agency) Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

County Clerk
County of _____

(Address)

Project Title: Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism (SNC #RT001)

Project Location - Specific:

The Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism will work with partners throughout counties and municipalities in Mono, Inyo, and Alpine counties.

Project Location – City: NA Project Location – County: Mono, Inyo, Alpine

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding in the amount of \$618,750 to the Town of Mammoth Lakes to support project and program development by the Eastern Sierra Office of Sustainable Recreation and Tourism (Office). The Office will support and build on the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership (ESSRP) and provide coordination and technical assistance to collaboratively developed sustainable recreation and tourism projects and programs.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Town of Mammoth Lakes

Exempt Status: (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Section 15306, "Information Collection"
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: Section 15262, "Feasibility and Planning Studies"

Reasons why project is exempt:

This is a planning project involving partner coordination and program and project development. It does not involve physical alterations to the environment. The completion of these plans will not have a legally binding effect on future activities.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Shannon Ciotti Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (530) 823-4689

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

- Signed by Lead Agency
 - Signed by Applicant
- Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Revised 2005