

# **Sierra Nevada Conservancy**

**Mt. Lassen Area**

**Susanville, CA**

**Linda Hansen**

**Mt. Lassen Area Representative**

**May 15, 2009**

**SIERRA NEVADA**  
CONSERVANCY



# Mission

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The Sierra Nevada Conservancy initiates, encourages and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities and the citizens of California.



# Six Sierra Subregions

## North Sierra

Lassen, Modoc, Shasta

## North Central Sierra

Butte, Plumas, Sierra, Tehama

## Central Sierra

El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Yuba

## South Central Sierra

Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, Tuolumne

## East Sierra

Alpine, Inyo, Mono

## South Sierra

Fresno, Kern, Madera, Tulare

SIERRA NEVADA  
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# Governing Board

## GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENTS (5)

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Mike Chrisman, Chair  
Secretary, Resources Agency

John Lloyd, Designated Representative  
Deputy Director, Department of Finance

B.J. Kirwan, Public Member

Bob Kirkwood, Public Member

Carol Whiteside, Public Member

## LEGISLATIVE APPOINTMENTS (2)

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Senate Rules Committee's Appointment  
Byron Sher

Speaker of the Assembly's Appointment  
John Brissenden

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES (6)

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North Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Brian Dahle, Supervisor, Lassen County

South Central Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Steve Wilensky, Supervisor, Calaveras County

North Central Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Rose Comstock Supervisor, Plumas County

East Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Byng Hunt, Supervisor, Mono County

Central Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Robert Weygandt, Vice-Chair, Supervisor, Placer County

South Sierra Subregion's Appointment  
Jon McQuiston, Supervisor, Kern County

## NONVOTING LIAISON ADVISERS (3)

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U. S. Secretary of Agriculture's Appointment (1)  
Beth Pendleton, U. S. Forest Service

U. S. Secretary of the Interior's Appointments (2)  
Bill Haigh, U. S. Bureau of Land Management  
Mike Tollefson, U.S. National Parks



# Program Areas

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- Provide increased opportunities for tourism and recreation.
- Protect, conserve, and restore the region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical, and living resources.
- Aid in the preservation of working landscapes.
- Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfires.
- Protect and improve water and air quality.
- Assist the regional economy through the operation of the conservancy's program.
- Undertake efforts to enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public.



# Annual Report



2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT



## 2007-2008 GRANT AWARDS

### Fire-Safe Projects

This year, as in many years past, fire is on people's minds in California and the Sierra. On June 20, 2008 a severe thunderstorm system moved through northern and central California sparking more than 2,000 fires that burned over a million acres, destroyed 511 structures and took 15 lives. Based on summary statistics from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, major fires in Butte, Lassen, Mariposa, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Shasta and Tehama counties and lesser fires elsewhere burned some 200,000 acres in the Sierra Region.

The SNC takes this threat seriously. In its first year of grant making, the SNC awarded more than \$3 million for 31 different fire-safe projects throughout the Region, including defensible space assistance, hazardous fuel reduction, biomass removal, community chipping, fire-safe education and outreach, community wildfire protection planning, and more. One of these projects is highlighted below.

### Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS) (South Central Subregion)

- Videos: ▶ [Steve Wilensky, SNC Governing Boardmember](#)  
▶ [Brian Creekmore, Crew Boss](#)  
▶ [Crewmember](#)  
▶ [Homeowners](#)

The CHIPS project is a multi-benefit project that reduces fire threat while revitalizing the local economy in rural Calaveras County. CHIPS uses local crews for removal and treatment of small-diameter wood and underbrush on public and private land to reduce fire threat, create a marketable product (chips for landscaping and other uses) and protect watershed health in the Mokelumne watershed. Communities in this area have been hard-hit by the closure of eight local lumber mills over the past 20 years. Funding from the SNC will help to train and provide work experience for 18-24 currently unemployed or underemployed local residents, as well as to secure additional materials for future value-added CHIPS activities, such as manufacture of wood pellets, posts and poles, composition fire logs, craftsman woodworking products, and energy generation. This project is a clear example of the "New Forest Economy," where ecological, economic and social issues are blended into a successful outcome for the environment, the community and the economy.



# SNC Grants Program Structure

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## SNC Program Guidelines

General Information about overall program, how to initiate a project idea, and eligibility, evaluation, and implementation guidelines.

## Proposition 84 Grants Guidelines

More specific information on grants to be funded through Prop. 84, including specific legislative requirements and grant categories: Competitive and Strategic Opportunity Grants (SOGs).

## Proposition 84 Grants Application Packet(s) GAPs

Application requirements, checklists, and selection process for both competitive and SOG grants, including all necessary application forms and sample documents.



# Proposition 84 Bond Freeze

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Based on the PMIB Action SNC was instructed to do the following:

- Suspend all grant-funded projects.
- Suspend all payments on existing grants, including those that have received advances and those with invoices in process, until further notice.
- Stop authorizing any new grants; including those awarded at the December 2008 SNC Board meeting.



# Collaborate and Cooperate

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Work in collaboration and cooperation with local governments and interested parties in carrying out the Conservancy's mission.



# SNC Vitals

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Web site:

[www.sierranevada.ca.gov](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov)

Email Address: (regarding grants)

[grants@sierranevada.ca.gov](mailto:grants@sierranevada.ca.gov)

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