

# Sustainability Inventory

2012 - 2013

An inventory of Sierra Nevada sustainability efforts and the non-profit organizations leading the charge





SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

## ABOUT THE SIERRA NEVADA ALLIANCE

The Sierra Nevada Alliance is an independent, grassroots, non-profit organization. Since 1993, the Sierra Nevada Alliance has been protecting and restoring Sierra land, water, wildlife, and communities. We are dedicated to protecting and restoring the Sierra Nevada region in the face of challenges brought on by poorly planned development, climate change, and watershed degradation. The Alliance's mission is to protect and restore the natural resources of the Sierra Nevada for future generations while promoting sustainable communities. We believe that local grassroots conservation groups are critical as on-the-ground agents creating positive change. Acting on this belief, we work to educate, connect, and mobilize conservation groups throughout the Sierra Nevada on regional efforts to create, share and enhance practical solutions to our conservation challenges. Today over 89 member groups from across the entire 400 mile mountain range belongs to the Sierra Nevada Alliance.

If you would like to join the Alliance as a member group or as an individual supporter, please visit our website or contact our office for benefits, dues, and other details by phone at 530.542.4546 or by email at info@sierranevadaalliance.org.



Keeping light in the range.

www.sierranevadaalliance.org

## **ABOUT THE INVENTORY**

The Sustainability inventory is a directory of non-profit organizations that are working on sustainability issues within the Sierra Nevada. We hope this inventory will be utilized as a tool to showcase a wide range of sustainability efforts categorized by issues such as local food, smart growth, transportation, etc. to assist individuals, organizations, local agencies and governmental organization in locating and collaborating on sustainable community initiatives within their area.

The groups that were chosen and interviewed were acquired through the Sierra Nevada Alliances member groups as well as individual groups along the Sierra that showed a strong commitment to promoting sustainability in their community and working to make a more resilient and healthy environment for the future.

The information contained in the inventory is unique in that each organization was interviewed through an extensive questionnaire giving the reader a more intimate and detailed approach to the internal activity. For each group that is listed, the reader will obtain information on the organizations description, current initiatives, major accomplishments, current challenges, and assets that make the organization unique and successful.

We would like to thank all of the groups that donated their valuable time to participate in the Sustainability Inventory interviewing process. Without your contributions, none of this would have been possible. The cover page is composed of a collage of pictures that documented the outstanding services that the organizations within the inventory have provided.

If you know organizations and community groups that you think should be added to the Directory, <u>contact us</u> with information about how to contact them for our next edition of the Inventory. We all encourage you to utilize our interactive map of all of the organizations on located <u>here</u>.

For an electronic copy, visit the Sierra Nevada Alliance website: <a href="https://www.sierranevadaalliance.org/publications">www.sierranevadaalliance.org/publications</a>

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#### Food & Garden

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

BriarPatch Co-op Community Market

City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission

El Dorado County and Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts

Foothill Collaborative for Sustainability

**Gold Country Gleaners** 

**Green Dragon Organic Farms** 

Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept

Living Lands Agrarian Network

Local Food Freedom

PlacerSustain

**Plumas Rural Services** 

Project MANA

Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Sierra Foothills Meat Buyers Club

Slow Food Lake Tahoe

Small World

The Sierra Institute for Sustainable Living

**UCCE Master Gardener Program** 

#### **Energy**

Air & Waste Management Association: Eastern Sierra Chapter

**Envirolutions** 

Feather River Coordinated Resource Management

High Sierra Energy Foundation

Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept

**Local Government Commission** 

Million Green Communities

PlacerSustain

**Plumas Rural Services** 

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

Sierra Green Building Association

City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission

SRVA Advocates for Smart Growth

#### Landscaping

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

Feather River Coordinated Resource Management

Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept

PlacerSustain

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Tahoe Resource Conservation District** 

#### **Green Building**

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

BriarPatch Co-op Community Market

Million Green Communities

Mountain Meadow Conservancy

PlacerSustain

Sierra Green Building Association

The California Straw Building Association

#### The Sierra Institute for Sustainable Living

#### Transportation

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

Foothill Collaborative for Sustainability

PlacerSustain

**Plumas Rural Services** 

Sierra Cycling Foundation

#### **Smart Growth**

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

Foothill Collaborative for Sustainability

**Foothill Conservancy** 

**Green Dragon Organic Farms** 

Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept

**Local Government Commission** 

Middle Mountain Foundation

Mountain Meadow Conservancy

PlacerSustain

**Plumas Rural Services** 

Sierra Cycling Foundation

Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Sierra Green Building Association

**Snowlands Network** 

City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission

SRVA Advocates for Smart Growth

The Sierra Institute for Sustainable Living

#### Water

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

**Butte Environmental Council** 

California Urban Streams Alliance-The Stream Team

Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center

Feather River Coordinated Resource Management

**Foothill Conservancy** 

Kern IRWMP

Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept

**Local Government Commission** 

**Mountain Meadow Conservancy** 

**Owens Valley Committee** 

PlacerSustain

Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission

**Upper Merced River Watershed Council** 

#### **Environmental Education**

Air & Waste Management Association: Eastern Sierra Chapter

Blue Mountain Community Renew Council

BriarPatch Co-op Community Market

Small World

**Tahoe Resource Conservation District** 

The Sierra Institute for Sustainable Living

**UCCE Master Gardener Program** 

**Upper Merced River Watershed Council** 

#### **Eco-Tourism**

Camp Augusta

El Dorado County and Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts

**Mountain Meadow Conservancy** 

Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Sierra Institute for Community and Environment

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Snowlands Network** 

#### **Waste Management**

Air & Waste Management Association: Eastern Sierra Chapter

**Butte Environmental Council** 

PlacerSustain

**Plumas Rural Services** 

City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission

## Air & Waste Management Association: Eastern Sierra Chapter

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        | Х      |             |          | Χ              |        |              | Χ                    |         | Χ          |

Contact: Mehrdad Moghimire, Director Sphere of Influence: Eastern Sierra

Address: 18124 Wedge Parkway, #502, Reno NV 89511 County: Washoe

**E-mail:** mehrdad.moghimi@mm-eem.com

Website: awma-easternsierra.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization that enhances knowledge and expertise by providing a neutral forum for information exchange, professional development, networking opportunities, public education, and outreach to more than 8000 environmental professionals in 65 countries. A&WMA also promotes global environmental responsibility and increases the effectiveness of organizations to make critical decisions that benefit society.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Promoting energy efficiency and pollution through guest speakers & seminars.
- Holding monthly meetings for guest lecturers from federal, state and local agencies, industry, universities, and consultants.
- Working to provide scholarship for environmental science and engineering students in local schools.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- United local organizations for air/waste management.
- Developed educational workshops and conferences.
- Worked with Desert Research institute, UNR, trying to bring geothermal conference to Reno
- Received Best Performance Award concurrently for 2 years from National Air & waste management- small chapter.
- Awarded multiple scholarships to local teachers.
- Provided judges for science fair at UNR.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

 Provides abundance of scientists, professors, consultants & engineers as speakers for presentations on wide range of issues pertaining to environment.

## **Blue Mountain Community Renew Council**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |   |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|---|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |   |
|        |        | Y           | Y        |                | Y      | Y            | Y             |         | Υ          | • |

**Contact:** Susan McMorris, President

Sphere of Influence: South Central Sierra

Address: PO Box 1441 West Point, CA 95255 County: Calaveras

**E-mail:** <u>health2wealth@volcano.net</u> **Website:** bmcrc.stephenmcmorris.com

<u>Organizational Description:</u> BMCRC is an umbrella 501-c-3 which provides non-profit status and insurance to small projects in Calaveras County. Our focus is on a threefold commitment: Community, economy and environment. Originally the focus was on the 4 small communities of West Point, Wilseyville, Railroad Flat and Glencoe. However, since we are the only organization of this type in the area, we have expanded to ALL of District 2 and could conceivably extend to more of Calaveras.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Working on CHIPS program, writing various grant proposals.
- Running Sierra Green Days which includes a health and wellness project "CHI" and promoting education on environmentally friendly building.
- Founding Friends of the Railroad Flat School (Save our school project).
- Creating First 5 Preschool program.
- Establishing Paloma Community Garden.
- Publishing a community directory of local businesses, artisans, and services. (Currently in the process of updating and republishing.).

- Received a \$500,00 USDA Forest Grant, also received several NFF grants for CHIPS.
- Created West Point Community Garden, now operating under BMCYF (Youth Center).
- Provided fiscal support to Wilseyville Library

## **BriarPath Co-op Community Market**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              | X             |         | X          |

Contact: Stephanie Mandel, Marketing Manager Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: 290 Sierra College Dr, Grass Valley, CA 95945 County: Nevada

**E-mail:** info@briarpatch.coop **Website:** briarpatch.coop

<u>Organizational Description:</u> BriarPatch is the leading natural food store in Nevada County. We are a vibrant, important community hub for gathering and for dialogue and learning about healthful food. We seek to be a leader in social, environmental, as well as fiscal business responsibility, among both local businesses and food co-ops nationally.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Coordinating local farm production for maximizing sales and growing the local food economy.
- Education on food and nutrition issues including local food, genetically engineered food, and fair trade foods.
- Ongoing giving programs to support a wide variety of community groups in their environmental efforts, including Community Donation Vouchers, sponsorships, and grants through the BriarPatch Cooperative Community Fund.
- Supporting the efforts of local environmental and other community groups by renting our Community Room and selling event tickets for fundraisers.

- Constructed LEED®-certified Green Building and ongoing improvements to improve energy efficiency, such as LED lighting and sensors in freezer section.
- Created partnership with the local chapter of the California Native Plant Society, we've developed the BriarPatch Native Wildflower Garden at our store site.
- Provided a sustainable seafood grocer through our partnership with FishWise, since 2008
- Utilized recyclable disposable food containers for take-out foods and throughout our store as much as possible.
- Donated to several local farm, garden, and other environmental projects.

## **Butte Environmental Council**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             |          |                |        | Χ            | Χ             |         | X          |

Contact: Maggi Barry, Office Manager Sphere of Influence: Northern Sierra

Address: 116 W. Second Street, #3 Chico, CA 95928 County: Butte

**E-mail:** staff@becnet.org **Website:** becprotects.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Since 1975, the Butte Environmental Council has worked as a networking organization for conservation efforts in Northern California. Our mission is to encourage the preservation and conservation of the Earth's natural resources, to foster increased public awareness of local, regional and statewide environmental issues through environmental education and advocacy. Lastly, it is to provide a central referral service for environmental organizations and the general public throughout Northern California.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Funding programs through membership dues, fundraising events, contracts, and community and business sponsorships.
- Reorganizing our organization due to downsizing.
- Working with a Cal. Wellness foundation grant.
- Seeking funding opportunities, increased networking, and a regional voice.
- Joining with other groups on hot political issues.

- Sued DWR and State of Cal. on water drought water banking and won.
- Achieved success with water element in general plan and other general plan work.

## California Urban Streams Alliance-The Stream Team

Food & Energy Landscaping Green **Transportation** Smart Water **Environmental** Eco-Waste Garden Building Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Х

Contact: Timmarie Hamill, Director Sphere of Influence: North Central Sierra

Address: 1282 Filbert Ave, Chico CA 95926 County: Butte

**E-mail:** thamill@sunset.net

Website: www.thestreamteam.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Stream Team was established in 2004 to provide watershed and urban runoff pollution prevention education to compliment local and regional efforts to achieve natural resource management goals. The Stream Team continues to take a leadership role in facilitating and coordinating hands-on public participation in effective watershed stewardship, utilizing a multi pronged approach which engages community members in citizen monitoring efforts, compiles and analyzes the data collected, and provides information and education to promote understanding and community actions related to watershed health.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Facilitating Citizen Monitoring and Youth Stream Team programs to sustain clean water, and a knowledgeable citizenry interested in protecting natural resources.
- Expanding links between monitoring efforts and the educational needs of local schools.
- Increasing public access to open greenways within Bidwell Park.
- Increasing storm water education efforts.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Established 10 watershed monitoring stations throughout watershed.
- Obtained eight years of baseline water quality data secured for Big Chico Creek Watershed.
- Facilitated storm event monitoring four times/year.
- Monitored storm drain outlet, documenting illicit discharges every other year.
- Facilitated bacterial monitoring (to document safe swimming conditions within Big Chico Creek).
- Produced bio-assessment conducted annually (six year baseline data set secured).
- Continued temperature monitoring to document conditions for spring-run salmon (April-May).
- Provided On-line Water Quality training module.
- Contributed 30,000 hours volunteer service to date.

#### **Services to Other Groups:**

• Can provide useful baseline water quality data set for tracking long-term trends in water quality.

## **Camp Augusta**

**Energy Landscaping** Food & Green **Transportation** Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden **Building** Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Χ

Contact: Jake Matlak, Camp Counselor Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: 17530 Lake Vera Road, Nevada City, CA 95959 County: Nevada

**E-mail:** office@campaugusta.org **Website:** campaugusta.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Our vision is to reclaim and foster the beauty and innocence of childhood, by providing children with safe and personal experience of growth and appreciation of the outdoors. We are unique in that we are intentional community

#### **Current Focus:**

- Creating a balance with camp space and "wish wonder and surprise" with the kids.
- Encouraging everyone to be equal in power, operating under consensus-based leadership.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Turned around a low attendance and dwindling funds to self-sufficiency in financial costs and record numbers of campers in less than a decade.
- Created functional consensus website this year.
- Created legacy where every group that comes to camp Augusta creates a CAPP project to give back to the community.

#### Services to other Groups:

Can provide consensus-based leadership education.

## **California Straw Building Association**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             | Y        |                |        |              | Y             |         |            |

**Contact:** Maurice Bennett, Director **Sphere of Influence:** South Sierra **Address:** P.O. Box 1293 Angels Camp, CA 95222-1293 **County:** Calaveras

**E-mail:** mbennjr@mac.com

Website: strawbuilding.org/sbweb

<u>Organizational Description:</u> CASBA's mission is to further the practice of straw building by exchanging current information and practical experience, promoting and conducting research and testing, and making that body of knowledge available to working professionals and the public at large.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Sponsoring workshops and an annual conference.
- Educating public on ground straw bale root cellar, bale raising and base earth plaster, a one day window and door detail workshop, and a 3 day plaster workshop for the second and final coats of plaster (mixes, finishing techniques, various types of plaster).

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Published and distributed to the building department of each and every county in California of a book "The Building Officials Guide to Straw Bale Construction".
- Published "Straw Bale Architectural Detail Book" which has received wide distribution throughout the US and has been translated into French, German and Spanish by the European Straw Bale Association.
- Sponsor ed and funded the testing of Straw Bale Construction fire, earthquake and structural performance iaw ASTM standards.
- Sponsored and hosted the first International Straw Bale Conference in 1999 at the Marin Headlands with over 250 attendees from 28 states and 19 foreign countries.
- Developed and hosted of two 3 day courses for professionals to further educate contractors, architects and designers in building with straw.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

• Can provide published materials on Green Building architecture.

## **Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             |          | X              | X      | Υ            | Υ                    |         |            |

**Contact:** John Buckley, Director **Sphere of Influence:** Central Sierra

Address: PO Box 396, Twain Harte, CA 95383 County: Tuolumne

E-mail: johnb@cserc.org
Website: cserc.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> CSERC responds to an incredibly broad range of environmental threats across 2,000,000 acres of the northern Yosemite region. We currently deal with issues tied to water, forest management, wildlife, land planning and development, air quality, wild lands, and conservation. Our Mission is to protect water, wildlife, and wild places of the Northern Yosemite region.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Engaging in all of the debates in Tuolumne County over land use policies, wildlife mitigation
  policies for development projects, regional blueprint modeling, and transportation policies in
  our local region.
- Serving as one of the environmental community's key participants in the integrated regional watershed management planning process for the Tuolumne-Stanislaus River watershed.
- Leading the conservation community in the State Water Board's oversight of USFS activities that affect water quality in California, especially livestock grazing, poorly managed roads, and offroad-vehicle use on national forest lands.
- Undertaking widespread educational efforts by providing slide show programs for 6,000 or more students each year and by running full-page educational ads in local newspapers.

- Challenged Tuolumne County's approval of a large open pit mining operation that was approved
  without even doing an EIR. While settlement negotiations continue and court arguments loom,
  the fact that we sued the county motivated the city of Riverbank to also sue over the mine and
  the associated rail impacts of their community.
- Served as the lead environmental voice in Tuolumne County's biological resource guide that
  covers mitigation for development when wildlife habitat is degraded or destroyed. We've
  managed to keep in place many positive policies in the current revised draft version and may
  even succeed at a higher level despite the County's pro-development efforts to weaken the
  mitigation plan.
- Collaborated with USFS project designers for timber sales, fuel reduction projects, and forest restoration projects over recent years.

## **City of South Lake Tahoe Sustainability Commission**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      | Χ      |             |          |                | Х      | Χ            |               |         | X          |

Contact: Juliana Prosperi, Chair Sphere of Influence: Tahoe Basin

Address: 1901 Airport Rd, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150 County: El Dorado

**E-mail:** juliana.prosperi@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.cityofslt.us

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Our mission is to create a healthy community for current and future residents in City of South Lake Tahoe. The commission began in 2009 with 4 to 5 main goals, as outlined by SLT Sustainability plan. To work towards implementing the City's Sustainability Plan, the Commission has created annual action plans that outlines more tailored short-term and longer-term action steps.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Collaborating and advocating with other organizations in basin, i.e. forest services; South Tahoe Refuse, STPUD, to get the word out on the commission being around.
- Working on ban on plastic bags, holding public forums for alternatives for plastic bag usage, providing alternatives such as banning, voluntary, outreach campaign.
- Working on City Improvement projects like Bike paths, commons areas, etc. We review and
  recommend projects through sustainable viewpoint to make it more "eco-friendly", but have yet
  to receive any reviews from city development.
- Establishing zero-waste event policy incorporated in to city municipal ordinance, requiring all city-sponsored events to follow zero waste practices.
- Building community support to have community garden program.
- Supporting Liberty Energy's energy saving programs, rebates, and other incentives, specifically net-metering for home and/or business installed alternative energy systems.

- Secured conservation grants through the California Energy Commission for lighting retrofits such as along sky run blvd, lead by example project that is being followed up by private businesses.
- Provided Presentations, workshops, and spokespeople at various organizations.
- Provided Outreach toolkit.
- Established the Zero Waste Event Policy.
- Helped influence the outcome of the City's General Plan update and the incorporation of the Sustainability Plan's goals and policies.
- Provided input and informed the development of the City's green building ordinance which was adopted in late 2010.

## El Dorado County and Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation <u>Districts</u>

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              | Χ             | Х       |            |

Contact: Melissa Marquez, Watershed Coordinator

Address: 100 Forni Road, Suite A, Placerville, CA 95667

County: El Dorado

E-mail: Melissa.Marquez@ca.usda.gov

Website: eldoradorcd.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The El Dorado County Resource Conservation District and the Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District are local, independent, non-enforcement, non-regulatory, self-governed districts organized under Division 9 of the Public Resources Code. We advise and assist individual landowners and public agencies in planning and implementation of conservation practices for the protection, restoration, or development of land, water, and related natural resources.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Working with private landowners to install BMPs.
- Educating and outreach on environmental education.
- Starting up The Community stewardship Program getting funding internally and funding small projects around the community.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Received funding for reconstruction of "Sinnon Lake Dam".
- Provided Campground improvements and habitat enhancement.
- Accomplished the "Gold Bug Restoration" local city and Community Park Without funding
  we have been able to do a lot with volunteer efforts, such as trail building and planting new
  vegetation.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

- We provide a great community resource, located in Mosquito, which is a very small community that gets looked over a lot.
- We can help leverage funding for smaller groups and organizations and help them find a way to get their projects off the ground.

## **Envirolutions**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        | X      |             |          |                |        |              | Υ                    |         |            |

Contact: David Gibson Sphere of Influence: Reno/Tahoe

Address: 1301 Cordone Ave. Suite 200 Reno, NV 89502 County: Reno

Website: envirolution.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Envirolutions believes that sustainability is possible through collaboration of individuals, businesses and organizations. Sustainability education is the only way to move forward with these efforts. They have multiple programs dedicated to efficiency education among low income families as well as a new program which integrates efficiency education into school curriculum.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Enhancing and tuning this program that educates high school/middle school students(and soon elementary school students) about energy efficiency and building science while empowering them to take actions that reduce their school's environmental impact and saves the school money on energy costs
- Hoping to integrate work force training into this program to drive the Fitness Campaign
- Developing the idea of a year-long fellowship type program that inspires and empowers youth leaders (high school through college) through opportunities, experiences and networking within the green economy.

- Created energy efficiency service learning opportunities through their Project ReCharge
  program has been successful. They are expanding the program to elementary school, but were
  currently working with middle/high school-aged kids. They have successfully created
  interdisciplinary curriculum being used at Dilworth Middle School.
- Lead organization in coalition for Green Nevada, trying to grow resources for environmental education in Nevada. Through this coalition they did an outreach campaign to 9 high schools throughout the state and had a sustainability plan competition.
- Held workshops led by parents or teachers and students created sustainability plans for their school.
- Received a grant from Pepsi and awarded funds to the sustainability plan winners to implement their plans.
- Contracted to administer and manage the Home Energy Fitness Campaign for Home Free Nevada.

## **Feather River Coordinated Resource Management**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        | Χ      | Χ           |          |                |        | Χ            | χ             |         |            |

**Contact:** Leslie Mink, Project Manager **Sphere of Influence: Address:** P.O. Box 3880, 550 Crescent St, Quincy, CA 95971 **County:** Plumas and Sierra

**E-mail:** leslie@plumascounty.org **Website:** feather-river-crm.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group was established in 1985 to protect, maintain and enhance ecosystems and community stability in the Feather River Watershed through collaborative landowner participation. Their main issue is watershed dysfunction.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Maintaining, protecting and enhancing ecosystem function and community stability, restoring
  watershed function relates to sustainability on a large scale. If our watershed can hold winter
  precipitation and release later in the yeas as high quality water, that is more sustainable than
  dams, pumping groundwater or treatment plants.
- On-going Erosion control projects to reduce streambed erosion, and animal grazing near watersheds. The erosion is causing over 50% loss of water capacity for tributaries that supply electrical power and water to 20 million people.
- Exploring reinvestment in watershed by downstream water users, with user fees or some other funding mechanism.

- Cooperated on over 40 watershed projects including studies and assessments, resource management plans, on-the-ground restoration projects, and educational efforts.
- Conducted intensive water quality and channel condition inventories on approximately 40% of the EBNFFR watershed. Projects have included restoration of an urban stream and an abandoned mine, meadow re-watering, check dam building, and installation of fish ladders.
- Treated at least 14.5 miles of stream and 4,000 riparian acres, producing 94 full or part time jobs. Stream bank stabilization, decreases in erosion, and increases in water table height and wildlife habitat quality have been documented for some projects.
- Established the first community college watershed management technician program in California at Feather River College in Quincy. Local high school students are also gaining scientific knowledge and skills through their involvement in project monitoring.

## **Foothill Collaborative for Sustainability**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          | X              | X      |              | Υ                    |         |            |

Contact: Robert B. Gelman, Vice President

Address: 19550 Cordelia Ave, Sonora, CA 95247

County: Tuolumne and Calaveras

**E-mail:** info@foothillsustainability.org **Website:** foothillsustainability.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> FoCuS is a non-profit, non-political collaborative that educates groups and individuals about sustainable living and local community self-reliance, not dependent on distant institutions for food, transportation, shelter, etc. They promote collaborative relationships to achieve mutual well-being in Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. They also strive to make communities sustainable and self-reliant and offer educational activities and projects that support this cause.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Running several community gardening projects by and for the county; volunteer-based, specific individuals offered land for growing, groups loosely organized for maintenance of the gardens. Harvested 15,000lbs of potatoes, seed gardens for vegetables.
- Committing to planting a new garden each year with more diverse crops.
- Facilitating an annual seed-sharing event with free workshops and hands on demonstrations.
- Basing a lot of work on Chris Martenson program of three E's; Environment, economy and energy and how recent activity patterns on all 3 will impact all communities in next 20 years.
- Presenting "Crash Courses," workshops and collaborative projects in relation such as solar farms on open space, and working to create independent off stream water systems.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Produced Sierra Green Days: annual event to focus on community coming together and share knowledge on sustainable practices.
- Created an online green business directory where all businesses rate themselves on series of
  factors that relate to sustainability. This offers businesses a way to expose their sustainable
  practices to the community while at the same time they need to go through intensive
  questionnaire on environmental practices treat employees responsibly; they rate themselves
  but in the process will increase awareness.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

• We can provide Web-based services, such as a green businesses search. In the future we will also have a social network/forum, like a local craigslist for sustainable projects.

## **Foothill Conservancy**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             |          |                | V      | V            | V                    |         |            |

**Contact:** Chris Wright, Director **Sphere of Influence:** South Central Sierra

Address: PO Box 1255, Pine Grove CA 95665 County: Amador and Calaveras

**E-mail:** chris@foothillconservancy.org **Website:** foothillconservancy.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> To protect, restore, and sustain the natural and human environment in Amador and Calaveras counties for the benefit of current and future generations.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Ensuring votes are finalized on the past lawsuit against east bay MUD.
- Collecting signatures for wild & scenic designation; continue to build support with community and stakeholders, looking to congress to take action but with political.
- Trying to implement the adaptive management to accommodate the last remaining yellowlegged frogs.

- Succeeded in suing the East Bay Municipal Utility District for adopting a legally insufficient plan to expand Pardee Reservoir and flood up to two miles of the Mokelumne River.
- Introduced smart growth concepts to Amador and Calaveras counties and developed land use and development principles adopted by diverse community organizations.
- Secured access to the Middle Bar reach of the Mokelumne River (below Highway 49 to Pardee Reservoir), which had been closed to public access for more than 30 years.
- Provided state general plan legal precedent in Families Unafraid to Uphold Rural El Dorado v.
   County of El Dorado, which stopped a destructive subdivision project in south El Dorado County.
   Joint effort with community members and the City of Plymouth.
- Helped secure a settlement agreement for the relicensing of PG&E's hydroelectric project on the Mokelumne River, which set national precedent and led to the breaching, dismantling or removal of three dams on North Fork Mokelumne tributary streams (first dam removal in modern PG&E history).
- Received Friends of the River's Peter H. Behr Award and the POWER Award for Mokelumne River conservation efforts.
- Sponsored workshops for community groups and public officials to improve their knowledge of planning law and practice.
- Sponsored the Calaveras Community Renewal Project, which led to the formation of the Blue Mountain Community Renewal Council and projects in the Glencoe, Rail Road Flat, West Point, and Wilseyville area.

## **Gold Country Gleaners**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              |               |         |            |

Contact: Chris Alford, Co-Founder Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

E-mail: goldcountrygleaners@gmail.com County: Nevada

Website: goldcountrygleaners.org

Organizational Description: The Gold Country Gleaners is an all-volunteer group that began an organized fruit tree "gleaning" effort in 2011, harvesting local fruit from orchards and yards that would otherwise go to waste. The majority of the harvested fruit is donated to local food banks, churches, schools, and other non-profits while a portion of the picked fruit is also available to the volunteer harvesters and the fruit tree owners. Currently, Gold Country Gleaners averages around 40 volunteers and is sponsored by the non-profit organization Alliance for a Post Petroleum Local Economy of Nevada City (APPLE-NC).

#### **Current Focus:**

- Doubling the number of tree donators.
- Conducting more outreach to get the word out about the group's efforts.
- Finding a physical location for collecting volunteer and tree donor forms and to be able to accept drop-off donations (previously utilized APPLE center but it closed).
- Coordinating with food-to-schools programs.
- Looking to glean at farms other than fruit trees.

- Succeeded in Large volunteer turnout.
- Donated hundreds of pounds of fruit in first year.

## **Green Dragon Organic Farms**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                | Х      |              | Χ             |         |            |

Contact: Linda Robredo, President Sphere of Influence: South Sierra

Address: 3433 Los Padres Dr, P.O. Box 1863, Frazier Park County: Kern

**E-mail:** gdof.org/Contact **Website:** gdof.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Green Dragon Organic Farms is a collective of individual certified organic community farms located in the Mountain Communities of Frazier Park, Lebec, Gorman, Cuddy Creek, Cuddy Valley, Pine Mountain Club, and Pine Ridge. The collective aims to educate, inspire local organic healthy eating choice, outdoor activity for all ages, and give people the opportunity to connect with other members of the community. We believe in hands-on, meaningful learning, work and fun. Produce from our crops is distributed on a strict donation basis, no family or individual is turned away and all are encouraged to learn and participate as volunteers.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Distributing produce to help fund the maintenance of farms and development new locations.
- Training new farm and greenhouse managers
- Developing planned growth in phases based on accomplishments and qualifications to earn grant funding.
- Installing drip irrigation with intelligent use of water
- Becoming a 501c3 non-profit
- Uniting community gardens and farms, hence, unite our community
- Aiming to open a farm site under the Green Dragon Organic Farms umbrella in each hamlet in the greater Frazier Mountain community building one farm at a time.
- Developing a non-profit farmers market

- Established first farm in one year, producing hundreds of pounds of food.
- Acquired next new garden spaces to develop grow year 2012 during 2011.
- Received "California Organic Producer" certification

## **High Sierra Energy Foundation**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        | X      |             |          |                |        |              | χ             |         |            |

**Contact:** Rick Phelps, Director **Sphere of Influence:** Eastern Sierra

Address: PO Box 3511, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 County: Mono

E-mail: phelps@highsierraenergy.org

Website: highsierraenergy.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Foundation is dedicated to promoting widespread use of renewable energy resources in the Eastern Sierra. We work with all stake-holders and local government to educate about and implement renewable.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Establishing a "culture" of energy efficiency, working closely with SCE to more effectively
  implement existing programs, and seeking innovative approaches to energy efficiency in our
  alpine environment.
- Creating a partnership between the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Southern California Edison, which supports a commitment to sustainable practices through energy efficiency, and will provide leadership and guidance in promoting, facilitating, and instituting such practices in the community.

- Established a culture of energy efficiency in Inyo Mono.
- Served as a facilitator for private developers.
- Promoted geothermal energy to be used in hotel and condo developments.
- Coordinated ongoing, hands-on education program with 6th graders for water and energy conservation.

## **Kern IRWMP**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |

Χ

Contact: Lauren Bauer, Water Resources Planner Sphere of Influence: South Sierra

Address: 3200 Rio Mirada Dr, Bakersfield, CA 93308 County: Kern

**E-mail:** kernIRWMP@kcwa.com **Website:** kernirwmp.com

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Kern IRWMP is focused primarily on improving water supplies, reliability and quality. This includes everything from protecting local headwaters to improving small scale water distribution facilities.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Improving reliability of our State Water Project supplies by seeking a Delta solution.
- Expanding groundwater banking programs.
- Improving flood management in rural communities (this can improve water quality, augment groundwater resources and provide environmental benefits depending on the particular project).

- Completed our IRWMP plan, which is difficult given our region is very geographically diverse, with a multitude of diverse stakeholders.
- Installed a water well and tank on an local tribal allotment.
- Acquired funding for the installation of solar facilities and the addition of several hundred acres
  of spreading grounds for groundwater banking programs.

## **Lake Tahoe Community College Sustainability Dept**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        | V      | V           |          |                | V      | Υ            | V                    |         |            |

**Contact:** David Reichel, Wilderness Education Coordinator **Sphere of Influence:** 

**Address:** One College Dr, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150 **County:** 

E-mail: reichel@ltcc.edu

Website: ltcc.edu

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Coordination of two programs, Wilderness Education (WLD) and Green Sustainable Education (GSE). The wilderness program is larger, with more classes, teaches leave no trace principles, avalanche awareness, rock climbing, etc. GSE is much smaller, hold classes educating students on Lake Tahoe issues & agencies class, green businesses, energy auditing, solar, landscape design and sustainable site planning.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Planning to measure carbon footprint of City College.
- Looking at missed energy opportunities at college such as solar, south facing windows, etc.
- Applying Leave No Trace principles in community/campus.

#### **Accomplishments:**

• Educated Tahoe through GSE program and exposing community members to green ideas, interesting green business class instructor educating people on home maintenance.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

Offer very high level tech training in wilderness program, prestigious avalanche training.

## **Living Lands Agrarian Network**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             |          |                |        |              |               |         |            |

Contact: Tim Van Wagner, Farmer Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: PO Box 1559, Nevada City CA 95959 County: Nevada

**E-mail:** info@livinglandsagrariannetwork.org **Website:** livinglandsagrariannetwork.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Living Lands Agrarian Network is primarily focused on agricultural education, developing new farms in Nevada County, and supporting beginning farmers in various capacities. Our main education programs are our eight month internship program, the Food Love Project; brining young children to the farm and making reciprocal visits into the schools, and our adult education workshop series. In the past four years we have developed 9 new farm sites, all of which are enjoying increased fertility and successful farming operations. Through our unique model, or "network", we're able to support one another, experience and inexperienced, in learning the skills of the trade to make farming a life-career.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Facilitating internship Program in Ecological Agriculture.
- Coordinating Food Love Project, "Sustainability" workshops.
- Providing the "Land Bank" an online service through our website facilitating the connection of people who have land and desire it to be worked with aspiring farmers, permaculturalists and gardeners who do not have land.
- Establishing a greater presence within the county departments with regards to issues of agricultural production, zoning, and marketing.

- Created nine farms in four years; 7 acres in local vegetable/row crop production, 12 acres in management intensive grazing raising broiler chickens, lamb, and pork.
- Graduated over 20 interns through our internship program. The majority of the people are still
  involved in agriculture-related issues or is farming either here in Nevada County or in their
  communities elsewhere.
- Served over 900 kids from the local schools Last year through our Food Love Project by bringing them out to one of the farms.
- Held two highly successful farm events; a Farm Tour in July taking people to a number of sites
  to see firsthand the work we're doing for the community and the beauty it brings to all our lives,
  and our Dinner in the Field event/fundraiser.

## **Local Food Freedom**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| Y      |        |             |          |                |        |              | Y             |         |            |

**Contact:** Tom Van Wagner Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

E-mail: tortugatom@yahoo.com County: Nevada

Website: localfoodfreedom-nevadacounty.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Established seven months ago with the raid of an LA food coalition, our primary goal is to continue broadening the knowledge base of local citizens of faults in federal and state government hindering the ability of small scale agriculture to be able to compete in the markets. We believe government regulations are denying communities their right to make local decisions about food and farming. The second goal is to attempt to obtain an ordinance that states that Nevada county citizens are allowed to eat anything they want or grow and sell anything they want to other people.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Writing and promoting ordinances that empower local farmers and food producers to sell and barter their products as well and promoting consumer freedom of choices.
- Holding a series of events about educating public through speakers, recently had a standing crowd of a few hundred people in last event.
- Fine tuning who we are and the message we want to produce.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Coordinated two events that were a huge success, and selectively drew in important people in community and spread the message.
- Maintained an all-volunteer during the entire length of the organization, very dedicated group of people.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

• Can provide lots of educated individuals passionate and educated about food choices, includes farmers & business owners.

## **Local Government Commission**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        | X      |             |          |                | Х      | Χ            |               |         |            |

Contact: Jenny Woods, Project Coordinator Sphere of Influence: Sierra-Wide

Address: 1303 J Street, Suite 250, Sacramento, CA County: Sierra-Wide

**E-mail:** center@lgc.org

Website: lgc.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Local Government Commission assists local governments in establishing and nurturing the key elements of livable communities: A healthier human and natural environment, a more sustainable economy, an actively engaged populace, an equitable society. The Local Government Commission's main issue areas include Climate Change, Community Design, Energy, Healthy Communities and Water. The Local Government Commission is also working on green economy and green infrastructure projects.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Working on several community design projects with extensive public participation funded by Caltrans Transportation Planning Grants, Strategic Growth Council Sustainability Grants, and other sources.
- Using funds from the sale outside California of pre-2002 trucks to fund infill planning efforts at the local level in the 6-County Sacramento region and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Providing educational support to all Smart Valley Places partners, including community members, local governments, and elected officials.
- Developing resources such as new tools that promote cutting edge public engagement include on-going provision of technical assistance to TCE Building Healthy communities program sites, Healthy Places Coalition involvement.
- Educating designers and users on bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- Holding roundtables for mayors, city council members, county supervisors, city managers and key green business leaders.
- Working with SACOG and the City of Galt to model different scenarios for addressing population growth and the resulting fiscal and environmental impacts.
- Sponsoring and presenting at the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's statewide conference.
- Serving on an advisory committee comprised of representatives from State and regional agencies and organizations to help develop a Climate Change Adaptation Policy Guide for local governments.
- Working within the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative, an alliance to help cities and counties reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy.
- Working closely with ICLEI and ILG, as well as the utilities, CPUC, Energy Commission and Air Resources Board to track local government progress toward implementing the Strategic Plan,

- develop and share case studies of model programs, and spur more local governments to take action to reduce energy use in their communities.
- Contracting for the CEC on Energy Upgrade California, a statewide energy efficiency program that delivers tools and resources to improve energy efficiency, increase renewable energy, save consumers money, help the environment, create green jobs and revitalize California's economy.
- Addressing the difficulties with Low Impact Development implementation by identifying the barriers its members and others have faced, and in prioritizing strategies to remove these barriers.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- Developed Ahwahnee Principles in 1991, a set of community principles for land use planning.
- Organized the Ahwahnee Conference for 21 years an annual conference bringing together local elected officials throughout California to discuss the latest issues, strategies, and for building more livable communities.
- organized the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference for 11 years, an annual conference that brings together a diversity of participants who cross-disciplinary lines to share experiences and insights, valuable implementation tools and strategies for addressing smart growth.
- Organized educational dinner forums for elected officials from the six-county Sacramento region.
- Completed the first round of educational dinner forums for elected officials from the Silicon Valley and will be entering into our second year of dinner forums.
- Worked with the GEOS Institute to help Fresno and San Luis Obispo develop a suite of regionally-specific climate change adaptation strategies for each county.
- Facilitated a green infrastructure workshop for elected officials, agency staff (planners, public works, parks, public health, water and storm water), public and private urban forestry professionals, community leaders and nonprofits.
- Conducted over 50 charrette-driven visioning and planning projects focusing on creating safe, walk-able, bicycle-friendly and prosperous streets, neighborhoods and downtowns throughout California since 2001.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

- Can provide over 30 years of experience in providing specialized technical assistance and facilitating conferences, regional workshops, design services and trainings.
- Can provide numerous guidebooks, videos, slide shows, CDs and several monthly newsletters that share policy and project ideas.
- Can assist local governments in developing and implementing policies and programs that help establish more livable, healthy, prosperous and resource-efficient communities.

## **Middle Mountain Foundation**

Food & Energy Landscaping Green **Transportation** Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden Building Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Х

Contact: Kathy Larson, Education Director Sphere of Influence: North Sierra

Address: 822 Richland Rd # E Yuba City, CA 95991 County: Butte

**E-mail:** middlemountain@yahoo.com

Website: middlemountain.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The philosophy of the organization stressed developing a strong sense of place, finding a way for the public interest and private land to converge for the benefit of all. The organization has always favored inclusiveness, bringing together private landowners with scientists, educators, students, families, artists, and other citizens. The common ground is the Sutter Buttes itself, a landscape of exceptional natural and cultural values.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Changing the board profile to bring in more expertise in areas we are lacking.
- Developing a committee structure that shifts responsibility for activities from the board to committees.
- Developing a strong evaluation component for all aspects of the organization.
- Increasing time for projects by alternating board meetings with board study sessions.
- Setting up an organizational structure that will comply with and facilitate accreditation requirements.
- Hiring an executive director using funds recently acquired from a grant.
- Building a volunteer base.
- Developing funding resources: business sponsors, planned giving, instituting new fund-raising activities.

- Obtained two small easements and hold two parcels in fee.
- Educated 1300 students this spring, plus parent chaperones which has increased local awareness of the resources.

## **Mountain Meadow Conservancy**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             | V        |                | V      | Υ            | V                    | V       |            |

Contact: Steve Robinson, President Sphere of Influence: North Sierra

Address: P.O. Box 40 Westwood, CA 96137 County: Lassen County

**E-mail:** info@mtmeadows.org **Website:** mtmeadows.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Conservancy formed in August 2001 by Lassen County citizens concerned about the future of the Mountain Meadows Basin. The Conservancy's mission is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty and environmental health of the Mountain Meadows watershed; protect its significant Mountain Maidu burial and cultural sites; and provide recreation and public access for generations to come.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Trying to restore a mill site in town of Westwood, formerly the largest lumber mill in the world. There are no longer any buildings but wreckage and pollutants remain, creating a "brown fields" plot. We plan on including trails, protection of endangered species, campgrounds (currently none in area), attractants for tourism, and to support loss of revenue for logging.
- Continuing litigation against Dyer Mountain ski & golf course development.

- Produced a pamphlet(on website), that contacts the landowners of the mill site explaining their responsibility of remediating the "brown field" contamination and make them aware of their legal responsibilities, offering to pay for expenses, some landowners positive response, some tied in litigation.
- Worked on PG&E bankruptcy land signees, protecting 6000 acres of PG&E.
- Completed our guide on the reuse of former lumber mill sites, funded in part by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. The completion of this guide is one phase of a larger effort to reuse the Robber's Creek Mill Site Project located adjacent to Westwood, CA in Lassen County.
- Started Mountain Meadows watershed group, working with large landowners and PG&E.

# **Million Green Communities**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| Y      | Y      |             | Y        | Y              |        | Y            | Y             |         |            |

Contact: Scott Terrell, Director Sphere of Influence: E-mail: scott.terrell57@yahoo.com County: Sierra-wide

Website: in-development

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Million Green Communities works with CA & NV communities to assist them in saving \$1M or more through green strategic green initiatives: programs and projects in their own communities.

### **Current Focus:**

- Educating and training professionals and community members through local schools and colleges on energy and water efficiency and the benefits of various energy and water-saving measures on the environment and the economy.
- Planning and organizing with local non-profits to promote outreach and awareness for energy and water efficiency with a current emphasis on light bulb change-outs, efficiency and savings.
- Promoting green job creation through the creation of "Light Bulb Changers" to accomplish the MGC's light bulb change-out initiative replacing all incandescent and halogen light bulbs with the installation of CFL's and LEDs.
- Developing relationships with local governments, Chambers of Commerce, energy and water utilities to install high-efficiency light bulbs in local government and business buildings.

- Changed out lighting in halogen light bulbs to CFLs in Factory Outlet stores in Truckee, CA which lead to a corporate shift across the country to install more efficient lighting in their stores.
- Consulted and assisted in the changing of light bulbs in hundreds of businesses in Truckee.
- Created the "Truckee Green Network" as a case study for one of the Million Green Communities.

# **Mountain Meadow Conservancy**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             | X        |                | X      | Χ            | Υ             | X       |            |

Contact: Steve Robinson, President Sphere of Influence: North Sierra

Address: P.O. Box 40 Westwood, CA 96137 County: Lassen County

**E-mail:** info@mtmeadows.org **Website:** mtmeadows.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Conservancy formed in August 2001 by Lassen County citizens concerned about the future of the Mountain Meadows Basin. The Conservancy's mission is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty and environmental health of the Mountain Meadows watershed; protect its significant Mountain Maidu burial and cultural sites; and provide recreation and public access for generations to come.

## **Current Focus:**

- Trying to restore a mill site in town of Westwood, formerly the largest lumber mill in the world. There are no longer any buildings but wreckage and pollutants remain, creating a "brown fields" plot. We plan on including trails, protection of endangered species, campgrounds (currently none in area), attractants for tourism, and to support loss of revenue for logging.
- Continuing litigation against Dyer Mountain ski & golf course development.

- Produced a pamphlet(on website), that contacts the landowners of the mill site explaining their responsibility of remediating the "brown field" contamination and make them aware of their legal responsibilities, offering to pay for expenses, some landowners positive response, some tied in litigation.
- Worked on PG&E bankruptcy land signees, protecting 6000 acres of PG&E.
- Completed our guide on the reuse of former lumber mill sites, funded in part by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. The completion of this guide is one phase of a larger effort to reuse the Robber's Creek Mill Site Project located adjacent to Westwood, CA in Lassen County.
- Started Mountain Meadows watershed group, working with large landowners and PG&E.

# **Owens Valley Committee**

Food & Energy Landscaping Green **Transportation** Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden **Building** Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Х

Contact: Ceal Klingler, Board Member Sphere of Influence: Eastern Sierra

Address: P.O. Box 77 Bishop, CA 93515 County: Inyo

**E-mail:** info@ovcweb.org **Website:** ovcweb.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> We advocate the sustainable use of water (and land, particularly as it's affected by water use) in the Owens Valley, although we have taken an interest in water issues further south in Inyo County as well. The OVC encourages agencies and organizations in our area to consider the health of the Owens Valley--no further desertification, no further loss of springs, no further loss of the area's unique groundwater-dependent alkali meadows, no more damage to valley vegetation and, by analogy, to the people, livestock, and wildlife living there.

### **Current Focus:**

- Initiating a lawsuit against the Department of Fish and Game for inadequately analyzing the effects of groundwater pumping to supply their Owens Valley hatcheries.
- Examining situations in which environmental mitigation projects meant to rectify damage from groundwater pumping are, in fact, exacerbating the damage by pumping more groundwater--an untenable and unsustainable proposition.
- Helping water agencies avoid further harm to the Owens Valley through sustainable water management policies such as limiting groundwater pumping and export so that springs don't dry up, vegetation doesn't change, and species don't die and never come back.
- Expanding our efforts to include education about sustainable water use. "Water reliability" is a loaded term for us because "reliability" has been used as an excuse for unsustainable water export.

- Succeeded in getting a judge to order LADWP to complete the Lower Owens River Project.
- Helped negotiate the terms of the re-watering of the Owens River as a "friend of the court" and as a party to the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding that described and defined the Lower Owens River Project 3.
- Succeeded in getting DFG to agree to more sustainable groundwater use (see above).

# **PlacerSustain**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        | V      |             | V        |                | V      | V            |                      |         |            |

Contact: Jeffrey Bordelon, President Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: 6316 Wells Ave, Loomis CA 95650 County: Placer

**E-mail:** jfb@placersustain.org **Website:** placersustain.org

Organizational Description: Placer Sustain is supporting the creation of a Community Sustainability Network in Placer County. We organized as a California Non-Profit corporation in May of 2010--in other words--we are just getting started. The Mission is "connecting people and inspiring collaboration to build healthy communities and thriving local economies." The primary objective is a fully functioning Community Sustainability Network. A Network that is grass roots and open to the entire spectrum of sustainability interests, i.e. Community, Environment, and Economy. The purpose is to expand our grass roots resources to take Action--action at the level of individuals, groups, businesses, community organizations, and local government. We accomplish this objective by Building Relationships, Sharing information and Learning, and supporting Collaborative Actions that are based on sustainability principles.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Bringing together partners to collaborate on opportunities to cooperatively pursue local initiatives, projects, media campaigns, a public community access web portal to community resources, and so on.
- Indentifying and publishing information about what citizens and organizations are currently doing in various sustainability related fields.
- Supporting existing community groups and organizations that are taking on projects and programs, and facilitating the formation of new collaborative efforts where desired.

- Formed an Energy Independence Working Group to bring the community together around energy issues, and support the then emerging Power program.
- Submitted and Adoption of Sustainable Economic Development Policy by the Placer County Economic Development Board .
- Launched the Loomis Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy project in the Downtown Area, and coordination with the Energy Upgrade California residential program.
- Developed a Sustainable Economic Development collaborative network.
- Developed and published of a Grass Roots Sustainability Initiative Campaign Approach.
- Facilitated the development of a Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Farm/Garden.

# **Plumas Rural Services**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      | Х      |             |          | Χ              | Х      |              | Χ             |         | X          |

**Contact:** Michele Piller, Director **Address:** 586 Jackson St, Quincy, Ca 95971 **Sphere of Influence:** North Central Sierra **County:** Plumas, Lassen, Sierra, Modoc

**E-mail:** prsit@plumasruralservices.org **Website:** plumasruralservices.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Plumas Rural Services is a community based, private non-profit corporation located in the Sierra Nevada. Our positions offer the opportunity to work doing what you love, in a beautiful area of Northeastern California. An interest in living in a beautiful, rural community is a necessity.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Developing local and regional markets for green energy and bio-fuels while maximizing regional sustainability.
- Effecting change in local public policy related to climate change.
- Aligning regional workforce investment strategies with green energy development.
- Increasing availability of regionally-produced green energy and bio-fuels.
- Promoting local food & sustainable agricultural initiatives.

- Established and maintain multiple community gardens.
- Produced multiple sustainability workshops annually.
- Facilitated the acceptance of Food Stamps at Quincy and Susanville Farmers Markets.

# **Project MANA**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              |                      |         |            |

Contact: Heidi Allstead, Director Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: 948 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV 89451 County: Washoe, Placer & Nevada Counties

**E-mail:** info@projectmana.org **Website:** projectmana.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Project MANA is a hunger relief agency for food insecurity, supplementing people's food necessities. We serve Incline Village, Kings' Beach, West Shore, Tahoe City and Truckee. Currently there are 5 permanent distribution sites. We have gardens in incline, Kings' beach and Truckee. We provide education in gardens on community groups and schools. We provide nutrition education for schools and Boys & Girls Club. We have home-bound client center as well FACE program, food and companion exchange, that go to individuals as well to provide companionship.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Seeking to hire a program director, we don't have program staff in incline or north shore.
- Seeking to provide more services such as food stamps, budgeting, etc so they're not so reliant on the program.
- Stepping up the nutritional education component.
- Working collaboratively with Slow Food Lake Tahoe & Truckee River Watershed Council on gardens and other initiatives.

- Established 3 community garden programs.
- Obtained 70,000 lbs of food, and served 28,000 people in the program in 2011.
- Collaborated with Tahoe SAFE alliance for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Chocolate Wine and Roses festival, a major fundraising event.
- Facilitated a Holiday Cooking Demo-, bringing in different chefs in the area and fundraises through cooking classes and dinner.

# **Sierra Cycling Foundation**

Food & Energy Landscaping Green Transportation Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden **Building** Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Χ

**Contact:** Sam Mudie, Director **Sphere of Influence:** Eastern Sierra

Address: PO Box 632 Mammoth Lakes, Ca 93546 County: Mono

**E-mail:** Sam@SierraCyclingFoundation.org **Website:** sierracyclingfoundation.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Our mission is to promote cycling and improve cycling conditions in the Eastern Sierra. SCF advocates safe and enjoyable cycling routes both on and off-road, and provides bicycle safety information and equipment to cyclists visiting and living in the Eastern Sierra.

### **Current Focus:**

- Ongoing initiative is advocacy for non-motorized forms of transportation.
- Attempting to get an AMGEN race start.

- Worked to get widened bike lanes, rumble strips closer to fog lines, repaving roads and getting them cleaned and swept.
- Donated bike racks to City of Mammoth Lakes.
- Donated bikes to the middle school and donated helmets to the elementary school.

# **Sierra Foothill Conservancy**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
| Y      |        |             |          |                | Y      | Y            |                      | Y       |            |

**Contact:** Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis, Director **Sphere of Influence:** South Central Sierra

Address: P.O. Box 529 Prather, CA 93651 County: Madera

**E-mail:** sfc@sierrafoothill.org **Website:** sierrafoothill.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Sierra Foothill Conservancy honors our natural and cultural heritage by protecting the foothills resources and ensuring that present and future generations will continue to experience and enjoy the land in this region.

### **Current Focus:**

- Increasing cattle numbers in their Sierra Lands Beef LLC, and attempting to switch rancher's practices to good grazing practice as an incentive to sell their meat at a higher premium through Sierra Lands Beef.
- Expanding Black Mountain project, we currently have 1,700 acres protected and are hoping to make it 4,000.

- Reached over 20,000 acres in protected land after recently acquiring a 3,000 acre ranch in Madera County.
- Awarded an SNC grant to protect Topping Ranch, an area in the Upper San Joaquin River watershed.
- Received a tribal grant to help the Cold Springs Indians with job creation through fuel reduction and habitat conservation.
- Acquired a piece of the John Muir Geotourism Highway Project to preserve.

# Sierra Foothills Meat Buyers Club

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              |               |         |            |

**Contact:** Karin and Keith Sinclair, Owners **Address:** 7375 Callison Road, Penryn, CA 95663

**E-mail:** karin@sinclairfamilyfarm.net

Website: sinclairfamilyfarm.net/meat-buyers-club

Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

County: Placer & Nevada

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Meat buyers club provides delicious, locally grown meats to the residents of Placer and Nevada Counties. Your meat purchases provide you with a quality product and supports local farms and ranches. Members order from a list of frozen individual cuts of beef, lamb, and pork on a monthly basis. Pasture raised eggs are also available. There are multiple pick-up sites in each county or delivery services available. We also have a small cold storage facility that our producers rent space to store their products, or they deliver their monthly MBC orders here and I deliver them each month

## **Current Focus:**

- Trying to expand customers contact with the producer.
- Providing regular opportunities to get out on the farms to do tastings, tours, etc.
- Getting the small producer that doesn't have time to market and deliver, to join with us to get their products to a variety of customers.
- Starting to sell their citrus, seasonal fruits and vegetables, and now olive oil and honey.
- Offering more meat such as chickens, both whole fryers and cut into a variety of packages. We
  are trying to include some goat meat.

### **Accomplishments:**

- Acquired members in each county, usually a line of people waiting to pick-up their orders.
- Subsidized the program, so producers don't have to pay co-op to sell their meats.

#### **Services to other Groups:**

Provide local, organic and easy to purchase through an online source.

# **Sierra Green Building Association**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        | V      |             | ٧        |                | V      |              |                      |         |            |

Contact: Eli Meyer, Board Member Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

E-mail: info@sigba.org County: Placer

Website: sigba.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> SIGBA was developed from local design building professionals interested in sustainable emerging technologies and were concerned that they weren't being implemented or addressed in the Sierra. We want to develop high country green design that is adapted to the unique Sierra Climate.

### **Current Focus:**

- Addressing retrofits and existing construction over new construction.
- Distributing low flow showerheads, CFL light bulbs, and 1 month of free utilities in highest month of the year for participating in the program to all Truckee-Donor residents.
- Partnering with Sierra Club hosting Green Drinks in Tahoe City.
- Utilizing large communication network to promote partner organizations.

- Launched energy surveys in partnership with Town of Truckee and the utility company, which
  were able to make free with the sponsorship of Truckee-Donor Public Utility District. We have
  already completed over 700 energy surveys in the Town of Truckee.
- Provided building tours taking the general public on a school bus to 5-6 different homes in the community showcasing different sustainability elements in the homes which have inspired more home tours in south lake and Reno.
- Published a resource guide listing membership and projects in community.
- Facilitated 4 large festivals- Tahoe Green Fest & Green Life Eco Fest in Grass Valley.

# **Sierra Institute for Community and Environment**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        | Х      |             |          |                | Х      | Χ            | Χ             | Х       |            |

Contact: Jonathan Kusel, Director Sphere of Influence: North Central Sierra

**Address:** P. O. Box 11, Taylorsville, California 95983 **County:** Plumas

**E-mail:** Info@SierraInstitute.us **Website:** sierrainstitute.us

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment promotes healthy and sustainable forests and watersheds by investing in the well-being of rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource decisions and programs. For nearly 20 years, the Institute has developed innovative, place-based programs by engaging rural stakeholders through applied research, pilot studies, and collaborative problem solving.

## **Current Focus:**

- Facilitating collaborative resource management, including citizen involvement and All-Lands management efforts.
- Developing new tools for forest restoration and community revitalization, such as biomass feasibility, barriers, local implementation and ecosystem re-investment mechanism development.
- Improving health and well-being of rural residents by coordination among healthcare providers in Plumas and Sierra Counties.
- Connecting people to the landscape through education through summer educational tours focused on the relationships between natural resources and communities.

- Created a National assessment of outcomes and lessons from Secure Rural Schools legislation that provides funds for rural schools and roads, as well as mandating collaboration for forest restoration through citizen Resource Advisory Committees.
- Developed Strategic planning for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on indicators of sustainability.
- Created an RCD collaborative with the Burney Hat Creek Forest and Watershed group.
- Launched a natural resource program at the local junior/senior high school (7-12 grade) providing field experiences, classroom natural resources instruction, and created a school garden.
- Conducted educational tours for the public to increase understanding and awareness of the connections between natural resources and communities each summer since 2005.

# **Slow Food Lake Tahoe**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              | Υ                    |         |            |

Contact: Polly Triplet, Board Leader Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

E-mail: Pollytahoe@gmail.com County: Placer & Nevada

Website: slowfoodlaketahoe.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Slow Food Lake Tahoe is a local chapter of Slow Food USA. They hold various educational events and gatherings to promote good, clean, and fair food.

### **Current Focus:**

- Reconnecting people to the enjoyment of local, seasonal and sustainable food while educating the community about their vital role as participants in our food system, and holding various community events throughout the year to popularize this movement.
- Holding a speaker series held in the Truckee Community Garden.
- Educating the public about current food policy issues and advocacy.
- Holding movies nights with films regarding the food issues.

- Brought local farmers into the community to educate residents about where their food comes from.
- Held "how to's" for cooking seasonal veggies or cooking unusual CSA veggies.
- Connected residents to local chefs in town who do food demonstrations.
- Sponsored events in the Truckee Community Garden.

# **Small World**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             |          |                |        |              | Υ                    |         |            |

Contact: John Friedrich, Co-founder Sphere of Influence: Sierra-wide

E-mail: smallworldaction@gmail.com County: El Dorado

Website: smallworld.cloudaccess.net

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The mission of Small World is to create a global community of parents and families committed to ensuring a peaceful, livable, just planet for all children on earth.

### **Current Focus:**

- Obtaining pledges of commitment to work for the well-being of all children on earth.
- Networking of parents and families to achieve goals.
- Building Tahoe Small World group.
- Working on plans to construct growing domes at schools or other sites in the Tahoe Community.
- Striving to increase the amount of locally & sustainably grown food available in school lunch programs.
- Exploring sustainability campaigns for support, such as a plastic bag ban in South Lake Tahoe, and participation in national efforts sponsored by groups.

- Acquired hundreds of pledges from 18 states and 3 countries within first six months.
- Connected a San Joaquin Valley grower with Tahoe schools to provide fresh citrus to students.
- Participated in calls with Afghan youth working for peace.
- Conducted compassionate communication workshops.
- Established regular gatherings for parents and children to plan projects and campaigns.

# **SRVA Advocates for Smart Growth**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
|        | X      |             |          |                | X      |              |               |         |            |

**Contact:** Jennifer Fenton, Director **Sphere of Influence:** Eastern Sierra

Address: PO Box 248 Lone Pine, CA 93545 County: Inyo

**E-mail:** jenni@redjellyfish.net

<u>Organizational Description:</u> A grassroots organization working to protect and enhance the quality of life in Inyo County by encouraging appropriate planning and development that safeguard our natural environment, our regional economy, and the interests of local residents.

### **Current Focus:**

- Monitoring LA CWP plans for massive solar installation that would cover most of the valley floor.
- Watch-dogging development plans in Inyo County.
- Watching electricity generating plant proposal at old Tungsten mine site on Round Valley Mountain slope.

### **Accomplishments:**

• Stopped proposed development on private property in Round Valley, and a small proposed development in the Mt. Whitney view shed near Lone Pine. It was a reckless development of "McMansions" in the middle of the beautiful Owens Valley.

# **Tahoe Resource Conservation District**

Food & Energy Landscaping Green **Transportation** Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden **Building** Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management Χ Χ

Contact: Sarah Ford, Conservation Manager Sphere of Influence: Tahoe Basin

Address: 870 Emerald Bay Rd, South Lake Tahoe, CA County: El Dorado

**E-mail:** info@tahoercd.org **Website:** tahoercd.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> TRCD Promotes the conservation and improvement of the Lake Tahoe Basin's soil, water, and related natural resources by providing leadership, information, programs, and technical assistance to all land managers, owners, organizations, and residents.

#### **Current Focus:**

Continuing work on Community Watershed Partnership (CWP), a holistic watershed partnership
which engages locals, land managers, and agencies in neighborhoods throughout the Tahoe
Basin. The goal of the CWP is to inform residents of projects and engage community members
through conservation events, trainings, and stewardship days.

- Educated the Tahoe community and beyond about ways to protect the Lake Tahoe environment in the areas of water quality, erosion control, native and adapted landscaping, and invasive species.
- Helped thousands of homeowners meet a local erosion control ordinance and also provide vegetation, conservation landscaping assistance, and invasive weed consultations to thousands of property owners.
- Inspected hundreds of thousands of boats to help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species into the Lake Tahoe Basin and our other aquatic invasive species control efforts are being replicated nationwide (Eurasian water milfoil, Asian clam, etc.).

# **The Sierra Institute for Sustainable Living**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | Environmental | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education     | tourism | Management |
| X      |        |             | X        |                | X      |              | Υ             |         |            |

**Contact:** Lisa Winett, Director **Sphere of Influence:** Central Sierra

Address: 6091 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines, Ca 95726 County: El Dorado

**E-mail:** earthchildcollective@yahoo.com **Website:** theearthchildcollective.weebly.com

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Sierra Institute for sustainable living is a research and development educational non-profit for sustainable community building and economic development, as a collective of residential, agricultural and business projects combined in one area.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Looking to purchase a parcel of land owned by the non-profit and/or private individuals.
- Intending project outcome to be a collective housing, including agricultural projects such as gardening, animal husbandry, cheese making.
- Building Holistic Healthcare & education center for low-income yoga, meditation, acupuncture, etc.
- Providing nutritional counseling and diet consultations.

### **Accomplishments:**

• Established location site for people attend, physical space to work and build organization.

# **UCCE Master Gardener Program**

Transportation Food & Energy Landscaping Green Smart Water Environmental Eco-Waste Garden **Building** Growth Conservation **Education** tourism Management

Contact: Kevin Marini Sphere of Influence: Central Sierra

Address: 11477 E Ave, Auburn, CA 95603 County: Placer

**E-mail:** kmarini@ucdavis.edu **Website:** ceplacer.ucdavis.edu

<u>Organizational Description:</u> Our mission as University of California Master Gardener volunteers is to extend research-based gardening and composting information to the public through various educational outreach methods. We strive to present accurate, impartial information to local gardeners so they have the knowledge to make informed gardening decisions in regard to plant choices, soil fertility, pest management, irrigation practices, and more.

#### **Current Focus:**

- Producing an annual award-winning calendar each year with a different theme relating to sustainability.
- Providing over 20 public workshops a year at their Demonstration Garden on various gardening and composting topics.
- Utilizing the Senior Community Garden to help seniors who are confined to indoor spaces grow their own fresh and nutritious fruits and vegetables.
- Providing school gardens and composting outreach to help develop and sustain school gardens and integrate them into curriculum to provide education in nutrition, gardening, and the standard subjects.

- Received awards for both Master Gardener programs (Placer and Nevada), recognized for their high-quality outreach methods.
- Partnered with the City of Auburn, City of Roseville, Roseville Utility Exploration Center, Placer Nature Center, PlacerSustain, Head Start, Placer County Office of Education, Placer County Water Agency and more to give workshops, attend seminars, create publications and basically increase our reach across the county.
- Enhanced our Demonstration Garden in Nevada County, in partnership with Nevada Irrigation
  District, in Grass Valley with new features including a new shade structure, new garden areas,
  new signs and more.
- Published the "Western Nevada County Gardening Guide". It is a 100+ page publication that helps local gardeners be successful in their gardens and landscapes.

# **Upper Merced River Watershed Council**

| Food & | Energy | Landscaping | Green    | Transportation | Smart  | Water        | <b>Environmental</b> | Eco-    | Waste      |
|--------|--------|-------------|----------|----------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|---------|------------|
| Garden |        |             | Building |                | Growth | Conservation | Education            | tourism | Management |
|        |        |             |          |                |        |              |                      |         |            |

Contact: Anne Steed, Coordinator Sphere of Influence: South Central Sierra

Address: PO Box 5008-201, 5009 5th St, Mariposa, CA County: Mariposa

**E-mail:** watershed@sti.net **Website:** merced-river.org

<u>Organizational Description:</u> The Council does not own or manage any land or water. It brings partners together to protect and enhance the natural, economic, and cultural resources of the Upper Merced River Watershed through education, community-based projects, responsible planning, and stewardship. The Council oversees grant projects for the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit as well.

## **Current Focus:**

- Maintaining sustainability of our organization as grant funding becomes more difficult to obtain.
- Maintaining the good health of the watershed.
- Working with Sierra Nevada Conservancy invasive weed removal.
- Starting a membership program.
- Providing watershed stakeholder education and outreach.

- Maintained a citizen water quality monitoring program for the past eight years on 10-12 sites along the Merced River.
- Achieved success in removing invasive weeds in targeted areas of the watershed in partnership with Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and National Park Service.
- Worked with the Bureau of Land Management to renovate a historic building on the Merced River, turning it into the Merced River Center at Briceburg.
- Provided Stakeholder outreach including informative presentations for the public and hands-on science education for students in Mariposa and Merced Counties.

# **National Organizations Supporting Sustainable Sierra Communities**

### California Sustainability Alliance- http://sustainca.org/

The California Sustainability Alliance (the Alliance) is designed to help meet the State's aggressive energy, climate and other resource and environmental goals by increasing and accelerating energy efficiency in combination with complementary green measures and strategies.

#### Cohousing California- <a href="http://www.calcoho.org/">http://www.calcoho.org/</a>

Join us in an existing community or creating a new one where you know your neighbors but have privacy, your own kitchen but meals together a few times a week, a condo where the common house provides connections and you are part of the team that makes it happen. Join us in our quiet revolution, planting the seeds of Ecovillages, building a better society, one neighborhood at a time.

#### Global Green USA- <a href="http://www.globalgreen.org/">http://www.globalgreen.org/</a>

Global Green USA is the American affiliate of Green Cross International, founded by President Gorbachev, to foster a global value shift toward a sustainable and secure future. For nearly 20 years, Global Green USA has been a national leader in advocating for smart solutions to global warming including green building for affordable housing, schools, cities and communities that save money, improve health and create green jobs.

#### **Local Initiatives Support Corporation-** http://www.lisc.org/

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is dedicated to helping community residents transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities of choice and opportunity — good places to work, do business and raise children. LISC mobilizes corporate, government and philanthropic support to provide local community development organizations with loans, grants and equity investments, local, statewide and national policy support, technical and management assistance

#### National Complete Streets Coalition- <a href="http://www.completestreets.org/">http://www.completestreets.org/</a>

Complete Streets are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Instead of fighting for better streets block by block, the National Complete Streets Coalition seeks to fundamentally transform the look, feel, and function of the roads and streets in our community, by changing the way most roads are planned, designed, and constructed. Complete Streets policies direct transportation planners and engineers to consistently design with all users in mind, in line with the elements of Complete Streets policies.

#### Project for Public Spaces-<a href="http://www.pps.org/">http://www.pps.org/</a>

Project for Public Spaces (PPS) is a nonprofit planning, design and educational organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities. Our pioneering Place making approach helps citizens transform their public spaces into vital places that highlight local assets, spur rejuvenation and serve common needs.

#### Slow Food USA- http://www.slowfoodusa.org/

Slow Food is an idea, a way of living and a way of eating. It is part of a global, grassroots movement with thousands of members in over 150 countries, which links the pleasure of food with a commitment to community and the environment.

#### Smart Growth America- http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/

Smart Growth America advocates for people who want to live and work in great neighborhoods. We believe smart growth solutions support businesses and jobs, provide more options for how people get around and make it more affordable to live near work and the grocery store. Our coalition works with communities to fight sprawl and save money. We are making America's neighborhoods great together.

#### Transition Town USA- http://www.transitionus.org/

Transition US is a nonprofit organization that provides inspiration, encouragement, support, networking, and training for Transition Initiatives across the United States. We are working in close partnership with the Transition Network, a UK based organization that supports the international Transition Movement as a whole.

#### U.S. Green Building Council- http://www.usgbc.org/

The U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. Our community of leaders is working to make green buildings available to everyone within a generation.