



Annual Report to the Lake County Board of Supervisors

By John Vandervort, Program Manager, Lake County Resource Conservation District
March 17, 2026

Lake County Community Risk Reduction Authority

Purpose

Support the Lake County Community

Ensure effective coordination between entities and efficient use of the local government authority

Implement Programs

Offer low- or no-cost risk reduction services to the public and support funding to implement and maintain such programs

Provide Resources

Support members of the public so that they are better able to assess and manage these risks

Structure

Governance

Actively governed by Board of Directors including leadership from local City and County Governments, Special Districts, and Native Sovereign Nations

Administrative Support

Administrative support is provided by staff of the Lake County Resource Conservation District

Progress

In 2025, RRA accomplished the following:

- **Hosted 12 monthly meetings** in varying locations across Lake County
- **Hosted 4 Special Meetings**
 - 2 Meetings on providing DEI Trainings
 - 1 Public Town Hall on Water Use for Fire Suppression
 - 1 Public Town Hall on the Lake County Climate Adaptation Plan
- **Convened 3 RRA subcommittees** focused on the topics of biomass utilization, funding coordination, and water use for fire suppression
- **Oversaw the completion of the Lake County Biomass Utilization Pilot Project**

Grants Best Fit Subcommittee

“A primary goal of the Grant Best Fit Committee is to be inclusive of all practitioners in Lake County, reduce competition for funding to advance critical projects within Lake County, and support collaboration and partnership development within Lake County.”

	A	B	C
1	Name of Database	Link	Hosting Organization
2	Nature-Based Solutions Funding Database	https://fundingnaturebasedsolutions.nwf.org/	California Financing Coordinating Committee
3	Funding Navigation for California Communities - Let Us Assist You	https://www.fundingresource.org/program-contact-directory/	CivicWell
4	CEEC Funding Resources	https://eecordinator.info/funding-resources-2/	California Climate & Energy Collaborative
5	California Climate Investments Funded Programs	https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/california-climate-investments/california-climate-investments-funded-programs	California Air Resources Board
8	California Climate Investments Programs	https://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov/sci-programs	California Climate Investments
7	California Grants Portal	https://www.grants.ca.gov/	California State Library
8	ResilientCA: Investing in Adaptation	https://resilientca.org/topics/investing-in-adaptation/	Governor's Office of Land-Use and Climate Innovation

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Grant Name	New?	Grant Description: <i>What is this Grant's goal/focus?</i>	Eligibility (See Qualifications)	Grant Dollar Amount Available:	Match Requirements	Grant Application Deadline
2	CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant (CCI) CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant (Prop. 4)	Just Added!	<p>Forest Health projects must advance long-term forest and watershed resilience by applying a balanced and integrated suite of treatments across large landscapes. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, improved forest management, fuels reduction, prescribed fire, cultural fire, prescribed grazing, pest management, reforestation, biomass utilization, forest watershed restoration, upper watershed, riparian, and mountain meadow restoration, and activities that promote long-term carbon storage and sequestration. Projects that strategically integrate multiple activity types and are implemented through experienced, multi-partner collaborations may receive priority consideration.</p> <p>Planning and organizational capacity-building may be included as components of a project, but expenses for such activities may not exceed 10% of the total requested funds. Capacity-building refers to strengthening or improving an organization's long-term ability to deliver forest health projects and implement forest health work.</p>	<p>CAL FIRE will enter into grant agreements with local, state, and federal public agencies; Native American tribes; public universities or universities organized as non-profits; special districts; industrial and non-industrial private forest landowners, and non-profit organizations.</p>	\$7,000,000	Not required but encouraged	Concept Papers due March 30, 2026
3	Wood Innovations Grant Program	Just Added!	<p>The Wood Innovation Grants Program, launched in 2015, stimulates, expands, and supports U.S. wood products markets and wood energy markets to support the long-term management of National Forest System and other forest lands. National focus areas include mass timber, renewable wood energy, and technological development that supports hazardous fuel reduction and sustainable forest management.</p>	<p>For profit entities, State & local governments, Indian Tribes, School districts, Not-for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, Special purpose districts</p>	Maximum award \$300,000.00	100% match required	April 22, 2026
4	Community Wood Grant Program	Just Added!	<p>The Community Wood Grant Program, launched in 2020, provides funding for grants to install thermally led community wood energy systems or to build innovative wood product manufacturing facilities. The Forest Service expects renewable wood energy systems installed under this program to use the most stringent control technologies. The program places extra emphasis on assisting sawmills in economically challenged areas to retrofit or add advanced technology.</p>	<p>For profit entities, State & local governments, Indian Tribes, School districts, Not-for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, Special purpose districts</p>	Maximum award of \$1,000,000.00	None stated	April 22, 2026

Water for Fire Suppression Subcommittee



- Initially convened in March of 2025
- Focused on identifying opportunities for Fire Protection Districts and Water Purveyors to coordinate more effectively with one another
- Set the stage for local leaders to advance goals identified in this initial meeting across the State

Biomass Subcommittee

- **Biomass Feasibility Study**
 - Describes current market conditions and outlines what is needed to develop biomass utilization market in Lake County
- **Entity Action Plan**
 - Describes the services that the RRA is most well-suited to provide within Lake County and how it may address priority barriers to biomass utilization within Lake County
- **RRA Financial Analysis Study**
 - Focused on identifying feasible mechanisms to provide continued funding

Looking Forward

Strategic Direction

- Continue to expand membership to be inclusive of Lake County communities
- Targeted outreach to Lake County organizations and agencies to ensure RRA participation remains inclusive
- Continue to support RRA members and participants with targeted assistance and coordinated project development



Thank you!

Contact:

John Vandervort: john.vandervort@lakercd.org