

*CALREC Vision
Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation*

CALIFORNIA'S JOINT STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR RECREATION & WILDFIRE RESILIENCE

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FORWARD-THINKING



STRONG COMMUNITIES



PROACTIVE SOLUTIONS



COLLABORATION



COMPETITIVE FUNDING

Climate Change is Here

Extreme wildfire events are multiplying, threatening the communities and natural environment. California's recreation assets – from urban parks to remote wilderness trails – face the same risks.

Wildfires are not unique to Lake County, but we have a unique opportunity to respond.

OUR WINDOW

Ten Years to Stave Off Irreversible Climate Feedbacks

American Forests and CAL FIRE researchers modeled what could happen if we don't change our course. The window to alter this course is closing. Disturbances have already outpaced our ability to respond. From 2020-2024, California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force estimates they restored only **one-seventh of the 1.5 million acres** that newly required reforestation during that same period. That gap will only grow.

According to the modeling, a surge of compounding issues, from insects to wildfire, is expected to ramp up after 2030, triggering widespread tree die-offs.

Keep scrolling!



2030+
Insect-driven tree die-offs will ramp up with increasing intensity



2040+
High intensity wildfires are predicted to surge



2060+
In burned forests that don't regrow, decaying trees will emit more carbon than new wildfires

Outdoor Recreation and Landscape Defines Lake County

California's identity is rooted in stewardship, innovation, and equitable access to the outdoors. Conservation goals such as 30x30, nature-based climate solutions, and inclusive recreation are essential to our way of life. These values are at risk when priorities emphasize resource extraction over sustainable outdoor recreation.

Wildfire risks are rising, assets are being lost, and larger priorities no longer align with California and Lake County's needs. Failing to act means risking our economy, our safety, and our way of life.

What can we do?

Clear Lake and the outdoor lifestyle are cornerstones of our economic health.



Solution: A Joint Strategy for California and Lake County

California's Joint Strategy for Sustainable Outdoor Recreation & Wildfire Resilience, aka "Joint Strategy," is a collaborative, action-ready framework that any community may adopt.

This is California's playbook, born from a partnership of California's recreation and wildfire resilience leaders and widely supported by the California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force since March 2023.

It proves that wildfire safety and recreation access are not competing priorities, but shared goals that can strengthen communities, economies, and landscapes.

The Strategy

Healthy Forests + Sustainable Recreation

Integrate the provision of high-quality, sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities with forest health and resilience and wildfire and climate mitigation.

Key Actions:

- *Recreation infrastructure designed to serve multiple purposes -from trails that act as fuel breaks to climate-ready access points and sites that support fire crews.*

Access for All

Provide a diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities to foster equitable access for all.

Key Actions:

- *Inclusive recreation culture across all public lands.*
- *Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities help shape projects, incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK).*

Healthy Californians

Provide health information, training, and alternative recreation opportunities for all resident's needs before, during, and after wildfires and other natural disasters.

Key Actions:

- *Need for year-round respite during disasters, clean-air recreation options, and evacuation-ready corridors that keep people safe when emergencies strike.*

California Jobs First

Foster and support robust and diversified economies that enhance sustainable outdoor recreation and invest in the resilience necessary to withstand the impact of climate change, wildfires, and other disasters.

Key Actions:

- *Local economies strengthened through sustainable tourism, forest health investments, and recreation projects.*

How It May Unlock Funding for Lake County

Proposition 4

- \$10 billion state climate bond with dedicated funding for wildfire prevention, forest health, and parks. A strong fit for projects combining recreation and resilience.

Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFC)

- Funds multi-benefit projects that integrate forest health, wildfire resilience, and outdoor recreation.

CAL FIRE Forest Health Grants

- Supports recreation projects that also include fuel reduction or other forest restoration components.

State Parks Recreation Grants

- Prioritizes projects that strengthen wildfire resilience while improving public access.

Federal Infrastructure Funds

- Available for recreation infrastructure that doubles as evacuation routes or emergency access.

Adopting the Joint Strategy positions Lake County for multiple state and federal programs

Final Points

Smart planning serves multiple purposes.

Use recreation infrastructure to harden our community.

- Trails can become fuel breaks
- Campgrounds can become staging areas.
- Recreation corridors can become evacuation routes

When communities across California adopt the Joint Strategy, a unified defense is created.

This isn't an unfunded mandate; it's an opportunity!

- Access funding for wildfire and recreation projects
- Protect our recreation assets from wildfire
- Create proactive solutions for our community



**We're stronger
together.**