



MISSION: Sierra Institute for Community and Environment, a 501c(3) non-profit, 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. Since 1993, Sierra Institute has been advancing processes that promote rural community advancement and improve the lives and well-being of rural residents through research, education, and community collaboration.

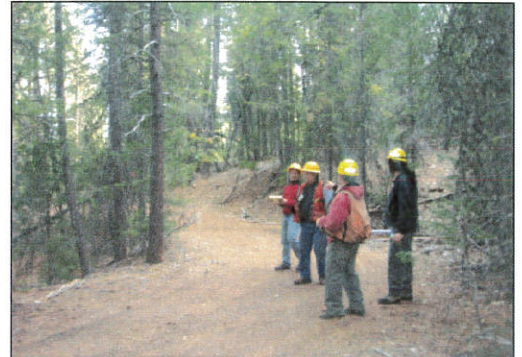
OUR AREAS OF WORK:

SUPPORTING HEALTHY FORESTS AND WATERSHEDS

Collaborative forest landscape and watershed restoration: Sierra Institute provides support to collaborative groups in California to increase their capacity, improve collaboration, advance sustainable all-lands work, and improve community health and well-being.

Biomass utilization: The Sierra Institute works to advance woody biomass utilization throughout the Sierra Nevada and northern California, especially around communities that face high threat from catastrophic wildfire. Increased biomass utilization will create markets for small-diameter trees and logging slash. This waste material is one of the region's most abundant natural resources and can replace fossil fuels.

Upper Feather River watershed: Collaborating with other local groups, our work in the Upper Feather River Watershed promotes long-term watershed health through water quality monitoring, restoration of impacted areas, and greater community involvement in stewarding this critical watershed.



BUILDING VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Rural community development: Many of California's rural forested communities face extreme challenges associated with poor socioeconomic conditions and increasing threat of catastrophic wildfire. Sierra Institute provides organizational and capacity building assistance to community groups and other stakeholders striving to develop forest biomass and wood utilization projects.

Sierra Fellows: The program places college and graduate degree holding individuals in rural mountain communities in California to work and live in communities, and collaborate with community members to address some of their greatest challenges. Projects are designed to address community-identified issues.



Socioeconomic monitoring: Sierra Institute conducts socioeconomic monitoring to assess how social and economic conditions of rural communities are affected by natural resource management projects and policy and management decisions over time. Monitoring provides a "snapshot" of socioeconomic conditions and trends in a given area, and can highlight challenges and opportunities faced in these communities.

Increasing access to healthcare: Large distances between communities, shortage of specialty services in remote rural towns, and transportation challenges especially in winter months all contribute to health disparities and reduced access to health care. The Northern California Telehealth Network program works to link patients and practitioners to secure needed health care services in this rural region.

DEVELOPING YOUNG STEWARDS

Greenville High School Natural Resource Program: In partnership with Greenville Jr./Sr. High School, the Natural Resource Program integrates natural resource field-based projects with classroom work. The program's goals are to help students learn about natural resources and management of those resources, and to broaden their educational experience by offering opportunities for open-ended inquiries and practical problem solving in surrounding forested landscapes.



P-CREW: Plumas Conservation Recreation and Education in Watersheds (P-CREW) is a paid, five-week internship opportunity for high school students to learn new skills as they live, work, and play in the Plumas and Lassen National Forests. This exciting program brings students together from urban and rural schools to help restore areas burned by forest fires and give participants new and job skill experiences.



Recreation programs: Sierra Institute staff is dedicated to providing engaging and exciting recreation-based activities for local youth. Greenville Outdoor Adventure Learning (GOAL) is an experiential learning program that connects local youth, grades 7-12, to their natural surroundings through outdoor recreational adventures that they would otherwise not be able to experience due to lack of resources such as gear and proper leadership. Friday Night for Teens, also known as Teen Night, is a weekly event allowing the local teens of Indian Valley to gather in a drug-free, safe environment.



GET INVOLVED:

Sierra Institute's **Center of Forestry** offers outdoor educational tours in the summer months that focus on natural resource management in the northern Sierra Nevada, highlighting the achievements of local forest and watershed groups and agencies. Other tours focus on the natural and cultural history of the area, and explore the complex relationship between natural resource management and the economic and cultural health of rural communities. Visit our website for a schedule of tours and more information.



The **Round Valley Run/Walk** is an annual 5.4 mile race around Round Valley Lake the first weekend in August. There is a main event, junior event, a kids color fun-run, and a raffle, with all proceeds going toward GOAL and Teen Night, and thus benefitting local Indian Valley youth!

Please visit our website at www.Sierrainstitute.us for more information about our programs and ways to support our work.