



Tribal Outreach Coordinator

*Position is open until filled, with review of applications beginning on May 1st
Anticipated Start Date in May/June 2023*

The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment seeks a full-time Tribal Outreach Coordinator to lead and coordinate tribal involvement in the organization's collaborative, large-landscape restoration work to improve forest and watershed health and protect communities in the northern Sierra. This is a unique opportunity to support the integration of tribal knowledge and values as part of novel collaborative planning efforts for multiple large-landscape public lands projects. The geographic focus of this position will initially be on the Lassen National Forest and Plumas National Forest, and within the million-acre footprint of the South Lassen Watersheds Group (SLWG), a local forest collaborative pursuing high-priority, large-scale, multi-jurisdictional restoration work in the region. The SLWG recognizes the necessity, importance, and challenges associated with meaningful integration of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) in landscape planning and the group is committed, as documented in the collaborative's [MOU](#), to working with Tribes and tribal groups to advance tribal priorities.

The Tribal Outreach Coordinator will support the integration of tribal groups and traditional knowledge into the federal environmental compliance (NEPA) process with Agency partners as well as into Sierra Institute's broader program of work. The Coordinator will build on existing relationships and create new partnerships to ensure cultural resources, sites, and values are resilient on the landscape and work to restore living cultural resources on the land. As part of this work, the Coordinator will co-develop a Tribal Involvement Strategy to facilitate dialogue between land managers and multiple tribal groups and assess interest and capacity for active engagement in project planning, implementation, and monitoring. This approach will provide opportunities for tribal involvement based on existing capacity, while creating avenues to build the capacity for deeper involvement and leadership.

Primary responsibilities will include developing meaningful partnerships with tribal entities and other relevant partners, regular meeting coordination and facilitation, and writing and editing environmental analysis and related documents. This position requires an individual capable of handling a dynamic set of responsibilities with cultural competency to work with partners on projects from the conceptual phase through implementation.

The Tribal Outreach Coordinator is expected to participate in a variety of aspects of the Collaborative Forestry Program, and will work closely with numerous Sierra Institute staff as well as with external partners. This position is funded for an initial two-year term, and has long-term growth potential for increased project responsibilities. Salary range \$54,000 - \$66,000, commensurate with experience. Sierra Institute offers a competitive benefits package.

This position works primarily indoors in an office setting, and is required to work at a computer for the majority of each day. Field visits may occur, particularly during the summer and fall seasons. Some travel for meetings, site visits, and workshops is expected, with occasional overnight stays. Work will fall primarily within the hours of 7:30 AM and 5:30 PM Monday-Friday, though some variation is expected to accommodate field work and other needs.



Minimum Qualifications

- Interest in community engagement and collaborative forestry issues in rural mountain communities;
- An undergraduate degree in a relevant field, yet relevant qualifying experience (broadly defined) will be considered in lieu of a degree;
- A true commitment to environmental stewardship and social justice, and ability to co-develop programs focused on community needs;
- Demonstrated interest and ability in building and sustaining relationships with tribal communities and advocating for tribal priorities and leadership in land management;
- Understanding of Native American histories, tribal relations with US government, especially with California and/or Western Tribes;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, as demonstrated through experience of online and offline communications;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel);
- A willingness to work and live in a rural, mountainous area that receives snow and ice in winter;
- Proven ability to work independently and collaboratively;
- An ability to bring critical thinking skills, creativity, and laughter to the workplace;
- A personal vehicle for transportation outside of work;
- Ability to travel as needed to support community relations, particularly in the Sierra and throughout the state of California;
- Experience living and/or working in a rural setting and a strong desire to learn about rural issues.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience training tribes and partners in the integration of TEK and/or experience conducting restoration activities with a tribal workforce
- Training and experience with completing environmental compliance on federal lands

Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Skills or experiences that can fill in for desired qualifications may be considered.

How to Apply: Please send your cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references as one PDF to jobs@sierrainstitute.us with "Tribal Outreach Coordinator" in the subject line. Review of applications will begin on May 1st, 2023. Please call (530) 284-1022 with questions.



About the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment:

The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment is a community-based organization which actively promotes healthy forests, watersheds, and communities by investing in the well-being of diverse rural communities and strengthening their participation in natural resource management. Our work is grounded by the concept of triple bottom line values, supporting initiatives that simultaneously benefit the environment, economy, and equity within a given landscape.

Sierra Institute has spent over a decade building relationships with tribal groups in the region, including the Mountain Maidu, Mechoopda, and others. These relationships have been developed through partnerships with the Maidu Summit Consortium, Greenville Rancheria, Susanville Indian Rancheria, and the Inter-tribal Stewardship Workforce Initiative, which includes tribal councils, staff from the Governor's office, Sierra Institute, and the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions.

Location: This position is based in the very rural northern Sierra town of Taylorsville, where the Tribal Outreach Coordinator will join a talented team of natural resource and rural community development professionals dedicated to landscape restoration and community well-being in the northern Sierra Nevada and southern Cascades. Taylorsville, CA (pop. 154) lies within a large mountain meadow referred to as "Indian Valley," that includes the communities of Greenville and Crescent Mills. Taylorsville is an historic small town, with a long history dating back to the construction of the first flour mill in the Pacific Northwest in 1856. Downtown Taylorsville is home to two historic establishments: the Taylorsville Tavern, a favorite watering hole for locals; and Young's Market, a revitalized country store and sandwich shop that first opened its doors in 1862 that is – debatably – home to the oldest working cash register in the nation manufactured in 1914. Taylorsville is a blended community of long-time residents, ranchers, loggers, and newcomers, drawn to the area for its scenic beauty and cultural richness. Taylorsville offers unique, rural community events that bring the community together, such as the Silver Buckle Rodeo held over the 4th of July, the Holiday Light Parade the Saturday after Thanksgiving; and New Year's Eve fireworks in the fields across from the Tavern. Taylorsville is surrounded by many outdoor recreation opportunities such as Lake Almanor, Plumas and Lassen National Forests, and Lassen Volcanic National Park. Although much of the forest was burned in the 2021 Dixie Fire, many areas remain accessible and beautiful. These adjacent public lands feature backcountry routes in winter, and endless, empty dirt roads to explore in summer. Adventure lies just out the back door of the office!

COVID-19: Consistent with organizational policy, all Sierra Institute staff are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and to follow up-to-date safety protocols informed by the latest research and evidence.