

Rural County Representatives of California

Patrick Blacklock
President & CEO



Andrew Lincoln, Napa County
2025 RCRC Rural County Photo Contest Winner

RCRC Organization



Divisions

- Government Affairs
- Economic Development
- Business Development
- Administration and Finance

Affiliate Entities



Rural Counties[✓]
Environmental Services
Joint Powers Authority
ESJPA



Rural
Advancement
Institute



RCRC 2025-27 STRATEGIC PLAN



Vision

RCRC is the premier advocate and innovative service provider for rural counties in California

State & Federal Advocacy



**Impactful Policy
Advancement**

State Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/drought
- Broadband
- Housing
- Energy
- Health Access
- CPUC
- Agriculture
- Williamson Act
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare

Federal Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/Drought
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare

Key Topics

- Recruitment & Retention of Employees Ad Hoc
- Predator Management Ad Hoc
- State Mandate Reimbursement
- Jail Medical Services Study
- Indigent Health Planning / CMSP



Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) & National Homebuyers Fund, Inc (NHF)



Equitable Access

Golden State Finance Authority

- Provide affordable housing solutions
- Offer financing options for energy efficiency
- Secure infrastructure financing
 - Grant Advanced Line of Credit Program
 - Rural Broadband
 - Forest Resiliency



National Homebuyers Fund, Inc

- Expand Homeownership
- Strengthen Communities



**SINCE 1993 IN
LASSEN COUNTY**



Helped **566** individuals/
families purchase homes



Provided over **\$ 3.12 M**
in down payment
assistance

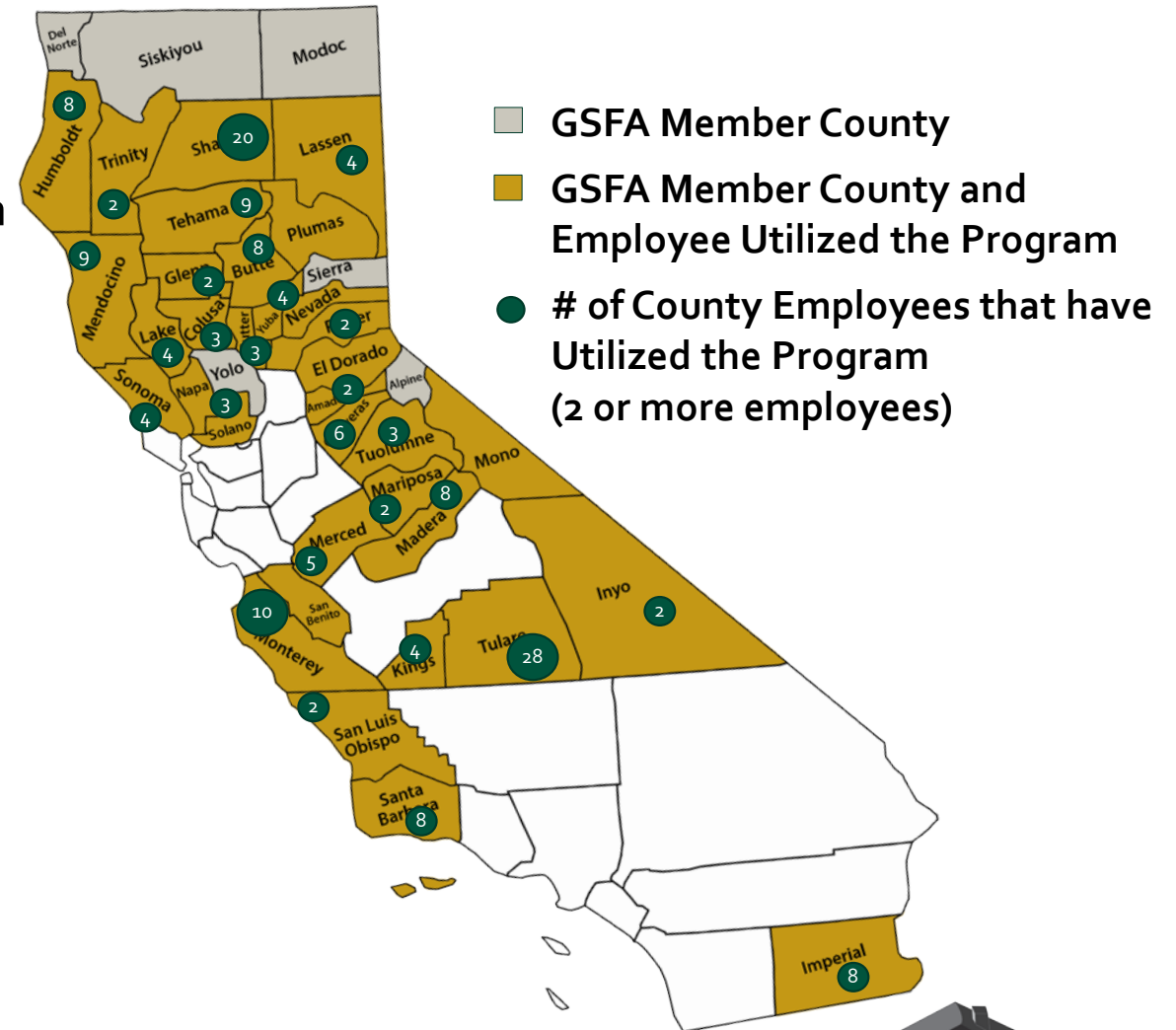
Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)



Equitable Access

Assist-to-Own Program

- Provides up to **5.5%** assistance for down payment and closing costs on primary residence purchases or refinances for GSFA Member County employees.
 - Enhances employee retention and recruitment
- **Flexible qualifying criteria:**
 - Accepts less-than-perfect credit (FICOs as low as 640)
 - Debt-to-income ratios up to 50%
 - No first-time homebuyer requirement
 - Not limited to low-income borrowers

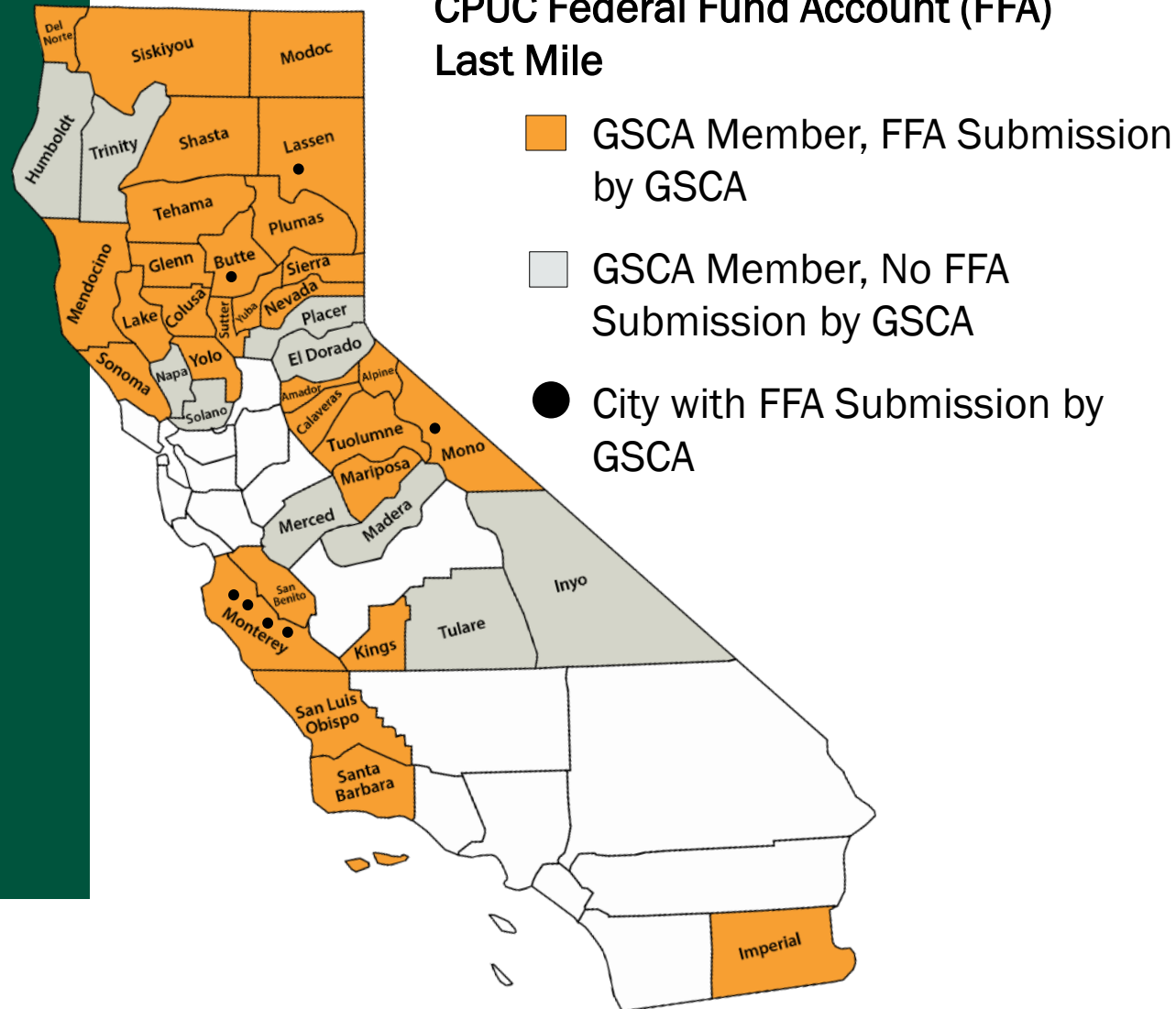


Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)



Equitable Access

CPUC Federal Fund Account (FFA) Last Mile



GSCA FFA Last Mile Awards

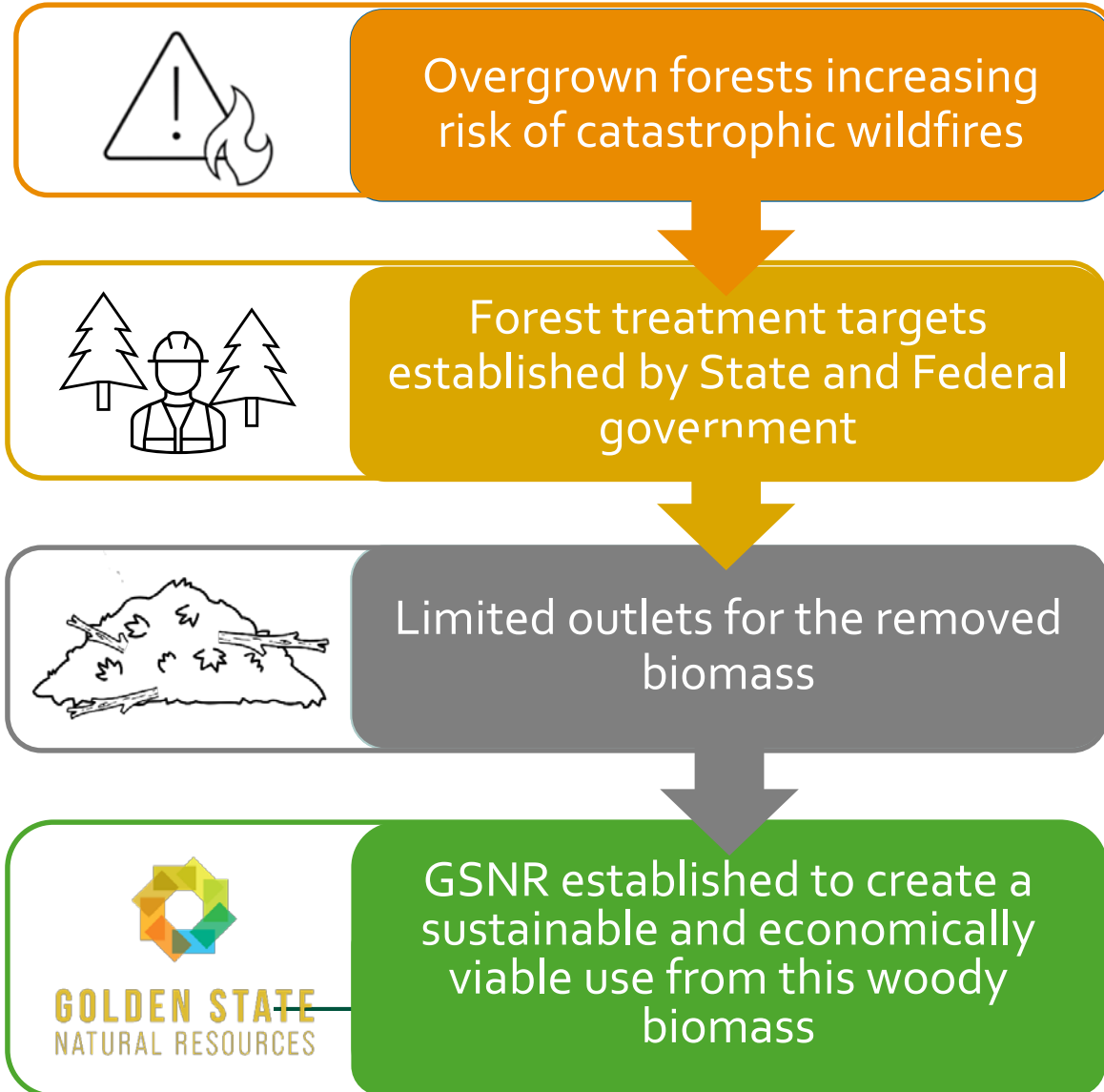
Imperial County	\$13,834,949
Alpine County	\$ 6,985,978
Mammoth Lakes	\$ 4,158,014
Mono County	\$ 6,074,134
Amador County	\$57,180,300
Tehama County	\$74,798,880
Glenn County	<u>\$22,351,876</u>
Total	\$185,384,131

* Funding for Round Two of the FFA Last Mile Program for Calaveras, Inyo, Monterey, and Trinity counties is still pending.

Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR)



Healthy Communities



Modoc National Forest - Summer 2024

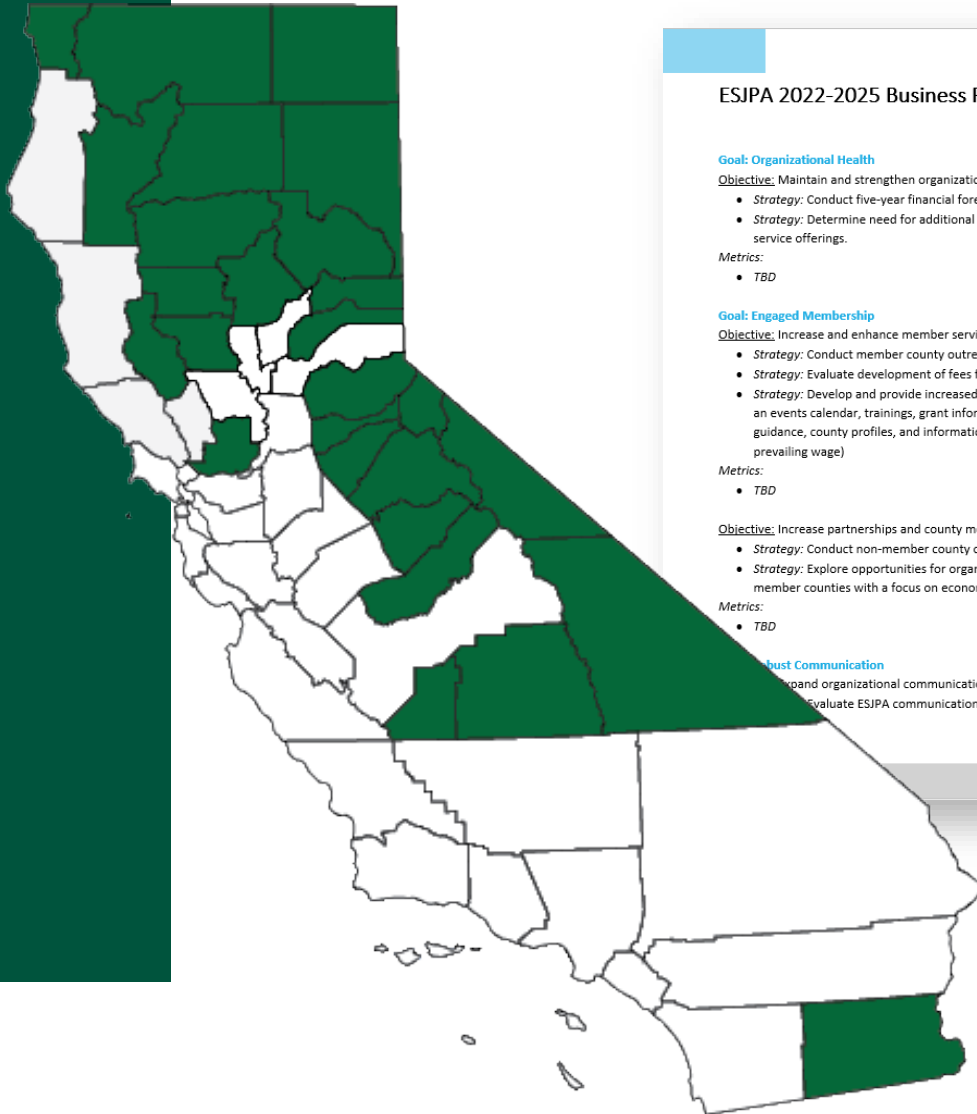


GOLDEN STATE
NATURAL RESOURCES

Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA)



Operational
Excellence



ESJPA 2022-2025 Business Plan



Rural Counties
Environmental Services
Joint Powers Authority
ESJPA

Goal: Organizational Health

Objective: Maintain and strengthen organizational fiscal health and workforce.

- Strategy: Conduct five-year financial forecast of revenue and expenses.
- Strategy: Determine need for additional staffing to sustain and/or expand service offerings.

Metrics:

- TBD

Goal: Engaged Membership

Objective: Increase and enhance member services.

- Strategy: Conduct member county outreach and/or visits
- Strategy: Evaluate development of fees for specialty services
- Strategy: Develop and provide increased resources including but not limited to an events calendar, trainings, grant information, templates (ex. compliance), guidance, county profiles, and information sharing on targeted issues (ex. prevailing wage)

Metrics:

- TBD

Objective: Increase partnerships and county membership

- Strategy: Conduct non-member county outreach and/or visits
- Strategy: Explore opportunities for organizational partnerships of benefit to member counties with a focus on economic development

Metrics:

- TBD

Goal: Transparent Communication

Objective: Expand organizational communication with member counties

Strategy: Evaluate ESJPA communication methods and identify areas for

- Represents **26** rural California counties on solid waste regulatory and legislative policies.
- Advocates on the state and federal level
- Offers policy leadership, technical expertise and direct assistance to member counties



Rural Counties
Environmental Services
Joint Powers Authority
ESJPA

Rural Advancement Institute (RAI)



Impactful Policy
Advancement

RAI facilitates academic research and educational opportunities that advance understanding of rural California amongst policymakers and the public.

- **Educational Tours:**

- Behind the Scenes of the Recreation Economy
- Beyond the Lettuce Curtain: Innovations and Challenges

- **Research and Projects:**

- Fire / EMS Capacity in rural counties – UCSB
- Housing Study – Sacramento State
- Healthcare workforce landscape in rural counties – UCSF

Fire and Emergency Medical Services Response Capacity in Rural
Communities of California

Alan Murray
Yuyang Zhang
Theo Funk
Danica Marter

Wildfire Resilience Initiative
University of California at Santa Barbara
wri.ucsb.edu

Report Commissioned by Rural Advancement Institute

September 2, 2025

UC SANTA BARBARA
Wildfire Resilience Initiative



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QUESTIONS?

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