

# COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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September 1, 2015

Mr. Jim Branham  
Executive Officer  
Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

**RE: Sierra Nevada Conservancy – Draft Strategic Action Plan**

Dear Mr. Branham,

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors is pleased to submit its support for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Draft Strategic Action Plan. Our Board appreciates the efforts of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to develop a Strategic Action Plan that focuses its planning efforts on issues that are of critical importance to the counties and communities within the Conservancy's service area.

Specifically, our Board fully supports the Conservancy's identifying the Watershed Improvement Program and the Proposition 1 Grant Program as priority programs within the Strategic Plan's planning efforts.

The goal of the Watershed Improvement Program to restore the health of the Sierra Nevada watersheds while implementing fuel treatment projects will reduce wildfire risks. This program is a perfect example of the Conservancy's collaborative efforts throughout the region that seek to protect the great natural resources within the Sierra Nevada.

While our County is fully supportive of the Conservancy's efforts and the programs identified within the Draft Strategic Action Plan, our County would like to make sure that these efforts do not infringe on the rights of current mining operations. Our Board did receive comments of concern from county residents regarding the protection of mining rights as part of our Board's review and discussion of the Draft Strategic Action Plan.

The County of El Dorado looks forward to being actively involved as the Sierra Nevada Conservancy implements the Draft Strategic Action Plan.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Veerkamp  
Chairman, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors