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# Sierra Nevada Forest and Community Initiative (SNFCI)



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Mt. Lassen Area Representative

# Sierra Nevada Forest and Community Initiative

- Encouraging ecologically healthy forests and watersheds, thereby protecting and enhancing habitat and water quality and quantity while reducing the risk of large damaging fires; and
- Fostering sustainable local economic activity in the Region through increasing the sustainable production of renewable biomass energy, and a variety of wood products.



# Untreated & Treated Forest Area



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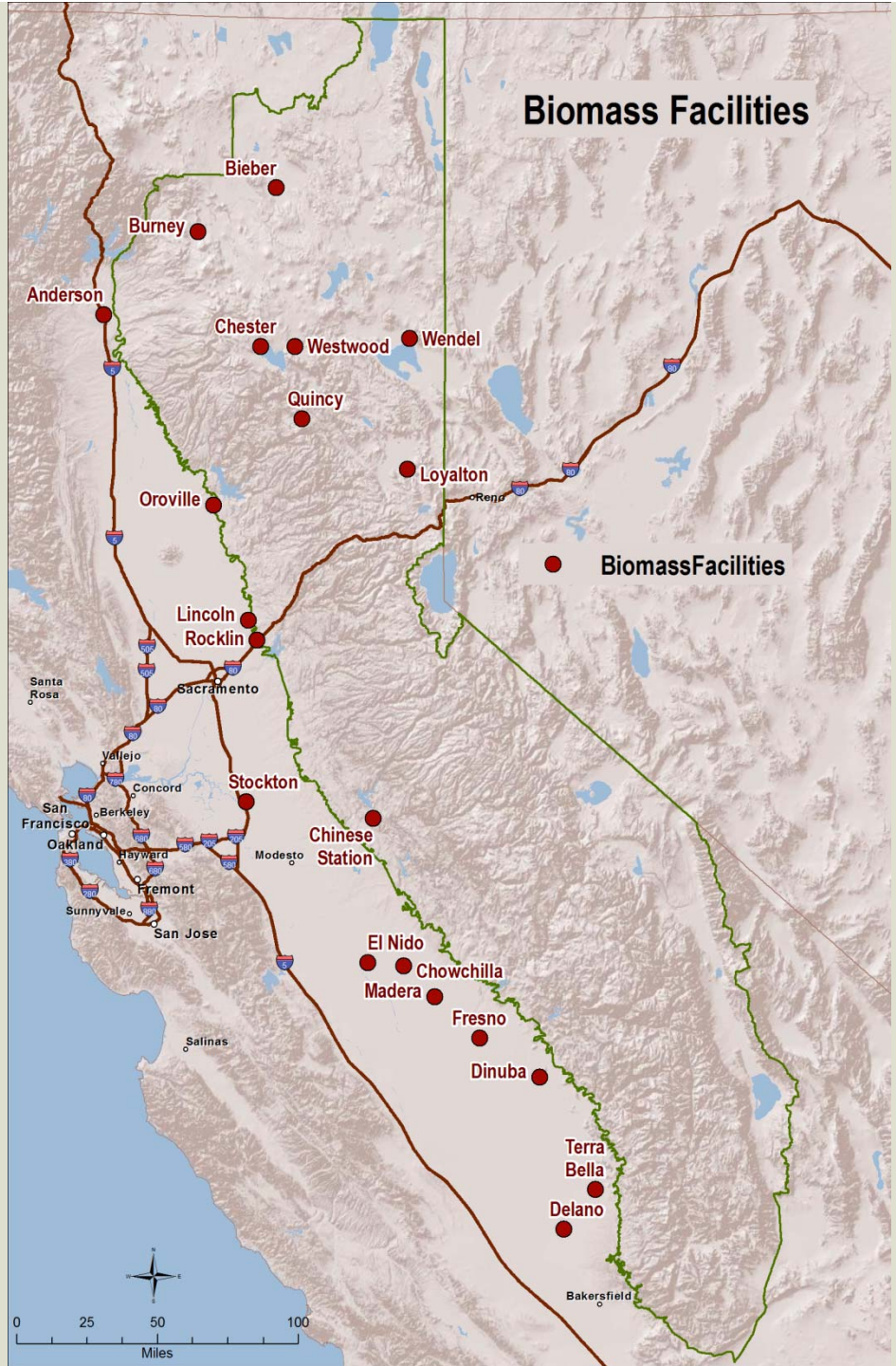
Calaveras County

# Key outcomes for the Region and state

- Protection of water quality and increasing natural water storage in the Sierra, the origin of 65 percent of the state's developed water supply;
- Preservation and creation of long-term, "good-paying" jobs in Sierra communities;
- Reduction of air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from large damaging fires;
- Protection and enhancement of key habitats for a variety of threatened and endangered species; and
- Maximization of sequestration of carbon in Sierra Forests.



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# Job Creation Potential



**Fuels Treatment: Thinning**



**Biomass material transport to facility**



# Job Creation Potential Continued:



**Solid Wood Product:  
Molding & Flooring**



**Clean, woody biomass  
energy plant**



# SNC's Efforts to Create Sustainable Models

- Collaborative fuels treatment project work.
- Funding NEPA/CEQA, CWPPs, fuels reduction projects.
- Supporting/establishing contractor's cooperative.
- Assisting/securing funds for business incubation to support local operators for start-up processing businesses.
- Assisting in securing funds for market analysis to identify supply and demand needs for the Region.





# SNC's Role

- Convene, facilitate and mediate diverse stakeholder groups;
- Assist in establishing the Regional Coordinating Council;
- Help create a Sierra-wide network of organizations and entities who are communicating and updating key information for one another on a regular basis; and
- Remain a neutral third party to help build common visions consistent with our mission and program goals.



# Regional Coordinating Council Purpose

Support Regional components of Initiative:

- Conduct policy analysis and make recommendations;
- Advise on fund raising and strategic investment;
- Provide a Sierra-wide communication network;
- Monitor current science and research; and
- Track emerging technology.



# Regional Coordinating Council Potential Composition

Diverse geographic representation and expertise including:

- Governmental agency representatives and local elected officials;
- Nonprofit organizations;
- Industry representatives; and
- Research and science advisors



# RESOLUTION SIGNATURES

Demonstration of support for:

*“We declare that it is our intent to work collaboratively, constructively and in a transparent manner, with state and federal agencies, local and tribal governments, the environmental/conservation community and, the private sector, to improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region”*



# Challenges and Opportunities

- Working with existing forest management efforts and striving for a collaborative, Regional approach.
- Progress shown already:
  - Level of participation in local collaboratives; and
  - Federal agencies support for collaborative processes



# In Conclusion:

- This initiative allows the SNC to support stakeholders in addressing one of the most critical issues of the Region.
- It allows the SNC to assist stakeholders in addressing the health of the Sierra Nevada in a manner including: environment, economy and social-well being.
- SNC is committed to supporting this Initiative to achieve success.
- Diverse, local and Regional involvement in a collaborative process is critical for everyone's success.



# Thank You for Your Time and Consideration!

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