

THE SIERRA FUND:

Develops new sources of public and private investment to confront the region's conservation challenges

Leverages private financial resources to inspire larger, long-term public conservation investments in the resources of the Sierra Nevada

Expands the technical and fiscal capacity of community-based conservation organizations already hard at work protecting the Sierra Nevada

Supports a full toolbox of conservation solutions from community organizing, collaboration, and education to scientific research, litigation, and legislation

The Sierra Nevada covers 25 million acres, one third of the State of California, and supplies nearly two thirds of the State's water.

In contrast, the Sierra has received less than 2% of private and public conservation funds granted.

“Range after range of mountains,
Year after year after year,
I am still in love.”

Gary Snyder,
“On Climbing the Sierra
Matterhorn Again After
Thirty-One Years”

Arya Degehard

“I have crossed the Range of Light,
surely the brightest and best of all ...”

John Muir



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Printed on 100% recycled paper.

David McKay

THE SIERRA FUND

*New Resources to Protect
Our Sierra*

The Sierra Nevada inspires the imagination and powers the human spirit



THE SIERRA FUND'S MISSION:
To increase and organize investment in protecting and restoring the natural resources and communities of the Sierra Nevada.

STRATEGIC CAMPAIGNS

Attracting Attention and Resources

The Sierra Fund's strategic vision allows us to pursue critically needed programs in the region.

Our **"Reclaiming the Sierra" Initiative** addresses California's oldest and longest neglected environmental problem: the ongoing cultural, environmental and human health impacts of Gold Rush-era mining.

Once an invisible issue, the problem of abandoned mines in California's headwaters now has state and federal attention. We work to prevent public exposure to toxins and to develop viable solutions for today's problems associated with the Sierra's mining history.

Since 2006, our Initiative has brought millions of dollars to remediate abandoned mines on state and federal land, our science program has pioneered multiple studies in the region, and our leadership has stimulated additional new research into this critical issue.

ADVOCACY

Leveraging State and Federal Investment

The Sierra Fund serves as the eyes, ears and voice of the region in the State Capitol, working to increase state and federal investment in the Sierra Nevada.

Through our advocacy we:

- **Educate** policy makers and political leaders about the value of investing in the Sierra
- Highlight the **key conservation challenges and potential solutions** facing the region's threatened natural resources
- Build broad support for **new public investments** in the Sierra Nevada

These efforts are paying huge dividends. Since 2001, The Sierra Fund has helped win **more than \$125 million in land and water investments** for the Sierra and played a leadership role in establishing and supporting the **Sierra Nevada Conservancy**.

PHILANTHROPY

Helping You Save the Sierra Nevada

The Sierra Fund works with private donors to target their investments toward efforts that provide the greatest impact and environmental success. We showcase private investments to leverage substantial new public investment in the region.

Our funds are making a difference. Since 2001, The Sierra Fund has made **grants and loans of nearly \$3 million** from donor advised funds and our strategic grant-making fund to some of the most effective conservation organizations and efforts in the region.

The Sierra Fund provides **philanthropic services** such as fiscal sponsorship and loans for regional projects, allowing funds to be used and re-used for time-sensitive Sierra conservation needs. Sponsored projects include:

- *Deer Creek Tribute Trail* in Nevada City
- *Saving the Sierra*, an award winning radio documentary
- *Breast Cancer Research Project*, support services for rural women in remote locations
- *Cash flow funding and loans* to Sierra-based organizations

““ *The Sierra Fund is defining a new brand of high impact philanthropy just at the moment in history when the Sierra Nevada is most threatened.* ””

Drummond Pike - Founder, Tides Foundation

