



University of California Cooperative Extension

Plumas and Sierra Counties

208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy, CA 95971

530-283-6270



Agriculture, Natural Resources and Community Development

January 2011

Informational Meeting & Dialogue with Key Players

Sierra Nevada Meadow Enhancements, Water Rights and Improved Understanding of Stakeholder Concerns

February 3rd 10am-3pm Plumas-Sierra Fairgrounds, Quincy

Come learn and ask your questions of

US Forest Service: Region 5, Plumas and Tahoe
Feather River Coordinated Resource Management Group
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Funded Partnership
State Water Resources Control Board, Water Rights Division
California Department of Water Resources Watermaster
University of California and Nevada Researchers
Friends & Neighbors in Plumas-Sierra Counties

YOU'RE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE!

Pre-registration **received by Jan 27th only \$12** (includes lunch) otherwise \$25

Full Agenda & registration form inside or Go Online to register/pay:

<http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=5933>

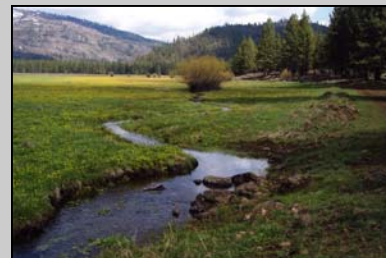
Everyone wants functioning meadow and pasture systems which benefit the environment, agriculture, recreation and municipal uses as well as provide an array of ecosystem services like flood attenuation, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration and filtration of clean water. This meeting is an opportunity to hear from several groups working on different aspects of meadow restoration in the Sierras.

The goal is to improve communication and transparency of meadow enhancement projects in the Sierras and encourage greater coordination. All stakeholders must better understand the process that different agencies, organization and funding entities must adhere to when taking on meadow enhancement projects.

To ensure working meadows in the Sierras we will need strong partnerships from local stakeholders to public agencies. We look forward to continuing the conversation.

Informational Meeting and Public Dialogue Aimed at Improved Transparency & Coordination

Sierra Nevada Meadow Enhancements Efforts, Water Rights & Understanding of Stakeholder Concerns



February 3, 2011—10am-3pm - Plumas-Sierra Fairgrounds, Quincy, CA

Only \$12/person (includes coffee & lunch) if received by Thursday January 27th; otherwise \$25/person

10am WELCOME

Objectives for the Day and Summary of December Stakeholder Meeting, Holly George, UC Cooperative Extension

10:20 Overview of Meadow Function in the Sierra Nevada,

Dr. Kenneth Tate, Rangeland Watershed Specialist, University of California Cooperative Extension

10:35 Overview of Meadow Issues and Restoration Techniques, Specifically Pond and Plug

Jim Wilcox, Feather River Coordinated Resource Management

10:50 Efforts to Assess Hydrologic Function on Public Lands in the Sierra Nevada

Barry Hill, Region 5 Hydrologist, US Forest Service

11:10 Sierra-Wide Solutions: Working Meadows on Private Lands in the Sierra , A National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Funded Partnership

Ashley Rood-Environmental Defense Fund, Luke Hunt-American Rivers, Sherri Brennan-Tuolumne County RCD

11:30 Mountain Meadows & Native Trout: Maximizing Restoration Through Collaboration & Analysis,

Dr. Rene Henery, Postdoctoral Researcher, Aquatic Ecosystems Analysis Laboratory, University of Nevada, Reno

11:50 General Comments plus Question and Answer Session with Morning Speakers

12:10 **LUNCH** Please pre-register by Jan 27th

1:00 Water Rights and Water Supply Panel, moderator, Brian Morris-Plumas County Flood Control

Laura Vasquez Lavallo, Water Rights Division of State Water Resources Control Board

Rich Teixeira, US Forest Service, Region 5 Water Rights Division

Chris Reilly, Watermaster, California Department of Water Resources

Question & Answer Session

2:00 Proposed Local Meadow Enhancement Projects & Funding Opportunities:

FR-CRM-Jim Wilcox, PNF-Joe Hoffman, TNF-Randy Westmoreland, NRCS-Dan Martynn,

2:40 Additional Comments/Questions

2:50 Next Steps

3:00 ADJOURN

Excerpts from Executive Summary

2010 Business Plan for Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration

Funded by National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

Plan Online: http://nfwf.org/Content/ContentFolders/NationalFishandWildlifeFoundation/GrantPrograms/Keystones/WildlifeandHabitat/Sierra_Meadow_Restoration_business_plan.pdf

The majority of California's freshwater comes from the Sierra Nevada and is the lifeblood of many municipal, agricultural, recreational and ecological functions. As the climate warms up, anticipated changes not only in the reduced amount of precipitation we'll receive; but the form (more rain vs. snow) which will impact the reliability of water supply for people and wildlife in the summer and fall. Some people feel part of the solution to this problem is mountain meadow restoration and conservation.

This business plan which includes public and private lands in Plumas and Sierra Counties maps out a 10 year program to restore and conserve meadow habitat in the Sierra Nevada. The first five years are focused on implementation of strategies that build the economic and scientific rationale that these efforts are worth pursuing as well as building the capacity and large scale projects to make future expanded efforts possible. Contingent upon success in the first five years, the next five will focus on implementing work on a sufficient scale to ensure appropriate restoration and management of the majority of the degraded Sierra meadows.

This plan will guide every aspect of the Foundation's grant-making associated with Sierra meadows over the next 5 years (anticipated to be \$10-15 million). The hope is that the strategies and activities described in the Plan are adopted by the broader community of agencies and organizations working on similar goals and shared responsibility for the additional \$200 million or more of investments needed to restore all of the Sierra's degraded meadows. **Resources will be focused on the following strategies:**

Restoring habitat: The hydrology & ecosystems of most meadows in the Sierra are degraded.

Activity Restore at least 20,000 acres/year by 2014, focused on meadow systems in which it will be possible to quantify benefits.

Validating benefits: Restoring meadows may or may not provide water service benefits. Scientific consensus is lacking on the amount of water that can be retained in restored meadows across meadow types, the downstream water quantity and quality impacts of restoration, benefits to downstream flow reliability, and overall cost-benefit of restoration. Activity Support hydrologic, water quality, economic and ecological assessments to predict and measure before/after changes in ecosystem services provided by meadow restoration.

Building capacity: Current and future expansion of restoration activity is limited by insufficient personnel to plan and implement restoration on public and private lands. Activity Expand capacity in key watersheds throughout the Sierras to implement restoration.

Team Leaders from both the Public Lands Partnership and Private Lands Partnership working on National Fish & Wildlife Foundation funded efforts related to Sierra Nevada Meadow Restoration will be speaking at the February 3rd meeting in Quincy. Register now and plan to attend so you can learn more & ask questions.

UC Cooperative Extension
208 Fairgrounds Road
Quincy, CA 95971

Forest Service
Feather River CRM
DWR Watermaster
State Water Rights
University Researchers
and MORE

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Meadow Restoration, Water Rights and
Stakeholder Concerns Meeting Feb 3rd
Fairgrounds, Quincy 10am-3pm

**Pre-Register by
January 27th**

Please contact us for any special assistance regarding our programs.

Online Registration: <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=5933>

February 3rd Workshop Registration Form

**RECEIVED BY January 27th \$12.00/person (includes coffee & lunch)
AFTERWARDS \$25.00/person**

**Make Checks Payable To: UC REGENTS and mail with form to
208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy, CA 95971**

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City-State-Zip _____

• If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Holly George, County Director for University of California Cooperative Extension in Plumas-Sierra Counties located at 208 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy, CA 95971, 530-283-6270 hageorge@ucdavis.edu.