



## The Watershed Research and Training Center

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## PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

### THE WATERSHED RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER AWARDS \$1,000,000 TO SUPPORT LOCAL PRESCRIBED BURNING CAPACITY

#### *Nine Prescribed Burn Associations funded across California*

**Hayfork, CA - July 7th, 2022:** With funding support from the California Department of Conservation's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program, the Watershed Research and Training Center awarded a total of over \$1,000,000 to nine Prescribed Burn Associations (PBAs) across California to build local capacity for community-based prescribed fire.

"We hope that the subawards not only continue to build long-term, sustainable, community-based prescribed fire workforce capacity, but also help to strengthen and diversify the skillsets and experiences of PBAs throughout California," said Erin Banwell, Co-Director of Fire Management at the Watershed Research and Training Center.

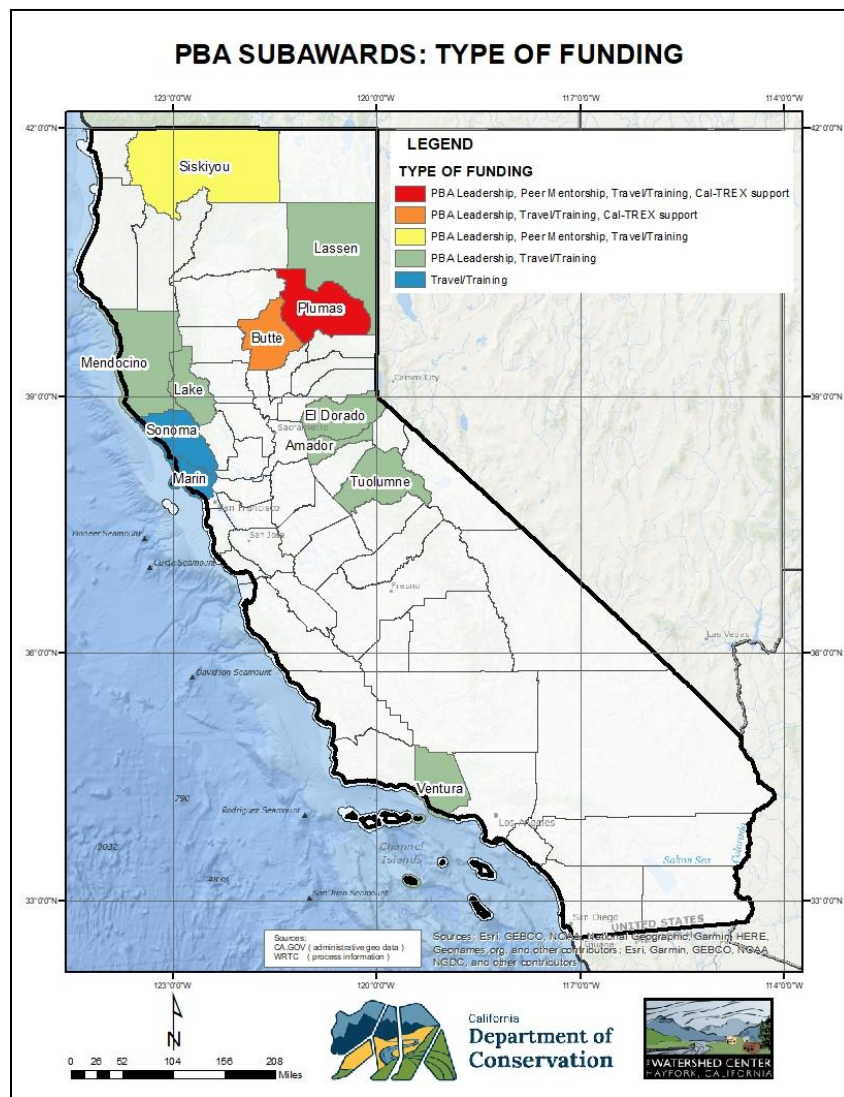
This pilot funding opportunity is intended to build local capacity and continuity, and is focused on PBA organizational development and planning for local prescribed burn objectives. The award term is through July 31st, 2024. The following nine PBAs were funded based on their demonstrated potential to build local leadership, willingness to assist other PBA peers, and commitment to training and learning opportunities.

- Butte PBA, a program of Butte County Resource and Conservation District (RCD)
- El Dorado-Amador PBA, a program of The Regents of the University of California
- Lassen PBA, a program of Honey Lake Valley RCD
- Lake PBA, a program of the Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance (TERA) and Occidental Arts and Ecology Center
- Mendocino PBA, a program of Anderson Valley Community Service District
- Motherlode PBA, a program of Tuolumne County RCD
- Plumas Underburn Cooperative, a program of Plumas Corporation-Plumas Fire Safe Council
- Siskiyou PBA, a program of Shasta Valley RCD
- Ventura County PBA, a program of Ventura County RCD

The subawards include four categories of funding type:

- **PBA Leadership**, or the coordination of community-led prescribed fire work
- **Peer Mentoring**, or the development of partnerships and information-sharing between PBAs and other land management agencies
- **Training and Travel Funding**, which may include course tuition for training opportunities, attendance time, and other travel funding support
- **Cal-TREX Funding**, or providing personnel support for Incident Management Team positions during community-led burning and training events to build local workforce capacity.

The following map displays the subaward distribution, color-coded by funding types received:



The Watershed Research and Training Center (The Watershed Center) is a non-profit organization centered on the development of local capacity for environmental stewardship. The Watershed Center's Fire Management program supports prescribed burn projects across California, with an emphasis on

training and development opportunities for local fire practitioners. As a grantee of the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program, The Watershed Center's work focuses on technical capacity building, peer networking to advance the dissemination of best practices, state policy and programming, and coordination of efforts. More information can be found at [www.thewatershedcenter.com](http://www.thewatershedcenter.com).

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