## EASTERN SIERRA LAND TRUST



250 N. Fowler St. P.O. Box 755 Bishop, CA 93515 P: (760) 873-4554 F: (760) 873-9277 www.eslt.org

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Bob Gardner
President

Marie Patrick
Vice President

Randy Keller
Secretary

Byng Hunt
Treasurer

Tim Bartley

William Dunlap
Jan Hunewill
Joanne Parsons

Brynn Pewtherer

Will Richmond

# BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS

Tony Taylor

#### **STAFF**

Kay Ogden
Executive Director
Susanna Danner

Land Conservation Program Director

Marguerite Merritt Communications Director

Lina Myers Administrative Assistant

Sara Kokkelenberg Stewardship Coordinator

Catherine Tao
Education Coordinator
and AmeriCorps
Member



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 29, 2016

CONTACT: Kay Ogden, Executive Director, at <a href="kay@eslt.org">kay@eslt.org</a> or (760) 873-4554

## Become an AmeriCorps Member with Eastern Sierra Land Trust

Do you love the Sierra? Want to help restore and protect the Range of Light, while gaining valuable environmental professional experience? Apply today to become a Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP) AmeriCorps Member with local Bishop-based nonprofit, Eastern Sierra Land Trust!

Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) is seeking an enthusiastic, conservation-minded young leader to commit to 11 months of service to help protect Sierra natural resources. As ESLT's Education Coordinator, this new full-time team member will lead and collaborate on restoration, education, and outreach projects that engage the Eastern Sierra community in local conservation efforts.

ESLT's new Education Coordinator and AmeriCorps Member will work on a variety of interesting projects with a high level of responsibility and creative freedom. He or she will lead ESLT's Eastside Pollinator Garden Project, now in its third year of certifying pollinator-friendly gardens across the Eastern Sierra region, and will be responsible for organizing youth and adult environmental education programs, field trips, seminars, workshops, and volunteer-driven stewardship events on the land.

The AmeriCorps member will also collaborate with Eastern Sierra Land Trust staff and conservation partners on important habitat restoration projects, including post-fire restoration work in the Round Valley Mule Deer herd's migration corridor, and creating habitat for a rare native fish, the Owens Speckled Dace.

The service term for this position starts on October 16, 2016, and runs through September 21, 2017. The application deadline is July 27<sup>th</sup>, so candidates are encouraged to apply soon by visiting the Sierra Nevada Alliance website, sierranevadaalliance.org.

Eastern Sierra Land Trust has hosted talented SNAP members for 6- and 11-month service terms every year since the Sierra Nevada Alliance began the program in 2007. These AmeriCorps members have conducted education and outreach within the region, helping to inform and inspire our community about land conservation and habitat restoration.

Past AmeriCorps members working with Eastern Sierra Land Trust have made a substantial impact on the Eastern Sierra community. Most notably, after serving two 11-month service terms with ESLT, Sara Kokkelenberg (now a full-time ESLT staff member), was chosen from among more than 4,000 AmeriCorps participants across the state as the winner of California's 2015 Volunteering and Service Award for AmeriCorps Member of the Year.

ESLT is a nationally-accredited organization established in 2001 to work with willing landowners and the public to protect wild and working lands in the Eastern Sierra for their scenic, agricultural, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. Thanks to community support, ESLT has partnered to permanently conserve nearly 10,500 acres of prime ranchland and farmland, critical wildlife habitat, and iconic scenic vistas.

For more information about Eastern Sierra Land Trust, the SNAP program, and this position – including specific responsibilities, qualifications, details on compensation, and how to apply – please visit ESLT's website at <a href="https://www.eslt.org">www.eslt.org</a>.

#####

Sample low-resolution images with captions are displayed below; high-resolution images are attached to email. For additional images, please contact Marguerite at marguerite@eslt.org.



Caption: Past ESLT AmeriCorps Members Alison Amberg (left) and Sara Kokkelenberg (right) made great progress on a restoration project to reintroduce the Owens Speckled Dace into the Benton Ponds. ESLT's next AmeriCorps Member will continue this conservation work.



Caption: Teaching local youth about bees, blooms, and the magic of the natural world is an important role that ESLT's next AmeriCorps Member will take on in the year ahead.