



# THE NATURE OF NEVADA

**SCIENCE.** At The Nature Conservancy, we rely on science to inform our conservation efforts. **We envision a Nevada where people come together to secure a future with healthy land, water, and wildlife, and where communities thrive for generations to come.**

- Science is behind the individual strategies built for the varying geographies, topographies and habitat needs across Nevada.
- Science brings innovative solutions to large-scale, complex challenges.
- Science is what gives us confidence that everything we do is in the best interests of our state and all who live here, today and for future generations.

**COLLABORATION.** The environmental needs of our state are bigger than what we can solve on our own, so we convene stakeholders from the community, other nonprofits and government. By working together, our ability to deliver impactful transformation on a larger scale is much greater.

**COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION.** Our efforts must work for nature and people, must consider the unique needs of both urban and rural stakeholders, and must ensure that what we do today will thrive well into the future.

When you invest in The Nature Conservancy in Nevada, you can be confident your dollars will be put to work in your backyard. For 35 years, we have built a proven track record of planting innovative solutions that, like seeds, grow and help preserve the natural resources that make Nevada great.

We are, by nature, Nevada.

## Preserving Nature for Nevadans



There's no place like Nevada. Our state is one of extremes, with some of the nation's hottest and coldest temperatures. We have the most mountain ranges in the continental U.S. and the least amount of precipitation, and more than 4,000 species of plants and animals.

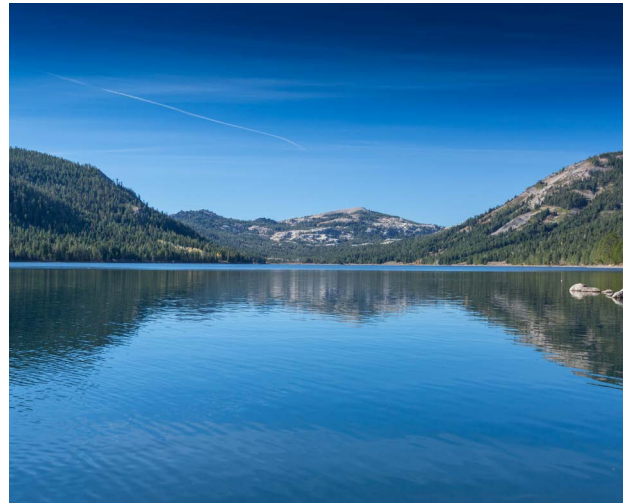
Our state teems with multi-use opportunities. We are a state of ranchers, miners, entrepreneurs, hunters and anglers, recreationists, scientists, philanthropists, students, volunteers and more. We are home to world-famous tourist destinations, military installations, and millions of acres of open space and public lands.

Protecting and preserving the nature of Nevada is our highest priority. By applying science to the varied needs of our large state, we are working toward long-term solutions in these important areas.

## Eastern Sierra Nevada

To the people and wildlife living in northern Nevada, the rivers flowing east from the Sierra and their associated tributaries, lakes and wetlands are the heart and soul of a vibrant, diverse population. These waters provide habitat for neo-tropical birds and native fish, as well as drinking water for rapidly growing communities. Protecting the quality of these waters is vital for the people and wildlife of the region to thrive. One spark on the wrong day could have decades-long impact.

In the Sierra Nevada, the current risk of catastrophic wildfires and post-fire runoff could adversely affect our water resources. Thinning the forest and returning fire to the system through prescribed burns can reduce those risks. In partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the communities of the Eastern Sierra, we are committed to delivering solutions for increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration in our critical watershed areas.



## Southern Nevada



Southern Nevada is a remarkable place full of wildlife, open lands, a thriving city, and a rich cultural history. A growing population and a changing climate require new approaches to conservation to ensure that southern Nevada remains a place where both people and nature thrive for future generations.

To meet this challenge, the Conservancy works to protect special places like the 7J Ranch through land acquisition. We work with local communities and form partnerships like the Virgin River Coalition to restore the rivers and wetlands of southern Nevada. We use our science and conservation planning expertise to help inform key public lands management decisions to restore ecosystems or plan new infrastructure smart-from-the-start. And we work in the city itself to engage future generations of Las Vegas residents to act for conservation right where they live.

## Sagebrush Ecosystems



The largest geographic ecoregion in Nevada consists mostly of high desert, where sagebrush, riparian forests, mountain habitats and 350 sagebrush-dependent species live together with some of our largest ranches and mines.

The threats imposed by wildfire, invasive species and the changing climate are all the focus of our collaborative efforts across the Great Basin. Our goal is to work with community-based groups, the BLM and other organizations to restore 200,000 acres per year, replacing invasive plants and grasses with natives. We work with ranchers to develop sustainable grazing practices that improve habitat, preserve water and provide higher quality nourishment for cattle. By restoring ecosystems, managing fire fuel loads, and establishing private and public partnerships, we will secure a future that will benefit all who live in this diverse area of Nevada.

## Nevada Water

With only 10 inches of precipitation each year, Nevada is the driest state in the nation. In the Silver State, water resources are as precious as gold and are being tapped at unprecedented levels, threatening sources of drinking water, recreation, and habitat. Using water science to support and foster informed public policy decisions around usage, protection and water efficiency is critical to our future.

As stresses such as economic and population growth in urban centers challenge supplies, we are working with state and local leaders, businesses, farmers and ranchers, landowners and the public to quantify the threats and consider our water laws and policies. We are committed to maintaining the water resiliency of Nevada through better mapping, better science and better policy overall.



## Climate Action



The daunting specter of climate change is present in every area of our work today. Lower snowfall, wildfires in our forests and basin areas, and the threat of drought all impact our day to day lives. Because our efforts are based in science, the length and breadth of our experience allows us to anticipate how longer summers and changes in precipitation affect the restoration and resiliency of our ecosystems.

Our efforts to address climate change begin with education and increased awareness in the communities we serve and all levels of government. Our unique, collaborative approach requires collective action from community leaders, businesses and policymakers. Our goals are to incentivize clean energy, boost electric vehicle deployment, apply "smart from the start" technologies, reduce greenhouse gases, and more—all to ensure a healthy planet for future generations.



# Places We Protect

[nature.org/NatureofNevada](http://nature.org/NatureofNevada)



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