

# Collaborative Stewardship Starter & Builder Kit

## *Example: Mission, Vision & Purpose*



### **Significance of Giant Sequoias & Their Ecosystems**

Giant sequoias are iconic, beloved, and exemplify beauty that has been millions of years in the making - the oldest known redwood fossils date back more than 200 million years. These forests span more than 260 miles across California's Sierra Nevada mountain range, and they can grow to more than 300 feet tall and dozens of feet wide, making them the world's most massive trees and one of the largest organisms on earth. Giant sequoia forests store more carbon from the atmosphere than any other forest ecosystem, and they support biologically diverse plant and animal communities found nowhere else on Earth.

### **Problem Statement** (threats & vulnerabilities)

The health and persistence of giant sequoias, and their mixed conifer ecosystems are threatened from numerous climate change and fire exclusion stressors, including prolonged drought, beetle attack, un-natural accumulations of fuel, and destructive and stand-replacing high-severity fire. Between 2020 and 2022, 13-19 percent of mature giant sequoias over 4 feet in diameter have been lost, and scientists are concerned about the future of the species in their natural habitat. Successful conservation and stewardship of giant sequoia groves requires consistent and collaborative management actions on a landscape scale, including research, education, and resource management, to understand threats to giant sequoia ecosystems, to gain public support, and to adaptively manage against those threats.

### **Coalition Vision**

Vigorously growing and climate-resilient giant sequoias and their ecosystems are sustained through collective stewardship, traditional ecological practices, science, and public support.

### **Coalition Mission**

To accelerate and sustain the protection, stewardship and long-term persistence of giant sequoias and their ecosystems for current and future generations.

### **Coalition Purpose**

- ✓ To collectively identify, support and advance the highest priority stewardship and other needs throughout the giant sequoia range.
- ✓ To accelerate giant sequoia forest stewardship at a landscape scale in response to a changing climate.

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- To coordinate and facilitate new research and monitoring efforts and to share information, lessons learned, and best practices.
- To raise public awareness and support of need for action, and to inspire public investment.
- To develop increased efficiencies in environmental compliance and administrative approval processes.
- To provide mutual support, staffing and resources for planning and implementing forest treatments and responding to immediate wildfire threats.

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