



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

**CITATION**

**PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION AWARD**

**WEAVERVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST**

In recognition of the success of the Trinity County Resource Conservation District and the Bureau of Land Management in implementing the Weaverville Community Forest Stewardship Project, transforming an under-utilized tract of public land into an actively managed area that is now revered by the local community.

Within north central California, the Bureau of Land Management manages many discontinuous public land parcels that adjoin communities and residential areas. These parcels receive a variety of often intensive public use and resource impacts. Without the help of community stewards, it is often difficult for the Bureau to independently achieve all resource management objectives identified for any particular public land parcel. Since 2005, the Trinity County Resource Conservation District staff has been working with the Bureau to implement the Weaverville Community Forest Stewardship Project on over 1000 acres of public lands adjacent to the town of Weaverville. They have taken a large tract of public land that once received a small amount of attention and transformed it into an actively managed area that is now utilized by the local community and recognized nationally as a model for stewardship projects. In three years, the District has worked diligently with the Bureau to accomplish many resource management projects that have transformed what was once just considered vacant public land into an area now known as the Weaverville Community Forest. The District helped to implement a forest health timber sale within the Forest that greatly reduced fire hazards on densely forested lands adjacent to private property with homes. The District located, mapped, and manually controlled invasive Scotch Broom along Weaver Creek and worked with the Bureau to do an environmental analysis for additional control of exotic Himalayan blackberry. The District also designed and assisted the Bureau with planning the Weaver Creek hiking trail project. The District has lived up to the true meaning of land stewards and turned the project into a huge success. For their outstanding stewardship to the land through collaboration between the Trinity County Resource Conservation District and the Bureau of Land Management, the Weaverville Community Forest Stewardship Project is granted the Department of the Interior's Partners in Conservation Award.