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### ESLT Welcomes New Executive Director, Kay Ogden

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The Eastern Sierra Land Trust (ESLT) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the successful completion of its Executive Director search with the appointment of Kay Ogden. Kay left her position as Associate Director of the Sierra Nevada Alliance in South Lake Tahoe to begin work as ESLT Executive Director on May 1. She brings great passion for the Eastern Sierra landscape and experience in project management, strategic planning, building connections, and leading effective programs.

Aside from her expertise in nonprofit management, Kay also has extensive creative experience. In the past, she spent 18 years operating her own design and marketing firm, and spent years as a board member of the Mono County Arts Council. "I'm thrilled to be returning to the Eastern Sierra," said Kay Ogden. "It's a wonderful feeling to be working for such an incredible organization, and I look forward to connecting with new and old friends."

Kay follows ESLT co-founder, Karen Ferrell-Ingram, who has led ESLT for the past five years. Since its inception, Karen has helped permanently preserve almost 8,000 acres of wild and working lands through partnerships with local landowners. Under her watch, ESLT has also established a vibrant Community Connections program that provides opportunities for the public to learn about and enjoy this region's special places. Tony Taylor, ESLT Board President stated, "We are confident that Kay will carry on ESLT's successful land protection program as well as our strong community oriented tradition, and we look forward to her energy, insight and leadership as we move into this new chapter of our organization."

An avid long-distance cyclist, Kay has participated in the celebrated 750 mile / 1200 km Paris – Brest – Paris (PBP) race, which she successfully completed in less than 90 hours. Other notable biking experiences under her belt include the year-long world ride called Odyssey 2000 and a month spent traversing the Himalayan Plateau. She also enjoys gardening, canning fresh locally-grown food and hiking with her partner Jeff Boone and their rescued German Shepherd, Rush Creek.

ESLT works with willing landowners to preserve vital lands in the Eastern Sierra for their scenic, agricultural, natural, recreational, historical, and watershed values. ESLT's goal is to preserve a healthy balance of land uses that can be sustained forever, ensuring both a strong local economy and environment. For more information about ESLT's mission, visit our website at [www.eslt.org](http://www.eslt.org).

