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### **MAPF Executive Director Seeks New Horizons**

Truckee, CA- After nearly four years of serving as Mountain Area Preservation Foundation's (MAPF) first executive director, Kaitlin Backlund announced she will be leaving in January to pursue new career interests.

"I am so appreciative of having had the opportunity to work with MAPF's membership and board of directors to preserve Truckee's small town character and to help protect these beautiful mountains we all call home," said Backlund, an 8-yr resident of Truckee and native of Lake Tahoe. "I look forward to celebrating MAPF's 25th Anniversary next year," she continued noting that she will remain in Truckee.

As MAPF's executive director, Backlund has been a presence at Planning Commission and Town Council meetings, advocating on behalf of MAPF for smart land use decisions and working with business and environmental groups on a number of land conservation efforts.

During her tenure, the 200-member MAPF came to support Truckee's largest infill proposal, the Railyard Master Plan, and helped develop environmentally sensitive plans for the Old Corp Yard site on West River Street. MAPF also helped preserve Truckee's historic ski hill and developed foundational environmental policies that were adopted as a part of the Hilltop Master Plan. Backlund secured funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy on MAPF's behalf to restore the Trout Creek Pocket Park (a project that is expected to move forward in 2012) and worked with MAPF members to protect McGlashan Springs.

"MAPF is growing and is becoming the go-to organization in the Truckee region for those interested in smart-growth and protecting the environment," said John Eaton, MAPF's Board President. "We are grateful for the skill and expertise Kaitlin has brought to MAPF's work and look forward to building on her success," he continued, noting the group will seek a new executive director.

Founded in 1987, Mountain Area Preservation Foundation is a Truckee based non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the Truckee region's community character and natural environment for present and future generations. MAPF was the first in California to support mitigating new development with the application of a conservation transfer fee. As of this year, \$4 million has been generated for open space purchases and restoration projects in the Truckee region.

MAPF is currently working to protect open space in Martis Valley, Donner Summit and in eastern Truckee in addition to participating in community decisions on proposed development projects including: Canyon Springs, Planned Community 1 (Coldstream) and Planned Community 3 (Joerger Ranch).

For more information go to [www.mapf.org](http://www.mapf.org).

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