

Nevada . Plumas . Sierra

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Northeast CA Counties FILM COMMISSION

The **Northeast California Counties Film Commission** was launched in the autumn of 2012 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, California tax-exempt #3510305; our federal tax-exempt status is STILL pending in the IRS's backlog (14 months and counting -- their application states the processing time will be 4-6 months...sigh).

In facilitating 6 small-by-industry-standard filming projects for our 4-county region while still ramping-up in 2013 (which conservatively [generated nearly \\$175K in revenue](#) as this figure is non-inclusive of after-hours crew spending) **we also received numerous letters of support for our economic development efforts (City of Chico, City of Oroville, Nevada City Chamber of Commerce, Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Plumas County Tourism (TRH) Council), plus the active participation of two seasoned filmmakers on our Advisory Board** -- yet we were still unable to secure the primary funding needed from each of the counties to establish the base operating capital for our nonprofit film office in following the model of all other nonprofit film offices both here in CA as well as elsewhere in the U.S. The provision of this core operating capital was critical for our organization's existence, especially as all our services were provided **free of charge** to production companies and location scouts/managers as is the industry norm.

So of the \$172,810 of new revenue we facilitated for our region, our organization received NO compensation -- nor have we received ANY funding whatsoever due to the sequencing issues unique to this endeavor -- including this untenable IRS delay. So after 16 months of arduous full-time effort in launching this new 4-county enterprise, we've come to the end of this good-faith effort and have to shut our doors as, like any business, it's simply impossible for us to continue operating without capital.

[Read a parting synopsis](#) authored for the community here in Nevada County where the film commission was based (published in The Union newspaper 1-20-2014).

To production companies & location professionals:

We're as disappointed as you are that we WON'T be able to assist you with regional filming...

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Film Commissioner [S.A. "Sam" Jernigan](#) was interviewed on the "Fitzsimmons & Flores" radio show on October 3, 2013 -- [listen now...](#)

On-location filming projects we facilitated in 2013: (NOTE: links will open in new browser window.)

- [Hotel Impossible](#) (Travel Channel)
- [Range Rover commercial](#)
- [Music video](#) for Lost in Atlantis
- [Hotel Impossible - Undercover](#), follow-up episode (Travel Channel)
- John Deere commercial
- [Wells Fargo photo shoot](#)

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For the record, here's a [detailed synopsis](#) of our production development efforts, along with a September 2013 [recap of filming projects](#) we were procuring for our region. (NOTE: documents will open in a new browser window.)

The Northeast CA Counties Film Commission was [appointed by the Board of Supervisors](#) to officially to represent Nevada County via unanimous Resolution vote on 12-11-2012 -- and we will now be requesting they rescind this appointment as no county funds were subsequently allocated so as to actually equip our organization for this sizable task.

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A special note of thanks to **Brian Nakamura (City Manager of Chico)**, **Supervisor Lee Adams (Sierra County)**, and **Karen Moritz (Plumas County Tourism Council)** for their significant efforts on our behalf. While we received almost unilateral goodwill and gained a wide array of supporters from elected officials and key community leaders in all 4 counties during this protracted regional endeavor, you three each went *above & beyond*...and we're truly grateful.

"It's been a pleasure working at The Holbrooke this weekend. Grass Valley has been a delight to stay in. I can't thank you enough for your hospitality. Thank you too for all of the support. You made prepping for this shoot very easy for us."

-- Teresa Palaia, Associate Producer
"Hotel Impossible" (Travel Channel)