Project Partner: Inyo National Forest

**History:** In the 1800s, Big Bend was a popular pit stop for those traveling West over Donner Summit looking to strike it rich in the California Gold Rush. The Stevens Townsend Murphy Party set up their camp in this location in 1844, four years before California became a state. Their camp encouraged more travelers and settlers to the area, and by the 20th century, the town of Big Bend was booming due to its location next to a natural hot springs. In the 1930s, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company began construction on a hydroelectric dam in the area. This brought several new jobs and settlers to Big Bend and several new buildings were added including the barn, firehouse and residences.

**Scope of Work:** This project tackled the first phase of preservation work at Big Bend Barn. Work included:

- Re-roofing the building
- Repairing the foundation
- Repairing and repainting north and east elevation siding
- Rehanging the north door

*HistoriCorps is a service learning partner of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture committed to the preservation and stewardship of significant resources on public lands.*