



Sustainable Forest Action Coalition
542 Main St., Placerville, CA 95667

Organization Representatives
Laurel Brent-Bumb: (530) 621 5885
chamber@eldoradocounty.org

Bill Wickman: (530) 283 0973
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109 Cottonwood Ct. Quincy

**Participating
Representation from
the following:**

January 3, 2014

CALIFORNIA

Amador
Butte
Calaveras
Del Norte
El Dorado
Glenn
Inyo
Lassen
Modoc
Nevada
Placer
Plumas
Sacramento
Shasta
Siskiyou
Sierra
Tehama
Trinity
Tuolumne
Yuba

OREGON

Curry
Douglas
Jackson
Klamath
Josephine
Lake

NEVADA

Nye

The Honorable Senator Diane Feinstein
The Honorable Senator Barbara Boxer
The Honorable Senator Dean Heller
The Honorable Congressman Doug LaMalfa
The Honorable Congressman Tom McClintock
The Honorable Congressman Ami Bera
The Honorable Congressman Jeff Denham
The Honorable Congressman Jim Costa
The Honorable Congressman Kevin McCarthy
The Honorable Congressman Devin Nunes
The Honorable Congressman Jared Huffman
The Honorable Congressman John Garamendi
The Honorable Congressman Mark Amodei
The Honorable Congressman Greg Walden

RE: The Sustainable Forest Action Coalition (SFAC)

Honorable Senators and Congressman:

The Sustainable Forest Action Coalition (SFAC) has planned a Rural Counties Economic Summit to meet with all of our Federal representatives to provide the opportunity for you to learn more about our group and members. During these challenging social and economic times, SFAC has worked hard to provide input on proposed legislation as well as existing legislation that has profound impacts on our counties, their communities, business, education, health and individuals. SFAC has only been in existence for three years, but during that time period we have seen tremendous interest and growth in whom we are and who we represent. Currently we have support and supporters from 20 counties in California, 5 counties in southern Oregon and Nye County Nevada. In addition, we also have support from individual groups in Arkansas, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. These supporters come from a large cross section of elected officials, Chambers of Commerce, Farm Bureaus, Fire Safe Councils, Timber Industry, Water Agencies, Education and individuals who have voiced an interest in our efforts.

The main objective of SFAC is to work at the State and Federal level to provide information and comment on natural resource issues that impact our social and economic wellbeing. Many of our counties continue to have high unemployment rates and the only way we feel we can address this is through a recognition of the many regulatory barriers that impact wise use of our natural resources and the creation of jobs that go along with that use. SFAC feels the only way this wise use and job creation can occur is to address regulatory reform to restore our forests and watersheds and other natural resources to a healthy condition to provide an opportunity for rural community economic stability. By meeting this objective, the coalition also recognizes the benefits that managing to improve watershed and forest health provide and furthering our efforts in protecting our natural resources from large wildfires. SFAC works separately from the Board of Supervisor's but in a parallel fashion to try and add additional input and support to natural resource issues that impact our county's economic and social wellbeing. SFAC is not an organization financially supported by the represented County Board of Supervisors and Commissioners, or other groups, but works as an independent coalition to address our common social and economic issues.

The SFAC is hopeful that you will all recognize that we have support from a larger geographical area than just one state. As such, it is our desire to work with all of you on our common issues and impacts. If you visit our web site as www.sfacoalition.com, you will find the list of our support base.

Proposed agenda:

Introductions

Overview of SFAC- who are we and what have we done to date

Discuss Specific Issues that have social and economic implications

Secure Rural Schools

NEPA and Planning

Watershed impacts and losses due to catastrophic wildfire

Stewardship

Equal Access to Justice

EPA – Boiler Rule, Endangered Species

Grazing

Hazardous Fuels and resource management allocations

As we all try to find ways to do more with less, it is critical that we review the specific legislation and regulations that have not been reviewed for decades. For all of us to accomplish wise management of our impacted watersheds, forests and overall ecosystem, with fewer appropriations, we must also work together to be more efficient. This will only occur through reasonable change.

Our rural counties continue to be directly impacted by all of the above issues. It is beyond time to review issues and legislation and agency mandates that are destroying our social and economic wellbeing. All of our counties are seeing continued lose of jobs, school and hospital closures and as a result, small businesses having to close and our young families moving away. Our States and rural counties should not be where our population can only survive in or urban areas, but where we can provide an environment and opportunity to properly manage our natural resources and offer young families the opportunity to raise their children in these small rural counties.

As our Representatives to our Senatorial and Congressional members, you are critical to SFAC and our rural counties survival. SFAC is hopeful that we can work together and coordinate efforts that meet the above objectives and concerns. SFAC feels strongly that we can work together on natural resource issues that confront our counties and look forward to striking a productive working relationship. We are hopeful that you will be able to attend the SFAC Rural Counties Economic Summit that we have scheduled for **February 28, 2014**. This meeting will assist all parties in gaining a better understanding of how we can work together on common issues to strengthen our counties social and economic wellbeing.

Meeting Location and time:
Sacramento
1415 L Street, Suite 300
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sincerely,



Bill Wickman and Laurel Brent Bumb
Co-Spokespersons for SFAC