



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
billwickman@sbcglobal.net
109 Cottonwood Ct. Quincy

**Participating
Representation from
the following:**

May 30, 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

Coos
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 Senator Ron Wyden
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 our third Rural Counties Economic Summit to meet with all of our Federal representatives to provide the opportunity to continue working together and for new members to learn more about our group. Most of our rural counties continue to have 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 continued to gain support since our February 2014 meeting in Sacramento and we now have support and supporters from 23 counties in California, 7 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 and Commissioners, 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

- Drought and how forest management can assist

- Fire Settlements and why our counties should be included

- Current ESA legislation proposals

- Are Collaboratives working

- Presentation from the National Forest Foundation

Currently there are many pieces of legislation that have been introduced that address various changes to existing regulations. SFAC and our supporters feel that there is a need to recognize that there must be changes to existing legislation that has been used to regulate management on public lands from thirty to forty years or more. We have learned that many of the well meaning Acts need to be modified to allow for proper and necessary management of our public lands.

Not only are our rural counties directly impacted by all of the above issues, we are recognizing that our ecosystems and species are also being adversely impacted. Our counties are seeing continued loss of jobs, school and hospital closures and as a result, small businesses having to close and our young families moving away. In addition, with the increase in size and intensity of wildfires, we are losing the very ecosystems that many of the existing Acts intended to protect.

SFAC looks forward to continue to build on our working relationship with our Representatives, as you are critical to SFAC and our rural counties survival through reasonable protection of our public lands. We are hopeful that you will be able to attend the SFAC Rural Counties Economic Summit that we have scheduled for June **27 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:

Redding, CA

The McConnell Foundation

800 Shasta View Drive

Headquarters Building

<http://www.mcconnellfoundation.org/lema/directions>

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sincerely,



Bill Wickman and Laurel Brent Bumb
Co-Spokespersons for SFAC