

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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April 5, 2022

The Honorable Tom McClintock
U.S. House of Representatives
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
U.S. House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 6903 – Wildfire Suppression Legislation – SUPPORT

Dear Congressmen McClintock and LaMalfa:

On behalf of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our support for your legislation (H.R. 6903) that would direct the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to immediately suppress all wildfires, excluding prescribed fires, on National Forest System (NFS) lands. If fires are allowed to burn without immediate containment, we fear that it could put the health and safety of our residents in jeopardy.

As you are both well aware, longer fire seasons, increased development in the wildland-urban interface, and millions of acres of forests with fuel loads exceeding the historic range of variability have all contributed to the record-setting blazes the West has experienced in recent years. Moreover, after a particularly dry start to the year, California is headed toward a third year of severe drought. The Sierra Nevada range, in particular, will continue to experience excessive drying forest conditions. The lack of moisture on the ground will essentially convert large swaths of forest land into mountains of tinder. While we recognize that there may be value in managing some wildfires for ecological benefit, swift fire suppression – together with aggressive fuels reduction activities – may well be the best tactic for the foreseeable future, given the unprecedented strain on our NFS lands.

Thank you for your strong support and ongoing leadership on this issue. The current wildfire situation demands our most immediate and serious attention. Again, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors is pleased to endorse H.R. 6903. If you have any questions or if you need any additional information, please feel free to contact our federal representative, Hasan Sarsour, at 202-898-1444 or hs@paragonlobbying.com.

Sincerely,

Susan Hoek, Chair
Nevada County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Alex Padilla
House Committee on Natural Resources
House Committee on Agriculture
Rural County Representatives of California
California State Association of Counties