Sweeney Proposed Letter re USFS Rule Making

Secretary of Agriculture

Regional Forester Region 5

Forest Supervisor, El Dorado National Forest

Re: Proposed Planning Rule for the National Forest System Land Management COORDINATION Proposed Section 219.4 vs. 1982 Section 219.7

Mr. Secretary and Regional Forester:

The County of El Dorado is a duly constituted "Local Agency" and, as such, is independent from other local agencies, Regional Organizations, the State of California. We have needs of a local nature very independent to our specific constituents! We therefore believe that our efforts to coordinate with the United States Forest Service must be taken separately and apart from others. We have plans and policies that are different from others and are specific to the needs of our residents and visitors.

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B:47 am, Mar 08, 2011

While we endorse the efforts illustrated in the letter by Fred Kelly Grant, Ltd. Dated February 23, 2011, we make these comments separately and independently.

We believe in the strong local relationship between the local Forest Supervisor that we have had on a continuing basis. That relationship can be enhanced with a simple modification to the proposed planning rule.

(The following is from page 4 of the Grant letter, agenda page 119 11-0225 F.4) We urge reconsideration of the text of Section 219.4 of the Proposed 2011 Planning Rules as to coordination. The Section alters dramatically the elements of mutual participation that make up the Congressional requirement that the Forest Service "coordinate" with local governments. We urge that Section 219.7 of the 1982 Planning Rules be substituted for the proposed Section 219.4 as to coordination. Section 219.7 complies with the Congressional mandate of coordination and definition of coordination.

Your consideration and coordination of this revision will be appreciated and will lend a way to successful relationships between local governments and the Forest Service in the future.

Respectfully,

Raymond Nutting, Chairman