COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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March 22, 2011

Chief Thomas L. Tidwell United States Forest Service Mail Stop 1144 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250

Tony Took, Director Ecosystem Management Coordination United States Forest Service 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250-1104

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

Dear Chief Tidwell and Director Tooke:

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

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 desire to maintain the strong and continual relationship we have with our local Forest Supervisor. This relationship can be enhanced with a simple modification to the proposed planning rule.

"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

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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 is appreciated and will lend a way to successful relationships between local governments and the Forest Service in the future.

Respectfully,

Raymond Nutting, Chairman

Board of Supervisors

cc: Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Randy Moore, Regional Forester, USFS - Pacific Southwest Region 5

Ramiro Villalvazo, Forest Supervisor, USFS Eldorado Forest