

DEPARTMENT: Board of Supervisors

BY: Supervisor Turpin

PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

PowerPoint Presentation by Sierra Nevada Conservancy; Adopt a Resolution of Commitment to Work Together with Sierra Nevada Communities and Appropriate Agencies, to Identify, Initiate, and Support Actions Necessary to Achieve the Long-Term Environmental, Economic and Social Well-Being of the Sierra Nevada Region

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Financial Impact? () Yes (X) No	Current FY Cost: \$	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$ _____		List Attachments, number pages consecutively _____
Additional Funding Needed: \$ _____		Resolution _____
Source:		_____
Internal Transfer _____		_____
Unanticipated Revenue _____ 4/5's vote		_____
Transfer Between Funds _____ 4/5's vote		_____
Contingency _____ 4/5's vote		_____
() General () Other		_____

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 10-396 Ord. No. _____
 Vote - Ayes: 5 Noes: _____
 Absent: _____
 Approved
 () Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

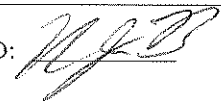
The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____
 Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
 County of Mariposa, State of California

By: _____
 Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Requested Action Recommended
 No Opinion
 Comments: _____

CAO: 

MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER 10-396

A RESOLUTION OF COMMITMENT TO WORK TOGETHER WITH SIERRA NEVADA COMMUNITIES AND APPROPRIATE AGENCIES, TO IDENTIFY, INITIATE AND SUPPORT ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE SIERRA NEVADA REGION

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Region is California's principal watershed and the origin of sixty-five percent of the State's developed water supply; serves as one of the State's premiere recreation and tourism destinations for more than fifty million visitor days each year; provides between one-third and one-half of the State's annual timber harvest; produces nearly three-quarters of the State's hydroelectric power; is home to two-thirds of the State's bird and mammal species, half of the State's plant species, and more than 600,000 humans; and

WHEREAS, much of the Sierra Nevada forestlands are in an ecologically unhealthy condition, including public lands managed by the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, while fire is an important part of the ecosystem and can have a positive ecological impact, large damaging fires in the Sierra Nevada can result in a wide variety of negative impacts including loss of life and property, adverse human health impacts from poor air quality, reduced recreational and tourism opportunities and other significant economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, large damaging fires result in degraded water and air quality, and altered wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, many Sierra Nevada forests are showing signs of declining biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, large damaging fires result in reduced amounts of carbon stored in the forests; and

WHEREAS, land management agencies, Fire Safe Councils and other entities are engaged in ongoing efforts to reduce the risk of large damaging fires with many efforts focused on the urban wildland interface, the need for additional investment for these types of activity is evident; and

WHEREAS, many Sierra communities continue to struggle with economic vitality and sustainability even beyond the current national economic conditions, with unemployment rates in many Sierra Counties significantly higher than the National and State averages; and

WHEREAS, traditional economic activity related to wood products has been in decline in recent decades signaling a need to diversify local economies by protecting existing infrastructure while promoting new economic opportunities at the appropriate scale; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has established aggressive goals to increase the amount of energy supplied from renewable sources, including biomass energy; and

WHEREAS, sustainable forest stewardship can result in improved ecological health of forests, including sufficient habitat conditions, increased carbon storage, continued recreational use and high water quality; and

WHEREAS, sustainable forest management can result in a reliable supply of biomass that could be converted to renewable energy in a sustainable manner, as well as a variety of wood products, including dimensional lumber and "value added" products, creating an opportunity for locally based economically sustainable jobs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we declare that it is our intent to work collaboratively, constructively and in a transparent manner, with State and Federal agencies, local and tribal governments, the environmental/conservation community, and the private sector, to improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region by:

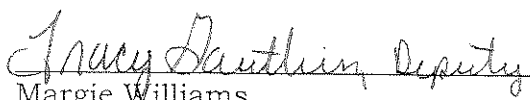
- Identifying, supporting, and implementing actions that will reduce the risk of large damaging fires in our forests and wildlands and in our communities;
- Identifying, supporting, and implementing actions that will result in ecologically healthy forests and watersheds, protecting habitat and species, water supply, and water and air quality, and the long-term sequestration of carbon in plants and soil;
- Identifying, supporting, and implementing actions that will create ecologically and economically sustainable local jobs and economic activity resulting directly and indirectly from sustainable forest stewardship activities, including but not limited to, biomass energy, biofuels, "value added" wood products, dimensional wood products, other commercial wood products and the activities necessary to produce these products;
- Identifying, supporting, and implementing actions that will result in protection and restoration of plant and wildlife habitat through increased resiliency, diversity and species composition post treatment;
- Identifying, supporting, and implementing policies, investment and technical support that will assist in achieving these objectives;
- Identifying, supporting, and applying current research and science to assist in achieving these objectives.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Mariposa County this 10th day of August, 2010 by unanimous vote.

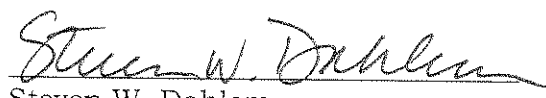


Kevin Cann, Chairman
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:


Margie Williams
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel