RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Consider adopting a resolution addressing the management of the Sierra Nevada national forests, urging the Forest Service to work in cooperation with Mariposa County and the State of California to develop and implement strategic comprehensive and integrated timber stand and watershed management plans that will provide for reduced potential of stand replacing fires, enhanced watershed yields and quality, improved wildlife habitat, increased bio-diversity, sustainable livestock grazing and superior recreational activities. The resolution would also ask the U.S. Forest Service to give timberland and watershed management the utmost priority in all federal policy decision making.

Mariposa County has a definite interest in the management of the Sierra Nevada national forests for economic, recreational, and fire safety reasons. Because parts of the Sierra and Stanislaus national forests lie within the County, it is in our best interest to stay active and involved in all decisions regarding the management of these forests.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

In the past the Board has taken an active interest in the management of the Sierra and Stanislaus national forests.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not adopt the resolution. No action may limit the involvement of Mariposa County in future forest management issues.
TO: DOUG BALMAIN, District II Supervisor

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Management of the Sierra Nevada National Forests; Res. 99-7

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on January 5, 1999

ACTION AND VOTE:

Consider Adopting a Resolution Addressing Management of the Sierra Nevada National Forests (Supervisor Balmain)

BOARD ACTION: (M)Parker, (S)Balmain, Res. 99-7 adopted. Dick Kunstman provided input relative to concerns he has on the proposed resolution. Tom Efird, U. S. F. S. District Ranger, stated the Forest Service recognizes the need to work with counties and he sees this as moving toward that cooperation. Discussion was held. Ayes: Unanimous.

cc: File
RESOLUTION
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SIERRA NEVADA NATIONAL FORESTS

WHEREAS, in 1891 the United States Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act granting to the President of the United States the authority to "set apart and reserve, in any State or Territory having public land bearing forests... with timber or undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not, as public reservations"; and

WHEREAS, in 1897 the United States Congress passed the Sundry Civil Appropriations Act which directed that the forest reserves were established "... for the purpose of securing favorable conditions of water flows, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of the citizens of the United States"; and

WHEREAS, in 1905 the President of the United States transferred some sixty-three million acres of forest reserves to the Bureau of Forestry which was renamed the United States Forest Service with the reserves subsequently being renamed National Forests, and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service, under its first chief, Gifford Pinchot, embarked on a program to manage the National Forests in accordance with the enabling acts of 1891 and 1897 with the philosophy of providing for "...the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run," and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress has directed that National Forests be administered under the dual policies of Sustained-Yield and Multiple-Use of all resources to ensure that all forest users benefit from the resources these lands provide, and that all renewable resources are to be utilized at a high-sustained level of productivity and in harmonious relationship with each other, (Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960); and

WHEREAS, public lands should be made available for their best use under conditions that promote stability for communities and individuals and encourage full development of the resources involved; (Multiple-Use and Sustained-Yield Act of 1960); and

WHEREAS, "The productivity of suitable forest lands should be maintained and enhanced to minimize the inflationary impacts of wood product prices on the domestic economy and permit a net export of forests products by the year 2030;" (Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resource Planning Act of 1974); and

WHEREAS, in 1994 the State of California joined with the Federal Government to establish the "Calfed" process, a cooperative effort to address ecological concerns in the Bay-Delta region, and the Regional Council of Rural Counties requested that the Calfed process recognize the significance and interrelationship of the watersheds lying above the Central Valley reservoirs and develop comprehensive and integrated watershed management plans; and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service is considering new management plans for the Sierra Nevada National Forests;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors urges the Forest Service to work in cooperation with the County of Tuolumne and the State of California in the development and implementation of strategic, comprehensive, and integrated timber stand and watershed management plans which will provide for reduced potential of stand replacing fires, enhanced watershed yields and quality, improved wildlife habitat, increased bio-diversity, sustainable livestock grazing and superior recreational activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Forests provide their fair share of the nation's demand for wood products while reducing the necessity for wood imports; and

THAT IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that in recognition of the long standing Federal efforts to wisely manage both timber and watershed resources, that the County of Tuolumne calls upon the U.S. Forest Service to take active and aggressive action in refocusing efforts to give timberland and watershed management the utmost priority in all Federal policy decision making.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE ON __Dec 1____ 1998

AYES: 1st Dist. __Rotelli__
   2nd Dist. __Rountree__
   3rd Dist. __Mraz__
   4th Dist. __Rounts__
   5th Dist. __Reand__

NOES: ______ Dist. None

ABSENT: ______ Dist. None

ABSTAIN: ______ Dist. None

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Fergy A. Rotelli

ATTEST: __John M. Boyett__

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

No. __245-98__