

DEPARTMENT: Board

BY: Supervisor Pickard

PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes ___ No X)

Resolution authorizing Chairman of the Board to sign a letter commenting on the Christmas tree proposal to the U.S. Forest Service Supervisor of the Stanislaus National Forest.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

COSTS: (x) Not Applicable

A. Budgeted current FY \$ _____

B. Total anticipated costs \$ _____

C. Required additional funding \$ _____

D. Internal transfers \$ _____

SOURCE: () 4/5ths Vote Required

A. Unanticipated revenues \$ _____

B. Reserve for contingencies \$ _____

C. Source description: _____

Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved: \$ _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No.: 99-222 Ord. No. _____

Vote - Ayes: 4 Noes: _____

Absent: Willey Abstained: _____

Approved Willey () Denied

() 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

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended

Not Recommended

For Policy Determination

Submitted with Comment

Returned for Further Action

Comment: _____

C.A.O. Initials: JP

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors



District 1.....PATTI A. REILLY
District 2.....DOUG BALMAIN
District 3.....ROBERT C. STEWART
District 4.....GARRY R. PARKER
District 5.....BOB PICKARD

JANET HOGAN
County Administrative Officer

MARGIE WILLIAMS
Clerk of the Board

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September 7, 1999

VIA FACISIMILE

Ben L. del Villar, Forest Supervisor
Stanislaus National Forest
19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, California 95370

RE: Christmas Tree Proposal

Dear Forest Supervisor del Villar:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal for Stanislaus National Forest to sell Christmas tree permits. The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors supports public access to the resources that are available in our national forests, but the proposal to sell permits for personal use Christmas trees has raised some concerns.

Most people prefer their Christmas trees to be as symmetrical as possible and we believe that these trees have the greatest value to the public as a fully developed tree in the forest. Our other concern is the financial impact this proposal could possibly have on Christmas tree retailers, particularly in rural areas. Many non-profit organizations sell Christmas trees to help fund their worthwhile causes and this proposal could create financial hardships. Finally, it appears your administrative costs are greater than any public benefit to come from the program.

For the reasons stated above, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors is opposed to the Stanislaus National Forest selling permits for personal use Christmas Trees. Again, thank you the opportunity to provide comments on this proposal.

Sincerely,

BOB PICKARD
Chairman

BP/mbh

cc: Senator Boxer
Congress Member Radanovich
Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors
Regional Council of Rural Counties
California State Association of Counties
Board of Supervisors

bcc: Margie Williams, Clerk of the Board

c:\mbh\winword\board\pickard\Christmas Tree Proposal