

County of Placer Board of Supervisors

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BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

SUZANNE JONES
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



March 23, 2022

The Honorable Tom McClintock
United States House of Representatives
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, CA 20515

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
United States House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, CA 20515

RE: H.R. 6903—Wildfire Suppression Bill—SUPPORT

Dear Representatives McClintock and LaMalfa,

On behalf of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, I write to support your efforts to reduce catastrophic wildfires with your recently introduced bill H.R. 6903 "To requires the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfires, and for other purposes." With overgrown forest lands across the West stricken by drought, it is essential that we respond quickly to wildfires to prevent them from threatening lives, communities, and infrastructure in Placer County.

Your bill calls upon "all available resources to carry out wildfire suppression." An example of this approach in action was the River Fire, which threatened the community of Colfax, California, in August of 2021. This fire destroyed 142 structures and parts of critical infrastructure but was prevented from destroying the entire Colfax community because of a well-resourced and responsive firefighting network. Placer County urges all necessary federal resources to be made available to the United States Forest Service, including funding, equipment, and staff to suppress wildfires in order protect communities and infrastructure.

Thank you both for your continued effort to make western forest management and rural community fire safety a high-profile issue in Congress. With your assistance, we are making significant progress towards community fire safety and forest thinning efforts in Placer County. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help in further supporting your respective offices on this matter.

Sincerely,

COUNTY of PLACER

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cindy Gustafson".

Cindy Gustafson, Chair (District 5)

Cc: The Honorable Members of the House Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Holland and Knight



PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE: 144 Ferguson Road
Gray Allen, District 1
Primo Santini, District 2
Mike Lee, District 3
Robert Dugan, District 4
Joshua Alpine, District 5
Auburn, CA 95604
PHONE: (530) 823-4850
FAX: (800) 464-0030
WWW.PCWA.NET

March 22, 2022

Sent via Email

The Honorable Tom McClintock
United States House of Representatives
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, CA 20515

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
United States House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, CA 20515

Subject: Support for Wildfire Suppression Bill

Dear Representatives McClintock and LaMalfa,

The Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) writes to support your efforts to reduce catastrophic wildfires with your recently introduced bill “[t]o require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfires, and for other purposes.” With overgrown forest lands across the West stricken by drought, it is essential that we respond quickly to wildfires to prevent them from threatening lives, communities, and infrastructure in Placer County.

Your bill calls upon “all available resources to carry out wildfire suppression.” An example of this approach in action was the River Fire, which threatened the community of Colfax, California, in August of 2021. This fire destroyed 142 structures and parts of PCWA’s water system but was prevented from destroying the entire Colfax community because of a well resourced and responsive firefighting network. PCWA supports the intent of your bill to maximize the coordination of local, state, and federal resources to protect communities and infrastructure.

Thank you both for your continued diligence and effort to make western forest management and rural community fire safety a high-profile issue in Congress. With your help, we are making significant progress towards community fire safety and forest thinning efforts in Placer County. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help in further supporting your respective offices on this matter.

Sincerely,

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Andrew Fecko
General Manager



03/23/2022

Congressman Tom McClintock
Roseville District Office
2200A Douglas Blvd., Suite 240
Roseville, CA 95661

RE: Support of HR 6903/Fire Suppression Bill

Dear Congressman McClintock,

The City of Rocklin would like to express our **support** of the **HR 6903/Fire Suppression Bill** that you and Congressman LaMalfa have brought to Congress. The City of Rocklin supports efforts that improve fire suppression and prevention, and HR 6903 will protect the region through swift and targeted responses to wildfires. The U.S. Forest Service must act quickly to suppress fires that burn on Forest Service lands in order to protect the health and safety of residents in the region.

Allowing wildfires to burn without containment causes a drain on local community resources and decreases air quality for our residents, impacting the most vulnerable among our population. The cancellation of events and outdoor activities due to wildfire smoke also stifles economic development, resident activities, and tourism.

The Sierra Foothills region continues to experience excessive drought and drying forest conditions. If wildfires are allowed to burn without containment, the health and safety of the residents of this region will be in jeopardy. It is vital that wildfires are controlled and extinguished as soon as possible in order to protect the safety and livelihood of thousands of families in Rocklin and beyond.

For these reasons, the City of Rocklin **Supports HR 6903**.

Sincerely,

Bill Halldin
Mayor, City of Rocklin



City Council
311 Vernon Street
Roseville, California 95678

March 24, 2022

The Honorable Tom McClintock
Member of Congress
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Wildfire Suppression – Support

Dear Congressman McClintock:

On behalf of our community, I am writing to express our support of your Wildfire Suppression bill. Wildfires have become a devastating and deadly occurrence throughout the state in recent years. Unfortunately, California continues to experience longer wildfire seasons as a direct result of extended dry conditions with above normal temperatures that leave fuel moisture levels lower than normal, which increases the potential for wildland fire activity. These catastrophic events have led to loss of life, property and untold losses to businesses throughout the state. Wildfires, and the economic disruption they cause, have a massive economic impact on our region and it is imperative that the federal response to fires on National Forrest System lands are handled effectively and in a timely manner.

California is still contending with the aftermath of the extensive damage caused by the disturbing wildfires that have burned millions of acres and destroyed thousands of structures. Exactly how much these fires will cost and how long it will take the state to recover from the significant damage to property, infrastructure and natural landscapes still remains to be seen. It is essential that proactive steps are taken to reduce the risks and costs to the state and local governments.

Two critical elements of effective response to fires on National Forest System lands are cooperation between fire agencies and coordinated wildfire suppression practices. During a fire, the interaction between the US Forrest Service, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire-State) and local fire agencies such as Placer County Fire is essential to a successful response to a fire. Unfortunately, over the years we have encountered US Forest Service fire management issues that were not aligned with Cal Fire-State forest management practices. These events are problematic and can lead to more devastating fires. Furthermore, the US Forest Service's inability to manage controlled burns that get out of control and result in their request for support from State and local agencies has been an issue for years. These situations result in keeping local and State government assets at fires for longer than needed, which can have significant financial implications for both State and local governments.

For the sake of California's wildfire victims, we should all expect the state and federal governments to work together to ensure they have the resources and support needed to respond to these fires. We should also expect similar cooperation in proactively managing forests and reducing fuels to help prevent costly devastation in the future. It is for these reasons that the City of Roseville supports your legislation regarding suppression of wildfires.

Please contact Mark Wolinski, Government Relations Administrator at mwolinski@roseville.ca.us or 916.774.5179 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KB', is written over a horizontal line.

Krista Bernasconi,
Mayor

cc: Mike Miller, The Ferguson Group
Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves and Son



March 22, 2022

Congressman Tom McClintock
Roseville District Office
2200A Douglas Blvd., Suite 240
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Support of HR6903/Immediate Suppression of Wildfires

Dear Congressman McClintock,

On March 22, 2022 the Amador County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to support HR6903 which you and Congressman LaMalfa have introduced in the House of Representatives, directing the U.S. Forest Service to immediately suppress wildfires on national forest system lands and put an end to the policy of letting fires burn.

Thank you for your diligent work in regards to support you provided to areas of Amador County that were threatened or impacted by the horrific Caldor Fire and the devastating Tamarack Fire. The Board stands behind your efforts and agrees that letting fires burn is a substantial safety risk which can result in loss of homes and diminish livelihood for all that are impacted.

Please contact me if there is any further support the Board can offer you as this important piece of legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard M. Forster".

Richard M. Forster
Chairman, Amador County Board of Supervisors