



National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition

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January 28, 2011

TO: NFCSC Members – Government (Schools & Counties)

FROM: Jim French, NFCSC President
Superintendent, Trinity County, California, Schools

RE: Membership and Dues

Enclosed is your 2011 National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition (NFCSC) dues invoice. The Board of Directors of the NFCSC, in response to the difficult economic environment faced by counties and school districts nationwide, has significantly downsized the operating budget and staffing of the NFCSC for 2011.

As a result, membership dues have been reduced significantly for 2011 to reflect these changes. This year we are asking member organizations to calculate their NFCSC 2011 dues as follows:

2010 SRSCA or 25% Forest Reserve Payments X the factor .0004 = Recommended 2011 NFCSC Dues Contribution

For example if your county or school district received in 2010 \$200,000 then your 2011 dues will be \$200,000 x .0004 = \$80.00. This represents a 66% savings compared to last year. That is the first good news.

The second good news is that the Partnership for Rural America (PFRA) Campaign is making good and steady progress towards achieving a long term reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act. As you know, 2011 is the critical window of opportunity for the PFRA Campaign and its success is vitally dependent on the contributions of all of our member counties and school districts to succeed. To that end, you can expect to receive a separate letter from the PFRA Campaign asking you to make a contribution for 2011.

So, for 2011, we need you to help the NFCSC in two ways:

- A) Keep the Coalition up and running - albeit at a greatly reduced cost. Please send your 2011 NFCSC dues.
- B) Fund the PFRA Campaign, so our successful advocacy effort to achieve a long-term reauthorization of SRSCA can continue to succeed. Please contribute to the Campaign for 2011.

Please do your best to support both the Coalition and the PFRA Campaign for 2011. Both need your support.

Attached please find a worksheet which will also serve as your 2011 NFCSC Dues invoice.

Note: Membership information is available on the NFCSC website – <http://www.forestco.net>

National Forest Counties & Schools Coalition

2011 Membership – Government (Schools & Counties)

Overview

We are a Coalition of organizations concerned about National Forest and BLM Forest Land Management, and the relationship of these lands to the people in states and counties that have a heritage of common interests. Due to changes in forest land management over the last decade, the relationships have changed, negatively impacting a large number of local communities. The Coalition firmly believes that a cornerstone of our principles is the health and productivity of these federal lands, which is of vital importance both now and in the future. In addition, the Coalition concurs in their belief that the creators of our National Forest and BLM timberland system expected: 1) that forest resources would be managed in such an environmentally responsible manner that they would produce long-term sustainable revenue to share with schools and counties as well as products for the nation; 2) that the revenue loss to counties because of this land removal from potential private development was to be mitigated by the Federal Government with the funds used for schools, roads, and other local purposes; and 3) that the compensation to counties was to be equivalent to 25% of all gross receipts received from the National Forests, and/or 50% of gross receipts from the revested O&C lands, and/or 4% of the gross receipts from Public Domain Lands. Policy and practice have allowed these basic tenets to be eroded.

Formal Organization of the Coalition

The National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition is incorporated as a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization under the IRS Code.

Purpose of the Coalition

The National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition has united an impressive collection of diverse individuals and powerful groups representing county and local government, public school teachers and administrators, chambers of commerce, organized labor, agricultural, forest user groups, and natural resource based business and industry. This group, working together, numbering over 1500 (and growing) local, state, and national organizations has been able to actively and effectively work with Congress and the Administration. We must maintain the Coalition and expand it to ensure our collective futures as forest communities. We ask you to become a part of this effort.

2011 Membership Request

Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

We have reviewed the Joint Principles of the National Forest Counties & Schools Coalition:

www.forestco.net

The interest set forth in the Joint Principles are ones which we as an organization, concerned about rural America, share and support.

We agree that the federal compact with rural counties and schools developed when our federal forests were created is being systematically eroded and that our rural heritage is being threatened. The legislative and regulatory gridlock at the federal level must be terminated on a short-term basis and the foundation laid for an appropriate long-term solution.

We strongly support the NFCSC Joint Principles and likewise support the passage of appropriate legislation in Congress.

2011 Membership Dues Calculation/County & School Entities

Counties under Secure Rural Schools and Communities Act

SRSCA Receipts _____ X .0004 = _____ Current Year Dues

Counties Remaining with Traditional 25% Forest Reserve Payments

25% Forest Reserve Payment _____ X .0004 = _____ Current Year Dues

Please return this form with your donation to: National Forest Counties & Schools Coalition
P.O. Box 8551 – Red Bluff, CA 96080

**CONTRIBUTIONS OR GIFTS TO NFCSC ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTABLE
BUT, ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE GOING TO ACHIEVE FUTURE FUNDING**