



## CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

---

120 Toma Court • P O Box 846 • San Andreas, CA 95249 • (209) 754-3543

January 13, 2014

The purpose of this note is to make you aware of an important Water Summit being hosted by Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) on Thursday, January 23, 2014. The Water-Forest Forum is the result of several conversations the District had with members of California's Congressional Delegation and the Forest Service, both in the regional offices and in Washington, D.C. last summer. Following the Rim Fire, issues related to the water - forest nexus became abundantly clear.

The purpose of this forum is to determine the feasibility of a demonstration project to address whether forest management practices in the Sierras can contribute to improved water yield, and if so, how should such improvements be quantified. A second objective is to demonstrate that such practices also can contribute to increased forest resiliency and consequently, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires and associated deleterious impacts on water quality. CCWD has no preconceived vision as to what the project should look like, or even where it should take place. We have private landowners and public land managers engaged with professionals bringing environmental, forestry, academic, economic, water and regulatory perspectives. We have characterized the meeting as a "roll up the shirtsleeves" event, not a public information dissemination meeting.

The participants recognized that this meeting is considered only a first step in a conceptual context, not a formal definition of a project. If the participants agree that such a project is feasible, follow-up meetings with these participants and other technical subject matter experts will be needed to work to define, design, develop and implement a project. Your organization or agency is invited to observe the process to be aware that these discussions are occurring and use future meetings to bring additional value to help shape the future of the watersheds.

CCWD has retained Mark Rentz, Integrated Natural Resources Management, LLC (INRM) to coordinate and facilitate the forum. It will take place at the San Andreas Town Hall, 24 Church Hill Road, San Andreas. It will begin at 9:30 a.m. and adjourn at 2:30 p.m. A light lunch will be provided, so your RSVP is sought to assist us in projecting attendance. Please contact Mona Walker at (209) 754-3028 if you plan to attend.

Sincerely,

  
Mitchell S. Dion  
General Manager