

For Immediate Release

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LEGAL CHALLENGE TO EL DORADO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN POLICIES

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Rural Communities United (RCU) filed a legal challenge on Tuesday November 21, to overturn oak woodland policies that were approved by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors on October 24. The lawsuit alleges that the County's adoption of changes to the County's General Plan, known as the Biological Resources Policy Update, Oak Resources Management Plan, and Oak Resources Conservation Ordinance, violates the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

These new policies will inflict severe damage to sensitive oak woodlands and wildlife habitat throughout the County. The County's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) fails to disclose the true extent of this damage and fails to identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce the harm. The County's EIR also fails to comprehensively assess the increase in greenhouse gas emissions and is contrary to the state's short-and long-term greenhouse gas reduction goals.

The County's General Plan governs all development within the county. RCU members believe General Plan policies must reflect a balance between development and policies that protect the County's vital natural infrastructure.

www.RuralCommunitiesUnited.org

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