

Herger Feinstein Quincy Library Group Implementation Team

NEWS

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Lassen National Forest
Plumas National Forest
Sierraville Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest

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Pinchot Institute Selected as Science Review Team

QUINCY, CA – The USDA Forest Service recently selected the Pinchot Institute for Conservation to be the Scientific Review Team for the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group (HFQLG) Forest Recovery Act Pilot Project.

The HFQLG Forest Recovery Act became law in October 1998 and was extended in 2003. It is designed to implement and demonstrate the effectiveness of fuels and vegetation management activities to meet ecologic, economic and fuel reduction activities. The Lassen and Plumas National Forests and the Sierraville Ranger District of the Tahoe National Forest are part of the approximately 1.53 million acre HFQLG Pilot Project.

A Scientific Review is required prior to the HFQLG Act's expiration in September 2009. The team's purpose is to review and report whether the Pilot Project achieved the goals stated in the Quincy Library Group Community Stability Proposal, including improved ecological health and community stability.

The Pinchot Institute has gathered a team of specialists from across the United States with expertise including forestry, fuels treatments, wildlife biology, ecology, hydrology, natural resource policy and management, as well as other areas.

“We look forward to taking a close look at this innovative approach for the Forest Service and communities to work together,” said Al Sample, president of the Pinchot Institute. “This will focus on what really matters, the end results on the ground.”

The team will begin the Scientific Review the week of November 12 with an orientation to the HFQLG Pilot Project. They will return to gather more information from monitoring data gathered over the course of the HFQLG Pilot Project. The HFQLG Act requires that the report be completed by March 15, 2011, and delivered to Congress.

“We are very fortunate to have such a qualified and reputable organization conducting the Scientific Review of the HFQLG Pilot Project. I'm certain they will do an excellent job reporting the effects of the treatments conducted over the past several years in a fair, balanced and impartial manner,” said Tahoe National Forest Supervisor Steve Eubanks.

The Pinchot Institute, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a research and policy analysis organization focusing on public and private forest issues. They participate in nonpartisan research, education and technical assistance on key issues influencing the future of

conservation and sustainable natural resource management. The Pinchot Institute has led a number of reviews for the Secretary of Agriculture on other community-based projects.

For more information on the HFQLG Pilot Project, please visit www.fs.fed.us/r5/hfqlg. For more information on the Pinchot Institute for Conservation, please visit www.pinchot.org.

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