

# NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service  
Eldorado National Forest  
100 Forni Road; Placerville, CA 95667



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## Members Needed for El Dorado and Amador County Resource Advisory Committees

Placerville, CA.... The US Forest Service is seeking nominees for two 15-member Resource Advisory Committees (RAC) that will evaluate and recommend projects and funding to improve Eldorado National Forest watersheds and facilities. One RAC will recommend projects in El Dorado County and the other will recommend projects in Amador County. The advisory committees will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and will represent a wide variety of interests. Applications for the RAC can be obtained on the Eldorado National Forest website at: [www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado) and need to be submitted by April 20, 2009.

“I am looking forward working with the Resource Advisory Committees,” said Eldorado National Forest Supervisor Ramiro Villalvazo, who is delegated to approve projects for the Secretary of Agriculture. “Bringing together 15 people, on two separate RACs, who represent wide-ranging interests, will be good for everyone involved and National Forest resources.”

Villalavazo says the El Dorado County committee will have approximately \$300,000 available each year for the next four years for projects it recommends to the Forest Supervisor for approval. The Amador County RAC will have approximately \$47,000 for the same time period. The project funds were authorized by the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act, P.L. 110-343 and became available for use on Eldorado National Forest projects when the both counties elected to form their own RAC under Title II of the Act.

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The funds may be used for projects that improve maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve land health and water quality. These projects will likely create additional employment opportunities in the local economy.

RAC committee members are officially appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture for a term of four years and serve without compensation. Members must be able to commit the time necessary to carry out the committee responsibilities by attending several meetings each year. Members must reside within the State of California and to the extent practicable, within El Dorado County (El Dorado County RAC) and Amador County (Amador County RAC).

By law, the 15 member committee is composed of a wide representation of National Forest interests that are grouped into three categories. An additional person is also appointed for each category (three total positions) as a replacement should a committee member leave for any reason from that category. A replacement may represent any interest in the category but does not act as a member until a permanent vacancy occurs.

**Category One:** (five regular members and one replacement) who represent one or more of the following interests:

- Organized labor
- Developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation
- Energy and mineral development
- Commercial timber industry
- Federal grazing permit holders or land use permit holders within the RAC area

**Category Two:** (five regular members and one replacement) who represent one or more of the following interests):

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreation activities
- Archaeological and historical interests
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse or burro groups
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**Category Three:** (five regular members and one replacement) who represent one or more of the following interests):

- State-elected office holders or their designee
- County or local elected office holders

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- American Indian tribal representatives from tribes within or adjacent to RAC areas
- School officials or teachers
- Citizens representing the affected public at large

Nominees will be evaluated based on their training and experience working with the interest they represent, their knowledge of El Dorado County; their demonstrated commitment to collaborative decision-making; and their contribution to the balance and diversity of the RAC.

An interest form is available on the ENF website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/eldorado>. Applicants must complete a cover letter and the short interest form initially. The letter should address reasons for wanting to be a member of the El Dorado County RAC; which community interest category you would represent; an overview of your experience; and experience that demonstrates an ability to work collaboratively with people of differing views.

Nomination letters are due April 20, 2009.

For more information about P.L. 110-343 or RAC responsibilities contact: Frank Mosbacher, PAO, Eldorado National Forest, (530) 621-5268.

## 2008-2011 Secure Rural Schools El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee Membership Interest

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If you are interested in serving a four-year term as an El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee member please complete the following information and return this form to Frank Mosbacher, RAC Coordinator; Eldorado National Forest 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA 95667. E-mail: [fmosbacher@fs.fed.us](mailto:fmosbacher@fs.fed.us). Due date: April 17, 2009.

**Name:**

**Organization:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**Please indicate interest group(s) you represent (check all that apply):**

### **Category A**

- Organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups
- Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
- Energy and mineral development interests; or commercial or recreational fishing interests
- Commercial timber industry
- Hold Federal grazing or other land use permits, or represent nonindustrial private forest land owners, within the area for which the committee is organized

### **Category B**

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreational activities
- Archaeological and historical interests
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups, wildlife or hunting organizations, or watershed associations

### **Category C**

- Hold State elected office or their designee
- Hold county or local elected office
- American Indian tribes within or adjacent to committee area
- School officials or teachers
- Represent the affected public at large.

**Provide a brief statement explaining why you would like to serve, what special qualifications or expertise you may have, or any other information you would like to include.**

## 2008-2011 Secure Rural Schools Amador County Resource Advisory Committee Membership Interest

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If you are interested in serving a four-year term as an Amador County Resource Advisory Committee member please complete the following information and return this form to Frank Mosbacher, RAC Coordinator; Eldorado National Forest 100 Forni Road, Placerville, CA 95667. E-mail: fmosbacher@fs.fed.us

**Name:**

**Organization:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**Please indicate interest group(s) you represent (check all that apply):**

### Category A

- Organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups
- Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
- Energy and mineral development interests; or commercial or recreational fishing interests
- Commercial timber industry
- Hold Federal grazing or other land use permits, or represent nonindustrial private forest land owners, within the area for which the committee is organized

### Category B

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreational activities
- Archaeological and historical interests
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups, wildlife or hunting organizations, or watershed associations

### Category C

- Hold State elected office or their designee
- Hold county or local elected office
- American Indian tribes within or adjacent to committee area
- School officials or teachers
- Represent the affected public at large.

**Provide a brief statement explaining why you would like to serve, what special qualifications or expertise you may have, or any other information you would like to include.**

