

Hello,

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) and the United States Forest Service (USFS), Region 5, invite you or a representative from your organization to help guide the next generation of California's Forests and Rangelands Assessment and Strategies reports.

As mandated by the California State Legislature, FRAP has been producing periodic assessments of the forests and rangelands of California since the 1970s. In 2008, the U.S. Farm Bill directed the U.S. Forest Service (under the Department of Agriculture) to coordinate with states on forest and rangelands assessments. These reports are updated every five years. The first coordinated report for California was completed in 2010 (see <http://frap.fire.ca.gov/assessment2010/document.html>).

With the 2010 report freshly completed, FRAP and USFS Region 5 are now preparing for the 2015 assessment. A critical component of this preparation is soliciting input from stakeholders. We invite you to be a part of this process by participating in the newly forming Forest and Rangelands Assessment Steering Committee (FRASC). We are seeking the participation of local, state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental organizations and private stakeholders. Meetings will take place on a quarterly basis and will serve as a forum for participants to provide input on a broad array of issues affecting forests and rangelands across California. In addition to providing input into our next assessment your participation will help inform and improve collaboration on the management of forest and rangeland resources.

This group will be co-chaired by CAL FIRE and Region 5 of the Forest Service. The co-chairs are:

Chris Keithley, PhD

FRAP Chief

CAL FIRE

1300 U Street

Sacramento, CA 94244

916.445.5344

chris.keithley@fire.ca.gov

and

Lisa Fischer

Program Manager, Forest Health Monitoring

USDA Forest Service

1731 Research Park Drive

Davis, CA 95618

530.759.1748

lisafischer@fs.fed.us

The first meeting of the group will be held:

10:00 - 12:00 on Thursday, March 1, 2012

USDA Lyng Service Center

430 G Street, Davis, CA

A brief agenda is attached. For those unable to attend in person, we are providing access to the meeting via webinar:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/833593890>

We hope that you will decide to be a participant in this important work. To allow us to provide optimum accommodation, your response is kindly requested by Tuesday, February 21, 2012. We look forward to the chance to work with you on these important issues in our

state. Please do not hesitate to contact either of the co-chairs listed above with any questions you may have.

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Ken Pimlott
Director
CAL FIRE

Randy Moore
Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service Region 5