

DATE: AS OF 9/22/2009

TO: NAFSR MEMBERS

FROM: DARREL L. KENOPS-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS 2008/2009 REPORT TO THE BOARD AND MEMBERS

WE CONTINUE TO MAKE PROGRESS, HAVE IMPACT! WORKING WITH MEMBERS, ALLIES AND PARTNERS WE ARE ADDRESSING NAFSR PRIORITY ISSUES & CONCERNS.

OUTGOING BOARD CHAIR GEORGE LEONARD IS THE POINT PERSON FOR OUR WASHINGTON D.C ACTIVITY AND A MAJOR FORCE WITHIN VARIOUS COALITIONS. THRU HIS CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY, WORKING WITH THE CHIEF AND OTHER CONTACTS HE IS A RESPECTED LEADER AND HAS OPENED MANY DOORS FOR NAFSR TO PROVIDE IT'S EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERIENCE BASED PERSPECTIVES AND KEY FACTS.

IN 2009, WORKING WITH BOARD MEMBER JOHN MARKER,GEORGE SIGNALLED OUR SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO THE RECENTLY FORMED U.S. CONGRESSONAL BI-PARTISAN FORESTRY CAUCUS.

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE OUTGOING FOREST SERVICE CHIEF GAIL KIMBELL, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT KARLA, SENIOR FOREST SERVICE LEADERSHIP AND HER STAFF'S HELPFUL ATTITUDE AND TIMELY ENGAGEMENT WITH US ON QUESTIONS WE HAVE AND ISSUES WE WISH TO DISCUSS. OUR BEST WISHES TO GAIL AND HER FAMILY AS SHE 'SWITCH'S GEARS" BACK TO BIG SKY COUNTRY.

AND THANKS FOR INCOMING CHIEF TOM TIDWELL AND HIS INVITATION TO STAY ENGAGED IN HELPING TO SOLVE THE "OUTFITS" ISSUES AND SEIZING FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN TO ITS INDEPENDENT VIEWPOINTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. SO KARLA WE'LL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU AND TOM AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO REMAINING 2009 AND NEXT YEARS 2010 EVENTS!

MANY THANKS GEORGE FROM YOUR BOARD & NAFSR COLLEAGUES FOR THE IMPORTANT AND OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP YOU PROVIDE. AND YOUR CONTINUING SERVICE AS A BOARD MEMBER IS ESSENTIAL & WELCOMED!

AND THANKS TO INCOMING BOARD CHAIR JIM GOLDEN! WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR STEPPING FORWARD JIM TO LEAD US!

THANKS TO OUR BOARD & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FOR YOUR HELP IN PURSUING PRIORITY ISSUES AND NEEDS IN 2009. AND WHEN YOU SEE OUR 2009/2010 NAFSR WORK PLAN YOU'LL SEE WE'LL NEED TO STEP IT UP AS MEMBERS.

WE NEED TO INCREASE NAFSR BOARD & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT AT ALL LEVELS OF ACTIVITY, NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL GRASSROOTS TO STAY RELEVANT AND EFFECTIVE. WE NEED TO MEET OUR

MEMBERSHIP GOALS-REMEMBER THE FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP IS COMPLIMENTARY!

- OUR 2008-2009 NAFSR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PROJECT STATUS AND HIGHLIGHTS (AS OF 9/22/09):
 - ✓ INVOLVED IN THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION THRU OUR NAFSR "WHAT WE BELIEVE, WHAT WE ADVOCATE" AND "ADVICE ON ADVICE" PAPERS SENT TO KEY LEADERS IN LATE 2008.
 - ✓ NAFSR CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY ON A) U.S.FOREST SERVICE FY 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET TESTIMONY; B)FLAME ACT CHANGES FOR WILDFIRE FIRE SUPPRESSION COST BUDGET METHODS IN NEED OF CHANGE; C) MORALE OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES SURVEY RESULTS.
 - ✓ WORK WITH NUMEROUS COALITIONS FOR SIGN ON LETTERS TO CONGRESS TO CHANGE WILDFIRE FIRE SUPPRESSION COST BUDGETING METHODS, FY 2010 U.S. FOREST SERVICE BUDGET TO IMPLEMENT LANDSCAPE RESTORATION STATUTE AND WOODY BIOMASS/CLIMATE CHANGE/ENERGY PROPOSED LEGISLATION.
 - ✓ GEORGE AND F. DALE ROBERTSON'S WORK WITH RETIRED CHIEF'S RESULTED IN TWO 5 CHIEF'S LETTERS TO CONGRESS AND ONE 6 CHIEFS' LETTER WHICH HAD IMPACT ON CAPITOL HILL IN THE U.S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S SENATE. ONE IMPACT WAS A FOLLOW UP REQUEST WHERE BOARD MEMBER MAX PETERSON TESTIFIED IN THE U.S. SENATE WITH GEORGE AS HIS "WING MAN" CONCERNING FIRE SUPPRESSION COST BUDGETING METHODS IN NEED OF CHANGE.
 - ✓ INVITATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE SUSTAINABLE URBAN FORESTRY COALITION, RURAL VOICES FOR CONSERVATION COALITION, NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF FOREST LAND OWNERS, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, NATIONAL WOODLANDS OWNERS ASSOCIATION, FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION, WESTERN FORESTRY LEADERSHIP COALITION, EVERGREEN MAGAZINE AND 25X25 COALITION.
 - ✓ KEITH ARGOW, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE ASSOCIATED WITH HIS FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION,, INC WHICH BROUGHT MEMBERS AND FUNDS TO HELP NAFSR IN OUR WORK. THANKS KEITH, EVERY BIT OF HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE AND IS APPRECIATED!
 - ✓ ATTENDING OUR 2ND WESTERN FORESTRY LEADERSHIP COALITION MEETING IN SEATTLE, WA TO NETWORK WITH STATE FORESTERS, REGIONAL FORESTERS AND RESEARCH STATION DIRECTORS AND OTHER ALLIES.

- ✓ TRANSITIONED FROM OUR CHARTER NAFSR WEB MASTER RENE "RAY" BUNSTER TO KENNETH WHITE OUR NEW WEB MASTER. WELCOME KEN!! AS RAY AND KEN TRANSITIONED WE CONTINUED WORK TO IMPROVE OUR WEBSITE. OUR NAFSR WEBSITE IS A VITAL ELEMENT IN OUR ORGANIZATIONAL VITALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS AND NEEDS EVERYONES SUPPORT! THANKS RAY FOR YOUR CONSISTENT SUPPORT AND EXCELLENCE IN WEB SITE OPERATIONS.
- ✓ WE THANK OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER RON STEWART FOR HIS NAFSR LEADERSHIP AND MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES. THANKS RON!!
- ✓ WE FILLED NAFSR BOARD POSITIONS WITH JIM GOLDEN, LARRY PAYNE, TOM HAMILTON, MARLIN JOHNSON AND GAIL KIMBELL. WE WELCOME YOU AND APPRECIATE YOUR LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT. WE ARE WORKING WITH BOARD MEMBER JIM BREWER, EASTERN REGION REGIONAL FORESTER KENT CONNAUGHTON AND HIS STAFF TO FIND A REPLACEMENT BOARD MEMBER FOR JIM.
- ✓ THRU OUR "LOOKOUT" NEWSLETTER EDITOR JOHN MARKER'S LEADERSHIP WE SWITCHED FROM "SNAIL MAILING TO ALL MEMBERS TO USING ELECTRONIC MEANS TO SEND OUT OUR INFORMATIVE NEWSLETTER AND SPECIAL REPORTS WHICH ARE READ AND CIRCULATED WIDELY. JOHN ALSO PROVIDED AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEW EVERGREEN MAGAZINE WEB SITE OUTLINING OUR NAFSR OBJECTIVES, FOCUS AND ACTIVITIES.
- ✓ JOHN MARKER REPRESENTED US WITH SUSTAINABLE NORTHWEST AND RURAL VOICES FOR CONSERVATION COALITION AND WE ARE NOW LISTED IN THE COALITIONS REFERENCE DIRECTORY. NAFSR MEMBER STEVE EUBANKS VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE AS A RESOURCE PERSON FOR THE RURAL VOICES COALITION POLICY COMMITTEE.
- ✓ WE APPRECIATE BOARD MEMBERS LIKE JOHN MARKER, JACK LAVIN, JIM BREWER AND PAST BOARD MEMBER RON STEWART AND THE MANY NAFSR MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONGRESSIONAL AND KEY LEADER CONTACTS ON OUR BEHALF.
- ✓ WE APPRECIATE AND THANK ALL NAFSR MEMBERS WHOM NETWORK ON OUR BEHALF, KEEP US IN TOUCH WITH GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENTS, AND ISSUES NEEDING ATTENTION.
- ✓ OUR FIRST YEAR COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP STRATEGY IS WORKING, BUT WE NEED TO STEP UP OUR RETENTION & NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT EFFORTS AS MEMBERSHIP HOVERS AROUND 400 PLUS MEMBERS FROM 35 STATES, PUERTO RICO AND D.C. (**note:** we did sign up around 26 new members at our USFS national Reunion 2009 event held recently in Missoula, Montana)

- ✓ WE JOINTLY HOSTED A BOOTH WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FOREST SERVICE HISTORY AT THE 2008 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS CONVENTION IN RENO, NV. BOARD MEMBER RALPH MUMME WILL LEAD OUR EFFORTS AT SAF 2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA. THANKS RALPH! STEVE FITCH AND I HOSTED THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE REUNION 2009 BOOTH IN MISSOULA, MONTANA. THANK YOU STEVE FOR MARSHALLING OUR VOLUNTEER MEMBERS AND TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO HELPED US WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!! AND THANK YOU NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FOREST SERVICE HISTORY, DAVE STACK FOR YOUR RELIABLE TEAMING WITH US FOR OUR ANNUAL BOOTH EVENT'S.
- ✓ MEMBER AND CHAIR OF OUR FIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AL WEST AND HIS TEAM HAVE BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN WORKING WITH USFS NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LINE OFFICERS AND FIRE MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP ON OUR ISSUES OF CONCERN. THEIR WORK WILL CONTINUE INTO 2010.

AT USFS 2009 NATIONAL REUNION IN MISSOULA, MONTANA OUR BOARD ROOM WAS FILLED TO OVERFLOWING, AS 100+ MEMBERS TOOK PART IN AL WEST'S AND USFS FIRE DIRECTOR TOM HARBOUR'S DISCUSSION OF NAFSR WORK IN FIRE POLICY AND OPERATIONAL MATTERS OF GREAT INTEREST TO RETIREES, COMMUNITIES AND MANY OTHERS.

AND THANKS TO NAFSR MEMBERS WHO TOOK PART IN PACIFIC SOUTHWEST AND INTERMOUNTAIN REGION'S 2009 FIRE MANAGEMENT READINESS FIELD EXERCISES AT THE INVITATION OF REGIONAL FORESTER'S AND FOREST SUPERVISOR'S. AL AND HIS TEAM WILL CONTINUE TO REFINE THEIR REPORT AND OUR EFFORTS.

*IN THE BOARD MEETING PACKET FOR OUR 9/7/09 BOARD MEETING I INSERTED MANY REFERENCES RELATED TO BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS WELL AS DIRECTED EADINGS/REFERENCES.

*WE ARE A DUES AND MEMBER DONATION FUNDED ENTITY. HOWEVER TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH PARTNERS AND ADDRESS THE NUMEROUS ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES WE NEED TO SET A STRATEGY TO RAISE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO REMAIN VITAL AND INVOLVED. WE NEED TO DISCUSS EFFECTIVENESS, CAPACITY AND OUTREACH IN 2009 FOR 2010.

*A SPECIAL THANKS TO "LOOKOUT NEWSLETTER" EDITOR JOHN MARKER FOR TAKING US DIRECTLY INTO ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION, SAVING SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

*A SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN COMBES, OUR NAFSR SECRETARY/TREASURER WHOSE STEADY AND RELIABLE WORK KEEPS US AFLOAT, IN COMPLIANCE WITH OUR IRS DESIGNATION AS A NON-PROFIT, KEEPING MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CURRENT AND IN TOUCH WITH MEMBERS ACROSS THE VARIETY OF ISSUES AND WE NEED TO ATTEND TO.

*RECENTLY WE WORKED WITH R-5 TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE A JOINT NEWS RELEASE ON THE 2009 "JOHN R. MCGUIRE" AWARD WINNER MIKE LANDRAM, REGIONAL SILVICULTURIST AND THE PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST SILVICULTURE TEAM, PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION WHICH RECEIVED WONDERFUL COVERAGE IN THE SACRAMENTO BEE.

SOON WE'LL POST MIKE'S ACCEPTANCE COMMENTS AND DETAILED INFORMATION ON WHAT MIKE AND THE PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST FOLKS ACCOMPLISHED DESPITE THE BARRIERS AND COMPLEX POST WILDFIRE RECOVERY SITUATIONS THEY DEALT WITH AND CONTINUE TO WORK ON.

THANKS GO TO PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGIONAL FORESTER RANDY MOORE, DEPUTY REGIONAL FORESTER BETH PENDLETON FOR SUBMITTING THIS NOMINATION AND FOR JOHN HEIL, THEIR PUBIC AFFAIRS STAFF FOR WORKING WITH US ON THIS NOMINATION AND AWARD PRESENTATION.

CURRENT CHIEF TOM TIDWELL, REGIONAL FORESTER RANDY MOORE, OUTGOING AND INCOMING NAFSR BOARD CHAIRS GEORGE LEONARD AND JIM GOLDEN RESPECTIVELY WERE ON STAGE WITH MIKE WHEN HE RECIEVED THIS AWARD ON BEHALF OF HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

I WANT TO SHARE BOARD CHAIR GEORGE LEONARD'S COMMENTS HE MADE IN PRESENTING OUR AWARD TO MIKE.

THEY ARE UNDER THE TITLE OF "PROTECTING & ENHANCING OUR FORESTS. GEORGE SAID;

"FOR MANY FOREST SERICE RETIREES, AN IMPORTANT PART OF THEIR CAREER WAS DEVOTED TO REFORESTATION."

"WE TOOK SERIOUSLY THE CHALLENGE TO MAINTAIN THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE LAND AND TO ELIMINATE THE REFORESTATION BACKLOG THAT HAD DEVELOPED AFTER WORLD WAR II."

"CHIEF JOHN R. MCGUIRE REGULARLY ASKED ME "HAVE WE ELIMINATED THE BACLOG YET?" AND BY THE LATE 1970'S I WAS ABLE TO TELL HIM YES!

"SO IT IS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE THAT THE RECPIENT OF THIS YEARS JOHN R. MCGUIRE IS MIKE LANDRAM AND HIS PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST COLLEAGUES. MIKE IS BEING RECOGNIZED FOR HE AND HIS TEAMS EFFORTS TO RESPOND TO GROWING NEEDS FOR REFORESTATION FOLLOWING THE RECENT SEVERE FIRE SEASONS IN CALIFORNIA." WE RECOGNIZE, AS WELL, THE REFORESTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST."

"MAINTAINING THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE LAND IS A BASIC STATUTORY MISSION OF THE FOREST SERVICE. RETIREES ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE GROWING BACKLOG OF NEEDED REFORESTATION." "WE HOPE

THAT THE INITIATIVE THAT MIKE HAS SHOWN WILL BE EMULATED
ACROSS THE COUNTRY."

IN CONCLUSION I WISH TO THANK ALL WHO HAVE PROVIDED ME THE SUPPORT
TO BE YOUR VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE VOLUNTEER
EFFORTS TO WHICH YOU WILLING RESPOND, IT IS TRULY APPRECIATED.

BEST REGARDS!!

DARREL L. KENOPS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FOREST SERVICE RETIREES(NAFSR).