



Jennifer Montgomery  
Director, Governor's Forest Management Task Force  
916-201-2677

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Brittany Dyer  
California State Director, American Forests  
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Dear Government Leader,

As you are aware, the last few years has seen an increase in catastrophic wildfire in our woodlands, grasslands, chaparral and even into our communities. The Governor's Forest Management Task Force (FMTF) has been focused on protecting lives and property, natural resources and on building capacity in jobs development and production facilities that will strengthen our rural communities. We have made good progress toward a safer California for all, but we need your assistance.


Today Brittany and I are writing to ask you to become more deeply involved with our efforts at the FMTF. With the Federal Government owning 57% of our forested lands, the State 3% and the balance held by local and tribal governments as well as private landowners, we need your help to create an "All Lands, All Hands" approach to Natural and Working Landscape management for wildfire.

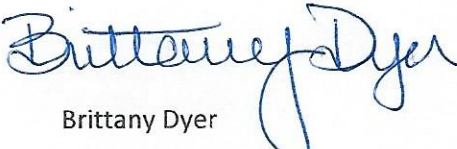
Governor Newsom has committed a billion dollars over 5 years to our efforts, but it will not be enough without your partnership. As a former County Supervisor myself, I recognize the financial limits that many cities, special districts and counties face. Although we do have an expectation that local governments would bring all available resources to the table to combat the growing wildfire threat, we recognize that in addition to scarce tax dollars, that contribution could be staff planning assistance, parks and roads maintenance crews—as well as Trustees—and certainly, your own local knowledge to help make informed decisions about land use planning, vegetation management and community protection projects.

Brittany and I plan to convene bi-monthly meetings in Sacramento—and potentially rotating through our rural counties—to better align all our efforts on this front.

So, our ask to you—please identify your best point of contact—preferably a Council person, Supervisor or CEO/CAO—and reach out to Brittany or me for more information about how you can become involved.

Our best to you all,

  
Jennifer Montgomery

  
Brittany Dyer