**Proposal for CED to organize the NE California Forest Community Socioeconomic Roundtable**

**Event Name:** Forest Community Socioeconomic Roundtable

**Overview:** CED at CSU, Chico proposes to plan, organize, market, manage registration and facility logistics, and coordinate content of the NE California Forest Community Socioeconomic Roundtable.

**Event Purpose:** The purpose of the roundtable is two-fold: first, to collaboratively describe the unique roles, contributions and impacts of national forests to local communities and second, to reach agreement on key social and economic contributions or impacts of Forest-level projects to local communities.

**Event Goal:** To form a consensus on a set of socioeconomic factors that are important to forest communities and that Forest Service staff can consider for inclusion in a document on regional guidance for socioeconomic NEPA analysis.

**Event Assumptions:**

* 140 attendees
* Location: Chico, CA
* Full day minus 2hrs travel time (10AM to 3PM)
* Professional event, well-organized, informative for all participants

**Preliminary Event Format:**

1. **Plenary Opening Presentation:** Region 5 Forest Service leadership presents national and regional priorities to achieve ecological sustainability while contributing to the social and economic sustainability of local communities (Deputy Regional Forester).
2. Region 5 Forest Service Staff presents current social and economic considerations and analysis in forest planning efforts and a potential framework for incorporating project-level data and analysis of social and economic contributions to local communities. (FS staff – Mark)
3. SFAC member of S/E group provides an overview of why this effort is important to our counties, businesses, and infrastructure.
4. Data Presentation: CSU, Chico staff present examples of how socioeconomic data is used in other areas, or can be used to provide information about forest communities and contributions of forests to the public in a meaningful way.
5. **Plenary Instruction Session**: professional facilitator will provide guidance on expectation of attendees to provide information and feedback on a variety of forest community social and economic issues. Four key questions each breakout group will brainstorm and document include:
   1. What are the unique roles and contributions of national forests to local communities?
   2. What are the social and economic benefits that our forests provide to people and communities? ***What would you want to see our forests contribute?***
   3. What threatens these important social and economic benefits to people and communities and how do we, or can we, address these threats?
   4. What can we consider in forest planning and projects going forward to reduce these threats and sustain these benefits?
6. **Breakout Groups**: Attendees break out into topic-specific brainstorming sessions to describe the impact of Forest Service projects and the management on the national forests on the socioeconomic status of forest communities.
   1. Subgroup 1: Economic and Social Contributions of Timber
   2. Subgroup 2: Economic and Social Contributions of Range
   3. Subgroup 3: Economic and Social Contributions of Water
   4. Subgroup 4: Economic and Social Contributions of Plants, Fish and Wildlife
   5. Subgroup 5: Economic and Social Contributions of Recreation
   6. Subgroup 6: Threat of Catastrophic Fire on Forest Community Socioeconomics
   7. Additional groups TBD
7. Breakout Groups: vote and pare down to 3-5 specific contribution stories under each topic and how national forest projects and management strategies can address them.
8. **Plenary Reconvenes**: members of each breakout present their forest contributions/stories to the entire audience.
9. Plenary Wrap-up: Direction for FS & next steps. (FS Management – Barnie)

**Event Date:** November 13, 2014, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Barnie available)

**Event Location**: Chico, TBD – facility for 140 attendees

**Estimated Costs:**

Staff costs:

Event Coordinator, Georgia Nilsson $2,600

Assoc. Director of Research, Warren Jensen $1,400

Research Assistants, Various $900

Total staff costs $4,900

Materials costs (flyers, posters, technology) $800

Lunch & Refreshments = $30/person x 140: $4,200

Total anticipated cost $9,900

Registration fees: $20.00 x 140 attendees: ($2,800)

(covers lunch and refreshments)

**Total sponsor cost: $7,100**

**Targeted Counties:** Butte, Modoc, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Tehama, Colusa, Glenn, Nevada, and Yuba

**Invitees:**

* National Forest & Ranger District Staff
* Sierra Nevada Conservancy
* CalFIRE management
* Region 5 Administration
* Forest Products Industry
* Fire Safe Councils
* Environmental Organizations
  + NRDC
  + Sierra Forest Legacy
  + Nature Conservancy
  + Sierra Club
  + Wilderness Society
  + Trout Unlimited
  + Conservation Biology Institute
* Community Leaders and Planners
  + Social Services
  + Health Services
  + K-12 Education (superintendents, board members)
  + Economic Development
  + County Boards of Supervisors and City Council members
  + Local Govt. and Planning
  + Businesses
  + Conservation Groups
  + Chambers of Commerce
  + Water Boards
  + Farm Bureaus
  + Cattleman Association
  + Agricultural Commissioners
  + County Coordination Committee
* Banks
* Hospitals and health clinics
* Recreation Organizations
  + Outdoor Alliance
  + California OHV Commission
  + California Off-Road Vehicle Association

**Scope of Work:** The scope of work will include but not be limited to:

- Creation and distribution of marketing materials

- Indirect and direct contact with invitees

- Registration & logistics management

- Coordination of content

- Final Consensus Report (summarizes consensus on each of the plenary instruction session topics and the breakout groups)

**Contact Information:** Georgia Nilsson

Center for Economic Development

California State University, Chico

Chico, CA 95929-0765

Ph: 530-898-4598 Fax: 530-898-4734

gnilsson@csuchico.edu