

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

March 11, 2022

To: Members of the Subcommittee on Environment

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Hybrid Hearing on “Fighting Fire with Fire: Evaluating the Role of Forest Management in Reducing Catastrophic Wildfires”

On **Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. ET**, the Subcommittee on Environment will hold a hybrid hearing on “Fighting Fire with Fire: Evaluating the Role of Forest Management in Reducing Catastrophic Wildfires.”

I. HEARING PURPOSE

The hearing will give Members an opportunity to discuss the human toll of wildfires across the country and the importance of forest resilience in mitigating wildfires. The panel will evaluate Forest Service fuel management practices, including prescribed burns, thinning, and commercial logging, for their effectiveness at preventing wildfires and maintaining forest carbon sinks. The hearing will emphasize the importance of community participation in forest management, including by allowing Tribes—and in particular traditional ecological knowledge-holders—to take the lead in maintaining forest health. The hearing will also address the need to prioritize investments in engineering solutions that protect homes and buildings from wildfires over commercial logging practices that exacerbate fires.

II. WITNESSES

Randy Moore
Chief, U.S. Forest Service
Department of Agriculture

Carole King
Celebrated Singer-songwriter and Land Conservation Advocate

Ali Meders-Knight
Master Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Practitioner
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria

Michael Gollner, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering; University of California, Berkeley
Deb Faculty Fellow, Berkeley Fire Research Lab

Dominick A. DellaSala, Ph.D.

Chief Scientist, Wild Heritage
Project of Earth Island Institute

Staff contacts: Katie Thomas, Aria Kovalovich, or Kevin Fox at (202) 225-5051.