



500 Capitol Mall, Suite 2360  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.444.6592

November 13, 2025

Chairman Bruce Westerman  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman,

On behalf of Calforests (California Forestry Association), I wanted to thank you for taking the time to speak to the Federal Timber Purchaser's Committee in Hot Springs, Arkansas on Oct. 29, 2025. Your support for the forestry sector is important, and we value your efforts to develop and pass legislation that promotes forest management work across all land ownerships.

Calforests is the preeminent trade association and advocate for California's forest industry. Collectively, our members – private forestland owners – manage nearly 3.5 million acres of forest land in California and operate nearly all the state's forest products infrastructure, including sawmills, veneer mills, and biomass power plants. Our members are committed to working with federal and state agencies to achieve our shared wildfire prevention and response goals. We support rural communities and remain committed to working towards finding solutions that achieve desirable outcomes for all involved.

Calforests supports the bipartisan SPEED Act (H.R. 4776) to modernize NEPA and streamline the federal permitting process. Calforests members have experienced the barriers that federal permitting can create in advancing the needed forest management work that is critical to our wildfire prevention, resiliency, and recovery efforts in California. We support the changes the SPEED Act would enact, including shortening timelines, simplifying the analysis required, clarifying a "a major federal action," and judicial review limitations for NEPA claims. The effects of catastrophic wildfire in California are too significant to have the federal permitting process slow or stop the forest management work needed to mitigate the impacts of devastating wildfires on both federal and private lands.

Thank you for your work with Representative Jared Golden (D-ME) to find solutions in federal permitting reform that are strongly needed to advance forest management not only in California but across the country. We appreciate your leadership in advancing changes through the SPEED Act that are an essential part of the solution to addressing the wildfire emergency.



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matt Li', with a stylized flourish at the end.

President/CEO  
The California Forestry Association