

January 28, 2011

California Cabin Owners,

With the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress beginning work, the Cabin Fee Act (CFA) must be reintroduced in both the House and the Senate. Senate bill S.3929 (111<sup>th</sup> Congress) received a 'revenue neutral' evaluation from the Congressional Budget Office and is the version of the bill that we support and expect to be introduced soon. Unfortunately, broad bipartisan support for the CFA in both the House and the Senate has *not yet* included Senator Feinstein here in California.

Because of this, we are intensifying efforts to explain to her and her staff the severe problems with CUFFA and why we are confident that the CFA will provide a fair solution to those problems. We also want to show Senator Feinstein that California cabin owners are middle income, long recognized stewards of the land and that the cabins are not vacation homes for the rich. We need your help to do this. Previous National Forest Homeowners and Cabin Coalition 2 survey data have given us a solid picture of the demographics of cabin ownership, but individual, personal accounts of cabin owners are needed to support these conclusions. ***We are asking that you send to Senator Feinstein's lead staff member, Leah Russin, the following specifics about your participation in the Recreation Residence Program.***

1. A picture of your cabin and a picture of your permitted lot that includes a verbal description of the lot, cabin size, utilities available, season of use, etc. We need to demonstrate to staff the modest and rustic nature of the Program, as well as, emphasize that the *use* of the lot is what is being valued.
2. A description of yourself and how you and your family represent a cross section of the American public, in occupation and in income or wealth.
3. Express your concerns about future affordability of the Program to average Americans like yourself and the very real loss of cabins if CUFFA is not replaced. Also, if known, your fully implemented CUFFA fee.
4. Express your full support for the passage of the CFA as the solution.

**Please send this information to:**

Ms. Leah Russin, Natural Resources Counsel

Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein

331 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510-0504

Fax: 202.228.3954

[leah\\_russin@feinstein.senate.gov](mailto:leah_russin@feinstein.senate.gov) (note: this reads leah\_russin@feinstein.senate.gov)

**Also, please send a copy to:**

Pete Bailey, 1111 N Tacoma Ave, Tacoma, WA 98403 or [pbailey@harboret.com](mailto:pbailey@harboret.com).

We believe that this information will help greatly in encouraging Senator Feinstein to support the CFA. Her support will be a major step towards getting it enacted. Your prompt response is clearly needed!

***Geoff Anderson, NFH President***

***Pete Bailey, NFH Director & C2 Legislative Contact chair***

***Aubrey King, NFH Washington Representative***