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TuCARE
TUOLUMNE COUNTY
ALLIANCE FOR RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT, INC.

Wise use is multiple use

April 22, 2000

USDA - Forest Service/CAET
Unified Federal Policy for Watersheds
Building 2, Suite 295
5500 West Amelia Earhart Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Dear Sirs/Madame:

RE: Policy for Watersheds

TuCARE (TUOLUMNE COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT) **opposes the Unified Federal Policy for Watersheds because it is outside the intent of the Clean Water Act and undermines state and tribal authority to implement the Clean Water Act.**

We submit the following questions for your serious consideration and request answers to same:

- Why weren't all land users and property owners notified about this new watershed emphasis?
- Why were only 4 public meetings scheduled?
- Why are you pushing this while litigation is pending?
- Where does multiple use fit in?
- Will existing plans have to be revised?
- Why isn't a cost-benefit analysis required?
- What is the cumulative impact of the UFP with the other 110 CWAP actions?
- How will public interest be gauged and used in the decision making process?
- Why didn't you define "significant public use values?"
- What are the indicators of improvement?
- What kinds of "special protection" do you propose?
- What is the expected cost and timeframe for implementation?

TuCARE is a community based non-profit organization founded in 1988. Our membership is made up of a cross-section of our community including local business persons, educators, retirees, and those actively engaged in working on a daily basis with our local natural resources. TuCARE supports conservation and the multiple use of the many natural resources on our federal lands. Multiple-use policies allow for everyone to benefit. TuCARE firmly believes that man must play an active role to ensure our resources are available both now in the future--for the good of all. TuCARE seeks stability for our resource industries in order to ensure the economic soundness and stability of our local communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Terry Easley
(TUOLUMNE COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT)

President
TuCARE

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