

Your source for legislative and regulatory news impacting California's rural counties.

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RCRC's 2016 Annual Meeting – REGISTER TODAY!!!

RCRC's 2016 Annual Meeting will be held September 28-30 at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Placer County. This year's program will feature experts discussing a wide range of topics of interest to rural counties including:

- An Insider's Perspective on the U.S. Supreme Court;
- Balancing the Benefits and Challenges of Drones;
- Implementation of a Medical Marijuana Regulatory Scheme in California;
- Expert Commentary on the Current Political Landscape; and,
- Navigating the Foster Care System.

To register for RCRC's 2016 Annual Meeting or to access the current program, click [here](#).

Also In This Week's Edition:

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For timely, informative updates on issues impacting California's rural counties throughout the week, be sure to follow RCRC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Annual Meeting Preview: Drones: Balancing Benefits and Challenges

The use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, more commonly known as drones, by private citizens and commercial entities alike has drastically increased over the past decade. As the use of drone technology becomes more prevalent, state and local governments have an interest in regulating to protect the privacy and safety of their constituents. Drone technology also provides local governments with a new set of tools to conduct surveillance, emergency response, drought management, and property assessments, among other practical applications. Join us to hear leading experts discuss complex federal and state drone policy, and hear how local governments and commercial entities are using drone technology, and how state and local regulatory efforts are being carried out to advance public safety and privacy.

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Tree Mortality Task Force Hosts Roundtable in Lake Tahoe

On Tuesday, the Tree Mortality Task Force (Task Force) hosted a roundtable discussion in Lake Tahoe, California to discuss federal, state, regional, and local efforts in response to tree mortality in the Sierra Nevada.

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Legislature Passes Cap-and-Trade Spending Plan on the Last Day of Session

Late Wednesday night, the Legislature passed a modest spending plan for revenues from California's Cap-and-Trade auction program after weeks of delaying action on the funds. The plan allocates just \$900 million of the estimated \$2.4 billion available in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, directed mostly to urban areas, disadvantaged communities as defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), and programs focused on cutting petroleum usage.

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Last Minute Amendments Could Keep Biomass Facilities Running

Early Wednesday morning, Senate Bill 859, a budget trailer bill originally applying to drinking water and water rights, was amended to include provisions that place requirements on utilities to keep existing in-state biomass facilities open and help with mitigation of dead and dying trees in the State's high hazard tree mortality areas.

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RCRC Heads to Washington for Federal PILT Funding

Next week, Mariposa County Supervisor Kevin Cann will be traveling with RCRC staff to Washington, D.C. for the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2016 Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Fly-In to continue advocacy efforts in support of the Federal PILT program. Federal PILT provides payments to counties to help offset losses in property tax revenues due to nontaxable federal lands within their jurisdictions.

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Bulletin Board

Announcements regarding hearings, grants, and public comment notices of importance to California's rural counties.

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Legislative Update

RCRC members are encouraged to share letters addressed to state and federal representatives and regulatory bodies with RCRC's Government Affairs staff. Click "Read More" to access information related to the current status of legislation impacting California's rural counties.

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Media

RCRC Press Releases and Related News Clips

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