

Tuolumne County Alliance for Resources and Environment

AUGUST 2021

Tucare News and Updates

Kicking off Fall with gusto!

It was a pretty busy spring and summer for TuCARE, and we worked hard to make up for lost revenue from Covid related setbacks. We are happy to inform our members the Spring BBQ was not only a financial success, but so much fun. This will be an annual event. It won't replace our Annual Dinner and Auction (Save the date of March 12, 2022, for this great event), but we will add it to our calendar for spring of 2022. A big **THANK YOU** to all who supported this and made it such a success.

Just last month we hired our new Education Coordinator, Blair Ledford. Blair comes to us via Texas! Blair is familiar with our area though. She has family here, and she and her husband Eric grew up in Livingston, CA. Blair's husband was in the Air Force for 8 years. After that, they decided to move back to California to be nearer family. Blair has experience working with kids and has two of her own. She's creative and resourceful, great qualities when working with a small non-profit. The Board of Directors welcomed Blair to her position in July. She's had to hit the ground running to prepare for this fall, and she's already met with the County Superintendent of Schools and many of the local schools. She's attended a Homeschool conference where she got to meet 60+ homeschool moms and she has toured the host fieldtrip sites to get a feel for it all.

Coming up...Save the dates for the Annual Natural Resources Summit and Tour on October 7th and 8th. This will be our 21st Summit! Our focus will be on topics and speakers that will help us make our communities fire safe. The summit is FREE and open to the public (see the next page and our website for more information). Here's hoping for a safe and healthy Fall 2021.

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TOURS FOR KIDS PROGRAM HAS A NEW COORDINATOR!

TuCARE's "Tours for Kids" (TFK) has a new Coordinator, Blair Ledford. Blair is in the process of scheduling TFK tours and presentations for this fall semester.

TFK is a field-trip program for K-12th grades. Sites include working cattle ranches, the forest – both private and public lands, sawmills, a biomass power plant, and a hydro-electric power and water system.

Our goal is to provide kids of all ages a personal experience with those who manage our resources. The fieldtrips and presentations allow kids to see the use and management of local resources, up close and in person.

For more information about what Tours for Kids can offer, email Blair at <u>blair.tucare@gmail.com</u> or call her at (209) 648-8834. Check out our website for additional information about the tours and presentations.

ANNUAL NATURAL RESOURCES SUMMIT 2021

"Making Our Communities Fire Safe!"

TuCARE is holding our 21st Annual Natural Resources Summit on Friday, October 8, 2021. The event will be held at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds in the Sierra Building. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. for the public. Community safety information tables will have valuable information for attendees. The speakers will begin at 9:00.

Speakers for the event include Congressman McClintock (confirmed), Forest Service Chief Randy Moore (invited), retired CALFIRE Chief Ken Pimlott (confirmed), CA Office of Emergency Services, FireSafe and FireWise representatives, along with land and resource managers from public and private sectors.

The FREE event is open to the public. No reservations are required. Generous sponsors include PG&E, Clarke Broadcasting, and TuCARE Membership.

A field tour will be held on Thursday, October 7, 2021. The tour will look at fuels reduction work that has been done along the upper Hwy. 4 corridor, on both public and private land, with an emphasis on the pace and scope needed to reduce the potential for devastating, catastrophic wildfires in our communities. Seating is limited. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are interested in attending the tour, please contact Melinda Fleming for more information and a reservation form at tucare@mlode.com or (209) 586-7816.



COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION FUND



Your donation will save lives and property!

How do we reduce the intensity and magnitude of forest fires? One way is to keep the fire on the ground. To do that we MUST reduce fuels that "ladder" fire up into the tops or crowns of the trees. To reduce ladder fuels, intense vegetation management methods such as logging and thinning, mastication and brushing, controlled fire and/or herbicides are applied to the treatment areas. If we don't do this, our forest communities will BURN! It's just a matter of when.

TuCARE has established **The Community Wildfire Protection Fund (CWPF)** at *Sonora Area Foundation* (SAF). More information about the CWPF is available on the website: **www.CWPFProject.com**. Your donations are tax deductible. When donating all checks should be made payable to **Sonora Area Foundation**.

Please note on your donation "CWPF Project."