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Dear Friend.

On Wednesday, July 7th I will be hosting one of the President's listening sessions on America's Great Outdoors at U.C. Davis. I hope you can attend and participate.

This year, President Obama established the America's Great Outdoors initiative to promote and support community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and reconnect Americans to the outdoors. For more information about the America's Great Outdoors Initiative, visit: http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors.

Among others, we will be joined by Nancy Sutley – Chair of the White House Center on Environmental Quality; Will Shafroth – Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior; Ed Burton – State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA and; senior staff from the Environmental Protection Agency.

We will also hear from three local citizens who have created excellent partnerships relating to habitat restoration and for migratory birds, the benefits of conservation easements in California and projects to enhance migratory corridors for wildlife in our forests. After the panelists, we hope to hear from the Northern California outdoor leaders in the audience on the great projects they have participated in to enhance our country's outdoor heritage and share new ideas for the future.

The event starts at 11:00 a.m. and will be held at the Vanderhoef Studio Theatre in the Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts. (Link for directions: http://www.mondaviarts.org/aboutus/directions.cfm)

If you or members of your organization plan on attending, please e-mail my Legislative Director Jonathan Birdsong (jonathan.birdsong@mail.house.gov) by Tuesday, July 6th.

Thank you for your time and interest. I hope you can attend and look forward to a very productive conversation.

MIKE THOMPSON

Member of Congress