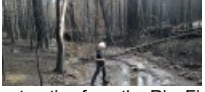




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Area Lawmaker Tapped For Conservancy Seat



Destruction from the Rim Fire
burn scar

04/23/2016 7:58 am PST (<http://www.mymotherlode.com/news/local/263686/area-lawmaker-tapped-for-conservancy-seat.html>)

Tracey Petersen, MML News Reporter

Sacramento, CA – An area legislator will join the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board as a non-voting member.

Mother Lode Assemblymember Frank Bigelow has been picked along with Assemblyman Brian Dahle to represent the California Assembly on the board of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. "I'm honored to be appointed to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and am looking forward to working for our communities," Bigelow said. "It will be outstanding to serve the region with Assemblyman Dahle in this new capacity."

Dahle authored AB 985, which created appointed seats for both state Assembly and Senate members with the goal to build legislative awareness of the work done by the conservancy and the importance of Sierra Nevada's forests and watersheds to all Californians. Dahle noted, "The drought has left nearly 30 million dead trees in the Sierra, setting the stage for even more dangerous fire seasons. Mega fires threaten local communities, but they're not just a local problem. They cost the state hundreds of millions to contain and can ruin water quality for millions of users downstream."

The board is made up of six members representing several counties from the region. Previously, both Bigelow and Dahle have served on the Conservancy board as County Supervisors.

Of note, last year the group launched its Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Watershed Improvement Program, which promotes awareness of health problems in the forest, while working on solutions with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, and private landowners. [Click here](http://restorethesierra.org/) (<http://restorethesierra.org/>) for more information about the program.

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