

June 18, 2010

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION ON THE PRESIDENT'S AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS INITIATIVE IN LOS ANGELES

Please join senior representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Defense for a public listening session and discussion in Southern California on conservation, recreation, and reconnecting people to the outdoors. The session will be held July 8 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 p.m. at Occidental College in Los Angeles.

This past April, at the White House Conference on America's Great Outdoors, President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to develop a 21st century conservation agenda and to reconnect Americans with our great outdoors. The President asked his leadership team to engage the full range of interested groups, including State and local governments, community-based organizations, recreation and conservation groups, sporting organizations, youth groups, and others.

This Los Angeles based listening session, one of several being held around the country, offers an opportunity to hear and describe the challenges and opportunities we face in land and water conservation, in improving recreational opportunities for a large urban population, and in restoring and conserving our vital natural and cultural resources to enable access to a broad array of outdoor recreation. The July 8th public listening session and discussion is an opportunity for the leaders of the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to hear from you and other voices in the region about solutions for building a 21st century conservation and recreation agenda and for reconnecting people with the outdoors. Here are the details:

Listening Session and Discussion Information:

When: Thursday - July 8, 2010, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

What: Public Listening Session on President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative

Where: **Thorne Hall**
Occidental College
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA 90041 (See map at <http://www.oxy.edu/x6307.xml>)

Who: Senior national and local leaders from US EPA, CEQ, USDA, DOI and DOD will be present to hear your recommendations and to participate in a conversation with you about America's Great Outdoors.

Please Register: This event is free and open to the public. For planning purposes, please register by Thursday, July 1st by sending an email to sun.nelly@epa.gov with your name, the name of the organization with which you are affiliated, if any, your telephone number and email address. We will endeavor to accommodate everyone.

In the event you are unable to participate in person, please submit your comments and stories via the America's Great Outdoors website at <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/>.

If you have questions, please call Nelly Sun at (415) 947-4237. We look forward to your participation – please join us!