Policy Working Group Meeting Feb. 3, 2012

<u>Participating</u>: Gerry & Melinda (AF), Carrie (ACT), Michael (AIB), Jake & Danielle (NASF), John (SAF), Christi (TCIA), Alessandra (NHMA)

DECSIONS:

- Approved current version of U&CF budget recommendations letter. Additional/future edits will be revisited AFTER the President's Budget is out on Feb. 13^{th.}
- Re: a short discussion on the proposed reduced Forest Health figure of (\$112M for FY '13), the importance of the messaging @ this issue is to focus on the change in deliverable/benefits that will result in reduced Forest Health funding (\$112M or less.) More discussion on this topic after Pres. Budget is released (likely possibility to see further reduction).
- ACT is circulating/coordination a master scheduling document for its members. WG may ask SUFC members to make their own appointments (coordinating with master schedule) OR WG members may take the lead depending on the scope and size of appts. to be made. Decision and action will begin in mid-February when more data is available.
- Past SUFC Advocacy Days we have had just enough WG members to 'buddy up' with incoming advocates. This year we will not. Recommend having a 'team leader' for each small group/pair when going to the Hill.
- Need to familiarize and weave in (as appropriate) the America's Great Outdoors initiative to SUFC platform.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Jennifer to set up and send out invitations for SUFC Advocacy Overview webinar, Feb. 29th 12 p.m.
- Carrie to report back final numbers, names, appts./details to Jennifer/WG for continued coordination with larger SUFC group.
- Jake and Gerry will develop a "hit" list for those appts. that are of highest priority (via committee participation etc.); this is in additional to regular constituent meetings that SUFC members may set up.
- Ad Hoc Farm Bill group continues to meet and work on more focused platform for March 7th future use.
- Jennifer/Melinda drafting Vibrant Cities factsheet for March 7th.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RSVP'ed FOR SUFC ADVOCACY DAY, RECEPTION AND/OR WORKING MEETING (see attachment), JENNIFER WILL ASSUME YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING ANY EVENTS ON MARCH 7th and 8th. RSVP deadline was end of January – we can extend until Feb. 7th.

REMINDER: All working group notes are posted to the Members Only webpage on the SUFC site: http://www.urbanforestcoalition.com/membersOnly.aspx