



## **California Shines The 2011 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Song Search**

Every year since 1970, a Christmas tree has been presented to the United States congress from a National Forest, and is known as “The People’s Tree”. This year the tree will be chosen from the Stanislaus National Forest in the Central Sierras, and be a gift from the state of California.

In honor of this occasion, the Central Sierra Arts Council in partnership with the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Committee is sponsoring an official song search to represent the 2011 National Christmas Tree. California artists will submit CDs which will be randomly distributed to participating Arts Councils throughout the state who will then choose their “top pick”. The final juried selection will be coordinated by the Central Sierra Arts Council and the Capitol Christmas Tree Committee.

The top ten songs will be compiled on a CD, songwriters agree to convey to the United States Forest Service the rights to reproduce their song on a one time recording to be sold to help fund this program.

The official song will be performed at the “California Shines Tree Cutting Celebration” in Sonora, California on November 5, 2011, AND at the Forest Service Chief’s Reception in Washington, D.C. in early December; expenses paid.

### **Some thoughts for the song!**

- It is the National Christmas Tree that stands in front of the U.S. Capitol Building
- It is known as, “The People’s Tree”

- It is a Gift from the state of California this year
- This year's theme is "California Shines"
- The tree will likely be a 60 foot California red fir
- The tree is lit by a child from the state and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Only your original song
- No more than four minutes long

#### **How to Enter**

- Open to all Californians, at least 18 years of age
- Record an original, production quality CD
- Print, complete, and sign the entry form
- Mail entry form and CD to USFS by August 31, 2011

# Song Search Entry Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Artist Information (160 words or less) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Agreement:** Winning artist must agree to convey to the U.S. Forest Service the right to reproduce the song to be sold to fund this program.

I agree to this provision \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of artist)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Stanislaus National Forest  
U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree 2011  
19777 Greenley Rd.  
Sonora, CA 95370