

# FOREST LANDOWNERS OF CALIFORNIA

## NEWS BULLETIN – JUNE 28, 2009

**News Bulletin – Why?** Events are moving swiftly and the Executive Committee wanted to keep the membership updated in a timely fashion. This bulletin is not meant to replace our regular news letter, which we hope to send you in August 2009.

**President's Message** Rapid change seems to occur on a daily basis in all our lives. It recently came to FLC with the resignation of Darcy Brown as Executive Director on June 3rd. We wish Darcy the best in her future endeavors.

During this transition period the Executive Committee of FLC is handling the general administration of our organization. You may continue to use the same mailing address, email address and telephone number as they all are being forward to the Executive Committee for responses. We will let you know when these change. If you have changed email, telephone, home or office address, or any other information helpful to communicate with you, within the past twelve months, please let us know so that we may continue to keep you informed of FLC activities and events. Thanks for your support, confidence, and patience. *Ralph Gaarde, President.*

### **Legislative Developments.**

1) FLC-supported AB 1066 (Mendoza), sponsored by the California Forestry Association, passed out of the Senate and has a hearing before the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee on July 6<sup>th</sup>. This bill would lengthen the initial period for a Timber Harvest Plan to five years, instead of the current three year standard. If 1066 survives the committee, it could go on to become the first “pro-forestry” bill to become law in many years.

2) By fall, the Board of Forestry will likely complete a sweeping new forest practice rule package increasing protections for terrestrial salmon/steelhead habitat, to become effective in 2010. They're laboring under intense pressure from the environmental community, regulatory agencies and majority Democrats in the legislature.

3) In budget discussions is a renewed effort to abolish the Board of Forestry and have its functions absorbed within CDF, as well as to split CDF between its emergency and resource management functions. There's also a proposal to enact fees on structures located within wild land areas receiving CDF fire protection. These could show up in budget trailer language enacted later this summer. Or not, depending upon the result of this season's budget standoff.

4) Several interests, including FLC, are preparing to file appeals with the State Water Resources Control Board, seeking to topple a recent decision by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board adding more costly requirements to its water quality waiver program. The new waiver has serious implications for current and future holders of NTMPs – Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans.

5) The Interagency Forest Working Group (IFWG) continues its meetings, [www.climatechange.ca.gov/forestry/index.html](http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/forestry/index.html). It's all about forest carbon and how to manage it, account for it, make renewable energy from it, provide landowner incentives for enhancing it, and so forth. As we approach a future of capped emissions and offsets trading, the work of this group should be of special interest to FLC Members. *Bill Key, FLC Legislative Consultant*

**Search Committee.** The Search Committee has a good start on a list of individuals who would or could be considered as possible Executive Director candidates.

Our committee would like the FLC membership to be aware of the candidate search as there may be a possible Executive Director right in our midst. All suggestions will be considered. Any suggestions or names may be submitted to George at [lake1777@pacbell.net](mailto:lake1777@pacbell.net) or phone (530) 229-3798. *George Belden, Search Committee Chairman for Executive Director.*

**Annual Meeting ending May 2, 2009.** Attendance at the 2009 annual meeting in Ukiah was the highest FLC has seen in years! Over 140 individuals joined us to see and hear experts discuss the effects of the 2008 Mendocino wildfires and to learn the newest information on carbon sequestration. Presentations focused on the effects of AB 32 (California Global Warming Act) on forest landowners and the potential as well as the complexities of creating an additional income stream from carbon trading.

Field trip attendees viewed two properties burned in the Mendocino Lightning fire and listened to the landowners described the fires experience and its effects on their forests. They also viewed the well managed property of Webb Harpe, Tree Farmer of the Year, and enjoyed lunch on his historic property. Attendees were treated to the unique experience of riding in CDF Emergency Transport vans which were provided and piloted by local fire captains. The evening banquet was well attended by an enthusiastic crowd who enjoyed bidding on many popular auction items. As a result, the auction income netted a record breaking \$2800.00.

Thank you to all the hard working volunteers who made this event such a success. We look forward to welcoming you next year in Redding! *Nan Deniston, Annual Meeting Committee and FLC Vice President.*

### **Up Coming Field days:**

1) **July 11, 2009:** Tree Farms, in Forest Hill area. Contact Ralph Gaarde, 1392 Table Mountain Drive, Oakdale Ca 95361. Email: [gaardeflc@earthlink.net](mailto:gaardeflc@earthlink.net) \$20 for member. Registration includes lunch.

2) **Aug 22, 2009:** Jackson State Demonstration Forest. Contact Forest Tilley, 29850 Sherwood Road, Ft Bragg, CA 95437-4112. Phone (707)964-0690 Email: [ftilley2@comcast.net](mailto:ftilley2@comcast.net) . \$20 for member. Registration includes lunch.

**Passing on.** Hal Bowman, California RPF #20, passed away on June 1, 2009. He was an early member of FLC, and he wrote the first state approved NTMP. He was instrumental in getting state to change taxing forest land from an ad valorem to a timber yield tax. We will miss him.

**State Fair Forest Center Volunteers needed.** August 21<sup>st</sup> through September 7<sup>th</sup>. As a volunteer you are provided free admission into the fair, a parking pass, and snacks and drinks during your shift (3.5 or 4.5 hours) Contact the Forest Foundation (Pam Sawyer) at 1-866-241-8733 or email [ps@calforestfoundation.org](mailto:ps@calforestfoundation.org) .for details.

*Communications Development Committee*

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