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President's Message

Hook, Line and...Frying Pan

Valdek Parik, FLC President



Oh how nice it is to have sunshine following a very wet winter. In my mind, I am thinking it is going to be a great summer, or could it be that I am an optimist? I never thought that I would be elected our FLC President. During our May Board of Directors Meeting, I was like a fish on the hook. I tried to wiggle myself free, but my fellow Board members kept their lines tight as I struggled to figure out what was happening to me. I remember saying, "you guys are more qualified than me;" I felt my heart rate increasing. Then, I began to realize the hook was set, especially when Jim Chapin suggested that the time had come for our Board to have a president who is a small landowner without a profession tied to forestry. I have all the respect in the world for Jim, a past president himself and serving on our Board for longer than I know. I was not hearing objections from anyone and all discussions were positive, leaving all eyes fixed on me for a decision. By then I essentially could feel that I was fit to the frying pan...game-over.

Honestly speaking, I have high regard for all our FLC Board of Director members. If I am the chosen one then I am not going to run from that. I am truly honored to be considered for the presidential position. I feel confident that with all the experience on the Board, we will continue to serve our membership well through this next term.

Unfortunately, due to previous commitments, I could not attend this year's Annual Meeting held in Tuolumne, California. I want to take this opportunity to thank Charll Stoneman for his strong leadership as our Past President. Also, I thank all our Board members, including those whose terms expired, for their dedicated service to our organization. Further, I want to thank Deidre Bryant and Association Resource Center (ARC) Staff for the continued administrative services provided. Finally, I welcome our new

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President's Message

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Board of Directors members: Matt Greene, Russell Greenlaw, John Williams (returning) and John Wilson. We certainly appreciate your fresh commitment to our organization. I welcome our new Forest Landowners of California members joining this year. Together, I am certain we will provide value-added benefits to our family forest interests and the needs of our organization.

For those who do not know me, I will be interviewed in a membership spotlight article in the next newsletter. I will announce my goals and elaborate through FLC communications.

Our organization has made much progress through past years. Examples include:

- established professional services with ARC,
- improved newsletter and membership communications,
- established resources guide for a contribution source and connecting members with industry resources,
- improved presence at our State Capitol and with legislators through voluntary member efforts, and
- hired a lobbyist to help us follow legislative issues as well as become better acquainted with legislative representatives.

We will continue progress with respect to FLC's traditional goals. There will always be trials and opportunities. Like any healthy organization, we want to be stronger and reach goals faster. I hope to help facilitate positive improvements in that direction.

One of my organizational goals will be to focus on growing our membership, a challenging yet necessary ongoing task for FLC. You can count on hearing more about our continued drive for increased membership and ideas to help reach this goal. I ask you to stay connected and supportive on the topic of increasing our membership along with our traditional landowner topics. Both are reliant upon each other and FLC's success.

Another organizational goal will be to help improve exposure and connection of our private forest landowners to the emerging biomass marketplace. I attended the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) workshop held in Sacramento on May 16-17, 2017. I met some great people and learned about the current struggles facing private enterprises investing into biomass facilities in several locations throughout California. Work has been in progress for a couple of years with many biomass mills barely in ground-breaking stages. Many delays are being faced and no operations have a predetermined start date.

- One common challenge that private forest landowners face is how to efficiently transfer raw material from the forest to the mill. Many mills will not be able to afford the cost of material transportation. Transportation distance and material demand is not much different when harvesting timber.
- Biomass plant feed rates are a big concern. The mills need to operate efficiently and maintain consistent feedstock. To obtain start-up financing, many need to prove they have sufficient arrangements via contracts and stacked raw material or log decks for feedstock. Many are finding it easier to get their feedstock materials from government forest lands than private lands. And many are not aware of the private landowners from which to obtain feedstock.
- Many of the mills are focused on obtaining grant money for the sophisticated process of brownfields clean-up of selected mill sites. Many are old lumber mill sites with serious contamination issues, and some are sites close to utility service lines. Connection fees with the utility companies are proving to be very expensive.

I now have a better understanding that a stronger connection is needed between the private forest landowners and this market. FLC and the emerging biomass marketplace have common interests but there remains opportunity in reaching full implementation. Both FLC and the emerging biomass marketplace need to improve partner relationships, solving common barriers of getting raw materials from private lands to the marketplace. As you can see, it is a long story that I will report more about in a future newsletter.

Looking forward, good things have been happening since our annual meeting. FLC's committees have continued to serve us. We have seen broadcast emails with detailed updates

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President's Message

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concerning the Tree Mortality Task Force (TMTF) status reports. Thank you to Charll Stoneman and Larry Camp for their dedicated participation with TMTF. There are a wide range of activities taking place; and I found it very interesting to read through the numerous links providing explanations and statistics. We will continue to share updates in future months on our website. Keep an eye out for Reforestation Workshops that work into your schedule.

Brian White provided FLC three legislative updates since May. Some updates were shared with our membership via broadcast email. As Brian noted, bills that made it out of the fiscal committees by May 26, the Senate and Assembly had until June 4 to pass bills out of their house of origin. A list of bills that FLC is actively tracking was summarized with the option to click and read each of the full bill's text. Thank you, Brian, for the work you do supporting FLC. Updated legislative reports will be posted to our website. We will also post letters written on behalf of FLC for those which we advocate Support or No Support (on the Legislative page of the website). Some positions we are taking are in coalition with other organizations sharing common interests in such legislative bills. Thank you to Charll Stoneman and Larry Camp for your involvement and dedication to legislative matters.

We encourage our members and guests to periodically visit FLC's website. We also appreciate guests visiting us on our Facebook page. Write a positive statement or click to **Like** us; this helps broaden FLC's exposure in social media. Our FLC Field Days are posted on the website, and we are looking forward to seeing well-attended gatherings this summer. Feel free to invite your family and forest-loving friends – the next Field Day is August 19 – register today to attend.

We appreciate the feedback received from our membership survey. If you have not returned your completed survey yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. Our committees will be assessing the results and reacting to the feedback received.

Until next time, enjoy your summer at your family forest and please be safe out there.

Valdek Parik

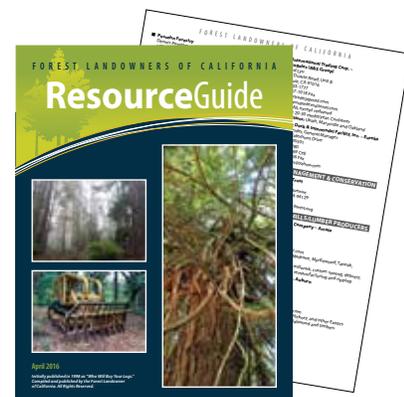


What Is the FLC Resource Guide?

The 2016 edition of the Resource Guide, published by the Forest Landowners of California (FLC), is the second printing of the Guide. The original publication was called, "Who Will Buy Your Logs?" which was published in 1998. The Resource Guide is compilation of mills and log buyers—personal contacts were made prior to printing in April this year to ensure that the publication is as current as possible. If you know of changes or updates, please send the updates to staff at the FLC office (see below for contact information).

Associate members of FLC receive a complimentary listing in the Resource Guide. Associate members are individuals who provide a service or product to forest or timber landowners—consulting foresters, CPAs, appraisers, attorneys, etc. If you know a professional service provider who should be listed in this Resource Guide, please send the information to the staff at the FLC office (see below). It is our goal to expand the Resource Guide with resources that benefit the forest or timberland owners.

Send your updates, inquiries or additions to Deidre Bryant, deidreb@forestlandowners.org, or by regular USPS mail, or call (877) 326-3778.



Legislative Update – July 24, 2017

By Brian White, KP Public Affairs, FLC Legislative Advocate

This Legislative Update includes actions taken on bills in the second house prior to both the Assembly and Senate adjourning on July 17 for their official Summer Recess. The actions below reflect the status of bills in the policy committees of the second house with most awaiting hearings in the respective fiscal committees when the Legislature reconvenes on August 21. Once legislators return, they will rush to act on hundreds of bills within a three-week window to meet a September 1 fiscal deadline and a final September 15 deadline for passing all active bills out of the Legislature for the governor's consideration. Bills that don't pass by September 15 will either become two-year bills or die in the fiscal committees. In the past, the one wildcard to always be on the lookout for are potential "gut-and-amend" bills that can surface at any time. But due to a voter-approved initiative enacted last year, all bills will need to be in print for 72 hours before they can be acted upon. This could reduce the desire for surprise gut-and-amends on the last night of session but it will unlikely stop them from being introduced.



There are two issues that need to be particularly highlighted in this report that will have an immediate impact on forest landowners – one in a positive way and another in a potentially negative way if it is enacted. AB 398 (Garcia), which Governor Brown is expected to sign very soon, will extend the state's cap-and-trade program until January 1, 2031. Just before the Legislature adjourned for Summer Recess, the governor and legislative leaders came to an agreement and secured the necessary two-thirds vote in both houses to ensure the controversial cap-and-trade program can continue past its 2020 expiration date while also withstanding potential legal challenges.

To garner enough votes, particularly from Republican legislators, the Governor and Democrats agreed to include a provision in the bill that provides a 14-year suspension (until January 1, 2031) on the State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee. The fee, which is levied on nearly 800,000 rural California properties, has garnered significant opposition from landowners with several legislators seeking its repeal throughout the years, including a pending lawsuit that seeks to overturn it.

Although repeal of the SRA fee is a temporary victory for small landowners, it is a win nonetheless. To cover funding for fire prevention expenses, the SRA fee will be backfilled by funds from the cap-and-trade program that will be raised during the various auction proceedings. But several Republican legislators and taxpayer groups opposed AB 398 due to concerns about potential gas price spikes and there is no guarantee of how the funds will be used. While 60 percent of cap-and-trade revenues are already dedicated to programs such as high speed rail, other transportation-related projects and renewable energy programs, the remaining funds will be appropriated yearly during the budget process. However, Republicans did win another concession in AB 398 that will allow voters to decide on the 2024 ballot on how future cap-and-trade revenues will be used going forward. Other provisions in AB 398 will not directly impact forest landowners but it should be noted that several environmental justice groups, seeking to impose local air district regulations through a companion bill in AB 617 (Garcia), were not happy with the end result of AB 398 because they allege the bill reduced local air district authority over climate change policy even though local air districts primarily regulate criteria pollutants.

In other news, FLC-opposed legislation SB 49 (de Leon), which would require state agencies to adopt standards that are at least as stringent as the baseline federal standards based on a host of federal laws, continues to move through the process despite significant opposition from a coalition of business groups, agriculture, landowners, water agencies and many others. The bill is an attempt to take a swipe at the Trump Administration out of fear that federal agencies will be told to relax their standards or that Congress will pass legislation doing so. The most troubling provision in SB 49 includes a private right of action that will require the Attorney General to review 60-day notices of intent to sue by private citizens who allege that state and local agencies are not complying with the bill's so-called "baseline standard" even though California already has more stringent laws than the federal government. If this bill passes and is signed into law, there will likely be a litany of

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Legislative Update

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litigation attempts to stop its enforcement due to federal preemption issues. The coalition will be working to keep this bill from passing the Assembly Floor since it will be much harder to stop in the Senate. Likewise, it's unclear if the Brown Administration has a position on the bill at this time and business groups would rather not have it reach his desk.

In Senate

- **AB 211 (Bigelow) SRA Fee Report – WATCH – Senate Appropriations hearing – August 21**
- **AB 362 (Wood-D) CFIP Loans for Landowners – SUPPORT – Senate Appropriations Suspense File**
- **AB 398 (Garcia-D) Cap-and-Trade Extension / SRA suspension – WATCH – Governor's Desk**
- **AB 288 (Oberholte-R) SRA Fee Payment Extension – SUPPORT – (2-year bill)**
- **AB 425 (Caballero-D) La Malfa Exemption Roads Work – SUPPORT – Senate Appropriations Suspense File**
- **AB 771 (Quirk-D) Prescribed Burn Template – WATCH – HELD IN COMMITTEE**
- **AB 920 (Aguiar-Curry-D) Baseload Procurement Plans – SUPPORT – Senate Appropriations hearing – August 21**
- **AB 1066 (Aguiar-Curry-D) Public Works and Tree Removal – NEUTRAL – Senate Appropriations hearing – August 21**
- **AB 1433 (Wood-D) Cap-and-Trade Dollars to Protect Open Space – WATCH – Senate Appropriations hearing – August 21**

In Assembly

- **AB 1391 (Patterson-R) CFIP Funds for Vegetation Management – WATCH – (2-year bill)**
- **AB 975 (Friedman-D) Expansion of Wild & Scenic Rivers – OPPOSE – (2-year bill)**
- **AB 1342 (Flora-R) Cap-and-Trade for Forest Projects – SUPPORT – (2-year bill)**
- **SB 49 (de Leon-D) No Backsliding on Federal Laws – OPPOSE – Assembly Appropriations**
- **SB 100 (de Leon) 100 Percent Renewable Portfolio Standard – WATCH – Assembly Appropriations**
- **SB 473 (Hertzberg) California Endangered Species Act – WATCH – Assembly Appropriations**
- **SB 775 (Weikowski) Cap-and-Trade – WATCH – (2-year bill)**

You may also find archived Legislative Updates on the FLC website – click on the Legislative menu from the home page. You may check the status of bills that FLC is tracking by visiting <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/> and use the Quick Bill Search function.

New Members

Please join us in welcoming new members* to FLC!

Terra Barrington

Mendocino County
Jo Barrington Family Member

Ross A. Carkeet, Jr.

Rattlesnake Ridge Tree Farm
Tuolumne County

Nritkaar (Riti) Dhesi

Parker Ten Mile Ranch
Mendocino County
Nan Deniston Family Member

Eric and Kim Gaarde

Tuolumne County
Ralph and Barbara Gaarde Family Members

James Gaither, Jr.

Lake County

Whit Gaither

Lake County
James Gaither Family Member

Harry and Alina Haigler

Sonoma County

Ronald S. Hutchinson

Nevada County

Peter C. Rodbell

Parker Ten Mile Ranch
Mendocino County
Nan Deniston Family Member

Mike and Chris Smith

Tuolumne County
Ralph and Barbara Gaarde Family Members

Beth Ann Spring

Rancho Laguna
Mendocino County
Lillian Drinkwater Family Member

Kim Thompson

Pryor Ranch
Sonoma County

Brent Willits

C & C Ranches
Humboldt County
Burt and Cynthia Rees Family Member

Scott Willits

C & C Ranches
Humboldt County
Burt and Cynthia Rees Family Member

Janet Wyman

Summit Lime Company
Kern County
Ted Wyman Family Member

**As of July 2017*

Ask a Forester

Spring Cleaning

Question:

With fire season approaching, what actions should I be taking now?

Answer:

The approaching fire season always gets the attention of forest landowners. One of the first items to be completed is cleaning your access roads of woody debris, especially downed trees that would impede access during a wildfire. Think of it as “spring cleaning” for the eventual visit by fire-fighting crews who need rapid access to the property. Every minute a fire crew has to spend clearing roads is a minute that the fire perimeter expands. It’s a geometric expansion of the fire that may mean the difference between a small fire and one that consumes hundreds of acres

While clearing the roads, do an assessment of the fuel hazards on the road sides. If you have brushy conditions that may allow a fire to flash over a road, the fire crews will NOT enter your property. Local fire crews are usually more than happy to visit your property to help assess those conditions. Plan early and tackle the problem. It’s the best insurance a landowner can have.

Bringing Fire Back to the Forest

By Val Parik, FLC President

Our Communication Committee tries to put a theme to our seasonal newsletters. This issue is “Bringing Fire Back to the Forest.” When I commute from Portland, Oregon to my forest property on the Mendocino Coast, I enjoy the changing scenery each time and watching what forest management I see from the highway. I have been very impressed with the amount of controlled burning taking place. From prescribed fires to numerous burn piles, it has been continuous since November. People are practicing forest management by harvesting timber, burning slash, thinning for timber stand improvements and for fuel reduction before summer wildfire season returns. The smoke I see in the air is nothing in comparison to what can be seen during a summer wildfire. But in any event, it catches the eye and, in often cases, signs are posted asking for the public not to report the observed controlled fires. I am certain that our air would be cleaner and our economy better if biomass were more readily available as an alternative to some of the controlled burning. I am embarrassed for how far behind the USA is concerning the biomass industry, after seeing how small European countries like Austria manage their forests so well and biomass is quite prevalent. It is easy to see and read for yourself by searching the Internet for biomass in Austria.

I spent some dedicated time working on my forest property to get the burn piles taken care of before my burn permit expired in April. With all the rain, it was certainly more challenging than in past drought years. At least this year, I did not have to squirt them down with water because of rapid burn rates. All is looking good now. I always appreciate the landscape after the thinning and burning is complete. Already I am continuing the never-ending work of managing the forest property while it is safe, before getting too dry.

In past newsletters, we shared articles and illustrations on creating a defensible space around your property dwellings. As a refresher, visit CalFire’s website, linked below for information concerning defensible space specifications. I am sure we all agree on these safety measures. I did, however, hear from some forest property owners and residents in California who have been refused homeowners insurance based on the property residing in a wildfire danger territory, regardless of measures taken to create properly defensible space around the home. These people had to find an insurance carrier willing to cover them at much higher prices. I am not sure how prevalent this concern is throughout California, but I am interested to learn more. I would like to point out that CalFire offers a free App that you can download and program alerts to your computer or cell phone when fire incidents take place in the counties of your interest. This may be especially helpful when away from home radio and TV media reporting breaking news. It is a pretty cool App. Take a look for yourself.



<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Defensible-Space/>

2017 Annual Meeting Recap

By Claire McAdams, Annual Meeting Committee Chair



Our annual meeting field tour highlighted the difficulties that drought and insect-killed pines are causing. We saw danger to homes in the wildland urban interface (“WUI”) of Tuolumne County, where PG&E contractors are removing insect-killed pines in a typical community of vacation cabins nestled beneath and within a pine forest. This feat of salvage logging uses a massive truck-mounted crane that deposits the logger into the top of the tree, from which he repels downward, chainsaws the trunk, and repels to the ground. The crane lifts the entire tree from its base, swings it away, and lays it in the middle of the street, without touching the tightly spaced houses. The budgeted cost is \$2,000 per tree, but actual cost is usually much more. For the lucky few whose trees are within 200 feet of utility lines, this service is performed gratis by PG&E. For all others, removal of the dead trees towering over their houses is a huge and unanticipated but necessary expense. The PG&E work alone is expected to go on for several years.



We proceeded to a Sierra Pacific Industries (“SPI”) vantage point to view US Forest Service forest containing mostly dead and dying trees; then on to the SPI mill at Sonora, where SPI is buying insect-killed logs and chipping them, to burn at SPI’s mill to produce steam. During lunch at Greeley Hill, we heard Merlin Jones (Supervisor, District II, Mariposa County) describe the overwhelming and growing demands on county officials who are attempting to counsel property owners struggling with a continuing glut of dead trees posing risks and far exceeding the county public works budget.



The field tour reinforced a financial difficulty that Larry Camp, FLC Past President and retired IRS forest appraiser pointed out in his “Early Bird” session: the US income tax code does not count insect damage as a reimbursable disaster, due to its slow onset. Mr. Camp’s talk on the basics for income taxation rules relating to forests was highly educational; its supporting materials will be available at forestlandowners.org for your use.

Our other speakers gave compelling messages regarding the impact of fire and climate change on water quality, with implications for your forest management.

Dr. Hugh Safford highlighted research findings underlying the now ubiquitous facts that temperatures are rising and weather extremes fluctuating, causing more intense and frequent forest fires.

Marie Davis, consultant to the Placer County Water District, provided stunning visual evidence of the massive soil erosion that follows huge fires, silting rivers and dam intakes, and it will likely be decades before soils sterilized by fire and removed by runoff are replaced with fertile landscapes.

The American Forest Foundation Western division director, Tom Fry, described that group’s survey of Western states’ private forestland owners’ engagement with fire prevention efforts. He and his staff have used social media to reach forest landowners who do not actively take fire preventative efforts, to educate and persuade them to do so.

A panel of articulate officials from CalFire, NRCS, the State Water Board and U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Partner’s program provided the latest funding opportunities information for members wishing to pursue financial support for pre-commercial thinning, reforestation, and stream/wildlife restoration projects.

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Connect with Other Forest Landowners on Facebook and Instagram!

A great place to read interesting articles, network with fellow forestland owners around the world!

Share information and stay current with FLC activities!

Check us out and “Like” our page!

Share with friends and family!

Help us build this new FLC resource!

Go to www.forestlandowners.org – on the home page click on the Facebook and Instagram images.



Phillips Brothers Mill and Tree Farm Field Day

View the photo gallery from the July 15 Field Day. From the home page click on the photo of the group in a forest, which is the Phillips Brothers Mill and Free Farm.

Annual Meeting Recap *Continued from page 7*

Our final speaker, Jodi Axelrod of University of California, Berkeley, Forestry Center, told us that in Canada, there exists a ‘social license’ – a shared value system across the society – that recognizes and supports active forest management as the way to deal with climate issues and insect-damaged forests. By contrast, California and the U.S. lack this ‘social license,’ making effective policy responses problematic. She presented quantitative data showing the necessity for policy changes to deal with the burgeoning crisis.

Brian White, FLC’s legislative consultant, updated us on the latest in the California legislative session of importance to forests. He continues to open doors for FLC to connect with state legislators.

This meeting was the first annual joint meeting of FLC and the California Tree Farm System (CTFS), and it was a ‘good fit,’ as FLC attendees benefitted from a CTFS inspector’s training class and an introduction to the CTFS held by Lois Kaufman, as well as the presentation of awards to the CTFS Tree Farmer of the Year, and a special award to the longest-serving tree farm inspector. FLC thanks CTFS for its generous grant funding, which enhanced the meeting via support of buses properly sized for our tour route, along with many less visible elements of the meeting.

The elegant and new Black Oak Hotel and Casino proved to be an excellent host; we thank them for their fine service, delicious meals and luxurious meeting facilities and lodging.

Many thanks to Larry Camp and Ralph Gaarde, whose field tour planning in the face of the wettest Spring in years, and continually changing road closures, went way “above and beyond.”

Please note: to learn more, see the powerpoint/visual presentations of all speakers that will be posted soon on the Annual Meeting page of the FLC website. Enjoy!

Join Us in Calaveras County and Meet the 2017 Tree Farmer of the Year!

August 19, 2017 • Fort Mountain Ranch Field Day

In 1891 William Bosse acquired 90 acres of land along the South Fork Mokelumne River. The Bosse family lived on and worked this land from 1898 until 1982. Over the 84 years they owned the ranch the Bosse family expanded their contiguous land holdings at the ranch from the original 90 acres to over 4,800 acres. During this time three generations of the Bosse family farmed, raised cattle and other livestock, operated a trout farm and harvested timber on the ranch.

In 1982 the ranch was sold to Gerry Hodnefield. Hodnefield operated the ranch as a cattle ranch, running 350 head of Registered Herford cattle. He also had a significant equestrian operation on the ranch. During Hodnefield’s ownership, in 1988 the ranch experienced the Rail Road Flat Fire. This fire burned nearly the entire ranch, many areas burned flat. Other areas burned off understory and left standing forest. After the fire the property was immediately salvaged logged, then reforested. Hodnefield decided to reforest at 2 to 3 times the recommended number of seedlings per acre. This very dense reforestation, combined with naturally occurring regeneration of trees and brush produced a very dense growth pattern. After the fire reforestation efforts, Hodnefield made a conscious decision to “just let nature take its course” and let the re-growth progress without any forest management practices whatsoever.

In 1997 the McLeod family purchased 1,000 acres of the Bosse Ranch from Hodnefield. These 1,000 acres contain the original Bosse headquarters as well as other lands along one and one half miles of the South Fork Mokelumne River and associated watershed lands. The forested areas of the ranch were now covered in extremely dense mixed conifers interspersed with oak trees all with an extremely dense understory of primarily Manzanita and Ceanothus that stood between 6 and 10 feet tall and was completely impenetrable. The McLeod family knew that the forest was badly in need of improvement and engaged the services of California reforestation to develop a Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan approved in 2003.

In 2005 a harvest was conducted on ¼ of the property. A CFIP project was started in 2006 to begin treating the stands planted after the 1988 Rail Road Flat Fire with mastication and follow-up herbicide application. To date they have thinned 600 acres and have a current CFIP to thin an additional 70 acres, plant 20 acres with follow-up herbicide application.

Download the registration from the FLC website – right from the home page.

PG&E Turns Dead Trees into Renewable Energy

May 30, 2017

By Editors of *Electric Light and Power/POWERGRID International*

In response to California's ongoing tree mortality crisis and increased wildfire threat, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is working with local communities and power generators to dispose of dead tree debris and turn it into renewable energy.

PG&E is operating sorting and chipping yards in eight counties hard hit by tree mortality to prepare the dead tree debris for use in biomass generation facilities. The two newest sites recently opened in Placer and Nevada counties.

"It's a unique opportunity to help our communities and our customers, and demonstrate our commitment to clean energy. By removing this fuel, we're helping people to protect their homes, and enabling firefighters access to their property and homes in the event of a wildfire," said Kevin Dasso, PG&E vice president of Electric Asset Management.

PG&E is offering free dead tree clean-up assistance to customers with trees felled by PG&E to protect power lines in ten counties which have declared tree mortality emergencies. The company is hauling dead tree debris to sorting and chipping yards established in Fresno, Madera, Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador, El Dorado, Placer and Nevada counties.

In 2016, PG&E removed about 236,000 dead or dying trees and delivered about 56,000 tons of dead tree debris to end-use facilities. So far in 2017, the company has removed 57,000 trees and delivered 52,000 tons of dead tree debris. PG&E crews and its contractors are actively removing dead and dying trees and managing wood debris.

PG&E's contractor, Phillips and Jordan, processes the debris into woodchips and delivers the chips for electricity generation to biomass facilities in Fresno, Sonora and Lincoln. In an agreement authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, PG&E pays a contract price for the electricity that is below what it would expect to pay for replacement power.

The energy company's dead tree clean-up program is part of its comprehensive response to tree mortality in the state. The U.S. Forest Service announced late last year that the total number of dead trees in California has reached 102 million on 7.7 million acres.

Source: <http://www.elp.com/authors/editors-of-elp-pgrid.html>

The photos featured in this article were taken by Tracy Brown, FLC Staff (Creative Services and Web Development), during the Field Day portion of the 2017 FLC/CTFC Annual Meeting held in Tuolumne County where participants observed PG&E removing dead trees.



We Appreciate the Generous Support from Our Contributors!

As of July 1, 2017

Sapphire (\$5,000+)

This spot reserved just for you!

Diamond (\$2,000 to \$4,999)

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Val & Kati Parik

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Charll & Donna Stoneman

Charles Wagner

Ted Westphal

Ted Wyman

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Hap Anderson

Matt Babich

Jo Barrington

Fran Belden

Donald Campbell

Daniel and Cheryl Cohoon

Gloria Cottrell

Gilda Drinkwater

Carol Fall

Dorothy Goodyear

Russell Greenlaw

Peter Hanelt

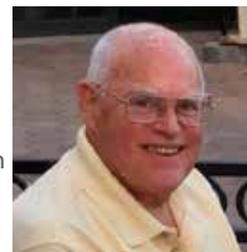
Andrew Hill

Tim Holiday

Forest Tilley – In Memoriam

From the Tilley Family

Forest Boutelle Tilley, devoted and loving husband of Pat Tilley and inspiring father of Brett Boutelle Tilley and Lynn Tilley Sevall, passed away on April 2, 2017, after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in early March. He was 79.



Forest was born in San Francisco and lived much of his life in Mendocino County. Following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps, he became a forester, earning a B.S. at Humboldt State University in 1964. He also served in the U.S. Army Reserves during the 1960s.

In 1965, Forest began his career with the California Department of Forestry which then spanned the next 27 years. He became the manager of Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) in 1978, a job which he described as "the best job in CDF," focusing on active forest management, research and demonstration of good forest practices, and public recreation. Forest's high personal standards of fairness, honesty, integrity, hard work, and treating others with respect were all reflected in his work.

During his career and also after retirement, Forest was active in numerous community and professional organizations. He was a Rotary Club member for years, serving as president in 1987-88, participated on committees for the Hospital Foundation and College of the Redwoods, assisted in the development of the Redwood Forest Foundation Inc., served on the Advisory Committee for JDSF, and was a long-time member and two-year president of Forest Landowners of California (FLC). Forest served for more than 20 years on the FLC Board of Directors. He also was involved with training teachers in natural resources education.

Forest was a man with many interests, the primary ones being love of travel, western U.S. and Native American history, and natural resource issues. He and Pat, who celebrated 56 years of marriage in 2016, traveled extensively during retirement. They especially enjoyed exploring the western U.S., delighting in discovering out of the way places and hiking to beautiful destinations. They also made three cross-country trailer trips, mostly "off freeway," seeing the beauty of our country and learning the history of the areas they visited.

Forest is survived by his wife, Pat, and children Brett and Lynn and Lynn's husband, Tim; his brother, John, and wife, Bobbie, of Redwood Valley; cousin, Ann, of Bristol, Vermont; beloved grandchildren, Olivia, Cole, Lauren and Logan; and several nieces and nephews. He cherished his role as a grandfather, hoping to instill his core values into the children and watching with pride and excitement as they grew into maturity.

Forest was a quiet man who always wanted his words and actions to be meaningful and sincere. At his request, no services were held but a joyful celebration of his life took place on July 16, 2017.

Gifts in his memory could be made to The Community Foundation of Mendocino County - The CF Flinn and Walker B. Tilley Fund for Sustainable Forestry, 204 S. Oak St., Ukiah, CA 95482; The Nature Conservancy, 4245 N. Fairfax Dr. Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203-1606; Mendocino Coast District Hospital Hospice Program, 700 River Dr., Fort Bragg, 95437; or a charity of your choice. The family is deeply grateful for the compassionate care and respect from the RNs and staff at Mendocino Coast District Hospital. The outpouring of love and support from friends near and far has sustained and nurtured us all.



Northern Spotted Owl Technical Assistance – New Guidance from USFWS

The following information is from Kathleen Brubaker, ES Program Lead in the Arcata office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Changes from existing policy are shown in **bold and italicized** print.

As a follow-up to the public meetings held June 22 and 26, 2107, in Fort Bragg and Eureka, respectively, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) offers the following guidance on how technical assistance will be conducted on non-industrial timber lands. The following steps are applicable for timberlands managed under a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP), Non-industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP), or Habitat Retention Agreement (HRA) that may affect the federally threatened northern spotted owl (NSO):



THP No change – File plan as usual with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire).

NTMP (new **NTMPs that have not received Technical Assistance (TA) from the Service or that have a current year TA letter** from the Service) No change – File plan as usual with CalFire.

NTMP (NTMPs that have received TA from the Service in the past **without current-year TA letter**)

- Send CalFire the required NSO survey information package; after CalFire reviews and approves the NSO package, and after the amendment has been processed,
- File a Notice of Timber Operation (NTO) with CalFire.

HRAs (Habitat Retention Agreement) (without current year TA from the Service)

- Immediately seek pre-consultation with CalFire, and ***you may also want to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).***
- CalFire and ***CDFW will review proposed timber operations for consistency*** with the California Forest Practice Rules, the Service’s protocols and guidelines and California Endangered Species Act.
- If CalFire/***CDFW determines that the proposed operations do not meet “likely to not take” guidelines for NSO, survey protocol, habitat retention guidelines or disturbance buffers, then:***
 - ***CDFW would inform the landowner, CalFire and the Service, if their review finds that the proposed project does not meet the above guidance.***
 - If needed, CalFire could request TA from the Service.

HRAs (with current year TA from the Service)

- No change – File plan as usual with CalFire with the Service’s TA letter.

NSO Activity Center (AC) Abandonment

- No change, the Service will continue to evaluate NSO AC abandonment requests.
- If associated with a plan, then CalFire can request TA.
- If TA is needed before filing a plan, the request can be sent concurrently to the Service and CalFire.

The Service is developing guidance for timberland owners regarding Safe Harbor Agreements and Habitat Conservation Plans.

Contributors

Continued from page 10

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Francis Schutz
Todd Swickard
Frank Teiche
George Thompson
Gay Toroni
Larry Tunzi
Steven Vanderhorst
Susan Walsh
John and Laura Williams
Kay White
Richard Wortley

Friends (up to \$99)

Gary & Jan Anderson
Thomas Arens
Pam Augspurger
Robert Benfield
James Bengard
David & Carolyn Beans
Dennis & June Bebensee
Benton Cavin
Jim & Lana Chapin
Sandra DuBose
John Fleming
John Hughes
Larry and Geri Hyder
Zachary Jones
Ron & Nancy Knaus
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Forest Landowners OF CALIFORNIA

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FLC Website— News You Can Use

The website includes a page titled, “News You Could Use.” It features current drought updates, other water saving resources and the California Forest Pest Conditions Report for the last three years, which includes the latest 2015 report.

If there is information you would like to see on this page or if there are other areas where the website could be expanded, please contact Deidre Bryant at the FLC office – (877) 326-3778 or deidreb@forestlandowners.org. We look forward to adding content that is valuable to our forest landowner members.

Calendar of Events

These calendar activities are also located on FLC’s interactive calendar on the website. Click on the Calendar menu for other details, such as registration information, etc.

August 19, 2017

FLC Field Day
Fort Mountain Ranch (Calaveras County)

October 7, 2017

FLC Field Day
Parker Ten Mile Ranch (Mendocino County)

November 3, 2017

FLC Board of Directors Meeting
Granzella’s Inn (Williams, CA)

How You Can Make A Difference

Have you been wondering how you could make a difference? We have several opportunities. There are a few seats open to serve as a Director on the FLC Board of Directors. Join a dynamic group of individuals to serve the members in legislative advocacy, program planning and organizational governance. There are four committees you could join: Annual Meeting, Communications, Legislative and Membership.

Contact Deidre Bryant at (877) 326-3778 or deidreb@forestlandowners.org with your interest.



Forest Landowners of California
is a proud sponsor of the
California Tree Farm Committee.

