OREST LANDOWNERS OF CALIFORNIA **FamilyForest**News VOLUME

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Winter 2021

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President's Message Claire McAdams, FLC President

Even as the snowdrifts linger in our nearby Trinity Mountains, and winter completes the elegant whiteness of Mt. Shasta, I know that sooner than we expect, the heat of summer will return, along with our fire season. Our "To Do" list will be growing soon, as we undertake the actions that will keep our forests and homes safer.



As we prepare, so are state legislators. What is different about the coming fire season is that the state government is finally taking it seriously, budget wise, and high-level officials are saying that they recognize the crucial role that small/family forest

landowners must play in the work of "forest fuel reduction" to protect the state's private forests and its communities from catastrophic wildfire. If we will ever be heard and have any influence on policy, this is the year. We shared the FLC Action Plan during December with incoming legislators, agency heads and the governor's office. It caught the attention of some highly placed decision-makers, and we met with the director of CalFire and others, and were able to share the experience of our RPF board members, concerning agency practices that would benefit from change, and the need for massive funding. We were heard.

As I write this, the state Senate is holding a budget hearing on the Governor's Wildfire Resilience Package and its programs. I urge you to read the Wildfire Resilience Package for yourself – it is available online at https://sbud. senate.ca.gov/subcommittee2.

Or, simply save time and read its Summary on page 2, and then send a message to your state Assemblymembers and Senators (or even better, send more, later in the session, so they get to know your sense of urgency). Urge them to fully support the budgetary requests that make up the Wildfire Resilience Package. As bill *Continued on page 8*

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FLC Staff

DEIDRE BRYANT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ext 2233 deidreb@forestlandowners.org

Oversees all staff for the association

- Reports directly to the FLC Board of Directors
- Board governance and administrative operations
- Membership database management (updating existing records)
- Process new and renewing memberships
- Interact with members about their dues renewals
- Point of contact for members with questions about FLC events, etc.

TRACY BROWN, DIRECTOR, CREATIVE SERVICES & WEB DEVELOPMENT

Ext 2207

tracyb@forestlandowners.org

- Department head for design, production, and web services
- Update FLC website
- Design/layout of newsletter and annual meeting registration program

KATHI CAMPBELL STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Ext 2222 kathic@forestlandowners.org

• Accounts payable

- Oversees accounts
 receivable clerk
- Addresses questions about receivables and payables
- Prepares financial statements

FOREST LANDOWNERS

OF CALIFORNIA 950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150 Folsom, CA 95630 (877) 326-3778 (916) 294-0415 Fax www.forestlandowners.org



Legislative and Regulatory Update

By Brian White, KP Public Affairs, and Larry Camp, Legislative Committee Co-Chair

FLC is currently monitoring the more that 2,200 bills introduced for the 2021-2022 Legislative session through Brian White, your legislative advocate in Sacramento. The table below lists those that he and the Board believe are most important at the present time. We will continue to update you as the legislative process moves forward.

For those of you with rural home sites you may also want to monitor the Board of Forestry's website for proposals dealing with legislatively mandated Fire Safe Regulations. Here is a link to a draft proposal submitted at the March Board meeting under the Full Board binder materials: https://bof.fire.ca.gov/business/

Please contact Deidre Bryant or one of the FLC Board if you have questions or suggestions.

Summary of Legislative Bills Potentially Affecting Forest Landowners of California

Bill No.	Author	Description	Position
AB 9	Wood	Changes prescribed burn liability	Support
AB 52	Frazer	Calif. Global Solutions Act	Watch
AB 267	Valladares	CEQA exemption for thinning, fuel reduction projects	Support
AB 297	Gallagher	Funding for fire prevention projects. Likely to be amended	Support
AB 416	Kalra	Language is currently vague re deforestation. This bill was also introduced last year and did not pass.	Oppose unless amended
AB 431	Patterson	Extends life of exemptions for fuel reduction around homes	Support
AB 575	Fong	Similar to SB 332	
AB 697	Chau	Expands use of Good Neighbor Authority to use completed CEQA or NEPA documents to facilitate fuel treatment projects.	Watch
AB 910	Bigelow	Expands size of small landowner exemption.	Support
AB 912	Bigelow	Restores Working Forest Mgt. plan sixe toe 15,000 ac.	Support
AB 952	Mathis	Amends Ca. Rev. & Tax law to permit limited deduction of passive losses for forest mgt. expenses for nonindustrial owners.	Support
AB 1500	E. Garcia	Creates bond for forest mgt. activities	Support
SB 12	McGuire	Limits development in high hazard fire zones	Oppose unless amended
SB 45	Portantino	See AB 1500 above	Support
SB 55	Stern	Limits development in high hazard fire zones	Oppose unless amended
SB 208	Dahle	Changes definitions for Sierra Nevada Conservancy; could increase funding for fuels management.	Support
SB 332	Dodd	Limits liability for prescribed fire under certain conditions.	Support
SB 709	Dahle	One time 2 year extension on THPs that will otherwise expire in 2021	Support
SB 396	Dahle	Changes regulations regarding fire tools	Watch

Membership Survey Results

Your Communications Committee recently commissioned two membership surveys. The first survey, FLC Communications Survey, was intended to solicit information on how to best communicate with you and to determine what subject matters you were most interested in. The second survey, FLC Wildfire Preparedness Survey, focused on our forest resilience for wildfires and what assistance we need to increase the overall health and resilience of our forests. Your responses to these surveys were thoughtful and provided the Communications Committee and Board Directors with essential information to help improve the overall focus of FLC communications with members. We received 40 responses to the communications survey and 37 responses to the wildfire survey. Both surveys are posted in the FLC website under the Membership menu. For the Communications survey results, click HERE, for the Wildfire survey results, click HERE. Thank you for taking the time to respond to these surveys!

FLC Communications Survey – Key Findings

- A significant number of members have volunteered to assist FLC in responding to regulatory initiatives and improving our ability to manage our forests. (Thanks, we really appreciate your help!)
- 97% prefer email communications, while 60% prefer US mail.
- More than 90% of members are very interested in articles about member tree farm stories, tips from foresters, and California Forest Practice Act regulations.
- 80% are interested in advocating for improved forest regulations and would appreciate more frequent status reports.
- 65% would like more information on grant funded forest improvement programs, and 72% would like more on timber harvest regulations. Specific comments requested short articles, definitions of terms, contact information for applications and hyperlinks to specific regulations.
- Fully 90% are comfortable accessing the FLC website for information and had specific requests for including regulations and making the site easy to navigate.

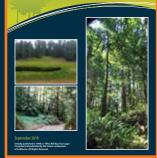
FLC Wildfire Preparedness Survey – Key Findings

More than half are comfortable with the fire resistance of their forest dwelling, and 67% have an evacuation plan.

- Only 40% are comfortable with the fire resistance of their forest, and only 41% are somewhat comfortable with the resistance of neighboring properties.
- About one third of our members have experienced wildfires on their forest.
- About two thirds of our members are using CAL FIRE CFIP grants and or USDA EQIP grants to improve their forest health.
- For timber harvesting, about 54% have NTMPs, while only 16% have TMPs.
- In order of preference, forest fuel buildup is reduced by manual thinning, timber harvest, mechanized thinning, herbicide treatments and only 3% use prescribed fire.
- A wide range of forest thinning methods and resulting costs were reported. For more information, please refer to the website.
- Regarding how to improve management of our forests, fully 84% would like reduced regulatory oversight, 71% opted for more thinning grants, 61% were interested in coordinated fuels reduction projects with neighbors, and 39% were interested in prescribed fire.
- About 30% plan to harvest timber in the next five years, and 30% plan to harvest within the next 10 years.
- About 70% are willing to participate in Zoom meetings for forest management policy discussions, while about 40% were willing to gather information on county and fire safe council programs, and on county permits required for forest management projects.

Once again, thank you to those members who responded to these surveys.

ResourceGuide



What Is the Resource Guide?

In 2014 Forest Landowners of California (FLC) published the Resource Guide. FLC is committed to publishing the Resource Guide every other year in even years. The fourth edition will be printed and distributed to FLC members in late fall.

The original publication called, "Who Will Buy Your Logs?" was published in 1998. The Resource Guide is compilation of mills and log buyers — personal contacts are made prior to each printing 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 staff at the FLC office (see below). We strive to continue expanding the Resource Guide with resources that benefit the forest land owners.

Send your updates, inquiries or additions to Deidre Bryant: Email: deidreb@forestlandowners.org Call: (877) 326-3778 Fax: (916) 294-0415 Mail: Forest Landowners of California, 950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150 Folsom, CA 95630

We Appreciate the Generous Support of Our Contributors!

Sapphire (\$5,000+)

This space reserved for you. Diamond (\$2,000 to \$4,999) This space reserved for you. Platinum (\$1,000 to \$1,900)

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Virtual Field Day 2020

By Val Parik

Forest Landowners of California (FLC) regrets not being able to conduct in-person field days due to social distancing requirements. We adapted our meeting practices by using Zoom to meet virtually for conducting committee business as needed, including our 2020 annual membership meeting held last August. Since then, FLC board member Val Parik experienced producing a video presentation virtually replicating a field day visit for our members to enjoy. As Val put it, "I had the opportunity and then felt obligated." We now bring a virtual field day to you.

Being able to attend field days is a valuable benefit for FLC members. This virtual tour is a casual presentation narrated by Val from the perspective of a small landowner. The video brings you to the woods with all those great colors and feelings we all appreciate when visiting our forest properties. It shares his family experience on the land with illustration of current forest stewardship practices, including shaded fuel break and timber stand improvement activity. The forest stewardship practices shown demonstrate scenes before and after treatment results. Viewing from a large screen is enjoyable.

Preliminary video reviews have all been positive. Val states that the best comment was from his tree farm inspector who said "it brought tears to his eyes" knowing how much work was planned and accomplished. While most of our family and friends were all social-distancing or isolating at home, Val said he was literally having a blast in the woods. Progress was being made. I took pictures to demonstrate success. Finally, in July when it got hot and the mechanical work was



completed for the year, we shifted gears and slowed down, taking on less spark hazard activities and small project improvements around our campsite. This is when I learned how big of a job it was to be an amateur video producer. Believe me, big job is an understatement for this novice.

My friend Paige Baker encouraged me to take on the video production work and he assisted with the initial videoing using his photography equipment. This was obviously much better than using my cell phone camera. Once on site,

https://youtu.be/Vodk67GZnxc

I had to come up with some sort of plan and script that would be sensible yet engaging to the audience. I did not want to burden my forester during the pandemic, yet I lacked the education of a Registered Professional Forester to present in a professional manner. There were many others from FLC that I could have called upon; but again, with the pandemic, limited scheduling, and ongoing work in the woods, it was too hectic. So, I chose to go solo. I knew the scenery would be well-received, but I also knew I was not an actor/commentator to make this happen like we see on TV.

To address some challenges, we took many short clips realizing editing will come later. We hiked with equipment in the heat of the day, being careful with dust from disturbed soil to protect equipment. We continuously needed to adjust to changing sunlight and wind. Back at home between trips to the woods, I researched video editing programs, choosing the Wondershare Filmora app software. I got started successfully but eventually faced challenges after investing many hours in editing. Finally, I could see light at the end of the tunnel, keeping the video to under one hour. It was fun to merge in added narration, music and captions. Upon getting approval to share some photos taken by others and to use the names of acknowledged individuals, a final product was ready. Welcome to Hollywood filmmaking 101.

Typically, our in-person field days allow opportunities for interaction. Maintaining tradition, if you have questions from the virtual field day you would like to ask, feel free to send an email to info@forestlandowners.org and we will get you an answer. A link for watching the video is below the photo above. Enjoy!

FLC 2021 Annual Meeting – Our Best Thinking at This Moment

We recognize that everyone is eager to network in person. At this same time, we are mindful that taking precautions to ensure the best interest of our members is of the utmost importance. The FLC Board met in January and here is the best thinking at this moment. We are considering a virtual meeting to fulfill some board administration components, such as board nominations and elections. In addition, we want to deliver a topic that is not only timely but relevant to forest landowners. Last year's Annual Meeting held in August was successful in delivering a timely topic, along with the silent auction. This meeting is planned for a Saturday sometime in the next couple of months. Then as fall approaches, there is the idea to plan a two-day field day program. As time passes a bit and more details come together, we will be sure you are well advised of the plans. We, too, look forward to connecting with everyone in person soon – as soon as we can safely.

FLC Member Signs for Your Property

The Membership Committee continues to look at ways to promote FLC. In May, the committee identified something new – FLC member signs for your property. The signs are 26" wide by 22" tall, and they are made of corrugated sustainable plastic. Posting this sign on your property provides greater awareness to the public of the forest stewardship practiced by FLC members. The cost per sign is \$15; and if you purchase six or more, there is a discount. To purchase signs, contact Deidre Bryant at the FLC office, deidreb@forestlandowners.org, or (877) 326-3778.



Excerpts from the Fall 2015 Newsletter

Defensible Space and Preparing Your Forest for the Possibility of Wildfire

We know that spring is a time when many landowners are in their forests assessing defensible space, for those landowners whose property is located in wildfire regions.

In the fall 2015 edition of the Forest Family News, the newsletter featured two articles on defensible space and



preparing your forest for the possibility of wildfire. These articles serve as a resource, and we have compiled them into document that is posted on the FLC website. It is titled "Defensible Space and the Possibility of Wildfire." You can find it here: http://bit.ly/2DSWP21

Availability for Affordable Liability Insurance for Your Woodlands:

A Benefit of Forest Landowners of California Membership

Did you know that, as an FLC member, you are eligible for

low-cost woodland owners' liability insurance? FLC, along with sister organizations of forest landowners in other states of the U.S., is an affiliate of the National Woodland **Owners Association (NWOA).** The NWOA has long offered a "pooled" woodland liability insurance to its affiliates. Any size acreage is eligible. A simple one-page application form, and your annual payment, is all that is needed to protect your woodlands from the unexpected. Find more information, and how to apply, at the NWOA website (https://woodlandowners. com/), or in any quarterly issue of the very useful NWOA magazine, National Woodlands.

Contributors Continued from page 4

Elizabeth Marshall Maybee Leona McCoach John & Cynthia Miles Eric Millette Stephanie Mills Lynne Mowry & Ed Loweecey **Phillip Noia** David Olson Val & Kati Parik Steve & Liz Schlafer Francis Schutz Ed & Judy Stewart Jeff & Patti Tienken Gav Toroni Larry Tunzi Kay White John & Linda Wilson **Richard Wortley**

Friends (Up to \$99)

Stephen Grether Dustin & Danielle Lindler Kelli Mathia

Ask a Forester Winter 2021

Q) When working in the forest during the summer season, what precautions should one take to prevent fire?

A) Using any internal combustion tools during the summer months can increase the risk of unintentional wildfires. In addition, the following should be observed.

- 1) One should always keep current on forest closures by calling CALFIRE or the local US Forest Service office.
- 2) Work in the mornings when the temperatures are lower and the humidity is higher.
- Have fire tools such as an axe, shovel, backpack pump or mcleod nearby.
- Have spark arrestors checked to ensure they are working properly.
- 5) Be especially cautious when filling gas tanks.
- 6) Carry a cell phone at all times.
- 7) Do not travel off-road with your vehicle.

We Appreciate Members – Continue Your Commitment

Thank you to the members who have renewed their commitment to FLC. If you have not yet submitted your membership dues, we look forward to your continued support.

If you would like to renew online, go to forestlandowers.org and from the Membership menu, selection Join/Renew. At this page, scroll to the bottom and click on the Join or Renew button (either Active for landowners or Associate for non-landowners). Enter your information (include family members, additional fee applies) and click Submit. Select the dues amount based on your acreage, click Add to Cart. Then select the Voluntary Assessment based on your acreage or enter your own amount. The Voluntary Assessment directly



supports the legislative advocacy work. Click Add to Cart. Then click Checkout. Credit Card payment is required to process your membership renewal online.

For questions, please contact Deidre Bryant at the FLC office, (877) 326-3778, or deidreb@ forestlandowners.org. We look forward to your continued support of programs and services this year.

Help Spread the Word

The FLC Membership Committee has been working on ideas to help promote the benefits of being a member of Forest Landowners of California (FLC). One of their efforts is promotional flyers that could be used to market FLC to neighboring forest landowners or to post on the bulletin boards of local community centers or grocery stores.

There are two versions available. You may click on the links below to view each flyer. If you would like some color flyers sent to you, contact Deidre Bryant at the FLC office, (877) 326-3778 or deidreb@forestlandowners.org.

Got Forest Flyer #1: http://bit.ly/FLC-Got-Forest-1

Got Forest Flyer #2: http://bit.ly/FLC-Got-Forest-2





 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

 Agriculture and Natural Resources
 UC Cooperative Extension

Register now for a California Forest Stewardship Workshop

Online beginning June 1, 2021 - July 27, 2021 In-person Saturday, June 26 | Sonoma County, CA

Join the workshop to better understand and protect your forests by developing a Forest Management Plan. Topics include:

- Forest management objectives and planning
- · Forest health, insects and disease
- Forest and fire ecology, wildlife, watersheds
- Fuels reduction and forest resource marketing
- Mapping, inventory and silviculture
- Project development & permitting
- Getting professional help and cost-share opportunities

Participants will utilize online resources on their own time to complete learning modules and short activities. Zoom meetings with all participants and presenters will take place once a week on Tuesdays, 6:00pm – 7:30pm. The in-person field day will cover

silviculture, forest inventory and mapping activities. Participants who complete the workshop will be eligible for a free site visit with a California Registered Professional Forester.

Registration for all Forest Stewardship workshops is available at: http://ucanr.edu/forestryworkshops/ Registration fee all workshops is \$60.

For questions, contact Kim Ingram, kcingram@ucanr.edu.



Maven's Notebook

Sometimes resources can be found in unexpected places. "Maven's Notebook," is a free blog site that provides a great deal of information on current events affecting California water six (6) days a week. Because of the important relationship between our forests and water quality, the site frequently includes forestry issues such as wildfires, forest recovery following fire, watershed water quality issues, and forestry research issues. The blog articles are typically derived from state actions and reports, relevant newspaper articles, and forest research topics such as tree morality. To access the site, simply Google search "Maven's Notebook." If you are already a subscriber, you will receive news alerts through email, based on your selections. If you are not a subscriber, find subscriber to the right of "Donate," and create your email subscription. There are several options for daily or weekly digests. Make your selections and click subscriber. You will need to verify your email address. You can also search the site by typing "forest" or "forestry" and related articles will appear. Enjoy!

New Members

Please join us in welcoming new members since January 2021.

Landowner Members

Jimmie-Fay Beal (Humboldt County)

Bruce Nikolai (Plumas County)

Stephen Sellick (Sonoma County)

Joe & Elizabeth Smailes (Plums County)

Gene Yoon (Lake County)



UC Book Offers Insight Into How Landowners **Can Reforest** Lands Ravaged by Wildfires

In October 2020, the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR) publications office announced the release of a new book, "Reforestation Practices for Conifers in California," a practical manual for landowners and managers that explains the why, where, who, when, what and how of getting sustainable forests back into California's diverse landscape. It is available now for immediate viewing and downloading for free on the Forest Vegetation Management Conference's website: www.fvmc.org. Next year the book will be published in full color print and web format by UCANR.

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.



How You Can Make a Difference

Have you been wondering how you could make a difference? Join a dynamic group of individuals by serving on a committee. 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.

President's Message Continued from page 1

names and numbers become available, we at FLC will be alerting you by email, on the FLC Facebook page, and on our website, and asking you to contact your legislators. These are good reminders to send another message.

Know that throughout this legislative session, Brian White and your FLC policy committee members will be inserting ourselves into conversations about legislation. Ironically, the pandemic practice of video meetings rather than in-person meetings has raised our visibility as a group, as it is no longer necessary to appear in person in Sacramento. This is FLC's silver lining from the pandemic.

Are there other ways that you can help? There are! Legislators and their staff members need forest tours to see what landowners need to protect for catastrophic wildfire, or restore after fire, and the ways in which policies and programs either help, or could do better. If you are willing, please contact FLC leaders and we will set up a (socially-distanced and brown bag) forest tour of your property, as pandemic conditions allow.

Our FLC Facebook page provides another way for you to help. The more you check it and post items of interest to you, the more we can all learn from each other.

Our forest management work is key to the safety of California, but is hidden from the view of most people. A few hours in your woods can be a powerful opinion changer, and are welcome by legislators and their staffs. When they see it, they 'get it,' and are more willing to believe our science-based and experience-based perspective, over the often silvaculturally flawed narratives of the ubiquitous environmental lobbyists at the California capitol.

So please help us by responding to FLC email alerts and exercising your 'inner author' and even considering hosting a tour for legislators and staff.

In addition to its legislative activities, FLC is moving toward the launch of the new non-profit California Forest Conservation Foundation (CFCF). This will enable us to expand our educational reach greatly, via the forest tours that FLC has provided for years, as well as other educational efforts to help small forest landowners with their ongoing needs, including but not only the intergenerational succession planning that will help you keep your forest in the family for the future. But we also will be reaching the general public with the message that active forest management is necessary but more expensive than most owners can afford, and that the forest fuel reduction efforts that keep communities safe from catastrophic wildfire must be repeated because our forest fuel persistently regenerates, requiring retreatment...It is not 'once and done.' We at FLC are very excited about the birth of CFCF, and hope that you will be, too. In the meantime, we hope that you enjoy reading this issue of the FLC newsletter. Be safe and stay well.

Respectfully,

Claire Claire McAdams, President



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