

VOLUME
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2014

FOREST LANDOWNERS OF CALIFORNIA

FamilyForestNews

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President's Message

It hardly seems like the calendar year is half over. Fortunately, no major forest fires have occurred to date, but the season is early. I want to provide a brief summary of the Board's activities since the last newsletter.

The FLC Board has been working to increase FLC membership by contacting holders of NTMPs who are not members of FLC, and working with consulting foresters to encourage their clients to become members. If you know of a neighbor or fellow forest landowner who is not a member, please encourage them to consider joining Forest Landowners of California.

The Communications Committee is continuing to add resources to the website including a weekly drought update from the state. A draft resource guide for landowners providing information about opportunities to sell your forest products was distributed at the Annual meeting, and will be published in the near future. An updated membership directory is being planned for distribution later this year. Finally, a secure area of the website for members-only publications and communication is under discussion.

The Annual Meeting Committee is beginning preparations for the 2015 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in the Auburn area with the field day spent at the U.C. Blodgett Forest near Georgetown. Participants will have an opportunity to view a number of experimental field trials including silvicultural methods, and use of prescribed fire in management.

The Legislative Committee has been monitoring a number of bills that can affect forest management for small landowners. While conditions are not optimal, the climate for passage of incremental constructive forestry legislation continues to be favorable in 2014. The two most important bills are AB 1867 and AB 2142. Both bills have cleared the Assembly and the first Committee in the Senate. See the legislative report in this newsletter for more details. FLC has been involved with developing legislative amendments and gathering support among legislative members and staff on these issues (see the note from Assemblymember



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President's Message

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Patterson, author of AB 1867 on page 6).

Here is the difficult part for me. The FLC Board has begun planning for the long-term future of the organization in terms of legislative advocacy. During the 2013 membership survey, more than 85 percent of the members indicated that representation in Sacramento was an important factor in being a member. During 2013 and 2014, FLC members have established credibility with key legislators, legislative staffers and agency staff. I believe that the Board and membership-at-large have an opportunity to deepen and broaden that relationship that will provide for consideration of the nonindustrial landowner's perspective during the next several years.

At the beginning of 2015, there will be a new Speaker Pro Tem heading the Assembly and a new chairperson for the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Leadership changes will also occur in the Senate. None of these changes are guaranteed to continue the current favorable climate for legislation. As described at the Annual Meeting, FLC with the very generous support of a number of FLC members was able to retain the services of Brian White of KP Public Affairs to facilitate contacts on behalf of FLC with key legislators, staff and administration officials, as well as monitoring the course of legislation. The current agreement expires at the end of August with a possible extension through September if deemed necessary.

After nearly two years of working on legislative and regulatory issues for 5-15 hours per week, I have come to a greater appreciation of the necessity of having a professional relationship with a person who can open doors for FLC members to help develop favorable forest management policy or stop bad policy from getting approved in either the Legislature and/or the regulatory area. That person also needs to be headquartered in the immediate Sacramento area and must understand the issues FLC members face.

As I indicated at the Annual meeting, the probable minimal costs for paid representation is about \$25,000 to \$36,000 annually. This amount is above our regular dues structure that covers the administrative costs of the organization and items such as the newsletters and website. Your Board members are all serving on a volunteer basis with no remuneration.

I ask each member to consider the risks to your forests and their value if we do not have a representative in Sacramento. These could include:

- restricting harvest levels within impaired watersheds (a proposal under consideration by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board);
- potential restrictions on the current NTMP (proposed by some preservation activists);
- additional endangered species listings such as the wolf or grizzly bear (recently approved by the Fish and Game Commission and proposed by the Center for Biological Diversity);
- potentially impose limits on the construction of a residence on a TPZ zoned property (being considered in Plumas County presently) and/or
- lack of opportunity to effectively propose or comment on legislation or regulations that could reduce current costs of harvesting.

The FLC Board needs and wants your input prior to the end of August as to how funding for a sustained legislative effort can be accomplished, e.g. through a special assessment, a temporary dues increase or voluntary donations, some other alternative fundraising effort, or whether we should discontinue our efforts. If the last choice is the consensus of the membership, all of the people involved on behalf of the Legislative Committee can assure you, the members, that those people with a different vision of forest management will not go away and that could endanger the opportunity to productively use your forest. **It is the people who show up who will have influence.** I am asking each member who reads this to step forward with constructive suggestions, no matter how small, as to how to effectively accomplish the goal of expanding of our efforts to represent the values of the nonindustrial landowner in California. Please feel free to contact Deidre, me or any Board member to share your ideas.

Continued on page 8



The Ghost of Leaded Gas

By Denise Seghesio Levine

Ignorance is bliss. Who knew that the ghost of leaded gasoline would come back to haunt us in yet another way.

While many of you gathered in Mt. Shasta for the 2014 FLC Annual Meeting on May 2, I attended the Fire Ecosystem Forest Management & Water Yield Symposium at the USFS Wildland Fire Training Center in McClellan.

The goals of the symposium were to provide an overview of forest management and its effects on water yield and the fire ecosystem, and to present a summary of recently reviewed and published studies. Economic models of optimal forest treatment methods with cost/benefit comparisons to wildfire were examined, and as you can guess, the cost of preventive forest management was a fraction of the costs of fighting (win or lose) wildland and forest fires.

The Rim Fire, still fresh in our memories, was one fire examined and the economics of ecosystem service elements and management practices were compared with successful projects and financial analysis. A full archive of the power point presentations and YouTube videos of all the presentations at the conference was in the final editing stage as I wrote this, and will soon be available to access and view at <http://www.firesymposium.arwi.us>.

Here are a few highlights.

An overabundance of fires in the last decade has produced a plethora of new data on the results of those fires. While some of the findings seemed obvious and simple, others were very disturbing.

On the simple side, studies in the Tahoe Watershed demonstrated that where thinning has occurred, the canopy has been lightened and tree count has been restored to historical base lines, more snow was able to reach the ground, and consequently there was more water. However, in some cases these areas also experienced an increased risk of flooding and runoff, since the snow melted more quickly due to the reduced canopy and more exposure to sunlight.

Additionally, because of the reduced burden on the water table with the removal of trees, the water table rose and remained elevated until the trees regained their ground.

But the disturbing news was evidence that large, old trees that burn in forests and wildfires around the world release lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium and other heavy metals into the air in the ash, which can travel long distances.

When the ash falls, it contaminates the forest floor, or anywhere else it settles. As rain water flows down through the forest litter to the water downstream, or into storm drains in susceptible communities where ash has fallen, it spreads the contamination of lead, mercury and other heavy metals into our waterways.

One study by Finley et al (2009) estimated the amount of lead and mercury released from fires. Lead ranged from 60,000 to 3,800,000 kg/yr, with an average of 1,900,000 kg/yr. Global mercury emissions from wildfires are also significant, estimated at $890,000 \pm 490$ kg/year for gaseous elemental mercury and 170 ± 100 kg/year for particulate-bound mercury.

Until recently no one knew if the lead released was from natural or industrial sources, but one piece of that mystery has been solved. In 2011, Odigie and Flegal measured the isotropic lead content in the ash from the 2009 Jesusita Fire in Southern California. Their work clearly showed the lead was primarily from leaded gasoline used in Southern California from the 1960s to the 1980s. For more information and plentiful references see **Fields and Forests in Flames: Vegetation Smoke and Human Health** at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3279458/#__ffn_sectitle. While often "more than you wanted to know about things you would rather know nothing at all," it still makes pretty fascinating reading with abundant references.

And it is strong fodder for the environmental benefits of thinning small wood and brush to prevent devastation of larger, older trees.

The conference was well attended, with more than 300 people participating, and was a good mix of academics, professional foresters, policy makers, NGOs and property owners. I encourage you to peruse the presentations when they are available.



Have a
Question
About Your
Property?

There is a form on the FLC website you can use to submit a question. We are building a library of FAQs. Send us your question—it might help another landowner. Or send your question by traditional mail—we will send you a response.

Go to FLC's website—under the menu "Managing Your Forest," select "Ask a Foretser."

Ask a Forester

Q: Today we are cutting down an over 100 year old pine on our property because it was attacked by insects—we are thinking the bark beetle or something similar. My question is what can we do to save the other pine trees on our property from the same fate? We have heard that there is something we can place in the soil around the trees, but we do not know what it is. Could anyone there help us with some ideas?

~Member

A: It is not unusual to have pines of any age attacked by bark beetles and either severely damaged or killed in the process. As far as saving pine trees from this common fate, the best procedure is to ensure the health of the entire stand rather than a tree by tree approach.

First one must look at stand density to ensure that each tree has adequate spacing and is not crowded by too many trees, each one of which must compete for water, light and nutrients.

Next, examine the trees for signs of damage, disease or parasites such as dwarf mistletoe that can severely compromise tree health. This year, 2014, is the third drought year in a row that will impact trees that have withstood previous droughts, only to fail in this unusually severe drought we are all experiencing.

There are some nutrient blocks commercially available, but I hesitate to recommend one because one should be aware of the soil type and moisture conditions on site before purchasing this type of product. It never hurts to consult with a forester or arborist to get an answer that is more specific to the ecotype of the locale.

A Timberland Owners Guide to Archeological Surveys

By Ron Berryman, RPF #839

Whenever Cal-Fire becomes involved in timber harvesting on ones property, the subject of archeological resources always comes up. The landowner may or may not become involved every time, but I guarantee that the forester will become involved, as the forester must testify to the location of (or lack of) sites on the property.

This article pertains to the landowner involvement in the process and is meant to de-mystify the process and provide some degree of comfort that the presence of archeological sites isn't the end of the world.

I hope I don't offend anyone by using direct language, but the following is an accurate portrayal of what often occurs.

Whenever I begin a new harvest plan or exemption, I always quiz the landowner on whether they know of any archeological sites on the property. It usually turns into a sort of "cat-and-mouse" game where the landowner shuffles his feet, stirs up a little dust and doesn't look me in the eye while mumbling something to the effect of "Beat's me, I really don't know anything about those old things". That's my clue that they really do have some information, but are unwilling to share it because of the fear that the presence of a site will have some sort of extreme adverse impact on his property.

What most landowners don't realize is that the site will usually show up in one form or another. The best scenario is for the forester to discover it during the survey, while the worst scenario is for it to be discovered during operations.

Now, that's when things really can get ugly as all work within 100 feet of the site boundary must stop while the forester proposes protection measures to Cal-Fire archeologists. No work can commence near the area while the proposal is acted upon. Usually an archeologist will be assigned to examine the site to fix the boundaries and to assess what penalties they want to impose. Stopping work means exactly that. The logger must move to another area immediately which leaves the logging incomplete near the site. This costs him money and time and you can bet he will want something extra to finish up when he returns.

Any cost savings the landowner thought would happen by not disclosing the site have evaporated by now as the time and penalties start adding up.

This situation creates an atmosphere of distrust between the archeologists, the forester and the landowner which could have been avoided from the start.

I can say that, in my many years of forestry and the reporting of well over 100 sites, I have yet to find a site that had any substantial amount of timber we could not remove.

Judicious use of mitigation measures to protect the site and still harvest the timber has been the rule, not the exception.

My suggestion is to be straight forward with your forester and with the Cal-Fire archeologists and the process will go much more smoothly.



Summer Legislative Report

By Charll Stoneman, Legislative Committee Chair

FLC Assists in Pushing Through Legislation Again in 2014

This past spring FLC has been monitoring a number of bills being formulated in the California Legislature. Two bills that would be of benefit to our members are AB 1867 (Patterson) and AB 2142 (Chesbro).

AB 1867 (Patterson R) – This bill increases the defensible space exemption around a “legally permitted habitable structure” from 150 feet to up to 300 feet. The first 150 feet would have the same implementation conditions as the current 150 foot Fire Safe Exemption, but any clearing from 150 to 300 feet would have minimum tree retention standards of the selection harvest method as stated by the Forest Practice rules. The exemption would also require that a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) oversee the project layout and implementation. Throughout the process the bill continued to garner support from FLC and others as it moved from the Assembly through to the Senate. Members from your FLC board along with representatives of the California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) Board met with both Patterson’s staff and staff of Senate Natural Resource and Water Committee in advance of that Senate’s committee analysis. In doing so FLC and CLFA members managed to keep any further amendments to the bill in check to maintain a functional bill and to appease some of the Senate Committee members concerns. FLC representatives were present in Sacramento to testify in support of the bill at the Committee hearing on Tuesday, June 24.

Through our efforts in a legislative coalition, AB 1867 passed the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee on June 24 with a bipartisan 9 to 0 vote. As expected, Assemblyman Patterson accepted all of the Committee’s suggested amendments, which was a key move because it helped give the Democrats comfort to move the bill out of committee. By all reports, both FLC President Larry Camp and CLFA President Kevin Conway did a good job presenting views from FLC and CLFA, respectively, regarding the need for this bill. None of the Committee members asked questions about the bill and they seemed quite comfortable with the Committee amendments. As expected, Sierra Club was the only group that opposed but they were not very effective in their testimony. The bill now moves to the Senate Appropriations Committee where it will be heard in August after the Legislature’s summer recess.

AB 2142 (Chesbro D) – This bill went through the infamous gut-and-amend process on June 17 after passing into the Senate. What started as a bill redefining who is eligible to purchase timber from State forests is now an extension of the Forest Fire Prevention Pilot Project Exemption (last year’s AB 744 – Dahle). The bill expands the area covered by the project to include Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino and Sonoma counties in the pilot project. These added counties are in Chesbro’s assembly district and was a request to him following passage of AB 744 last fall that limited implementation to the Sierra’s and a few of California’s northern counties. FLC intends to continue to support this bill with the suggestion that the Forest Fire Prevention Pilot Project Exemption be available statewide.

Other Bills of Interest

AB 2112 (Dahle R & Chesbro D) – This bill extends the window for THP extension to 140 days prior to plan expiration, rather than the present 30 days. Once approved the plan submitter would have a longer period in which to file for an extension on expiring THPs, but filing such a request must still be made at least 10 days prior to plan expiration date, meaning the plan extension window would be expanded from 20 days to 130 days in length. The need for the bill is a language consistency change to conform to THP extensions provided in 2012 by AB 1492 to 5-years with a one 2-year extension. The bill has now been passed out of both the houses and has been remanded back to the Assembly for a final passage. See Legislative News Flash on page 7.

Budget Twists in the Legislature *(Source: Clayton Code, CLFA June Newsletter)*

SB 862 – Deadlines for bills passing out of their respective house of origin and approval of the State budget have both passed. The deadline for the State budget was midnight June 15. This is significant because connected to this year’s budget was trailer bill SB 862 Greenhouse gases: emissions reduction. This bill was introduced in January as a placeholder, amended for the first time on June 13, passed through both the Senate and Assembly on June 15 and signed by the Governor on June 19.

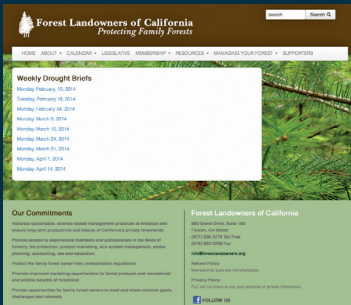
Contained within this bill is an addition to Public Resources Code (PRC) 4598 creating a Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) for Carbon Sequestration and Fuel Reduction Program. Very little is known about this Carbon/Fuel Reduction PTEIR as it caught everyone off guard, nobody heard anything about it until it appeared in print seven (7) days prior to passing. While unable to verify at the time of writing this report, indications are that this new PTEIR was initiated by Cal Fire. The details of the bill are still being analyzed, but at this point what we know is the bill instructs the Board of Forestry to create regulations for eligible landowners to enter into an agreement to develop a PTEIR, which demonstrates an increased carbon sequestration potential of California’s timberlands and a decrease in carbon emissions from wildland fires. It appears that all, or at least a portion, of the PTEIR preparation costs can be offset by grants that are to be made available from the State.

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FLC Website— News You Can Use

The website includes a new feature, “News You Can Use.” Currently, this feature contains a weekly update on the drought situation as prepared by a collaboration of state agencies. FLC started posting the updates beginning with the report on February 10; and subsequent reports are posted as received.

If there is information you would like to see in the new feature, “News You Can Use” 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 receiving your ideas and feedback.



Summer Legislative Report

Continued from page 5

Activity in the Board of Forestry

Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP) – The Board of Forestry Management Committee has held workshops and meetings since last November in the continued process to promulgate regulations on the Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP) and has made substantial progress with various agency, consulting foresters, and timberland owner stakeholders in attendance including representatives from FLC. On June 17 the Management Committee continued this effort taking up much of the day in the process. It is possible that another workshop will be held in Redding during the month of July in the hope that this package can be wrapped up by the first of August and put out for a 45-day notice at that time so that the regulations become effective in January 2015.

Modified Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (MNTMP) – The Management Committee continues to work on the MNTMP as time allows following work on the WFMP. This is a permit that is intended to help landowners having 320 acres or less with a less costly management plan and more expeditious timber harvest noticing process. Though progress is being made, it is slow, and this effort will likely be continued into 2015 before any regulations are finalized and put out for public notice.



ASSEMBLYMAN JIM PATTERSON
TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

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Larry —
Thank you for your testimony and
your support and endorsement for
AB 1867. Your efforts helped put
the bill thru, and I am sincerely
appreciative. Regards, Jim

Larry,
Thank you for your testimony and your support
and endorsement for AB 1867. Your efforts helped
put the bill thru and I am sincerely appreciative.

Regards,
Jim

Legislative News Flash!

Governor Brown signed the THP extension bill (AB 2112) on July 8. The bill extends the time to file a notice of extension for a THP from 30 days of the expiration of the THP to 140 days. Both FLC and CLFA supported the bill.

Find bill details by going to the online to: <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>.

- Click on Bill Information (top left).
- Then enter the bill number and click Search.
- Click on the hyperlink of the bill to read details.

The screenshot shows the California Legislative Information website. The header includes the California State Capitol logo and the text "California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION". Navigation links include "Bill Information", "California Law", "My Subscriptions", and "My Favorites". A "quick search" box is present with a "Bill Number" dropdown and a "go" button. Below the header, the "Bill Information" section is active, displaying a search form. The form has fields for "Bill Number" (2112), "Session Year" (2013 - 2014), "House" (Both), "Author" (AB), and "Chapter Number". A "Search" button is at the bottom of the form. Below the search form, a table titled "Bills Returned: 1" shows the results for Bill Number 2112, titled "Forestry: timber operations". The table has columns for "Measure", "Subject", "Author", and "Status". The row shows "AB 2112", "Forestry: timber operations", "Della", and "Chaptered".

Pest Conditions Report

The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection recently posted the 2013 Pest Conditions report on the Board's website. This report is shared with the landowner and RPF community because this cooperatively developed report covers the various biotic and abiotic stressors that afflicted the forests within California during 2013. This comprehensive report could certainly be a useful resource for both the landowner and RPF community. This is a large document, so please be patient when opening the link: http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/PDF/2013_ca_forest_pest_conditions_report.pdf.

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Robert Kinsinger
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Roy Lane
Eric Millette
Eric & Cate Moore
Fred Nelson

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New Members

*New members since last newsletter are shaded and for the period April 18 to July 8, 2014.
Please join us in welcoming the following new members to FLC!

Forest Landowner Members

Daniel Beans
40 Acres, Trinity County

Don Beaty
W.M. Beaty & Associates, Inc.
480 acres, Shasta, Tehama, Trinity Counties

Don and Judy Beaty
400 acres, Shasta County

Jon Burke
4300 Acres, Siskiyou County

Cathleen Christensen
Humboldt/Mendocino County
C. Robert Barnum Family Member

Nancy Craig
80 Acres, Mariposa County

Shawn Davis
Trinity County
Fred Nelson Family Member

David Glass
El Dorado County
Yvonne Sansome Family Member

E.B. Hanlein
100 Acres, Sonoma County
Mary Coletti Family Member

David Hedge
Lassen County
Kay White Family Member

Chuck Henderson
Red River Forests, LLC
130,000 Acres, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas & Shasta Counties

Chuck Henderson
Shasta Forest Timberlands, LLC
142,000 Acres, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou & Sierra Counties

Jack & Jane Lewis
160 Acres, Lassen County

Tom and Jan Linville
280 acres, Siskiyou County

Barbara Lyle
Mendocino County
William Stewart Family Member

Tim MacLean
93 acres, Trinity County

Brian Oneto
250 Acres, Amador County

Stephanie Rico
28 acres, El Dorado County

Brian Schilder
Mariposa County
Family Member of Loren and Pat Schilder

Loren and Pat Schilder
40 acres, Mariposa County

Stacy Snowman
El Dorado County
William Snowman Family Member

Frank Spurlock
26 acres, Mendocino County

Michael Spurlock
89 acres, Mendocino County

Nancy Storch
38.6 Acres, Calaveras County

Deanna Thrift
80 Acres, Humboldt County

Jeremy Vermilyea
Shasta County
Scott & Elanor Vermilyea Family Member

Jim Westphal
Butte County
Ted Westphal Family Member

President's Message

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I urge you to participate in the upcoming field days on August 9 at the Seneca Tree Farm near Chester and on September 27 at Orr Springs Ranch near Ukiah. These tours are an excellent opportunity to meet other landowners, gather new ideas about the management of your own property and get updates on what is occurring on the legislative and regulatory fronts in Sacramento.

I hope all enjoy the remainder of the summer and look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,



Please provide your feedback to Larry Camp by email at president@forestlandowners.org.

Field Days

August 9, 2014

Seneca Tree Farm (Plumas County)

Elizabeth and Joe Smailes

Please come and join Joe and Elizabeth Smailes and family for a great day in the Northern Sierra. The Smailes family owns and actively manages the Seneca Tree Farm (700 acres) that is located just below Canyon Dam/Lake Almanor in beautiful Plumas County. Activities will include touring parts of the old mining town of "Seneca," progressive forest management, and a GREAT BBQ at property HQ (beautiful shaded flat on the North Fork Feather River). You don't want to miss this one!



September 27, 2014

Orr Springs Ranch (Mendocino County)

Lisa Weger and Craig Blencowe

Lisa Weger and her husband (and forester!!) Craig Blencowe will welcome FLC to their ranch on Orr Springs Rd, Ukiah, CA. The day will begin with a look at a stream log restoration project on the South Fork of Big River. Participants will then tour recent logging, view roadside mastication and other management practices employed. After a picnic lunch Lisa and Craig will briefly discuss the lessons of the 2008 Orr Fire. They look forward to seeing you at the ranch!

Bronze Contributors

Continued from page 8

Phillip Noia
Donald Prielipp
Martin Rau
Cynthia Rees
Charl & Donna Stoneman
William Thompson
Forest Tilley
Larry & Lorraine Tunzi
Steven Vanderhorst
Scott & Elanor Vermilyea
Martha Vertrees

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We also will custom mill your logs to your specs.*



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 9 | Field Day: Seneca Tree Farm (Plumas County) – Joe Smailes |
| August 22-23 | Northern and Southern California SAF Summer Meeting; Tuolumne, CA
(http://norcalsaf2014summermeeting.eventbrite.com) |
| September 25-26 | CLFA Road Rules Workshop – Chester, CA
(Registration information available at www.clfa.org) |
| September 27 | Field Day: Orr Springs Ranch (Mendocino County) –
Lisa Weger and Craig Blencowe |
| November 21 | FLC Board of Directors Meeting (Granzella's Inn, Williams) |



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



**Forest Landowners
OF CALIFORNIA**

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