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Denise Levine

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Deidre Bryant
(877) 326-3778
deidreb@forestlandowners.org
www.forestlandowners.org

President's Message

Spring Brings Longer Days

Valdek Parik, FLC President



Welcome springtime! Surely our members appreciate this time of year. The longer days and warm sunshine bring the beginning of green tree sprouts within our woods. On my forest property, I enjoy hearing the daytime buzz of bees gathering pollen from the huckleberry bush blossoms. This sound of bees together with other insects is energetic during the warmer season; it demonstrates how much life exists in an otherwise quiet and peaceful forest environment.



About huckleberries, I realize how many forest workers, and hunters alike, can be frustrated with this bush. When heavily abundant, they are difficult through which to maneuver when one does not have an alternative route; furthermore, they serve as a cumbersome ladder fuel among areas in need of fuel breaks. But how much of a nuisance? I have some respect for this bush. Around my property campsite huckleberries provide a food source that brings exciting wildlife sightings. Later in

summer we compete with wildlife in harvesting the berries. We use huckleberries for desserts and for making our annual homemade liqueur (*Huckleberry Hooch*). Our 2017 bottled hooch turned out quite tasty.

Currently, with more fuel management taking place around our campsite, I realize that time has come to remove a significant amount of the huckleberry growing near the trees. We will leave some to grow in the open areas a distance from the trees. This sounds much easier to do than it is because the bushes grow aggressively, like weeds. For this reason, I will need to invest in more mechanical means of brush removal, investigate possible herbicide treatment methods and consider some future prescribed burning. Protecting and managing our forest can be expensive. During FLC's field day last July, I learned that one operator's masticator was

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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

DANIELLE BATTANI, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE

- Ext 2219
danielleb@forestlandowners.org
- 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

SARA ABRAHAMYAN, GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- Ext 1908
- 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) 932-2209 Fax
www.forestlandowners.org

President's Message

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worth an estimated \$300,000. I witnessed how this masticator was most practical on sloped terrain, like my forest land. How could I ever justify purchasing such an expensive piece of equipment? Alternatively, contracting masticating equipment and labor at about \$185 per hour remains an expensive option. How are our fellow FLC members dealing with this challenge? During field day tours, FLC members continue to share the values and opportunities of grants available to help with forest management practices. NRCS and EQIP grants were two methods covered during the 2018 Annual Meeting.



In my last two messages I commented about California's dreadful, unfortunate wildfires. Wildfires are a year-round norm in regions of California. This matter has become of high priority to California Governor E. G. Brown and the Legislature. On January 25, I joined FLC's legislative committee members Larry Camp and Matt Greene and California Licensed Forester Association members Harlan Tranmer and Jason Wells for a visit to the State Capitol. We were guided by our



Legislative Advocate Brian White, who is well known in Sacramento. Brian successfully facilitated meetings in short order with legislators or their staff. We discussed small landowner concerns related to regulation and to the ability to manage forest lands efficiently. "Prescribed fire" has become the buzz-term in recent months around the Capitol. It was a perfect time to be representing small forest landowners. On that day Governor Brown gave his State of the State address. Though we were not able to witness the speech in person, we joined many in the Capitol building to watch the televised speech. Within the first minutes of his

speech, Governor Brown expressed that wildfires were of immense concern. He announced his intent to create a new task force consisting of scientists and forestry experts to review the current forestry management practices and propose ways to reduce the threat of devastating fires. The task force will also examine how the State can increase forest resiliency and carbon storage capacity in forests. We were impressed by the Governor's task force announcement and view this as an opportunity to help small forest landowners. Since then, I am happy to say that the Governor's office contacted FLC's office, requesting a small landowner representative to assist in the formation of the new task force. FLC's executive committee proudly chose Larry Camp to serve in this position. This is a significant success for FLC to be recognized as the organization to offer an expert to this task force. Larry is well-versed, and he is already well known around Sacramento for his advocacy work in past years. If you are a fan of following legislative developments in Sacramento, 2018 will be an interesting year to watch developments from this new task force and the Legislature. Governor Brown's term ends in 2018. Hopefully the efforts of the new task force will be positively received, allowing continued progress with the next administration.

So, it is with good news and excitement the spring season has arrived. All this was further enhanced as FLC members gathered to learn, collaborate and celebrate FLC success at our Annual Meeting in Eureka, CA on May 4-5, 2018. I enjoyed spending time with and dialoging with our attending members. Thank you to all who participated at our Annual Meeting. I hope you found the meeting interesting and that it met your expectations. More details of the event will be reported in our summer newsletter with slideshow photos added to the FLC website.

I hope to see great participation at our Field Days scheduled in July and September.

Respectfully,

Valdek Parik

Legislative Update *As of May 18, 2018*

by Brian White, KP Public Affairs, FLC Legislative Advocate and Larry Camp, FLC Legislative Committee

There has been lots of activity in the capitol since early January on legislation and other matters. Brian White has arranged meetings with legislators or senior staff members in late January and early April to discuss bills related to forest management and the fire issue. The Board has written letters of support for several letters of support and worked with staff to identify changes that will make the proposed legislation more effective. We will continue to work with Brian and other coalition groups to support or oppose legislation. Hearings are just now beginning to occur. A list of the bills that we are following is shown in the table below. A more detailed discussion of each bill is available on our website in the members section.

Board members continue to participate in the tree mortality task force. The Governor proposed a new effort to deal with Forest Health in his State of the State message. Larry Camp has been requested to serve as small landowner representative within that group of 10-12 advisors from scientists and practitioners. The group has met twice to date including a two-hour meeting with the Governor and senior members of his staff. The goal is to have the program ready to start within the next few weeks. Its organizational structure and tasks are still being developed.

NMTPs and the Notice of Timber Operations (NTO) issue. The Board has clearly hear the memberships' concern with the recent Cal Fire changes in policy regarding the use of Exemptions and/Emergency Notices for incidental or salvage operations on NTMPs. FLC submitted a letter to the Board of Forestry and testified before the Forest Practice Committee on April 10. The Board intends to find a solution to the problem but it may take some time. In the meantime, landowners who do not have a provision in their plan for operating under an exemption or emergency notice may consider amending their plan to include such a provision as a minor deviation, or waiting to see the outcome. Please feel free to contact the FLC office if you have questions or comments.

Bill #	Author	Subject	Position
AB 1954 Senate 5/10	Patterson	Extension of 2014 exemption for vegetative treatment within 300 feet of a residence.	Support
AB 2518, Approved Approp. Consent Calendar 5/17	Aguiar-Curry	The bill would require Cal Fire to explore markets, including export markets, for milling, development, and expansion of innovative forest products and mass timber, consistent with the state's climate objectives on forest lands.	Watch
AB 2842, As Amended Status: Amended 4/17 Approp. 5/17 in Suspense	Bigelow	The bill would require Cal Fire to develop the California Wood Innovations Small Grants Program to provide grants and low-interest loans or loan guarantees, to entities that expand the use of wood products and increase in-state wood product processing and manufacturing.	Support
AB 2889, As Amended Status: Amended 4/17 Approp. Comm. 5/1	Caballero	Implement a Timber Harvester's Bill of Rights to ensure the uniform and efficient implementation of processes and procedures regulating the filing, review, approval, required modification, completion, and appeal of decisions relating to timber harvesting plans.	Support
SB 1002, Introduced Status: Senate Committee on Rules	Nielsen	The bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to create the Safe Forests and Grasslands Act of 2018 to improve the health of the state's forests and grasslands, reduce wildlife fuel, provide for bioenergy production, and reduce uncontrolled fires in state responsibility areas.	Watch

Continued on page 4

Bill #	Author	Subject	Position
SB 1079, As Amended Status: Assm. Nat. Res. 5/17	Monning	The bill would authorize the Cal Fire Director to authorize advance payments to a nonprofit organization, a special district, or a Native American tribe for grants for the implementation and administration of projects and programs to improve forest health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The bill would prohibit a single advance payment from exceeding 25% of the total grant award.	Watch
SB 1414, As Amended Status: Senate Approp. Comm. 5/22	Beall	Existing law requires the department to review, approve, require the modification of, or disapprove timber harvesting plans in accordance with prescribed procedures. This bill would require the department to ensure that, before the approval of a timber harvesting plan or an associated permit on lands owned by the San Jose Water Company, the Company conducts three public hearings on the timber harvesting plan or associated permit, the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District publicly reviews the timber harvesting plan or associated permit and adopts a resolution that timber harvesting would result in no significant impacts to public lands, and the County of Santa Clara, the County of Santa Cruz, and the appropriate regional water quality control boards each conducts a public hearing on the timber harvesting plan or associated permit.	Strongly Oppose
AB 1956, Status: Assm. Approp. 4/17 hrg. ppd. 5/16	Limon	The bill would require the Cal Fire to establish a local assistance grant program, funded upon appropriation by the Legislature, for fire prevention activities. The bill would require the department to prioritize projects that are multiyear efforts to improve resiliency on the landscape and adapt landscapes to withstand increased frequency and intensity of large wildfires.	Watch
AB 2091, As Amended Status: Approp. Comm. 5/16 in Suspense	Grayson	The bill would require the Board of Forestry to appoint a prescribed fire advisory committee. This bill would require the Board of Forestry to establish standards for prescribed burning, and establish standards for certification. The bill would require the department to develop and implement an insurance pool for certified prescribed burn managers.	Watch
AB 2551, Introduced Status: Approp. Comm. 5/16 in Suspense	Wood	This bill would require Cal Fire to establish, implement, and administer the Forest and Wildland Health Improvement and Fire Prevention Program, which is intended to promote forest and wildland health, restoration, and resilience, and improve fire prevention and preparedness throughout the state. The bill would require the department to take specified actions to improve forest and wildland health and resilience.	Watch
AB 2585, Introduced Status: Approp. Comm. hrg. cancelled	Patterson	The bill would provide that a property owner and his or her agent conducting a prescribed burn, shall not be liable for damage or injury caused by fire or smoke, unless negligence is proven, when the prescribed burn meets specified conditions, and proper burn permits have been obtained from all appropriate state and local agencies. The bill would require the department, to secure an insurance policy to provide compensation for any injuries or property damage resulting from a prescribed burn operation.	Watch
AB 2672, Introduced Status: Approp. Comm. 5/9 in Suspense	Patterson	The bill would require the Air Res. Board, in consultation with Cal Fire, to annually submit a report to the Legislature that includes, an estimate of the annual emissions of greenhouse gases associated with wildfires in the state that have burned 10,000 acres or more.	Watch

Continued on page 5

Bill #	Author	Subject	Position
AB 2911, Introduced Status: Approp. Comm. 5/16 in Suspense	Friedman	The bill would require the State Fire Marshall, no later than January 31, 2019, in consultation with Cal Fire and the Director of Housing and Community Development, to recommend updated building standards that provide for comprehensive site and structure fire risk reduction to protect structures from fires spreading, and to develop a list of low-cost retrofits.	Watch
SB 1035, Introduced Status: Assm. Comm. Local Govt. 5/10	Jackson	The bill would require local planning agencies to review and update to address climate adaption and resiliency strategies, and require the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element.	Watch
SB 1260, Introduced Status: Senate Comm. Approp. 5/16 with Amendments	Jackson	The bill would provide that compliance with the provisions of law relating to prescribed burning-operation agreements with the director shall constitute prima facia evidence of due diligence with respect to the above provision relating to fire liability.	Watch
AB 2645, Introduced Status: Assembly Committee on Natural Resources Hearing 4/23 Cancelled	Patterson	The bill would continuously appropriate \$74,805,000 from the fund annually to Cal Fire for purposes of fire prevention activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This bill also would continuously appropriate \$450,000,000 from the fund annually to Cal Fire for state and local healthy forest and fire prevention programs.	Watch
AB 2092, Introduced Status: Assembly Committee on Natural Resources	Acosta	The bill would increase to 6 the number of members of the Board of Forestry from the general public, thereby increasing the total member of members to ten.	Watch
SB 1044, Introduced Status: Senate Comm. on Govt. and Finance Hearing 4/18 hrq. postponed	Berryhill	The bill would instead repeal the SRA fee. The bill would also require the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to develop a process for providing for refunds of fees collected beginning in the 2011-2012 fiscal year until July 1, 2017.	Watch
AB 2627 Assm. Comm. on Approp. 5/16 in Suspense	Kalra	Amendment to Migratory Bird Treaty Act for non-game birds.	Oppose

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Wine Country Fire: Lessons Learned

By Denise Seghesio Levine

Sunday night, October 8, 2017 was a quiet night at the base of Mt Veeder in the Napa Valley. We finished dinner, did dishes and were planning our next workday when the phone rang about 10:00pm. It was a friend from on top of Mt Veeder, close to the top of our 200 acres, with views... He sounded anxious and told me he was looking at a fire that seemed to be coming our way. He told me to go out and see if I could see it from our house. I went outside. The night was quiet. The sky was clear and there were stars. I could not smell smoke. I saw no glow... I went back inside.

And hour or so later, my friend called back to tell me he had been mistaken. It had looked like it was close to us, but it turns out the fire was across the valley. I thanked him for calling back. Then the power went out. We called PGE to report the outage (something I am adept at doing in the dark) and went to bed.

Three hours later I heard the phone chirping downstairs. I found my way in the dark, answered the phone and tried to understand what I was hearing. It was my father, in Santa Rosa. He and my mother were at the hospital having barely escaped from their now destroyed home near Fountaingrove in Santa Rosa. And then the phone died.

It has been almost 15 years since Napa County began its FireWise program. It was inspired by Napa Fire Marshall Kate Dargan's desire to protect our community, harden the Napa watershed from fire, and help homeowners make the necessary improvements to increase defensible space and retain or regain their fire insurance from insurers who were increasingly concerned about the growing liability of unprotectable homes.

FireWise was about educating the community to the dangers of wildfires in the WUI, the Wildland Urban Interface, developing a plan and putting it into action. These were the hills and outlying areas of our community served by small roads, winding driveways, and too often overgrown with brush and trees that had not been cut back, burned or thinned in decades. Microclimates of overgrown and drought stressed redwoods and Doug firs on some slopes, densely overgrown chaparral and oaks killed by sudden oak death on others... trees encroaching on power lines, growing through them, hanging over them. In real estate terms, there was a lot of "deferred maintenance."

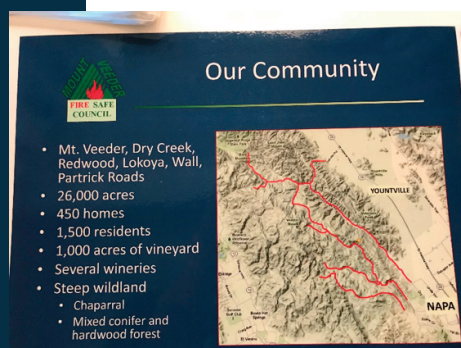
FireWise encouraged property owners to develop defensible space around homes to protect them and the firefighters who might try to save them... landscaping choices, hardscaping and plant choices, housing materials... it was a big job, but so necessary.

One of the first county wide projects undertaken was a chipping program that continues to this day. Homeowners were encouraged to cut back brush and overhanging trees, pile them by the road in an accessible area for crews to later chip the materials onsite. For free.

From there, local Fire Safe chapters also formed in smaller, local areas. Circle Oaks and Lake Berryessa, Mount Veeder and Dry Creek/Lokoya, where I live, were all smaller groups that applied for grants and took special care to harden their communities. After chipping came grants for shaded fuel breaks and fuel load reduction plans. Abandoned roads were identified and some were reopened to begin a network for escape from fire, and ingress for firefighters. Small projects were completed and larger projects continue to be planned.

In the October fires, proactive work did pay off. All homes survived in Lake Berryessa and the Circle Oaks subdivision. When the news came to the hotel where we and many of our neighbors were staying for the two weeks we were evacuated, we all cheered.

Another lesson was revealed when the Tubbs Fire, which started in Calistoga, raced to Santa Rosa and across the freeway in the space of several hours. That made something very clear. Coffey Park was a subdivision across an eight-lane freeway that



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had never been considered a high fire hazard area. Houses were close together, some with only six-foot setbacks from wooden fences, sheds, wood shingled roofs, unprotected vents. There were some amazing photos in local newspapers of devastated neighborhoods. Nothing but chimneys and the small trees in the sidewalks were still standing. Similar scenes of devastation came from the Santa Barbara fires where wildland fires jumped into residential areas never considered high risk. Embers can destroy homes up to a mile ahead of a wildfire. And that is the lesson. Whether we realize it or not we are all in the WUI now.

Continuous fuel, whether it is in the form of trees so close that canopies touch, or roofs so close that embers can easily blow, igniting fires all along the way, pose the same hazards. Wind whipped fires can travel far and wide in moments as embers explode, flare and float on hot winds to land on leaf filled gutters and wooden shingles, or beetle killed conifers and drought stressed redwoods.

But some homes survived and most of them had implemented FireWise protocols. Their homes were “hardened.”

In October 2017, three fires converged between Sonoma and Napa during the course of two weeks. The first few days of the fires were intense and out of control. During the next 10 days, some areas continued to burn, more slowly, but were simply not fought because firefighters were already committed to other areas. On these days, when the fire was relentless but slow, many homeowners were able to keep the fire at bay on their properties. Fuel breaks gave them areas to defend, and shovels and picks and garden hoses were effective at eliminating the small spot fires that started.

Still, that first week when the Atlas Peak Fire ravaged Silverado in Napa, the Nuns Fire raged in the mountain range between the Sonoma and Napa Valleys and the Tubbs fire devastated Santa Rosa, all that work did not matter much. Many homes were lost, miles of trees were destroyed and we are still assessing the damage to our watersheds. Another surprise was that plastic culverts providing drainage across roads acted like flues, pulling flames deep into them and melting the plastic. This resulted in collapsed culverts and roads and increased runoff concerns on some properties. Something to consider when replacing culverts and other hardware with plastic.

Mt Veeder Fire Safe Council did a post fire evaluation of a shaded fuel break project that had been completed in 2014. PG&E had funded shaded fuel breaks along small existing roads surrounding the concentration of homes in the community of Lokoya.

Fifty feet on each side of the perimeter of the roads was cleared. Small brush was masticated and chipped, trees were limbed up and dead trees were cut up into firewood lengths and stacked by the road for residents to take home.

The conclusions of our local Mt Veeder Fire Safe Council?

The fire was so hot and the winds so fierce that hot embers were cast far ahead of the fire front, often hopping fuel breaks, and roads (and in Santa Rosa, even eight-lane freeways).

Burning trees rolled downhill, through fuel breaks and ignited vegetation within the perimeters. Buildings that burned were mostly older homes and cabins built of wood, often in close proximity to one another, enabling the fire to easily move from building to building.

Many of these properties had not developed defensible space, and had overhanging trees and vegetation close to and on some buildings. Gutters and roofs had excess conifer needles and debris and forest duff, pine needles and leaves right up to the buildings.

Evidence showing the direction of the fire illustrated the fire was hot enough to spall, break and shear off rocks and went from a backing fire to an uphill fire.

Survival of homes that made it through was attributed to good defensible space, a greenbelt of English ivy, limbed up trees and, the “luck” card; the behavior of the fire.

Because some houses did everything right, and are still gone.

But defensible space was clearly a good thing. I went to a small “Thank goodness we all survived and are here to be thankful” gathering in our neighborhood after we were allowed to return to our properties. Several local firefighters were there and all of their homes had made it through... They were clear the reason their homes were still standing was their obsession with keeping the grasses mowed 100 feet around their houses. They had made it a point to keep their neighbors’ properties mowed too. It was worth it to them... All their homes survived.



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After the Wildfires, What Have We Learned? And What Can We Do?

We have learned... High-intensity wild fires during 2017 were unprecedented and marked by more than a million acres burned and destroyed tens of thousands of infrastructures. Forest landowners understand that fire is a natural component of forest health and is an integral part of the ecosystem in which it occurs. FLC members have been educated on numerous occasions that it is not IF a fire occurs on our forest lands, but rather WHEN fire occurs. Suppressed woodlands during past decades have led to today's unhealthy forests that are overly dense with brush and small trees. This condition has allowed for the mega-fires occurring in our state. We realize that the threat of wildfire in 2018 remains evident due to continuing drought conditions. State and federal government agencies are facing this challenge with extraordinary measures contemplated in California. Collaboration has increased between government agencies, forestry academics, and various forestry experts for offering solutions for restoring California forests to resiliency. Proactive forest management methods are gaining attention as fighting emergency fires is recognized as a losing battle for protecting natural resources. Mechanical thinning and prescribed burning are key methods to getting forests back to resiliency. Timber harvesting is the most cost-effective method. The monetary returns help finance compliance of forest practice rules and other methods to establishing a healthy forest. Expanding biomass energy in California is finally getting heightened attention. Reducing delays between utility companies and developing biomass generation facilities must be prioritized. The need for increased production of wood chips, mulch and biochar is also getting traction in Sacramento. Forest landowners know this is good for California. Collaboration of parties will build trust and teamwork, resulting in increasing pace and scale of forest restoration.

What Can We Do?

Education

Educating Californians on forest resiliency is important for preserving our natural resources. Forest landowners understand this more than most of California's citizens. FLC members have the potential to set good examples on their family forest lands regarding sustainable forest management practices. We know managing family forest land is expensive; therefore, information related to cost sharing opportunities is a priority. This was part of the FLC 2018 annual meeting agenda.

Fire and Forest Management

Support the concept of fire as a tool. California forests evolved with fire as a norm. Now with increased number of private forestland ownerships and infrastructure, fire cannot be feasibly returned everywhere. A properly planned prescribed fire method can be a successful method.

Modified management methods are key to protecting private forestlands today. For small forest landowner properties, mechanical methods serve well for achieving shaded fuel break protection. Pruning lower limbs and thinning or removing brush and small trees converts the remaining forest to be better protected from wildfire as well as better positioned for properly planned and executed prescribed fire. Forest management projects are long-term commitments. In many instances, rapid understory regrowth can be challenging to manage. Consulting with a registered professional forester is advised in establishing long-term management plans.

Support all efforts for increasing resources available to landowners in achieving their forest management goals.

Mass Wood Production

Support all efforts for increased mass wood production in California. Government agencies are all collaborating with unprecedented attention concerning increased sawmill capacity and biomass generating facilities. Do not get distracted by anti-forest practice environmental organizations advocating to leave our forests unmanaged. The past century of irresponsible environmental propaganda with advocacy for overregulation has led to today's tragic forest conditions. More of the public is recognizing the need for change.

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Sustainable Forest Stewardship

We know that those practicing sustained forest stewardship are the real responsible environmentalists, and we will work to educate the public of this fact. Support expanding rights for ALL forest landowners throughout California to manage their forests sustainably.

Legislation

A lot is going on in Sacramento. FLC now has a representative serving on the Governor's new task force. This is an outstanding achievement for FLC. FLC has clout to be effective. Supporting FLC activities is good for small forest landowners. Inevitably positive outcome can be expected with strong support from small forest landowners and allies alike. Participation may be requested regarding legislative activity.

Interesting reading materials are available related to California's current forestry affairs. Two reports are shared on FLC's website www.forestlandowners.org under Resources: News You Can Use.

- *California Forestry Association (CFA), 2018 Forest Health Initiative*
- CFA represents private landowner interests. The 2018 initiative provides a summary of proposed actions with detailed narrative including specific recommendations tied to the narrative.
- *The Little Hoover Commission (LHC) report #242, February 2018, "Fire on the Mountain: Rethinking Forest Management in the Sierra Nevada"*

LHC is an independent state oversight agency that spent more than one year reviewing the state's forest management activities and the impact of unhealthy forests. The report includes findings and recommendations.



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.

Ask a Forester

Question:

After the recent wildfires, I have noticed that several trees that appeared to be healthy have recently died. Is there another way to assess tree health other than visual analysis?

Answer:

During wildfire events, even trees that have not been directly killed by the fire can be severely injured by the heat. Crown color may fade very gradually on these trees and needle cast may increase significantly as trees try to reduce transpiration to conserve water. Trees under stress generally fade from bright green to a dull green color, which later changes to orange as the tree dies.

Using an ax to reveal a small section of the cambium layer close to ground level can be helpful. If the cambium appears stained, or slightly brownish, the tree is likely to be under considerable stress. Removing highly stressed trees can help prevent bark beetle outbreaks that inevitably follow wildfires.

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

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Photo Gallery of FLC Events

View the photo galleries of FLC events. From the home page, scroll down to the photo gallery listing – click on each individual link of the Annual Meeting and Field Days. Enjoy!

Before the Next Fire

By Denise Seghesio Levine

Look at your home, whether you live on your woodland property or in town.

Your roof is the most vulnerable part of your home. Replace wood shingles with composition, tile or metal roofs. Block little spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent embers from catching. Vents were a major factor in lost homes since they act like little flues and can suck up embers into roofing or insulation. Cover all vent openings with 1/8-1/4” metal mesh. Check out a product called Vulcan Vent, which is available at building supply stores. Vulcan Vent melts into an impervious seal when embers hit and is enthusiastically endorsed by the head of FireSafe in Circle Oaks. Several homeowners had time before evacuating to cover all their vents with aluminum foil to seal inlets into their homes.

Remember to clean gutters in spring and summer. Too often we think about gutters before the fall rains come, but a similarity between homes lost was many had gutters filled with dry conifer and redwood needles or dried deciduous leaves.

Double and triple pane windows are safer in the WUI since heat from wildfire can cause windows to shatter even before the house catches fire.

Consider exterior walls like stucco, fiber cement, fire-retardant-treated wood and make sure your chimney and stove pipe are covered with metal screen materials. (This is so YOU don't start a fire.)

Access is very important. Have a plan to get out of your property when fire threatens. Or a plan to stay in a hardened safe area if you cannot.

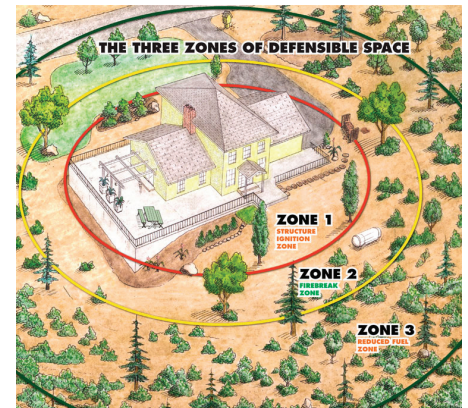
Make sure your driveway is wide enough for emergency vehicles, provides a large enough area for turnaround and is clearly marked with reflective numbers, often available from your local fire department. In deep smoke or at night with no lights, fire fighters who are often from other areas and do not know the area, depend on them.

If you expect firefighters to defend your property, make sure you have done your work to defend it first. A clean, mean and green 30 feet is minimum defensible space around your house, with the next 100 feet limbed up and sparsely vegetated enough to deny continuous fuel to a wildfire. Water sources should be clearly marked and already communicated to your local fire department. Let them know if you have ponds, or water tanks or swimming pools.

Fire departments keep information for each address like water sources, gates and access roads in a special binder that gets handed to teams that come to help... The first three days of our local fire three good Samaritans protected our neighborhood and property while our local fire guys were assigned to another fire. Three days later we got air support and a team from Arizona showed up to defend our watershed. Weeks later we still had crews wandering through our property, asking how to get up the hill and where roads were. Make it as easy as possible for volunteers who come to help from so far away.

To learn from those whose homes did not survive, here are some things to update or do. Check your fire insurance policy. Make sure it is up to date, in force, and adequately covers rebuilding in your area. Take VIDEOS of the exterior and interior of your home. Take a video tour of your home, opening drawers, closets, filming the art on your walls and the family silver. Film outbuildings, pumps and tanks, special features. Keep your computers backed up and copies of important records in the cloud or someplace else in addition to your home. A record is no good if it has disappeared as completely as your house.

Have a box or file of important papers, back up discs, deeds and records to grab on your way out if you ever find yourself in that situation. We all hope it never happens... but when it does, it is better to be prepared.



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. FLC is committed to publishing the Resource Guide every other year — the next printing is this summer. 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 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).

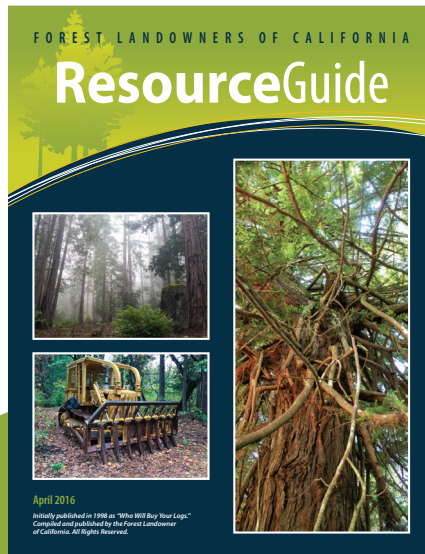
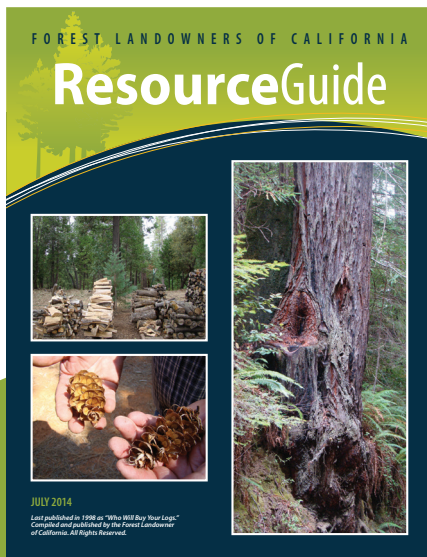
Associate members of FLC receive a complimentary listing in the Resource Guide. Associate members are individuals who provide a service or product to forest or timber landowners — consulting foresters, CPAs, appraisers, attorneys, etc. If you know a professional service provider who should be listed in this Resource Guide, please send the information to staff at the FLC office (see below). It is our goal to expand the Resource Guide with resources that benefit the forest or timber 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 CA • 950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150 • Folsom, CA 95630





Forest Landowners OF CALIFORNIA

950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150
Folsom, CA 95630

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.

July 14, 2018

FLC Field Day – Mendocino County
Hollister Ranch and Tunzi Ranch
(Two properties)

July 27, 2018

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

September 29, 2018

FLC Field Day – Shasta County
Beaty Tree Farm, Linstrand Forestland Property, Denny Tree Farm and North Woods Tree Farm (lunch stop)
(Four properties)

November 2, 2018

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



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

