



Central Coast Forest Association

BRIAN CAMPBELL RECEIVES 2007 FORESTRY EXCELLENCE AWARD

By Lisa Rudnick



A pleased Brian Campbell receives the CCFA Forestry Excellence Award from director Lisa Rudnick

At the CCFA annual membership meeting of May 12, 2007, we presented our Forestry Excellence Award to longtime CCFA member Brian Campbell.

Brian has worked on his family's property, a beautiful 600 acres called Sequoia Meadows, since the Campbells purchased it in the early 1980s.

Upon purchase, Brian immediately started planting trees on the land, varying species by site charac-

teristics, from redwoods to Douglas fir to ponderosa pines, depending on moisture, soils and exposure. The ponderosa pines were grown from seed collected from the local ponderosa pine population native to Santa Cruz County. To date, Brian has been responsible for planting more than 90,000 trees on the property over the last 20 years and has learned a great deal about what works and what doesn't.

Brian has upgraded and maintained the road system on the land, including historic access roads that were used to serve the property when it was part of the Cowell dairy ranch.

In partnership with his father and brother, his family's property received one of the first approved Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs) in the state.

Brian has testified before the local County Board of Supervisors, the CA Coastal Commission, the State Board of Forestry, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board about local rules and their impact on his ability to manage this timberland. He has produced lumber from his own logs as well as from other places, establishing a custom wood market of both local native trees and attractive exotic species.

Brian has conducted his own harvest and salvage operations for the past decade on his family's property. ■

We recently sent out a mass E-mailing regarding a very important issue where input from CCFA members would have helped the case for making timber harvesting less controlled and cumbersome. Our current list of E-mail addresses is incomplete, and some of the ones we have do not work. **PLEASE** send us your updated E-mail addresses, so we can contact you with important and time-sensitive information when needed.

FOUNDING DIRECTOR BOB BRIGGS RETIRES FROM THE CCFA BOARD WITH THE CCFA FORESTRY EXCELLENCE AWARD

By Barbara McCrary

Bob Briggs, a founding member of CCFA, is hanging up his hat as a director and will be trying to catch up on family responsibilities. He manages the land along Waddell Creek belonging to the descendents of T. J. Hoover, who bought the land in 1914. Bob's wife Anne is a granddaughter of Hoover.

Bob has always been a hard-driving member who kept up on the latest legal issues associated with the timber industry, farming issues and land use and conservation. He was the original editor of The Log, attended endless numbers of public meetings, and was an all-around motivating force in CCFA. He will be missed as a director, but will retain his membership and will no doubt be available for consultation to the present board members. ■

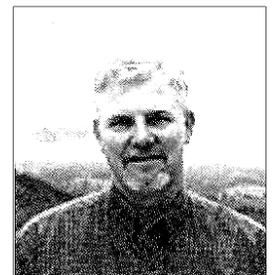


President Cate Moore and retiring director Bob Briggs

BRIAN DIETTERICK GIVES KEYNOTE TALK AT CCFA ANNUAL MEETING

By Barbara McCrary

Brian Dietterick, our keynote speaker for the annual meeting, is a hydrologist by education and training and is the project director of Swanton Pacific Ranch's Little Creek Study, designed to evaluate the effectiveness of CA forest practice rules in protecting water quality. Brian presented an excellent slide show for attending CCFA members, showing how the Ranch trains prospective foresters and land managers in the particulars of water management and how it relates to forestry. An article written by him was published in the Spring issue of California Forests, here-with re-printed with permission of the magazine:



Brian Dietterick

On the Water's Edge

By Brian Dietterick, Ph.D., P.H.

The Swanton Pacific Ranch houses state-of-the-art research facilities and features Cal Poly's school forest.

More than half the property is forested with coast redwoods and Douglas-fir. University staff and students manage

See Dietterick (Continued on page 2)

Dietterick (Continued from page 1)

the forest with help from forestry professionals - timber provides the Ranch's primary income. Once every four or five years, the Ranch harvests up to 2 million board feet of lumber, enough to build 130 homes.

Harvests are conducted in accordance with California's Forest Practice Rules, which include various levels of regulations meant to protect water quality. In 2000, researchers at Swanton Pacific Ranch embarked on the Little Creek Study to evaluate the effectiveness of the forest management practices being employed to protect water quality, mainly suspended sediment effects.

Unique learning environment

Little Creek is a fish-bearing stream that drains through the school forest and serves as an outdoor laboratory. The study will evaluate potential water-quality impacts following the harvest planned for summer 2008 on the watershed, focusing on suspended sediment and water temperatures in Little Creek. These two water-quality parameters have been deemed particularly important to the quality of habitat for salmon and trout.

The Little Creek Study is a long-term effort to document water quality and channel conditions before, during and after single-tree and small-group selection harvests. It includes a nested and paired analysis that relies on baseline data collection and an evaluation of the statistical relationship between the monitoring sites that represent harvested and non-harvested areas.

The calibration phase of the project began in the late 1990s. Natural-bottom flumes at four monitoring stations in the Little Creek watershed were constructed to allow for accurate flow measurements and the collection of water samples using automated samplers.

Valuable information

Graduate and undergraduate students working with faculty began collecting data during the 2001-2002 rain season. Going into the harvest phase of the project, five years of comprehensive baseline data is in place.

The data is already providing useful findings. For instance, the data show significant fluctuations in naturally occurring suspended sediment concentrations and amounts exported during storm events. Documenting the variability in background suspended sediment export from the watershed is a major goal of the study. Preliminary analysis suggests harvest activities would have to generate more than a 30 percent increase in sediment on average for events occurring during the study period to exceed what has been documented as the natural variability, thus far. This provides valuable information for the study's next phase, to evaluate the post-harvest effect.

Research forests serve an extremely important function. California has some of the most stringent, prescriptive forest regulations in the world. There is need to know if the land management practices being used to comply with the rules are effective. Research forests warrant support from funding agencies, industry and the public to help answer the questions many of our regulatory agencies are asking.

The watershed study at Swanton Pacific Ranch will yield new information regarding forestry regulations and land management practices. It will scientifically document the relation-

ship between harvesting techniques and corresponding water-quality parameters, at least in the dynamic, landslide-prone coastal mountains south of San Francisco.

California would benefit from additional studies in other places. The Little Creek Study won't say conclusively, for instance, if the results found in this watershed could be duplicated in a watershed with different geomorphic and climatic characteristics.

One thing, however, is certain. Students and faculty get great hands-on experiences at Swanton. In addition to more traditional Cal Poly courses, the Natural Resources Management Department and Swanton Pacific Ranch now offers a five-week summer course featuring sustainable forestry topics delivered by more than 40 natural resources professionals. The course concludes with students not only developing Timber Harvest Plans, but also going through a mock pre-harvest inspection with agency review teams - an unforgettable experience for the next generation of foresters and those with review responsibilities for these plans. ■

ANNUAL MEETING AND BBQ BEST EVER

Smaller Attendance Blamed on Mother's Day Date

By Barbara McCrary

We had our most productive annual meeting yet on May 12th, attended by a small, but very attentive portion of the membership.

Retiring director Bob Briggs, and Brian Campbell, a dedicated local land and forest manager, were the 2007 recipients of CCFAs Forestry Excellence Award.

The food was delicious, Swanton Pacific Railroad Society offered free train rides, and an informative meeting followed.

The keynote speaker, Brian Dietterick, director of the Swanton Pacific Ranch, presented a slide show and information on the forestry and water monitoring programs conducted on the Ranch.

Plans for next year's annual meeting are already underway and tentatively include a BBQ at the Barley Patch horse camp in Swanton. Attendees will have the opportunity to see a working forest that was selectively logged in 2003. We will return to a June date, which may be less of a scheduling conflict for the membership. ■

"COHO SALMON INCIDENTAL TAKE" REGULATION

The Log Staff

Landowners submitting Timber Harvesting Plans in coastal California will soon have another hoop to jump through to manage their property. The Board of Forestry "Board" recently voted to adopt a Coho salmon forest practice rule package that adds layers to the review process and imposes additional restrictions on operations in watersheds with Coho salmon. Effective January 1st, 2008, in order to harvest timber in a watershed where Coho salmon have been present at any time since 1990, there must be a determination by the Department of Fish and Game "Department" as to whether or not the harvesting plan as proposed has the potential to cause "take" of Coho salmon.

It is difficult to say how frequently the Department will decide that "take" is likely to occur as a result of operations. Although "take" of Coho has not been cited on a timber harvest



project in the past and the threshold for "take" under the California Endangered Species Act is actual harm to a fish, it will not be a surprise if determinations of likely "take" are made on Central Coast projects for political reasons, despite the low-impact nature of practices here. In the event that a "take" determination is made and the landowners elects to obtain an Incidental Take Permit through this process, a lengthy set of rules containing enhanced prescriptions for canopy retention in the watercourse protection zone, crossing replacements, road work, monitoring, and curtailment of the operating season may apply.

Central Coast Foresters fought hard to make a case for a modified rule-set in the Southern Subdistrict based on exclusive use of selection silviculture, environmental review involving all agencies, robust post-harvest monitoring, and non-industrial land ownership patterns. However, the Board hardly considered these suggestions and instead adopted the rules on a 6-2 vote at the first hearing since they were noticed. The vote was taken under intense political pressure. The State legislature threatened to adopt legislation applying prescriptions to watersheds with all anadromous salmonids. Five newly-appointed Board members feared not being confirmed by the Senate Rules Committee if they did not act decisively to usher in the rules. Even Board members with strong ties to the Southern Subdistrict could not find it in themselves to challenge the trainwreck.

The alleged necessity for the rules stems from the Fish and Game Commission's directive in the Coho Recovery Strategy, that the Department of Fish and Game adopt a Coho Incidental Take Permit for timber harvesting projects. Following confirmation of the state Coho listing by the courts, the Department made it known that their rule-making process would take at least 18 months. Their process would include preparation of an Environmental Impact Report, whereas the Board process could be more streamlined, functioning as a certified regulatory program under the California Endangered Species Act. In July 2006, the Resources Secretary requested that the Board use their rule-making process and work with the Department to adopt rules harmonized with Sections 2112 and 2081 of the Fish and Game Code. Board rules are now adopted. Department rules referencing the Board rules and outlining the process whereby a landowner would secure an Incidental Take Permit are not yet adopted. The pending DFG package includes onerous performance bonding requirements that may be held in part until the end of the erosion control maintenance period, which is three years.

Ironically, obtaining an Incidental Take Permit from Fish and Game does not provide regulatory certainty for landowners, as a project in a Coho watershed could still be subject to additional restrictions under the Federal Endangered Species Act. ■

TAHOE FIRE FORCES STATE TO FACE REALITY

By Dan Walters
San Jose Mercury News

California's unique mélange of topography, scenery and weather has made it the nation's most populous state with a world-class economy. But those qualities have a darker fact - imminent disaster. We may not be able to predict them, but we know that Californians face perpetual peril from wildfires, earthquakes, floods, landslides, droughts and other natural or semi-natural calamities.

The latest is the Angora fire, as it was dubbed, that swept through more than 200 homes near Lake Tahoe recently. And it has generated the usual torrent of words from pundits and politicians that it should be a "wake-up call" about better preparation and prevention.

It should be such a warning, of course, but if the past is any guide, after a few days or weeks, we'll shut off the alarm button and figuratively turn over and go back to sleep until the next disaster strikes and the finger-pointing and alarm-raising begin anew.

Were we to treat the Angora fire as a serious sociopolitical phenomenon, we'd wonder why years of warnings from foresters, wildfire fighters and other natural resource professionals about living in wooden houses in an over-stressed, diseased and tinder-dry forest had been largely ignored.

Just last fall, the California Forestry Association's magazine devoted an entire issue to describing a looming "perfect storm" that could devastate the Tahoe basin if thinning of private and public timberland wasn't accelerated and decrying the triumph of scenic protectionism and bureaucratic proceduralism over fire safety. Ironically, of course, the Angora fire will denigrate arboreal scenery and create more lake-clouding erosion.

Sure, the CFA has its axe to grind, so to speak; it represents the commercial timber industry. But that doesn't make its warning any less valid from an objective standpoint. Its projected scenario almost perfectly matched the Angora fire's destructive dynamics. It should also be noted that the conditions that underlay the fire were similar to those that fueled the deadly Esperanza fire in the San Bernardino Mountains last year, which should have been another wake-up call.

Fundamentally, the conditions that generated so much destruction were political. The Tahoe basin is governed by an array of federal, state and local agencies that is as dense as the fuel-laden forest, all of which control pieces of the thinning issue. It includes a super-agency called the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency that exercises minute control over building and development.

As the Angora fire raged, the long-simmering tension between TRPA and local residents flared up, with property owners complaining that TRPA's history of nitpicking bureaucratic procedures made them leery about even applying for timber-thinning permits.

John Singlaub, TRPA's executive director, insisted that it encourages such clearing and added, "I know that emotions are running high right now, people are angry, they want somebody to blame. We're the usual target."

The TRPA flap is indicative of the rampant confusion over land use and development throughout California. Local, state and federal regulators pursue single-purpose goals, often without coordination or comprehensive policies to prevent or minimize losses from natural disasters. The thicket of overlapping governments in the flood-prone Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta uncannily mirrors the Tahoe situation.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and other state and local officials gathered near the Angora fire site last week to praise firefighters, as they should, and pledge to rebuild the devastated community. Perhaps, however, it shouldn't be rebuilt until we come to grips with the dangers and are willing to embrace what needs to be done to prevent another fire from devastating the region. ■

APPLICATIONS TO REZONE LAND TO TPZ UNDER CURRENT RULES DUE SOON

By Cate Moore

The County Board of Supervisors have voted to raise the minimum acreage necessary to apply for Timber Production Zone (TPZ) to 40 acres. There is a grace period during which applications for rezoning to TP under current rules (minimum acreage at 5 acres) can proceed; these applications must be submitted to the County Planning Department by September 21, 2007.

After this date, landowners must have 40 acres or more to zone, or rezone, to TP. In the future, the Board of Supervisors claim that you may still be able to rezone to TPZ if you own less than 40 acres, but this would be on a case by case basis. At this time, it is unclear what criteria the county will consider when reviewing TPZ applications for parcels less than 40 acres. Using a slightly different process, a landowner seeking to rezone timberland that is adjacent to an existing TPZ parcel already under his/her ownership, need not be concerned about parcel size. If the adjacent parcel meets the state definition of timberland, the County is required to allow its TP zoning.

The application process entails going to the Planning Department with a \$1700 deposit (per application) and someone will enter your information into a computer. No appointment is necessary.

The Timber Management Plan required for rezoning must be developed by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) and be submitted by December 31, 2007. This plan is typically a short report describing the forest resource and certifies that the land is capable of producing forest products. Foresters are busy right now, so you need to set up an appointment with your forester now.

Subsequent time to schedule the Planning Dept. and BOS meetings will not effect the status of the application.

If your even think you might want to harvest timber in the future, of if you have other reasons for rezoning, such as qualifying for lower property taxes, apply for the rezoning to get yourself in the queue. It will be easier to withdraw from the queue than to get in too late. (Don't expect a refund if you ultimately opt not to rezone.)

If you desire to harvest, you should rezone your parcel, but you should also check with the County about how this TP zoning would limit projects, such as developing home sites or any other project you may consider in the future.

The Planning Department has sent a letter to all possibly affected landowners, informing them of the new rules and of the grace period. A copy of this letter may be found in the CCFA website under the Finger on the Pulse section. ■

WHAT CCFA HAS BEEN DOING

- Attended Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors meetings to support retaining the 5-acre minimum for TPZ zoning. Unfortunately, it failed.
- Sent special mailings to inform our members of upcoming County meetings, and urging their attendance.
- Updated the CCFA website to include a link to "Finger on the Pulse", keeping you informed of the latest issues.

CCFA offers two books and reprints of a blockbuster publication

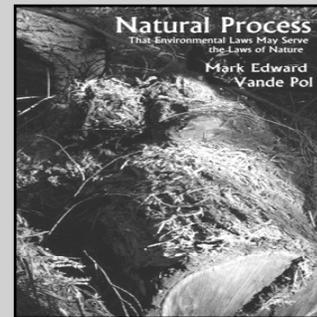


"The Great Salmon Hoax"

An Eyewitness Account of the Collapse of Science and Law and the Triumph of Politics in Salmon Recovery

by James Buchal

Price \$10



"Natural Process"

That Environmental Laws May Serve the Laws of Nature

By Mark Edward Vande Pol

Price \$10



"Assessment of the Southern Range of North American Coho Salmon: Difficulties in Establishing Natural Range Boundaries"

by V.W. Kaczynski and Fabian Alvarado

Price \$5

Please contact Cate Moore for your copies

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Central Coast Forest Association
Membership / Renewal / Contribution

Name _____ Date _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for: New Membership Membership Renewal Legal Fund

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ E-mail _____

Please make checks payable to:

Central Coast Forest Association P.O. Box 1670 Capitola, CA 95010

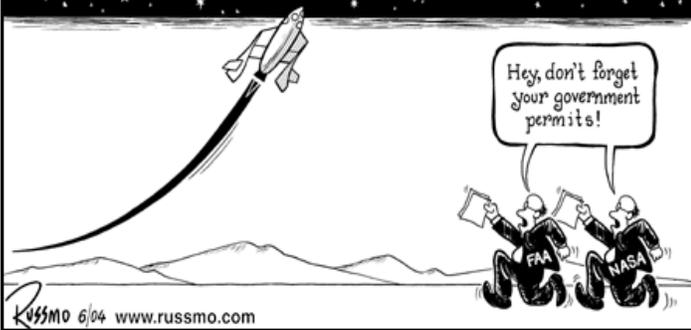
Membership Category	Dues
Individual	\$50
Business	\$500

CCFA appreciates your support

CCFA is a 501-(c) 4 tax-exempt organization. Donations may be tax-deductible as a business expense.

Notes From the Nut-House

June 21, 2004 – A privately funded enterprise successfully launches the first civilian astronaut into space aboard its own craft, Spaceship One.



Kinda reminds you of trying to harvest the timber on your own property, doesn't it?

Don't Support Logging?
Try Wiping it with a Pine Cone!

QUOTE, UNQUOTE

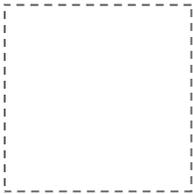
NO INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP HAS A MONOPOLY ON THE LOVE OF NATURE OR A CONCERN FOR THE ECOLOGY OR THE ENVIRONMENT OR WILDLIFE. ACCUSATIONS OR STATEMENTS TO THE CONTRARY ARE A VIOLATION OF ANY SENSE OF DECENCY ON THE PART OF SUCH ACCUSERS AND IMPLIES A SELF-RIGHTEOUS ATTITUDE.

Marvin M. Schumacher
Mayor of Monona, WI 1975

Sylvia by Nicole Hollander



We're on the web!
www.ccfassociation.org



Central Coast Forest Association
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Capitola, CA 95010



IMPORTANT NOTICE: HELP US COMMUNICATE!

Occasionally we need to rally the membership to respond to abrupt government actions. We must be able to contact you in a hurry in such circumstances. Please submit your current e-mail address to us via our website, www.ccfassociation.org or by e-mail to: ccfa@ccfassociation.org. We will keep it strictly confidential at all times.

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The forests must be, and will be, not only preserved but used, and the experience of all civilized countries that have faced and solved the question show that the forests, like perennial fountains, may be made to yield a sure harvest of timber while at the same time all their far-reaching beneficent uses may be maintained unimpaired.

John Muir

Founder of the Sierra Club in 1895

CCFA's Mission

The Central Coast Forest Association is a non-profit alliance of small forestland owners, forestry professionals and forest-oriented businesses with close affinity to the woods, mountains, streams and wildlife of the Central Coast. Our purpose is to uphold and preserve our values, our property rights and our way of life. To advance this objective, CCFA will:

- *Interact with community, political and environmental interests as a voice for forestland owners.*
- *Understand the news, law and technology of forestry and apply this knowledge for the benefit and protection of forestland owners.*
- *Inform members of matters affecting their lands and forests.*
- *Take political and legal action to defend the rights and property of all Central Coast forestland owners.*