

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts

**Forestry and Fuels Management Committee
Stewardship Coordinating Committee
And the
Forest Stewardship Committee**

Teleconference –December 16, 2015

On-Line:

Pete Johnson	Mark Egbert	Karen Buhr	Bill Condon
Brook Darley	Steve Jones	Paula Randler	Laurie Tipton
Joe Crateau	Stewart McMorrow	Chris Zimny	Karen Buhr

Pete brought the session to order at 8:03 a.m. and began with introductions of all on-line participants.

CARCD News and Views – Karen Buhr. CARCD is advertising for a Project Manager position. She talked briefly about State Capitol activities. CARCD is/was a participant in the very successful healthy soils program. The Annual Conference was great – if you were not there – you missed a great conference. Capacity Building and Leadership Academy: self assessment and leading to sustainable funding. DOC – Capacity Building. DOC is working really hard. The Tier I deadline has closed. Funding rules are out – you should look at them and make comments. Otherwise Each RCD will get monies which they will need to spend properly. DOC has a new Director. She is Catherine _____.

Reforestation Update. Mark and Stew. USFS is lifting some 64,000 seedlings and shipping. Sowing requests are for 210,000 trees from over 150 landowners. There are some 40,000 “surplus” trees this year in seed zones 372,524, 525, 526, 321, 322. Most are 1-0, however, there are some plugs.

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Ca Reforestation Handbook status. Progressing just fine.

Cal Fire reforestation. Looking at having a contract for preparing a reforestation assessment.

CFIP – Stew. Utilizing removal and reforestation. Have offered a job to an individual as FAS. A speculative sowing order has been submitted. It has covered the 10 county tree mortality area. There are reforestation workshops for landowners scheduled. The first will be in Aubury. There will be more in the late summer and/or fall. There is some \$2.4 million from the High Speed Rail Authority for reforestation activities. Cal Fire will attempt to put in spec orders until then. The next Forest Land Steward newsletter will address the topic of reforestation.

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Agency Reports:

NRCS - Chris Zimny. NRCS and USFS submitted a Joint Chiefs Proposal for the Sierra National Forest, primarily the Bass Lake area. In late Dec. NRCS issued an on-call contract when needed to 2 groups – Blackhawk and Ca Reforestation.

USFs – Paula. Back from the Legacy Panel. It went really well. The National Committee was impressed with CA submissions. There is a new geospatial analyst on the Regional Staff. They will be at the LA Moran Reforestation Center on trying to develop a database on seedlings that will capture where planted, survival, etc. Probably be called “The geospatial/nursery partnership initiative” Paula will share basics with the RCDs.

Forest Legacy – Brook. FL worked with the top scorers to do a major rewrite of the proposals. Cal Fire went back and / looked at the previous national successful projects and compared those to CA submissions. They attempted to make things easier to read, graphically stand out, etc. Came to the conclusion that they are written for a state scale and then need to be retooled for the national review. Certainly need to reduce/eliminate the “Ca-centric” terminology. There is a suggestion to have a nationwide process to exchange projects and briefs. This would “level” the playing field across the nation. Current projects; Rainbow Ridge – close to sending to DGF for review. Ryan Creek – not sure of the status. Legacy – GGRF – finalizing the comments. Close to asking for proposals. The dollar amount is not finalized; it may be based upon requests. Just as an idea – approximately some \$15 million in requests are possible. Reviews – all except Sunny Brae have been completed.

CA F&G – Joe Croteau and Bill Condon. They would like to re-engage with the group. The re-engagement is considered to be fantastic. Perhaps Bill would be the main person, time will tell. Bill would like to discuss with someone about the group, be brought up to speed, etc. Pete and Bill will talk later.

Charter Discussion time.

Steve Jones asked about the name change. He talked about the history of the CARCD name. All is tied into the struggle of 2 different authorities, institutional knowledge. But he did say he liked the name as written. But he also reminded us that the Committee receives responsibilities from two directions. Things don’t last forever, so whatever reason what happens if one or the other disappears.

Someone asked if the Committee needs to be cognizant of the Brown Act and if it has an impact on the Committee. Then we got into a discussing about the State’s Open Meeting Act. It was decided to bring this up to Jammie.

Brook asked about the forestry awards and recognition.

Other items that came up included a discussion of the funding section. This led to a discussion of some of the State regulations.

We then ran out of time.

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Misc. Next Teleconference: Probably in February. Looking at a regular meeting in Davis/Sacramento in the later part of Feb or early in March.

Pete adjourned the meeting at 9:32 am.

Submitted By:

Jerry Reioux
CARCD F&FMC and FSCC Co- Exec Secretary