

## CARCD FORESTRY COMMITTEE REPORT – DECEMBER 11, 2018

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**Participants:** Laurie Tippin, Steve Jones, Pete Johnson, Jerry Reioux, Susie Kirschner, Mary Mayeda, Phil Noia, Stewart McMorrow, Paul Mason, Sheryl Landrum, Jenn Shepard, Matt Brown, Dale Meese, Brook Darley, Steve Haze, Mike De Lasaux, Karen Buhr. **Invited Guests:** Jeff Burwell – NACD, Heidi Rogers – BLM Redding Office.

### Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee

*Forest Legacy Program Update:* Brook Darley provided an update on the Forest Legacy program, which conserves privately owned forest lands through conservation easements or land purchases. Three FY20 proposals have been submitted to the USFS-WO, totaling \$8.3 million dollars. All monitoring has been completed for 2018.

*FSCC Charter Update:* The Charter will be shared in Google Docs and sent to committee members for suggested comments. It was noted that the charter should include Farm Bill requirements. If possible, comments should be added before the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) Update:* No funding to date, but reforestation funding is expected in January and landowners are already lined up to receive funding, most of which is concentrated in fire areas. Funding total is \$1.5 million.

### CARCD Forestry Committee

*CARCD News and Views:* Karen Buhr, CARCD Executive Director, asked the committee to provide feedback on any legislation to bring to Sacramento in the upcoming legislative cycle. It was also brought up that the Forestry Committee may want to consider developing a subcommittee to track forestry legislation and inform the committee, CARCD and other RCD's, of relevant legislation. Interested committee members were asked to send an email to Laurie.

*NACD Update:* Jeff Burwell called in for an update. As of December 21<sup>st</sup> there is a continuing resolution for government programs. NRCS received a new chief, Matt Lohr, who previously served as a delegate for the VA House and commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture. The new Farm Bill will be voted on this week (Note: the 2018 Farm Bill was signed by the President on 12/20/18) and some of the upcoming changes include expediting the environmental review process and expanding the Good Neighbor Authority. Other changes in this version include: Conservation Reserve Program increased by \$3 million, hemp would become a commodity crop, and funding for forest management would not be significant. Secretary Perdue is suggesting to President Trump that he sign the Farm Bill this week. Jeff will be emailing the Forestry Title to Jerry for dispersion.

### CARCD Forestry Committee Updates:

Membership terms: Members are now on either a 2 or 3 year term on the committee to stagger when members leave or join the committee. Laurie has a list of each member's term date. The list is also posted on the CARCD Forestry Committee web page.

UC Berkeley Study: Researcher Yuling Gao will be reaching out to several RCD's and partners to inquire about ways in which to increase land access permission by private landowners in the

USFS' forest & inventory analysis program (a permanent plot vegetation inventory that's continually be re-measured).

RCD Participation in Forestry Management Task Force: The Governor initiated an Executive Order to implement a new task force focused on forest management. The task force is divided into 4 regions and will enable discussion on issues and barriers prevalent in those regions. On the call, we discussed who was making those meetings for each of the regions. RCD's are present in the Southern, Northern, and Sierra East Side groups. Laurie will confirm that someone also take part in the Coastal Region.

## **Both Committees**

*BLM Redding Office Request:* Heidi Rogers, BLM, informed the committees of her need for personnel & our ideas for dealing with the large amount of burned timber on BLM lands in Shasta, Trinity, Butte & Tehama counties, particularly for the areas burned during the Carr and Camp Fires. Ideas that were provided included the committees to send a letter to the Sec'y of the Interior, partner with the USFS, utilize the Good Neighbor Authority & the contract directly with RPFs.

*Reforestation Issues:* The CAL FIRE greenhouse in Davis has been delivered and they are now looking to enter into a contract to build them. They will also be rebuilding two of the greenhouses. CAL FIRE will be launching a seed & seedling cooperative at January's Veg Mgt Conference. 80,000 speculative seedlings will be available in 2019. A priority on 2019 is to collect cones for their seeds through normal methods and citizen science opportunities.

*CY19 Field Meeting Dates and Locations:*

- February 26<sup>th</sup> **Sacramento/Davis region**
- May 30/31<sup>st</sup> or June 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> **Blodgett Forest (Georgetown, CA)**
- Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> or Aug 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> **Redding** – Primarily a meeting for FSCC on ranking legacy projects
- November 20<sup>th</sup> **Red Bluff (location not yet confirmed)** – CARCD Conference

## **Agency Reports**

USFS: The Forest Service is also waiting for the Farm Bill Update for their programming. Matt wanted to remind the committee of the Good Neighbor Authority Workshop taking place February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**The next Joint Forestry Committee Call will take place January 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.**