



CARCD FORESTRY COMMITTEE REPORT – MAY 14, 2019

MEETING NOTES

Monthly CARCD Forestry Committee Call: The May call took place Tuesday, May 14th at 8:00am. Participants included Laurie Tippin, Pete Johnson, Karen Buhr, Jerry Reioux, Steve Jones, Mary Mayeda, Mark Egbert, Stewart McMorrow, Susie Kirschner, Sandra Lupien, Steve Haze, Jenn Shepard, Jamie Sammut, Frank Stewart, Brandon M. (NRCS forester, Placerville), John Henshaw, Brook Darley, Dale Meese, & Phil Noia. Others may have also participated.

CARCD Forestry Committee

CARCD News and Views: Karen Buhr provided an update on some of the legislation they are following. As of the May call, most bills being tracked were in appropriations but there is a high likelihood that several bills will move forward including SB 253 which was co-sponsored by CARCD and the Nature Conservancy to support conservation on farmland by developing a conservation incentive program. For a full list of legislation that CARCD is tracking, check out the website through the member portal: <https://carcd.memberclicks.net/legislative>.

The second update was a reminder of the Annual CARCD Conference coming up November 13th-14th 2019 in Redding, CA. The CARCD team is currently processing proposals for the breakout sessions. The CARCD/FSCC Committees will discuss the November joint meeting and field trip at a later date. Space will be limited at the conference this year, so make sure to sign up early if you plan to attend.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP): Jenn Sheppard provided an update on the progress of the RCPP program. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has allotted \$10 million in funding for tree mortality in the Sierra's. Of this pot of funding, \$1 million has been made available to RCD's in ten counties to provide technical assistance to landowners. Jenn is in the process of finalizing agreements with RCD's so that work can move forward. She is also working with NRCS to develop the forest management plan template that will be used for this program. Jenn also mentioned that additional forestry technical assistance funding has been requested to NRCS (for areas outside the Sierra mortality project), but due to NRCS budget cuts they aren't sure about the status of this request.

CARCD Committee Action Plan: Further discussion will be scheduled for the May 31st meeting.

Both Committees

Reforestation Update: The reforestation team is continuing to work on rebuilding the nursery. They are also preparing to collect cones and process seeds for next year's crop. They are seeking information about potential cone crops and are not lacking in funding to carry out this work. Mary Mayeda (Mendocino Co RCD) has submitted a proposal to Nursery Manager Anthony L. for cone surveys in her service area. If successful, the proposal can be upscaled in the future to include other RCDs. Anyone with information about a potential cone crop should contact Stewart McMorrow.

Committee Meeting in Jackson/Ione: A joint committee meeting will take place May 30th/31st in Ione coinciding with the Sierra to California All Lands Meeting (SCALE). The SCALE meeting will take place the 30th/31st with the CARCD forestry meeting taking place May 31st. The Forestry Committee Meeting will take place at the CALFIRE Academy in Ione.

Agency Reports: John Henshaw of Napa Co. Land Trust identified that CCI (CA Climate Investment) funds were awarded to them. Frank Stewart, CA Fire Safe Council, identified that he is working with Fire Safe Councils throughout the state on current updates.

Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee

Forest Legacy Program: The Program is currently finishing up 8-10 projects. Staff is also undergoing an update to the "Assessment of Need" (AON) to determine how to rank Legacy projects. They are planning to select 5-10 attributes for measuring project importance and having FSCC members rank these attributes. Further discussion on the AON will be provided at the May 31st meeting.

Wildfire Resilience Program: Jenn, Laurie, and Stewart are meeting this month to discuss the WRP. They plan to have an update soon on the program.

CFIP Update: Dale provided a quick update, they have finished encumbering all available funds for fiscal year 2018. Much of the funding was applied to reforestation projects in the southern portion of the state. The USDA CA Climate Hub is writing a landowner guidebook using CCI funds for the CFIP program – stay tuned. Further update on the CFIP Program will be provided in July.

Update on Committee History with CARCD: A 1998 letter from the State Forester was located that identified the CAL FIRE/CARCD partnership allowing the CARCD committee to accept responsibility of the FSCC. Renewing this partnership will take further discussions on issues related to CA's open meeting law & advocacy actions, among others. A subcommittee was formed: Stewart McMorrow, Pete Johnson, Paul Mason, John Henshaw & Laurie Tippin (confirmed at the 5/31 joint committees meeting).

The next Joint Forestry Committee Meeting will be an in-person meeting taking place May 31st in Lone, CA