

2019 Annual Report of Accomplishments – CARCD Forestry Committee

General

The Committee has been active over a year now. Monthly conference calls are scheduled, with a few exceptions, and in-person meetings occurred twice (May and November). The meeting held in conjunction with the 2019 CARCD conference was well-attended. At the 2019 conference, the Committee sponsored a table at the November 13th mixer. A number of RCD staff stopped by. Based upon their input, the Committee recognized that knowledge of the Committee is fairly lacking throughout the 96 RCDs in the state. The Committee needs to discuss how to raise its visibility. The Western Shasta RCD hosted a field tour of Carr Fire restoration work on November 15th.

Action Plan

The CARCD Forestry Committee developed an Action Plan in February 2019 to focus its work over the next few years. The plan's purpose is to guide the Committee in providing the most meaningful support and assistance to RCDs in the implementation or development of their individual forestry programs. In 2018, the Committee conducted an assessment and, from the data received, five top program components were identified:

1. Fuels reduction &/or forest stand improvement.
2. Fire Safe Council participation.
3. Connect landowners to Federal and State Managers.
4. Provide site specific management advice to landowners.
5. Tree mortality.

Many good actions are identified in the current Action Plan; however, assignment of responsibility for all items has not occurred.

Most of the items assigned and completed in 2019 supported the development and population of a Committee web page housed on CARCD's web page open to the public. To date, information available for viewing includes the Committee's mission, charter and action plan; committee membership, meeting agendas and notes; committee-written news articles; landowner assistance material and links to key governmental agencies; and other forestry-related material and web page links. Also established and shown on the web page is an email address for RCDs and the public to ask questions or request information. A copy of the Action Plan showing completed items is posted on the Committee's web page.

Joining the CARCD and Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committees

The CARCD and Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee (FSCC) continue to jointly meet yet retain separate identities. Discussion among the two committees has occurred throughout the year to find a way in which the committees can be joined into one functional committee. The key issues to be resolved include a reconfirmation from the State that it wants to assign FSCC responsibilities to CARCD, whether a non-profit organization taking on State responsibilities is required to implement California's open meeting law, advocacy, delegation of membership and leadership requirements.