



PRESERVING OUR LEGACY **100 YEARS OF CDF** PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

CDF URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM

Seeing the Forest from the Trees

CDF's Urban & Community Forestry Program (U&CF) was grafted into our Department's broader resource management mission through the creation of the California Urban Forestry Act of 1978. From its early beginnings, the U&CF program has fostered a two-prong approach in statewide program delivery. The first branch has followed those key points outlined in the Public Resource Code: arresting the decline of our urban forest resources, facilitating the planting of trees in the city, and improving the quality of the environment in urban areas through establishment and improved management of urban forest resources. The second branch has reflected our key federal partnership program with the USDA Forest Service's national U&CF Program delivered through their State and Private Program, as authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.

The U&CF program, under CDF's leadership, has continued to be a national model from its early beginning to the present day. The fundamentals to our success is evident because of our unique State Urban Forestry Act, one of few nationally, as well as the public's commitment to fostering urban tree planting programs under which CDF has delivered in excess of 18 million dollars to local communities in tree planting grants. Our community partnership outreach efforts through our successful California ReLeaf network links 60+ volunteer community based tree care organizations. Our program efforts have developed such highlights as "Selectree", the only online public domain tree selection software with 1480 varieties of tree to choose from.

For CDF, the U&CF Program has allowed the Department to put our face before the ever-growing metropolitan populations to reflect our important story of resource protection and management. This effort has allowed us to use our expertise of integrating wildland fire and resource management principles to the expanding interface issues of community sprawl, while at the same time introducing the models of economic sustainability of natural resources within an urban environment.



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