



CALIFORNIA FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

# Forestland Steward

WINTER/SPRING 2014

## Forestry Assistance for Landowners

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Photo: Jeff Calvert



## Forestland Steward

Forestland Steward is a joint project of the CA Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Placer County Resource Conservation District, UC Cooperative Extension, and USDA Forest Service to provide information on the stewardship of private forestlands in California.

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The ideas contained in this newsletter are meant as general information and opinion, not management prescription.

Consult a Registered Professional Forester or a qualified technical advisor (see page 10) for management advice specific to your needs.



# Forestry Assistance encourages good stewardship of forestland

Forestland provides tremendous public benefits: clean air, water quality and quantity, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, timber, recreation, and soul-satisfying scenery.

Healthy forests help maintain plant and animal diversity and are less likely to succumb to wildfires and pest outbreaks. California's forests are vitally important and maintaining them in good condition is in everyone's interest.

Forestland in California is almost evenly divided between private and public ownership. Of the half that is privately owned, about half of that—approximately 11 million acres—is owned by about 350,000 nonindustrial landowners. These many, individual landowners hold the key to protecting a significant percentage of the State's forestland.

Everyone wants to see good stewardship of California's forestlands. But forest management takes money. To help landowners with on-the-ground projects, the State and Federal governments have created numerous programs to provide forest landowners with financial and technical assistance.

CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection) and NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) are the lead agencies that work with forest landowners to offer cost-share support and grants. Although CAL FIRE is a State agency and NRCS a Federal agency, they work in partnership to help landowners find the right program(s) for their needs.

## What is a forest?

For the cost-share and grant programs, a forest is defined as an area with at least 10% tree coverage and zoned to allow forest resource management practices. This includes native hardwood (oak woodland) and riparian forests, as well as conifer forests.



*A CFIP cost-share grant helped this landowner clear brush and plant seedlings in 1999, a job that would have cost \$70,000 without the assistance.*

Photo: Jeff Calvert

## Management plans

It begins with a plan. Before you can do projects on your forest, you need a good understanding of the current condition of your land and a clear vision of what you want to achieve. This includes identifying your personal goals, collecting technical information about the property, and understanding both the threats to and the potential of the land.

It can be a steep learning curve, but the process of creating a management plan will help you get up to speed quickly. There is usually money available for working with a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to create a quality management plan for your property. The approved management plan can also be used for both CFIP and EQIP funding.

## Don't give up; help is here

Forestry assistance can be confusing. The many programs (and acronyms) might make you want to throw up your hands. Happily, you don't have to figure it all out by yourself. That's the job of your CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS) or NRCS District Conservationist. Go to your local CAL FIRE or NRCS office and talk to them about your forest and needs.

Use the handy acronym decoder (see page 3) to help make sense of it all. Before you know it these letters will roll off your tongue like an expert and you'll be speaking the secret language of forestry assistance.

# CFIP: the primary state cost-share program for forest landowners

CFIP exists to encourage improved management of California's forestland for "... protection, maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system for the benefit of present and future generations."

The program's scope includes improvement of all forest resources, including fish and wildlife habitat, soil, and water quality by providing financial and technical assistance to forest landowners. Eligible landowners may include forest operators, wood processors, public agencies, private individuals, Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), and nonprofit watershed groups.

CFIP is the State's primary vehicle for delivering landowner assistance. This program was developed in 1978 and, since then, has supported projects on 700,000 acres of forestland, including 55,000 trees planted and 35,000 acres of fuels reduction activities in the last decade.

In the past, money for CFIP came from a portion of the revenues from timber sales on the State's Demonstration Forests. After 2004, that funding was no longer available for CFIP. Other funding sources, including federal grants and bond funds, have been used but these were often targeted at specific geographic regions or specific activities.

Qualifying activities for CFIP include management planning, site preparation, tree purchase and planting, timber stand improvement, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and land conservation practices.

To be eligible for CFIP, landowners must own at least 20 acres, but not more than 5,000 acres,

of forestland in California. Landowners who own less than 20 acres may qualify if they submit a joint application with neighboring landowners and the combined acreage is a minimum of 20 acres of forestland.

## Forestry Assistance

This year California has a proposal for additional money for forestry assistance—\$50 million! This money is spread among a number of programs, each with its own focus.

- Forest Health—pest management program (*see page 5*).
- Urban Forestry—urban tree planting and renewal, maintenance, greenhouses.
- State Demonstration Forests—Eight forests totalling 71,000 acres representing the most common forest types in the state.
- Seed Bank at the LA Moran Center in Davis—one of only two seed banks in the state (the other is owned by the US Forest Service). This seed bank is priceless. In some cases it may be the only source for populations wiped out by fire (*see page 6*).
- Landowner Assistance—programs that directly support landowner education and activities on the ground (*see sidebar*).

## For more information:

- CFIP User's Guide at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/CFIP/CFIP\\_UsersGuide\\_2012Version\\_031212\\_FINAL.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/CFIP/CFIP_UsersGuide_2012Version_031212_FINAL.pdf)
- CFIP website at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestryassistance\\_cfip.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php)

## Alphabet soup of forestry assistance

**CAL FIRE—CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection** (State)

**CFIP—California Forest Improvement Program** (State)

**CSP—Conservation Stewardship Program** (Federal)

**EQIP—Environmental Quality Incentive Program** (Federal)

**FAS—Forestry Assistance Specialist**

**FL—Forest Legacy** (State)

**FSP—Forest Stewardship Program** (State)

**HFRP—Healthy Forest Reserve Program** (Federal)

**NRCS—Natural Resources Conservation Service** (Federal)

**RCD—Resource Conservation District** (Local)

**RCPP—Regional Conservation Partnership Program** (Federal)

**RPF—Registered Professional Forester**

**WHIP—Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program** (Federal)

**USFS—U.S. Forest Service** (Federal)

## Seeking forestry assistance...where to start?

If you would like to find out about possible forestry assistance programs that fit your needs, two places to start are your local CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS) or your local District Conservationist. Either of these experts will know about both State and Federal programs and can direct you to the appropriate one for your forest and goals.

If you don't already have a forest

management plan, that is where you will begin. You can't do anything without a plan. With the plan in place, you will be eligible for both CFIP cost-share and EQIP cost assistance.

Find your local FAS at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/ForestAdvisorList.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/ForestAdvisorList.pdf).

Find your local NRCS field office at <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ca>.

# 35 years of CFIP: Stories from the field

## Forest practices under CFIP

A number of forestry practices can be covered by CFIP. These include:

- management plans
- RPF supervision
- site preparation
- trees and planting
- tree shelters
- precommercial thinning
- pruning
- release
- follow-up/slash disposal
- land conservation (includes erosion control, road rehabilitation, and wildlife/fisheries projects)

The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) has been around for a long time. Goals defined in the original legislation included improving habitat and the environmental quality of private forestland, providing future sources of wood and other forest products, fostering relationships between landowners and RPFs, and creating jobs in the forestry sector.

In its 35 years, the program has seen ups and downs and many changes but, most importantly, has continued to help landowners accomplish important forest projects all over the State.

### 1980s

Dave Passmore remembers working with CFIP when it first started. An employee of Cazadero Forest Workers, he managed projects and land for landowners in the area.

“After the Creighton Ridge Fire, people wanted to replant or work on forestry. We had 11 CFIP projects the first year of CFIP; Sonny Cresswell had #1.

“Initially tree planting was 100% of the projects, then in the fourth year we had to do release [remove or kill competing brush]. People who hadn’t been burned wanted thinning. Most people got interested in their land and did management plans. They wanted to do things like roads, erosion control, fisheries, streams... The money came from programs like CFIP to help. Experts in the field came in to work with the landowners on projects.”

In 1983 the company got into fisheries work. Not all the landowner assistance involved CFIP grants. Programs like the California Department

of Fish & Game (now CA Dept of Fish & Wildlife) grants that funded streams and fisheries projects, including fish-friendly roadwork. A range of landowner assistance programs are available, depending on what the landowner wants.

Dave and partner Jim McCrumb started Fort Ross Environmental Restoration, which operated until just a few years ago. “I’m not sure how many projects we had. We managed land for 30–50 landowners and several did projects every year.

“CFIP was absolutely wonderful, especially with management plans—people don’t want to spend money on that.”

### 1990s

Fortunately for the CFIP program, State budget cuts in the early 1990s coincided with the advent of a new federal program. The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP), funded through the US Forest Service (USFS), provides funding for forest management plans and related activities. FSP continues to be the primary funding source for forest management plans in California, and also funds CAL FIRE’s Stewardship Coordinating Committee, the Forestry Institute for Teachers, the Forest Stewardship Help Line (800-738-TREE), and this newsletter.

In 1998 the Gualala River Watershed Council

Photos this page courtesy Stephen Smith



Several of the earliest CFIP grants were for restoration projects after the Creighton Fire in the Cazadero area.



Vexar protects tree seedlings planted after the Creighton Ridge fire.

(<http://grwc.info/>) received two CFIP grants. Kathleen Morgan, Executive Director of the Council, was a volunteer from the beginning.

“We got two grants. One was to develop a roads video. The other grant—for \$15,000—was funding for the Council to start. It allowed us to develop, paid for the meeting hall, newsletter, and a coordinator position. It really helped.

“Having a coordinator facilitated workshops, meetings, getting aerial photos, and learning GIS mapping skills. In addition it helped with outreach and education to landowners.”

Sotoyome RCD staff helped the Council develop grants. There were a number of road assessment and implementation projects. The Council upgraded 15 miles of road to prevent sediment pollution, the highest priority water issue in the area.

Since then the Gualala Watershed Council has done much more. They’ve had an instream grant since 2000 that puts unengineered structures in streams. Now in its 6th phase, the Council has placed more than 700 logs in streams. They have also done much more road restoration. They’ve developed a monitoring program for the entire watershed and now have GIS coverage of the whole watershed. And they’re working with the Coastal Conservancy on an estuary study.

“It all started with the original \$15,000 CFIP grant,” says Morgan. “There isn’t money like that available anymore. No funding for administrative support. Grants now are project-based. It’s harder for groups. Projects don’t happen in a vacuum. We need administration and preparation hours to get projects off the ground.”

## 2000s

Funds from timber sales on the State Forests were the primary funding source for CFIP for the first 20 years, but are now used exclusively by the State Forest program. New money became available from the Prop 40 Fuels Management Program. This was more limited in the activities allowed, focusing primarily on fuels reduction projects in 17 Sierra counties.

There were also positive effects from the tightening money situation. Funding became more diversified and partnerships were formed with Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) and NRCS to accomplish a greater variety of projects on the ground. These partnerships have strengthened over the years and become very important to CFIP, allowing the program to continue through the lean years.



*The Little Pepperwood Creek Planning Watershed landing filled in the headwaters of the creek. It was removed and the headwaters brought back down to their natural grade. 13,000 cubic yards of sediment (that’s 1,300 dump truck loads!) were removed from the site. That sediment would have eventually eroded into the stream network.*

## 2010s

Now in its fourth decade, CFIP is still going strong. The partnerships that have been developed are continuing to serve the program well. There is an emphasis on developing management plans that now qualify landowners for both EQIP and CFIP funding. RCDs receive some of the funds, and channel them to landowners.

Richard Armstrong owns a 20-acre parcel in Alta. He and two neighbors used CFIP to do clearing for fuels reduction and forest health. They worked with an RPF who created a plan, then hired a contractor to do the work, primarily with a masticator and also some hand work.

CFIP paid 75% of the \$16,900 cost. Armstrong says, “We were very happy with the way it worked out. The primary purpose was fire safety and forest health... but it looks better too.”

CFIP funding appears to be on the rise, and the program will soon be funding the whole range of forest improvement activities again. Thanks to a number of funding sources, CFIP will be able to help forest landowners achieve their goals, while keeping California’s forest ecosystems healthy for all.

All necessary CFIP forms are available at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestryassistance\\_cfip.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php)

*Photos this page courtesy Kathleen Morgan*



*In-stream projects add rip-rap and other structures to support fish and prevent sedimentation.*

## Seed Bank Resources

The L.A. Moran Reforestation Center in Davis specializes in forest tree cone and seed processing and seed bank storage. Contact staff there for information about cone/seed processing, seed availability for approved projects, and private nursery resources. (530) 753-2441

More on the Seed Bank and planting at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_statenurseries.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_statenurseries.php)

To learn more about cone collection, go to the two-part cone collection webinar at [http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/Webinars/Reforestation/January\\_15\\_2014/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/Webinars/Reforestation/January_15_2014/) and [http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/Webinars/Reforestation/January\\_22\\_2014\\_Teri\\_Griffis/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/Webinars/Reforestation/January_22_2014_Teri_Griffis/)

See the Winter 2013 issue of *Forestland Steward* for a more comprehensive discussion of the Seed Bank and cone collection. <http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/pdf/news-winter2013.pdf>

# Seed Bank helps ensure healthy forests

The California State Seed Bank is a little known, but critically important, tool for forest landowners who need seedlings for restoration projects. Its mandated purpose is “to provide an adequate, reliable, and continuous supply of the highest quality forest tree seed...”

At one time, there were three State Nurseries in California that grew seedlings available in small quantities for purchase by landowners. The last nursery, Magalia, closed in 2011 due to budget cuts. Since then it's been a struggle for many nonindustrial forest landowners to find site-appropriate seedlings for their projects, since private nurseries can't afford to grow small quantities of seedlings on spec like the State Nurseries did.

But now, the State Seed Bank has stepped up to help. It can provide (when available) site-appropriate seed to qualified nurseries to grow seedlings for most restoration activities (except landscaping). Acceptable activities include rehabilitation after fire or pest outbreak, wildlife habitat, riparian restoration, even Christmas trees.

In addition to seed, Teri Griffis, who manages the Seed Bank, also provides technical assistance and advice to landowners and nurseries. She will work with landowners to find out where they live

and what species they need and, if approved and available, she will send seed to a qualified nursery to grow the seedlings.

But be warned: it now takes a season, often two, to contract with a private nursery to grow the seeds provided by the Seed Bank. In addition, seed from some seed zones is not available; the stores have been depleted and cone collection to gather more seed is unpredictable.

It is more important than ever that landowners plan ahead. And the best way to do that is to create a forest management plan in association with your RPF (see page 3). If you don't yet have a management plan or an RPF, go to the “Starting Your Forest Management Plan”

website for inspiration and information (see page 12).

Since Magalia Nursery closed, several agencies have been working to make seedlings available for forest projects. Solutions are in the works: The Seed Bank facility is expanding, new partnerships are being forged, efforts are underway to enhance the cone collection program, and new foresters have been hired by CAL FIRE.

If you need seeds for seedlings, contact Teri Griffis at (530) 753-2441.



*The State Seed Bank is filled to capacity with high-quality seed from all over the state.*

*The purpose of the nursery program is to provide an adequate, reliable, and continuous supply of the highest quality forest tree seed...to assure public forest values are protected and enhanced. The nursery program focuses on maintaining a substantial seed bank as insurance against poor seed crop years and providing the widest possible genetic variety of forest tree species. The program contributes to restoration of native trees lost to wildfire, insects, and disease; avoiding losses of tree species threatened with extirpation or extinction; and mitigates the uncertainties associated with tree species and forest ecosystem adaptation to climate change.*

# What's wrong with my trees?

## Pest Management Program to the rescue

If you notice something strange happening in your forest—thinning crowns, dead trees, bleeding trunks, off-color foliage—don't despair. CAL FIRE has some experts who are happy to figure out what's going on.

According to Tom Smith, a forest pest specialist, "we are always willing to come out... that's my favorite part of the job."

Insects and disease cause 10 times the loss of trees as fire. The Pest Management Program exists to assist landowners with this major threat. Give them a call and these specialists will come out to your property, identify the problem, and give you information on potential solutions. The decision on what to do is up to you.

In some cases, like bark beetle infestation, it may be possible to remove the infected trees before the infection moves to other trees. Sometimes there is no solution.

Some threats can't be avoided. The current drought is causing a huge impact to California's forests. There are more bark beetles, the trees are stressed and more susceptible to insects and diseases, and hardwoods are experiencing early leaf drop. If the drought breaks, all but the most vulnerable trees should be fine.

But the list of forest pests is long. Sudden Oak Death occurrences have been picking up recently because the last couple of years have seen good conditions for the pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*. Sudden Oak Death has killed thousands of oaks in 15 counties.

In addition, there are a lot of insect issues. Most of the problem insects are invasive species. Native trees are susceptible because they have not evolved with and adapted to these pests.

Each year or two, a significant new invasive forest pest appears on the scene. Currently we have the Gold-spotted Oak Borer in Southern California and, more recently, the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer, which loves oaks, sycamore, maples, and even avocados, has been found in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and possibly Santa Cruz Counties.

### Keep your eyes open

It's important to keep your eyes open and notice any changes to your trees. Look up at the crown, check the trunk for holes or bleeding,

notice any changes in the foliage, or dying branches or trees. The earlier you identify a problem, the easier it is to address it.

### Prevention is the best solution

A healthy forest is generally able to withstand attack by pests. Do all you can to keep your forest healthy: thin overcrowded forests, remove invasive species, and maintain natural diversity. Talk to your local FAS or RPF about what you can do to restore and/or maintain forest health.

Be careful when transporting materials, such as firewood, live plants, or seeds. You don't want to bring any hitchhiking pests into a new area. There is currently a campaign to "buy it where you burn it," which encourages people to stop the transport of firewood from one area to another. That is probably how the Gold-spotted Oak Borer got into California.

For a comprehensive discussion of California forest pests, [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/reports/2012%20California%20Forest%20Pest%20Conditions%20Report.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/reports/2012%20California%20Forest%20Pest%20Conditions%20Report.pdf)

More about the Pest Management Program, including contact information for forest pest specialists: [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_pestmanagement.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_pestmanagement.php)



Fir engraver damage.



Black pineleaf scale.

Don Owen, CAL FIRE, bigwood.org

Don Owen, CAL FIRE, bigwood.org

## Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer

The tiny Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB) has been found to attack more than 200 species of trees in the LA area, including coast live oak and California sycamore.

This ambrosia beetle has a fascinating lifestyle. The female brings a fungus along when it drills into trees. It plants the fungus along the galleries it makes, then lays its eggs there. The larvae emerge and feed on the fungus. Most of the young are female, which mate with the males, then take some fungus in their mouths and exit through the original entrance hole to find a new tree to lay their eggs.

### Management:

- Avoid transporting firewood or other infected material.
- Healthy trees are more likely to survive attack. Choose appropriate trees for the site, provide appropriate soils and access for roots to grow and expand, avoid excessive pruning, over- or under-watering, and planting inappropriate companion plants within the dripline.



Photo: Gevork Arakelian, LA County Ag Commissioner

## Forest practices under EQIP

A number of forestry practices can be covered by EQIP grants. These include:

- forest stand improvement
- brush management
- trees/shrub site prep
- trees/shrub establishment
- riparian forest buffer
- restoration of rare and declining habitats
- prescribed grazing
- stream crossing
- access road
- exclusion fencing
- erosion control

### Confidential as the Department of Defense

NRCS is strong on confidentiality; its privacy rules are equivalent to the Department of Defense. Staff are not allowed to provide any information to other agencies without the express permission of the landowner. That means that even if they see a problem, they can help the landowner solve it but cannot report it. The goal is to build trust with landowners.

# Numerous grant programs from NRCS

Federal programs that recognize the benefits to society of good stewardship are administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), similar to the State cost-share programs under CAL FIRE. These incentives have been shown to be very effective in encouraging good management practices that improve and maintain forestland.

## Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

EQIP, the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, is the mainstay of delivering assistance to forest landowners in the new Farm Bill. Last year, EQIP in California was flush with money: \$100 million, of which 10%, or \$10 million, was allocated for forestland.

EQIP cost assistance is allocated based on local concerns identified by local Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), partner agencies, and landowners. Field offices work with regional allotments of money, called funding pools, which focus on the biggest resource issues of the area.

In the coastal regions, fish and water quality are the major concerns. In the central Sierra, it's fire and water quantity. The Cascade area focuses on water and wildlife. The southern Sierra is most concerned about declining habitats due to fire, insects, and invasive species. Fire is a top concern in all areas of the State.

Forest management plans are considered the most important management practice. They provide information about what's the right thing to do on your land.

Unlike the State cost-share programs that are generally 75% of cost, EQIP offers cost assistance calculated at around 50%. Often landowners do their own work, thereby increasing the value of the grant. No receipts are required; payment is for the project done to contract specifications. The payment can be increased in certain circumstances. Replanting after catastrophic fire has similar payment rates to CAL FIRE. And, new in the Farm Bill, cost assistance amounts to veterans have also been increased.



*Site prep and planting.*

## Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) was discontinued in the current Farm Bill and folded into EQIP, with 10% of the EQIP money mandated for WHIP. Since forestland includes a lot of wildlife habitat, there is great potential for landowners to access this cost assistance for wildlife.



*Fuels management.*



*Fish structures for habitat improvement.*



*Exclusion fencing.*

### Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Another significant program for forest landowners is the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). This allows landowners who are already doing high-quality management of their lands to receive cost assistance based on the number of acres they maintain. Additional stewardship enhancements are expected.

### Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)

The Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP) helps promote recovery of threatened and endangered species, improves biodiversity, and enhances carbon sequestration. Currently, this program is available only on the coast, where it is focused on Coho recovery. Landowners can plant in riparian zones, add fish structures (e.g., logs) to creeks, take out invasive plants, reduce road sediment, and other riparian restoration activities.

Qualifying for HFRP is easy, but a 10-year agreement to maintain the conservation work is required. It also helps to have a conservation easement, which puts you at the top of the list.

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) consolidates large geographic areas with significant concerns. It allows agencies, RCDs, and concerned landowners to address regional issues. These are multi-year projects proposed by partnerships made up of agencies, nongovernmental organizations, tribes, local entities, and others to work together on a local natural resource concern.

— <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/>



*Riparian planting.*



*Road assessment and rehabilitation.*

*Photos: Jill Butler*

# Resources Websites for cost-share and grant info

## Starting Your Forest Management Plan

Videos and modules to help you get started on your Forest Management Plan.

1. Set Goals and Objectives
2. Get to Know Your Forest
3. Find a Professional Forester
4. Tools

[http://ucanr.edu/sites/forest\\_learning/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/forest_learning/)

## CAL FIRE Landowner Assistance Programs

Information on all the CAL FIRE administered assistance programs. [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestryassistance.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance.php)

## CFIP

Find information and all the CFIP forms you need at [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestryassistance\\_cfip.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php)

## CFIP Users Guide

This has everything you need to know, including cost share cap rates, application forms, and all the other forms for CFIP. [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/CFIP/CFIP\\_UsersGuide\\_2012Version\\_031212\\_FINAL.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/CFIP/CFIP_UsersGuide_2012Version_031212_FINAL.pdf)

## Meet your FAS

Get the latest list of Forestry Assistance Specialists who can help with all your forestry assistance questions. Find the FAS in your area.

[http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/ForestAdvisorList.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/ForestAdvisorList.pdf)

## California Cooperative Forest Management Plan

Your one-stop plan that qualifies you for both CFIP and EQIP grants. [http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/CFIP/Rev\\_CaliforniaCooperativeForestManagement\\_070512\\_SGS.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/CFIP/Rev_CaliforniaCooperativeForestManagement_070512_SGS.pdf)

More information on the Cooperative Forest Management Plan in the **Winter 2012 issue of Forestland Steward newsletter**. <http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/pdf/news-winter2012.pdf>

## EQIP

Several programs (see page 8) and lots of opportunities for funding. Get the info here, then contact your local NRCS office. <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/eqip/>

## Technical Assistance

Many agencies are available to provide technical assistance, referrals, information, education, land management plan assistance, and advice.

### California Stewardship Helpline

1-800-738-TREE; [ncsaf@mcn.org](mailto:ncsaf@mcn.org)

### California Dept of Forestry & Fire Protection

Forest Landowner Assistance Programs  
Jeff Calvert; [jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov](mailto:jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov)

### Forestry Assistance Specialists

Guy Anderson (Mariposa/Madera/Merced) 209-966-3622 x218  
Jill Butler (Santa Rosa) 707-576-2935  
Brook Darley, (Redding) 530-224-1420  
Damon Denman (Siskiyou) 530-842-3516  
Adam Frese (Tuolumne/E. Stanislaus) 209-532-7429 x109  
Ivan Houser (Lassen) 530-257-4171  
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Patrick McDaniel (El Dorado) 530-647-5288  
Jonathan Pangburn (San Benito/Monterey) 831-333-2600  
Alan Peters (San Luis Obispo) 805-543-4244  
Matthew Reischman (Placer/Yuba/Nevada) 530-265-4589 x101  
Jim Robbins (Fortuna) 707-726-1258  
Edwin Simpson (Fresno/King) 559-493-4307

Tom Tinsley and/or Patrick McDaniel (Amador) 530-647-5200

### California Association of RCDs

916 457-7904; [staff@carcd.org](mailto:staff@carcd.org)

### Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

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### USDA Forest Service

Dan McKeague, Forest Landowner Asst Programs 707-562-8875; [dmckeague@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmckeague@fs.fed.us)

# Calendar

## May 29

### Field Trip to Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Reforestation Project

**Contact:** Richard Harris; rrharris2464@sbcglobal.net or 707-685-5508

**Website and Registration:** <http://ucanr.edu/reforestationwebinar/>

**Notes:** [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=27166](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=27166) for information about the Reforestation Project and restoration in the park following the 2003 Cedar Fire.

## June 6

### Restoration Field Trip—Gap Fire

**Contact:** Richard Harris; rrharris2464@sbcglobal.net or 707-685-5508

**Website and Registration:** <http://ucanr.edu/reforestationwebinar/>

**Notes:** Trip in conjunction with the webinar series on reforestation in California. Visit <http://ucanr.edu/reforestationwebinar/> to review presentations.

## June 17–18

### Board of Forestry Meeting

**Location:** Sacramento

**Website:** <http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/>

## June 19

### American Fire Field Trip

**Website:** <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu/events/jun-19-2014-american-fire-field-trip>

**Contact:** Kim Ingram, [kcingram@ucanr.edu](mailto:kcingram@ucanr.edu)

## June 20

### Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project (SNAMP) Owl Integration Team meeting

**Location:** Davis, CA

**Contact:** Kim Ingram, [kcingram@ucanr.edu](mailto:kcingram@ucanr.edu)

**Website:** <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu/events/>

## July 31

### Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project (SNAMP) Fisher Team meeting

**Location:** Fresno, CA

**Contact:** Kim Ingram, [kcingram@ucanr.edu](mailto:kcingram@ucanr.edu)

**Website:** <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu/events/>

## August 26–27

### Board of Forestry Meeting

**Location:** Sacramento

**Website:** <http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/>

## September 4

### Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project (SNAMP) Water Team meeting

**Location:** Merced, CA

**Contact:** Kim Ingram, [kcingram@ucanr.edu](mailto:kcingram@ucanr.edu)

**Website:** <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu/events/>

## Watch forestry webinars on your own schedule

The following UC Cooperative Extension webinars on forestry issues are now available for you to watch at your leisure. Simply go to <http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/Webinars/>.

### Reforestation and Afforestation in California Series (2014)

### Current Forest Science Research at UC Berkeley (2013)

### Ecology and Active Management of Riparian Vegetation in Forested Landscapes (2013)

### Rural Road Series 1–3 (2012)

1. Rural roads and the Environment
2. Rural Road Design/Operations
3. Rural road Assessment, Remediation, Restoration

### Fire Adapted Communities at Lake Tahoe (2012)

### Forest Stewardship for Forest Landowner Series (2011)

### Balancing Fuels Treatment with Wildlife and Sensitive Plant Considerations (2011)

### Community Forestry (2011)

For more info contact Richard Harris; [rrharris2464@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rrharris2464@sbcglobal.net)

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## Online Learning

# Starting Your Forest Management Plan

You hear again and again in this newsletter about the importance of forest management plans. It's true—your management plan is the prerequisite to good forest stewardship. In addition, this is a great time to create one...there is money available for you to work with a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to create your own forest management plan.

But perhaps you don't feel quite ready. You don't know enough about the process and goals of a management plan to work confidently with a professional. Well, now there's a great new resource that will give you the background you need to work effectively and knowledgeably with your RPF.

UC Cooperative Extension has created a website to walk you through the first steps in creating your forest management plan: setting goals and objectives, getting to know your forest, and finding an RPF. It's video-based; you'll meet landowners and experts who will talk about the following:

### STEP 1: SETTING GOALS

- What's Important to You?
- A Family Forest Planning Guide

### STEP 2: GET TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

- History of Your Land
- Profiling Your Land



### Tree Management

- Identifying Your Forest and Its Trees
- Understanding Tree Competition
- Management Practices

### Wildlife

- Wildlife Habitat
- Some Easy Ways to Enhance Wildlife

### Water Quality

- Assessing Water Quality
- Common Water Challenges

### Signs of Insects and Disease

- Common Forest Tree Disease
- Pest Management

### Safety and Roads

- Fire Hazards
- Road Assessment

### STEP 3: FIND A PROFESSIONAL FORESTER

Finally, fill out a Forest Self-Assessment. It is useful to have an idea of your property's condition and your unique vision for your property *before* talking with a forest professional about creating a management plan. The Forest Self-Assessment is a confidential questionnaire that you can share with your RPF if you choose to. It covers information about your forest that can help you make informed management decisions.

One last incentive...if you are one of the first 200 people to complete the entire 3-step program and fill out the survey, you can get a gift voucher for \$10 for anything from the ANR (Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources) catalog.

—[http://ucanr.edu/sites/forest\\_learning/](http://ucanr.edu/sites/forest_learning/)