



# Forest Landowners OF CALIFORNIA

FLC Field Day • August 19, 2017

9:00am-3:00pm

Fort Mountain Ranch • Steve McLeod  
2017 Tree Farmer of the Year



## Join Us in Calaveras County and Meet the 2017 Tree Farmer of the Year!

In 1891 William Bosse acquired 90 acres of land along the South Fork Mokelumne River. The Bosse family lived on and worked this land from 1898 until 1982. Over the 84 years they owned the ranch the Bosse family expanded their contiguous land holdings at the ranch from the original 90 acres to over 4,800 acres. During this time three generations of the Bosse family farmed, raised cattle and other livestock, operated a trout farm and harvested timber on the ranch.

In 1982 the ranch was sold to Gerry Hodnefield. Hodnefield operated the ranch as a cattle ranch, running 350 head of Registered Herford cattle. He also had a significant equestrian operation on the ranch. During Hodnefield's ownership, in 1988 the ranch experienced the Rail Road Flat Fire. This fire burned nearly the entire ranch, many areas burned flat. Other areas burned off understory and left standing forest. After the fire the property was immediately salvaged logged, then reforested. Hodnefield decided to reforest at 2 to 3 times the recommended number of seedlings per acre. This very dense reforestation, combined with naturally occurring regeneration of trees and brush produced a very dense growth pattern. After the fire reforestation efforts, Hodnefield made a conscious decision to "just let nature take its course" and let the re-growth progress without any forest management practices whatsoever.

In 1997 the McLeod family purchased 1,000 acres of the Bosse Ranch from Hodnefield. These 1,000 acres contain the original Bosse headquarters as well as other lands along one and one half miles of the South Fork Mokelumne River and associated watershed lands. The forested areas of the ranch were now covered in extremely dense mixed conifers interspersed with oak trees all with an extremely dense understory of primarily Manzanita and Ceanothus that stood between 6 and 10 feet tall and was completely impenetrable. The McLeod family knew that the forest was badly in need of improvement and engaged the services of California reforestation to develop a Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan approved in 2003.

In 2005 a harvest was conducted on ¼ of the property. A CFIP project was started in 2006 to begin treating the stands planted after the 1988 Rail Road Flat Fire with mastication and follow-up herbicide application. To date they have thinned 600 acres and have a current CFIP to thin an additional 70 acres, plant 20 acres with follow-up herbicide application.

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### Forest Landowners of California – Field Day Registration Form – August 19, 2017

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Company or Ranch \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies or Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Email confirmation with details will be sent approximately two days before the Field Day.*

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#### Payment Method [4520]

FLC Member \$30  Nonmember \$35

Payment Enclosed: Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to FLC)

#### Credit Card Information

MasterCard  Visa  Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Card Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Card City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_