

FLC Communication Survey

November/December 2020

Number of Responses: 40

1. This summer's devastating wildfires have spawned a host of environmental proposals that could directly impact our forest management. Forest Landowners is very actively engaged in legislative, regulatory, and outreach to other organizations to respond to these initiatives and to improve the ability of our members to manage our forests. Are you willing to volunteer your time to assist in these efforts? If so, please list your name and telephone number below.

16 Response(s) ***NOTE: we removed the names, email addresses and phone numbers from this response - for privacy reasons.**

A reluctant yes. It seems that after every bad fire year meetings are held, committees formed, and reports issued which gather dust and nothing changes. Government agencies focus on their respective missions and fail to come together on central policy issues. Will this current effort suffer the same fate?

Possible on a small level.

phone is a poor way to reach me. But i will give you my home phone: Best is to contact via email - I am on the board

We need to work on the property tax issue.

2. How do you prefer receiving information from FLC?? Check all that you prefer and would use regularly.

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Text	4	10.0%
Email	39	97.5%
US Postal Service	24	60.0%
Facebook	4	10.0%
Instagram	0	0.0%
FLC Website	11	27.5%
Other Blogs or Websites Made Available by FLC	3	7.5%
Total	40	100%

3 Comment(s)

e-mail best
I prefer hard copies of longer articles, but can read them on line when required.
It would be good to have a closed forum for communications between members, whether one-to-one or among the whole group. Members could opt in voluntarily, or be asked to opt out. I would not do this in Facebook, which is highly unreliable. A listserv might work, or some other closed forum format.

3. Would you like to see more stories about your fellow members and their forest property or tree farms?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	36	90.0%
No	3	7.5%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

7 Comment(s)

The tours and stories are my favorite part of Forest Landowners of CA.
Especially other forms of income besides logging
California
Always learn something about forest management , and about our member's lives from these articles.
If the stories provide knowhow others can use to manage their NIPF.
Especially additional ways to make money. Agrotourism, Cannabis, Camping.
think it is fine as is

4. How about more articles with tips from foresters about practical forest management strategies?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	37	92.5%
No	2	5.0%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

4 Comment(s)

Very interested in this topic, particularly with my property. It is fairly small, 100 acres roughly, but has lots of potential. It contains several different conifer species (Doug fir, Grand fir, Incense cedar) but dominated by Doug fir. It also has oak woodlands.

I would like to know more about exemption options for harvesting and wildlife enhancement projects that would be applicable on the property.

Any information about the forest are interesting. More about young people coming up in the industry.

Our ask a forester series is very helpful. Always more to learn about forest management.

lower priority

5. Would you like to see more articles on existing and emerging California Forest Practice Act regulations?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	38	95.0%
No	2	5.0%
No Responses	0	0.0%
Total	40	100%

6 Comment(s)

Yes, but I don't "like to see" these articles, if you know what I mean.

I checked yes, but would have checked the "depressed" box if available.

emphasis on emerging regulatory issues.

Yes, if aimed at small forest landowners. Regulations are overly complex and burdensome. Clarifying articles are always useful and appreciated.

More on what FLC can do to reduce the impact from Board of Forestry regulations and Cal Fire policies.

Reminding us and including links to see regulations would help me. Maybe just include the same links with every enews so it is handy to refer to. We are more livestock than timber and not so up on timber regs.

6. Would you like to see more current news stores about forestry-related subjects, such as fighting wild fires, watershed impacts, environmental impacts and restoration efforts?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	33	82.5%
No	6	15.0%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

2 Comment(s)

Given the wildfire mess in California, we feel like our property could potentially burn each year.

Especially fire fighting/home hardening. Vulcan vents?

7. FLC makes a considerable effort to advocate proposed forestry legislation to minimize bureaucratic impacts on how you manage your forest. Would you like to know more about these efforts?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	32	80.0%
No	7	17.5%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

5 Comment(s)

Great topic. Small landowners need less regulations and restriction on how to best manage their land.

It is the small landowner I feel that can have the most direct and quick impacts to forest health.

I think more frequent and informal notes from Brian, Larry and Matt would be helpful to understand what is going on in Sacramento.

Yes! - And more guidance about how we can add to the effort!!

This is of high importance.

I am fully supportive of your efforts and know how difficult it is to influence legislation.

8. CalFire and NRCS both have grant-funded programs to assist family forest owners with forest management plans, forest thinning projects, forest restoration and replanting projects to assist forest land owners. Would you like more information on these programs?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	26	65.0%
No	13	32.5%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

8 Comment(s)

I am currently waiting for funds from NRCS program for my forest Management Plan. Nov 2020
definitely and tips for getting and filling out information.
see above comments.
Yes. We have received grants in the past. Would be helpful to know funding levels, new programs, etc
This is crucial because of its economic impact. NITMP's are, by definition, money losers. Without gov support, I cannot afford to own and properly manage my forest. Roseburg told me long ago that if they couldn't clear cut, their business would not be viable. And they have the advantage of massively scaled operations.
I just had a NRCS forester out but feel confused about requirements. Lop and scatter pictures would help. Being told we needed a forestry plan to be eligible, if I understood right, sounds too expensive. We have so many riparian areas and wet ditches not sure a THP is cost effective. We do use a lot of our trees for our lumber.
No, but the CFIP program was very good for me when I was starting out with my property.
Emphatically

9. Would you like more information on California's requirements for timber harvesting, including TMPs, NTMPs and various emergency exemptions?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	29	72.5%
No	11	27.5%
No Responses	0	0.0%
Total	40	100%

3 Comment(s)

Key here is boiling the key exemptions down to a few paragraphs. Perhaps pick an exemption for each newsletter and give a brief explanation.
How is FLC helping to reduce review requirements on NTMPs?
I look to forester for this.

10. Would you like to see more scientific articles regarding research on California forests?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	33	82.5%
No	6	15.0%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

2 Comment(s)

Research can be boring, but readers can always delete it. Key would be to have Larry or Matt pick out articles of more general interest.

All this is good but this is a lower priority.

11. How about succession planning for your family forest? Would you like more information here?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	22	55.0%
No	17	42.5%
No Responses	1	2.5%
Total	40	100%

5 Comment(s)

Resource information posted online.

Consultants/Advisers

Trust and Tax Attorneys

The last virtual meeting covered it well.

This is an ever morphing condition, and the wisest recommendations are constantly changing, so up to date articles should be issued very regularly in order to benefit members.

At least to the extent that it differs from conventional estate/succession planning.

Prop 19 has turned this into an emergency. Those near the bay area may lose long time family land. How about trying to have a parent child exclusion for land and trees at least. Market as save our Farms and Forests. Work on overturning the prop 19 damage.

12. If FLC were to compile forestry-related information, as noted in this survey, on our website, do you have the technology to access the information on your own?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	36	90.0%
No	2	5.0%
No Responses	2	5.0%
Total	40	100%

7 Comment(s)

Maybe, not sure.
I would like as much as possible the grant funded programs and who to contact to get applications as mentioned in #8
Make the web site easy to navigate and find the information.
I use text and e-mail. Donât use any social media.
but I probably wouldn't
Not sure what you are asking
Reasonably well

13. Would you like to see other communications that could assist you in managing your forest? If so, please list below.

16 Response(s)

I would like to learn more about the seed banking process. Are there varying vigorous species of saplings. If so, how?
Are some landowners growing there own sapplings? What are the best practices? I am particularly interested in coastal redwoods.
short observation of FLC field visits
Would like to see articles about markets for forest produces.
Yes. Forest management methods are always of interest by articles or in field.
Tax implications are a bit of a concern for me, what is the best way to classify my property to avoid paying too much in taxes so any management/harvest I do is not nullified by the tax I then must pay.
Additional web links for forestry information
Yes. I like Maven which has lots of forestry articles.
workshops
No
Organize letter writing campaigns directed at gov officials/representatives.
Relevant publications of the Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station (USFS).
Saving effort by links to other articles. Alternate income, Camping, hunting rates, Cannabis permitting.
n/a
Current log market news updated monthly - certainly an important thing for land owners to know: who is buying which logs right now and for how much. This is as important as current regulatory and legislative updates.
Markets and market development for varied wood and forest products. Perhaps existing underutilized product markets and their access.
Interested in collaborative/community efforts in which forest landowners band together for specific purposes, whether NTMPs or THPs, state or federal grants, infrastructure development (broadband, microgrids, etc). The UC Extension Forest Stewardship course made clear to me that members welcome and need forums for direct collaboration.

14. FLC's 2020 Annual Meeting was held virtually through Zoom due to COVID restrictions with public gatherings. (Note: we will return to holding annual public meetings and fields days as soon as it is safe and allowed.) After COVID-related restrictions are lifted, how would you prefer to attend an Annual Meeting?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
In Person	31	77.5%
Virtual (Zoom)	4	10.0%
No Responses	5	12.5%
Total	40	100%

11 Comment(s)

I really liked the zoom meeting as it was convenient and recorded so I was able to watch when I had time. I would like all meetings via zoom except for the field days of course.
I likely would not attend either, but if so would do it remotely.
Too old to come
Zoom works quite well, but I would like the annual meeting to be in person. I prefer zoom for board meetings and committee meetings.
Perhaps virtual when unable to attend in person
I really enjoyed the one we went to years ago in Gualala but har dto get away. Depends on how far it is from us.
Karen and I have enjoyed several of your fieldtrips.
If I can, I will
Depends where the in person meeting is held
Contingent of course on current pandemic health practice , in which case virtual would be preferred.
There is good scope for both. Some interactions do not need in-person presence and we've all now learned that Zoom is a powerful approach. But there's no substitute for direct experience and contact. I vote for both!

15. Please list below the top five (5) items of importance regarding your forest.

38 Response(s)

1. Advocacy and protection from costly regulations.
2. Understanding yearly timber market prices and conditions. Redwood and Douglas Fir.
3. Effective herbicide treatment for brush and tanoaks.
4. Small Forest landowner assistance for fuel reduction. Cost share and equipment Discount programs.
5. Succession planning.

Fire planning.
Silviculture.
Vegetation management.
Road planning, maintenance.
Compatible wildlife management.

Dealing with drought, warming, bark beetles

Fire protection
Regulations
Taxes
Insects
Disease

watersheds, spotted owl, land erosion , fire.

changes in the NTMPs & TMPs
updates on mills and prices geographically
documented reports on forest management to reduce fire risk
burn piles vs returning slash to forests

Effects of climate change

Markets
property taxes
insects and disease
CPUC and regulation that limit the biomass markets
access to tree seed and seedling

1. Fuel reduction 2. Forest restoration 3. Improving animal habitat 4. Financial assistance 5. Erosion control My 180 acres of land was entirely burned in the Sept 2020 Zogg Fire. 100+ acres had no vegetation left. I am currently waiting for a partial grant to prepare my Forest Management Plan.
1.Awarness and knowledge of existing forest conditions. 2.Goals of desirable forest conditions. 3.Awareness of management activities to achieve desirable forest conditions. 4.Working on desirable management activities. 5.Latest low impact logging methods.
Grant funded programs. Other possible income sources from forest besides logging. Practical forest management from foresters especially regarding thinning to make Redwood Grow faster. Loved the field day with Tunzi and Hollister-definitely my favorite field day. Informational zoom meetings.
1. Forest health and production 2. Wildlife habitat restoration projects to benefit hunting opportunities 3. Harvesting timber to offset costs 4. Tax implications from harvesting timber 5. Minimizing costs for permitting through use of any available exemptions
How to harvest on a small basis, perhaps get together with other land owners and keep a logger busy for a month in the same area. I get it there are no loggers.
fuels management for fire protection biomass utiliazation timber pricing and harvesting costs insect and disease management estate planning
How to make it fire safe How to convince the "authorities" to let those who know how to do it safely burn their piles It SELDOM is allowed. What to do if the surrounding Forest Service properties are so incredibly overgrown that it is useless to try to clean up our own.
Improving forest health and sustainability. Reducing fire risk. Harvesting through our NTMP. Reducing green tape regulations. Understanding the carbon market.

Management: timber water wildlife fire regulations
#1. The tax burdens, ie. property taxes, estate taxes, timber taxes and income taxes. #2. Regulatory creep and the continuous watch that needs to be kept on our legislators is the next biggest difficulty. #3. Dealing with security, ie. water diversion and theft, trespass and encroachment issues, tree poaching and hazardous refuse dumping.
1 Western bark beetle and tree mortality 2 updating management plan 3 creating alternative revenue streams not dependent on forest harvests (such as Hipcamp) 4 keeping ranch financially stable for successive generations 5 doing prescribed burning
Pre-commercial thinning Pruning Management for wildlife Management for recreation Management for fire prevention
regulation protection productivity
Wildfire risk mitigation Markets for forest products Wildlife habitat Climate change and carbon sequestration Watershed function
Fire related Carbon Sequestration Succession Planning Forest Economics Legislation
Health of ecosystem/watershed. Health of timber stands for long term sustainability. Resistance to wildfire. Commercial value of timber via sustained yield. Aesthetic value.

1. Walking back NTMP review requirements. 2. Making CFIP applications easier to be approved, like they used to be. 3. Raising NRCS rates so they are realistic. 4. Walking back NTMP review requirements. 5. Walking back NTMP review requirements.
regulations management fire water quality trespass
Staying on the legal side of regulations. Fire risk reduction.
1.Improving our forest condition, growth, and monetary return. 2. Need to develop more forest production infrastructure locally. 3. Improve wildlife use/habitat without creating adverse consequences. 4. Look into potential and create other types of revenue streams from our property. 5. Maintain the rural setting on our property location.
Right now I feel like keeping it from having to sold when we die due to Prop 19 is all that matters. Getting regulations down so only one agency is dealt with for permits. Agencies under federal need to be asked "Is this permit really necessary" when a higher govt agency already requires a permit for substantially the same thing.
Succession planning Grant funded work (EQIP and CFIP) Sales of forest products NTMP planning Prescribed Burning
Planting redwood trees regeneration of redwood by stumpsprouting cutting redwood and selling the logs A regular listing of current log prices
government programs for financial help carbon credits if available timber harvesting practices meetings general education
Fire mitigation Forest floor management Invasive species Wildlife habitat protection

Timber markets Mandated work for fire reduction Cost of regulation limiting management activities Breaking up the monopoly of lumber producers.
1. Ability to harvest for a decent profit. 2. Freedom from government obstructionism and capricious, redundant regulation. 3. Failure of CDF to apply its "Fire Prevention" taxes to actual fire prevention, i.e. fuel breaks along roads and around rural communities.
Fire protection Log prices weeds roads insurance
1.Imposition by Utility on private property with indiscrimination. 2.Conflicting regulatory agencies. 3.Ongoing Management Product Markets. ie: a monetary return on non traditional wood product created in forest improvement and management. 4.NRCS and Program Assistance. 5.UC Extension Support This is a list of 5 Not ranked by importance
Sustainable forest fuel management, species management Strategies for viable/affordable nonindustrial management (why are NTMPs so expensive?) Forest landowner collaboration and community building Sub-industrial scale timber management. Strategies for financial and tax sustainability.