

## WILLIAMS FAMILY FOREST

In 2012 John and Laura Williams purchased 15 acres of redwood forestland with a main residence, guest house, deteriorating outbuildings and failing road infrastructure. Also on the property were remnants of an old sawmill that had been bulldozed into an actively eroding gully. The parcel, then part of an 82-acre tract, had been heavily logged in 1968. Inadequate erosion control following logging operations created long-term active erosion sites. Redwood forests typically have clumps of redwood trees with the spaces between the clumps filled by native hardwood trees. Sudden oak death disease had been well established in the forest for some years, killing most of the tanoak trees leaving standing and fallen dead trees. Most of those that were still alive were infected and dying. The property had been put on the market as a probate sale (as-is, no seller disclosures), the house was a mess from neglect and poorly done repairs, the forest had been ignored for 44 years and was choked with living and dead underbrush. But that's why they could afford to buy it, no one else wanted to deal with the problems.

First priority was making the main house livable and creating a fire-safe perimeter around the houses. The guest house doubled as Laura's art studio. At 15 acres the property did not qualify for California Forest Improvement Program (C-FIP) funding for forest improvement projects so they relied on grants from the federal USDA-EQIP program. Following is a summary of projects undertaken since purchase:

- 2016: Fire-Safe removal of trees around residential structures.
- 2017: EQIP Tree / Shrub Planting practice to plant 1-acre for erosion control and restoration.
- 2018: EQIP Grant for thinning / fuel hazard reduction of brush and small trees on 10 acres of forest.
- 2020: Received EQIP Grant for road rehabilitation and erosion control practices, including stabilizing gully erosion, installation of a 6-foot diameter culvert in a Class 2-S watercourse, restoration of a Class 3 watercourse to its original channel including a 12-foot drop inlet and 120-feet of pipe under the existing landing, and a rock-armored stream crossing.
- 2020: John submitted a Non-industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP).
- 2020: Purchased a vacant 12.5-acre parcel adjacent to their existing parcel increasing their family forest to 28 acres.
- 2021: Implemented the EQIP road rehabilitation and erosion control practices.
- 2021: John amended the approved NTMP to include the additional 12.5 acres.



- 2022: Timber harvest – selective thinning of 25 acres to remove defective trees and increase spacing of residual trees.
- 2024: Approved EQIP / NBFIP projects including road surface stabilization and fuel hazard reduction through pile and burning or mastication. Work may or may not be in progress during field trip depending on contractor schedule.

Come and see the improvements made to their small family forest during the 12 years they have owned it. See and discuss work done through EQIP projects. Discuss the advantages of incorporating EQIP stream and road work into NTMP, and the advantages of having a limited Timber Operator License. See the results of the 2022 timber harvest and planned 2024 / 2025 projects. Discuss safe pile burning practices and see why planning for escapes is essential to safe burning. Visit Laura's art studio and see her collected works.



## LODGING INFORMATION

Some camping and lodging options are listed below. You might find other options online.

### CAMPING

**Casini Ranch Family Campground**  
22855 Moscow Rd  
Duncans Mills, CA 95430  
(707) 865-2255  
<https://casiniranch.com/>  
10 miles from Williams Family Forest

**Sonoma Coast State Park**  
Bodega Dunes and Wright's Beach  
Sonoma Coast State Park  
(707) 875-3483  
[https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=451](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=451)  
15 miles from Williams Family Forest

### HOTEL/MOTELS

**The Occidental Lodge**  
3610 Bohemian Hwy  
Occidental, CA 95465  
(707) 874-3623  
<https://www.occidentallodge.com/about-us/>  
1 mile from Williams Family Forest

**Boho Manor**  
20822 River Blvd  
Monte Rio, CA 95462  
(707) 865-2304  
<https://bohomanor.com/>  
8 miles from Williams Family Forest

**Fairfield Inn and Suites Sebastopol**  
1101 Gravenstein Highway South  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
(707) 829-6677  
<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/stsrs-fairfield-inn-and-suites-santa-rosa-sebastopol/overview/>  
11 miles from Williams Family Forest

VISIT [WWW.FORESTLANDOWNERS.ORG](http://WWW.FORESTLANDOWNERS.ORG)  
FOR LEGISLATIVE UPDATES, NEWS YOU CAN USE  
AND OTHER EVENTS.



**Forest Landowners  
OF CALIFORNIA**

## FIELD DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24 • 9:00AM – 3:00PM  
WILLIAMS FAMILY FOREST  
SONOMA COUNTY





# Forest Landowners of California

## FIELD DAY - SATURDAY, AUGUST 24 • 9:00am - 3:00pm

## Registration Information

### FIELD DAY - AUGUST 24

#### AGENDA

- 9:00am-9:30am** Meet at Williams house, continue downhill to parking lot. NOTE: CELL PHONES DO NOT WORK HERE, ALL CARRIERS! Voice over internet work when connected to our Wi-Fi and near the house.
- 9:30am-10:00am** Welcome and Overview
- 10:00am-12:00pm** See and discuss forest improvement projects undertaken 2016 through 2024. See escaped pile burn area; discuss safe burn measures and smoke management in rural residential setting.
- 12:00pm-1:30pm** Lunch Break, Group Photo, visit Laura's Art Studio
- 1:30pm-3:00pm** Walking loop tour of service roads 0.8 mile, moderate severity. 4x4 accessible for physically challenged. Overview of both properties and contrast treatments to date. See and discuss scheduled road de-watering and surface stabilization project. See and discuss areas of scheduled mastication / pile and burn fuel hazard reduction project.
- 3:00pm-5:00pm** Tour ends. Guests are welcome to relax and explore, visit Laura's art studio, or begin their journey to Highway 101.

#### DRIVING DIRECTIONS

3145 Westwood Lane, Occidental, CA 95465  
 On-board GPS usually does a good job of getting you to the location.

#### FROM HWY 101 NORTHBOUND, EXIT AT PETALUMA

- Exit 101 at East Washington Blvd (may also indicate Bodega Bay)
  - o Turn left and go under freeway
  - o Continue on E. Washington Blvd through town
  - o Name changes to Bodega Ave., and after Two Rock the name becomes Valley Ford Road.

- Immediately after passing through Valley Ford:
  - o Turn right on Valley Ford - Freestone Road
- Valley Ford - Freestone Road ends at Bodega Highway
  - o Turn right onto Bodega Highway
- Turn left onto Bohemian Highway at Freestone
  - o About 1 ¼ mile east from Valley Ford - Freestone Road
  - o Continue on Bohemian Highway to Occidental
- Immediately as you enter Occidental:
  - o Turn left onto Bittner Road
- Turn right onto Westwood Lane
  - o 0.8 mile from Occidental
  - o Our house is on the left, about 0.4 miles from Bittner

#### FROM HWY 101 SOUTHBOUND EXIT AT SANTA ROSA

- Exit 101 at Highway 12 turnoff to Sebastopol
- Continue straight through Sebastopol toward Bodega Bay, the road turns into Bodega Highway
- Turn right onto Bohemian Highway at Freestone
  - o Continue on Bohemian Highway to Occidental
- Immediately as you enter Occidental:
  - o Turn left onto Bittner Road
- Turn right onto Westwood Lane
  - o 0.8 mile from Occidental
  - o Our house is on the left, about 0.4 miles from Bittner

#### FROM PACIFIC COAST (HWY 1)

- Turn east on to River Road on north side of Russian River bridge
- At Monte Rio, turn right on to Bohemian Highway
- Continue on Bohemian Highway to Occidental
- Continue through Occidental
- Turn right on to Bittner road, the next road after the stop sign
- Turn right onto Westwood Lane
  - o 0.8 mile from Occidental
  - o Our house is on the left, about 0.4 miles from Bittner



#### HEALTH PROTOCOLS

While we are no longer in the thick of the pandemic, we respectfully remind participants that if you are not feeling well, we ask that you to stay home. The FLC liability waiver has been updated to include release of liability related to COVID or other infectious diseases.

#### LUNCH

Lunch will be provided. We will provide bottled water.

#### COST

FLC Members - \$30 per person  
 Nonmembers - \$40 per person

Reservations are REQUIRED and must be made no later than August 20, 2024. Please complete the form and include payment; mail or fax to the FLC office: (916) 294-0415.

#### WHAT TO WEAR & BRING

Hiking boots/shoes recommended (closed toe advised). Bring sunscreen, hat, insect repellent and lawn chair.

#### QUESTIONS

Deidre Bryant, Executive Director  
 (877) 326-3778 • info@forestlandowners.org

#### REGISTER ONLINE

<https://bit.ly/fieldday082424>



**Forest Landowners  
 OF CALIFORNIA**

3620 AMERICAN RIVER DRIVE, SUITE 230  
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95864

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

County Where Property Located \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

#### PAYMENT METHOD [4520]

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

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

FLC Member \$30    Nonmember \$40

#### CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

MasterCard    Visa    Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and send form to the FLC office with payment.