



## 2009 Required Tree Farm Inspections

We are proceeding with our 2009 National Required sample for California. A field visit is required. These inspections are due to the National Office by November 1, 2009 so inspectors are encouraged to send them to the Committee Secretary in a timely manner so she can proof them for completeness, get them entered into the National Database and mailed in. Below is a list of the inspections that are still outstanding.

TREE FARM #	LANDOWNER	COUNTY	INSPECTOR
2571	Kenneth Wagner	Tuolumne	Will Dorrell
2634	Scott Bardsley	Calaveras	Ross Richards
20	Elmer Ingersoll	Yuba	Pete Walden
150	Steve Schiafer	Mendocino	Bob Rogers
254	Holly & Co	Mendocino	Steve Vanderhorst
2564	Forest Lea	El Dorado	Steve Andrews
2576	Larry T. Wilson	Yuba	Ed Barnes
879	Crane Mills	Tehama/Shasta	Adam Wyman
2703	Duensing Trust	Butte	Dennis Possehn
2489	Richard Phillmore	Butte	Ivan Houser
2554	Huisman Ranch	Lassen	Ivan Houser
2235	Elisa Adler	Plumas	Ivan Houser
2465	Jim Copeland	Shasta	Dan Prielipp
2147	Tim Louie	Siskiyou	Dennis Possehn
2156	Bogus Creek Ranch	Siskiyou	Jeremy Wuerfel
227	Hal Goodyear	Trinity	George Belden
1446	Trinco Forest Products	Trinity	George Belden
462	Marc Jameson	Mendocino	Jill Butler
133	David G. Smith Jr.	Mendocino	Jim Gamble
204	Betty A. Spencer	Mendocino	Jim Gamble
356	L.R. (Bob) Prather	Lake	Jim Gamble
441	Gaffin John & Linda	Humboldt	Able Consultants
423	Don & Carol Moore	Humboldt	Able Consultants
424	Chalk Mt. Ranch	Humboldt	Jim Robbins
1939	Ronald J. Rutter	Calaveras	Leon Manich

### CALIFORNIA TREE FARM COMMITTEE

Committee Secretary  
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**California Tree Farm News**

FOREST LANDOWNERS OF CALIFORNIA

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**Mid-State Region**  
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707-463-0356



#### Tree Farm Mission

To promote the growing of renewable forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forestry.



**California Tree Farm News**

Dedicated to providing useful information to Tree Farmers and family forest owners.

## ASSISTANCE TO FOREST LANDOWNERS

The United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency that emphasizes voluntary, science-based assistance to help private forest landowners about forestry practices that can improve growth, reduce risk, and improve forest health. Many of these practices can be cost-shared through Farm Bill programs.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services have partnered with Cal Fire to provide financial and technical assistance to landowners as authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill. The new Farm Bill has many provisions for forestry, mostly through the Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP). In the past, many forest

conservation programs have been used by landowners, however, in 2009 the NRCS had a pilot on Forest Management Planning using private technical service providers (TSP). This forest management planning is very similar to the CFIP program that Cal Fire has had for over 25 years. This new planning initiative by NRCS allows private foresters, who have worked with Cal Fire under the CFIP program, to have the basic training to meet NRCS standards and specification for developing a Forest Management Plan. These Registered Professional Foresters (RPF) can work directly with Cal Fire service foresters and provide the technical forest management planning to landowners. The pilot has been completed for this fiscal year and the next step is to offer the

Forest Management Plan practice on a state wide basis in the fall of 2009 under an approved MOU with Cal Fire.

A landowner or producer may submit an EQIP application for financial assistance to offset the development cost of a detailed Forest Activity Plan (ACT). Participants must enroll in EQIP before their Conservation Activity Plan is developed; payment for a CAP is not retroactive.

A producer applies for EQIP assistance for development of a CAP. To be considered for funding, applications must meet both the land and producer eligibility requirements. In addition, producers are allowed only one CAP on the same acreage at a time.

*(Continued on page 2)*



## 2009 STIHL PHOTO CONTEST

Do you love taking pictures? Are you looking for fame and fortune? If you answered yes to either of these questions then you should submit your photo of a Tree Farm to the 2009 STIHL photo contest. The deadline for all photo submissions is **August 7, 2009** and we need your pictures to make this contest a success! The winning photo will receive a \$500 STIHL gift certificate. And what Tree Farmer or forester couldn't use one of those! Remember STIHL is looking for scenic photographs of Tree Farms taken in all seasons, preferably without people. Check the Tree Farm homepage at <http://www.treefarmssystem.org> for the photo contest rules and release form.



## Forest Landowners of California Annual Meeting

Attendance at the 2009 annual meeting in Ukiah was the highest the Forest Landowners of California has seen in years! Over 140 individuals joined us to see and hear experts discuss the effects of the 2008 Mendocino wildfires and to learn the newest information on carbon sequestration. Presentations focused on the effects of AB32 (California Global Warming Act) on forest landowners and the potential as well as the complexities of creating an additional income stream from carbon trading. Field trip attendees viewed two properties burned in the Mendocino Lightening fire and listened to the landowners describe the fire experience and its effects on their forests. They also viewed the well managed property of Webb Harpe, Tree Farmer of the Year, and enjoyed lunch on his historic property. Attendees were treated to the unique experience of riding in CDF Emergency Transport vans which were provided and piloted by local fire captains. Next year the annual meeting will be in Redding.



## ASSISTANCE to Forest Landowners

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If approved for funding, the producer will select an approved conservation planner to develop the plan from TechReg, the online registry of certified Technical Service Providers: <http://techreg.usda.gov/index.aspx>. Potential applicants should visit the TechReg Web site before they submit an application. In order to receive funding for a conservation activity plan, a qualified TSP registered in the TechReg must be available. The CAP must be developed by the Technical Service Provider within 12 months.

After the CAP is complete, the landowner or producer submits it to NRCS. After NRCS approves the completed plan, the landowner will receive the EQIP payment for plan development. The established payment rates for CAPs are not more than 75% of the estimated cost of plan development.

The 2008 Farm Bill includes the opportunity to provide financial and technical assistance for the development of Conservation Activity Plans (CAP). A CAP combines specific land use objectives associated with a renewable resource with a comprehensive management plan that

addresses all of the natural resource concerns within an agriculture or forestry operation. A CAP meets all the NRCS conservation planning standards, and addresses cultural resources and other regulations outlined in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of a CAP is to outline a combination of vegetative, structural, and/or management practices necessary to protect and sustain natural resources on agricultural and forest landscapes, and to serve as a blueprint for future implementation of conservation practices.

Persons interested in participating in Farm Bill programs should contact their local NRCS field office. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Eligible projects will be evaluated, prioritized and selected for funding as budget allocations permit. Submitting an application does not obligate the landowner or the NRCS to the enrollment of property or any future expenditure of funds.

For more information on EQIP and other Farm Bill programs please visit the USDA web site at: <http://www.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/index.html>



## Field Day at the Bebensee / Schoenheide Tree Farm

The weather may have been overcast and threatening but there was no dampening the enthusiasm of Dennis Bebensee and Dick Schoenheide when sharing the management of their Tree Farm with the public. The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District was filming all day and will be putting together an educational video for public distribution. Don Owens, CalFire took us to trees recently killed by bark beetles. It was the perfect demonstration site comparing adjacent 110 year old unmanaged timber stand to a 80 year old managed. It really showed how thinning a stand during non drought years reduced the incidence of infestation. Within 200 feet was a thinned and un-thinned stand and the amount of insect kill was remarkably higher in the un-thinned stand. Then Ben Rowe, also from CalFire, gave a quick rundown on the harvest documents necessary to

harvest your timber.

New Horizons Land and Clearing Co, Inc. gave a live demonstration on what the capabilities of the Gyro-Trac could do and the results are quite impressive. Gyro-Trac – the lean, green mulching machine, built for a single purpose, to literally turn trees and underbrush into mulch in minutes! Gyro-Trac has low ground pressure, leaves soil intact, reducing erosion and runoff pollution. Feeder roots of neighboring trees are not disturbed and efficiently mulches trees and stumps right to the ground leaving only nutrient rich mulch behind. Rual Carlos, from Ewe’NiQue! Educated us on brush clearing using sheep and goats. Just like people some work better than others and you can actually train an animal to eat new vegetation that has not been on their “menu”. Per acre costs are very similar to mechani-

cal brush clearing with most of the cost concentrated on transportation.

If you haven’t been to one of the field days sponsored by Forest Landowners of California and the Tree Farm Committee you’re missing a great opportunity to see first hand the results of good land stewardship. The networking with forestry professionals is a valuable tool. The next field day will be August 22, 2009 on Jackson Demonstration State Forest observing long term growth and yield studies in second growth Redwood stands. Forest staff and researchers will provide information on each study.

Contact: Forest Tilley  
29850 Sherwood Road  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437-4112  
Phone (707) 964-0690

\$20 for Forest Landowner members.  
Registration includes lunch.

## In Memory of Harold F. Bowman

April 3, 1921 – June 1, 2009

*by Daniel Prielipp*

Harold F. Bowman, RPF #20, passed away at home on June 1, 2009. He will be remembered by his friends as a kind and thoughtful man who always strived for the highest of ethical standards. We wish condolences to his family.

As a young man he spent summers working field crops in Scott Valley. From wheat hay and alfalfa, he then turned his direction to Timber.

Upon graduation from U.C. in 1943 with a forestry degree, he was drafted into the U.S. Army Corps of Topographic Engineers and surveyed the Philippines. It was said that his expertise at making maps made the Japanese nervous. Many Japanese soldiers surrendered to his squad rather than face revenge from the Philippine soldiers.

For over 60 years, he worked as a forester. He was Chief Forester (silviculturist) for Castle Creek Lumber Company, Ralph L. Smith Lumber Company, and Kimberly Clark Corporation (20 years). In 1981, he became a private Consulting Forester. He is credited with having written 18 Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans, including one of the first approved under the Forest Practices Act. He served as Officer to a long list of organizations. Some of the forestry: Society of American Foresters, Association of Consulting Foresters, Forest Land

owners of California, American Tree Farm System, California Licensed Forestry Association and the Professional Foresters Examining Committee of the Board of Forestry.

His excellent physical abilities allowed for him to be an avid outdoorsman and to work on Search and Rescue missions until his 70’s. He loved nature and shared his knowledge with all who would listen.

He was, in a large part, responsible for convincing the state to change its method of taxing forest land to a yield tax. This rewarded good stewardship. The old ad Valorem system taxed the growing stand and took away the incentives of having high value (large) timber in a landowner’s forest.

In the 60’s and 70’s, he worked on the super tree program: identifying and growing genetically superior conifer species that would more quickly replace forests burned by wild fire. Having walked with Hal at length in the forest, I hope his friends can always remember those good times. Hal once said, “that to understand the forest, you first must go deep into the woods.” We loved to see and study the wilderness landscape. We saw its wonder, inspiration and beauty. He is gone, but the forest lives on as his life’s legacy. As an American Tree Farm member and Inspector he had the inspiration and enthusiasm to motivate others to grow.



## Receiving THE TREE FARMER Electronically

The Tree Farm Committee can save money on both printing and postage, if we can send the Newsletter electronically. If you would like to receive your newsletter via the computer, please send your e-mail address to: [loda@frontiernet.net](mailto:loda@frontiernet.net).

## Online Sign Ordering Now Available for Tree Farmers

Certified Tree Farmers can now order their Certified Family Forest sign and Certified Tree Farm sign directly. Certified Tree Farmers can visit <http://treefarmssystem.org/ordersigns/> to submit their order. This new process is meant to get more signs out on certified properties and reduce the burden on State Committees to distribute the sign. You can still order signs through the committee secretary, Lois Kaufman. Just give her a call at (530) 472-1938 or e-mail at [loda@frontiernet.net](mailto:loda@frontiernet.net).

## TREE FARMER QUIZ

*By George Belden*

1. What is a McLeod? \_\_\_\_\_
2. If a 16” dbh Ponderosa Pine tree has a radial growth of 3 annual rings per inch, what will be the expected dbh of that pine in three more years? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name two California State Forests that normally produce timber income? \_\_\_\_\_
4. The legal description of your Tree Farm includes the name or abbreviation of one of the Principal Meridians as part of the Rectangular System of Surveys. Name two of the three Principal Meridians in California \_\_\_\_\_
5. Scribner Log Scale relationships are useful to understand. If a 14” diameter log 16 feet in length contains 140 board feet and a 16” diameter log 16 feet in length contains 160 board feet, then what volume would a 20” diameter log, 16 feet in length contain? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What constitutes a “countable tree” under the Forest Practice Rules? \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWERS: (1) A fire tool invented by Ranger Mel McLeod, Sierra National Forest; part hoe and part rake. (2) 18” dbh. (3) Latour and Jackson. (4) Humboldt, Mt Diablo and San Bernardino. (5) 200 board feet. (6) A countable tree means a tree that can be used in calculating the degree of stocking under the following criteria: a) The tree must be in place at least two growing seasons. b) The tree must be live and healthy. c) The tree must have at least one-third of its length in live crown, except in pure stands of Douglas-fir the tree must have at least one-fourth of its length in live crown. d) The tree must be a commercial species from a local seed source or a seed source which the RPF determines will produce commercial trees physiologically suited for the area involved.