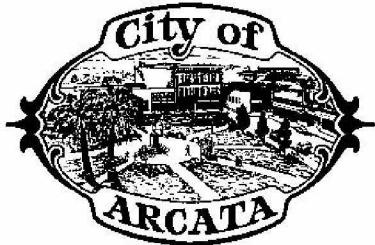


October 18, 2006 City Council meeting



# MEMORANDUM

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Date: September 20, 2006

To: Arcata City Council

From: Forest Management Committee (FMC)

Re: Forest Management Committee Annual Report to the Arcata City Council 2006

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Chair: Russ Forsburg

Vice-Chair: Lisa Hoover

Dale Thornburgh

Jack Naylor

Jerry Barnes

Lowell Diller

Danny Hagans

## INTRODUCTION

The following information is a summary of the various activities of the Forest Management Committee (FMC) during 2005/2006.

### General

- The Committee is now meeting every other month unless there is a time sensitive issue that requires an earlier meeting.
- The City harvested 260 MBF from the Arcata Community Forest of which 57 MBF were delivered to Almquist Lumber Co. to be marketed locally as FSC (Smartwood) Certified lumber. Approximately 75 MBF was from blown down trees that were toppled during the New Year's Day windstorm. Approximately 400 mbf were harvested from the Jacoby Creek Forest. All operations involved the single-tree selection method.
- The City's annual Forest Stewardship audit will take place on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

- Staff has secured the necessary funding to close escrow on the Sunnybrae 175 acre tract at the end of October. A dedication event is planned for the morning of November 16<sup>th</sup> and the council I invited to attend.
- The committee has been researching the value of using the City forests for carbon sequestration credit. The committee has invited experts in the field to present information at the committee meetings and will likely make a recommendation to the Council for registration of the City owned forestlands on the California Carbon Registry.
- The committee provided comments on the draft land use code as it pertained to development setbacks on the forest boundary and tree removal guidelines.

#### Research and Monitoring

- Botanical surveys have been initiated on the Barnum and Sunnybrae tracts. Permanent plot data from the ACF and JCF is being digitized to share with the Redwood Cooperative Research Group. A baseline conditions report was prepared for the SBF and this document has been recorded along with a conservation easement.

#### Roads/Trails/Watershed/Vegetation

- Trail #11.5 was installed in the far northeast corner of the ACF. Committee member, staff citizen volunteers meet regularly to plan new trail upgrades.
- Staff hosted 7 public workdays in the Community Forest.

#### Education/Interpretation/Recreation

- The Committee and staff continue to respond to requests for tours, talks and slide shows. Within the past year, 6 large group tours and presentations were conducted including a delegation from the Korean Forest Service.
- The ACF hosted two mountain bicycle races, and three runs that required special use permits.
- . The fall forest lecture series will take place in late November and early December.

#### 2006/2007 Planned Activities

- The Committee will help organize a fall 2006 trail-planning workshop including continued analysis of issues and conflicts regarding public access in the Sunnybrae forest.
- The Committee will lead a public walk in the ACF.
- Assist staff with a trail plan and access easements for the SBF.
- Initial work on rehabilitating the Jacoby Creek rock quarry will begin in 2007.
- Work with other committees on continued implementation of the open space program especially in the development of funding sources.
- Conduct annual post-harvest evaluation using the scorecard developed by staff.
- Assist staff with refining the definition of “net” revenue for policy adoption by the City Council in spring 2007.