



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 18, 2008

To: Arcata City Council

From: Forest Management Committee (FMC)

Re: Forest Management Committee Annual Report to the Arcata City Council 2008

Chair- Russ Forsburg

Vice-Chair: Lisa Hoover

Jack Naylor

Jerry Barnes

Lowell Diller

Danny Hagans

Dale Thornburgh (recently termed out)

INTRODUCTION

The following information is a summary of the various activities of the Forest Management Committee (FMC) during 2007/2008.

General

- The City secured a 121- acre addition to the Jacoby Creek Forest in the upper part of the basin.
- Long-term FMC member Dale Thornburgh resigned from the committee and the Chair and members of the FMC thank Dr. Thornburgh for his years of service.
- The City completed a harvest operation of 250 MBF from the Arcata Community Forest involving the single tree selection method and include approximately 40 MBF blowdown. The Committee also conducted a post-harvest review of the operation that was very clean.
- Staff has been lining up funding partners for the Stromberg 23 acre addition and potential Morris (100 acre) to the Sunny Brae Forest. Appraisal should be completed in summer 2008.
- The Committee provided input on the Trillium Creek proposed vegetation management plan.
- The Committee reviewed and provided input on the draft code Hillside Development Standards.
- The Committee reviewed and provided direction on the County General Plan.

Research and Monitoring

- Botanical surveys have been completed on the Lucchesi and Barnum tracts.
- Timber inventory has completed for the Sunny Brae tract. The Sunny Brae Forest management plan is in progress. The SBF inventory was performed under the Air Resources Board Carbon Forestry Protocols.

Roads/Trails/Watershed/Vegetation

- Two new trail segments have been planned for installation during the summer of 2008.
- Staff hosted even public workdays in the Community Forest.
- The City received over \$2,500 in donations for purchase of the Lima Schmidbauer addition.
- The Jacoby Creek Forest Road system has some winter storm damage that is scheduled for repair in August 2008.
- The City was awarded a grant from Fish and Game to conduct an extensive road and erosion inventory and repair plan for the Sunnybrae Forest.

Education/Interpretation/Recreation

- The Arcata Community Forest hosted two events that required special use permits.
- Staff was asked to make presentations on Arcata's forest program to the Del Norte Board of Supervisors, Sonoma Open Space District and California Coalition of Land Trusts.
- National Geographic staff spent ½ day in the ACF with City staff and will be back in August for additional fieldwork on a developing story.

2008/2009 Planned Activities

The Committee will:

- Lead FMC publics walk in the Arcata Community Forest.
- Work with other committees on continued implementation of the open space program especially in the development of funding sources.
- Work with staff to revive a "Friends of the Forest" cadre of volunteers to assist with patrolling the roads and trail system.
- Assist staff with a 2008 edition of the Forest Newsletter.
- Continue to be involved in the NTMP development and Parks Master Plan process.
- Visit the newly acquired lands in upper Jacoby Creek.