Presentation to the Board of Forestry

FORESTRY CHALLENGE

January 22, 2025

Presentation Outline:

- What is the Forestry Challenge?
- 2024 Statistics
- Emphasis on College and Career
- Student Presentations
- Q&A









What is the Forestry Challenge?



The Forestry Challenge is an academic competition for high school students in technical forestry and current forestry topics. Participants spend four days in the forest for an intensive field introduction to forest management. Focus topics are tailored to each event, and include silviculture, vegetation and fuels, and forest inventory.





Determining Basal Area

Goal #1: Teach students the basic principles of forestry, connecting classroom math and science to hands-on experiences with real-world applications, enabling them to make recommendations about natural resource management.



Measuring Tree Diameter



Determining Tree Species

Assessing Growth





FORESTRY CHALLENGE





Goal #2: Give students the opportunity to explore careers by interacting with natural resource professionals including foresters from public agencies, private industry, and other organizations.

Justin Barker Sierra Pacific Industries RPF #TBD



David Haas CAL FIRE San Bernardino Unit RPF #2950



Rich Wade Board of Forestry RPF #2016

DaShayne Sewart Forestry Challenge Alum W.M. Beaty & Associates RPF #TBD



Goal #3: Provide an opportunity for a diverse student population to experience outdoor recreation and develop an appreciation of the forest and its benefits to all.



Volleyball at Shasta

Banana Slugs at Santa Cruz





Go Carts at El Dorado

Ziplining at San Bernardino





2024 Fall Event Statistics:

- 576 Students (56% female)
- 71 Schools
- 116 Teachers and Chaperones
- 200 Volunteers donated over 2,700 hours
- \$133,426 total volunteer in-kind value
- 3 grants Wildfire Prevention, Workforce Development, and USFS Forest Stewardship
- 40 Sponsors
- 35 of the 141 teams scored at least a 200/250 and are invited to the Championship event, April 23 to 25 in Pinecrest

	Event	Students
	Shasta	118*
1	Santa Cruz	80
	El Dorado	139*
	San Bern 1	135*
in the second	San Bern 2	104
	Fall Total	576
1200	Champs	120*
N. L.	2024 Total	696

* record breaking for that event



Growth Since 2003



Emphasis on College and Career

- Info Packets for Guidance Counselors
- Visit to Shasta College HELO Program
- University Student Volunteers
- Raffles with College Swag
- Forestry Challenge Scholarship Program
- Lake Tahoe Community College Course

Go to forestrychallenge.org for college and career resources

Presenting Schools

El Dorado Foresthill High School

Shasta

Grant Union High School

Santa Cruz —

Woodside High School

San Bernardino Charter Oak High School

SHASTA FORESTRY CHALLENGE

Simmon B, Jose M, Melany N, Brandon C

FOCUS TOPIC: GARRISON RANCH HARVEST EVALUATION

We assessed timber available for harvest on an active Modified Timber Harvest Plan and, operating within the prescription outlined in the plan and using current information on lumber prices and logging/hauling costs, projected the landowner net income (or loss) based on our recommended harvest volume.

Data Summary

- Incense Cedar and Ponderosa Pine dominant stand
- Minor slowdown in growth rates
- Adequately stocked but not evenly dispersed
- Significant defect, especially in Sugar Pine

Volume Per Acre by

Trees Per Acre	53
Basal Area using tree	
diameters	133 ft²/ac
Basal Area using	
Angle Gauge	156 ft²/ac
Growth over last 10	
years	1.35 inches
Growth over	
previous 10 years	1.61 inches
Scribner Bd Ft/Acre	21,667

Percent	PP	SP	WF	DF	IC
Defect	19%	67%	34%	12%	13%

Profit/Loss Analysis for Harvested Acreage

	PP	IC	DF	WF	SP
Log Value	\$14,173.25	\$17,792.00	\$13,067.88	\$8,215.76	\$478.46
Logging	-\$10,123.25	-\$8,896.30	-\$2,372.00	-\$4,832.80	-\$1,035.72
Yield Tax	-\$202.48	-\$195.71	-\$272.25	-\$135.32	-\$20.72
Hauling	-\$4,596.18	-\$8,077.00	-\$5,444.95	-\$2,194.09	-\$420.00
Net	-\$748.66	+ \$623.00	+ \$4,977.90	+ \$1,053.55	-\$997.94

NET PROFIT VIA GROUP SELECTION PRESCRIPTION \$4,907.75

70 acres x (.20) = up to 14 acres available for harvest

Hauling costs calculated by destination, based on species and size

Profit will be used as cost share with the CA Forest Improvement Program for mastication work to meet landowner objectives:

- Ownership stability for this family forest
- Reducing wildfire danger
- Improving soil and other ecosystem services

Habitat Resiliency at Pescadero Creek County Park

Woodside High School Team 9: Evan, Sujatha, Jenny, Hannah, and Ty

Focus Topic: Habitat Resiliency at Pescadero Creek County Park

We determined the forest type in a portion of the Park intended for treatment and, using restoration goals as outlined in the Park's Climate and Habitat Resilience Plan (CHRP), recommended a treatment to promote the development of functional oldgrowth habitat characteristics observed in late-successional stands.

Figure 4 and Figure 5. top, a forest from which fire has been removed for many years and is in need of restoration. Bottom, a forest treated to reduce fire risk, be more resilient to insects and disease, and enhance wildlife habitat. Components retained in the treated stand include snags, legacy trees, openings and patches.

Data Summary

- TPA = 123
- Volume per acre = 55,567
- Basal Area using DBH = 403 ft²/acre
- Basal Area using angle gauge = 393 ft²/acre

- Coastal Redwood dominant
- Young Douglas-fir component
- Primary hardwood species Tanoak
- Volume calculations for conifers only

Proposed Solution

- 1. Use a Forest Fire Prevention Exemption (1038.3)
 - Cut 20% of Redwoods with DBH of 12" to 24"
- 2. Monitor
 - Recollect data every 3 to 5 years
- 3. Long Term Use a Timber Harvest Plan
 - THP will be developed based on monitoring feedback
- 4. Public Perception
 - Help people understand the importance of managing forests

Thank you for your time!

Wells Preserve Restoration Project

Cayden Deal, Peyton Koulos, Zoe Ordway, and Olivia Larson

Conclusions

- The Wells Preserve is in desperate need of restoration
- Recommend seeking grants and other funding to treat ladder fuels using multiple methods
- The Forest Fire Prevention Exemption (1038.3) is the best option to remove larger trees to decrease the risk of fire

HARVESTING

DEAD, DYING,

DISEASED TREES

(14 CCR § 1038(b))

DROUGHT

DAMAGED

TIMBERLAND (14 CCR § 1038(d))

MORTALITY /

SUBSTANTIALLY

FOREST FIRE

PREVENTION

(14 CCR § 1038.3)

EXEMPTION

 $\bullet \bigcirc$

Thank you!

The Terrific Two Team 11 Presentation

By Ty Linger and Aaron Flores

Focus Topic Mixed Conifer-Oak Woodland Forest Restoration at the Hubert Eaton Scout Reservation

We collected data at the **Big Horn Camp area of HESR** to determine species composition and recommend areas of the property to replicate this forest community.

Data Summary

- ► Trees Per Acre: 98
- Basal Area Per Acre: 288
- ► Hardwood BA: 35%
- ► Conifer BA: 65%

Factors to Consider for Replication:

- ► Soils
- Topography
- Planting composition and spacing

Site Preparation Flowchart "Without fire mimic fire" – Henry Herrera

Thank you!

