

Southern California Society of American Foresters
Executive Committee Meeting
Conference Call/Planning Meeting
July 26, 2004

Minutes

In Attendance: Koepp, Piirto (Chair), Todd (3)

Meeting called to order at 1406 hours.

Review action items from notes of last Executive Committee Meeting/Conference Call that took place on 6-23-04.

Fall Meeting Planning:

Possible Title: “Emerging Technology for Natural Resources Managers” sponsored by the SoCal SAF and hosted by ESRI.

If we focus on issues that are affecting the San Bernardino National Forest the meeting can be viewed as a theme that is being continued from our earlier meetings.

-Fall, 2003 focused on Forest Health

-Spring, 2004 focused on Forest Planning

-Fall, 2004 we will focus on Forest Technology Applications

The meeting will be presented as an opportunity to find out about GIS and the latest emerging technologies that will affect our jobs as natural resources specialists, foresters, and managers. “Come and learn from one of the world leaders in GIS technology and have an opportunity to have a hands-on experience with emerging technology.” Skill level of users can be from novice to very advanced level. Hopefully, written material or product catalogs will be made available on CD.

One thought was to encourage members to bring their laptops and possibly download software right on the site – While this is a good idea, J. pointed out that most of the software is very expensive and it would probably be cost prohibitive for purchase by a single user. However, there may be an opportunity to use a lab or classroom for members to gain some hands-on experience.

Pacific Southwest Research Station Riverside Forest Fire Laboratory update –

At the time of the conference call I had not yet heard from the Riverside Fire Lab. Subsequent to our conference call I was contacted by Richard Kimberlin, Project Manager at the Fire Lab. He told me that while they are very busy at the Fire Lab that they could find time to host our group. He appreciated the early notice as the Fire Lab often receives last second requests. At this time I told him we are focusing on holding our meeting at ESRI but I shared our planned dates and told him I would contact him if we would like to request a speaker for our Fall Meeting.

ESRI update –

J. has been in contact with Kevin Dougherty at ESRI. They have a large room that can hold in excess of 45 people. We have reserved the room for Friday, October 22. ESRI was okay with

having a Technology Fair or having various vendors display their merchandise on their property if we wanted to bring in vendors that want to display theodolites, range finders, and electronic measuring devices. ESRI is willing to provide a couple of presentations where they share some of their new products.

Possible presentations at this time include the following:

- Product presentations by ESRI
- A presentation on the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce (MAST)
- A product presentation on *CityGreen*
- A guest speaker from the Riverside Forest Fire Laboratory
- A guest speaker from the National Weather Service, Riverside Office
- A representative from the Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) or the USFS Intelligence Officer

At this point we have not determined if we will have enough vendors to have a 'Technology Fair.' We may be better off providing an hour at the end of the day for vendors to each take fifteen minutes to share their products with the group, and then allowing some extra time for attendees to meet with the vendors on an individual basis.

Possible Vendors at this time include:

- FireMapper* presented by Dr. Phillip Riggan
- Use of laser technology for measuring tree dimensions, distance measurement, etc.
- New GPS Technology: *Magellan* and *Garmin* products
- Map Tech – Natural Resources Mapping
- Fireball – IR Mapping

Friday, October 22, 2004 - Tentative Agenda

9:30 -10	Registration, Coffee and Donuts
10-10:15	Introduction
10:15 -12	Morning Session
12-1	Lunch
1-3	Afternoon Session 1
3 - 3:15	Break
3:15 - 5	Afternoon Session 2/Technology Fair

After the meeting adjourns for the day travel to Claremont/Pomona/Diamond Bar area so attendees can check into their overnight accommodations.

A list of recommended hotels, contact numbers, and prices will be included.

A SoCal SAF Dinner will be held at one of the restaurants in the area. Suggestions include the *Pomona Valley Mining Company* in Pomona and the *Cask and Cleaver* in San Dimas.

For more on the historic *Pomona Valley Mining Company* which overlooks the Pomona Valley go to <http://www.pomonavalleyminingco.com/>

Saturday, October 23, 2004

At 9 am we will meet at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens in Claremont for a docent guided two hour tour. The Botanical Gardens staff has another tour scheduled for the same day that will be going on simultaneously. There will be some time after the tour for individual members to tour the grounds and pursue their own personal interests. The meeting will be scheduled to adjourn at noon on October 23.

Need to check on insurance – has our premium been paid for this year?

*J. Lopez and I are scheduled to travel to ESRI on Friday, August 27 to meet with Kevin Dougherty and tour the facility. Afterwards we plan on visiting the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens to meet with a representative and scout the facilities.

Upcoming dates to remember:

September 1: deadline for submissions to the *Sundial*

September 15: publishing date for the *Sundial*

October 8: deadline for submission of registration for the Fall Meeting

October 22: Fall Meeting

Other Items:

The Southern California Forest Land Management Plans (LMP) developed to manage to the four southern California forests have been published for public review and comment. Several management alternatives have been provided. A single plan was developed for management of the Angeles, Los Padres, and the San Bernardino National Forests and a separate plan was developed for management of the Cleveland National Forest.

For the Angeles, the Los Padres and the San Bernardino National Forest the preferred management alternative #2 has been selected. A separate alternative has been chosen for management of the Cleveland National Forest.

Major questions that are emerging include - Are southern California forests going to be considered viable for timber harvesting beyond just fuel wood? Will local facilities be developed for receiving and processing of wood products? Will markets be developed that will be able to use forest products from the four southern California forests?

Next conference call is scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, 2004 at 1400 hours. Fritz will coordinate setting up the Conference Call with Craig Cowie.

Meeting adjourned at 1525 hours.

Respectfully submitted by John R. Todd
Secretary, Southern California SAF