

Staff Report

for the Board of Director's Meeting, March 14, 2018

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager *GJ*
Neysa King, Watershed Resources Planner

DATE: 3/6/2018

SUBJECT: The Scotts Flat North Fire Hazard and Tree Removal Project

ADMINISTRATION

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve an increase to the original contract with Frank Dial Logging from \$200,000 to \$250,000, to complete the fire hazard and tree removal project at Scotts Flat Gate 1.

BACKGROUND:

In February 2018, implementation of forestry practices began at Gate 1 to address forest health (e.g. dead, dying and diseased trees) at the Scotts Flat Campground. The Scotts Flat North Fire Hazard & Tree Removal Project is a timber operation on the north shore of Scotts Flat utilizing an existing Modified Timber Harvest Plan (THP), and targeting Campground 1 as the highest priority due to wildfire potential severity. This portion of the THP includes approximately 90 acres, and is adjacent to NID's hydropower facility and associated powerlines. Our initial estimate of timber to be removed was 340 Mbf (thousand-board-feet). To date, we have removed approximately 395 Mbf, and our revised estimate is to remove a total of approximately 486 Mbf from the site. The difference in these figures can be associated with our original timber assessment, which calculated species and volumes based on 10 - 1/10 acre plots. This level of inventory leaves room for differences in actual forest conditions throughout the site. Also, root rot has been found in many areas within the campground, and has warranted additional treatment to remove hazard trees.

Schedule: Project activities at Gate 1 will be completed by May 1, 2018, in advance of the summer camping season. The Contractor is approximately 3/4 of the way through the entire project which includes tree felling, transportation to the mill and final cleanup. At this time, it is difficult to provide specifics on acres completed, partially treated, or

nearly finished. Forest practice activities occur in sequence, beginning with felling, skidding, hauling and then site cleanup, which includes mastication, tree pruning, chipping and stump grinding. Dial's contract requires that they complete all of the steps in the sequence, which is included in the timber delivery price of \$515/Mbf. It is typical to remove harvestable material from the site, and then complete the site cleanup. Based on project implementation and projections through completion, District staff believes an additional \$50,000 will ensure for the removal of an appropriate level of harvestable trees, and will create a healthy and safe forest experience for Gate 1 campers while substantially reducing wildfire risk to the surrounding community.

Project Budget:

To date, the average sale of timber has generated an income of \$580/Mbf while costing the District \$515/Mbf for the same volume of timber. At this time approximately \$15,000 remains in Dial's contract.

Activity To-Date	LTO Cost	SPI Income to NID	Mbf
February Est. Cost	\$203,000*		395
February Receipts		\$229,000	395
<i>* Amount invoiced from 2/1 – 2/28 totals \$185,630. We estimate an additional \$18,000 to be invoiced for February project work.</i>			

Estimated Project Completion	LTO Cost	SPI Income	Mbf
March – April	\$47,000		91
March – April		\$52,000	91
Estimated Project Total	\$250,000	\$281,000	486

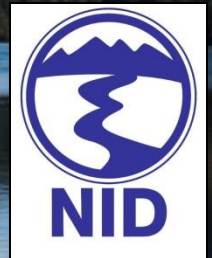
Recommendation: Increase the contract with Frank Dial Logging from \$200,000 to \$250,000 in order to complete all forestry work at the Gate 1 Campground with an end date of May 1, 2018.

Attached: Photos PPT

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Nevada Irrigation District

Urgent Fire Risk Reduction to
Protect and Promote Healthy and Resilient
Forests and Watersheds



NID Mission Statement

The District will provide a dependable, quality water supply; continue to be good stewards of the watersheds, while conserving the available resources in our care.



Healthy Forests and Watersheds Program Goals

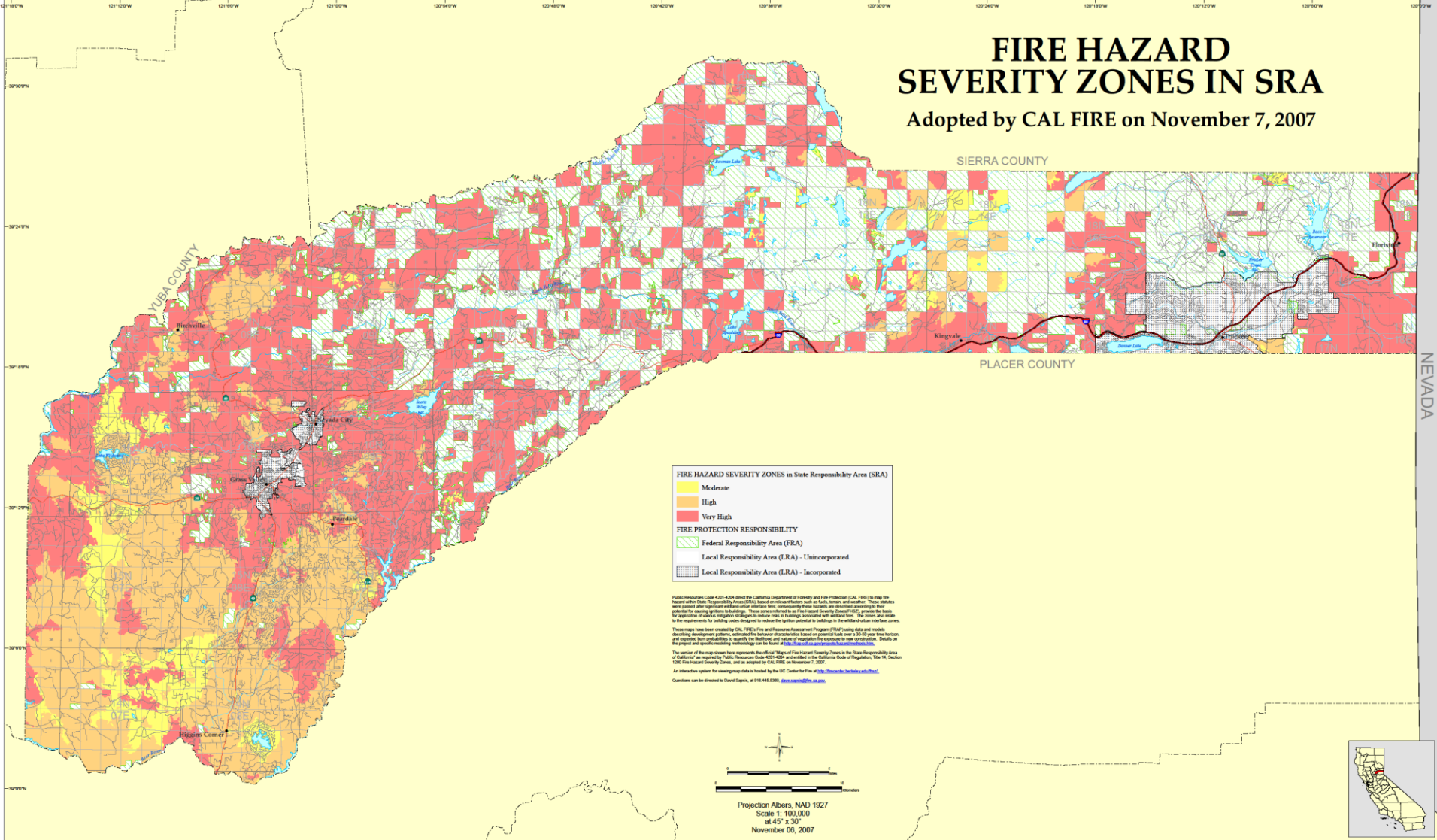
The urgency of addressing our fire risk cannot be overstated:

- “We have a real problem and there is no time.”
S. Ostoja, USDA Climate Hub, 3/7/2018
- 2017 Fire Season in California is the worst in the State’s history



FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES IN SRA

Adopted by CAL FIRE on November 7, 2007



FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES in State Responsibility Area (SRA)

- Moderate
- High
- Very High

FIRE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITY

- Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)
- Local Responsibility Area (LRA) - Unincorporated
- Local Responsibility Area (LRA) - Incorporated

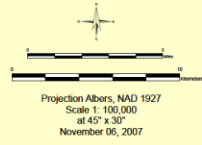
Public Resources Code 4201-4204 direct the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to map the hazard within State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Based on current forest fuels, soil, slope, terrain, and weather. These estimates were created after significant wildland-urban interface fire occurrence during the last several years. These estimates are based on the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) criteria for the application of various mitigation strategies to reduce risks to buildings associated with wildland fire. The zones also relate to the requirements for building codes designed to reduce the public potential for buildings in the wildland-urban interface zones.

These maps have been created by CAL FIRE's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) using data and models developed by the National Fire Plan, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the National Fire Plan. The maps are intended to provide information to the public and to assist in the development of fire mitigation strategies. The maps are not intended to be used as a basis for insurance or other financial decisions. The maps are not intended to be used as a basis for insurance or other financial decisions.

The version of the map shown here represents the official Maps of Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the State Responsibility Area of California, as required by Public Resources Code 4201-4204 and defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 100210. The Hazard Severity Zones were last updated by CAL FIRE on November 7, 2007.

An interactive system for viewing map data is located by the UC Center for Fire at <http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/frap/>.

Questions can be directed to David Simpson, at 916.445.0300, david.simpson@calfire.ca.gov.



The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Obtain FRAP maps, data, metadata and publications on the Internet at <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov>
For more information, contact CAL FIRE-FRAP, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460, (916) 327-3009

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor,
State of California
Mike Christman, Secretary for Resources,
The Resources Agency
Ruben Grijalva, Director,
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

MAP ID: FHSZ2_MAP
DATA SOURCES
CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZS03_3)
CAL FIRE State Responsibility Areas (SRAS03_3)
CAL FIRE Incorporated Cities (Incorp07_3)
PLSS (1:100,000 USGS, Land Grants with CAL FIRE grid)

2017 estimate by CAL FIRE: 103 million dead trees in the Sierra Nevada, wildfires are occurring year-round, larger wildfires, and Nevada County has become one of the highest risk WUI regions in California. Humans are highest ignition potential county-wide.



Scotts Flat Reservoir



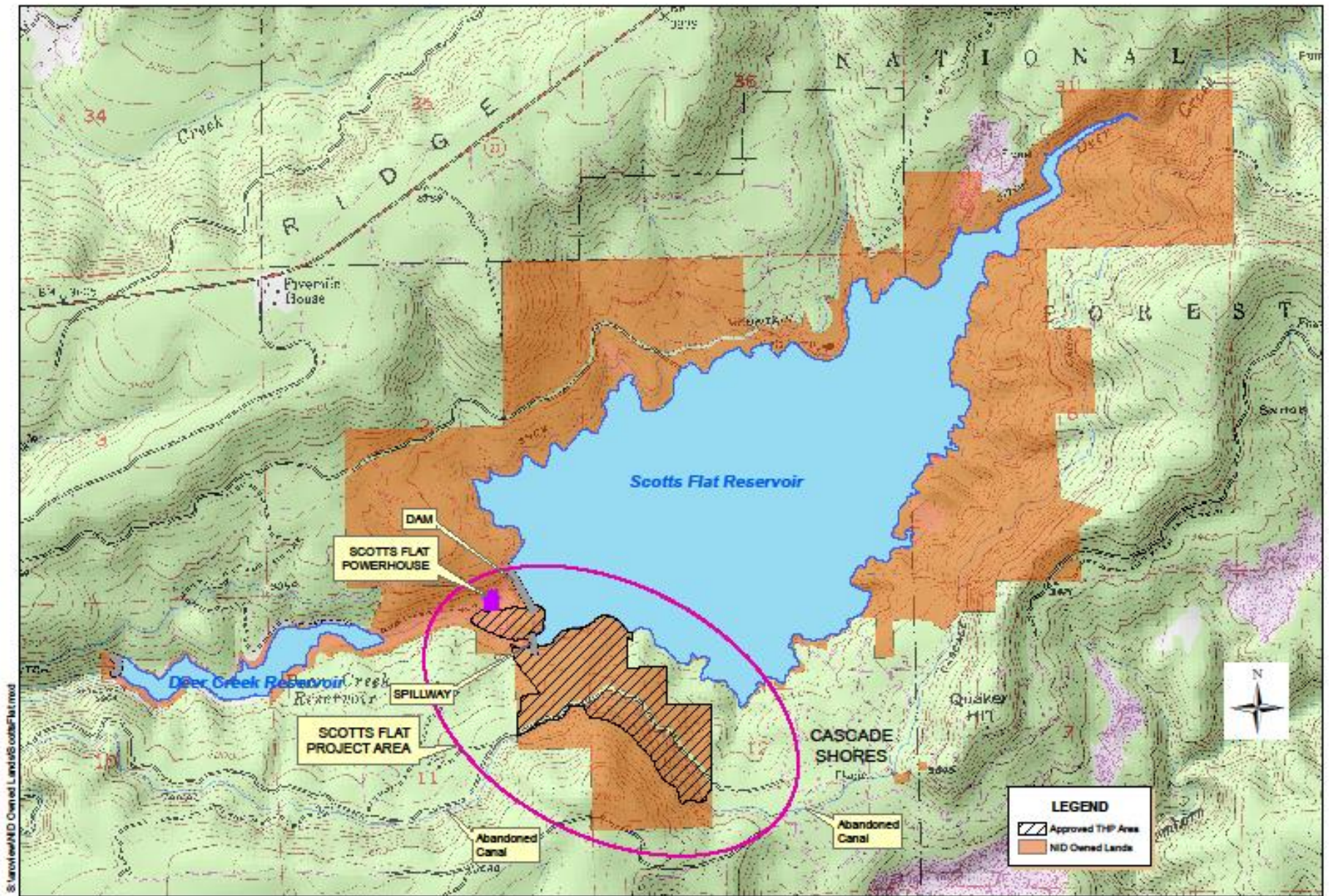
Reduced fire risk, removed hazard trees, and construction of a cross canyon fuels break.



- Phased forest health and fire risk reduction in the Scotts Flat - Deer Creek Watershed.
- Partnerships are key
- Hazard tree and fire fuels removal required at all campgrounds

Scotts Flat Fire Fuels Reduction Project with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy 2016





Source: NID Owned Lands/Scotts Flat, Inc.



NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 NEVADA COUNTY – PLACER COUNTY
 GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

**SCOTTS FLAT RESERVOIR FUELS TREATMENT PHASE 3
 SNC REFERENCE #873 - PROJECT LOCATION**

Drawn By: D. HUNT Date: 2/24/2016 Scale: 1" = 2000' @ 8-1/2x11 Sheet: 1 of 1

Site transformation



Improved emergency access, reduced fire risk for community and water resource facilities, and reduced risk to supply and water quality.



Scotts Flat Fire Fuels Reduction Project Phase 2: Gate 1 Campground 2018



Forest treatment includes hazard tree and fire fuels removal, mastication, and selective logging to address extreme fire risk.



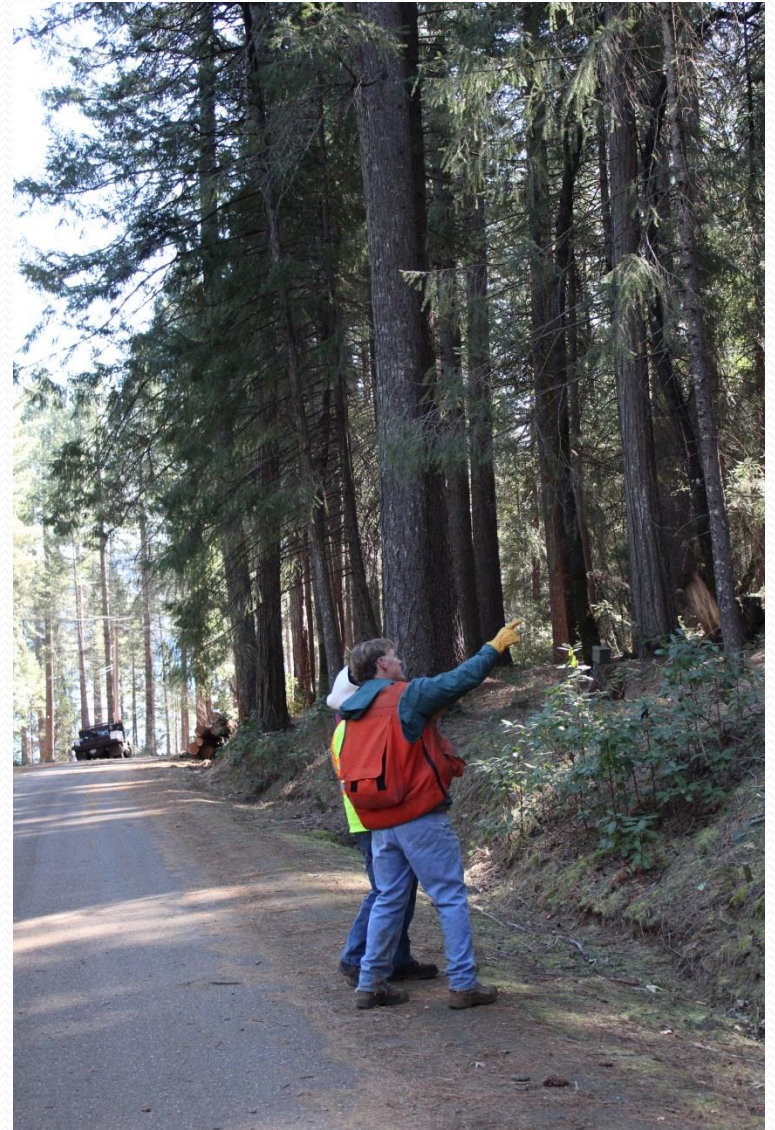
Pre-treatment forest conditions



Forest health issues associated with drought, pine beetle, overcrowding and disease, climate change, residential expansion...



















Thank you

