2015-2016
CALIFORNIA'S FOREST LEGACY APPLICATION
(This application is available electronically)

For 2015 must be received by July 31, 2015, by 4:00 PM.

This form must be printed, typed or filled out electronically. Illegible forms will be returned.

The Forest Legacy Program purchases development rights on forests of State and National significance in targeted areas of California so these threatened forests may remain intact and provide traditional forest benefits.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant Information		Authorized agent for landowner (if different)	
Landowner's name:	_____	Agent's name:	_____
Address:	_____	Address:	_____
City, State, Zip:	_____	City, State, Zip:	_____
Phone:	_____	Phone:	_____
Fax / e-mail:	_____	Fax / e-mail:	_____

Please list all co-owners of this property (or any others with interest in the property).

_____

Property Information

1. County: _____ Section: _____ Township: _____ Range: _____ B&M _____ Parcel#: _____
2. What is the land currently zoned as? _____
3. What are the current uses of the property? _____
4. Are there any encumbrances (liens, mortgages, easements, and/or leases) on this property? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, please list and explain in the Confidential Financial Information Section.
5. Total property acres: _____ *Total acres forest: _____
6. How much of the total acres above are you nominating for the Forest Legacy Program?

Forest acres: _____ Open or cleared acres: _____ Acres of water: _____ Total: _____

7. I am interested in a ☐ *conservation easement,* or ☐ *transferring total ownership* of the land.
   Do you have a preference as to what entity holds title? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes please indicate the entity.
8. Is any of this area Certified Forest or in a Habitat Conservation Plan? Yes ☐ No ☐
   How many acres? _____

- "Forestlands" are defined as lands that can support 10% native tree cover under natural conditions, and that allow for management of one or more forest resources including timber, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreation, aesthetics, and other public benefits.

Landowner Goals and Objectives Sub-Section

1. Please describe your long term goals and objectives for the nominated property (e.g., It might help to think about why the property is important to you). Why do you own it? Why did you buy it? What would you like to do on and with this property?) You may attach an extra page if needed.

2. Do you have a written forest management plan? Yes ☐ No ☐
   If yes, please send a copy with your application.

3. Have you been working with a forester or other natural resource professional who could provide technical information about your forest? Yes ☐ No ☐

   May we contact him/her? Yes ☐ No ☐ Forester's name: _____
   Phone #: _____ License #: _____

SECTION 2: PARCEL EVALUATION

Parcel Evaluation Section

Landowner: Please help us picture the uniqueness of your property. Projects are ranked on four criteria: (1) IMPORTANCE, (2) THREAT, (3) STRATEGIC VALUE, AND (4) READINESS. Because funds are limited, this information will help establish your preliminary ranking with the other projects submitted for consideration. You may attach extra pages, if needed.

IMPORTANCE

A. **Economic Benefits from Timber and Potential Forest Productivity:** This category includes three independent components: (1) Landowner demonstrates sustainable forest management in accordance with a management plan and/or a third party certified (such as Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Forest Stewardship Council, and American Tree Farm System), (2) Forestry activities contribute to the resource-based economy for a community or region, (3) the Forest Productivity Potential. Explain the traditional forestry resource values of the parcel including Site Class. Go into as much detail as you wish. If you are providing any proprietary information please add as a confidential addendum.

B. **Economic Benefits from Non-timber Products:** What non-timber revenue does the property provide to the local or regional economy through activities such as hunting leases, ranching, non-timber forest products, guided tours (fishing, hunting, bird-watching, etc.), and recreation and tourism (lodging, rentals, bikes, boats, outdoor gear, etc.)?

C. **Threatened or Endangered Species Habitat:** Protecting and enhancing wildlife features on and off the property is crucial to maintaining viable wildlife populations. Explain how your parcel contributes to healthy wildlife habitats. Describe what documented threatened or endangered plants and animals or designated habitat(s) are on the property.

D. **Fish, Wildlife, Plants, and Unique Forest Communities**: Describe what unique forest communities and/or important fish or wildlife habitat are present on the property and if they are documented by a formal assessment or wildlife conservation plan or strategy developed by a government or a non-governmental organization. The importance of habitat to an international initiative to support and sustain migratory species can be viewed as national importance if conserving the property will make a significant contribution.

E. **Water Supply, Aquatic Habitat, and Watershed Protection:** (1) Property has a direct relationship with protecting the water supply or watershed, such as provides a buffer to public drinking water supply, contains an aquifer recharge area, or protects an ecologically important aquatic or marine area, and/or (2) the property contains important riparian area, wetlands, shorelines, river systems, or sensitive watershed lands. **Information on Anadromous Salmonid Protection and 303(d) listed watersheds are available from the California State Water Resources Control Board (916) 657-0682**

or http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ or the Calwater webpage at https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/calwater

F. **Existing or Potential Public Recreational Opportunities and Public Access:** Public recreation opportunities are defined as those having non-commercial and non-landowner users. Explain the recreational values of the proposed property. Will protection of the property maintain or establish access by the public for recreation?

G. **Scenic Resources:** The scenic aspects of a natural resource area may often be subjective. Describe the special qualities making your parcel stand out as a scenic resource. Is the site located within a viewshed of a government designated scenic feature or area (such as trail, river, or highway)?

H. **Historic/Cultural/Tribal:** The site contains features of historical, cultural, and/or tribal significance, formally documented by a government or a non-governmental organization. Material evidence of previous human occupation (e.g., petroglyphs, house pits, midden, bedrock mortars, etc.) comprises a unique and irreplaceable resource, as do other historic features such as cemeteries, pioneer homesites, old grist and sawmill sites, old grist and sawmill sites, etc. and natural landscape features. Explain the archaeological values of your parcel.

THREAT

I. Type and Level of Conversion Threats: There are various kinds and degrees of threat to valuable forested areas, such as encroaching housing development, improved roads, sewer, and power line extension into undeveloped areas and the dividing of land ownership in smaller parcels. Explain how your property is either threatened by development or conversion to other uses, or can slow the development pressures in your area. This criterion estimates the likelihood for conversion. More points will be given to projects that demonstrate multiple conditions.

Attributes to consider:

Lack of Protection *- The lack of temporary or permanent protections (e.g., current zoning, temporary or permanent easements, moratoriums, and encumbrances that limit subdivision or conversion) that currently exists on the property and the likelihood of the threat of conversion.*

Land and Landowners Circumstances *- Land and landowner circumstances such as property held in an estate, aging landowner, future property by heirs is uncertain, property is for sale or has a sale pending, landowner anticipates owning property for a short duration, landowner has received purchase offers, land has an approved subdivision plan, landowner has sold subdivisions of the property, etc.*

Adjacent Land Use - *Adjacent land use characteristics such as existing land status, rate of development growth and conversion, rate of population growth (percent change), rate of change in ownership, etc.*

Ability to Develop *- Physical attributes of the property that will facilitate conversion, such as access, buildable ground, zoning, slope, water/sewer, electricity, etc.*

STRATEGIC VALUE

J. Strategic placement and value: Discuss how the property relates strategically to other protected properties adjacent to it or in close proximity to it. Make note of any federal, State, or regional strategic plans, cooperatives or initiatives that may be pertinent. This criterion reflects the project's relevance or relationship to conservation efforts on a broader perspective. When evaluating strategic, four considerations are made: 1) the scale of a conservation initiative, strategy, or plan; 2) the scale of the project's contribution to that initiative, strategy, or plan; 3) the placement of the parcel within the area of the initiative, strategy, or plan; and 4) how the project complements protected lands.

Attributes to consider

Conservation Initiative, Strategy, or Plan - How the project fits within a larger conservation plan, strategy, or initiative as designated by either a government or non-governmental entity.

Complement Protected Lands - How the project is strategically linked to enhance already protected lands including past FLP projects, already protected Federal, State, or non-governmental organization lands, or other Federal land protection programs (NRCS, NOAA, etc.).

PROJECT READINESS

K. Readiness of the project to be completed: To what degree has due diligence been completed. Please describe what steps have been initiated to help close this project. This could include:

1. Documented support for the cost estimate, such as completed market analysis or preliminary appraisal.
2. Landowner and State have general agreement on conservation easement or fee acquisition conditions.
3. Cost Share commitment has been obtained from a specified source.
4. A signed option or purchase and sales agreement is held by the State or at the request of the State **OR** at the request of the State, conservation easement or fee title is held by a third party.
5. Title search is completed, including identifying any temporary or permanent protections.
6. Minerals determination is completed.
7. For conservation easement properties, a stewardship plan or multi-resource management plan is completed.

Landowner's Comments Section

Other comments you may wish to add about your Forest Legacy Nomination or property uniqueness.

SECTION 3: CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Confidential Financial Information Section

The following financial, deed, and lien information shall remain confidential until such time as:

1) the application has been approved and all transactions are concluded, **or**
2) all title-holders give written permission to release the information.

Financial Information

The following estimates are for preliminary use only. Any final offer for conservation easement purchase cannot exceed fair market value, as determined by an appraisal meeting federal and/or state appraisal standards.

1. What is the estimated total value of this property?

2. What is the estimated value of the interests (see page 3) proposed to be transferred by conservation easement to California's Forest Legacy Program?

3. How was this value determined? (Examples: landowner's personal estimate, licensed appraiser, realtor, written legal appraisal).

   If appraised, date of the appraisal:

4. Are you willing to donate part of the easement value? Yes ☐ No ☐
   - What percentage are you willing to donate? ☐ 25% ☐ 50% ☐ 75% ☐ 100% Other ☐
   - What is your approximate asking price for the interest being offered?

   NOTE: Donations may constitute a charitable contribution for income tax purposes, depending on applicable Internal Revenue Service guidelines and regulations.

5. Do you have another source, such as a Land Trust or another federal or state agency, willing to fund part of the purchase price? Yes ☐ No ☐
   - If so please include the proposed contribution below

6. Please list all sources of funding for which you are, or have applied for, or to which you are willing to apply:

Source	Amount		
Federal FLP			
Other Sources (program?)	**Amount**	**Applied? Y/N**	**Approved? Y/N**
WCB (Forest Conservation Program)			
SCC			

Comments:

Liens and Encumbrances

Please list any and all liens and encumbrances on the property proposed for enrollment in California's Forest Legacy Program. Examples of liens and/or encumbrances include: mortgages, utility easements, public rights of way, water flow or water use restrictions, septic systems or water easements, deed restrictions or covenants, mineral extraction rights (gas, oil, coal, stone, etc.), tax liens, dump sites, underground fuel tanks, other environmental hazards, etc.

SECTION 4: RIGHTS TO BE RETAINED AND LANDOWNER PERMISSION

Preliminary Identification of Rights to be Retained

It is important the following section be carefully and fully completed. The information you provide will directly affect the desirability of the parcel, appraised value, and its priority as a Forest Legacy parcel. Please, indicate which of the following uses or interests you wish to **retain** as part of the conservation easement.

Note: Checking **YES or NO** does not commit you to anything at this time, it merely assists California's Forest Legacy Committee when inspecting, prioritizing, and evaluating your parcel. Also, note that development rights are the minimum rights purchased on Forest Legacy Tracts and therefore are not included on the list below.

YES	NO	UNSURE	Forest use or interest
_____	_____	_____	Will you retain the right to commercially harvest timber?
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to retain unrestricted access to minerals (e.g., coal, gravel, etc.)?*
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to retain restricted surface occupancy mineral rights?**
			Will you wish to retain unrestricted access with oil and gas?*
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to retain restricted surface occupancy oil and gas rights?**
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to limit or control public access to your property? Public access is not a requirement of the Forest Legacy Program.
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to retain rights to graze open areas? (acres)
			Will you wish to retain right to farm open areas? (acres)
_____	_____	_____	Will you wish to retain the right to build or rebuild roads (other than forest management/protection roads)?
_____	_____	_____	Do you wish to sell or transfer the entire property to the Legacy program?
_____	_____	_____	Other. Please specify:

* Retention of unrestricted mineral or oil/gas rights will exclude that portion of your property from consideration in California's Forest Legacy Program.

** Retention of restricted mineral or oil/gas rights which allows less than 10% surface disturbance may be consistent with California's Forest Legacy Program.

Testimony and Permission

The information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I (we), as the landowner(s) or landowner's authorized agent (proof of authorization must accompany the application) agree to allow inspection, appraisal, and survey of my property being offered for consideration under California's Forest Legacy Program. I agree to allow members of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California's Forest Legacy committee or their designated staff to inspect my property at any mutually agreeable time for the purposes of this application. I understand I shall be notified in advance of all inspection visits.

I also understand that this property (i.e., conservation easement) will not be purchased if negotiations do not reach an amicable agreement or if the property does not meet the needs or qualifications of California's Forest Legacy Program **AND that I will not apply for federal funding if I am not willing to allow a government entity to hold title as grantee**. Conservation easements will only be purchased from willing sellers.

Signature(s) of landowner(s) or legal agent	**Date**
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

e-mail completed application to: jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov

mail hard copies to

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Resource Management
Attn: Jeff Calvert
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460