

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY

COMMUNIQUE

SPRING



APRIL 1985

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Someone asked me the other day what I thought about CDF now after I'd been here for two years. I answered that I thought it was a great organization before my arrival and now that I know more about it, it's even better. The question did remind me that the beginning of my third year would be a good time to expand on my views and review our recent past.

Let's look first at some of my disappointments. Management problems in budgeting and accounting have made it impossible to use the budget as our major control and management tool. Shelley Wing and her people are making strong progress in this area. Physical fitness and standards were a top priority with me. Unfortunately we have had to start the process all over again and must go through another fire season with no standards. A glance at a photo in a recent *Communiqué* reminds me that many of us need to alter our lifestyles to get in shape and stay there.

Other problem areas include salary compaction at the supervisor and management levels, new inmate camp sitings, slow improvement in equipment replacement schedules, promotional exams and appointments.

There are, however, many things we have been able to accomplish. We must give Governor Deukmejian,

Finance, and DPA credit for a significant salary increase in two years; the constant rate of pay; several improvements in fringe benefits; and, safety employees now enjoy the 2% at 50 retirement benefit. The schedule A issue has been thoroughly reviewed and proven to be an effective and efficient way to provide fire protection services. Computers are arriving daily all over the state and in a few months you should have access to this current technology to speed your work and slow the paper chase. Our resource management people have been able to maintain income from state forests in spite of very poor markets for timber. Forest practice inspectors have established a good working relationship with private foresters and timber operators. Our goal is fair and firm enforcement of laws and regulations using good common sense in areas of judgment.

The camp expansion program continues to bounce along a road strewn with political potholes. FRAP is moving successfully toward its target reporting date. And, finally, those of you in fire protection, resource management, the camps program, the fixed wing and helicopter operations, and especially our fine Fire Prevention Program, combined your efforts to give us an effective fire season last year, one that had the potential to be disastrous.

But what of the future? Our major challenge will be to deal with the influx of people into traditionally rural areas. They move into wildland areas and bring old habits with them, creating protection problems and raising more objections to timber harvesting and road construction.

Certainly we will continue to improve our firefighting techniques and equipment, our approach to resource management, and our management organization, supervision, training and planning areas. We also need to devote more effort to prevention, but none of this will make us more effective if we don't understand what's happening with the people we serve.

Let me close by listing a few things I'd like us to do:

1. Produce a meaningful state fire plan and use the plan and professional judgment to improve our present protection system.
2. Support the integration and consolidation of firefighting units to improve protection and reduce costs to the taxpayers.
3. Continue our steady progress in affirmative action, hiring qualified employees and encouraging them to stay. We can also reduce further our discrimination and sexual harassment incidents.
4. Finally establish meaningful physical standards for new and continuing employees alike. Then encourage everyone to establish and maintain a healthier lifestyle.
5. Further integrate foresters and rangers so they can be employed interchangeably for maximum benefits to the department.

Yes, after two years I still think we have an excellent organization and I am proud to be a part of it.


DIRECTOR

Health and Safety Column

Are structural fires becoming more hazardous?

Excerpted from June 1984 Occupational Hazards

Of all the ways to die, death by fire is the most feared. Charred bodies cruelly ravaged by fire horrify even the most battle-hardened rescuer. An estimated 80 percent of all fire victims however, are killed not by flames, but by smoke inhalation. This knowledge has sparked interest in combustion toxicology, the study of the gases and particulates produced in fires and their health effects.

Firefighters once thought little of entering a smoke-filled building without a respirator, and "taking fire" until their tortured lungs demanded a return to the outside air. Not so today. In the last 15-20 years, firefighters have widely reported a change in the nature and behavior of the fires they are battling. They say that fires are burning faster and creating more smoke, and that the smoke is thicker and more irritating. Recent health studies indicate that repeated exposure to toxic smoke may exact a heavy price.

What has caused this change in the fire environment? No definitive answers have been reached, but the finger of suspicion is pointed most frequently at plastics used in furnishings and building materials. A "crisis for concern" has developed according to the International Association of Fire Fighters, concerning "the discovery that the nation's fire and building codes are inadequate to protect firefighters and the public from toxic smoke emitted by synthetic building materials...." Dr. Yves Alarie, professor of respiratory physiology and toxicology at the University of Pittsburgh, says for example that burning polyvinyl chloride, which releases first hydrogen chloride and then carbon monoxide, is 60 times as toxic as burning wood.

While work goes forward on testing the toxicity of materials, attention is also being focused on determining what gases victims of fires have been exposed to, and which gases are causing deaths. In March 1983, the Foundation for Fire Safety (FFS) began its Medical Examiners' Program, designed to establish a standardized post mortem protocol for fire deaths.

"Historically, we've said carbon monoxide and smoke is what kills people in fires. We're finding that the old presumption that carbon monoxide is the killer gas is simply false," said FFS President Gordon Vickery. Vickery said indications are that in as many as half of the deaths from toxic gas inhalation, the lethal gas either was not CO or was CO in combination with other gases.

As an example, Vickery cited the Westchase Hilton Hotel fire, a 1982 fire in Houston which claimed 12 lives. The fire itself was confined to a single fourth floor room, from which the occupants escaped. Eleven of the victims died in their rooms behind closed doors, untouched by the fire.

The medical examiner found that all 12 victims had died of smoke inhalation, involving carbon monoxide, soot, and in the case of two victims, hydrogen cyanide. According to the FFS report, it was "synthetics in the fire room", common items such as carpet and padding, cushions and vinyl wall covering, which produced the deadly gases.

Several states, including California, are examining legislative proposals that would require combustion toxicity tests for certain materials and ban those materials which have been proven highly toxic. However this issue is likely to be before the legislatures and code-writing bodies for several years. Toxicity bills in

Massachusetts, Connecticut, Texas, Maryland, and Pennsylvania have all been voted down or languished in committee. Legislators have "backed off" the issue, convinced that technical problems with combustion-toxicity tests make regulations premature.

Opinions vary as to what industrial fire safety officials can do to cope with the toxicity issue. However, the important thing for the safety of occupants is the early detection of fires so that people have an adequate escape time. They must be familiar enough with escape routes so that they can promptly evacuate.

Above all, fire officials must impress on their firemen a healthy respect for the serious consequences of a fire. The old idea that if the flames don't get you, you'll probably be okay, is no longer true. Breathing apparatus is an absolute necessity for fighting structural fires and during smoldering mop-up conditions.

COMMUNIQUE

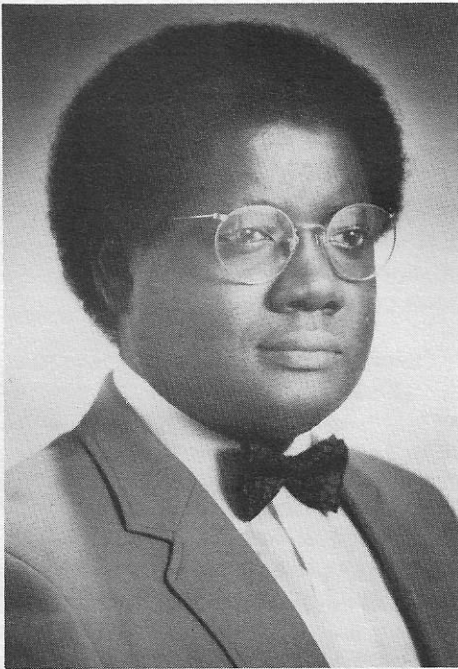
Published by the Office of Public Affairs, Department of Forestry, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Telephone: (916) 445-9920; 485-9920 (ATSS); (Green) 47. Lisa Boyd, editor. Composition: Word Processing, Lury Kaminaka; Graphics: Dave Rodriguez; Personnel Transactions: Vera Fava.

PHOTOS

If you have a photo depicting the people and mission of CDF that you would like to see on the cover of *Communique* please send your black and white glossy print or negative with a description to *Communique*, California Department of Forestry, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

PLEASE, DO NOT PUT TAPE ANYWHERE ON ANY PHOTOS YOU SEND IN FOR THE *Communique*

Asst. director for special projects



Roy Grimes recently joined the CDF Headquarters staff as assistant director for special projects.

At the director's request Roy will review, study, gather information and make administrative recommendations regarding departmental policies and programs. This will give the director access to more in-depth information regarding department operations and will assist him in establishing or continuing effective and efficient policy.

Grimes comes to CDF from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research where he was principal consultant. His previous job involved, among other things, research, technical assistance, planning, policy development and consultation on the operation and fi-

nancing of local governments. Prior to that Grimes was a senior legislative representative for the County Supervisors Association of California (CSAC). He also worked at the Department of Housing and Community Development as a consultant, and in the private sector.

Grimes holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California, a certificate in Labor/Management Relations from U.C. Davis and a certificate in Grantsmanship and Training.

Early in his working life he worked as a seasonal worker with the Kern County Fire Department and as a roustabout for Standard Oil Company.



Tim Lewis moves again



Gene Bach, Sonoma Ranger Unit, Ranger-in-Charge presented Tim with a plaque and thanked him for his efforts and accomplishments in providing the volunteers a quality program.

Tim and Judy Lewis were honored at a going-away dinner in Santa Rosa late January. Tim has promoted to the Salt Creek Camp Superintendent position in Tehama County, where he has been persistently trying to get the ground broken for the new camp.

He was presented awards by the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs' Association, Sonoma County Volunteer Fire Companies Association, the Sonoma Ranger Unit field and office personnel.

Tim found the Schedule "A" Battalion Chief job in Sonoma County challenging and rewarding, and the fire services were most appreciative of his contributions and efforts to help them. The time he invested in the Sonoma Ranger Unit will be long remembered.

His promotion puts him back in the county where he began his fire service career.

ADDING IT UP \$\$\$

In December 1984 the *Communi-qué* introduced you to CDF's new budget officer, Audrey Yokoi. It also requested that you look to future issues for information on what the budget office is, and what the staff is doing. The following is the first in a series of updates on our CDF Budget Office.

Our budget office workload could be categorized into two basic areas: (1) PREPARATION of the budget, and (2) ADMINISTRATION of the budget. Looking out for the future needs of the department, negotiating with the Department of Finance (DOF) to fund those needs, and allocating funds to the sections and programs, are a few, very general, descriptions of budget's work.

Budget preparation is almost a year and a half long process; beginning in spring with the development of internal budget change proposals (BCP's). These BCP's are prepared through August with final proposals submitted to the Resources Agency and DOF about mid-September. Based upon final decisions, CDF's budget is prepared and included in the Governor's Budget which is presented to the Legislature by the Governor on January 10.

Following this a budget task force comprised of both CDF and DOF staff was formed to review CDF's budget and to propose changes to the Governor's Budget as found necessary. This task force is guided by a steering committee comprised of our director, our Resource's secretary, and the Program Budget Manager John Caffrey from DOF.

March 1 was the expected deadline for the task force to make recommendations to the Steering Committee. We will be letting you know what the \$\$ outcome was in a future issue.

Also about this time the legislative hearing process is starting and the budget office staff are anxiously gearing up for this final stage of budget preparation. Budget staff will most likely be coordinating the department's responses to the legislative analyst's recommendations on CDF's budget for executive staff.

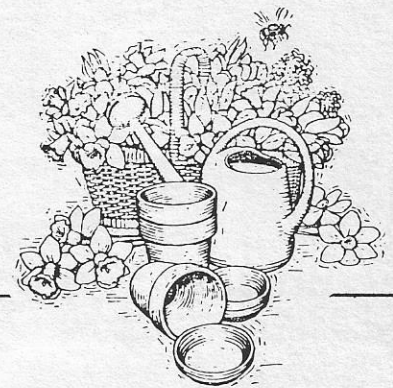
The department cannot stop functioning just because a budget hasn't been finalized; therefore, while all of this planning and negotiating is going on, Budgets is also addressing issues which arise during the administration of the department's current funds. The Budget Office's year-round schedule overlaps in many areas and it is understood when one becomes confused over which fiscal year any budget issue might be affecting. Remember those internal BCP's that were organized in spring, well it's spring again, so beware - here comes those budget analysts once again ...

MERIT AWARD

The Merit Board recently awarded \$375 to Fire Apparatus Engineer Peter Scully for his improved safety idea.

Scully recommended installing a light under the crew seat area on CDF fire engines that could be turned on prior to stepping off the truck. This would reduce the number of injuries to firefighters when stepping off the trucks at the scene of an emergency.

The rear step light suggested above received a poor response in actual field use because it was not bright enough. As a result a Unity Model S6 light with a swivel base was approved as a local option field retrofit. This light affords more versatility and can be used for backing, as well as illuminating the rear step.



Remember,

APRIL 15

is the deadline

for income taxes

New water tender in Butte



Butte County Supervisor Jane Dolan is presented the keys to a newly acquired water tender. Volunteer Fire Chief James Derington (right) and FAE Robert Montague (left) coordinated the fund raising drive.

On January 16, 1985, a 3200-gallon water tender was placed in service by the Butte County Fire Department. The water tender was purchased by the North Chico Volunteer Fire Company with donated funds totalling over \$70,000. The funds were also used to construct a two bay garage to house the apparatus.

The water tender is equipped to serve as an initial attack unit. It carries 400' of preconnected 1½' attack lines and carries breathing apparatus for responding personnel. The 3200 gallons of water is supplied by a 500-gallon per minute PTO pump.

The water tender is housed in the North Chico Station and is available to respond anywhere in the county.

Save this date

A retirement picnic honoring SFR I Don Martinelli and FEM I Bob Raymond of the Lake-Napa Ranger Unit is planned for May 5, 1985 at 1200 hours at the Veteran's Home Picnic Grounds in Yountville.

Contact Gary Vogel, St. Helena Forest Fire Station, 3535 St. Helena Hwy., North, Calistoga, 94515, or at (707) 963-3601 for more information.



Ten

most

used

excuses

1. I forgot.
2. No one told me to go ahead.
3. I didn't think it was important.
4. Wait until the boss comes back and ask him.
5. I didn't know you were in a hurry for it.
6. That's the way we've always done it.
7. That's not in my department.
8. How was I to know this was different?
9. I'm waiting for an O.K.
10. That's his job - not mine-

From January 1985 Bits & Pieces

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

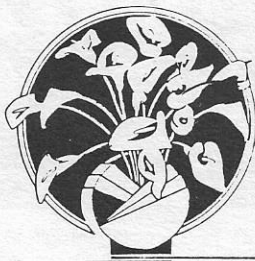


Fred Batchelor, ranger-in-charge, Fresno-Kings R.U. with Club President Elizabeth Boragno during presentations at the luncheon.

Ranger-in-Charge Fred Batchelor and Bob Kutz, F.C.S., Fresno-Kings Ranger Unit, recently attended a monthly luncheon meeting of the Progressive Home Club at their club house in Fresno.

Batchelor expressed appreciation from CDF and the fire districts to the women for their years of support and help at our Fresno District Fair display. He emphasized to the women that their help in greeting, talking to, and passing out fire prevention material to the over 40,000 school children and adults each year has been extremely valuable in spreading the fire prevention message. This year, the women and several of their husbands put in over 120 hours during the 14-day run of the fair.

Batchelor showed the ladies the first place plaque they helped CDF's exhibit win this year. He then presented a certificate of appreciation to the club, along with \$280 that was thrown into the wishing well to help Smokey plant new trees. Each volunteer was also presented with a certificate of appreciation for their individual time and effort.



Certificate presented to Progressive Home Club, with \$289.

Amador-El Dorado acknowledges 100 years of service

In January four 25-year awards were presented to personnel currently working in Amador-El Dorado Ranger Unit. They were SFR II Ron Cohn, SFR I Curt Fox and FC's Jerry Hales and Brian Bennett.

Ranger Cohn started his career as a firefighter in the Napa Ranger Unit in 1958 and was permanently hired as a truck driver in the same unit in 1960. In 1961 he was promoted to forestry foreman and worked for five years in the Lake Unit as a station foreman, air patrol and mobile foreman. Cohn transferred to Sonoma Air Attack in 1966 and from 1967-69 worked in the Sonoma Unit as a fire prevention officer. In 1969 he was promoted to assistant ranger in the Winter's District of the Lake Napa Unit. In 1974 he moved to Amador-El Dorado where he has worked as both operations and administrative officer.

Ranger Fox began as a seasonal firefighter in 1950 in the El Dorado Ranger Unit. He worked seasonally as a truck driver until 1960, going to school and spending a four-year term in the military. Having finished college in 1961, he was appointed forestry foreman in El Dorado where he worked until going to old District III Headquarters as field trainee. In 1965 he promoted to assistant ranger in Lake County and after working in dispatch and the Middletown District, he transferred back to El Dorado in 1968. Ranger Fox has a somewhat unique assignment as his ranger district, El Dorado, includes the area where he was raised.

Captain Hales began his career in 1959 as a truck driver in the El Dorado Ranger Unit and worked at Mt. Danaher until 1963 when he promoted to forestry foreman at Sutter Hill

in the Amador Ranger Unit, his current assignment. With the consolidation of the Amador and El Dorado Units, Captain Hales has spent his entire career in the same unit.

Captain Bennett holds the same distinction, however his career assignments have been the reverse of Captain Hales's. Bennett began as a seasonal in Amador County in 1956 where he worked for four years. In 1960 he was appointed truck driver in El Dorado County where he has been assigned since promoting to foreman in 1965. Captain Bennett currently is assigned to the Mt. Danaher Fire Station.

All four recipients feel very fortunate that their current assignment allows them the opportunity to live and work in one of the most beautiful parts of California.



Pictured are SFR II Ron Cohn, SFR I Curt Fox and Fire Captains A Jerry Hales and Brian Bennett.

Combined efforts

The following letter from Gilbert Soto, a California Youth Authority (CYA) ward at the Los Robles Youth Conservation Camp, is a direct result of the combined efforts of CDF Camp Superintendent Carl Nicolson and CYA Camp Superintendent Jim Summers to implement the work furlough program of CYA Director Rowland.

In this program, selected and deserving wards are placed outside the institution in regular work settings. In Soto's case, Fred Frank, ranger-in-charge of the San Luis Obispo Ranger Unit approved of the proposed program and with the help of the administrative staff of the ranger unit was hired as a seasonal firefighter.

Soto was treated like any other applicant; a condition stated by Nicolson and Summers. He took the Physical Agility Test and the oral interview. Soto was successful in selling himself and was hired as a seasonal firefighter at Paso Robles Fire Station.

Fred Franks
Dept. of Forestry
Paso Robles Station
South Highway 101
Paso Robles, CA. 93446

Dear Fred:

I would like to take this time to thank you for accepting me as a firefighter in your ranger unit.

I can't even begin to tell you how much it meant to me. You gave me a chance I thought I would never have. I was very proud of being a firefighter and I'm looking forward to the 1985 season. I feel like a whole new person. I know I can make it in life as a productive and positive citizen.

I would also like to thank Chief Carl Nicolson, Chief Cliff Haggard, and Ranger I Dan Dulitz for their efforts which helped me overcome some of the obstacles in applying for the seasonal firefighter position and to the Paso Battalion for taking me in as a friend.

Sincerely,

Gilbert Soto
Gilbert Soto

cc: C. Nicolson
C. Haggard
J. Summers
D. Dulitz
R. Barrientos



CDF firefighters Don Athon, Doug Harvey and Gilbert Soto stand by in case of fire following a helicopter crash. Photo by Bruce Colbert Jr., Daily Press.

99 years of service!!



Pictured are HFE0 John Klos, 37 years of service, Captain Don Davis, 30 years of service, and Captain Don Gibson, 32 years of service.

In January three retiring personnel from the Amador-El Dorado Ranger Unit were honored at the Elks Club in Placerville. The combined years of service for the three adds up to a mere 99 years! They were HFE0 John Klos and FC's Don Davis and Don Gibson.

Klos and Davis both spent their entire careers in the El Dorado and later Amador-El Dorado Ranger Unit. Gibson began his career in Region IV, went to Region VI as a fire crew supervisor and then came to the Mother Lode working at Pine Grove, the Fire Academy and for the last several years in Amador-El Dorador.

All three retirees plan on remaining in the Mother Lode and keeping in touch with their many close friends in CDF.

Legislative Roundup

The Legislative Roundup will not appear in the *Communiqué* any longer.

It is the responsibility of the Legislative Coordinator to develop and maintain an effective communication system with Department regional offices and ranger units; including weekly hearing schedules and monthly reports to keep them apprised of legislative activities.

The Legislative Roundup was not an up-to-date account of legislative activity.

25 for Fred Clements

Fire Captain Fred Clements was recently honored at a dispatcher's meeting for 25 years of service. Fred's 25-year pin and certificate was presented by Region II ECC Chief Fred Benton.

Captain Clements started his career with CDF in 1958 in the Shasta-Trinity Ranger Unit as a forest firefighter. He was appointed forest fire truck driver in November 1959 in Lassen-Modoc Ranger Unit. Fred worked as a driver until April 1962 when he was promoted to forest firefighter foreman. Except for a Temporary Authorization Appointment assignment at Antelope Camp as forestry work project foreman,



PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS

NORTH COAST REGION

Promotion - Jeff D. Hawkins to SFR I, Hqs.
Leaves of Absence - Sr. Acct. Clk. Wendi J. Williamson, Hqs.; and Ofc. Tech. (T) Laura M. Colson, L. A. Moran Refor. Ctr.
Separation - OA II (T) Mara T. Solis, Lake-Napa.

SIERRA CASCADE REGION

Transfers - FC (B) John W. Mackey to Washington Ridge YCC; and SFR I Gerald W. Quigley to Lassen-Modoc.
Promotion - William M. Orthel, Jr. to FC (A), Butte.
Appointments - Wayne T. Wilson to FAE, Butte; Patricia J. Porter to OA II (T), Antelope CC; and Lisa A. Chiesa to Fire Prev. Asst., Shasta-Trinity.
Retirements - SFR I's Raymond C. Penney, Tehama-Glenn, and Victor B. McClelland, Nevada-Yuba-Placer; and SFR II William W. Van Dusen, Lassen-Modoc.

SOUTH SIERRA REGION

Transfers - FC Dan Miller to Tuolumne-Calaveras; FAE Darrell Cox to Madera-Mariposa; and HEM Richard Fischer to Amador-El Dorado.
Promotions - Barry Olson to SFR I, Madera-Mariposa, and Larry German to SFR I, Fresno-Kings.
25-Year Awards - FC (B) Dorsey Edwards and FC Charles G. Vaughn.

CENTRAL COAST REGION

Transfers - Morley Tingley to HFEO, Los Robles YCC; and FC (B) George Biddle to Cuesta.
Promotions - Reginald Rogers to FC (B), Ben Lomond CC; Thomas Howard to FC (A), San Benito-Monterey; Vickie Carmichael to Steno., Hqs.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION

Transfer - SFR II Robert Robeson, Morena CC.
Promotion - John W. Clark to SFR I, San Bernardino.
Appointment - Frank Kawasaki to FC, San Bernardino.
Reinstatement - FAE Roger Zay, Riverside.
Retirement - SFR I John W. Allan, San Bernardino.

SACRAMENTO HEADQUARTERS

Promotions - Patrick Fay to FEM III, Mobile Equipment; Judy Rapp to MST.
Appointments - Robert G. Willhite to Exec. Ofcr., For. Licensing; Rachele Brady to Steno. (B); Norma Stewart to Word Process. Tech.; and Linda G. Webb to Sr. Acctg. Ofcr.; Jan Hutulla to Affirm. Act. Ofcr.
Reinstatement - Susan Van Dusen to Ofc. Tech. (T).
Separations - Assoc. Budget Anal. Betty Brown; Acctg. Tech. Carey Hurlock.

EXAMINATION CALENDAR

Upcoming Examinations

Title	Exam Base	Final Filing Date
Operations Research Specialist II	Dept. Prom.	April 18
Procurement and Service Officer II	Dept. Prom.	April 11
Senior Management Auditor	Dept. Prom.	April 18
Staff Administrative Analyst Accounting Systems	Dept. Prom.	May 9

Examinations in Progress

Title	Status
Accounting Analyst	Written test date: April 13
Associate Accounting Analyst	Written test date: April 13
State Forest Ranger I	Interviews anticipated in May

Final filing dates are tentative. Do **Not** submit applications for examinations until the Bulletin has been released.

THE GOLD RUSH IS ON AGAIN
THE 2nd REUNION

OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CDF ALUMNI
(AND GUESTS, OF COURSE)

If you missed the first great reunion of 1982, you now have another chance. All of those folks who worked for Orange County CDF over the years are gathering together again.



WHEN: Saturday, May 4, 1984

WHERE: Gold Beach Park, between Placerville and Plymouth, on Hwy 49 in the beautiful Mother Lode Country. (Map to come.)

WHY: By popular demand

WHAT: A delicious 12 oz. steak dinner with all the trimmings. \$10.00 per person, includes day use of the facility. B.Y.O.B.

Mark your calendar **NOW** and make your reservations early. If you have any questions, contact your area representative.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jim McFadden
209-274-2426

Mike Walsh
209-267-0135

Bill Alderson
209-295-4773

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jim Fattel
714-538-3551

Carl Stadick
714-781-4140

MORE TO COME, INCLUDING MAPS AND LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Please send all meal reservations and checks or money orders payable to:
Jim McFadden, 4501 State Hwy 104, Ione, Ca 95640

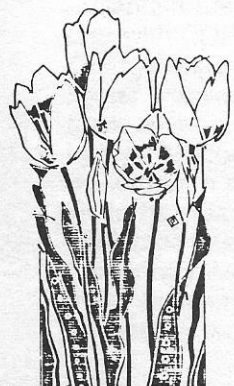
From:

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1416 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

FIRST CLASS



To:



Spring 85