



## DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Lassen – Modoc – Plumas Unit  
 697-345 Highway 36  
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## **TREE REMOVAL INFORMATION**

### **STATE REGULATIONS**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is responsible for administering Timber Harvesting Regulations conducted throughout California on all non-federal timberland. The removal of naturally occurring California native “commercial” timber species from forested lots, areas of pending new construction, and from around existing structures is included under these regulations. In Modoc, Lassen and Plumas Counties, qualifying timber species includes Ponderosa Pine, Jeffrey Pine, Sugar Pine, Western White Pine, White Fir, Red Fir, Douglas Fir, and Incense Cedar. These exemptions are free of charge from CAL FIRE and are submitted to CAL FIRE in Redding for review and approval. These exemption documents are to be used in those situations that are exempt from the requirement of a Timber Harvesting Plan. The four most commonly used exemption documents are:

#### 1. Removal Of Fire Hazard Trees Within 150 Feet Of A Structure Exemption

This exemption is required for the removal of selected trees which are located up to 150 feet from around existing structures that are deemed by the landowner to be a potential hazard to any structures that have been permitted through the County Building permit process. This exemption is required only if the wood is sold, bartered, exchanged, or traded. **Licensed Forester services are not required.** A Licensed Timber Operator must be listed on the exemption and is responsible for all logging activities. Clearcutting, Shelterwood Removal and Seed Tree Removal cutting methods are not allowed. CAL FIRE has up to 5 days to approve the exemption. This exemption is valid for 1 year.

#### 2. Christmas Tree; Dead, Dying, Or Diseased; Fuelwood Or Split Products Exemption

This exemption is required when removing trees that are dead or are obviously dying from insect attack or disease, or when removing fuelwood or other miscellaneous products such as Christmas trees, chips, fencing, etc. The harvest cannot exceed 10% of the volume per acre. Otherwise, a Timber Harvesting Plan is required. **Licensed Forester services are not required.** A Licensed Timber Operator must be identified on the exemption and is responsible for all logging activities. This exemption is required only if the wood is sold, bartered, exchanged, or traded. CAL FIRE has up to 5 days to approve the exemption. This exemption is valid for 1 year. This exemption is **NOT** required for personal firewood use.

#### 3. Less Than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption

This exemption is required for property owners who intend to clear for structures and other needed improvements (i.e. residences, driveways, utility lines, outbuildings, septic systems, etc) in preparation for such development. **This exemption is required whether or not the trees are sold, bartered, exchanged, or traded. This exemption must be prepared by a Registered Professional Forester** and timber operations must be conducted by a Licensed Timber Operator. The Licensed Timber Operator must have an approved copy on-site at the time of operations and has one year to complete timber operations. The landowner must submit to CAL FIRE in Redding a Work Completion Report within one month of completion of timber operations. California Licensed Timber Operators are required to possess one million dollar Liability Insurance for their work. Building contractors are ineligible to perform this work unless they are a Licensed Timber Operator. CAL FIRE has up to 15 days to approve the exemption. This exemption is valid for 1 year.

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#### 4. Forest Fire Prevention Exemption

This exemption is required if the property owner wants to eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns. This exemption is required only if the wood is sold, bartered, exchanged, or traded. **This exemption must be prepared by a Registered Professional Forester** and a Licensed Timber Operator must be identified on the exemption and is responsible for all logging activities. CAL FIRE has up to 5 days to approve the exemption and the exemption is valid for 1 year.

Specific terms and conditions apply to all four exemptions, including logging debris clean-up requirements and protection of wildlife, archaeological sites, water quality, and other natural resources. Before hiring an LTO, be sure to ask the LTO for proof of valid insurance or call CAL FIRE LTO Licensing at (916) 653-7211. A state filing fee is not imposed for the four forms, however, the person listed on the form as the Timber Owner will be required to pay a post-harvest yield tax, based on the board foot volume of timber removed from the parcel, to the State Board of Equalization. Small amounts of timber may be exempt from yield tax. A complete listing of these and other CAL FIRE forms and information can be found on the Internet at:

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/ResourceManagement/HarvestingForms.asp>

A local CAL FIRE licensed forester is available to assist landowners through the exemption process. For all areas of Plumas County except the Chester/Lake Almanor area, contact CAL FIRE Quincy Area Foresters Al Klem or Dale Meese at 283-1792. For the Chester/Lake Almanor and South Lassen County areas contact CAL FIRE Acting Unit Forester Ivan Houser at 257-4171. For North Lassen and Modoc County contact Scott Rosikiewicz at 294-5110.

Below is an incomplete listing of Registered Professional Foresters and Licensed Timber Operators that conduct forestry and timber harvesting operations within Lassen, Modoc and Plumas Counties. Listing does not imply endorsement of a particular company nor their integrity on the ground. Be sure to ask the LTO to show proof of valid liability insurance if required (see below) and both the LTO and RPF proof of a valid license.

#### **REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS**

<u>Company or Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>License #</u>
James Marty	283-0630	Quincy	1840
Danielle Banchio	284-1800	Taylorville	2808
Pete Thill	836-2751	Graeagle	1715
Keith Crummer	259-2572	Chester	310
Jared Tappero	258-4405	Chester	2684
Dave Alderman	256-2254	Westwood	1945
Phil Nemir	257-2294	Susanville	1666
Bill Banka	832-5123	Portola	1999
Randolph Vasquez	534-5229	Oroville	1884
Dave Whittier	589-1479	Oroville	2643
David Sellars	680-3967	Paradise	1875
Stephen Windward	283-4473	Quincy	1034
Mark Shafer	257-3738	Susanville	2485
Applied Forest Management	274-6457	Grass Valley	2714
Walt Mobley	252-4823	Susanville	1993
Terry Rogers	877-1196	Paradise	2537
Lee Hunt	894-6827	Chico	2189

## LICENSED TIMBER OPERATORS

**The following are "A" Licensed Timber Operators. One million dollar liability insurance required; all types solid wood forest products allowed for commercial cutting and/or removal.**

Toppers Tree Service	283-2194	Quincy	A543
Shaun Lemnah	283-2727	Quincy	A9577
Monte Mannies	283-4492	Quincy	A10508
Jim West	283-1172	Quincy	A10113
Paul Smith	283-0663	Quincy	A584
Pew Forest Products	284-7882	Taylorsville	A7492
Warren Gorbet	284-6292	Crescent Mills	A8122
Wesly Hardy	836-0983	Graeagle	A98751
Graeagle Timber Co.	836-2751	Graeagle	A9505
Wirta Logging Inc.	832-0868	Portola	A8936
Holt Logging	256-3104	Westwood	A40
Medici Logging	256-3633	Westwood	A7213
Tantardino Logging Inc.	596-4539	Lake Almanor	A1319
Almanor Tree Service	596-4111	Lake Almanor	A9729
David Sellars	877-3785	Paradise	A1494
D.C. Construction	284-6779	Greenville	A9301
Roy Wheeler	532-0788	Oroville	A1118
Folchi Logging & Construction	832-5214	Portola	A8689
Evergreen Resource Management	257-3738	Susanville	A7052
Red Myers	259-3431	Chester	A9941
Impact Resources	335-4065	Burney	A1295
Ronald Vernon	253-3021	Susanville	A9217
Stoy Logging Co.	284-1024	Greenville	A10377

**The following are Limited ("B") Licensed Timber Operators. One million dollar liability insurance not required; NOT allowed to commercially cut and/or remove sawlogs, veneer logs, poles, piling, and pulp logs. Commercial cutting and/or removal of the following minor forest products only is allowed: fuelwood, posts and split products, root crown burls, tanbark, Christmas trees.**

Phil Charbonnier	836-4821	Portola	B995
Claude Sanders	836-1923	Cromburg	B2728
Kim Kalbaugh	836-2507	Blairsdon	B10534
Curtis Hartwig	836-0393	Clio	B2875