

CA ad hoc Forest Biomass Working Group – eNewsletter 10/2021

CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Guidelines -- Public Review. CAL FIRE has posted for public review a draft of the [Forest Health Grant Guidelines](#). The guidelines are specific to fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. Up to \$170 million will be awarded to [Forest Health](#) projects that fit the eligibility criteria and score competitively against the selection criteria. Up to \$40 million of the total funding will be reserved for post-fire recovery. Additionally, up to \$14 million will be awarded for [Forest Legacy](#) projects and at least \$3.8 million will be awarded to [Forest Health Research](#) projects. Eligibility requirements and scoring criteria specific to each program are addressed in the guidelines. A portion of the funds being are made available through [California Climate Investments](#). CAL FIRE will open the solicitation on March 10, 2021. Final grant guidelines, applications, and supporting documentation will be posted on the [Forest Health Grants](#) web page. Applications will be due by 3 p.m. on May 19. For questions or concerns, please contact ForestHealth@fire.ca.gov.

CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grants. On March 10, 2021, CAL FIRE will begin accepting applications for [Fire Prevention Grants Program](#). Contingent upon appropriation from the [California Climate Investments](#), or other fund source, up to \$165 million will be awarded. CAL FIRE's Fire Prevention Grants Program provides funding for projects and activities that address the risk of wildfire, reduce wildfire potential, and increase community resiliency. Funded activities include hazardous fuel reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Applications must be submitted no later than May 19th, 2021 by 3:00 PM PDT. Overview of the grant program, application process and workshop details will be posted on the [Fire Prevention Grants](#) webpage.

THINK WOOD releases 2021 Timber Trends Publication. [Think Wood](#) surveyed 775 U.S. developers, architects, contractors and industry experts to hear their predictions for the top trends in timber construction this year and to understand how the market has shifted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Beyond the construction delays, labor challenges and related economic impacts of 2020, survey participants predict the repercussions of the global pandemic will persist in 2021, primarily impacting projects already in progress. The effects span construction schedules, budgets and emerging post-pandemic design principles. Ramifications for planned projects remain to be seen. [Continue reading to see the top five trends to watch in 2021](#) and see what the outlook was a year ago in [Timber Trends 2020](#).

USDA Forest Service Research provides Evidence of Environmental Benefits of Redwood Lumber. Numerous environmental benefits are associated with using natural wood for building. Fast-growing naturally durable softwood species, such as redwood, offer advantages in terms of carbon sequestration and efficient energy usage, among others. [Research from the USDA Forest Service provides scientific proof of these and other benefits](#). Research paper FPL-RP-706, entitled [Cradle-to-Gate Life-Cycle Assessment of Redwood Lumber in the United States](#), was published based on primary data collected from three major redwood producing lumber mills:

Humboldt Sawmill Company, LLC, Mendocino Forest Products Company, LLC, and Big Creek Lumber. These mills represent 67% of the total production volume of the redwood lumber industry (2017 figures).

Production Equipment for Country's first Wood Fiber Insulation Plant arrives in Maine. A container ship waiting in Searsport Harbor (ME) to unload its cargo is a visible sign of progress for Belfast-based [GO Lab Inc.](#), according to company officials. The *Alamosborg*, from the Netherlands, is hauling an entire production line from Germany in more than 80 regular and oversized shipping containers. The lightly used equipment is destined for GO Lab's plant in Madison, ME, located at the former Madison Paper Industries Mill, where it will be used to produce [wood fiber insulation boards for the North American market](#).