

2014 CALIFORNIA FORESTRY CHALLENGE



September 24 to 27 - Shasta
October 22 to 25 – El Dorado
November 5 to 8 – Santa Cruz
October 8 to 11 – Sequoia
November 19 to 22 – San Bernardino

The California Forestry Challenge is a competitive event for high school students in technical forestry and current forestry topics. Using the forest as the classroom, the California Forestry Challenge is hands-on learning at its best.

Highlights include:



Field Training: Forestry professionals spend time with the students familiarizing them with common tree species, forestry tools, and the use of identification keys. This training serves as a review of the “learning objectives” and associated resources available on the website.

Field Test: Working as a 2 to 5 person team, students complete a comprehensive field test, which includes identifying and measuring trees, analyzing stand data, and making forest management decisions. The scores from the various testing stations are combined, and become 60% of the team’s final score.



“The CFC taught me a lot about our surrounding environment and the forest. I got to see how people continue to manage the forest to keep it healthy and beautiful.” -- Student

Focus Topic Fieldtrip: Students are presented with a real-life focus topic and visit the forest to ask questions and collect data. They use the information they collect to weigh in on the topic, often influencing the decisions made about managing the forest in the future. 2014 focus topics will include reforestation after a massive wildfire, forest management during a drought, and developing a Firesafe plan for one of the event host facilities.



Presentation: Guided by two consultation sessions with a Registered Professional Forester, students use all available information to put together a 15-minute presentation. A panel of three judges scores the presentation, which is worth 40% of the final event score. Top teams make annual appearances at the CA Board of Forestry, CLFA, and the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference.



“As my first year, the Challenge was life changing.”
-- Student



“CFC provides high school students with real-world forest management issues, fundamental knowledge about the ecosystem, and opportunities to problem-solve contemporary forestry challenges. It is education at its finest!” -- Teacher

A registration fee of \$100 for Shasta and Sequoia, \$115 for El Dorado and San Bernardino, or \$165 for Santa Cruz includes food, 3 nights lodging, and an event t-shirt. For more information, call 530-417-1960 or visit www.forestrychallenge.org.