



Newsletter – 2026 www.nssha.org

President's Message **Tony Franks**

The mountains are gently giving way to summer. The snow has melted, the creeks and rivers have calmed, and cool afternoon breezes bring welcome relief from warm early-summer days. It is the time of year when the Sierra calls us back. Each of us has favorite memories and experiences at our cabins. I certainly have mine, and I know you can easily conjure the sights, smells, and sounds that remind you that you are home in the mountains.

Your Northern Sierra Summer Home Association (NSSHA) exists to advocate for you and the issues we all face as recreational residence permit holders. Your Board of Directors works year-round to strengthen and protect the recreation residence program while maintaining regular communication with the U.S. Forest Service on matters that affect our cabin communities.

Each summer, we gather as a cabin community to learn about important issues and opportunities that impact us all. Our Annual Meeting is traditionally held on the fourth Saturday in June. This year, we will meet on Saturday, June 27, at 10:30 a.m. at Camp Sacramento.

Please join us for an informative and engaging morning featuring updates on hazard tree removal projects, Forest Service reorganization efforts, 30-year permits, and other topics of interest. We are especially pleased to welcome David Fournier, Forest Supervisor for the Eldorado National Forest, as our keynote speaker.

As always, we will conclude with our popular "Office Hours with the Forest Service" session, where Forest Service representatives will be available to answer questions and discuss issues directly with cabin owners.

We treasure the opportunity to help preserve and strengthen our beloved cabins and the unique communities they create. Thank you for your continued trust and support of NSSHA. We look forward to seeing you later this month.

Tony Franks
President, Northern Sierra Summer Homes
Association

Email Updates

Do you get our E-Blasts?

E-Blasts come out 3 to 4 times a year vs the once-a-year mailer. Since space isn't limited, there are more details, links, stories of interest, etc.

If you don't get it and would like to email paul.hugo@gmail.com and ask to be added.

Website – www.nssha.org

Check out our website. There are pages for cabin resources (handymen, contractors, trees– what paint markings mean, getting permission to cut), bear sightings, cabins for sale or wanted, links to FS information. Lots of other great information!



NFH Update

**Meredith Randall,
Immediate Past President
National Forest Homeowners
(NFH)**



NFH is still working with Congress (a challenge even in less acrimonious times) to get the Cabin Program Restoration Act (CPRA) introduced. The CPRA will:

1. Respect, restore and protect cabin owner rights granted by permit.
2. Reduce further cabin loss and maximize rebuilding of destroyed cabins.
3. Restore a viable number of cabins that will ensure the future of the Program.

For two years NFH funded the CPRA effort from our reserves. This year NFH launched the CPRA Founding Donor Campaign. NFH is grateful for the \$5,000 donation from NSSHA. Thank you.

A year ago, NFH suggested to Forest Service Chief Schultz that the agency could issue us 30-year instead of 20-year permits. No policy or regulation change needed. NFH was correct and the Chief was listening. A year later, it is official and effective immediately all Recreation Residence special use permits will be for 30 year terms.

But what does that mean for those of us on the Eldorado who went through the permit reissuance process in 2024? The policy change is not retroactive. However, after the Forest Service has completed communications and training, NFH will collaborate with the Forest Service to draft a 10-year extension for Eldorado permits.

Until then, NFH will urge the Eldorado to issue new permits (e.g., for cabin sales, transfers into a trust, or changes among co-owners) with the extended term to 2054.

It is important to note that CPRA includes the 30 year term permit language so it would become codified in law. What one Chief granted, the next could take away, unless we change the law.

These days there is much to keep track of at the federal level. NFH closely monitors the Federal Register for postings from the Forest Service. We evaluate proposed changes and their impact on the program. When appropriate we notify members and provide pointers on submitting input. We meet regularly with contacts throughout the agency to understand the reorganization changes and to position NFH and local cabin associations as important partners in the new model.

Campfires and Barbecues

Who needs a Campfire and BBQ Permit

YOU - if you want to have any source of fire outside your cabin. This includes a wood fire, BBQ or stove, both charcoal and propane.

CAL FIRE issues the required Campfire Permits (fires less than 2' x 2' x 2') which are free and are valid for the year.

How do you get a current Campfire and BBQ Permit?

Just watch a 3 minute video- it's easy! Here's the link to apply: permit.preventwildfiresca.org

Here is a link to debris burning permit (fires 4' x 4' x 4') Link www.nssha.org/burn

Trees, Trees, Trees

The topic that seems to take the most time and generates the most questions at our annual meetings is hazard trees. There are more details and links on our web page. www.nssha.org/trees.

Common FAQ's:

Q: I have a tree that might fall on my cabin. Now what?

A: If the tree might fall on a powerline use the PGE Report It app and report it. If not, contact your FS permit admin (email on last page). Include a picture, the diameter at shoulder height, the approximate height and species if known.

Q: The tree isn't on my lot. Is it my responsibility?

A: Yup, our permits specify any tree that can fall on your cabin is your problem, sorry.

Q: If PG&E fells the tree, do they leave it?

A: Nope, PG&E is supposed to remove the tree.

Q: What do the markings on my trees mean?

A: If there is an X in various colors that says PG&E marked that tree for removal. The colors change year to year (see our website for colors). Sometimes there will be a number. That number is the diameter. Trees marked with a painted ring around them usually, blue (near water) or orange are part of the mostly finished RCD project. They did not have enough money to cut all of them down. Some will remain.

Q: Is there any other hazard tree work that I should know about?

A: In the Caldor burn scar there is a project to remove dead trees. See our website for maps and details.

Q: I have questions that weren't addressed. Who do I ask?

A: Send email to your VP, paul.hugo@gmail.com.

Membership and Dues

Every cabin owner in Eldorado National Forest and near Echo Lake are, by default, members. Dues are encouraged, but not necessary.

Dues are still \$20 a year! If a whole tract wishes to pay, the dues are \$15 per cabin. Dues can now be paid on-line www.nssha.org/join. Payments can be made at the general meeting or by sending your check made out to NSSHA to:

NSSHA
1204 Havenhill Ct
Roseville CA 95661-5309



(Scan the QR code with your phone to pay dues)

CCORP

Caldor Cabin Owners Recovery Project (burned cabins)

A quick update.

- One cabin completed, Yea!!!.
- One cabin has completed the shell and is working on the inside.
- One cabin is close to completing the shell.
- Several owners hope to break ground this summer.

See the last E-Blast for a more complete article.

www.nssha.org/newsletters

NSSHA Officers

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[Board of Directors – scan QR code](#)



nssha.org/representatives

Forest Service email addresses: (for all things cabin)

Pacific: sm.fs.pac_rec_res@usda.gov

Placerville: sm.fs.pvl-rec-res@usda.gov

Amador: sm.fs.amarecres@usda.gov

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1204 Havenhill Ct
Roseville CA 95661-5309

Annual Meeting

Sat June 27th

Camp Sacramento

10:30

Pay Dues online



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting, per the by laws, is always the fourth Saturday of June. This year that is June 27th. Back by popular demand, the meeting will be at Camp Sacramento in the Main Lodge.

This year, we'll have a special guest, **David Fournier, Eldorado NF Supervisor**, giving the keynote address.

TIME: **10:30 AM**. We aim to wrap up by 12:30

Selected Meeting Topics:

- Elections
- Paying dues online
- Roads, Trees, Signs
- National Forest Homeowners (NFH) update
- CCORP (burned cabins) Update
- Office Hours with the Forest Service (after the meeting)

Questions!!!

We all have questions about our cabins. Whether it's about trees, repairs, roads, the permits, wildlife, bears, the Forest Service or whatever, the Annual Meeting is the place to get answers.

We plan to have "office" hours after the meeting with FS representatives from each district to answer your specific questions.

We'll answer general questions throughout the meeting. To streamline this and to make sure we have answers, please send email to Vice President, Paul Hugo, paul.hugo@gmail.com with your question, concern, comments, etc.