

To: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and
Save-the-Redwoods League

From: Kelly Courtney

Independent contractor for the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative

Date: September 18, 2000

Subject: Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative Web Site: Final Report

Introduction:

An informational web site has been created for the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative. The purpose of this web site is to foster communication between members of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative and to share information regarding giant sequoia with all interested parties.

Note: The web site is available to members of the cooperative and to the general public.

Site Location: www.burleehost.com/giantsequoia

Note: This site will be transferred to UC-Berkeley: Blodgett Forest Research Station upon receipt of their T1 server connection. Notice will be sent to all members.

Structure:

At the request of the cooperative, the web site is made up of the following sections:

- Home page/Introduction
- Search
- Member/Contact information
- Schedule
- Links
- Bibliographic database
- Large tree failure rate database
- Discussion section

These sections are examined in detail below.

Home Page:

The home page states the purpose of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative as determined in the Memorandum of Understanding. Links to the Memorandum of Understanding are included on this page. The home page also states the purpose of the web site: "to foster communication between members of the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative and to share information regarding giant sequoia with all interested parties". A "what's new" section lists all information that has been added or updated to the site.

Search:

This section allows you to search for documents in the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative's web containing specific words or combinations of words. The text search engine displays a weighted list of matching documents, with better matches shown first.

Each list item is a link to a matching document; if the document has a title it will be shown, otherwise only the document's file name is displayed.

Member/Contact Information:

This portion of the web site includes updated contact information for members of the cooperative. Name, position in the cooperative, agency/affiliation title, address, phone and fax numbers, email address, and agency/affiliation web site are included on this page, when available.

Schedule:

This page contains a calendar of events for the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative. Past and future meeting dates are listed in this section. When available, links to the meeting notes and the meeting host's web site will be included.

Note: Information has not been received, to date, regarding the next GSEC meeting (tentatively scheduled for fall 2000). Once this information is obtained, it will be added to the site.

Links:

This page contains maps, important documents, and links to giant sequoia information on the web. Cooperative members provided all the information on this page. Members can email the webmaster (webmaster_giantsequoia@burleehost.com) or post an article in the discussion section when new information is available for submission.

Bibliographic Database:

The giant sequoia bibliographic database was compiled using the sources listed below:

Piirto, D.D.; Rogers, R.R. 1999. **An ecological foundation for management of National Forest giant sequoia ecosystems. Chapter 7 Annotated Bibliography-A scientific foundation.** R5-EM-TP-005. Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture; 52-100

Elliott-Fisk, D.L. 1997. **Mediated settlement agreement for Sequoia National Forest, Section B. Giant sequoia groves. Master Bibliography.** In: Erman and others. U.S. Geological Survey Digital Data Series DDS-43.

The source of each title listed in the database is indicated in the "source_code" field. An "E" indicates that the source is Elliott-Fisk and a "P" indicates that the source is Piirto. An * in the source code field indicates that the descriptor terms in the "Keywords" field were used with the permission of CAB Forestry Abstracts.

Searching the Database

You may perform a search when using this database. Enter desired results (words, phrases, numbers etc.) into the search field of your choice, then click submit to begin your search (It is not necessary to fill all fields in order to search). Leaving all search fields blank will return complete database results. The keyword search will pull words and phrases from the titles and, when available, from the CAB abstract descriptor terms.

Note: The annotations in the "Annotation_E" field were taken from the Elliott-Fisk Master Bibliography and the annotations in the "Annotations_P" field were taken from Piirto's Annotated Bibliography. These two fields are not searchable at this time.

Note: Providing annotations for ALL of the titles included in the database remains the ultimate goal of this bibliography. Members are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this continuing effort.

Large Tree Failure:

This database contains information regarding large tree failure rates. The database contains information such as tree location, inventory dates, burn status, diameter at breast height (dbh), fire scar group, number live, and number dead. Citations can be found in the "source" field.

Searching the Database

You may perform a search when using this database. Enter desired results (words, phrases, numbers etc.) into the search field of your choice, then click submit to begin your search (It is not necessary to fill all fields in order to search). Leaving all search fields blank will return complete database results.

Note: Due to the severity of the fire season this year, much of the information we were hoping to include in the site remains in the hands of individuals who have been on fires for the past several months. It remains a top priority to update this database as soon as new information on tree failure is provided.

Discussions:

This section includes a requirements discussion which is used to record suggestions about the features that should or shouldn't be included in the cooperative's web, and to engage in a public dialog regarding the merits of various requests for enhancements. Anyone is welcome to submit suggestions. The knowledge base discussion is used to record common questions and answers concerning the Giant Sequoia Ecology Cooperative and its web site. Appropriate topics include web content, additional resources, and anything else that people would find generally useful.

Note: The content of the discussion section is not moderated.

Updates:

New information may be submitted to the web site by emailing the site's webmaster (webmaster_giantsequoia@burleehost.com) or by including the information in the discussion section.

Transfer of Management:

Responsibility for site maintenance will be temporarily transferred from the independent contractor, Kelly Courtney, to Jason Moghaddas in mid-October 2000. It is the responsibility of the cooperative to determine a future means of site maintenance that will extend beyond these two temporary positions.

Important Tips for Site Maintenance:

- You must have MS FrontPage 2000 and MS Access 97 to update the site

- Always keep backups of your web files in a location other than "Temporary Internet Files".
- To enter new information into the databases follow the directions below:
 1. Open the site online
 2. Double click on the edit tool at the top of the screen
 3. Enter username and password
 4. Click on "folders" on the left side of the screen
 5. When folders are displayed, double click on the folder labeled "fpdb"
 6. Inside this folder are the bibliography and tree failure databases
 7. Double click on the database you require
 8. Click open when MS Access opens up
 9. Scroll to the bottom of the table and enter your data
 10. Save your work and then close MS Access, the change will be processed in FrontPage
 11. Exit FrontPage

YOU MUST ENTER A SPACE (SPACEBAR) IN EACH CELL BEFORE ENTERING DATA. IF YOU DO NOT, THE SEARCH MECHANISM WILL NOT DETECT THE RECORD. REMEMBER "SPACE, THEN DATA" IN EVERY CELL.

NEVER LEAVE A CELL BLANK. IF THERE IS NO INFORMATION FOR THE CELL ENTER THE FOLLOWING: "SPACE, n/a"

- When using the MS FrontPage database results wizard, the search form default values must be set as a space (spacebar)
- To clear articles from the discussion section follow the steps below:
 1. Open the site online
 2. Double click on the edit tool at the top of the screen
 3. Enter username and password
 4. Click on "folders" on the left side of the screen
 5. When folders are displayed, double click on the folders labeled "_kbas" (knowledge base) or "_reqd" (requirements discussion)
 6. Inside these folders are the individual article submissions
 7. Right click on the article you want to clear and click delete
 8. Exit FrontPage
- Whenever you make changes to the site, you must "refresh" the web site before the changes are displayed

Note: These tips will be explained in detail with each transfer of responsibility.

Future Projects:

- Gather large tree failure information from Sierra National Forest and other locations that possess information regarding this subject
- Annotate **all** titles listed in the bibliographic database
- Update the databases when new information is available. Keep the databases current.

- Create a search mechanism for the bibliographic database that will pull from the “Keywords”, “Annotation_E”, and “Annotation_P” fields simultaneously using only one field in the search form
- When possible, replace all “n/a” cells in the databases with useful information
- When possible, provide hyperlinks for the titles listed in the bibliographic database (if digital copies of the titles are available)
- Transfer the site to UC Berkeley Center for Forestry using the server at Blodgett Forest Research Station
- Employ an individual to maintain the site on a permanent basis

End of Contract:

I will continue to manage the site until the middle of October, responsibility will then be transferred temporarily to Blodgett Forest Research Station. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at (k_courtney@hotmail.com) or you may use the webmaster email address on the web site.