

An article titled “Campaign statements: MRC spent nearly \$197,000 to oppose dead trees ballot measure” by Adam Randall, was published in the *Ukiah Daily Journal* on May 7, 2016.

Mendocino Redwood Company found a number of comments that would benefit from additional correction, clarification or commentary which are presented on the right side of the page.

Substantial factual information on Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood forests and its practices are available at www.mrc.com. Wherever possible we have provided direct links to specific material on our website to help the readers have easy access.

<p style="text-align: center;">Text of Article</p> <p><i>Text of article begins below, spaces placed to allow facts to line up with text of article.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Facts about Mendocino Redwood Company</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">[BEGINNING OF ARTICLE BELOW]</p>	<p>Mendocino Redwood Company (MRC) was created in 1998 from lands purchased in Mendocino and Sonoma county with the publicly declared mission to be good stewards of the forest and at the same time run a successful business. We have made significant progress in that regard:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopting policies to make MRCs forestlands FSC certified (since November 2000); 2. Adding more than <u>1 billion board</u> feet of redwood and Douglas fir trees by lowering the rate of harvest; 3. Defining of old growth down to the level of an individual tree, along with implementation of a policy to protect all individual old growth trees across our property; 4. Elimination of traditional clear cutting from our property; 5. Long term investments to improve habitat for fish across the property by controlling or holding back more than 1 million cubic yards of sediment (more than 100,000 dump trucks of dirt) from the coastal streams flowing through our forest; 6. Removal of more than 36 long time fish barriers, increasing fish bearing streams by more than 20 miles. 7. Operating as an open and transparent business; including an open invitation to take interested individuals anywhere in the forest;

<p style="text-align: center;">[BEGINNING OF ARTICLE]</p> <p>Timber landowner Mendocino Redwood Co. says it has spent an estimated \$197,000 to date opposing Measure V, the initiative on the June ballot asking voters if intentionally killed dead standing trees should be considered a public nuisance.</p> <p>Mendocino County’s Assessor-Clerk-Recorder’s Office posted the new campaign finance statement this week.</p> <p>Recently, county proponents of Measure V filed a complaint with the Fair Political Practices Commission alleging MRC and its affiliate, Humboldt Redwood Co., had not filed campaign finance disclosure statements with the county Elections Office, which the complaint said is required under the Fair Political Practices Act.</p> <p>The complaint alleged MRC and HRC spent \$52,769 in 2015 to oppose what is now known as Measure V, with the amount not being reported to the county. However, the Secretary of State had received the finance statement for that amount spent in 2015.</p> <p>The FPPC has since issued a response closing the case.</p> <p>“The Fair Political Practices Commission has found no evidence to establish a violation of the Political Reform Act,” the closure letter stated.</p> <p>Firefighters and others in the county were able</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Completing a substantial rebuild of our Ukiah sawmill, assuring that Mendocino County will have infrastructure in the processing of wood products for many years to come; and 9. Employing about 300 skilled employees in Mendocino County earning family-level wages and benefits. <p>Out of an abundance of caution, MRC is reporting what we have spent and what we expect to spend to comply with very complicated campaign laws.</p> <p>The amount spent on the campaign is a reflection of how important MRC feels it is to talk with people about our Forest Stewardship Council-certified forest management, long term commitment to forest restoration and providing more than 300 family wage jobs to local residents.</p> <p>The FPPC letter is posted on MRC’s website at http://www.hrcllc.com/letters/letter-from-fair-political-practices-commission/.</p> <p>MRC was created in 1998 from lands purchased in Mendocino and Sonoma county with the publicly</p>
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to qualify the measure for the ballot amid concerns that dead standing trees on timberlands may lead to a massive forest fire in the future.

declared mission to be good stewards of the forest and at the same time run a successful business. This set a different, sustainable and better path from the legacy of previous owners. This legacy includes tens of thousands of acres of redwood and Douglas fir forest that are now dominated by tanoak. MRC is committed to restoring these forestlands to the natural balance of conifer and hardwood.

Treating tan oak encourages the emergence of a healthier forest by restoring the health of redwood and Douglas fir trees.

Since the inception of MRC, approximately 69,000 acres have been restored to a natural conifer balance by controlling tanoak and planting 10.1 million redwood and Douglas fir seedlings.

The treatment of tanoak to restore the natural balance of conifer to hardwood is a tool used for at least 25 years. Small private landowners, industrial landowners, and state landowners all use this tool to achieve this goal in a careful and controlled manner according to state regulations.

MRC has reviewed its internal policies to encourage fire safety. These include procedures and processes we have used for more than a decade, such as:

- a. Partnering with communities to place dedicated fire-water tanks, improve egress for remote neighbors and coordination of activities with local fire districts.
- b. Working in Sacramento to encourage investment in Mendocino county infrastructure through the return of taxes paid locally and deployment of CalFire resources.
- c. Donations of time, equipment and money to Volunteer Fire Departments.

MRC strengthened its practices to improve coordinating with local fire districts, fire experts, climate experts and CalFire on pilot projects for fuels hazard reduction and additional road access in the remote parts of the County.

The restoration of the forest can occur while providing safety to firefighters and adjacent

<p>Timber operators have been scrutinized in the past year by some residents and advocates who want the “hack-and-squirt” process stopped.</p> <p>The method of hack-and-squirt is seen as an economical method used by timber operators to control problem tanoak trees by cutting a notch in the trunk of the tree and then spraying it with a small amount of herbicide. The tree dies and is left standing until it falls to the forest floor.</p> <p>Timber companies utilizing the hack-and-squirt method contend the amount of herbicide being used isn’t enough to pose a significant public safety risk.</p> <p>Some community members, however, believe the herbicide used on the trees may be detrimental to the environment. Firefighters have also questioned whether or not smoke would be safe to breathe if trees killed with herbicide were to catch fire.</p> <p>A Mendocino County Board of Supervisors resolution last year failed to gather enough support to ask timber operators to voluntarily suspend hack-and-squirt while the specific concerns were studied.</p>	<p>landowners. There are many examples of wildland fires where firefighters successfully and safely controlled fires in and adjacent to areas where tanoak had been treated. A few examples include the 2008 Mendocino Lightning Complex fires, the Comptche Fire, and the Lodge Fire. In some instances, the fires were controlled in tanoak treatment areas.</p> <p>Tanoak treatment and selective management of MRC forestlands is a more expensive style of forest management when compared to even-aged management or clearcutting. Even-age management would remove all the standing tanoak and conifer but MRC policies since its inception in 1998 eliminated clearcutting.</p> <p>The use of herbicides is regulated by the Mendocino County Agricultural Commission and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Additionally, MRC voluntarily subjects itself to third part verification of forest practices under the guidelines of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and has done so since 2000.</p> <p>The US Forest Service has conducted research on the presence of herbicides in smoke when treated areas of the forest burn. The research included five different herbicides including Imazapyr. The research concluded no herbicide residues are found in smoke when treated areas of the forest burn. For more details on this research see the actual document on MRC’s website at: http://www.hrcllc.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/imapazyrandfire.pdf.</p>
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[END OF ARTICLE]

MRC was created in 1998 from lands purchased in Mendocino and Sonoma county with the publicly declared mission to be good stewards of the forest and at the same time run a successful business.

We are working hard to restore the forest we own and set an example for other forest owners, managers and regulators to be good stewards of the forest and at the same time run a successful business. We have made significant progress in that regard:

1. Adopting policies to make MRCs forestlands FSC certified (since November 2000);
2. Adding more than 1 billion board feet of redwood and Douglas fir trees by lowering the rate of harvest;
3. Defining of old growth down to the level of an individual tree, along with implementation of a policy to protect all individual old growth trees across our property;
4. Elimination of traditional clear cutting from our property;
5. Long term investments to improve habitat for fish across the property by controlling or holding back more than 1 million cubic yards of sediment (more than 100,000 dump trucks of dirt) from the coastal streams flowing through our forest;
6. Removal of more than 36 long time fish barriers, increasing fish bearing streams by more than 20 miles.
7. Operating as an open and transparent business; including an open invitation to take interested individuals anywhere in the forest;
8. Completing a substantial rebuild of our Ukiah sawmill, assuring that Mendocino County will have infrastructure in the processing of wood products for many years to come; and
9. Employing about 300 skilled employees in Mendocino County earning family-level

	<p>wages and benefits.</p> <p>MRC is regulated by seven (7) state and federal agencies, including CalFire. Additionally, MRC voluntarily subjects itself to third part verification of forest practices under the guidelines of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and has done so since 2000. We publish our inventory and many other details of our forest management on our website It is straightforward to find information on our management of the forest.</p> <p>From our inception we have encouraged transparency and we have a publicly stated policy of taking anyone to anywhere on the property at any time to see our practices first hand. Please contact John Andersen at 707-272-1177 to arrange for a tour. Additionally, we post our inventory and other forest facts on our website. You can find more information at www.mrc.com.</p>
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