



Southern California  
**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS**

2003 SPRING FIELD TOUR



# Ashes to Sawmills: *Timber Salvage Operations in Southern California*

March 29, 2003  
Volcan Mountain  
Julian, CA

## Pines Fire

Wildfires in southern California may have become commonplace, yet the aftermath left in their wake is often overwhelming. Wildfires throughout the western U.S. in recent years have garnered nationwide attention regarding forest health, thinning, prescribed burning and salvage harvesting. However when timberland is the victim of wildfire, the course of action is far from being universally accepted.

The Pines Fire in San Diego County was in many ways a typical southern California event: summer months, high temperatures, low humidity, strong winds. What was not typical was some of the vegetation that burned—privately-owned timber. The vegetation atop Volcan Mountain includes a mixed conifer-oak forest, with conifers of commercial size and quality.

Once the fire was extinguished, the landowners realized something had to be done, but were not certain what that was. Logging seemed out of the question—no loggers or sawmill are in the region.

Come to the SAF field tour for the rest of the story.

### Incident Information

Incident Name: Pines Fire  
Start Date/Time: July 29, 2002 at 2:08pm  
Date Controlled: August 13, 2002  
Location: Julian area, San Diego County  
Acres burned: 61, 645  
Cause: Human—accidental helicopter “blade strike” of an electrical power line by a California National Guard observation helicopter working with the San Diego Inter-agency Narcotics Task Force.

## Tentative Program

8:00am Check-in

8:30am Welcome/Introductions

### Stop 1

- Volcan Mtn. Land Uses past and present
- Large Ranch ownership challenges\*
- Local Land Use Planning process\*

### Stop 2

- Forest Practice Rules and Regulations—CDF
- THP preparation / options—Doug Nickles, RPF

### Stop 3

- Logging in So Cal—Ron Elliott, LTO, Marysville
- Yarding methods—tractor vs. yarder
- Forest product market development—logs, chips, etc.
- Transfer yard and log sorting
- Hauling to sawmills in Northern California

### Stop 4

- Christmas tree production on Volcan Mtn.\*

### Stop 5

- Recreational use impacts\*

### Stop 6

- Volcan Mtn. Preservation efforts\*
- Future of Volcan Mtn.\*

4:30pm Close

\* Various Volcan Mtn. landowners invited to speak.



**Southern California  
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS**

**SPRING FIELD TOUR**  
March 29, 2003  
Julian, CA



**Ashes to Sawmills:  
*Timber Salvage Operations in Southern California***

Return a completed registration form by **March 7, 2003**, along with a check payable to **So Cal SAF**, and send to:

**Mick Sears  
So Cal SAF Treasurer  
8908 Balboa Blvd.  
Northridge, CA 91325**

**SO CAL SAF 2003 SPRING FIELD TOUR  
REGISTRATION FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees:** Registration includes field tour, lunch and refreshments, Registration forms received after March 7 will be subject to a \$10 late fee. Please circle appropriate fees and enter total due below. Receipts will be available at the Registration Table.

<b>SAF Member</b>	<b>\$ 35</b>
<b>Non-SAF Member</b>	<b>45*</b>
<b>Student / Guest / Golden Member</b>	<b>20</b>

**Total Registration due:** \_\_\_\_\_

To Julian:

- Take I-5 or I-15 south from LA, north from San Diego.
- Turn East on Hwy 78 to Julian.

To Volcan Mtn.:

- From Julian, take Farmer Road north.
- Turn east on Wynola Road/Farmer Road.
- Turn north on Farmer Road/Volcan Road.
- Follow to gate at end of road.

\* So Cal SAF will contribute \$10 toward your SAF membership if you join by June 30, 2003.

Field tour will be held rain or shine. Bring clothing for warm and cool weather - we may have either or both!

Lodging arrangements are on your own. The list below is provided for your convenience. [www.julianca.com](http://www.julianca.com)

Campgrounds

Heise County Park	858-694-3049	
Cuyamaca Rancho S.P.	800-444-7275	
Pinezanita Ranch	760-765-0429	<a href="http://www.pinezanita.com">www.pinezanita.com</a>
Stagecoach Trails	760-765-2197	<a href="http://www.stagecoachtrails.com">www.stagecoachtrails.com</a>

Hotels

Apple Tree Inn	800-410-8683	<a href="http://www.julianappletreeinn.com">www.julianappletreeinn.com</a>
Julian Hotel	800-734-5854	<a href="http://www.julianhotel.com">www.julianhotel.com</a>
Julian Lodge	800-542-1420	

