

BENEFITS OF ACL MEMBERSHIP

Associated California Loggers is a trade association made up of contract loggers, log truckers and their suppliers and supporters. It is run by a Board of Directors comprised of members - large and small and maintains a staff of two in Sacramento near the Capitol.

A sampling of ACL's work and accomplishments:

Used ACL representation on the Wage Board that developed Wage Order 16 to minimize the number of harmful provisions for loggers and log truckers.

Provided specialized logger comments and assistance to the Board of Equalization on Sales Tax Exemption implementation to assure the broadest possible eligibility. Kept members informed with "from-the-scene" information so they could time purchases to take advantage of the exemption. Protected the exemption from repeal in 2003.

ACL has headed the effort through the American Loggers Council to reinstate Categorical Exclusions and shortcuts for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) so small federal timber sales can be offered more quickly - providing more business opportunities for loggers and log truckers.

Defeated an attempt by the Forest Service to charge loggers "initial attack costs" for "operational fires" where no negligence was involved.

Provide members with a 75% discount on our sponsored DOT drug testing service as well as keeping the members current on DOT drug regulations.

Killed (for the third time) a legislative proposal which would have closed many twisty rural roads to log trucks.

ACL has proposed that any TPZ land acquired with State funds have a covenant placed on it that would assure it's continued availability for timber production and management for a sustained yield. Support is being gathered to urge favorable action.

ACL has asked the Department of Forestry to secure an amendment to the Forest Practice Rules so TPZ land acquired with State funds for a park agency does not require a 200 foot Special Treatment Area buffer. An amendment is to be introduced shortly.

ACL has been staffing an effort by the American Loggers Council to get a statutory change to permit the carrying of State-legal loads and tolerances on the Interstate System.

ACL has developed the Master Logger Certification Program[®] to meet the requirements of the several landowner certification programs being undertaken in California by timberland owners.

The program assures that requirements are set by loggers. ACL's ProLoggerSM continuing education program is now part of Master Logger.

ACL sponsors Log-A-Load-For Kids in California. The more than \$30,000 raised each year goes to help Northern California's sick and injured children through Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. ACL pays the modest overhead costs so all contributions can "go to the kids."

Members receive the *ACL Reporter*, the Association's monthly newsletter so they can keep up on current news, features and what's likely to affect them.

Helped defeat, in its very first legislative committee, the major anti-logging legislation of 2008, Assembly Bill 2926, which would have totally banned even-aged timber management in California.

Negotiated with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) on costly "logger fire patrol" significantly reducing their cost and narrowing the parts of the state in which they would apply.

Working with CALFIRE on developing a more fair system of criminal and civil penalty procedures for logging-related violations, including better appeals system for loggers who receive "notices of violation."

Conducted year-long meeting with California Air Resources Board to secure special consideration of logging trucks and logging equipment under proposed rules on diesel engines (these meetings will continue as the rules develop).

Provided members with specialized safety programs, safety services and safety equipment.

Membership also makes it possible to have access to (but not necessarily be eligible for) ACL's Insurance Programs. We provide a full range of health, liability, workers compensation and other coverages to qualifying members through our two brokers, Schinnerer and B.B.I. Insurance Services.

Membership in ACL provides an opportunity to meet a statewide mix of loggers and log truckers - large and small through our Annual Meeting, training sessions, Chapter meetings and on a national basis, participation in the American Loggers Council.

ACL provides representation on a continuing basis for loggers and log truckers in the ever more hostile legislative and regulatory arenas. It's ACL and others representing the forest products business that deflect or blunt the assaults on logging and the timber business.

Membership is important. Support from members makes it all possible. **Membership Dues are tax deductible (all but 5%) as a business expense.**