

**REPORT OF THE STATE  
FORESTER FOR THE  
PERIOD JULY 12, 1905,  
TO NOVEMBER 30, 1906**

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Report of the State Forester for the Period July 12, 1905, to November 30, 1906 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**REPORT OF THE STATE  
FORESTER FOR THE  
PERIOD JULY 12, 1905,  
TO NOVEMBER 30, 1906**



REPORT  
OF THE  
STATE FORESTER

FOR THE PERIOD

JULY 12, 1905, TO NOVEMBER 30, 1906

Being the First Public Report of the Office, Established by the  
Act of March 18, 1905 (Chapter 264, Statutes 1905),  
for the Preservation of California Forests.



STATE FORESTER  
CALIFORNIA

SACRAMENTO:

W. W. SHANNON, : : : SUPERINTENDENT STATE PRINTING.

1906.

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STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY.

GEORGE C. PARDEE.....GOVERNOR.  
C. F. CURRY.....SECRETARY OF STATE.  
U. S. WEBB.....ATTORNEY-GENERAL.  
G. B. LULL.....STATE FORESTER.

RECORDED  
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## CONTENTS.

|   | PAGE. |
|---|-------|
| 1. INTRODUCTION .....   | 7     |
| 2. THE DECLINE OF THE FOREST .....                            | 7     |
| 3. THE DIRECT VALUE OF THE FOREST .....                       | 9     |
| 4. THE INDIRECT VALUE OF THE FOREST .....                     | 9     |
| 5. THE FUNCTION OF THE STATE .....                            | 12    |
| 6. ACTION BY THE STATE .....                                  | 13    |
| 7. THE FEDERAL FOREST RESERVES .....                          | 14    |
| 8. COÖPERATION BETWEEN THE FOREST SERVICE AND THE STATE ..... | 15    |
| 9. REVIEW OF STATE FORESTRY WORK .....                        | 19    |
| 10. ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC .....                              | 21    |
| a. ATTITUDE OF LUMBERMEN .....                                | 21    |
| b. ATTITUDE OF KINDRED ORGANIZATIONS .....                    | 22    |
| c. ATTITUDE OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS .....                       | 22    |
| d. ATTITUDE OF MAGISTRATES .....                              | 23    |
| e. ATTITUDE OF THE PRESS .....                                | 23    |
| 11. TECHNICAL FORESTRY .....                                  | 23    |
| 12. COUNTY COÖPERATION .....                                  | 25    |
| 13. FOREST FIRES .....  | 27    |
| 14. FIRE WARDENS .....  | 29    |
| 15. ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS .....                             | 30    |
| 16. DESIRABLE CHANGES IN FOREST LAWS .....                    | 31    |
| 17. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS .....                              | 33    |
| 18. EXPENSES OF STATE FORESTER'S OFFICE .....                 | 34    |
| 19. CALIFORNIA REDWOOD PARK .....                             | 34    |

14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
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20  
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22  
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SACRAMENTO, CAL., November 27, 1906.

*To His Excellency, GEORGE C. PARDEE, Governor of California.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you this first public report, reviewing the work of this office under the Act of March 18, 1905, and recommending legislative action along specified lines to broaden the scope and increase the efficiency of the forest laws. These recommendations are embodied in an amended forest bill which accompanies this report.

A detailed report of particular value for office use was submitted to you by Mr. E. T. Allen on his resignation, as State Forester, on July 1, 1906. For obvious reasons much of the information and many recommendations which appear here were taken from this earlier report.

Very respectfully,

G. B. LULL,  
State Forester.



## REPORT OF THE STATE FORESTER.

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In this report it is proposed to treat in a practical way of the decline of the forests of California and their increasing importance to the industrial life of the State. The attitude of the State toward them will be defined and the experiences gained under the laws enacted to preserve them will be recorded. Particular emphasis will be placed on the limitations and defects of the laws, in the hope that those interested in the permanent welfare of the industries dependent on forest preservation will unite to secure more effective forestry legislation.

### THE DECLINE OF THE FOREST.

To gain a clear idea of the change in the condition of the forest that has occurred in the course of settlement it will be helpful to compare its present state with the virgin forest. Picture a forest of unbroken continuity cloaking from summit to plain the mountains on both sides of the great interior valleys from the Oregon border southward to the Tehachapis where the two branches united to extend a long, hook-shaped arm over the uplifted areas surrounding San Bernardino Valley and the adjacent plain! The quality of the forest varied greatly in different localities, because numerous species were confined to certain regions by the natural factors, soil, climate, and elevation. The redwood forest occupied an area along the northwest coast over which ocean fogs drifted in summer; spruce and fir grew in the higher elevations; next below came the cedar with sugar and yellow pine, while nearer the valley, as a fringe to the heavy forest, was a belt of shrubs, or chaparral, intermixed with oak and drought-resisting pines. This magnificent resource, covering approximately 34,000,000 acres, or one third of the State, was unequalled by that of any other State in either the size and perfection of individual trees or its location on lands unfit for other uses.

The area of forest land in the State to-day is practically identical with the original area, very little having been turned to other uses. The changes, therefore, have resulted solely in a reduction of the area of merchantable timber. Two causes have operated to effect this change, lumbering and fire.