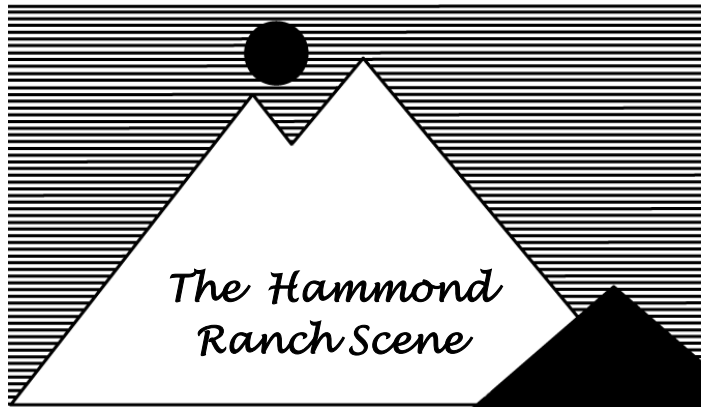


Hammond Landowners Association



www.hammondlandowners.org

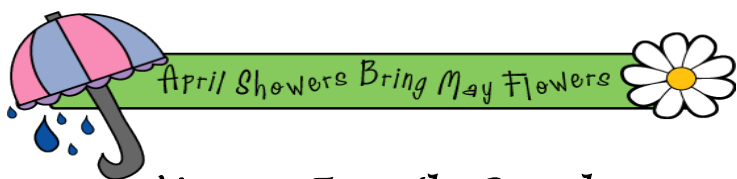
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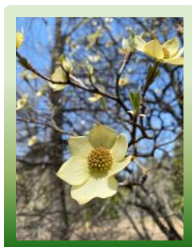
Message From the Board

Hello all, and Happy Spring.

Thankfully, we had some substantial weather come through in the last couple of weeks. While not eliminating the drought, the snow and rain have certainly rescued us from a dire fire season forecast.

That said, we still face extreme fire danger, and this is a good time to take stock of both hardening your home, clearing vegetation, and preparing go-bags for family and pets. If you are on Facebook, Jay Perkins posts an excellent weekly guide to wildfire preparedness in the Yreka Fire Safety group, and Larie Wearing graciously re-posts it in the Hammond Ranch Only Nextdoor group. Each week addresses a different topic and breaks preparation up into manageable steps.

Thanks to everyone who renewed or joined HLA for the first time, and a special thanks to those who have volunteered to help with various tasks and activities to keep our community functioning. If you haven't heard from us yet, we will be reaching out to you soon. Having a crew of non-board helpers will be immensely helpful!



The dogwoods are peeking out. It must be spring! (picture from Tricia Elberts)

Survey & Ballot Results

The February newsletter included an HLA Members Survey. The results of that survey are that 97% of responders elected to keep the current HLA road reimbursement program.

Also, the Members elected to decrease the number of minimum board members from seven to five. Thank you all for your votes.

Annual Members' Picnic

The Association is planning on having the annual members' picnic this year. Save the date, **July 9th**. Members will be getting a notice when plans are finalized.

Community Watch

Because of the increasing break-ins and thefts, there has been some discussion regarding starting an informal "community watch" for Hammond Ranch. At this point there has been no discussion as to how the watch group would be structured.

A closed online chat group to report crime or suspicious activity on the Ranch is being considered as a first step. It will not be meant as a substitute for reporting crime to the Sheriff. It is thought to be an alert to our neighbors to be on the lookout. The app group would be strictly for reporting crime or suspicious activity, no chat nor emojis. The group will be limited to people living on the Ranch and landowners of Hammond Ranch property.

At this point, a few people are testing out the app. If it proves to be successful, we will be sending an email to all whose address we have announcing it and giving people the opportunity to sign up. Keep an eye out!



Community Meeting

On April 8, Friday night, the HLA sponsored a Community Meeting at the HR firehouse. It was a great success! About 40 Hammond Ranch residents attended.

We met -- through Zoom -- our new Acting Fire Chief, Kyle Lunsford. He made an appeal for volunteers that are sorely needed, such as firefighters, grant writers, and other volunteers. He can be contacted at 859-8550.

We also met -- in person -- Lt. Adam Crisci and Lt. Ben Whetstone. They are the liaison officers for the Sheriff's Office. They gave an extensive talk on crime and crime prevention in the area. Surprisingly, they shared that Hammond Ranch is one of the lowest crime areas in the south county. However, they had some suggestions on improving our safety; for instance, installing cameras, locking all doors, having lights on timers inside and outside motion detectors, as well as an alarm system. They advised that silent alarms are not as effective as alarms that sound off.

They encouraged citizens to report all crimes, no matter the value, and they will do their best to try and solve them. If there are crimes being committed in our area, the Sheriff's Office needs to be called (530-841-2900). They cannot help if victims are not reporting them.

Also mentioned was that citizen's arrest is an effective tool in this area. The deputies cannot arrest someone for a misdemeanor unless they themselves have witnessed the crime. If you place the criminal under citizen's arrest, the deputy can take the criminal in. However, you should be prepared to go to the court hearings, etc. It's a quite a commitment.

The lieutenants were also asked about a Neighborhood Watch and they suggested that a community watch program may be a better fit for us. The HLA Board is exploring that option and will get back to the membership with that information. The Board is also planning on scheduling other Community Meetings with speakers of interest to our community.

Lt. Crisci mentioned that they are still receiving the Trespass Authorization forms and that they are posted in their substation. The forms are used when they are called for trespassers. You can download the form from the website, hammondlandowners.org.



Run Report

The Hammond Ranch Fire Zone responded to 10 medical calls and 2 public service/other calls from January 1 to March 31, 2022.

As always, many thanks to all the fire personnel for their service! They are much appreciated.

Introducing the New Hammond Ranch Fire Chief

Hi, my name is Kyle Lunsford. I was born in 1989 in Paris, California. I have lived in the Mt. Shasta area since I was four years old. My professional firefighting experience began in 2013, when I attended the College of the Siskiyous Fire Academy. In 2014, I began working for the Federal Forest Service at Ash Creek Station in the McCloud ranger district. In 2015, I took a job with CALFIRE in the Mendocino management unit at a station in Laytonville, Ca. In 2018, I transferred back home to the Siskiyou unit and worked at the Yreka station for three years. During the 2021 fire season, I started working at the Weed CALFIRE station and shortly thereafter was promoted to a permanent engineer in the Tehama Glenn unit.

During my entire career I have been a student of my trade, taking classes, learning and bettering myself as a firefighter. My wife and I bought the old Lowry residence in Hammond Ranch in August of 2018 and we moved in to start our family. That same year, I began volunteering with the Hammond Ranch Fire Company and quickly moved through the ranks.

I really love the Hammond Ranch area and always have. As I was growing up I told myself that some day I would live here. I have been an advocate for the Hammond Ranch Fire Company, to keep it alive and running. We are the stewards of this beautiful area, and it is our right and duty to protect it.

I encourage anyone who is willing to come and volunteer to help me in this mission. It is a privilege and an honor to serve the community of Hammond Ranch and to wear this patch as your Chief. I look forward to meeting all of you and continuing to further our department into the future.

Kyle Lunsford

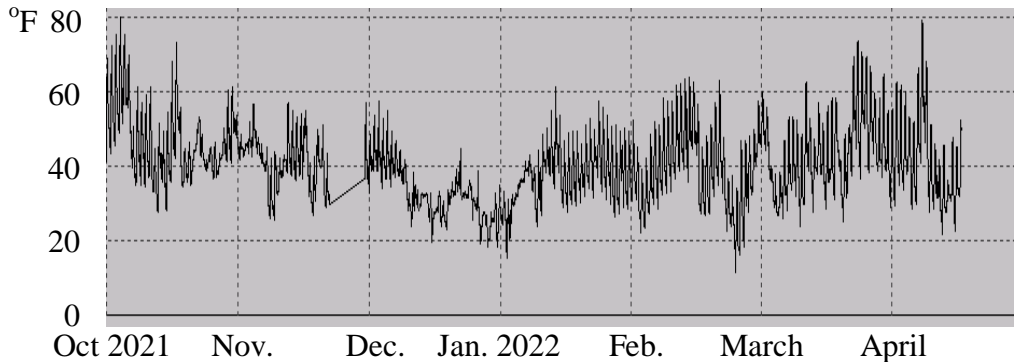


.....
• Excerpt of poem by Elliot Glasser, 11 years old, of Needham:
.....
• *The rules keep shifting and it isn't fun*
• *Couldn't we just stick with rule number one?*
• *My friend has covid what should I do*
• *It's so confusing I have no clue*
• *Who should I believe who should I trust*
• *Who is right and who is unjust*
.....

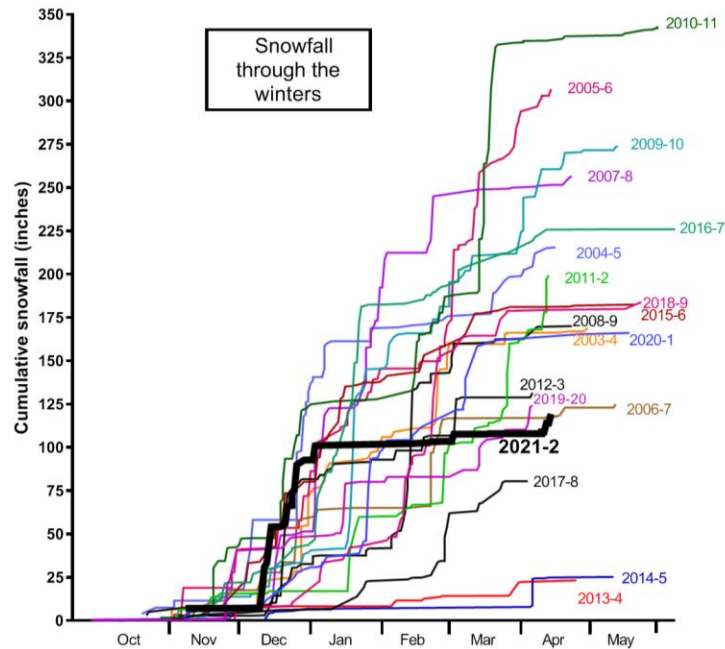
Hammond Ranch Weather Article April, 2022

by Dan Axelrod

This past winter was much warmer and much drier than the average over the past 30 years. For the 2021-22 winter months of November, December, January, February, March the deviation of the average daily temperature was +2.9, +0.4, +3.2, +3.5, and +4.8°F, respectively (as observed in Mt. Shasta City). The local temperature trace at 4200' elevation in SE Hammond Ranch (on top of the Sacramento-Klamath River divide) is shown below:



The next graph shows the cumulative snowfall at the same 4200' location, spanning the last 19 years. The right-sided end of each trace corresponds to the date of the last measurable accumulation, so, clearly, some minor additional accumulations are still possible through May. The total snowfall for this past winter (through April 16) was 119".



The remarkable thing is that almost all of the snow fell just in the last three weeks of December, and almost none fell thereafter (until mid-April). Although there is a lot of variability, on average most (> 60%) of a season's snow occurs in the 3-month January-March window. In this past winter, by the end of December, the snowfall was leading the race among the very highest in the last 19 years. Then it fell way behind to the fourth lowest by mid-April.

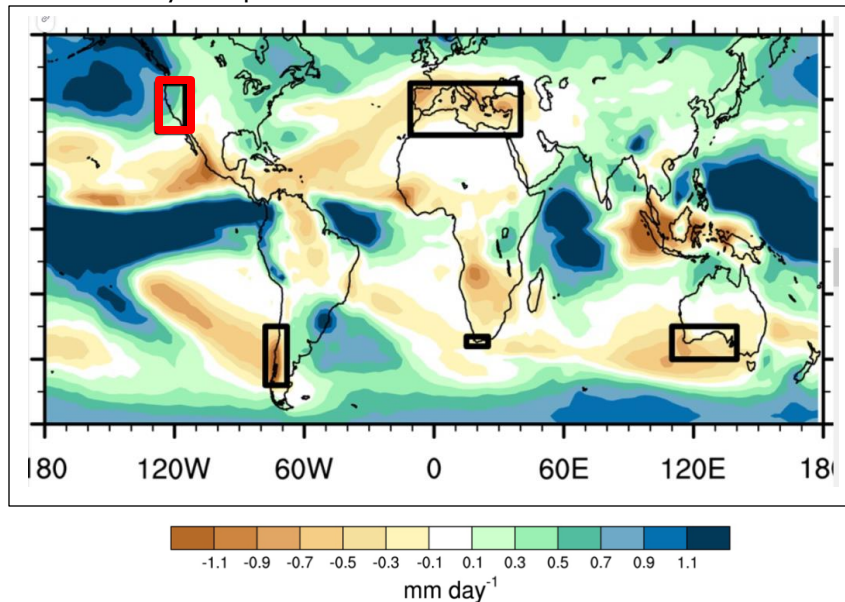
The dryness of January thru March 2022 was not just a lack of snow but also a lack of rain. A persistent northward bulge in the jet stream generated and sent Pacific storms far to our north. Usually, such a pattern does not last for long. More typically, the jet stream undulates southward to "open the storm door." The unusual weather this winter - wet then almost totally dry - raises a serious question:

Was this persistent pattern a forerunner of what we should expect from global warming? Or was it just a fluke?

The scientific answer is complicated and incomplete, but progress is being made. In general, warmer temperatures (due to anthropogenic warming, i.e., increased heat-trapping fossil fuel-produced CO₂) will lead to more evaporation of water from the ocean. "What goes up must come down," so the total precipitation over the earth will definitely increase with any increase in sea surface temperatures. But land masses sizes, shapes and locations, topography, seasons and, of course latitudes vary a lot over the earth, so some areas will see more precipitation and other areas will see less. How does California fare in this human-induced redistribution of the water wealth?

Fortunately, a peer-reviewed study from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, (Dong and Leung, Geophysical Research Letters, 2021) begins to answer this very question. It finds, via computer modeling, that winter precipitation will likely *increase* in Northern California in the December through February periods, and generally decrease the rest of the year. Since most of the precipitation around here "normally" occurs in the December-February period anyway, that means an overall increase in annual precipitation.

Here is a map of the study's expectations.



The map depicts expected changes between the historical averages in 1962-2005 and the computer modeled averages for 2056-2099. In general, the "wet get wetter and the dry get dryer." Over this period, some areas (deepest brown) will suffer a loss of 15" of annual precipitation while others (darkest blue) will see a gain of about 15". However, most of those areas of increased wetness are over the ocean where it does no good to ease droughts over the land.

We are in the red rectangle to the upper left. The other four black rectangles share with us a "Mediterranean climate," meaning cool, wet winters and very warm and dry summers. All of the rectangles reside on the West Coast of their respective continents, in the mid-latitudes. But strangely enough, only our home rectangle sees an increase in precipitation; the other four suffer a decrease. Locally, that amounts to a gain of about 7" per year for a typical year in the 2056-2099, over the historical 1962-2005 period.

The study suggests that the projected precipitation increase locally will be due to CO₂-induced sea-surface temperature warming in the subtropical Pacific, which will strengthen a persistent low pressure zone over the Aleutians and force a well-defined jet stream just to its south to project farther east, thereby reaching California before splitting and spreading out. This enhanced and eastward-extended jet stream will carry more strong storms directly into Northern California.

The prognosis for higher temperatures and somewhat higher precipitation doesn't tell the whole story. Another peer-reviewed study focusing on California published by the journal Nature Climate Change (Swain, et al, 2018) additionally predicts much more "volatile" weather: longer and drier periods of drought interspersed with much heavier and prolonged bouts of precipitation ("atmospheric rivers"). This will lead to the paradox of both more drought-related wildfires and more floods.

The predictions of these two studies together mean that "fluke" weather will become the norm. Higher temperatures in winter will mean that the rain/snow line will retreat to higher elevations, meaning

more rain and less snow in the Hammond Ranch area. Only the highest elevations (above, say, about 8000', which remain too cold for rain) will see an increase of snow. The result will be that surface liquid runoff in winter will increase and frozen snowpack that otherwise lasts through late spring will be reduced in most places. The higher temperatures in summer will mean more evaporation from the soil and from the woody "fuels," thereby increasing the wildfire danger, despite the slightly greater winter precipitation.

Most importantly for what humanity can do about it, both of these studies assume "business as usual": i.e., fossil fuel burning will continue unabated so that CO₂ will continue rising. If worldwide fossil fuel burning is reduced, then negative effects will be reduced.



Wildlife on the Ranch

Below is Excerpted from TheCornell Lab:

Educator's Guide to Nest Boxes

Spring is the perfect time to install nest boxes for the breeding season. This time of year, many migrants are beginning to return and seek out a safe space to lay their eggs. For many species, nest boxes are the perfect space. The species that use nest boxes and platforms are diverse. Many species of owls, wrens, bluebirds, chickadees, American Kestrels, Purple Martins, and many more will use nest boxes because they mimic cavity nests they would find in the wild. When used correctly, nest boxes can be a huge help to many birds looking for a home. Building and caring for a nest box can be a very rewarding experience and a great project-based learning opportunity for students of all ages.

To get you thinking about how you might use nest boxes, here are some helpful tips as well as 'dos' and 'don'ts' for installing, watching, and maintaining a nest box.

First things first: what species do you want to attract?

Nest boxes come in a variety of shapes and sizes depending on the species that uses them. After all, everything from a bluebird to an Osprey can use a nest box and nest platform! So when building or buying your box, be sure you know what diameter your entry hole should be and how much space is inside to make it perfect for your target species.

NestWatch has a great resource for determining the [right house for the right bird](#). Be sure you know your avian neighbors and what they need to be successful breeders.



Trespass Authorizations

As Lt. Crisci mentioned, Trespass Authorizations are a good tool. You can download one from our website:

<http://www.hammondlandowners.org/trespass>.

The purpose of the Authorization is in the event you are on vacation or just out of the area and a neighbor sees a crime happening on your property, they will be able to phone the sheriff's department and report it. The Sheriff cannot act on a neighbor's call unless the Sheriff has an authorization from the owner that a crime can be reported by someone other than the owner.

Fill out, sign the form and send it to the Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office, ATTN: Donna Hamilton, 305 Butte Street, Yreka, CA 96097, **with a copy to the HLA** at P.O. Box 795, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067.



Truck Stop Update

There have been no changes to the status of the Love's lawsuit appeal. Oral argument was conducted on April 25 in the Appellate Court in Sacramento. No decision has been rendered yet. If any further changes occur, they will be posted to the HLA website at:

www.hammondlandowners.org/proposed-truck-stop For more information contact: erichziller@yahoo.com

2022 Board Members

President	Vacant at this time	
Vice President	Erich Ziller	530-261-0683
Secretary	Susan Grove	530-925-6859
Treasurer	Valerie Baake	925-788-9875
At-Large	Neera Paine	530-859-1924
	Rebekah Sluss	808-557-5834
	Larie Wearing	530-859-0990

The Hammond Ranch Scene Editor
Larie Wearing 530-859-0990

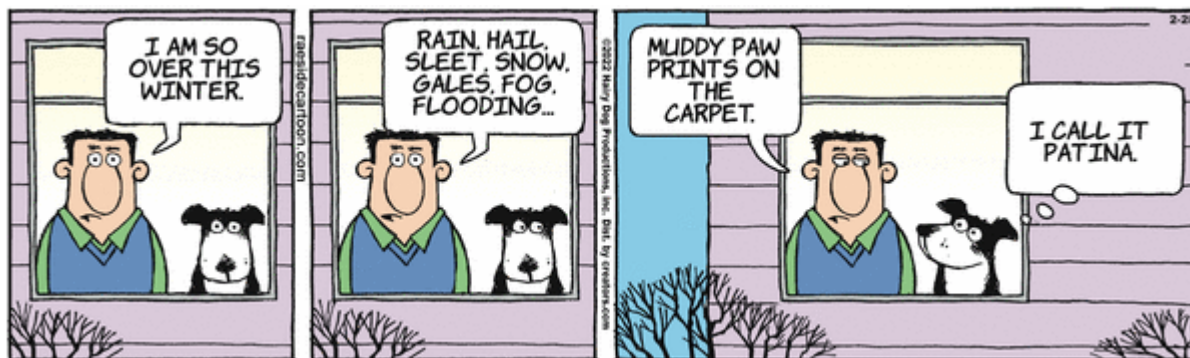
The HLA Board of Directors cares about and wants to hear members' opinions, suggestions and ideas. Members are welcome to attend any of the board meetings. If you plan to attend, please let the host know in advance so that accommodations can be made.

We also encourage members to write to us and create a dialogue on topics of interest to Hammond Ranch landowners. The Board members can be reached by phone at the numbers listed above, by snail mail c/o HLA, P.O. Box 795, Mount Shasta, California 96067, or via email at hla@hammondlandowners.org.

Calendar

- HLA Board Meeting – Second Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. Call any board member or send an email to hla@hammondlandowners.org for meeting location and/or Zoom link. Let us know of your questions or concerns so they can be included on the agenda.
- The Annual HLA Picnic is usually scheduled for the Saturday after 4th of July. It will be July 9 this year. It is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors, near and far.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting is scheduled for the first Saturday in November. We hope to be able to meet in person this year.
- Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors – First, second and third Tuesdays of every month, 10:00 a.m., County Courthouse, Yreka. Call Clerk at 842-8081 to confirm the meeting.
- Hammond Ranch FireSafe Council -- Contact a Board member about participating.

From the Editor: If you have information you would like to share in the Newsletter with Ranch residents, give Larie a call or text her at lariedw@gmail.com.



Moving or changing email address?

Please send changes of address to:
The Hammond Ranch Scene

c/o HLA
P.O. Box 795
Mt. Shasta, CA 96067-0795
or email to:

hla@hammondlandowners.org