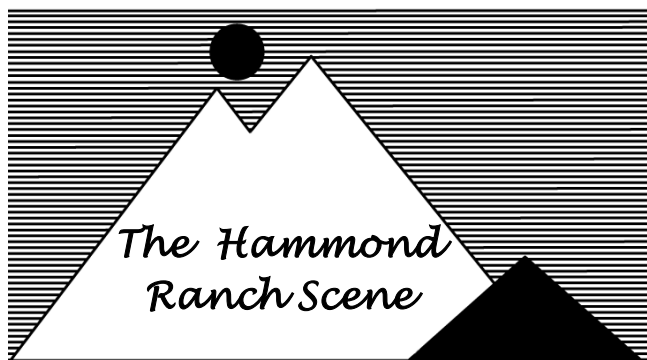


Hammond Landowners Association



www.hammondlandowners.org

What's Inside?

Message from the President	1
Annual Members Meeting	1
New County Rules	1
Parking at Old Stage Road	1
HRFC Run Report	2
Life on the Ranch	2
Dan's Weather Report	3
2024 Board Members	5
Calendar	5
Helpful Links	5

October 2024

XLIX

Number 4

Message From the President

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. It sure was hot, but we did avoid local fires and there were few smoke filled days. Unfortunately, the dry conditions and intense heat have continued to weaken the trees in Hammond Ranch. Continue thinning your parcels and we hope to coordinate with CalFire for another chipping program next spring. It is much safer than burning.

The most important issue on the Ranch right now is fire safety and home insurance. Please try to attend our Annual Members Meeting on November 2. Your invitation should arrive soon. Our speakers will be Josh Bien from Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE) and Cristan Norman from Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County (FSCSC). They will discuss hardening your home and potential funding assistance and ways to maintain and possibly decrease your home insurance rates. Special Guest Michael Kobseff, our County Supervisor, will also be attending.

The meeting is always an opportunity to bring our community together and share interests and concerns.



Erich Ziller



New County Rules

The Siskiyou County Planning Department announced the release of an updated application process for Short-Term Vacation Rentals within the unincorporated areas of the county.

People wanting to rent out their homes as vacation rentals must apply for a permit and now need to utilize either a licensed real estate agent and/or a property management firm to cover any issues on a 24-hours basis. This is different than the Use Permit rules, which allowed either a county resident OR a licensed real estate agent and/or a property management firm to cover any issues. So, any time a property changes hands and you want to operate a vacation rental, you'll have to re-apply for the permit. All requirements that were in place previously will remain in place with the new ordinance.

Here is a link for more information on the new requirements:

<https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/planning/page/short-term-vacation-rentals>



If a year was tucked inside of a clock, then autumn would be the magic hour.

- Victoria Erickson

Annual Members Meeting

The annual members meeting will be held on Saturday, November 2, at 11:00 a.m. in the Treehouse Restaurant. If you have not already received an invitation, it will be arriving soon. We hope to see you there!



What's the story about the parking area at North Old Stage and Sugar Pine?

You will recall that all roads in Hammond Ranch are over private property and public access is prohibited. Hammond landowners have an easement to pass over the private property of others in order to reach their property. This easement is a recorded "Right-of-Way" and by definition is the right to **Pass**. That right to pass does not allow for parking nor any other activity.

So why is some parking allowed at the intersection of Sugar Pine and Old Stage Road? The land owners of those places have permitted it. Historical uses have included landowners temporarily parking for such things as ride-sharing. Heavy equipment offloading and parking also have been historically permitted. The landowners of this area are very sensitive about this and their property rights should be respected by all of us.

Other parking in this area is not permitted. For example, vehicles with firewood for sale and vehicles for sale are not allowed. Violators have been and will be towed away. Another parking use which should be avoided if at all possible is parking during snow removal conditions. Your volunteer snowplowers need that space in order to clear the roadway of snow.

If you have any question about these limitations, please contact the Hammond Landowners Association at hla@hammondlandowners.org.

Run Report

Hammond Ranch Fire Company made 9 runs this last quarter: 6 medical calls, 1 vehicle accident, 2 wildland fires and 1 law enforcement incident.

Many heartfelt thanks to the fire company and CalFire's Siskiyou Unit for their hard work.



From the Chief

Fire season is starting to wind down in my professional life, which means more time for my volunteer life. We recently acquired new workout equipment for the station, and I'll be working on installing that to, hopefully, help keep volunteers longer and maybe entice some new candidates.

Like always, we are actively searching for new recruits. Training to become a volunteer is of no cost to the person and can be done when they have availability. There is always a need for people to volunteer, and there is no such thing as too old. It's just a matter of what context you can assist in.

We're currently researching gear replacement costs and seeking grant money to help with the burden.

On another note, recently I have noticed a large uptick of traffic on Dale Creek Road, with speeds that are not safe on our little gravel road. If you live in Hammond Ranch, please remember to leave extra time so we do not make our community dangerous.

Also, thanks to our residents for keeping Hammond Ranch safe this summer. As we move into fall weather, please burn your piles safely and remember to clean your chimneys.

Thanks, and have a great fall.

Kyle Lunsford, Chief 4200



This cute animal was spotted in October on a roof at about the 4400' elevation in the Ranch, a ringtail cat! They're actually not a cat, but are a mammal in the raccoon family.

Wildlife on the Ranch

Have you ever heard of an antlion?

There's been lots of sign of them this year!

The larvae are known for the predatory habits. In North America, the larvae are sometimes referred to as **doodlebugs** because of the marks they leave in the sand. The adult insects are less well known due to their relatively short lifespans in comparison with the larvae. The larvae can live from one to three years. The adult typically lives for about 25 days, but some survive for as long as 45 days. Adults, sometimes known as **antlion lacewings**, mostly fly at dusk or just after dark and may be mistakenly identified as dragonflies or damselflies. They most commonly occur in dry and sandy habitats where the larvae can easily excavate their pits, but some larvae hide under debris or ambush their prey among leaf litter.

The larvae eat mainly ants, while the adults of some species eat pollen, nectar and small arthropods, such as spiders. The larva is a voracious predator. They dig funnel-shaped pits that are about two inches deep and three inches wide at the edge. When the pit is completed, the larva settles down at the bottom, buried in the soil with only the jaws projecting above the surface, often in a wide-opened position on either side of the very tip of the cone. The steep-sloped trap guides prey into the larva's mouth while avoiding crater avalanches. Since the sides of the pit consist of loose sand on an angle, they create an insecure foothold to any small insects that inadvertently venture over the edge, such as ants. Slipping to the bottom, the prey is immediately seized by the lurking antlion. If the prey attempts to escape, the larva throws loose sand at it from below. This undermines the sides of the pit, causing them to collapse and bring the prey with them.



Antlion Larva



Antlion Adult



Antlion Trap

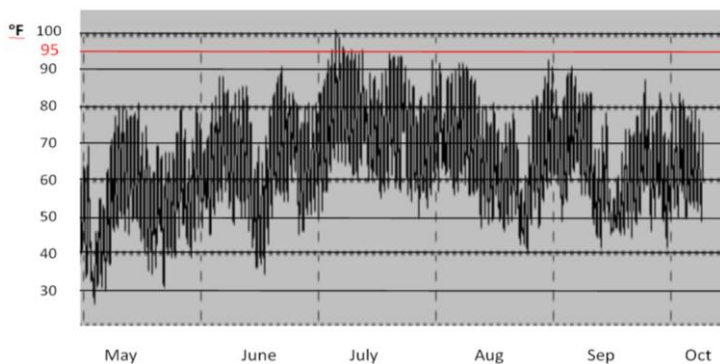


Dan's Weather, Fall 2024

Since the last weather report published in the April HLA newsletter, which summarized the immediately prior winter, there was a remarkable and significant additional snowfall of 5.8" on May 4, 2024 (as measured at 4200' elevation at the southern edge of the Ranch). That brought last winter's total to 135", still somewhat less than average. The mean and spread over the last 21 years has been 176" +/- 97".

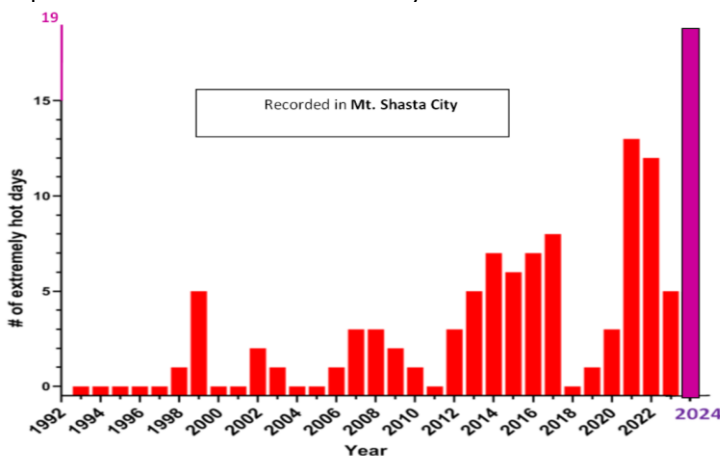
When can we expect the snow festivities to resume this fall? As averaged over the last 21 years, the first accumulating snow occurs around a mean date of November 1, but with a range from about October 10 to November 21. The earliest was Sept 28, and the latest was Dec. 12.

This past summer was somewhat warmer than the summer of 2023, especially in July. Here is the daily temperature trace in summer 2024, again as recorded at 4200 '.



The hottest days are, of course, the most memorable. We can define "extremely hot" as any day with a high temperature at 95 °F or higher. At 4200', there were a total of 5 such days in summer 2024, the same as summer 2023. But merely "very hot" could be defined as days with a high of 90 °F. Summer 2024 had 20 such days, whereas, summer 2023 had only 5 such days.

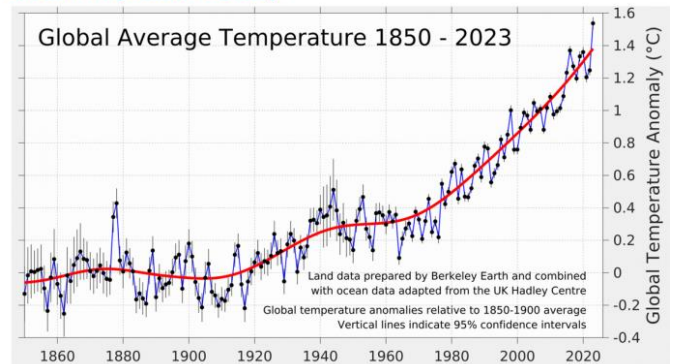
Are extremely hot days becoming more common? Complete temperature records are available for Mt. Shasta City, where it is usually about 3 °F warmer than most of the Ranch, so we redefine "extremely hot" at greater than 98 °F in Mount Shasta City. The number of extremely hot days is increasing. Here is a bar graph of the number of such days in past summers in Mt. Shasta City:



Again, just for Mt. Shasta City, the mean temperature (counting the heat of the day and the cool of the night) in July 2023 was 78.7 °F. In July 2024 it warmed to 79.8 °F. The long-term average over all the July's since 1980 is only 74.9 °F. Over recent years there is clearly a summer warming trend here.

The trend toward warming is global. This can be plotted as the deviation from long-ago averages in 1850-1900. The warming began around 1920 and is accelerating.

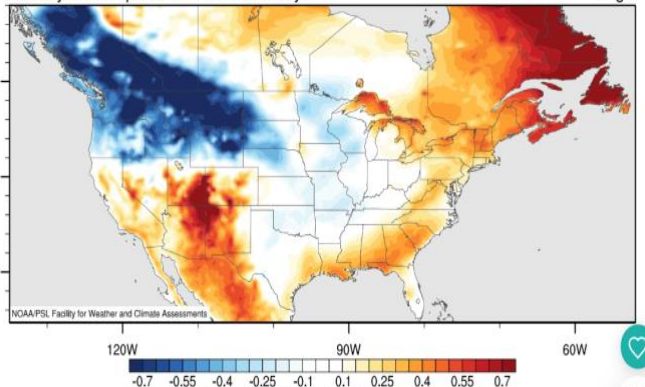
Annual Temperature Anomaly



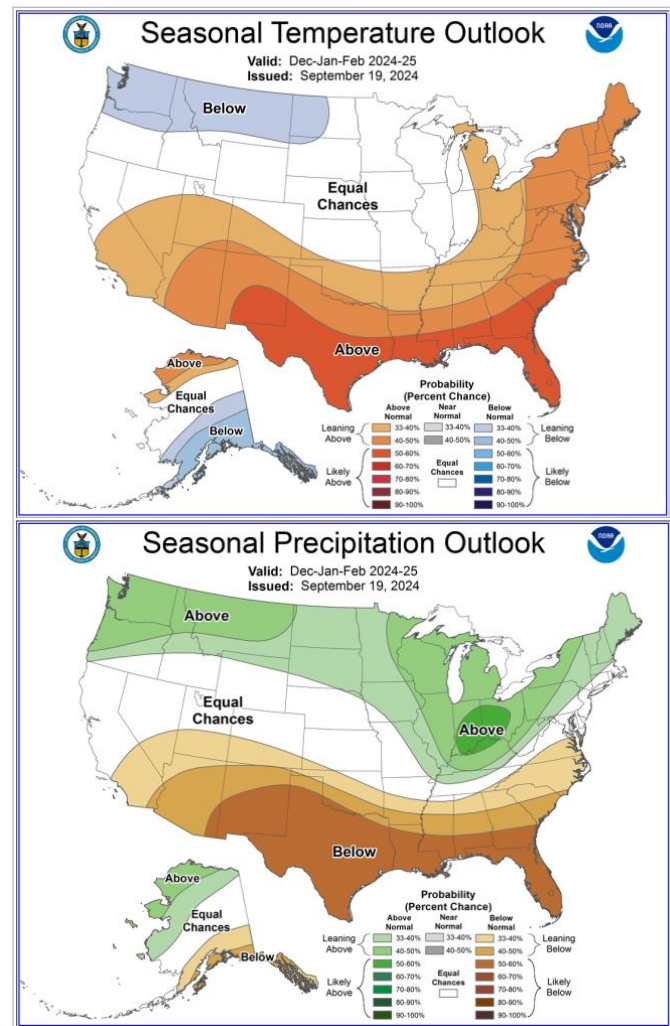
Confining attention to just state-wide California, last July 2024 was the hottest ever recorded.

What can we expect for this upcoming winter? The usual prediction for most places is based on whether the equatorial eastern Pacific surface ocean temperature is above average ("El Niño") or below average ("La Niña"). That temperature fluctuation, flipping every few years on an irregular basis, seems to affect world-wide airflow patterns. We are now entering a La Niña period. But here in far northern California, that fluctuation is not a very useful predictor, because we reside on the edge between the La Niña-expected colder and wetter pattern to our north and the drier and warmer pattern to our south. Actual temperature deviation data from recent La Niña years illustrates our fence-sitting, between the colder (blue) and warmer (orange) zones.

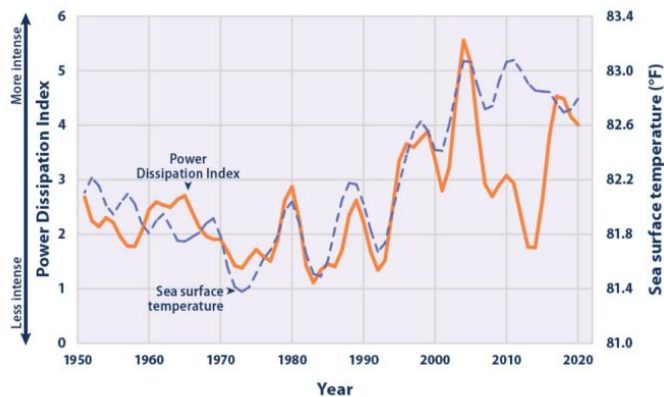
ERA5 reanalysis ensmean Dec-Feb 1985 1996 2001 2012 2021 2020 2006 2017 2009 2018



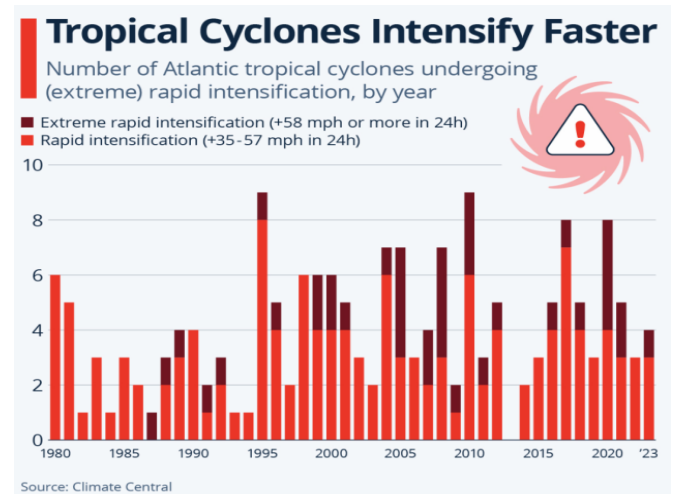
The recent maps of predictions from NOAA covering the upcoming Dec-Jan-Feb are a consequence of this historical La Niña record. We basically have "equal chances" of above or below normal weather for both temperature and precipitation for this winter.



A major effect of global warming is not just "warming," but also an increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather. This effect is most obvious far away from our mountain location, in hurricane formation and intensification, because hurricanes feed directly on ocean water warmth. Here is a graph of the total energy of hurricanes over the years:



Nowadays, hurricanes also tend to intensify much more rapidly than typical of the past. This was apparent in the explosive growth of Hurricanes Helene and Milton in the extraordinarily warm Gulf of Mexico this year, but is also suggested by longer-term data.



What does this trend toward extremes, most obvious in the subtropics, imply for our region? Although yet incomplete, analysis of recent data indicates that the wettest winter storms ("atmospheric rivers") will become more intense and moisture-laden, and paradoxically, dry periods between groups of storms will become longer. Coupled with warmer temperatures, that trend means heavier rainstorms (rather than snow) at the elevation of the Ranch but also prolonged droughts in some years. The heavier precipitation events may produce more rain/less snow here, but at higher elevations (like Mt. Eddy and Mt. Shasta) it will still be cold enough for snow and possibly even an increase in snow depth and growth of glaciers up there.

Dan Axelrod





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 the 4th of July.
- HLA Members' Annual Meeting is the first Saturday in November. It will be November 2 this year.
- Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors – First, second and third Tuesdays of every month, 10:00 a.m., County Courthouse, Yreka. Call the Clerk at 842-8081 to confirm the meeting.
- Siskiyou County Fire Safe Council – Meets the second Wednesday monthly at 5:30pm. Check their website for dates, <https://firesafesiskiyou.com/>
- Hammond Ranch Fire Safe Council -- Contact a Board member about participating.

Helpful Links and Numbers

HLA Membership form:
<https://hammondlandowners.org/>;
Previous newsletters and Landowners Usage of Ranch Roads Newsletter Articles:
<https://hammondlandowners.org/newsletters>;
Road maintenance reimbursement:
<https://hammondlandowners.org/road-work-reimbursement>;
Hammond Ranch CC&Rs:
<https://hammondlandowners.org/hammond-ranch-cc%26rs>;
Trespass Authorizations and Landowner Handbook:
<https://hammondlandowners.org/news-and-information>;
Emergency Alerts:
<https://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/ReadySiskiyou>
Burn day information number: 530-842-8123.

2024 Board Members

President	Erich Ziller	530-261-0683
Vice President	Larie Wearing	530-859-0990
Secretary	Evan Hadfield	214-620-7434
Treasurer	Valerie Baake	925-788-9875
At-Large	Neera Paine	530-859-1924
	Tricia Elberts	530-859-1036
	J Curtis	615-714-4759
	Doug Lathrop	530-219-5332
	Mahroushka Papazian	415-307-9709

Community Liaison - Neera Paine & Tricia Elberts
The Hammond Ranch Scene Editor - Larie Wearing

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.



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