



# H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

---

## **Nomination Deadlines:**

**Spring Awards: February 1, 2021**

**Fall Awards: September 1, 2021**

**Agency:** Coastside County Water District

**Project/Initiative Title:** Green Climber

Implementation Date: 04/22/21

Cost to Implement: \$114,540.00

Staff Time Required: On going

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: 12 Employees

## **Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:**

Name(s): Darin Sturdivan/ Distribution Staff

Job Title/Department: Distribution Supervisor

---



## Nomination Summary

*Write a brief summary of your project/initiative. Clearly state the problem/hazard recognized by the nominee and the specific reasons that they initiated corrective action.*

Coastside County Water District (District) has ~40 acres of land that requires annual mowing/clearing. Most sites are quite large, steep, and covered in thick brush/weeds. The work of manually clearing these sites is dangerous and labor intensive. With the amount of land our District has, we would frequently use up to three employees who would be exposed to steep, uneven terrain to clear the land of brush and poison oak. Working to clear heavy brush would expose the employees to many hazards including chainsaws, falling limbs and harsh uneven terrain. Several of our employees have had tick bites and/or poison oak exposure that required medical attention. In addition, with wildfires becoming more frequent the District desires to increase defensible space around facilities and this was not possible with the current staffing to take this on.

*Describe the specific actions taken to resolve the problem(s) or challenge(s). Share the best practices that made this initiative successful for the agency and its impact.*

After having trouble finding outside contractors with the time to clear brush for the District, we started looking for equipment. In April 2021, the District leased to own a LV800 Green Climber from J. Mack Enterprises. The LV800 is a remote controlled, rubber tracked, 75 hp slope brush mower that work on 60-degree slopes and remove brush up to 8-inch in diameter. The mower has allowed the District to clear more land with one employee than in previous years using three or more employees. Employees are able to work from a safe distance with out having to rely on PPE for their safety. The operator is able to limit their foot travel during the operation reducing the possibility of injury on steep uneven ground. To date, the District has improved the defensible space surrounding our facilities with no injuries and in less time.

*State whether the hazard was reduced with engineering controls, introduced a new administrative or work procedure, or relied on personal protective equipment to solve the problem.*

The tracked mower is light enough to be transported without special equipment. The Green Climber is controlled remotely, from up to 500 feet away, allowing the operator to stay in a safe place while operating the machine on dangerous slopes and allowing our employees to avoid poison oak, snakes and ticks.

- Employees are no longer exposed to slip, trip, fall hazards, or the strain on the body from using hand tools.
- The Machine replaces the hand tools with a remote controlled machine that is comfortable to use and is not taxing on the body.
- Since the operator is not on the machine the risk of injury is largely mitigated. District staff authorized to use the machine have been trained by the manufacturer on safe and efficient operation and transport.
- Having the ability to stay from the hazardous conditions allows the operator to not have to rely on PPE as their only protection from the task.

*Describe any extraordinary circumstances that made this nominee's safety accomplishments significant. Describe whether the nominee influenced safety in the workplace, encouraged employee participation in safety efforts, obtained organizational "buy in" to implement the solution.*

The purchase of the Green Climber not only greatly reduces the chance of injury to employees but has made the District more resilient to wildfire season. Staff increased the defensible space around the facilities and cleared areas thought to be inaccessible to hand work. In areas staff were able to double the amount of defensible space in most areas.

The nominee brought the product to the attention of management, and with full support helped staff to acquire the machine. Not having much experience to this type of machine the District decided to originally lease it for 4 months and ultimately purchasing it later in the year. District staff were given the chance to demo the machine and were very enthusiastic about the purchase.



*Describe whether the project/initiative addressed a hazard or exposure included in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program.*

By not having to walk through and hand clear waste high brush, almost eliminates the chance of slipping and falling. In addition, by not using hand clearing tools such as weed whackers and chainsaws, this reduces the risk of personal injury and from the use of hand held machines. Not having an operator on the machine eliminates falling off the machine, crushing accidents or roll over related accidents.

This project allows one employee to accomplish the work of several with minimal risk and less fatigue.

☒ Office/Field Ergonomics

☐ Vehicle Operations

☒ Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights

☐ Other: [Remote Control Slope Mower | Green Climber LV800 \(greenclimberna.com\)](#)

[Remote Control Slope Mower | Video Demo | Green Climber NA](#)

[Remote Control Slope Mower | Video Demo | Green Climber NA](#)

[Jesse Mack Co. | Brush Mower Rentals and Sales | Green Climber \(jmackrentals.com\)](#)

*List and attach any supporting materials that you feel are important for the reviewers to gain a complete picture of the nomination. Digital photos, supporting documentation, sample forms, etc.*

---

---

**Nominated by:** James Derbin

**Date:**

**General Manager:** Mary Rogren

**Date:**

---

---

Please email this form with supporting documents and digital photos (jpg) to [tlofing@acwajpia.com](mailto:tlofing@acwajpia.com).













## After Mowing







## During Mowing







## After Mowing









# JESSE MACK COMPANY

*A Green Climber Distributor*



## QUOTE

Date	3/3/2021
Quote No.	334

P.O. Box 7600  
Visalia, CA 93290

Certified Small  
Business #1795145

Phone 5596229911  
Fax (559) 622-9939

cindy@jmackenterprises.com  
www.jmackrentals.com

Coastside County Water District  
Rent/Purchase Option  
Attn: Darin Sturdivan

Phone 650-554-0007  
Fax

Attention:	Darin
------------	-------

Description	Price	Total
Green Climber LV800 (BODY ONLY)- Remote Controlled Machine with Tracks. Extendable Undercarriage. Side shifting Cutter Head Capabilities. Kohler Liquid Cooled 4-Cylinder, 75 hp, Tier IV Final Diesel Engine. Standard with Protective Forestry Cage.	111,390.00	111,390.00T
Forestry Flail UT-150F 57.5" Forestry FLAIL with 360 Rotation Swinging Hammers	16,800.00	16,800.00T
Aluminum Tilt Trailer. 10,000 GVW Wood Deck Electric Tilt.	9,350.00	9,350.00T
Estimated Shipping	4,000.00	4,000.00

\*\*Sales Tax is Based on San Mateo County 9.25%\*\*

<b>Subtotal</b>	\$141,540.00
<b>Sales Tax (9.25%)</b>	\$12,722.45
<b>Total</b>	\$154,262.45

Signature \_\_\_\_\_