



CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION

*The Voice of
California's
Licensed
Foresters*

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CLFA
2149 Carson Mesa Road
Acton, CA 93510
Phone: 916.913.9970
Cell: 661.789.7683
Fax: 661.269.5513
Email:
Kathleen Burr — admin@clfa.org
Chris Dow — president@clfa.org

www.clfa.org

California Licensed Foresters Association

April 2020 - Newsletter

President's Message
Chris Dow, CLFA President

“Sometimes, it’s the little things”

It is really difficult for me to believe that just a few short weeks ago, we found ourselves in a group of 150 at our Annual Spring Conference. The Covid-19 virus has drastically altered our daily lives, our relationships, our nation, and even our world. I was informed by Scott Stephens, PhD, that this year’s Berkeley Forestry Camp will be cancelled due to the virus. He did make a good point though; only in 1918, 1919, 1943, 1944, and 1945 has Forestry Camp been cancelled. All due to either war, or disease. Although these can be stressful, anxiety filled times, there are some positives that have come out of the past month, and not all of them have to do with decreased commute times on major freeways.

Our Annual Spring Conference was an enormous success. I would like to thank our Board, as well as all of our speakers, for putting together such an awesome amount of new information in our sector. The turn out for our Friday event was the highest I have seen since becoming a member. The conference was sold out a week before the event, and we had 150 attendees for the Friday event. Not only that, but every one of our scholarship winners from this past year was able to attend, and given the opportunity to express what their scholarship and CLFA mean to them. There was not much time between presentations for socializing, as the schedule was filled, however, the reception to follow was filled with many of the same familiar faces, and a lot of new ones.

This year, Frank Mulhair was presented the Outstanding Forester Award. Congratulations again Frank, it is well deserved. Again, thanks to our Board and members, the annual raffle and auction was an amazing success. The money raised during this event goes directly into our scholarship awards, which we have not only increased in amounts awarded, but increased the number of scholarships. The raffle and auction raised almost \$15,000; \$5000 of which was strictly donated in memory of Hazel Jackson, and put into the scholarship fund that was created for her. Thank you to all of those that donated and shared in the evening’s festivities.

Lastly, despite stay at home orders, and all that comes with it, there is something that should help remind all of us that the work we do is truly important. The forest and forest products industry was deemed to be an essential workforce, critical to the infrastructure of our state, and our country. It is in a time of great trial, but I think that this should speak volumes to all of us that contribute to forest land stewardship. We, as foresters, are critical to not only the infrastructure of our state and country, but we are an essential part of managing healthy forests for the future. It is something that all of us should take pride in, and reflect on as we navigate through our new world.



Forest Practice—BOF

Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on March 3-4 in Sacramento. The next board meeting is currently scheduled for April 7-8 via teleconference. Agendas for both the March and April meetings are available at: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/business/meeting-agendas-and-annual-schedules/>

The following is a summary of items of greatest interest to the RPF community from the March Board of Forestry Meeting:

FULL BOARD MEETING -March 2020

- A. The permanent [regulatory text](#) and [Initial Statement of Reasons](#) for the Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction (1052.4) were unanimously approved by the Board to proceed to [45-day public notice](#).
- B. The [regulatory text](#) and [Initial Statement of Reasons](#) for amendments to the LTO Education and Limited LTO rules (14 CCR 1022-1024) were unanimously approved by the Board to proceed to 45-day public notice.
- C. Final Statement of Reasons for Southern Subdistrict and Marin Co Stocking Amendments, 2020 – motion to adopt the FSOR and [regulatory text](#) passes. These rules will take effect on January 1, 2021.
- D. During the Executive Officer’s report, EO Matt Dias, stated that the Forest Practice Committee has now prioritized a review of the Northern Spotted Owl-related rule text, and the board staff is currently working to identify the path to success in this effort.
- E. [Presentation](#) – Update on Development of Regional Spotted Owl Resources Plan (SORP), provided by Stacy Stanish (CAL FIRE), Bob Hawkins (CDFW), John Ramaley (CAL FIRE), and others from CAL FIRE
 - a. This update specifically covered the Eastern SORP in NE California
 - b. The ESORP is a data driven, site-specific information process which allows landowners to engage on a property-wide assessment to prevent NSO take, versus a project by project analysis that has to be done each time. The agencies want to focus efforts on combining ownerships into broader scale take avoidance strategies.
 - c. Survey data from participants is collected in real-time so that all other landowners in the ESORP can see where adjacent users are surveying and what they’re finding.
 - d. A public website is not live yet; there is a separate webpage for collaborators which provides survey updates and other information for the SORP members
 - e. The product will also export templated reports for users
 - f. Work Plan Timeline
 - i. official rollout for May 2020
 - ii. SORP document – last stages of completion May 2020
 - iii. Data Collection app and hub – Summer 2020

Joint Committee Meeting of Forest Practice and Management Committees

- A. Permanent rule text for 1052.4 Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction
 - a. CLFA provided some additional comment to clarify fuel treatment standards
 - b. Was brought to the full Board for a vote and passed unanimously to go to 45-day public notice
- B. Re-assessment of existing “Group A” and “Group B” commercial species (14 CCR 895.1)
 - a. No action or business was taken on this item, as none of the Management Committee members were present. This issue is on the agenda for the April meeting as well.
 - b. CLFA will continue to monitor any related rulemaking and participate as warranted



Forest Practice—BOF cont.

- C. Limited Timber Operators License and Timber Operator Education (14 CCR 1022.1 and 1024)
 - a. Clarifies the A, B, and C designations, which were previously called such for the rule sections which authorize them but now actually names each classification
 - b. Limits B licensees from engaging in road and road crossing construction, reconstruction, abandonment, and deactivation, as well as conversion activities
 - c. C license does not include these limitations
 - d. Was brought to the Board for a vote during the full meeting and passed unanimously to go to 45-day public notice
 - e. CAL FIRE commented that they are pleased with these changes for now but are still working on a more comprehensive proposal that they will continue to pursue in the future
- D. Steep-Slope Harvesting – 14 CCR 914.2 and 914.3 et seq.
 - a. The Board continues to consider revisions to the FPRs to clarify limitations on the use of ground-based equipment in cable and tractor yarding areas to address current logging technology and techniques including steep-slope tethered logging, tethered falling and bunching under cable systems, and shovel logging.
 - b. This item will be developed over the next few months and is expected to result in a rule package to be included in the 2021 Forest Practice Rules.
 - c. The Committee also wants to clean up a few other oddities in the rules
 - I. 955.1(d) – allowance of terracing in the Southern District
 - II. 934.2(c) – a special exception for the Northern District that should be applied to all districts

Resource Protection Committee

- A. Considering making updates to Defensible Space Guidelines and Regulations, based on a bill (AB 3074 (Friedman D)) that is currently being considered to update defensible space law (based on the 0-5 foot non-combustible zone around structures)
- B. Fire Safety Survey – a compilation of information about groupings of houses 30 or more which may or may not technically be subdivisions and whether they have more than one point of ingress/egress.

Legislation

Jason Wells—Committee Chair

The Senate and Assembly Budget Committees were scheduled to meet April 1st and 2nd, respectively. These Budget Committees are tasked with analyzing Governor Newsom's 2020-2021 proposed budget, which includes funding for forest management. One of the main legislative priorities for CLFA this year is to promote permanent funding for the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) which we would do through communication with members of these committees. The legislature has been postponed from meeting until April 13th due to COVID-19 concerns. On March 29th the Federal Government approved measures to continue shelter in place measures through the end of April, which will likely mean that the State will follow suit; this could further postpone committee meetings and bill development.

Unfortunately, it can reasonably be foreseen that with recent spending increases, economic downturn, and dramatic preventative measures taken by the State to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's budget may end up being bare bones once it is finally approved. Growing fire danger is not likely to stray far from the Governor's priorities, which are largely centered around dealing with COVID-19, homelessness, public health, and fire prevention.



Water & Wildlife

Gwyndolyn Ozard — Committee Chair

WATER QUALITY

North Coast: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast>

The Board last met on February 6-7 in Santa Rosa. Minutes are not yet available but the agenda is. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/02_2020/index.html

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 16-17; the agenda is available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/04_2020/index.html

Central Valley: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

The Board last met on February 20-21 in Rancho Cordova; no forestry items were on the agenda. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/2020/2002ag.pdf

The next meeting is scheduled for April 16-17 via Teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

Lahontan: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/>

The Board last met March 11-12 in Barstow; no forestry items were on the agenda. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/agenda/2020/agenda2020mar_english.pdf

The April meeting has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is for May 6-7 in South Lake Tahoe; the agenda is not yet available:

Central Coast: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/>

The Board last met on March 5-6 in Watsonville. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2020/03_mar/index.html

The next meeting is scheduled for May 5-6 in San Luis Obispo; the agenda is not yet available.

WILDLIFE

The US Fish and Wildlife Service:

The USFWS released their Revised NSO No Take Guidance Document (Attachments A and B) in mid February. https://www.fws.gov/arcata/es/birds/NSO/documents/2019-1101_NSO-TakeAvoidanceAnalysis_Att_A-B.pdf

The Fish and Game Commission: <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2020/index.aspx>

The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met on February 21 in Sacramento. Minutes from the meeting are not available. Agenda: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=177021&inline>

The next FGC meeting is scheduled for April 15-16 via Teleconference; the agenda is available: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=177983&inline>

February FGC meeting **CONSENT ITEMS** of Note:

ITEM 7: Mountain lion: Receive Department's 90-day evaluation report for the petition to list mountain lion (Puma concolor) as a threatened or endangered species under CESA.

ITEM 8: Shasta snow-wreath: Receive Department's 90-day evaluation report for the petition to list Shasta snowwreath (Neviusia cliffonii) as a threatened or endangered species under CESA.



Water & Wildlife cont.

ITEM 9: Foothill yellow-legged frog: The FGC **adopted findings** for the listing decisions for foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*) under CESA.

Decision to list the Southwest/South Coast, West/Central Coast, and East/Southern Sierra clades as endangered

Decision to list the Northeast/Northern Sierra and Feather River clades as threatened

Decision not to list the Northwest/North Coast clade

The full Status Review Report is available on the DFW webpage: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=174602> HYPERLINK "https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=174602&inline"& HYPERLINK "https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=174602&inline"inline

New Petitions:

Petition to uplist Clara Hunt's milkvetch (*Astragalus claranus*) from Threatened to Endangered.

Licensing News Ricky Shurtz, Committee Chair

As many of you are well aware, the April RPF exam has been indefinitely postponed. The CLFA is working with the PFEC to locate alternative exam facilities or streamline the process to offer an exam when the covid-19 issue has passed. We are hoping the exam will be offered and not require examinees to defer to the October exam.



Outreach

Tony Gomez—Committee Chair

The CLFA Board would like to thank the following people for donating during the live auction to the Hazel Jackson Scholarship Fund:

- ◆ \$500.00 donations
 - ◆ Charll Stoneman
 - ◆ Timothy English
- ◆ \$400.00 donations
 - ◆ Ryan McKillop
- ◆ \$200.00 donations
 - ◆ E. Coulter
 - ◆ Mitch Hunt
 - ◆ Ron Hutchinson
 - ◆ Clayton Code
 - ◆ John Kessler
 - ◆ Matt Greene
 - ◆ Jason Poburko
 - ◆ Rich Wade
 - ◆ Foresters Co-Op
 - ◆ Tim Tate
 - ◆ Ryan Crans
 - ◆ Brady Dubois
 - ◆ Ricky Shurtz
- ◆ \$100.00 donations
 - ◆ Eric Snow
 - ◆ Tony Whitehead
- ◆ \$100.00 donations
 - ◆ Jacob Harrower
 - ◆ Evan Goetz
 - ◆ Harlan Tranmer
 - ◆ Andrea Eggleton
 - ◆ Wesley Navarre
 - ◆ Robert Little
 - ◆ Paul Violet
 - ◆ Jay Francis
 - ◆ Dean Lofthus
 - ◆ Joe Starr
 - ◆ Larry Camp
 - ◆ Len Lindstrand
 - ◆ Tony Gomez
 - ◆ Jacob Harrower
 - ◆ Mark Pugsley
 - ◆ Alyson Stubbendick
- ◆ \$50.00 donations
 - ◆ Jason Wells
 - ◆ Elicia Goldsworthy

CLFA 2020 Scholarship Winners!

The CLFA Board of Directors would like to congratulate the following 2020 scholarship winners and thank those students who also submitted applications.



From left to right:

- ◆ CLFA Scholarship Winner — Britta Goldstein
- ◆ Howard Biswell Scholarship Winner — Kyle Mantzouranis
- ◆ Roy Richards Scholarship Winner—Adam Taylor
- ◆ Chris Dow—CLFA President



CLFA Board—Ariel Roughton, Paul Violet, Harlan Tranmer, Robert Little, Jason Wells,
Chris Dow, Ricky Shurtz, Gwyndolyn Ozard, & Joe Starr
Missing: Tony Gomez & Emil Mason



Andrea Eggleton, CLFA BOF Rep presenting her annual report at the Saturday workshop.



Maddie Washburn, a senior at Ponderosa High School in Shingle Springs, representing the California Forestry Challenge with her presentation during lunch at the spring conference.



Spring Conference lunch at the Gaia
There is not an open seat in the house!



Ariel Roughton presenting Chris Dow, CLFA President with his presidential plaque.



Oldest forester—Len Lindstrand
Youngest forester—Christopher Kirk



John Breazeal & Chris Dow presenting Frank Mulhair with the 2020 Outstanding Forester Award.



Steve Emershy with Clayton Code - winner of the gun raffle.



Tim Tate—winner of the chain saw raffle.



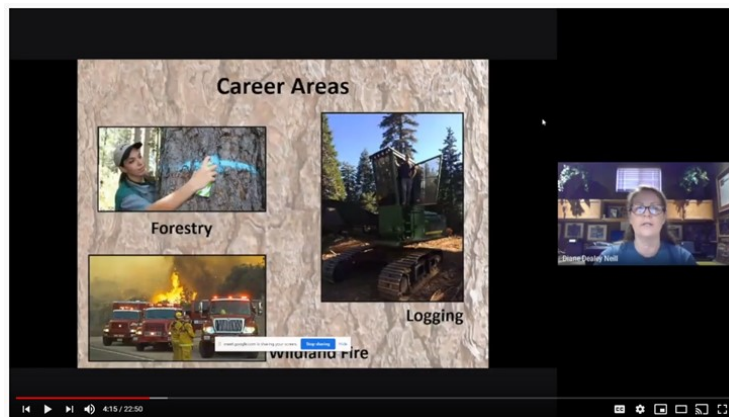
CLFA annual fund raising reception listening to presentations.



Forestry Challenge Update

Greetings from Forestry Challenge HQ, a 9' X 9' office where our desks face opposite directions and we practice social distancing from the rest of the world on a daily basis. There are four items for this update:

1. As you would expect, we had to cancel the Forestry Challenge Championship event. Even if schools are back in session by April 16, they won't have the capacity to attend an extracurricular event, nor do we even want to ask them to. Our efforts are now focused on preparing to recruit schools for the fall events.
2. We are often asked how many Forestry Challenge participants pursue an education in the forestry or natural resources. I am happy to say we are making new inroads with admissions departments at several universities and are amazed to see how many of our graduating alumni have been accepted into these programs in the fall. We hope to follow several of these students' journeys over the coming months and years.
3. Funding for the fall events just became more secure, as we were awarded a California Climate Investment Fire Prevention grant for \$92,450. This funding will subsidize facility fees, allowing us to offer a 50% discount on registration fees to any school that pre-registers before June 30. It will also support the purchase of supplies and allow us to pay for substitute teachers and transportation to events for schools that don't have the funding for these items.
4. Many meetings and events in our lives have been canceled, but some are able to happen with the use of modern technology. I recently had the opportunity to make a virtual presentation (titled *TREEmendous Careers in Forestry and Natural Resources*) to participants of a Green Careers Conference in San Diego. It was a new experience for me, and one that you can [view on our YouTube Channel](#).



After the conference, the organizers asked me to answer questions sent in by the participants. There are two questions I thought you might be interested in. For them, I am the face of your profession, and I do my best to represent you in an accurate and positive light.

Q: How will the role of a forester change in the context of climate change?

A: Foresters often say, "For a forester, every day is Earth Day." As I said in my video presentation, humanity's attitude towards the environment has rapidly evolved in the last 100 years. We went from exploiting Earth's resources, to taking a hands-off approach, to finally realizing that we have the science and knowhow to actively manage forests to benefit wildlife, produce abundant and clean water, grow and harvest trees for products we use every day, and recreate in the forest's beauty. Foresters are educated and experienced scientists and truly care about the health and longevity of the resource they are responsible for managing. If we can set politics aside and use science to guide our decision making, our forests can help us mitigate climate change.

Q: Will California need more forestry professionals?

A: Yes, there is a growing and urgent need for more foresters, natural resource professionals, and operators (loggers). If we are going to rise to the challenges we face (massive wildfires, a growing population, and changing climate), we need more educated and experienced scientists to come up with action plans that will make our forests healthier and better for humanity and all living things.



Prescribed Fire for Foresters—Online

This workshop was originally intended to be delivered in Eureka, but has been retooled and planned for an online environment. The talks will be available in advance to watch at your convenience and then on April 28-29 the speakers will be available for you to ask them questions and to create a more lively learning experience.

Background

Prescribed fire is an important land management tool, and landowner interest in using this tool has gained considerable momentum over the last few years. This two-part workshop will provide attendees with the skills to develop smoke management plans, increase understanding of liability and permit development, and highlight management examples along with upcoming opportunities and policy changes.

Audience

The workshop is intended for foresters, resource managers, and others with an interest in prescribed fire on private forest lands.

Registration information

Preregistration is required by April 20th

Draft Agenda

April 28th Two online chat sessions with groups of speakers

9:00-10:30

Chat session 1 with speakers who covered:

- **Rx fire options, myths, & fire liability** (Lenya Quinn-Davidson, UCCE)
- **Prescribed Burn Association options and economics** (Jeff Stackhouse, UCCE)
- **New Certified Burn Boss program and liability case studies** (Lenya Quinn Davidson, UCCE)
- **Cal Fire permitting, CFIP, and VMP** (CAL FIRE)
- **NRCS prescribed burning** (Matt Cocking, NRCS)
- **US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners Program and Rx fire** (Greg Gray, USFWS)

1:00- 2:30 Chat session 2 with speakers who covered:

- **Using Rx fire in ponderosa plantations to maximize wildfire resilience and productivity** (Eric Knapp, USDA Forest Service Research)
- **Using Rx fire to manage second-growth redwood and to manage Douglas-fir encroachment in oak woodlands** (Eamon Engber, Redwood Nat. Park)
- **Scaling up: strategic landscape planning** (Nick Goulette, Watershed Center)
- **Fire weather and other important considerations** (Hugh Scanlon)

April 29th Morning online chat sessions with groups of speakers

9:00-10:30

Chat session 3 with speakers who covered:

- **Air quality permitting overview and updates** (Lenya Quinn-Davidson and Jeff Stackhouse, UCCE)
- **Working with the NCUAQMD to obtain your permits and develop your SMP: best practices to ensure everything's in place when you are ready to burn** (Deborah Harris, NCUAQMD- *invited*)
- **Elements of the smoke management plan: understanding unit layout, SMP calculations, and other aspects of smoke management planning** (Lenya Quinn-Davidson and Jeff Stackhouse, UCCE)

Yana Valachovic

County Director and Forest Advisor, RPF #2740

UC Cooperative Extension- Humboldt and Del Norte

5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA 95503

Phone: 707-445-7351

Fax: 707-444-9334

yvala@ucanr.edu

Local UCCE office website: <http://cehumboldt.ucanr.edu>

UC Forestry website: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry>



2020 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

BOARD MEETINGS

- ◆ April 23, 2020—GoToMeeting— 6:00 pm
- ◆ May 15, 2020—CLFA Audit—Granzellas, Williams—6:00 pm
- ◆ May 16, 2020—Granzellas, Williams—9:00 am—1:00 pm

CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

- ◆ **April 8 & 9, 2020—Archaeology Refreshers—Gaia, Anderson –Cancelled—rescheduled to the November 11th & 12th classes below.**
- ◆ October 26-30, 2020—Initial 5-day Archaeology Class—Gaia, Anderson – **Class is Full - If you would like to be on the waiting list contact Kathleen—admin@clfa.org**
- ◆ November 11 & 12, 2020 Archaeology Refreshers—Gaia, Anderson—**these are the only refresher classes that will be offered in 2020.**

Brochures and registration for all workshops & conferences will be accessible on the CLFA website!

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