



**CALIFORNIA  
LICENSED  
FORESTERS  
ASSOCIATION**

*The Voice of  
California's  
Licensed  
Foresters*

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# *California Licensed Foresters Association*

April 2022 - Newsletter

## **Presidents Message**

**Jason Wells**

It's hard to believe it's April already. Maybe it's because the Spring Conference was delayed due to concerns about covid, and the omicron variant, or maybe it's because time has just been hard to keep track of since this whole thing started. At any rate, next month we'll be holding our Spring Conference and Workshop in person! It will be the first time in quite a while we will be able to be in one room together, in fact it will even be the first time since November that the board will be together! I'm truly excited to be able to host such an event again. I think the value of collaborative spaces is real, and the ability to hold on the fly conversations and brainstorming benefits everyone who is able to participate. It's one of the many reasons I joined CLFA in the first place.

Our upcoming conference focuses on lessons learned during and after recent catastrophic wildfire, and changing management strategies to meet our new normal condition. A lot has happened since our last in-person Spring Conference. I'm looking forward to having an opportunity to discuss these topics outside of Zoom, in large part because I truly believe in the value of side conversations and networking as a way to effectively learn and gain insight from our peers in ways that can help us tackle our own challenges. I always manage to find inspiration from fellow foresters, I hope you do too, and I hope to see you next month in Anderson!



*Dogwood blooming in Lake County*

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# Forest Practice—BOF

## Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on March 1-2, 2022 via webinar. The next scheduled meeting is on April 5-6, 2022 and will be held in-person at the Resources Building in Sacramento. The agendas for 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 Board of Forestry Meeting:

### Management Committee Business

#### **Timberland Conversion – Less Than Three Acre Exemption**

- Board Staff completed a [Conversion Feasibility Analysis](#) document to identify potential areas within their authority where revisions to the Less Than Three Acre Exemption could be made to address a number of letters submitted during their annual Call for Regulatory Review:
  - [Builders Coalition Letter](#)
  - [County of Nevada Letter](#)
  - [RPF Dean Loftus Letter](#)
- The Committee discussed a [draft rule plead](#) that would change the Less Than Three Acre Conversion Exemption in a number of substantive ways including but not limited to:
  - Amending the [“Crop of Trees” definition](#) to exclude “those trees within 30-feet of an approved and legally permitted structure” (or potentially an even larger buffer area). This was also addressed in a [Board Staff Report](#) after the September 2021 Meeting.
  - Allowing the exemption to be used once per parcel instead of the current “contiguous land ownership”
  - Extending the valid time period for the exemption to include 5 years (currently 1 year) for timber operations and 2 years (currently 1 year) for the conversion activities to be complete after timber operations. A potential extension of 2 years for both activities was also included in the rule plead for consideration.
- Agencies and stakeholders raised a number of wide-ranging concerns and questions over the potential revisions.
- **The Board would like to receive written comments on the issue before the next meeting in order to address the concerns one last time in a revised rule plead.**

#### **Unevenaged Stocking Revisions Update**

- Rule revisions the working group will be bringing forward for Board consideration in April Meeting.
  - Consideration of snags and hardwoods in unevenaged stocking
  - Group B species revisions
  - Revision of the 8-18s standard
- Southern Subdistrict of the Coast-specific group
  - Specific issues, as timberland in this district has been managed for the last few decades in unevenaged methods but now after the CZU complex, much of the subdistrict is now defacto evenaged.
- Sierra/Cascades-specific working group
  - Considerations of Dixie and other fires in the region
- There some other groups (CLFA Annual Meeting, Multiage Planning group) working on potential proposals or additions as well.
- There is still much work to be done, needs to be an ongoing effort. Not something that will be wholly addressed this year, aside from the three items listed initially.

### Forest Practice Committee Business

#### **Class II-L Determination Amendments**

- This item has been within the Committee’s business for a few months. As a reminder, the rules for determination of Class II-L sunset in 2022, so the Board must decide whether to revise or readopt the rules. The Effectiveness Monitoring Committee has suggested that the watershed size method be maintained and the channel width method be removed based on [recent rigorous research](#). After the January meeting, the Committee directed the Staff to prepare the [rule amendments](#) for rulemaking, including preparation of the [Initial Statement of Reasons](#).
- This rule package was approved by the Full Board for 45-day notice.



## Forest Practice/BOF cont.

### Northern Spotted Owl Update – Stacy Stanish

**Recommendations**

- Conduct range-wide habitat analysis and compare with NSO ACs
- Remove reference to 1991, 1992 Survey Protocol
- Remove definitions and rules not currently being used
- Modify SORP definition to include NTMPs and WFMPs
- Remove all 919.9s and 919.10, just rely on 898.2(d) and (f)
  - Less prescriptive and more outcome based
- Consider rules and/or Technical Rule Addendum that address/consider NSO limiting factors other than habitat (fire, barred owl....prey base?)
- Additional clarification of terms – Specifically emergencies and exemptions

Stacy Stanish, RPF No. 3000  
Senior Environmental Scientist - Forest Practice Biologist  
**CAL FIRE**  
CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
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- Stacy gave an overview of the NSO rules in the FPAs and current status on how various landowners comply with them, what challenges exist, and made recommendations to the Board for areas that landowners could benefit from rule revisions, if the Board desires to make revisions
- Ideas for rule changes:
  - Prior to making changes to rules for habitat, conduct range-wide habitat analysis and compare with NSO ACs to help guide any need for rule changes
  - Make rules less prescriptive and more outcome based by removing all 919.9s and 919.10 and just allow Director to reject plan if it results in a take
  - Consider that our current rules don't consider other NSO limiting factors other than habitat, which don't include rapidly changing science and habitat conditions
  - Would be helpful to clarify what a "site of listed species" is in consideration of emergencies and exemptions.

#### Other Comments

- CDFW, Elliot Chasen: work directly with NSO Working Group before moving forward with any rule revisions.
- Member Wade: direction for moving forward
  - Board Staff reach out to Stacy to frame more of her suggestions for discussion in committee
  - Expressed the need to provide avenues for small landowners to be able to manage their forests
- Member Jani: Board might want to put together a group to talk about Stacy's recommendations amongst many different stakeholders, including the NSO Working Group and small landowners

#### Notice of Intent Revisions

- This has been an item on the Committee's work plan for a while (2007-2009). Notices of Intent require regeneration methods and intermediate treatments to be identified but do not explicitly require inclusions of all of the silvicultural methods proposed to be used.
- This [rule plead](#) would require all Silvicultural Methods within a plan to be listed on NOIs. This is a very modest and simple rule change.
- This rule package was approved by the Full Board for 45-day notice.



## Forest Practice/BOF cont.

### **CAL FIRE Letter to the Board with Suggested Rule Modifications in response to the Board's Annual Call for Regulatory Review and development of the Annual Committee Priority List**

- Presented by Chief Eric Huff
- Start by commenting on the Committee's Third Priority items on their [2022 Priorities List](#) to share which items they would support staying on the list and which are not pressing enough from Department's perspective to stay on for 2022 in consideration of other more important items.
  - Request for Domestic Water Supplies item – not pressing for CAL FIRE, would not support a move to shortening of the noticing process from 10 days to 5 days, as is listed on the work item.
    - OK to pull this from the priorities list to make room for more pressing items
  - Review of Regulations pertaining to Archaeological Training, Identification and Protection of Sites (14 CCR 929 et seq)
    - Len Nielsen feels strongly that this is an item that needs to remain as a priority, 3<sup>rd</sup> priority is ok because CAL FIRE still working on it
  - 14 CCR 1034 Contents of Plan – ok with this being pulled off of the list for this year
- Other Items on the 2022 List
  - Site Preparation Addendum – CAL FIRE would like to retain that item and provide a more comprehensive report on it to the Board.
  - Treatment of Slash to Reduce Fire Hazard
    - In one documented instance on the Dixie Fire this year, multiple Slash piles created by Timber Operations that had been awaiting chipping for multiple years adjacent to a public road were ignited and became part of the fire.
    - CAL FIRE would like to retain this as a priority to prevent this situation from occurring again.
    - Rich would like to move this item to Priority 1 for the year
  - Member Wade and Jani agree to move forward with the changes that Eric Huff suggested (see above)

### **Full Board Meeting**

Actions taken during the Executive Session (closed): None.

#### Regular Session

-Consent Calendar Items: approved (Rulemaking Matrix, Reappointment of the [Joe Desmond](#) and [Tim Robards](#) to the Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation Advisory Committee, Appointments of Al Lawrence, Joanna Nelson, and Reno Franklin to the [Jackson Advisory Group](#), Reappointment of [Frank Mulhair](#), [Dan Sendek](#), and [Jim Hawkins](#) to the PFEC, [RPF Withdrawal Requests](#)).

#### Monthly Board Reports

Report of the Chairman (Chair Gilles):

- Celebrated that in-person meetings will be back next month; not ready to move forward with Fire Safe Regulation rule package at this meeting; Susan Husari's last meeting.

Acting [Director's Report](#), Daniel Berlant and Matthew Reischman, Cal Fire:

- FRAP 2022 assessment is underway
- Uptick in bark beetle activity this year (ips beetle), especially in the Sierra
- \$4 million of grants are available for business and workforce development in the nursery sector
- Forest Health Program opened their 7<sup>th</sup> grant application cycle that closes in March
- 47 Type 1 fire crews are presently available out of the 174 that are funded

Report of the USFS Regional Forester, Liz Berger, Deputy Regional Forester:

- 10 year Wildfire Crisis Strategy: increase 4x the amount of fuels and forest health treatments
- FY22 Regional Priority Emphasis: post fire recovery and disaster relief, fuels reduction and forest resiliency, visitor experiences and public access. Permanent priorities: safety, diversity, fire suppression.
- New NEPA Authority (1) Categorical Exclusion for Fuel Breaks: up to 1,000' feet wide and 3,000' acres; maintain and establish fire breaks adjacent to or along existing linear features. (2) Emergency Action Authority (available later in 2022) intended for immediate response to emergency situations.
- Post-Fire Emergency Funding: \$595M allocated in Sept 2021 (hazards, facility repairs, restoration)





## Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- 3-phased Post-Fire Recovery Vegetation Management Strategy: (1) hazard tree mitigation, (2) general forest restoration, and (3) maintenance.
- 2021 Fuels Reduction: 115,000 acres of mechanical and 47,000 acres of prescribed fire in region
- CCI Forest Health Grants awarded \$74 Million dollars to USFS and partners in 2021; 83,000 treated with this funding
- Wildfire Suppression: increasing capacity and use of technology, continued aggressive initial attack, increased required rest periods from 2 to 3 days after 14-day fire assignments and increased pay.
- Reforestation: accomplished 10,189 acres last year; need more seeds, more seedlings, and more capacity. Reforestation needed on 1.6 million acres. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law included REPLANT act which promotes effective reforestation treatments.
- USFS Region 5 timber volume (MMBF); they are predicting to sell 430 MMBF this year.

Timber Volume Sold, 2018-2020								
2019			2020			2021		
Green	Salvage	Total	Green	Salvage	Total	Green	Salvage	Total
217	158	375	310	81	391	165	46	211

- Habitat specifies conservation planning; habitat (land, water bodies, and streams) improved
- Range Management: 317 active permits, fixing fencing
- Biomass Infrastructure: invested \$4.2million from USFS for Wood Innovation and Community Wood Grants since 2018; work with industry on solutions for forest restoration and post-fire recovery of material, including rail transport.

### Executive Officer Report, Edith Hannigan:

- The BOF [Annual Report 2021](#) was accepted.
- In person meetings in Sacramento in April; broadcasting and remote participation will still be allowed.
- Board staff is still working with CDFW on the Botanical Memo for Forest Practice Committee to review, hopefully at their April meeting.

### Report of the Regulations Coordinator:

- Board is not prepared to discuss State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations, 2021 today
- Eric Hedge presented on the re-adoption of [findings of emergency](#) and [rule text](#) for the “Santa Cruz and San Mateo Weekend Emergency”, which was requested by these counties; it was re-adopted.
- Jane Van Susteren presented on the Emergency Notice Fuel Treatment & RPF Responsibilities [Rule Text \(FSOR\)](#); they were approved by the Board.

### Report of the Standing Committees:

- Management and Forest Practice Committees – see detailed notes on Committee Meetings above
  - Forest Practice Committee: The Rulemaking for Class II-L Determination was approved by the BOF.
- Resource Protection Committee, Sue Husari:
  - Initial discussion on the [Defensible Space Zone 0](#) Regulations within 14 CCCR 1299.01
  - Land Use Planning Program Update: Subdivision Review Program Update from Napa, Yolo, Solano, Colusa, Tehama and Ventura counties, and Ventura City.
  - Safety Element Reviews for Cities of Lake Forest, Beverly Hills, and Shasta Lake
- Report of the Professional Foresters Examining Committee, Dan Stapleton:
  - Offered updates on licensing statics, including that 47% of the RPF registry has been working for over 30 years and are likely to retire soon and then discussed potential ways to engage future foresters.
- Special Board Hearings/Reports: Public Hearing “Substantially Damaged Consistency Amendments, 2021”( [Rule Text](#), [ISOR](#)): No consequential public comments were made.



## Water/Wildlife/Botany

Mark Pugsley — Committee Chair

### WATER QUALITY

#### STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

##### Drought Information and Updates

- In response to the ongoing drought the SWRCB [issued a letter](#) to 20,000 water right holders throughout the state urging them to prepare for potential water shortages.
- The Board last met on March 1st Via Teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#)

The next meeting is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>; the agenda is not yet available.

##### Region 1-North Coast

The Board last met on February 3rd via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#). The next meeting is scheduled for April 7th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

##### Region 2- San Francisco Bay

The Board last met on March 9<sup>th</sup> via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#). The next meeting is scheduled for April 13th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available

##### Region 3-Central Coast

The Board last met on February 17th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#). The next meeting is scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> in San Luis Obispo; the agenda is not yet available.

##### Region 5-Central Valley

The Board last met on February 17th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#). The next meeting is scheduled for April 21st via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

##### Region 6-Lahontan

The Board last met on March 9<sup>th</sup> via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. [Agenda](#). The next meeting is scheduled for May 11th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

### WILDLIFE

#### California Fish and Game Commission

The Commission last met on February 16<sup>th</sup> via teleconference.

- The Commissions continued the decision to determine listing of the Southern California steelhead as Endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.
- The Commission continued the decision to ratify the Northern California summer steelhead as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.
- The Commission received a petition from the Humane Society of America to eliminate open hunting season for black bear until CDFW updates the Bear Management Plan to include a population census. The petition was referred to CDFW.

[Agenda](#) & [Summary](#).

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20th via teleconference. The agenda is not yet available.



# CLFA 2022 Legislation

(As of 3/24/22)

Joe Starr—Committee Chair

CLFA met with a portion of the membership and our contracted legislative analyst Brian White on 3/24/22 to discuss the current legislation and took position on several bills. There are still several spot bills that could become bills of interest.

Attached is a summary of CLFA's position on the current Legislation: SUPPORT WATCH OPPOSE

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# HAROLD H. BISWELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

## Pioneer of Fire Ecology

California High School Seniors and/or College Entry Students

### 2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION & INSTRUCTIONS

The California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) is pleased to announce that we are currently accepting and facilitating scholarship applications for the **2022 Harold H. Biswell Memorial Scholarship**. The scholarship is available to graduating California High School Seniors or recent high school graduates entering their first year of college **in the Fall of 2022**. Those planning to pursue an education in Forestry and shall be entering a University or College with a Forestry Program accredited by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) **OR** a California Junior College Forestry Program with transferable credits to an accredited Forestry School are encouraged to apply. The application must be sponsored by a voting member of CLFA. The student shall be entry level, either a high school graduate in 2022, or student who will be attending their first year of a college program in the 2022/2023 school year.

The successful applicant will be awarded a \$1,500 scholarship and receive complimentary admission to the CLFA Annual Conference, to be held in March 2023, in Anderson, CA. **To receive payment, the successful applicant will be required to submit an enrollment verification form to CLFA upon completion of registration for the Fall 2022 school session.**

This scholarship has been named the Harold H. Biswell Memorial Scholarship in honor of Professor Harold H. Biswell, pioneer fire ecologist. To represent all that Harold stood for to all those who were touched by this great man is a humbling experience. The profession of fire management underwent a paradigm shift in the 1960's, and the man who, more than any other, actually shifted the focus of the fire culture was Harold Biswell. Professor Biswell pioneered much of his fire ecology work while at the University of California, Berkeley. The idea of under burning forests to prevent more destructive wildfires was a revolutionary idea in California at the time, although fire was routinely used in some shrublands. Despite Dr. Biswell's contributions to our profession, he was widely criticized for those same ideas, presented in the same way, for which he received so much favorable response later in his career. Though some of his monikers, like "Harry the Torch" or "Dr. Burnwell," were acquired during the early days of controversy he nevertheless pursued his passion despite the odds against him.

Complete the following Application Form and return to CLFA postmarked no later than **April 30, 2022**. A notice of receipt will be sent upon CLFA's receipt of your scholarship application. **Prior to selection applicants may be requested to participate in a short video conference interview.** The successful applicant will be notified in early June 2022.

Scholarship application is an attachment to newsletter.





## Forestry Challenge Update

by Diane Dealey Neill

The Forestry Challenge Championship is coming! The dates are April 21 to 23 and our home base is Camp Sylvester in Pinecrest (Tuolumne County). Approximately 75 students from 11 schools from Grass Valley to Riverside are planning to make the trip to compete for the state title.

Considering the past two fire seasons and the Championship location, which hasn't had a recent catastrophic fire, we have a unique opportunity to introduce these young leaders of tomorrow to forestry stakeholders and get them thinking about solutions that will prevent areas like this from burning up. For those of you familiar with the Forestry Challenge, you'll notice a shift from the fall events that involve standard data collection and analysis on a small parcel to a big picture approach for this event. In fact, a similar topic is also the Capstone project for Cal's graduating forestry class this year.

To get started with lining up stakeholders, I am asking that you consider volunteering at the event. Time spent could be as little as a few hours to as much as the entire event. My goal is to have each stakeholder group represented for the Thursday evening appointments, Friday field trip, Friday evening appointments, and Saturday presentation judging. My goal is to coordinate each group, so its representatives are there for each of these activities.

The first step is to ask all of you who can be there to fill out a [volunteer registration form](#). It is linked on the top of the Forestry Challenge website homepage. Housing and food are complimentary, and we can reimburse your mileage at the rate of 14 cents per mile.

The volunteer form asks you to designate which group(s) you would be able to represent, and we may ask some individuals to represent more than one stakeholder group. As you can see, I have listed CLFA as one of those groups. The stakeholders are loosely organized as follows:

- Federal - US Forest Service, Congress, Federal Partners, and Federal Advocacy
- State - CalFire, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, University of California, California Board of Forestry
- Local - Board of Supervisors, Firesafe Councils, Collaboratives, TuCARE
- Industry - SPI and Biomass
- Professional - CA Licensed Foresters Assoc, Society of American Foresters, Associated CA Loggers
- Private - Small Forest Landowners (Forest Landowners of CA), American Forest Foundation, independent consulting foresters
- Environmental - CSERC

I look forward to receiving your volunteer form. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at [dianedealeyneill@gmail.com](mailto:dianedealeyneill@gmail.com).



## 2022 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### BOARD MEETINGS

#### 2022

- ◆ April 19, 2022—6:00 pm to 8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ May 19, 2022—6:00 pm—7:00 pm—Audit—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson
- ◆ May 19, 2022—9:00 am to 2:00 pm—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson

### CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

#### 2022

- ◆ May 4 & 5, 2022—Archaeology Refreshers—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson
- ◆ May 20 & 21, 2022—Spring Workshop/Annual Meeting—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson
- ◆ October 3-7, 2022—5-day Initial Archaeology, Gaia Hotel & Spa—***Class is Full—accepting registrations for the waiting list—contact Kathleen Burr***
- ◆ November 9 & 10, 2022—Archaeology Refreshers, Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson

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

### ***2021/2022 CLFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

#### **CLFA BOARD OFFICERS**

Jason Wells—President  
Joe Starr—Vice President  
Mark Pugsley—Treasurer  
George Gentry —Secretary

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