



**CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION**

*The Voice of
California's
Licensed
Foresters*

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California Licensed Foresters Association

July 2022 - Newsletter

Presidents Message

Joe Starr

It's been just over 10 years since I first started working in the woods and it's crazy to think how much things have changed in just that short period of time. When I first started cruising timber I found my way to my plots with a paper map in my pocket, a ruler in my vest, a spencer tape on my hip, and I measured all the trees on my strip with a traditional relaskop. Fast forward to today, I rarely even carry a paper map anymore, my only ruler is my leatherman, I sometimes carry my spencer tape in the back of my vest, and I've replaced the relaskop with a laser range finder. Even with that, almost everything I do in the woods now is with my phone or tablet.

The apps and technology that are available today have truly made the transition from field work to office work easier and the ease of internet and email in the palm of your hand has greatly increased communication. I have even sent amendments in on plans from the woods with nothing but my phone. I've not only seen changes in what I carry with me in the woods, how data can be managed differently, and how LIDAR has changed my life, but I've seen technological advances in logging, firefighting, and reforestation work too.

Drones have become an incredible tool in the forest. I've seen what they can do from a GIS standpoint in generating data, I've seen them used to fly haywire across a canyon to set up a cable corridor, I've seen them used for scouting out salvage, I've seen them used for fire inspection and patrol, I've seen them used to light fire, and I've seen them used for spraying herbicide and planting trees. Drones are being used daily in the forest and I know it is just the beginning.

It's exciting when I look back on just the past 10 years I've worked in the woods and see how different things are and how much technology has changed what we do on a daily basis. I know things will continue to change and evolve over the rest of my career and it's exciting to think what new technologies will be used and how what we're already seeing being used will evolve. Will we see large scale reforestation done with drones? Will we see drones used more for logging purposes? Will we see battery powered log trucks? Will we see battery powered logging equipment? Will we have battery powered jet packs to fly through the woods, heck you never know at this point.

I hope everyone enjoys their summer and Happy Independence Day. CLFA looks forward to representing the forestry community while we see where this technological world takes us.





Forest Practice—BOF

Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on June 6-7, 2022 in-person at the new Natural Resources Building in Sacramento. The next scheduled meeting is on July 12-14, 2022 and will be held in Scotts Valley, CA. The ability to participate remotely via webinar is being maintained. 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 June 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](#)
- A revision to the definition of “[Timberland Conversion](#)” was presented, which is a combination from many of the ideas explored at the April meeting. The definition states that Conversion Maintenance on parcels meeting the following restrictions would not be considered timber operations:
 - Non-TPZ
 - The parcel is less than 3 acres in size
 - The existing nontimber growing use of the parcel is residential or commercial
 - The felled trees are not sold, bartered, exchanged or traded.
- Cal Fire raised a number of concerns regarding potential statutory conflicts and did not support the rule plead. The item was not moved forward for a vote at the Full Board meeting for rulemaking. The Committee has asked CAL FIRE to explore and expand on some of their concerns at the July meeting. Then the Committee will consider whether or not they will be able to develop a workable solution or if the Board will abandon rulemaking on the item. With public comment and administrative rulemaking procedures, this plead will not have an opportunity to become rules in effect by January at this point in the year.

Unevenaged Stocking Revisions Update

- George Gentry presented the results of an unevenaged working group with a [draft plead](#) that would change the unevenaged stocking standards
 - Increased consideration/allowance of snags and hardwoods in unevenaged stocking
 - Reduce the size of snags that can be used for stocking to help in cases where the larger snags do not exist (minimum size of qualifying snags = 20” DBH and 20’ in height)
 - Revision of the “8-18s” standard to remove the reference to 8-18s and any other evenaged methods standards
 - Higher use of group selection
 - Introduces a new stocking standard, which George Gentry refers to as the “2/3 method” – 1/3 of stocking plots may be offset for new group openings, as opposed to the current 20%. Also, 2/3 of the stocked plots must meet the Basal Area standards, and not more than 1/3 of the stocked plots may meet the stocking standards using point count with trees that are at least 17 years old, instead of 10 years old.
 - Background: when the rules were created, it was assumed there would be a 50-year rotation age, which is where the 10-year minimum age of stocking comes into play with using the 20% area method. To remain consistent with this intent, the age is increased to 17 years old to align with the proposal of the 2/3 method.
 - Rulemaking status: The committee felt there was more work to be done on the plead and the Initial Statement of Reasons before the Full Board meeting the next day. They will bring it to the Full Board in July and possibly schedule a special meeting of the Board in order to meet administrative rulemaking timelines for the plead to be in effect on January 1, 2023.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

Jackson Advisory Group Tribal Relations Subgroup Update, Presented by Kevin Conway, CAL FIRE

- Background: In Sept 2021, the Director requested that the Board review the Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) Management Plan in light of recent executive orders to support tribal access and co-management of state-owned lands.
 - JDSF staff was asked to conduct an internal review and bring recommendations to the Board
 - The Jackson Advisory Group (JAG) has been working since November 2021 to evaluate adequacy of the current Management Plan relative to those Executive Orders.
 - JAG Tribal Relations Subgroup will advise CAL FIRE and the Board on actions to better meet the recent Executive Orders and deficiencies in the current Management Plan.
- JAG Tribal Relations Subgroup Management Plan Review and Recommendations document
 - Presents initial findings and makes recommendations to the Board on updates to their and CAL FIRE's policies and making specific recommendations to the JDSF Management Plan before completing full review.
 - The plan is to conduct a full review of the JDSF Management Plan, estimated to be complete in 2023.
 - Charlie Schneider, member of the JAG: The language of Executive Order was interpreted to mean State Agencies should be taking more proactive efforts to engage with tribes on co-management. Recommendations are based on that interpretation.
 - Define "co-management" as an agreement developed with a tribe. Management Plan needs to support tribal values and self-determination.
 - Protection of cultural "values" as more inclusive of broader goals as defined by the tribes as opposed to cultural "resources."
 - Questions
 - (Member Chase) Q: Are the other stakeholders CAL FIRE, the tribe, and others comfortable with the 2023 timeframe you are proposing here?
(Kevin Conway, CAL FIRE) A: We have not started the process or gotten that feedback yet. Part of the goal with the timeline is to not have 2 management plans before the Board as Soquel is coming 2024.
 - (Matt Simmons of EPIC) Q: Expresses support for Management Plan review and development with tribe's input. Will this Management Plan undergo environmental review as part of the CEQA process?
A: We will comply with CEQA in our action.

Forest Practice Committee Business

Botanical Resources

- After months of work by Board Staff on a guidance memo regarding botanical scoping, the Committee ended the May meeting with the sentiment that they were going to abandon the document due to the inability to reach consensus among stakeholders on direction within the document. As a result, Board Staff prepared a [sample list of alternative "pathways"](#) for discussion at the June meeting that the Board could take to address CDFW's initial request for review of the subject.
- CLFA offered an additional alternative, which would be to provide focused education to RPFs and landowners regarding botanical scoping, survey, and protection. The Committee and all stakeholders expressed support for this idea, and it is expected that CLFA will provide both Fall and Spring workshops on the issue, including "Brown Bag" field tours.
- Another pathway that gained some support, as offered by Green Diamond, was for those landowners who have been conducting intensive and/or protocol-level surveys for the last 20 years to present the results of their surveys, management, and monitoring on rare plant populations. This review could potentially be undertaken by the Board's Effectiveness Monitoring Committee.

Northern Spotted Owl Update

At the March 2022 BOF meeting, CAL FIRE Biologist Stacy Stanish 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. In response, the Board provided the following [summary](#) document at the April meeting.

- One of the goals is to incorporate language that allows lands under an NTMP or WFMP to demonstrate Take Avoidance under a [Spotted Owl Resource Plan \(SORP\)](#). Board Staff presented a draft [Initial Statement of Reasons](#) and a draft [rule plead](#). The SORP-related ISOR and Plead were voted to 45-day notice at the Full Board meeting.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- Another goal is to update the rules and to make modest changes that could assist small landowners and some other minor updates for consistency and clarity (ie removing rules that are erroneous or refer to outdated guidance documents). A [rule plead](#) to this effect was also presented, and additional revisions suggested by the [Association of Consulting Foresters](#) were also considered and generally accepted for inclusion in the plead. This plead will stay in committee for further work, and is not expected to be adopted by January 1, 2023.

Site Preparation

- Cal Fire brought this issue to the attention of the Board in their [Annual Report to the Board regarding suggested Rule Modifications](#) (page 5 of document): “A unit was using a Site Prep addendum of an expired plan to meet the silvicultural objectives of the plan.” In summary, it sounded like unmerchantable-sized trees within a harvest unit were being masticated after 1) the plan described such trees as being targeted for retention for stocking and 2) the plan had expired.
- It is expected that CAL FIRE will provide their suggested revisions to the Site Preparation definition at the July meeting. It is likely that it would seek to broaden the definition from being tied to mechanical disturbance of soil and burning of slash to any activity intended to prepare the site for planting.
- Chair Wade expressed that he wants to retain as much flexibility for the landowner as possible, and also that we need to be sure to stay within the statute that allows site prep to occur after plan expiration.
- CLFA will be participating in and monitoring this potential rule revision closely.

Full Board Meeting 6/8/22

- Executive Session – No reportable actions taken.
- Consent Calendar Items – Motion confirmed unanimously to approve consent calendar items including the [Rulemaking Matrix](#), [RPF-CRM Vital Statistics](#), and appointment of [Michael Maguire](#) to the Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation Advisory Council.
- Monthly Board Reports
 - Report of the Chairman, Dr. Keith Gilles
 - Welcomes Joe Tyler new CAL FIRE Director
- CAL FIRE [Director’s Report](#), given Joe Tyler (4m13s)
 - Joe Tyler appointed 3/4/22 and sworn in 3/24/22
 1. The new Director has been making up lost time meeting with stakeholders and rebuilding the executive staff at CALFIRE since appointment.
 2. Director Tyler has a 31-year career with CAL FIRE, mostly served in the Amador-Eldorado Unit, most recently in Sacramento in Fire Protection.
 3. New CAL FIRE executive staff appointments:
 - a. Chris Anthony – Chief Deputy Director
 - b. Daniel Berlant – New Position: Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation under the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
 - c. Curtis Brown – Deputy Director of Fire Prevention
 - d. Cody Anderson – New Position: Added second Deputy Director of Communications
 4. 2 open positions in the executive staff:
 - a. Deputy Director of Legislation – have found likely candidate and is working through administration for approval
 - b. Chief Counsel – have found likely candidate and is working through administration for approval
 5. YTD 2022 statistically less fires and fire acreages than 2021, potential for 5-year average to be greater than 2022 totals.
 6. The new Director has been meeting with USFS Regional Forester and partners in the Federal Incident Management to resolve differences in management to foster more cohesive relationship.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- Fire Protection: Aviation
 1. Resolved dispute with vendor in helicopter aviation program.
 - a. 9 of 12 Blackhawks for CAL FIRE in state, and 7 of those 9 are currently flying.
 - b. 2 Blackhawks will likely be ready for night flying in 2022 fire year.
 2. Additional C-130 likely operational in 2024 fire year.
 3. Pilots and other support members are being trained to use night vision goggles to be able to operate in “no light” conditions in 2022 season.
- Fire Protection: Camps and Crews
 1. 76 of 226 Crews active currently. Working on Fuels Reduction work prior to suppression efforts.
 2. Eligible inmates limit CDCR crews to 46 of 152 funded.
 3. Funding for an additional 16 CAL FIRE crews approved in Spring.
 4. COVID Mitigations moving towards unmonitored testing system to increase efficiency.
- Fire Protection: Training
 1. Training of staff and officer academy curriculum changes to reduce total time from 7 weeks to 3-4 weeks
 2. When suppression activities are not being pursued, suppression staff will be expected to engage in prevention activities such as fuel reduction, defensible space, etc.
 3. Law Enforcement has 30 new candidates and will likely surpass last year’s number of 149.
- Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division
 1. The second State Fire Marshal’s Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee, as mandated by AB 9, was held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. The Committee provides a means of communication between the CAL FIRE-Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, state agencies, the fire service, and other stakeholders. Visit the [State Fire Marshal’s Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee page](#) for more information.
 2. Wildfire Prevention Grants: Has received 240 applications for \$241.5 million and issued \$120 million to date for fire prevention work.
 3. Pre-Fire Planning: Fire hazard severity maps are being updated and peer reviewed.
 4. Home Hardening: Pilot project implemented in 4 CA communities to incentivize community hardening. [Low-Cost Retrofit List](#) available at OSFM website.
 5. Utility Wildfire Mitigation: Utility companies submitting wildfire mitigation plans to state for approval. CAL FIRE works with other agencies to review plans.
- Demonstration State Forests Program
 1. Jackson: Continue to engage in government-to-government consultations with the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians regarding THPs current and in review. Chief Anthony to be single point of contact to expedite communications.
 2. All THPs have been on hold while consultations are ongoing.
- Prescribed Fire
 1. Cultural Burning Awareness Class for State Employees was held in Orleans June 7, 2022 hosted by the Karuk Tribe. The class was full, with several state agencies in attendance. CAL FIRE executive staff were slated to attend including the Director.
- Wildfire Resilience Block Grants
 1. \$10 million awarded in 3 grants.
- Forest Health Grants
 1. \$120 million distributed in total.
- L.A. Moran
 1. 220,000 seedlings sown over 2021-2022 season.
- Wildfire Resilience Task Force
 1. Plans to develop an [Interagency Treatment Tracking System Framework](#) to coordinate efforts and make more visible with public viewer.
- Wood Products and Bioenergy Program
 1. \$33 million awarded in 30 grants



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- Questions from the Board
 1. (Member Chase) Q: When speaking with Federal partners and recognizing there is a lack of boots on the ground to hold fire when making indirect lines, what conversations are you having either internally or externally to address the propositions of putting more fire on the ground in those cases?
(Director Tyler) A: Based on mission differences sometimes CAL FIRE recognizes it needs to be at odds with its partners and at times step in to revoke part of our agreements and do what is best for the State of California. Federal seasonal fire suppression staffing is at 65% of capacity which is an issue. USFS Chief Randy Moore's 2022 letter of the "Chief's Intent" seemed to back off from managed fire for ecological benefits. It is the Director's interpretation that Chief Moore recognized that the ability to manage fire is best left to the Regional Foresters, ex: Maine is lush and green at this time of year vs. CA. The Director is confident that Regional Forester Everline will use full suppression tactics given the lack of resources.
 2. (Member Lopez) Q: What other partners do you have on the federal side?
(Director Tyler) A: The next closest Federal partner I have is Karen Mouritsen BLM Director of CA. We meet at least once a month. I will continue to meet with other Federal leaders, but as I have been the Executive Committee in CA Wildfire Coordinating Group which included the highest levels of fire leadership in the federal agencies. I am also meeting with local leaders and building relationships there, not only on fire suppression but also Vegetation Management.
- Chairman Gillless Comments
 1. Requests that communication about Jackson timber sales be unambiguous to the public.
 2. Liked the use of the "public viewer" which has been a goal of the Board for a long time. To provide the public easy access to viewing treatments across the state. Would like to see a demonstration to the Board when ready.
 3. Q: In respect to our federal partners, is there any activity in reviewing who had direct protection responsibility or are we in a stable environment?
A: We are still making changes annually and reviewing the Direct Protection of Resources, the largest change was in San Diego County at Palomar Mountain. We have come to an agreement that County and CAL FIRE is better positioned to defend that area. We hold DPA reviews every year.
 4. Q: What amount of blowback do you expect to see on the federal side from the incidents in New Mexico?
A: The state of New Mexico was concerned; it was the largest wildland fire caused by prescribed ignition in the state's history. Chief Moore put a 90-day moratorium on prescribed fire within the US to better understand what happened. The Regional Forester expects to have report on what happened in NM and broader scope of guidance in the use of prescribed fire in federal agencies.
- Executive Officer Legislative Report—Edith Hannigan
 - CARB has released its latest AB32 Scoping Plan update. It is up for public or agency comments.
 - Continuing to track pending legislation which is detailed in the report.
- Report of the Regulations Coordinator –
 - Board consideration of adoption the rule text for "Meadows and Wet Areas and Cutover Lands." Public comment was held in May meeting. The rule text is unchanged.
 - Dave Fowler of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board requests for public comment on the Final Statement of Reason:
 - Temporal consistency needed to be able to apply consistently
 - Dislikes single definition to include 2 distinct areas, would like to separate them in the future.
 - Supported by two phone-in comments from the public (Hanson, Richard).
 - Board members indicate that they will return to address these issues and that this motion is primarily to address the "Cutover Lands" portion of the text.
 - Move to approve the Final Statement of Reason – motion passed.
- Report of the Standing Committees
 - See committee business above
 - Move to place Spotted Owl Resource Plan Text and Initial Statement of Reason into public comment – motion passed.
 - Move to approve Fire Risk Reduction Communities List – motion passed.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- Report of the Board’s Advisory Committees
 - Effectiveness Monitoring Committee, Elizabeth Forsburg Pardi, Co-chair
 - EMC is in open comment for input on the critical monitoring process. Will be posted on the [Board](#) and [EMC](#) websites
 - Currently soliciting for two open seats – seeking nominees with expertise in ecology, silviculture, and forest operations.
 - Next meeting this summer, date to be announced soon
 - Range Management Committee, presented by Edith Hannigan as Dr. Wolf is on vacation.
 - RMC moving forward to develop educational workshop series format and dates in summer meeting on July 21, 2022. Series likely to be held in fall of 2022 or winter of 2023.
 - State Lands Grazing License and Land Management Subcommittee will present draft of Grazing License Template, Land Management Plan Template, and Guidance Booklet Template at their meeting on June 15, 2022. They will present revised versions of the templates at RMC’s July 21, 2022 meeting.
- Presentations
 - [Forestry Challenge Program](#), Diane Dealey Neill
 - 5 event dates in 2022 will funnel into a championship event.
 - Scholarship program sponsored 3 students this spring, more slated for this fall. Attempts to give scholarships to participants of Forestry Challenge going on to higher education in forestry.
 - Website describes different [careers in forestry](#) and directs students to college courses, including 2- and 3-year programs at community colleges.
 - [Volunteer](#) information and registration at [Forestry Challenge website](#).
 - 2nd place team spoke by phone with the Board and presented their final presentation.
- [A Comparison of AB 1504 and CARB Natural and Working Lands Carbon Inventories](#), Nadia Tase, CAL FIRE FRAP
 - Nadia presented the key differences between two statewide forest carbon inventories - the CA Air Resources Board (CARB) Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Forest Carbon Inventory and the Board of Forestry’s inventory pursuant to AB 1504, as managed by FRAP
 - CARB relies heavily on remote sensing data supplemented with FIA data while the AB 1504 (BOF Protocols) tracks removal and mortality more closely using direct measurement data (also FIA data).
 - The remote sensing used in the CARB Inventory does not track incremental growth well and CARB used an estimate of 0.06% to project growth. BOF recently gave their FIA data projected growth of 1.4% to CARB to use.

The Two Forest Carbon Inventories

	CARB NWL Inventory (the Forest & Other Natural Lands portion only)	BOF Forest + HWP Carbon Inventory
Perspective of Accounting	Forest Ecosystem: IPCC Stock-change HWP C: IPCC Atmospheric Flow Approach	Forest Ecosystem: IPCC Stock-change via FIA Growth, Removals & Mortality (GRM) approach HWP C: IPCC Production Approach
Time Step of Each Inventory Update	Every 2 years – approx. 4 year data lag, maybe less	Annual – approx. 2 year data lag
Primary Data Source	A combination of satellite-based data (LANDFIRE/MODIS) and ground-based measurement data (e.g., FIA data)	FIA (direct ground-based measurements on permanent plots)

- BOF Inventory uses FIA Net Change and is calculated by remeasuring a subset of fixed plots over 7 years and averaging for a 10-year period. This averages out the annual variations and provides more accurate long-term trends.
- CARB Inventory estimates based on cover type and can track annual differences well and disturbance detection and type.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

- BOF Inventory can summarize specific forest health issues and management activities accurately by collecting detailed forest attributes and be further analyzed by ownership type and other spatial data.
- FIA will transition from 10-year cycle to 5-year cycle in the coming years.
- FIA program is currently updating the specific Carbon fraction of biomass in North American species.
- CARB methodology uses “Land Cover” approach while BOF uses “Land Use” approach to categorize acres. This leads the CARB methodology to classify 30+ million more acres of land as “Forest.”

	CARB NWL Inventory (the Forest & Other Natural Lands portion only)	BOF AB 1504 Forest Carbon Inventory
Forest Definition	<i>Land cover perspective:</i> Any land ≥ 0.22 acres that currently has >10% tree or shrub canopy cover	<i>Land use perspective:</i> Any land ≥ 1 acre and 120’ wide that has or once had >10% tree canopy cover in the past 30 years, or will be artificially or naturally regenerated. Shrub-dominated lands excluded
C fraction of biomass	0.47	0.5
Time periods compared in this analysis	Stocks – 2001, 2010, 2012, 2014 Net change – 2001-2010, 2010-2012, 2012-2014 (annualized)	2017 reporting period: Stocks – 10 year rolling average (e.g., 2006-2017) Net change – plots initially measured beginning 2001-2007, re-measured 2011-2017 (annualized)

- The 2 inventories also classify and quantify forest carbon pools differently.

Included Forest Carbon Pools

	Carbon Pool	BOF Inventory (FIA)	NWL Inventory (LANDFIRE-C)
<i>FIA Forest and NWL tree-dominated Forest Land</i>			
Live Biomass	Tree Bole, Bark, Stems	✓	✓
	Tree Foliage	✓	
	Below-ground-live tree (roots)	✓	✓
	Understory, above- and below-ground live*	✓	✓
Dead Biomass	Dead tree standing, above-ground	✓	✓
	Dead tree standing, below-ground (roots)	✓	✓
	Dead down	✓	✓
	Litter (i.e., forest floor)	✓	✓
Soil Organic Carbon		✓	quantified separately outside of LANDFIRE-C
<i>FIA nonforest, NWL shrub-dominated Forest Land</i>			
Live Biomass	Live shrub, above- and below-ground		✓
	Live understory		✓
	Grass/herbaceous		✓
Dead Biomass	Woody debris		✓
	Litter		✓
Soil Organic Carbon			quantified separately outside of LANDFIRE-C

*Includes trees < 1.0” dbh. shrubs/woodv vines/forbs and eraminoids

Please note:
BOF dead biomass estimates from a newer FIA-based model include the following updates that will be included in the next NWL inventory as well:

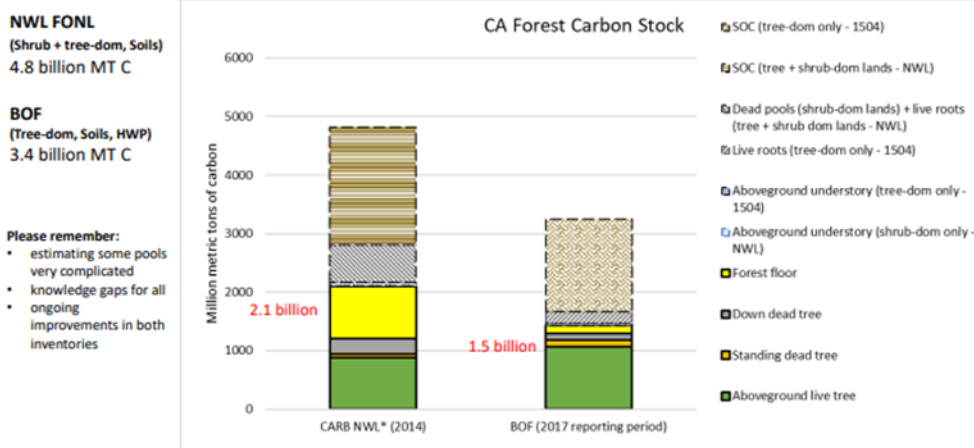
- Wood decay and snag degradation rates
- Fine wood (<3” dia.) reported in the down dead wood pool rather than litter pool

- This comparison focused on the relatable pools of Carbon in each inventory in “Tree-dominated” lands only, those colors of the bar graph that are outlined in solid lines. Very large differences in the “Down dead tree” and “Forest floor” categories in the NWL method, likely due to using an older version of the FIA-based model.



Forest Practice/BOF cont.

Tree-dominated lands only Forest C Stock Estimates



- Comparing the 2 methodologies highlighted the key differences between them.
 1. Time periods of reporting change. This may more closely align after FIA moves to 5-year cycle and more reporting periods are completed in both methodologies.
 2. C fraction of biomass. This may more closely align after new FIA C fraction of biomass estimates are adopted by both methodologies.
 3. Shrub dominated land classified as “Forest” in the NWL.
 4. Tree foliage C accounted for in BOF and not NWL.
 5. Incremental growth detection.
 6. Dead C pool estimates. May more closely align when NWL adopts newer FIA database.
 7. Land cover vs Land use classification.
 8. Differences in how changes in carbon from disturbances are attributed (fire, conversion, harvest).
- Also, some key similarities
 1. Annual disturbances in the NWL data reflect trend down in BOF data
 2. Slower productivity from both the FIA and remotely sensed data
- Public Hearing
 - Board to consider changes to [Rule Text regarding Class-III Designations](#) based on the [Initial Statement of Reason](#)
 - Received [Letter of Support](#) from CAL FIRE Deputy Director of Resource Management.
 - Received statement of support from Drew Coe, Watershed Protection Manager at CAL FIRE
 - Received statement of support from George Gentry of the California Forestry Association
 - Board members indicated their desire to produce a Final Statement of Reason
- George Gentry announces CLFA workshop regarding Botany discussion in Forest Practice Committee Nov 18, 2022 tentative date.
- Public Forum
 - Marco Mack, President of Firesafe Council in Santa Cruz: requesting BOF to allow local officials to identify where more defensible space is needed based on specific parcels, define “ember resistant” vegetation, ask for a guidance document that defines standardized wildfire risk reduction operational hazard rating system, and provide a pathway for residents to be incentivized to go beyond required minimums by providing a standardized document that quantifies wildfire risk rating. Will send a letter to the Board detailing request.
 - Nancy Macy, Chair of Utility Wildfire Mitigation Taskforce: wants to inform the Board of SB396 requires PGE to adhere to FPRs. Concerned that Utilities could have carte blanche in writing their own mitigation strategy with no permits required.



Legislation

Jason Wells—Chair

The house of origin deadline has passed. Bills that made it out of the first house are now under consideration in the second house. These bills are awaiting assignment for policy committee hearings and must pass the policy committees by July 1st to remain alive. Below is the status on some of the key CLFA monitored bills and attached is a more comprehensive list of all bills that have been tracked over the two-year session (many of them are no longer alive).

Also be advised that the budget bills will soon be identified as the Legislature prepares to vote on the budget by the June 15th to meet the constitutional deadline. Lots of new funding will be dedicated towards forestry and wildfire programs. The Governor and Democrat leaders are on the same page for the most part on wildfire funding but it's possible some budget won't get resolved until late August.

AB 522 (Fong) extends the forest fire prevention exemption from five years after the effective date of emergency regulations adopted by the Board of Forestry (BOF), which is February 19, 2024, until January 1, 2026. **Status: In Senate, first hearing on 6/1 postponed. Position: Support**

AB 1154 (Patterson) exempts from CEQA an egress route project to improve emergency access to and evacuation from a subdivision without a secondary egress route if the subdivision has been identified by the BOF, and the BOF recommends the creation of a secondary access to the subdivision. **Status: Passed Senate Environment Committee, to Appropriations. Position: Support**

AB 1717 (Aguiar-Curry) expands the definition of public works, for which prevailing wage must be paid to workers, to include publicly funded fuel reduction work performed as part of a fire mitigation project. This would increase the time and costs for completing needed wildfire prevention projects, simply because they may have received some state funding. **Status: In Senate, awaiting committee assignment. File. Position: Recommend Oppose (CLFA Legislative Committee wrote and submitted a letter of opposition on June 13, 2022).**

AB 2322 (Wood) requires the Building Standards Commission (BSC) to adopt, approve, codify, and publish mandatory building standards for fire resistance based on occupancy risk categories in very high, high, and moderate California fire severity zones in state responsibility areas, and local responsibility areas. **Status: In Senate Governmental Organization Committee. Position: Watch**

AB 2377 (Muratsuchi) establishes within CAL FIRE, a new Chief of Wildfire Prevention to be appointed by the Governor. This position would be responsible for prioritizing acres for fire and fuels treatment and executing those treatments; streamlining required regulatory approvals; and achievement. **Position: Pending – Recommend Support**

AB 2672 (Flora) requires CAL FIRE to procure or establish a statewide defensible space and home hardening online platform for use by property owners to support the state's goal of treating 500,000 acres annually by 2025. **Status: In Senate, awaiting committee assignment CAL FIRE in defensible space inspection requests. Status: Held In Assembly Appropriations - DEAD. Position: Watch**

AB 2479 (Wood) requires CAL FIRE to report to the Legislature how it will increasingly use, develop, implement, facilitate, and support prescribed burn, cultural fire, and managed wildfire projects to burn an unspecified number of acres by January 1, 2030. **Status: Held in Assembly Appropriations - DEAD. Status: Watch**

AB 2878 (Aguiar-Curry) establishes the Forest Biomass Waste Utilization Program to develop an implementation plan for using biomass waste, including requiring the CPUC to adopt measures to use biomass waste that could support rural microgrids; provide incentives for electricity and pipeline interconnection for forest biomass projects; and consider increasing the megawatt cap of the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff. **Status: In Senate, awaiting committee assignment. Position: Pending – Recommend Support**

SB 396 (Dahle) establishes a process for an electrical corporation that owns, controls, operates, or maintains an electrical transmission and distribution line to cut, fell, or trim trees where the electrical corporation does not have existing rights or express permission to do so. The bill also requires an electrical corporation to provide notice to the land owner and an opportunity for the land owner to be heard before cutting, trimming, or felling trees. (Note: new committee amendments will clarify that utilities must comply with environmental laws related to forestry and the Coastal Act, and clarifies that the landowner may request how the materials should be treated on the landowner's property). **Status: Passed Assembly Natural Resources, to Appropriations. Position: Pending**



Legislation cont.

SB 926 (Dodd) requires the CAL FIRE, on or before January 1, 2023, to establish the Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program (PFL Pilot Program) and a \$20 million Prescribed Fire Claims Fund (Fund) to support coverage for losses from permitted prescribed fires by individuals and nonpublic entities. The Legislature enacted a CLFA-supported prescribed burn liability relief bill in 2021 (SB 332 – Dodd), so this funding for a pilot program would help implement that legislation. **Status: Referred to Assembly Natural Resources and Assembly Judiciary Committees. Position: Pending – Recommend Support**

SB 1109 (Caballero) seeks to increase, extend, and expand requirements on electric utilities to procure energy from biomass generating electric facilities. Original bill would have expanded the 125-megawatt program to 225 MW; revises the financial commitments for utilities from five years to up to 15 years; and require existing contracts to be extended for an additional five years. New amendments deleted the increase of the additional 100 MW due to concerns raised by Senate Energy Committee. **Status: In Assembly, awaiting committee assignment. Position: Support**

SB 1404 (Stern) would make changes to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with regard to oak woodlands, including that a lead agency, instead of a county, determine whether a project may result in a conversion of oak woodlands. The bill would also require that the removal of three or more oak trees, as specified, constitute a significant effect on the environment under CEQA. **Status: Held in Senate Appropriations – DEAD. Position: Previous position**

MSW Moves into Tuolumne Financial Assistance for California Private Landowners

By: Chantz Joyce, CA Conservation Manager, American Forest Foundation

Attention RPFs and LTOs: My Sierra Woods has launched a new focused effort in portions of Tuolumne and Calaveras counties. We are looking for RPFs and LTOs to work with us on fuels reduction projects. In this landscape, we expect to leverage grant funds to conduct at least 5,000 acres of treatments over the next 3 years.

Through local partnership, My Sierra Woods seeks to reduce the likelihood of unnaturally large and severe wildfires in California by increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration on private lands. We do this by connecting landowners to dedicated technical and financial support.

We know that for many private forest landowners in California, the high cost of fuels reduction treatments keeps them from taking restoration action on their land. So, in 2019 our team launched the Forest Biomass Transportation Incentive (FBTI) – a financial assistance offer that reimburses landowners for a portion of their out-of-pocket expenses in conducting fuels reduction treatments. With support from a CAL FIRE CCI Forest Health grant, we provide FBTI reimbursements based on bone-dry tons removed and haul distance to the nearest processing facility.

To connect with the My Sierra Woods team:
Visit: <https://www.mysierawoods.org/> or reach out:
Chantz Joyce, RPF #2753
(530) 524-9563
cjoyce@forestfoundation.org.

My Sierra Woods is a partnership between local organizations and the American Forest Foundation, pooling resources together to help California landowners thrive. Our goal is to increase land resiliency to fires and improve water quality across the state.



Water/Wildlife/Botany

Mark Pugsley — Committee Chair

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD Drought Information and Updates

The SWRCB has readopted emergency regulations for the Scott and Shasta Rivers

The Board last met on June 7th in Sacramento. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda The next meeting is scheduled for July 6th—the agenda is not yet available.

Region 1-North Coast

The Board last met on June 9th & 10th in Santa Rosa. A report will be presented by CALFIRE, Board of Forestry, and Water Board regarding post-fire timber salvage operations. “The purpose of this information item was [...] related to post-fire timber salvage activities wildfire remediation activities, and monitoring to inform potential revisions to how Emergency Notices of Timber Operations are regulated”. Video(starts at 8 minutes). Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for August 8th in Santa Rosa; the agenda is not yet available.

Region 2- San Francisco Bay

The Board last met on June 8th in Oakland. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for July 13th in Oakland.

Region 3-Central Coast

The Board last met on June 16th in San Luis Obispo. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for August 13th in San Luis Obispo; the agenda is not yet available.

Region 5-Central Valley

The Board last met on June 9th in Rancho Cordova. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for August 11th location to be decided; the agenda is not yet available.

Region 6-Lahontan

The Board last met on June 8th in Barstow. 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 in South Lake Tahoe. Agenda

WILDLIFE

The USFWS and NOAA have rescinded the definition of Habitat that was passed by the Trump Administration.

California Fish and Game Commission - The Commission last met on June 15th in a hybrid meeting.

- The proposal to list the western Joshua tree did not pass and has been continued to the October meeting.
- The Commission decided the listing of the Temblor legless lizard as threatened or endangered under CESA may be warranted.
- The Commission voted to upgrade the listing of the Milor Baker’s Lupine from threatened to Endangered under CESA.

Agenda and Article The next meeting is scheduled for August 17th in Fortuna.



The Buckeye Conservancy: Families “Ranching for Good” on the North Coast

By Brita Goldstein

For 22 years, the Buckeye Conservancy has promoted stewardship of privately-owned ranch and timberlands on California’s North Coast. This 501(c)(3) non-profit was founded in 2000 by ranching families and natural resource managers concerned about increased sale and subdivision of working lands, new policies impacting ranching and forestry practices, and the loss of local family and land legacies. They formed a group “by ranchers, for ranchers” to support conservation of open spaces and identified the California Buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) as their symbol—a distinctive, hardy species native to the North Coast and commonly found in the landscapes between timber and rangelands.

Over the years, this organization has served as an important resource for more than 150 individual, family, and business members, representing over 300,000 acres of land in Humboldt County and beyond. The Buckeye closely monitors state and local legislation and policy changes impacting working lands, raises awareness of the pressures contributing to land fragmentation, and advocates for common sense solutions to strengthen economic and ecologic sustainability of ranchlands. It also hosts workshops and informational events about land management issues and practices, promotes strategies for successful intergenerational transitions, and helps members network with each other and other conservation-focused groups.

Though the organization functioned in a virtual format throughout the pandemic, the Buckeye was happy to finally resume its Annual Membership Meeting and Fundraiser on Saturday, June 25th at the River Lodge in Fortuna, California. More than 100 members and supporters attended to celebrate its 2022 accomplishments, including the establishment of the Buckeye Scholarship Fund, awarding \$3,000 to high school and colleges students with career aspirations in working landscapes. This year’s Stewardship Award was also presented to the Brightman Ranch for outstanding dedication to landscape care and diligent maintenance.

To learn more about the Buckeye, please visit thebuckeyeconservancy.org or reach out to Executive Director Emily Stackhouse at emily@thebuckeye.org.



Pictured: The Buckeye Board of Directors presents Brightman Ranch with the 2022 Stewardship Award at the Annual Membership Meeting and Fundraiser. From left to right: Emily Stackhouse, Executive Director; George Brightman, landowner and award recipient; Maya Brightman, ranch hand; Jorie Chadbourne, former Board Chair and presenter; Maria Brightman, ranch hand; Brita Goldstein, Board Chair.



Announcement

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION BELOW

Dear Friend of the Forest,

Summer is almost here, and we are excited to announce that the California State Fair is back for 2022! The Fair will be held from July 15-31, and we once again need your help at The California Forest Center – our one-acre forest education exhibit – to teach Californians about the value of sustainable forests for today and the future.

It has been a while, but the last fair welcomed thousands of people to the California Forest Center, and we are looking forward to doing it again this year. With your help, we'll be able to highlight the issues that impact California's vast, diverse, and abundant forestlands and educate visitors on the importance of healthy forests and how they help the environment and our economy.

NOTE: If you are a manager or supervisor, who would like to reserve an entire shift block for your team, contact me directly and we will reserve a group date/time slot for you.

Shifts available from July 15-31, 2022 at the following times:

Monday – Thursday	EARLY 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (8 avail)	LATE 3:15 to 7:15 p.m. (7 avail)
Friday – Sunday	EARLY 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (8 avail)	LATE 2:45 to 7:15 p.m. (7 avail)

Setup and teardown shifts are also needed on July 14th from 8:00 to 12:00 and July 31st from 8:00 to 12:00.

Interested in signing up? Follow the link here: <https://signup.com/go/pmEvjZA>

We hope to see you at the 2022 California State Fair. Please let us know if we can count on your help and we will send you more information as the date gets closer. Thank you in advance for your consideration.



Noah "Z" Zuniga Sr.
Executive Director

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2022 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

BOARD MEETINGS

2022

- ◆ July 22, 2022—6:00 pm—7:00 pm—Audit—Granzellas, Williams, CA
- ◆ July 23, 2022—9:00 am to 2:00 pm—Granzellas, Williams, CA

CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

2022

- ◆ 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

2022/2023 CLFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Charl Stoneman—Treasurer
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