



**CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION**

*The Voice of
California's
Licensed
Foresters*

Inside this issue:

Presidents Message
Forest Practice
Legislation
Water & Wildlife
2019/2020 Board
Calif. Forestry Challenge
2019 Archaeology
Refreshers
Calendar 2019/2020

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California Licensed Foresters Association

June 2019 - Newsletter

President's Message Chris Dow, CLFA President

It is that time of year again, spring has sprung, and office time will be traded for field time. In addition, a new generation of foresters is a few short months from beginning their education, continuing it, or entering the job market looking for those years of experience leading to the RPF Exam. For many foresters, this time of year represents planting season. A new crop of seedlings carefully planted, and tended to until it is time for rotation. Foresters spend countless hours in the field, from site preparation and planting, until harvest, the trees we plant are what represent our future and the commitment we have to ensuring the future of our precious forests. Endless calculations of cost, loss, profit and growth can give us the exact amount of investment in a stand of trees, and what the potential value of a tree is.

However, we can't put this same type of value on our foresters, and our future foresters, or our "seedlings." Much like the investment that a forester puts into his trees, the profession of forestry is at a time where the investment into the future crop is critical to all facets of natural resource management. Since the inception of the Registered Professional Forester, there have been 3,077 men and women who have earned the title of RPF. The current number for active RPF licenses is approximately 1100. Approximately half of those are considered to be actively using their license, and the number of RPFs expected to retire from that active status in the next decade, is half.

The importance of RPF involvement in the recruitment of a new cohort is looming over the profession. A familiar question to be heard is "How do we get the next generation interested in becoming RPFs?" I have heard this question too many times to count, and it is not a question that will go away.

The 2019 Spring Conference held at the Gaia demonstrated that foresters at all levels of their career are willing to invest in the future, as CLFA was able to raise a record amount for our scholarship programs. In the past 3 years, CLFA has increased the amount of money it gives to students through the CLFA and Roy Richard's Scholarships, has created a new scholarship for entry level students into a junior college or university forestry program, the Harold H. Biswell Scholarship. Moving forward, we hope to host a video submission scholarship for teams of students to compete in. In addition, CLFA is working towards a certificate for high school students, to earn through Future Farmers of America, which would certify their ability to perform forestry technician work. There is also an ever growing need for volunteers to mentor or assist in various education programs through Forestry Challenge, WoodEd, or FIT for example. Many of our junior college and university programs have a forestry club that is involved in various events from logging sports to Christmas tree cuts and distribution. These scholarships and mentoring events are crucial to the growth of the profession and its "seedlings." As foresters, we don't just plant the trees and expect them to grow into the perfect stand; we use PCT, Intermediate Treatments, and various other techniques to grow our stand to rotation. The patience, dedication, long hours and perseverance, that are ingrained in all foresters, are what is needed most from our profession right now. We must ask ourselves the question:

**What am I doing to mentor
and develop the next cohort for
the future of forestry?**

Photo:
2019 King Fire planting crew for
SPI Camino District





Forest Practice—BOF

Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

In May, the Board of Forestry met in Chico and took a field trip to the Camp Fire. The devastation is unimaginable and rebuilding and restoration efforts are just beginning. However the Board was encouraged by many successful fuels reduction and fuel break projects that were presented on the tour. In their regular sessions, they remained focused on the topics introduced to their work flow at the March meeting, which will likely be the case through approximately June. See the May meeting agenda for the full list of topics covered: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8545/may-2019-meeting-and-agenda.pdf>. The agenda for the June meeting on 6/11-6/12 has not yet been released. Please see the following list for items of greatest interest to the RPF community:

FULL BOARD MEETING

Monthly Update from Cal Fire;

- Cal Fire is working on an NSO Safe Harbor Agreement with USFWS for small landowners and making good progress
- Chairman Gilles requested an update on some of the recent issues landowners utilized the CFIP program have had with getting reimbursed through the State’s new financial system. Cal Fire is working with the Controller to try to improve the situation.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. NTMP Amendments – this item was not discussed at the May BOF Meeting.
2. Revision of Stocking Standards within 14 CCR 913 et. seq. – Minor changes to the stocking standards plead for revisions to point count standards were discussed and the Committee directed the staff to draft the Initial Statement of Reasons for the rule package. A workshop is expected to be scheduled in early June to address accompanying changes to the post-harvest stocking survey methods. This item will likely be brought to the full board for a vote in June or July.

Summary of Proposed Point Count Stocking Standard changes

Districts	FPR Site				
	I	II	III	IV	V
Northern,	125	125	125	100	100
Coast	200	200	125	100	100
Coast, Southern	300	300	200	200	200

FOREST PRACTICE COMMITTEE

1. “Exemption Emergency Regulations, 2019” 14 CCR 1038 et. seq. – The Board will be undertaking a secondary review of the recently adopted revisions to 1038 Exemptions to address necessary clarifications. The Board has identified a number of issues already, which can be found in the following document: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8489/fpc-2-1-april-2019-1038-issues-report.pdf>. **Please contact CLFA President Chris Dow if you have noted distinct problems with the structure or application of the current 1038 rule text so that we may bring these concerns to the Board now!**

2. Discussion of Regulatory Amendments to 14 CCR § 1052.4 “Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction” – CLFA has been extremely active in revision of rule text for the Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction. The goal is to adopt revisions to the rule structure and text to facilitate expanded use and effectiveness of the Notice to increase pace and scale of the implementation of fuelbreaks around communities and infrastructure at risk of catastrophic wildfire. CLFA has attended every workshop and board meeting addressing this topic, including the most recent workshop on May 23.



Forest Practice cont.

3. Botanical Scoping and Survey Procedures -A presentation was made to the Board by CDFW Staff with a request to initiate a stakeholder working group and potentially draft new rules regarding botanical scoping and survey procedures for botanical scoping and surveying on managed timberlands. CDFW stated that updates to the expectations and procedures are needed to increase efficiency and consistency. Many comments were provided by industry representatives, CLFA, Forest Landowners of CA, and other stakeholders, and this will be a topic that CLFA will remain heavily invested in as it develops. However, it is not on the Committee's priority list for 2019 so they will likely not be addressing it immediately.

4. Timber Operations in the WLPZ – The Board is drafting a report presenting support for utilization of low-impact equipment and harvesting methods within WLPZs. The document is intended to be a helpful guide for RPFs and review team agencies when proposing and reviewing such operations. A draft of the introduction of the report is available at the following link: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/media/8589/draft-feller-buncher-white-paper-5319.pdf>

5. Update on Reporting to Legislature on Exemptions and Emergency Notices – Eric Huff of Cal Fire provided an update on the report to the Legislature on Exemptions and Emergency Notices, which was finalized as of the Committee meeting. In general, a high level of compliance was found by Cal Fire in their monitoring effort of exemptions and emergency notices.

RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

1. Review of Existing Board Regulations for Maintenance of Utility Right of Way – CAL FIRE has asked the Board to review existing regulations pertaining to the maintenance of utility rights of way. The Board recognizes that their rules are outdated with current CPUC policies and current electrical equipment, and they want to have consistency between each set of regulations. The Board has also identified the need to address the issue of “conversion” versus “maintenance” of rights of way.

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Legislation

Jason Wells—Committee Chair

CLFA signed onto coalition neutral letter AB454 Kalra – Migratory birds. Our primary concern with the introduced version of the bill was that it provided the Department of Fish and Wildlife with authority to adopt regulations to further restrict the taking of migratory birds. The amendments dated May 16, 2019 address our concerns with the original version of AB454 by allowing California to consider any future changes to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and only recognize them if they are consistent with existing California law.

SB69 (Weiner) passed the Senate floor. Prior to the vote, considerable requirements that had initially been placed on the regional water boards timber review teams were removed. Unfortunately, the bill still contains significant WLPZ protection measures that would be outside of the Board of Forestry’s jurisdiction to regulate; these measures are myopic by nature and do not allow for the flexibility necessary to manage riparian areas for multiple biological uses. CLFA signed a coalition letter, and testified in a senate committee hearing, in opposition to the bill.

CLFA supported a budget request brought on by Assemblyman Patterson related to implementing a grant program to address biomass transportation costs.

May 31st is the deadline for legislative votes for each respective house, next month’s newsletter will have the status for each of the bills CLFA is tracking.

AB343	Patterson	Biomass	Requires Natural Resource Agency to develop and implement a fuels transportation program that provides competitive grants or other incentives for projects in eligible communities to offset transportation costs to biomass energy, mass timber, or innovative forest product facilities. Authorizes the agency to allocate moneys from the GGRF.	Amended April 1, 2019	Support
AB394	Obernolte	Fire Safety Exemptions	Exempts from CEQA projects recommended by BOF that improve fire safety of existing subdivision if conditions are met. Requires lead agency to hold public comment prior to exempt determination.	Introduced 2/6/2019	Support
AB616	Patterson	Fire Safety: Carbon Plan Report	Requires Resource Agency and Cal EPA prepare and submit progress report on policies and resources needed to meet the objectives of the Forest Carbon Plan.	Amended April 2, 2019	Watch
SB1	Atkins	Environment, Public Health, Workers Defense Act	Requires specified agencies to maintain certain federal requirements. Bill is to protect environmental standards from Trump administration, will be inoperative January 20, 2025.	Amended May 21, 2019	Oppose
SB62	Dodd	Accidental Take. Agriculture	Permanently extends exemption for farms and ranches to incidental take of species under ESA. Extends California Safe Harbor Agreement Act to 2024.	Amended April 4, 2019	Support if Amended
SB69	Weiner	Ocean Protection	Sets stringent WLPZ requirements outside of the Board of Forestry's jurisdiction, including Class III WLPZ. Use of unpaved appurtenant roads prohibited in saturated conditions. No harvest on high EHR. Historic erosion sites with high erosion potential shall be stabilized if feasible.	Amended May 17th, Passed Senate Floor	Oppose
SB462	Stern	Community Colleges	Summary: Would require the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges, working in collaboration with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, to establish a model curriculum for a forest and woodlands restoration and fire resiliency workforce program that could be offered at campuses of the California Community Colleges.	Amended April 30, 2019	Support



Water & Wildlife

Gwyndolyn Ozard — Committee Chair

WATER QUALITY

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

The Board last met on April 18 in Santa Rosa. The agenda included consideration of adoption of a Short-Term Renewal of Order No. R1-2014-0011, Categorical Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities on Non-Federal Lands in the North Coast Region. More information at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/04_2019/pdf/6/190417_Timber_Cat_Waiver_Renewal_EOSR.pdf

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 19 & 20 at a location to be determined; the agenda is not yet available.

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

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 6-7 in Rancho Cordova; the agenda is available: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/2019/1906ag.pdf.

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

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 12-13 in Barstow; the agenda is available https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/agenda/2019/jun/agenda.pdf

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

The Board last met May 15-17 in San Luis Obispo; there were no forestry items on the agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18-19 in Santa Barbara; the agenda is not yet available.

WILDLIFE

The Fish and Game Commission: <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2019/index.aspx>

The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met on April 17 in Santa Monica. The agenda included the following items: receipt of the 90-day report from CDFW for the petition to list four species of bumble bees (*Bombus* spp.) as endangered and consideration for authorization of take of upper Klamath-Trinity spring Chinook salmon (discussed below).

There was a FGC teleconference on May 16th for discussing proposed changes to mammal hunting and fishing regulations. The agenda and an audio recording of the teleconference is available:

<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=168062&inline> http://ftp.fgc.ca.gov/Public/FGC/Meetings/2019/WRC_Mtg_2019_0516_web.mp3

The next full FGC meeting is scheduled for June 12-13 in Redding; the agenda is not yet available.

Northern California Summer Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*)

CDFW has completed their evaluation to determine if the Petition provides sufficient information and has recommended that the Commission accept the Petition for further consideration under CESA. The FGC has scheduled the candidacy hearing for the Jun. 12-13, at the Commission meeting in Redding. Additionally, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has published their 90-day finding which determined that the petition to list NC summer steelhead DPS as federally endangered may be warranted. They will now commence a 12-month review process prior to making a final determination. Link to the Federal Register Notice:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/04/22/2019-07995/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-90-day-finding-on-a-petition-to-list-summer-run-steelhead-in>



Water & Wildlife cont.

Background: The FGC received a petition on September 28, 2018 from Friends of the Eel River to list northern California summer steelhead as endangered under CESA. On Oct 8, 2018 FGC staff transmitted the petition to DFW for review and a notice of receipt of petition was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register on Oct 26, 2018. On Nov 5, 2018 CDFW requested a 30-day extension to the 90-day evaluation period. FGC staff recommended approval of CDFW's request in the December 13, 2018 meeting. CDFW completed their report in January 2019. Link to report: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=164972&inline>

Upper Klamath-Trinity River (UKTR) Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)

The FGC, in their April 17 meeting, discussed and considered authorizing take of upper Klamath-Trinity River spring Chinook salmon (also referred to as upper Klamath-Trinity spring Chinook salmon, or UKTSCS) under Section 2084 of the Fish and Game Code. More information at: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=166627&inline>

Background: The FGC received the petition from the Karuk Tribe and the Salmon River Restoration Council to list the UKTR spring run Chinook salmon as endangered under CESA on 7/23/2018. In its Oct 17 meeting, FGC staff recommended granting a 30-day extension to CDFW to evaluate the listing petition, thus changing CDFW's evaluation due date from Oct 31, 2018 to Nov 30, 2018. The FGC received CDFW's evaluation report at their Dec. 12-13 meeting. Link to report: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=165143%20&inline>



California Forestry Challenge

Diane Dealey Neill

Things have been busy for the Forestry Challenge team as the school year comes to a close and we are focused on getting schools signed up, or “pre-registered” for the fall events. Recently learning about the California Department of Education’s public database, we were able to email about 3,000 high schools, and our efforts paid off. There are now 73 schools on our list, and we expect more to trickle in in the next few weeks. Seven new schools became aware of us through our email outreach effort, and a few more new to the list are schools we made contact with at one of the career events listed below.

When a teacher pre-registers, we ask them if they would like a forester to be matched with their school, and most say yes. We will be reaching out to CLFA members and other foresters in the next few months to recruit foresters to mentor schools. Please consider being a mentor, which involves only one or two visits to a campus to work with a small group of students interested in learning forestry basics.

One of the goals of the Forestry Challenge is to promote education and careers in forestry, logging, and natural resources. Here are three ongoing efforts to achieve this goal:

We have created a quarterly College and Careers e-newsletter that highlights forestry and logging related education and career paths. The intended audience is students and guidance counselors. There are now 100 on the mailing list and we expect that number to increase.

We incorporate education and career information into classroom presentations and career fairs. Events attended during the past school year include:

- 9/12/2018: Career Day at El Camino Real Charter High School in San Fernando Valley
- 3/13/2019: El Dorado Union High School District Career Expo
- 3/16/2019: *Expanding Your Horizons* event in San Bruno, for girls interested in STEM careers
- 3/16/2019: Science Resource Fair for teachers at the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland
- 3/21/2019: Sustainable Careers Fair at Castro Valley High School
- 3/21/2018: Green Careers Conference in San Diego (packets sent for distribution)
- 4/6/2019: MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement) statewide retreat, for community college students interested in STEM careers
- 4/11/2019: Green Careers Conference in Los Angeles (presentation and expo display by CalFire forester David Haas)
- 4/30/2019: Green Careers Conference in Berkeley (2 presentations and display table)

Packets with education and career information were given to approximately 50 schools at these events.



2018/2019 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

BOARD MEETINGS

- ◆ June 22, 2019—GoToMeeting—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ July 27, 2019—Lyme Redwood, Ft. Bragg—9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- ◆ August 24, 2019—GoToMeeting—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ September 21, 2019—Sonoma—Location TBD—9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- ◆ October 12, 2019—GoToMeeting—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ November 7, 2019—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson—11:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ December—Dark
- ◆ January 25, 2020—Granzellas, Williams—9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- ◆ February 15, 2020—GoToMeeting—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ March 5, 2020—Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson—11:00 am to 4:00 pm
- ◆ April 18, 2020—GoToMeeting—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- ◆ May 15, 2020—CLFA Audit—Granzellas, Williams—6:00 pm
- ◆ May 16, 2020—Granzellas, Williams—9:00 am—3:00 pm

CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

- ◆ June 13, 2019—Green Diamond Field Day with Cal Fire Archaeologists
- ◆ October 21—25, 2019—5-day Initial Archaeology Class, Gaia, Anderson - **Postponed—Date TBD**
- ◆ November 6 & 7, 2019—Archaeology Refresher—Granzellas, Williams
- ◆ November 15, 2019—Fall Workshop—Gaia, Anderson
- ◆ January 24, 2020—Cal Fire Archaeology Meeting—Granzellas, Williams
- ◆ March 6 & 7, 2020—Spring Workshop, Gaia, Anderson

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