



**CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION**

*The Voice of
California's
Licensed
Foresters*

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

www.clfa.org

California Licensed Foresters Association

June 2020 - Newsletter

President's Message Ariel Roughton, CLFA President

The last 2 and-a-half months have been challenging to put it lightly. Challenge and adversity is nothing new to this profession, and it will likely always be a part of our work, but I can't say that anyone thought we would add a pandemic to the list of challenges to overcome. Still, here we are. As the manager of UC Berkeley's Research Forests, for me the last two months have been full of Zoom meetings and attempting to plan for operations and research amidst great uncertainty, but there has also been the normality of field work and preparing for the arrival of seasonals to keep me sane.

The situation across the state and guidance from the Governor has also highlighted the key role the forestry profession plays in the state of California. The work we are doing and goals working towards are essential to the economic success, mental wellbeing, and safety of all Californians. While we have always known ourselves to be essential and that the responsible management of our forestlands to be critical, this moment has given us confirmation of this fact and renewed importance. Our forestlands have no recognition of COVID-19 and still require the efforts of professional foresters to maintain their health and productivity. To that effect, CLFA is committed to continuing to promote the importance of the forestry profession and management of forestlands.

This year of CLFA will likely be very different from what was envisioned, but we like the rest of you plan to adapt to the situation and continue to strive to succeed in our mission. Some things will surely be different; our educational programs may have to shift towards virtual delivery and outreach will be primarily online; but our goals and mission will remain the same. CLFA will remain engaged at the Board of Forestry and with the legislation to insure the best interests of our membership are represented especially during these trying times. Following improvements to our website, we will build on this to create a space where resources and updates are readily available to the membership. While outreach will be different, we will continue to work to bring new members into the organization and support students striving for a career in forestry.

Just as the goals of the board have not change, neither has the need for participation from the membership. There are still board seats available waiting for an engaged and willing member to fill them. If this is too much of a commitment we are also encouraging participation as members at large in our different committees. Wonder what CLFA actually does to promote the profession at the state capitol or how we support future foresters? Then send us an email and get involved in one of our committees!

Myself and the rest of the CLFA board wish everyone and their families the best during these times and look forward to a year that will undoubtedly be full of challenge, but also progress and innovation.



**2020-2021 CLFA President,
Ariel Roughton, conducting
some fuels management at
her home in Georgetown, CA**



Forest Practice—BOF

Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on May 5-6, 2020 via teleconference. The next board meeting is currently scheduled for June 9-10, 2020 via teleconference. Agendas for both the May and June meetings are available at:

<https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/business/meeting-agendas-and-annual-schedules/>

The Board is adjusting to the web conference meeting format in order to conduct business, and is again engaging in active rulemaking. June is typically the last month of the year in which new rule packages can move through the Office of Administrative Law requirements for noticing with enough time to be included in the following calendar year's approved rules. Therefore, May and June are typically busy months for rulemaking.

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

Forest Practice Committee

Steep Slope Ground-Based Operations Regulations

- Board staff presented an aggregated [Tractor/Tethered/Cable Operations Rule Text](#); this rule package would combine the Tractor Operations and Cable Operations sections (914 [934, 954]) with additional inclusion of rules that address Tethered Operations.
- This rule package would allow the RPF to propose tethered operations without as much explanation and justification as under the current rules. Currently, tethered operations are occurring on THPs within the State and are allowed, but the RPF must propose alternatives to the standard rules.
- Will require additional changes throughout the FPRs in order to ensure references back to 914 [934, 954] are appropriate
 - Also 1034(n) requires yarding systems to be identified within the THP – this section will be amended to require disclosure of tethered versus conventional tractor operations
- A workshop was conducted on May 29 on this rule package to address further technical revisions – this was a productive workshop with many technical language suggestions that were brought forward, however many agency participants expressed concern over moving forward so quickly with this rule package. Agencies would like to observe more operations throughout the State before moving forward with rule language. Many Board members at the May meeting expressed a desire to adopt the language, so this is a possible action item for the June meeting.

Management Committee

Mountain Home State Forest – review of updated Forest Management Plan

- Increase in camping fees at MHSF
- Discussed implementing a consistent camping fee throughout state forest system

Resource Protection Committee

[Emergency Rulemaking - SRA Fire Safe Regulations Revisions](#) – These regulations were adopted at the Full Board Meeting. Excerpt from the Notice of Proposed Action below:

The effect of the action is to provide clarity regarding the scope and application of, and enforcement authority under, the SRA Fire Safe Regulations.

The primary benefit of the action is: 1) the improvement of civilian and firefighter safety during wild-fire events requiring mass evacuation; 2) the reduction of overly burdensome preconditions to the efficient application and enforcement of the SRA Fire Safe Regulations; 3) the reduction of overly burdensome regulations that may be inhibiting affordable housing goals; and 4) the reduction in risk to life, property and the environment posed by unregulated development by applying defensible space principles to requirements for construction in the SRA, thereby providing sufficient space for civilians to safely evacuate from a wildfire, and for firefighters to safely defend a community from wildfire. Without these emergency regulations, these benefits will not be realized.



Forest Practice—BOF cont.

- This was a controversial topic with many passionate public comments from local government officials, rural community advocates, etc. High level of frustration that the BOF was undertaking emergency rulemaking (which has much shorter required noticing time frames) during a pandemic.
- Sonoma County Fire Safe Regulations (14 CCR 1270.04) – need some additional amendments, BOF staff are working with Sonoma County staff, many public comments for the second month in a row. This topic is separate from the emergency Fire Safe Regulations above, and much confusion occurred over the interaction of the regulations.

Full Board

[Executive Officer's Legislative Report](#)

[Rulemaking Status Matrix](#) – this shows the status of each rule package currently being considered by the BOF
CAL FIRE Director's Report

- The discussion focused on available resources, planning, and precautions in light of COVID-19; other regular topics were included in [the written report](#) but not discussed.
- Chief Porter is adamantly calling on USFS to not use managed fire/wildland fire use this year due to drought conditions and due to the potential impacts to fire service staff from COVID – expecting they could be dealing with significant illness spreading through the fire service, which could reduce capacity. Therefore, CAL FIRE is pushing for a joint policy of initial attack on every fire.

Range Management Advisory Committee Update

- Updated their Strategic Plan, this will be a 5-year project
- Updated vision, mission and strategic objectives
- Motion to approve the plan, approved

State Forest Camping Fee Amendments

- Motion to approve the amendments, motion carries



To: CLFA Board

From: Andrea Eggleton, Forest Resource Solutions and Technologies (FRST)- CLFA Regulatory Representative

RE: Report on Board of Forestry Workshop on May 29, 2020

CLFA Board Members,

I monitored the Board of Forestry Workshop on May 29 via webinar on behalf of CLFA as your Regulatory Representative. The entirety of the meeting was held via teleconference. A summary of topics covered and CLFA needed actions are included.

CLFA Board Member Action Items and Next Month's Agenda Items:

- ◆ A workshop was conducted on May 29 on the steep slope ground-based operations rule package to address further technical revisions – this was a productive workshop with many technical language suggestions that were brought forward.
- ◆ However many agency participants expressed concern over moving forward so quickly with this rule package. Agencies would like to observe more operations throughout the State before moving forward with rule language. This includes CDFW, CAL FIRE (a flip-flop from the Board meeting earlier this month), and CGS.
- ◆ Many Board members at the May meeting expressed a desire to adopt the language, so this is a possible action item for the June meeting.
- ◆ **Action item: CLFA may want to form a position on this item, either to actively support adopting the rule package as will be presented at the June meeting or to reserve comment and watch how the process plays out.**

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or requests.
Respectfully,

Andrea Eggleton
RPF #3003



Legislative Joe Starr—Committee Chair

A lot of things remain uncertain in Sacramento and the 2020 Legislative calendar is still partially fluid but some progress was made in May. Hearings on newly introduced bills were held and a revision to the 2020-2021 Budget Proposal was submitted by the Governor to the Legislature. Legislators are optimistic that progress will continue to be made.

See CLFA's Website for a list of all of the bills CLFA is currently tracking at the link below:

<https://www.clfa.org/legislature-notes>

*This part of the website is for members only and requires a password. Please contact admin@clfa.org for access.

The following is a link that is a useful tool for tracking the status of Bills:

<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml>

The following is a link to the California State Senate Website:

<https://www.senate.ca.gov/>

*All committee hearings can be livestreamed through the Senate's website.

The following is a link to the California State Assembly Website:

<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>

*All committee hearings can be livestreamed through the Assembly's website.

The following is a link to the Governor's Website:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/>

Key Upcoming Legislation Dates:

- ◆ June 5th – Last day to pass 2020 Assembly bills from Assembly Fiscal Committee to Assembly Floor
- ◆ June 19th – Last day to pass 2020 Assembly bills from Assembly Floor to the Senate
- ◆ June 19th – Last day to pass 2020 Senate bills from Senate Fiscal Committee to Senate Floor
- ◆ June 26th – Last day to pass 2020 Senate bills from Senate Floor to the Assembly
- ◆ June 19th – July 12th - Assembly Summer Recess
- ◆ July 2nd – July 12th – Senate Summer Recess
- ◆ July 13th – Senate and Assembly reconvene



Water & Wildlife

Mark Pugsley — Committee Chair

WATER QUALITY

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

The Board last met on April 16-17. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available but the agenda is. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/04_2020/index.html

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 18th in Santa Rosa; the agenda is not yet available:

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

The Board last met on April 16-17 via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available but the agenda is. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/2020/2004ag.pdf

The next meeting is scheduled for June 4-5 in Rancho Cordova; the agenda is not yet available.

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

The Board last met May 6th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available but the agenda is. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/agenda/2020/agenda2020may_english.pdf

The next scheduled meeting is for June 10th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available:

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

The Board last met on May 28th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available but the agenda is. Agenda: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2020/05_may/index.html

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16-17 tentatively in Watsonville; the agenda is not yet available.

WILDLIFE

The US Fish and Wildlife Service:

The USFWS listed the Southern Sierra Nevada Distinct population segment (DPS) of Pacific fisher as endangered under the ESA. Link to Federal Register: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-05-15/pdf/2020-09153.pdf#page=1>

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

The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met on May 14th via Teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Summary of meeting: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=178986&inline>

The next FGC meeting is scheduled for 24-25 in Santa Ana; the agenda is not yet available.



Forestry Challenge Update

Diane Dealey Neill

As the school year comes to a close, pre-registration numbers for the fall events are looking good. All but 11 of the 60 schools that participated in 2019 already signed up to come back and 17 new schools have joined in so far. June 30 is the last day to pre-register and receive the 50% discount on registration fees, so please encourage your local teacher contacts to consider participating.

With the uncertainty surrounding school schedules in the fall, off campus travel may not be allowed, so we are already thinking about how to adapt the Forestry Challenge to some sort of online format. While it is obvious that there are many negatives for an online “event” that by its very nature is hands-on, there are a few positive aspects. One, any school that cannot participate in person could compete in a single online event and all schools could have the same focus topic. Two, the focus topic could be located in a place far from our normal event locations, like Lake Tahoe or the North Coast. And three, we could judge recorded presentations with a small panel that would be more consistent than the panels at regular events. Those positives have given us the confidence that we can continue the program in any circumstance. Once the new academic year begins, we will find out more about school travel policies and will plan accordingly.

In the May newsletter we highlighted graduating seniors who are going to 4-year colleges. Here are a few similar profiles of students currently in forestry programs at community colleges.



“I chose to pursue forestry because I love the challenging combination of math, science, and hard physical work - all while in an ever-changing environment. While the forestry program at Shasta College is significantly smaller than that of a large university, what it lacks in size, it makes up for in connections. Professors at Shasta work hard to connect students to the career they want, and the program is well supported by the many forestry and fire agencies located close by. After my time at Shasta College, I plan to go on to complete my bachelor's degree, and eventually obtain my RPF license to work in the private timber industry.”

Anna Woodall
Shasta College





Forestry Challenge Update



Sierra Stalter **Reedley College**



“While attending Minarets High School, I was a four-year member of the FFA Forestry team and attended two Forestry Challenges. I’m grateful to have attended these two events where I learned how to present professionally and work as a team, among other forestry-related job skills. After high school, I worked with the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) and was part of the Sierra National Forest Recreational Crew. The crew worked on numerous backwoods projects like restoring Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails, bridge reconstruction, hiking trail restoration, and campground surveys. After working as a YCC crew member, I started taking Forestry and Natural Resources classes at Reedley Community College. The skills I learned at the Forestry Challenge have helped me get a jump start in my classes at Reedley and I couldn’t be happier with my decision to continue my education. After Reedley, I have plans to pursue a degree at Humboldt State University. I plan to major in forestry or botany and minor in Native American Law/Studies before going to work as a botanist.”



Forestry Challenge Update



"I am what you might call a "life-long learner." Three years ago, I took a Natural History class at Citrus College. The class reminded me of my love for nature and the importance of ethically managing our country's natural resources, forests, deserts, and coastlines. This prompted me to pursue a *Wildland Resources and Forestry* certificate of achievement at Citrus College. I am currently on the path to complete the certificate and have no immediate plans to further my education beyond that. I plan to do volunteer work for the US Forest Service or National Park Service in the future."

Jody Barrass
Citrus College





2020 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

BOARD MEETINGS

- ◆ June 16, 2020— 6:00 pm—8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ July 25, 2020—9:00 am - 2:00 pm—Granzellas, Williams, CA
- ◆ August 18, 2020—6:00 pm—8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ September 26, 2020—9:00 am—2:00 pm—Granzellas, Williams, CA
- ◆ October 20, 2020—6:00 pm—8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ November 21, 2020—TBD
- ◆ December—Dark
- ◆ January 23, 2021—9:00 am—2:00 pm—Granzellas, Williams, CA
- ◆ February 23, 2021—6:00 pm—8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ March 4, 2021—11:00 am—4:00 pm—Gaia, Anderson
- ◆ April 20, 2021—6:00 pm—8:00 pm—GoToMeeting
- ◆ May 21, 2021—6:00 pm—CLFA Audit
- ◆ May 22, 2021—9:00 am—2:00 pm—Granzellas, Williams, CA

CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

- ◆ September 21—25, 2020 Initial 5-day Archaeology Class—Gaia, Anderson – ***Class is Full***
- ◆ October 26-30, 2020—Initial 5-day Archaeology Class—Gaia, Anderson – ***Class is Full -***
If you would like to be on the waiting list contact Kathleen—admin@clfa.org
- ◆ November 11 & 12, 2020 Archaeology Refreshers—Gaia, Anderson—**these are the only refresher classes that will be offered in 2020.**
- ◆ November 2020— two field days—date and location TBD
- ◆ March 5 & 6, 2021—Spring Workshop, Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson, CA

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