



CALIFORNIA
LICENSED
FORESTERS
ASSOCIATION

*The Voice of
California's
Licensed
Foresters*

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California Licensed Foresters Association

April 2020 - Newsletter

President's Message
Chris Dow, CLFA President

“Well Deserved Thanks”

As we approach our May Board meeting, and the annual turnover of the Board and its leadership, I would like to take this time to put out a heartfelt thank you to not only the Board, but to our Executive Director, Regulatory Representative and our membership. There is no presidency that comes easily, but with the support of CLFA membership, and the Board, we have been able to bring changes to the way the Board communicates with its membership and other groups with similar interests, make huge strides in our scholarship program, and facilitate changes to Forest Practice that have not seen change since the implementation of the Forest Practice Rules. Our success truly lies with CLFA as a whole, and in this past year as president, we have seen truly great success. The strength of this organization are the people that make up CLFA, from industry to agency, and RPF to designee and students. The wide range of ideas and perceptions is what makes this organization truly unique, as our entire mission is to improve our profession, and improve the professionals that are a part of it.

The most unique characteristic of the Board members that I have worked with over the past several years is not their dedication to the profession. Instead, it is their ability to be flexible and persevere when challenged with significant change. From SB 901, to legislative push for more action in our wildfire prone forests, stocking standards change, and even stretching the size of our technological footprint, the Board has excelled. The professional decorum while working with various agencies and interest groups in the light of this change, as well as the ability to find common ground and represent our profession as the stewards of our precious natural resources, has led to success in many of the most controversial topics that this Board has faced. It is truly remarkable to see the progress that has been made over the past year, and I am confident that the Board will continue to strive for nothing but excellence in every way. This Board has continued to keep the RPF not only relevant, but put the profession into a place where our opinions and experience are recognized as a keystone of the framework that guides natural resource management.

In addition, our membership remains extremely active, whether at our conferences, our breakfast groups, or even in personal interactions. It is more often than not that I field questions about what the Board is actively pursuing, and where we might pursue issues pertinent to our profession. The dedication that the Board shows is merely a representation of the dedication that our membership has to the profession. This dedication by our membership is not just to the issues that affect our profession now; it is also to fostering and developing the next cohort of foresters, from participation in our university programs, to participation in events that foster the idea of natural resource management to high school students. The core of our success is the involvement and dedication that our membership demonstrates on a regular basis, and this core ideal remains strong within our organization. I am proud to be a part of not only the Board that represents these ideals, but also a member of an organization that continues to improve and remains dedicated to our profession.

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Forest Practice—BOF

Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on April 7 & 8, 2020 via teleconference. The next board meeting is currently scheduled for May 5-6, 2020 via teleconference. Agendas for both the April and May meetings are available at: <https://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/business/meeting-agendas-and-annual-schedules/>

Due to the current teleconference format, conducting active rulemaking will be a challenge for the Board of Forestry. The May meeting is expected to be similar to the April meeting, in which the staff produced many supporting documents and summaries for presentation but there was no engagement in active rulemaking.

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

Resource Protection Committee Meeting: Topics Covered

- County of Sonoma Fire Safe Regulations (14 CCR 1270.04)- Lively discussion and public and county staff (County Counsel) comment on this item
- Safety Elements for City of Novato and County of Lassen – these are works in progress and will come before the committee again later in the year

Forest Practice Committee Meeting: Topics Covered

Steep Slope Yarding Regulations—Staff update only

- Recognized additional literature researched by staff including peer reviewed literature, regulations from [New Zealand](#) and BMPs from [State of Washington](#)
- Working with Dr. Hunter Harrell from HSU on this item
- Other jurisdictions make reference to the specialized nature of the equipment, as is the research literature, and therefore the Board’s regulations should consider and reference this as well (ie regulations are expected to be specific to winch-assist tethered technology)
- Cal Fire is using the opportunity to conduct a case study on the topic with SPI on a THP in Tehama County that is proposing to use tethered logging
- <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/9888/wksp-41-april-2020-steep-slope-logging-staff-memo-ada.pdf>

Management Committee

- Basal Area stocking standards
 - [Staff update](#) and [Calforests update](#) on progress
 - Focus on group selection and transition silvicultural methods in terms of promoting the regeneration of shade intolerant species with unevenaged methods; increasing flexibility on 8-18”s
 - George Gentry has formed an Unevenaged Management Working Group composed of industry and consulting foresters that primarily practice unevenaged management. Researchers will also be added to the group. This group will work together to present specific issues and potential solutions to the Board. CLFA is involved in this group.
- Group A and B species [Staff update only](#)
 - Board staff recommendation is to address the impacts of black oak and giant sequoia on MSP via a review of MSP instead of commercial species revisions right now
 - Monterey pine and eucalyptus have also been brought forward to the Board as problematic for management with their current designations (B species and non-commercial, respectively)
 - If there are no group A species present on a site, it is not considered “timberland” and then the FPRs do not apply. If in the Coastal Zone, needs to go through CEQA with a Coastal Development Permit; FPR exemptions or THPs cannot be used to conduct fuels reduction or forest restoration projects.
- Mountain Home State Forest – review of Forest Management Plan
 - Increase in camping fees at MHSF
 - Discussed implementing a consistent camping fee throughout state forest system



Forest Practice—BOF cont.

Full Board

- Re-adoption of [findings of emergency](#) and [rule text](#) for emergency rulemaking action entitled “Emergency Fuel Hazard Reduction Amendments, 2019” (14 CCR §§ 913, 933, 953, 1052 & 1052.4).
 - Emergency rules were proposed for 2nd and final re-adoption - motion carries unanimously
 - If approved by OAL, **this re-adoption will extend the effectiveness of the emergency regulations to August 10, 2020.**
 - Public hearing on the regular rulemaking is scheduled for the June meeting
- The Report of the CAL FIRE Director – see [Director’s Report](#) for more details
 - **Forest Practice** Report – comparison of harvest documents to this time last year
 - THP and NTMP submissions are fairly flat, approvals are down
 - Exemption Notices are up substantially from 370 to 412
 - Emergency Notices are 56% lower than last year
 - 2020 **Exemption Notice monitoring** is continuing, with a focus on structure protection exemptions and utility ROW exemptions
 - **Urban and Community Forestry Grant** Project applications are due on April 16th
 - **Rx Burning** - CAL FIRE’s internal working group is developing a statewide and consistent process for issuance of burn permits for prescribed fire projects.
 - On Monday, March 23rd, **L.A. Moran Reforestation Center** began the process of sowing and growing conifer seedlings in the reconstructed greenhouses. Seedlings have not been grown at LAMRC since the nursery closed in 2003. CAL FIRE will be growing 107,000 seedlings this year, many of which will be planted in areas devastated by the Camp Fire.
 - The **CFIP Proposition 68** second quarter funding cycle ended on February 28, 2020. There are 22 projects that were selected for funding with a total encumbrance of 1.8 million dollars. Affected acreage associated with the 22 projects is approximately 1,198 acres.
 - The **Forest Legacy Program** is preparing for the next round of Federal Legacy project applications and updating the California Climate Investment (CCI) grant guidelines in advance of the next round of those grants.
 - Grants are in place or being developed for all nine southern California counties impacted by the **Invasive Shot Hole Borer Complexes**
 - An Incident Command System team has been established for the **Mediterranean Oak Borer complex** including federal state and local government personnel, and university researchers. Trapping and surveys are underway in Napa, Lake and Mendocino for the invasive pest. Education and outreach have begun (although put on hold by COVID-19) and research is ongoing on both the insect and its associated fungi.
 - **2020 Power Line Fire Prevention Field Guide** has been submitted to CAL FIRE executive staff for review.
 - **Utility Wildfire Mitigation** staff are working with the CPUC on the 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plans submitted by the investor owned utility companies.
 - **FY 19/20 CCI Fire Prevention Grants** Awarded 55 grants for a total of \$43.5 Million on March 9, 2020.

PRESENTATION: State Responsibility Area (SRA) Redetermination 2020 - Scott Witt, Deputy Chief, CAL FIRE Office of the State Fire Marshal

- Revising the classification of SRA – 99 recommended changes
 - PRC 4125 outlines key elements of classification (authority to classify all lands within the state for their fire responsibility), requires a review every 5 years and notification by Department to Counties
 - Review of revisions has been completed by Units, Contract Counties, Region, State, and Director
- Next steps
 - BOF review and public comment period. Implementation expected July 1, 2020.
 - Remap Fire Hazard Severity Zones, then remap LRA Very High FHSZ
 - Next statewide SRA review will be in 2025
 - Annual “automatic” reviews include federal ownership changes or city incorporation changes
- Direct Protection Areas may include agreement on suppression response for the checkerboard areas in order to speed response
 - This effort only covers changes to SRA designations, not any Direct Protection Area agreements



Water & Wildlife

Gwyndolyn Ozard — Committee Chair

WATER QUALITY

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

The Board last met on April 16-17. 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 18-19; the agenda is not yet available:

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

The Board last met on April 16-17. 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; the agenda is not yet available.

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

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

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

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

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

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

WILDLIFE

The US Fish and Wildlife Service:

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

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

The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met on April 16-17 via Teleconference. Minutes from the meeting are not available. Agenda: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=177983&inline>

The next FGC meeting is scheduled for May 14 via Teleconference; the agenda is not yet available:

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

ITEM 30: Shasta Snow-Wreath. The Commission, pursuant to Section 2074.2 of the Fish and Game Code, finds that the petition to list Shasta snow-wreath as an endangered species does provide sufficient information to indicate that the petitioned action may be warranted based on the information in the record before the Commission, directs staff to issue a notice reflecting this finding, and declares Shasta snow-wreath is a candidate for threatened or endangered species status.

ITEM 32: Mountain Lion: The Commission, pursuant to Section 2074.2 of the Fish and Game Code, finds the petition to list one or more evolutionarily significant units of mountain lion as an endangered or threatened species does provide sufficient information to indicate that the petitioned action may be warranted based on the information in the record before the Commission, directs staff to issue a notice reflecting this finding, and declares, within the southern ESU, mountain lion is a candidate for threatened or endangered species status.



Licensing

Dan Stapleton

Letter to the licensing exam applications:

I regret to announce the cancellation of the April 2020 RPF Examination. Recent announcements by the Governor regarding the easing of stay-at-home orders make an examination reschedule highly unlikely for the reasons explained below.

The governor announced six critical indicators for modifying stay at home orders:

- The ability to monitor and protect our communities through testing, contact tracing, isolating, and supporting those who are positive or exposed;
- The ability to prevent infection in people who are at risk for more severe COVID-19;
- The ability of the hospital and health systems to handle surges;
- The ability to develop therapeutics to meet the demand;
- The ability for businesses, schools, and child care facilities to support physical distancing; and
- The ability to determine when to reinstitute certain measures, such as the stay-at-home orders, if necessary.

The Governor said there is not a precise timeline for modifying the stay-at-home order, but that these six indicators will serve as the framework for making that decision. He also noted that things will look different as California makes modifications. For example, restaurants will have fewer tables and classrooms will be reconfigured.

Yesterday, the Governor's Office described how mitigation orders will be lifted in four phases (see attached) and some presumptions can be made about when and how an examination could occur. The four phases are:

- Stage 1 – Safety and Preparedness
- Stage 2 – Lower Risk Workplaces
- Stage 3 – Higher risk workplaces
- Stage 4 – End of Stay at home order

The details for each stage remain vague as to which category a licensing examination would fall under, but presumably it would be the equivalent of a school classroom or church gathering in terms of the numbers of people and potential exposure. The Governors detail for each stage reveals that any school re-opening will likely be no earlier than July/August in stage 2, and would require adaptations (masks, distancing, sanitation). Churches would not open until stage 3. Taking this information into consideration, along with other variables such as timely completion of grading, the likelihood that any examination in Stage 2 will require adaptations, some of which I can't supply, I don't see a clear path to move forward with an exam reschedule. It makes more sense to cancel the April exam and utilize the exam we had prepared for April as our October exam. That way, all the keywords for studying the April exam will still apply for the October exam and it will allow me time to schedule the appropriate facilities, proctors, and graders during stage 4 when the stay at home orders and mitigations are likely terminated.

I understand the work and effort all of you have put into preparing for this exam and the importance of getting your license. Unfortunately the conditions for rescheduling under the Governor's recent plan makes it apparent we cannot proceed. All who were originally signed up for the April RPF exam at the time of exam postponement will be put on the list to take the October exam. If you do not want to take the exam until next year, please email me or Daniele Cade daniele.cade@bof.ca.gov.

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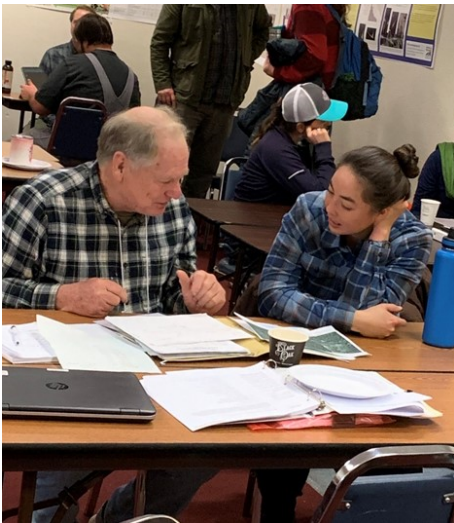
Forest landowners learning to help write California Cooperative Forest Management plans at UCANR Forest Stewardship workshops Workshop by Kim Ingram, UC ANR

Private forestland landowners have a unique opportunity to enjoy the economic, ecological and social benefits that forests offer. The public also benefits from private forests as they play a critical role in the connectivity and functioning of the larger forest ecosystem. According to the National Woodland Owner Survey, California family-owned forest land covers 6.3 million acres with approximately 70% of owners living or working directly on their forest land.

To help landowners better manage their landscapes, the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is hosting a series of three-day workshops throughout California. The goal of the workshop series is to help landowners begin developing a California Cooperative Forest Management Plan (CCFMP) for their forest land.

The educational effort is supported by a contract with CalFire and hosted in association with Forest Landowners of California, USFS Region 5, the American Forest Foundation, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, and the California Fire Safe Council). The format of the workshop was proposed by the Forest Landowner Outreach and Education Working Group of the Governor's Forest Management Task Force.

Management plans outline activities to increase the resilience of forest land and help landowners meet their ecological and economic management goals. The plan clearly describes the current and desired conditions of the forest resources, what short and/or long-term goals the landowner has for the land, what management actions can be taken to achieve those goals, and what resources are needed for implementation. A completed plan can also help the landowner meet grant requirements when collaborating with state and federal agencies for project funding. Yet for all that a forest management plan can do, less than 15% of private forest land owners have a plan.



The workshop series was developed by Susie Kocher, University of California Forestry Advisor and Registered Professional Forester #2874. According to Kocher, "Participants come to the workshop with a range of knowledge and understanding of forest ecology and management. The goals they have for their land are also diverse. The workshops feature educational activities and exercises that will help participants better understand the information needed in a plan and then help them articulate their management goals. Participants are also encouraged to work on sections of the plan that they feel comfortable with. Whatever their level of expertise, we stress the requirement that landowners engage an RPF when they seek cost-share funds through the EQIP or CFIP programs."

Workshop participant and Mary Mayeda, Forest Program Manager, Mendocino County RCD, discussing CCFMP information

The workshops address landowner management objectives and planning, forest restoration, fuels reduction, project development, and cost-share opportunities. Participants learn how to collect information to assist in the development of their own management plans. Field activities include mapping and forest inventory exercises. Though the target audience is private forest landowners, participants representing non-profit organizations, fire safe councils, tribes and parks are welcome to attend.

One goal of the workshop is to develop and strengthen relationships between participants, their local RCD and NRCS representatives and local RPFs. On Day 3, workshop participants spend time with RPFs, Resource Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service staff, Cal Fire staff, and forestry experts discussing issues specific to their management plans. Participants who complete the workshop are eligible for an initial site visit by an RPF to assess their management plan development and next steps. Participating RPFs are paid through an honorarium supported by the project contract.

Workshop participants gathering tree height information with Biltmore sticks





"I think this is a great way for people to better understand the joys, potential and responsibilities of owning timberland. It's great, as a forester, to speak to people about their relationship with the land. This lets them steward the land now, and through the generations." – Fred Euphrat, Adjunct Professor of Forestry, Santa Rosa Jr. College, RPF # 2365, and Ukiah and Berkeley workshop participant.

"I felt the workshop was a great way to introduce forest land-owners to professionals, as well as start the dialogue necessary to accomplish their management goals. It also seems like a great way to educate non-forestry professionals on management techniques." – Jacob Harrower, Forest Operations Manager, Jacobszoon & Associates, RPF #3070, and Ukiah workshop participant.

Registration for upcoming workshop is \$60. Lunches and materials will be provided. Registration is available at <http://ucanr.edu/forestryworkshopregistration>.

Upcoming workshops include:

- July 18th (via Zoom) for Blodgett Research Forest workshop participants
- September 26th at UC Berkeley Forestry Camp, Plumas County
- November 21st in Santa Cruz County
- (Additional locations and date are pending)

If you are an RPF and would like to participate in Day 3 of an upcoming workshop, please contact Kim Ingram, Forest Stewardship Education Coordinator at kcingram@ucanr.edu RPFs attending on Day 3 of the workshop do not need to register.

"I admire your teams' professionalism, competence, and passion. I feel grateful to have encountered this resource and feel grateful that it exists. Great work! Thank you!" – Workshop participant



Workshop participant and Ricky Satomi, UC ANR Forest Advisor, reviewing Avenza mapping activity



Forestry Challenge Update

Forestry Challenge Update

Fall Recruiting: We are getting ready to begin recruiting for the fall events, hoping that by then our events can happen as scheduled. Our goal for May is to get the teachers' attention amid the chaos. If you know any teachers in your area who you think would be interested in participating in a fall Forestry Challenge event, please let us know. We would be happy to reach out to them. Any school that pre-registers by June 30 will receive a 50% discount on their registration fees. Pre-registration does not obligate the school in any way but greatly helps us with our event planning.

Mentor Foresters: When schools pre-register, we ask if they would like a forester to visit their school in the fall to help the students prepare for their event. Most answer with a "yes". Many of you have dedicated yourselves to one or two schools over the years, and many schools ask for you by name. If you haven't mentored a school and are interested, please email me at dianedealeynell@gmail.com to let me know. Most foresters make one or two visits to campus during lunch or after school. Their instruction greatly helps the students understand the basic concepts so they can learn even more at the events.

Class of 2020: You heard from Maddie Washburn at the CLFA Workshop in March about why she chose forestry as her major and OSU for her studies. We thought you might want to hear from some more students of the Class of 2020 and why they are choosing to study forestry at various colleges and universities.



Grace Gomes
Ureka High School

"I chose to major in forestry because logging has been in my family for many generations and I hope to continue forest management from a different perspective. I also would like to manage our forests to promote healthy timber growth and a healthy forest for future generations to be able to enjoy. I chose to attend Humboldt State University because I noticed that they have a rather respected forestry program and they were one of the few California universities to offer forestry as a major."





Forestry Challenge Update

Kai Balala

Ponderosa High School



"I chose Forestry and Natural Resources because of my love for the forest and protecting it. Cal Poly SLO has an amazing Forestry and Natural Resources program with a lot of hands-on learning and an amazing location in San Luis Obispo. I am grateful for the learning opportunity with the Forestry Challenge which impacted my choice of choosing the Forestry and Natural Resources major."



Aiyana Brooks

Granada Hills Charter High School

"My love for the environment and consequently, forestry, all stem from my many childhood adventures. I spent countless hours hiking, camping, and bird watching. When I stepped out of the car for the first time in Santa Cruz to participate in the 2019 Forestry Challenge, I completely fell in love with my surroundings. The peaceful atmosphere combined with the constant activity that comes with being a forester made me decide to pursue this topic in college, specifically at SLO. Their 'learn by doing' motto and all the great Forestry Challenge volunteers who attend SLO helped me confidently choose to spend the next four years there."





Forestry Challenge Update



Ethan Hansard

Folsom High School

"I chose forestry because I love the outdoors and spending time in a natural environment. Finding a job where I can be in that environment most days is very appealing to me. I'm going to OSU because it's ranked the number one forestry program in the country and getting to learn from the best is what drew me there. I'm excited to expand my horizons beyond California and experience something new and different."



Whitney Barnett

Mira Loma High School

"Growing up I was taught to cherish the outdoors and through the years I have become fascinated with the relationship between humans and nature. I am excited to announce that I will be continuing my forestry education next year at Oregon State University Honor's College as a Natural Resources Major. I chose this school because I am confident that I will receive an amazing education while living and learning in a supportive environment."





Forestry Challenge Update

Makena Plourde

Granada Hills Charter High School



“Choosing forestry as my major seemed like the only logical thing to do as it combines my two biggest interests: being outdoors and partaking in environmental stewardship. By attending NAU I will explore these passions while also being part of a close-knit community that values environmental sustainability.”



2020 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

BOARD MEETINGS

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

CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

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

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

2019/2020 CLFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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