

#### CALIFORNIA LICENSED FORESTERS ASSOCIATION

The Voice of California's Licensed Foresters

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# California Licensed Foresters Association

May 2022 - Newsletter

## **Presidents Message**

#### Jason Wells

For my last message as CLFA President in the 2021-22 term I'd like to reflect on my time on the board, and take the opportunity to use the bully pulpit this position affords one more time. I joined the board in 2017 as an opportunity to network with colleagues around the state and to become more familiar with issues that were affecting our profession and our forests. In that time I have had the opportunity to meet many wonderful people whose interest and passion in forestry accelerated my own, and I truly feel like my time spent on this board has been remarkably beneficial on my early career. In the time since I began serving on this board I have branched out to work in non-typical areas of the profession, landing at a Resource Conservation District. Charged with creating a forestry program from nothing, I can't stress how much I have relied upon the advice of those I have met through this organization to get things going. The very fact I was able to find this job was because of networking through CLFA. Sometimes it pays to know people. I think networking is one of the strongest aspects of this organization, and it's been very difficult to leverage this aspect during the pandemic. I very much hope that in the coming months we collectively are able to come together to ignite our passion for this profession and help steer the narrative being discussed at the state level in terms of forest management.

There are major issues facing the states forest lands right now. Catastrophic wildfire has the attention of the public and policymakers. This is something we've known would be coming for decades, but much to the fault of human nature we've waited until the problem was near insurmountable to begin attempting to alter course. Wildfire will likely be the main focus of forest management for the remainder of my career, and it will shape the careers of an entire generation of foresters to come. Our profession needs to recognize this because this is what the focus is in universities, it's the focus of policy makers, and it's the most pressing need that the public sees when they think of managing the forest. There are a lot more professionals getting into the fire management scene than the profession of forestry, but alteration of fuels, species composition, and individual tree management in the forested landscape is by law the practice of forestry. There are two routes that I see for the profession: recognize pyrosilviculture as a legitimate aspect of the science and art of forestry, and open the doors to those who are entering our sphere of authority through the lens of fire management, or draw a line in the sand and insist that regulatory authority of forests has been issued to those of us who took a traditional route to becoming foresters. It's my opinion that if the state finds the lack of foresters as an impediment to fuels reduction under PRC that they will change PRC rather than wait for a workforce to be qualified.

The state has a new burn boss certification. I'd like to see this certification system being used similarly to the LTO license, in the context of forest management. I think foresters need to be involved in the environmental impact analysis of timber-fuels burns. We currently have the CAL VTP which is set to streamline CEQA compliance for prescribed fire throughout the state, but there is no requirement for Project Specific Analysis to involve the use of a forester outside of CAL FIRE projects. This is unacceptable from our profession's standpoint and this needs to be addressed at the Board of Forestry. Again, I believe the public will not budge in their desire to see fuels and fire treatments happening on the forested landscape, so unless we can develop a workforce to focus on this we will not be granted our deserved position as legal stewards of forestland in regards to fuels management. It would be very easy to narrow the profession to only having involvement in the sale of timber products, and I believe that would be catastrophic to the long-term viability of our license and profession as a whole in this state.

I've had the opportunity to work with a number of really passionate fire science professionals in my career. In Sonoma County we're starting to get quite a bit of fire on the ground considering all of the difficulties around implementing fire in a fairly suburban environment during a drought. Many of these fire scientists are knowledgeable and passionate about fire ecology and the ecosystems they are working in; they are foresters who don't know it. Heck, most of them graduated with forestry degrees! I think we should be working to fill the gaps in their knowledge base and encourage them to become licensed, but we simultaneously need to create an incentive for doing so (enforcing Professional Foresters Law with the practice of pyrosilviculture) and a reasonable pathway for them to be certified (consider some amount of time spent on fire crews as work experience, increase the number of available categories on the exam to include fire-focused topics such as fire engineering, fire weather, fire planning, etc.). I also think that including more exam topics on the management of fire operations would be beneficial for foresters who take a timber management route because you learn a lot when you study for the exam, and these are useful skills to have for those who are trying to reduce fuel hazards on a land-scape level.



# President's Message Continued

And with that comes the conclusion of my term as President. It's been a privilege to be able to share my opinions with all of you though this platform, though I must say it's felt rather one sided. I hope to be able to have many spirited discussions with you all about the future of forestry in California, and I hope to see you all at the Gaia!





# HAROLD H. BISWELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

# Pioneer of Fire Ecology California High School Seniors and/or College Entry Students

#### 2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION & INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

Complete the following Application Form and return to CLFA postmarked no later than **May 15**, **2022**. A notice of receipt will be sent upon CLFA's receipt of your scholarship application. **Prior to selection applicants may be requested to participate in a short video conference interview.** The successful applicant will be notified in early June 2022.

Scholarship application is an attachment to newsletter.

No applications have been received to date!



#### Forest Practice—BOF

## Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection met on April 5-6, 2022 in-person at the new Natural Resources Building in Sacramento. The next scheduled meeting is on May 3-5, 2022 and will be held in Sacramento. The Board will hold Committee Meetings on May 3, an all-day workshop on 0-5 foot defensible space requirements per PRC 4291 on the 4th, and the Full Board Meeting on the 5th. 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 Board of Forestry Meeting:

#### Management Committee Business

#### Timberland Conversion - Less Than Three Acre Exemption

- Board Staff completed a <u>Conversion Feasibility Analysis</u> document to identify potential areas within their authority
  where revisions to the Less Than Three Acre Exemption could be made to address a number of letters submitted during their annual Call for Regulatory Review:
  - Builders Coalition Letter
  - County of Nevada Letter
  - RPF Dean Loftus Letter
- The Committee discussed a <u>draft rule plead</u> that would change the Less Than Three Acre Conversion Exemption in a number of substantive ways including but not limited to:
- Amending the "<u>Crop of Trees</u>" <u>definition</u> to exclude "those trees within 30-feet of an approved and legally permitted structure" (or potentially an even larger buffer area). This was also addressed in a <u>Board Staff Report</u> after the September 2021 Meeting.
  - Allowing the exemption to be used once per parcel instead of the current "contiguous land ownership"
  - Extending the valid time period for the exemption to include 5 years (currently 1 year) for timber operations and 2 years (currently 1 year) for the conversion activities to be complete after timber operations. A potential extension of 2 years for both activities was also included in the rule plead for consideration.
  - Agencies and stakeholders raised a number of wide-ranging concerns and questions over the potential revisions.
  - Member Chris Chase then opened up the floor to different ideas to deal with the conversion exemption issue, and a few other potential routes emerged:
    - Chris's Idea: change the definition of Timber Operations to exempt those operations which satisfy all of the following conditions:
      - 1. Non-TPZ
      - 2. Has a legally permitted structure
      - 3. No commercialization of timber
      - 4. The parcel is less than 3 acres in size
      - 5. Board Staff notes that the problem with this approach is that being on Timberland is what defines Timber Operations as well, not the other way around.
  - Dennis Hall's idea: change the definition of Conversion to provide some relief for "subsequent" conversions i.e. conversion maintenance in some set of circumstances similar to what Chris outlined
  - Andrea Eggleton's idea: interpret 4584(g) more broadly to allow for additional <3 ac conversion exemptions to be submitted on the same parcel if the total converted acreage is less than 3 ac
  - Cal Fire says problem is that 4584(g) also says Cal Fire has to confirm via inspection that the conversion is "complete" after 2 years.
  - YG's idea: Create a modified "checklist" THP for use with the existing Exemption for a Conversion Permit for Subdivisions
  - Charll Stoneman's idea: Tie in the term "forested landscape"
    - 1. Problem is from an enforcement perspective and from perspective of regulated public, it is difficult to determine

# **Forest Practice/BOF cont.**

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

- YG Presented results of working group with a preliminary draft plead
  - Consideration 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
    - Is there a problem with MSP if Group B are included? Question to Cal Fire
  - Group B species revisions
  - Revision of the 8-18s standard to remove the reference to 8-18s
  - Higher use of group selection
    - Jim Able method increase from 20% of the area to 30% of the area
    - By the time you get to third entry, initial groups need to be thinned and that can be a problem in the rules. This will be addressed in the next plead.
  - Southern Subdistrict of the Coast-specific group not going to discuss this month
    - Specific issues, as timberland in this district has been managed for the last few decades in unevenaged methods but now after the CZU complex, much of the subdistrict is now defacto evenaged.
  - Sierra/Cascades-specific working group will be addressed in Full Board meeting by presentation from Ryan Thompkins
    - Considerations of Dixie and other fires in the region
    - Impacts on MSP
  - There some other groups (CLFA Annual Meeting, Multiage Planning group) working on potential proposals
    or additions as well.
  - There is still much work to be done, needs to be an ongoing effort. Not something that will be wholly addressed this year, aside from the three items listed initially.

#### Demonstration State Forest Update - Kevin Conway 3:52pm

- Sub-committee is going to bring findings on JDSF to May 2 meeting
  - Gather relevant background information: Review management plan, Review Executive Orders regovt-govt consultations
  - Comment on the Department's consultation with Tribes
  - Provide feedback on management plan
  - June 7 meeting
  - Public comments
    - "move management towards growing forests that have all of the ecological services that we need (???)"
    - Richard Geinger sent a copy of a transcript Matt Simmons did of Senator McGuire 1) mgmt is antiquated, 2) not sure what is being "demonstrated" to CA, 3) need to focus on wildfire and climate resiliency, 4) re-vamp the mgmt. plan
- La Tour Management Plan will be presented June or July meeting, then do a BOF field tour

#### Forest Practice Committee Business

#### **Botanical Resources Scoping Guidance**

- This item has been off of the Committee's agenda for the past 6 months. It went into a closed-door negotiation with the CA Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) general counsel upon the agency's "significant legal concerns" with the previous draft of the Board's guidance document.
- The version of <u>the document</u> before the Committee at this meeting reflects those discussions. CAL FIRE notes that they were not included in those discussions.
  - "Natural Communities" are emphasized as needing to be included in scoping; this is one of many significant departures from the previous version
  - EO Edith Hannigan expressed that the CNRA legal wanted to see it go in a different direction than it was going and did not include CAL FIRE; that needs to change.
  - EPIC and CNPS submitted comments that the guidance was still too permissive
  - Member Katie Delbar expressed disappointment at Board Staff for working behind closed doors and not including Cal Fire; she also stated that she still doesn't understand what the problem is that the Committee is supposed to be addressing, especially considering that the newest version of the "guidance document" basically just restates the 2018 CDFW memo



## Forest Practice/BOF cont.

Rich wants to eliminate the pieces that look like underground regulation, or switch to going the direction of a new TRA. The goal is to clarify conflicting guidance between the 2 CDFW memos and the 2 CAL FIRE memos on the topic, but what is the point if BOF is just reiterating one of the memos. He would like to have more time to understand the changes between the previous guidance doc (which CLFA supported) and this one

#### Northern Spotted Owl Update - Stacy Stanish

- At the March 2022 BOF meeting, Stacy gave an overview of the NSO rules in the FPAs and current status on how various landowners comply with them, what challenges exist, and made recommendations to the Board for areas that landowners could benefit from rule revisions, if the Board desires to make revisions.
- Ideas for rule changes identified by Stacy
  - Prior to making changes to rules for habitat, conduct range-wide habitat analysis and compare with NSO ACs to help guide any need for rule changes
  - Make rules less prescriptive and more outcome based by removing all 919.9s and 919.10 and just allow Director to reject plan if it results in a take
  - Consider that our current rules don't consider other NSO limiting factors other than habitat, which don't include rapidly changing science and habitat conditions
  - Would be helpful to clarify what a "site of listed species" is in consideration of emergencies and exemptions.
- In response, the Board provided the following <u>summary document</u> and initial potential revised <u>rule plead</u>. The Board Staff is going to continue with some additional reporting and research on these items. Jane and Stacy will keep working on minor regulatory changes that can be accomplished (NTMPs in SORPs, removing rules that are erroneous)
- The 919.9 rules really are just a requirement to show how a landowner is accomplishing Take Avoidance, which is not required for any other species. There are also many new ways of TA that are not reflected in the current FPRs.
- Incorporate language that allows NTMP or WFMP lands to demonstrate TA under a SORP
- Cedric advises the BOF to write a letter to ask CNRA to write a state-wide HCP to help allow for incidental take and habitat protection across jurisdictional boundaries

#### **Site Preparation**

- There was no recommendation from Board Staff at this meeting, just starting the conversation
- "A unit was using a Site Prep addendum of an expired plan to meet the silvicultural objectives of the plan"
  - Huff wants to change the definition of site preparation to say that it shall not be used to meet silvicultural objectives (PCT)
  - From enforcement perspective, they may have used those trees to establish stocking but then they get removed after the plan is signed off
  - Need the Board to establish whether or not tree thinning is part of site prep
- YG site prep addendum must clearly describe the activity. Statute allows for site prep after closure of plan, but RPF has to be clear about what they will be doing and when in the site prep addendum.
- Ran out of time on the issue

#### **Notice of Intent Revisions**

- This has been an item on the Committee's work plan for a while (2007-2009). Notices of Intent require regeneration methods and intermediate treatments to be identified but do not explicitly require inclusions of all of the silvicultural methods proposed to be used. The reasoning is outlined within the <a href="Initial Statement of Reasons">Initial Statement of Reasons</a>.
- This <u>rule plead</u> would require all Silvicultural Methods within a plan to be listed on NOIs. This is a very modest and simple rule change.
- This rule package was authorized by the Full Board for 45-day notice with a few minor grammatical changes. Apologies that this was previously reported in the April Newsletter but actually didn't happen until the May BOF meeting.



# Forest Practice/BOF cont.

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

• See Site Preparation item

#### Full Board Meeting 4/6/22

- Executive Session No reportable actions taken.
- Consent Calendar Items Motion confirmed unanimously to approve consent calendar including the Review of <u>Rulemaking Matrix</u>.
- Monthly Board Reports
- Chairman's Report (Chair Gilless): Issues with webinar audio
- CAL FIRE <u>Director's Report</u>: Could not hear at all; not even sure who gave the report; the following are notes from reading the linked report.
  - CFIP closed the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of applications on December 31, 2021; the program is reviewing applications for submittal to the Grants Management Unit.
  - Forest Health grant solicitation closed on March 4, 2022, and submitted applications are currently being scored.
  - CAL FIRE has a total of 61 Type I Fire Crews available for statewide response out of 174 CDCR and CCC funded crews.
  - Units are in the process of hiring and training the 16 CAL FIRE Firefighter Handcrews.
- Executive Officer Legislative Report—Edith Hannigan
  - Hiring new Land Use Planning Officer coming soon
  - AB 2878 is a new bill that will help expand the Joint Institute for Wood Innovation
  - Drew Coe presented on "Beyond Zone 1: Monitoring of Fire Hazard Reduction Within 300 Feet of Residences Through Timber Harvest with the §1038(c)(6) Exemption"
  - They made revisions that were recommended by the Board in January meeting on topics such as slash treatment, underutilization on this notice throughout the state, appendices attachments, and other areas. The report was approved by the Board.
- Report of the Regulations Coordinator
  - Adoption of rule text and approval of the <u>Final Statement of Reasons</u> and <u>Substantially Damaged Consistency Amendment</u> rulemaking; it was adopted by the Board.
  - One public comment was received from Cal Fire in support of this rule package
- Report of the Standing Committees
  - Forest Practice Committee Items discussed: (1) silvicultural methods on Notices of Intent, (2) Botanical Guidance Memo, (3) NSO issues in CA, and (4) site preparation activities conducted pursuant to a Site Preparation Addendum.
  - Management Committee Items discussed: (1) Less Than 3-ac Conversion Exemption issues, (2) Basal Area Stocking Standards and Uneven-Aged Working Group update, and (3) State Demonstration Forests Management Plans Review timeline update.
  - Resource Protections Committee Items discussed: (1) Defensible Space Zone 0 Regulations and (2) Subdivision review program update for City of Auburn, Tulare County, and Kern County.
- Report of Board's Advisory Committees
  - Effectiveness Monitoring Committee Elizabeth Forsburg Pardi, Co-Chair
    - The next meeting is on April 12<sup>th</sup> and they will discuss what they plan to research in the next year; there are two open seats on the committee.
  - Range Management Advisory Committee Christina Wolfe, Board staff
    - Priorities for the year: (1) continue to develop the state licensing template, (2) develop educational workshop series, (3) CRM pathway and expert utilization, (4) increase training opportunities between CRMs and RPFs, and others.

#### Presentations

2021 CA Forest Pest Conditions Report - Tom Smith, Cal Fire

38 million acres surveyed by aerial surveys.

Surveys found 9.5 million dead trees (not including those killed by wildfire), most mortality was related to bark beetle. 173 million trees have died since the beginning of the drought and bark beetle epidemic. Fires result in increased bark beetle and other pathogen activity. Western pine bark beetle is expected to have increased activity over the next few years.

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# **Forest Practice/BOF cont.**

#### Presentations

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  - 38 million acres surveyed by aerial surveys.
  - Surveys found 9.5 million dead trees (not including those killed by wildfire), most mortality was related to bark beetle. 173 million trees have died since the beginning of the drought and bark beetle epidemic. Fires result in increased bark beetle and other pathogen activity. Western pine bark beetle is expected to have increased activity over the next few years.
  - Lodgepole Needle miner activity in 2021 was considered severe for the first year since the early 1990s, mainly in Yosemite area.
  - Sudden Oak Death was found in Del Norte county for the first time (not the same lineage as other places in CA; it was the European lineage). Tree mortality remains low, likely due to the continuing drought conditions
  - Maple Leaf Scorch remains a problem, likely caused by bacteria.
  - *Tubakia* or *Diplodia* pathogens have killed many oaks, specifically tanoaks, in the past year, likely from drought stress (symptoms similar SOD).
  - Use of bio-controls of invasive plants continue, including the rosette weevil for yellow star thistle, among a
    few others.
- Forest and harvested wood product carbon updates Nadia Tase, Climate Change and Forest Inventory Specialist, Cal Fire
  - British Columbia forestland is twice as large as CA, OR, and WA combined, however CA/WA/OR has
    slightly more carbon stocks. Most of CA imports from OR and other non-western areas of the USA. CA imports nearly twice as much as it harvests (mostly pulp and paper); CA exports about half of what CA harvests.
  - Continued research using Canada's carbon stock analysis system and still plan to do public input component in the development of this harvested products carbon analysis.
  - Developing models that show harvested carbon stocks across time and cumulative total carbon in individual harvested wood product storage pools and emissions, as well as many more models. These will be open sourced and available to the public once published. You will also be able to upload your own data to analyze.
- Operational Resilience in Western US Frequent-Fire Forests: What is forest resilience and how do we measure it? Ryan Tompkins, UC Cooperative Extension
  - A study was done using historic inventory data covering over 24,000 acres in Stanislaus and Sequoia National Forests from ~1910. It compared these numbers to inventory data in the same areas from 2011. Historic inventory showed an average TPA of 19 -29 with an average DBH of ~28"; 2011 data showed an average TPA of 140-171 and an average DBH of 14".
  - Data showed 73-85% of historic forests were below full occupancy, in what we present foresters would consider "understocked". Presently 42% of forests are in imminent mortality (overstocked) and 42% are at full competition. This is what is driving the low resilience for Sierra Nevada forests.
  - Low relative stand density promotes resilience. Low stand density minimizes competition for resources (WATER); low densities of large drought/fire resistant trees are the backbone of resilient dry mixed conifer forests.
  - Management and Policy Implications:
    - 1. Use relative density as measurement for treatments/stocking. Relative density gives you more flexibility to create conditions that facilitate large tree growth.
    - Create management practices (and aligned policies) that favor individual tree growth over stand growth and allow greater intensity of initial harvest. This will shift intermediate harvest to understory management.
    - 3. Rethink canopy cover requirements for wildfire (>40% on federal lands), as it may not promote large tree resilience.
    - Think about these large trees as keystone species and manage for them to ensure ecosystem resilience and health.



# Water/Wildlife/Botany cont.

#### WILDLIFE

#### California Fish and Game Commission

The Commission last met on April 20<sup>th</sup> via a hybrid meeting.

- The Commission has decided that listing the Southern California steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) may be warranted. A 1 year status has begun and the species is now protected
- The Commission unanimously declined a petition to ban black bear hunting.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19th via teleconference.



# Water/Wildlife/Botany

# Mark Pugsley — Committee Chair WATER QUALITY

#### STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

#### **Drought Information and Updates**

Gov Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22 reaffirming past Executive Orders regarding the prolonged drought along with requiring the SWRCB to develop new regulations by May 25,2022.

The SWRCB is considering readopting emergency regulations for the Russian River area. Rule Text.

The Board last met on April 19th Via Teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>; the agenda is not yet available.

#### **Region 1-North Coast**

The Board last met on April 7th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for June 9th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

#### Region 2- San Francisco Bay

The Board last met on April 13th via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available

#### **Region 3-Central Coast**

The Board last met on April 21st via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. <u>Agenda</u>.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16th in San Luis Obispo; the agenda is not yet available.

#### **Region 5-Central Valley**

The Board last met on April 21st via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

#### Region 6-Lahontan

The Board last met on March 9<sup>th</sup> via teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available, but the agenda is. <u>Agenda</u>.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.



# **CLFA 2022 Legislation**

#### Joe Starr—Committee Chair

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

Nothing new to report this month.

# **CLFA 2022 Scholarship Offerings**

#### Charll Stoneman—Committee Chair

In 2022 CLFA has offered three scholarships targeting forestry students currently enrolled and/or planning to enter a University, College, or Junior College with an SAF accredited Forestry Program. Those scholarship are the California Licensed Foresters Association's Scholarship (\$2500), the Roy H. Richards Memorial Scholarship (\$1500) and the Harold H. Biswell Memorial Scholarship (\$1500). The CLFA and Roy Richards scholarships have been awarded, and the deadline for application acceptance for the Harold Biswell scholarship has been moved forward to May 15, 2022. This latter scholarship announcement is specifically targeting graduating High School seniors and 'Tweeners', those that have previously graduated high school and are now presently being accepted into a college program. So, if you know of any current graduating or previously graduated high school student that has been accepted to a college forestry program, encourage them to apply for the Harold H. Biswell Scholarship; see attached announcement.

CLFA would like to congratulate Zackary (Zak) Schall, recipient of CLFA's scholarship. Zak is a graduating senior of Lassen High School in Susanville, California. He has been accepted into the forestry program at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Zack is the son of Glen and Kerrissa Schall. His dad, an RPF with private sector experience and now with Cal Fire, is a 2004 graduate of UNR with a B.S. in Natural Resource Management. As expressed by Zak, growing up he was fortunate to go to work with his dad starting at the age of 4 and was exposed to the forestry field his entire life to date. Zak is well on his way to a career in the woods beginning with his completion of Lassen Community College's Fire Academy and application as a seasonal firefighter. We all wish Zak much success in achieving the proud accomplishment of continuing the family's forestry legacy.

The recipient of the Roy H. Richards Scholarship is Erin Burk, a master's student at Northern Arizona University in Forest Production. Erin's decision to become a forester was born from a season of timber marking on the Tahoe National Forest. She expressed her appreciation at the luck of having two foresters with over 20 years of experience on the USFS marking crew and their extensive knowledge about forest health, silviculture, and forest operations inspired her to enroll in graduate school. Following her experience on the Tahoe National Forest, she was interested in how the forest's silviculture driven marking program would be accomplished and viewed by the logging contractor who bought the sale. As someone with no extensive forestry experience, she wondered whether her mark was physically feasible and economically valuable for the logging contractor. Quoting Erin, "I recognized my naivety, deciding that if I wanted to become a forester, I had better learn about the entire supply chain, starting with a healthy forest and ending with enough product to support a healthy economy. Looking ahead to my graduation in December 2022, I am interested in exploring career opportunities in the private and state forestry sectors in California. I plan on becoming a Registered Professional Forester in California, as this will give me the qualification and freedom to one day open my own consulting firm. In the meantime, I have a lot to learn. Working alongside experienced foresters in the private and state forestry sectors will help me build a better understanding of holistic forest management including forest ecology, operations, and wood products supply chains." We applaud her targeted professional goals and wish her well in completing her thesis.

On an end note, there were seven (7) applicants for the two scholarships awarded to date. Three of the seven were children of RPF's currently practicing in California. Nice to see this number of young individuals following their parent's footsteps.





# Forestry Challenge Update by Diane Dealey Neill

I would like to thank the following foresters for volunteering at the 2022 Forestry Challenge Championship on April 21 to 23 at Camp Sylvester in Pinecrest, Tuolumne County:

> Alex Thoman **Bob Broderick** Brian Wayland Chris Dow Chris Trott Dean Lofthus Gary Whitson

Hannah Grabowski Jerry Jensen Karine Hunt Mike Albrecht Rich Wade Ryan Wimmer Tom Francis

We were happy to be back after a two-year gap with 61 students from 10 schools participating. The late-season storm brought about 8 inches of snow as everyone arrived on Thursday, which was a new experience for many of the students.

The focus topic highlighted the literally hundreds of relationships between multiple federal, state, local, and private stakeholders involved in solving the wildfire crisis and how those relationships can be strengthened to get work done. Students had the opportunity to interact with stakeholders both evenings in an exposition style format where they could move freely between stakeholders and interview them according to their preferences.

During the Challenge, teams also completed a rigorous field test to assess their technical forestry knowledge and data collecting skills. Prior to the start of the event, several school groups toured the Sierra Pacific Industries mill in Sonora and tours were also given at the SPI mill at China Camp after the event.

Photos are posted in an album on our Flickr account and the focus topic and other resources are posted on the Championship summary page of the website.





### 2022 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

#### 2022

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

#### CLFA WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES

#### 2022

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

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

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