



**CALIFORNIA  
LICENSED  
FORESTERS  
ASSOCIATION**

*The Voice of  
California's  
Licensed  
Foresters*

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- ◆ Fall Field Day—  
North
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Fall Class

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# California Licensed Foresters Association

November 2020 - Newsletter

## President's Message

Ariel Roughton, CLFA President

This is one of my favorite times of the year to work in the woods as I am sure it is many others. It's the time of the year when you can walk sleeveless through the woods without the threat of mosquitoes and while I miss waking up with the sun, the dark drive to work is made up for in mild sunny afternoons. Working at Blodgett Forest this is a time of transition for us that I look forward to each year. Our timber harvest has finished and we begin to look ahead to fall and winter projects while planning for next summer. Our summer seasonals have left, those staying on through the fall are adjusting to what is likely their first October without school in 16 years. The thing that signifies this transition more than anything however, is the weather.

I know that we are not alone in this, but this is when the obsessive weather watching begins. So much depends on the weather when working in this field, for us prescribed fire sits high on the list. The forecast holds the key to whether we can burn or not and in turn whether the dozen researchers who have been preparing for months for just a few days of fire will get their data or learn first hand the fickle nature of fall burning in the Sierra.

I read the extended forecast discussion daily with great anticipation for the first sustained signs of precipitation. We watch and wait. Hopefully just enough precipitation will come, not so much the fall burn window closes. We follow the relative humidity patterns dreading the day with single digit lows while waiting for good overnight recoveries. This year in particular it seems that the perfect weather combination needed to end fire season and start prescribed fire season is alluding us.

While we wait for rain, I have found myself updating Blodgett's weather data and looking back in time to put our current conditions into context.

How many days has it been since the last rain? Well, about 13 miles east of Georgetown, CA it has been 140 days, 161 days were it not for .17" of rain June 13th. How does this compare to past years? It could be worse, but not by much. In 2002 we went a full 168 days without any precipitation. How common is it to not have any rain in October, not very. In the roughly 60 years of weather data Blodgett has, October has been bone dry 4 other times. In an average year we would have close to 4 inches of precipitation in October starting us off on what will hopefully be a steady march to over 60 inches of precipitation by next dry season.

While the historic weather doesn't offer much solace, it offers a small sign of hope. Generally the past dry Octobers have been followed by wet Novembers and near average water years. It may not be much to hold onto, but for now I'll keep enjoying this time in the woods while watching the forecast waiting for the break in weather and hoping that history repeats itself.





**Forest Practice—BOF**  
Andrea Eggleton—Regulatory Rep to CLFA

No Report this Month.

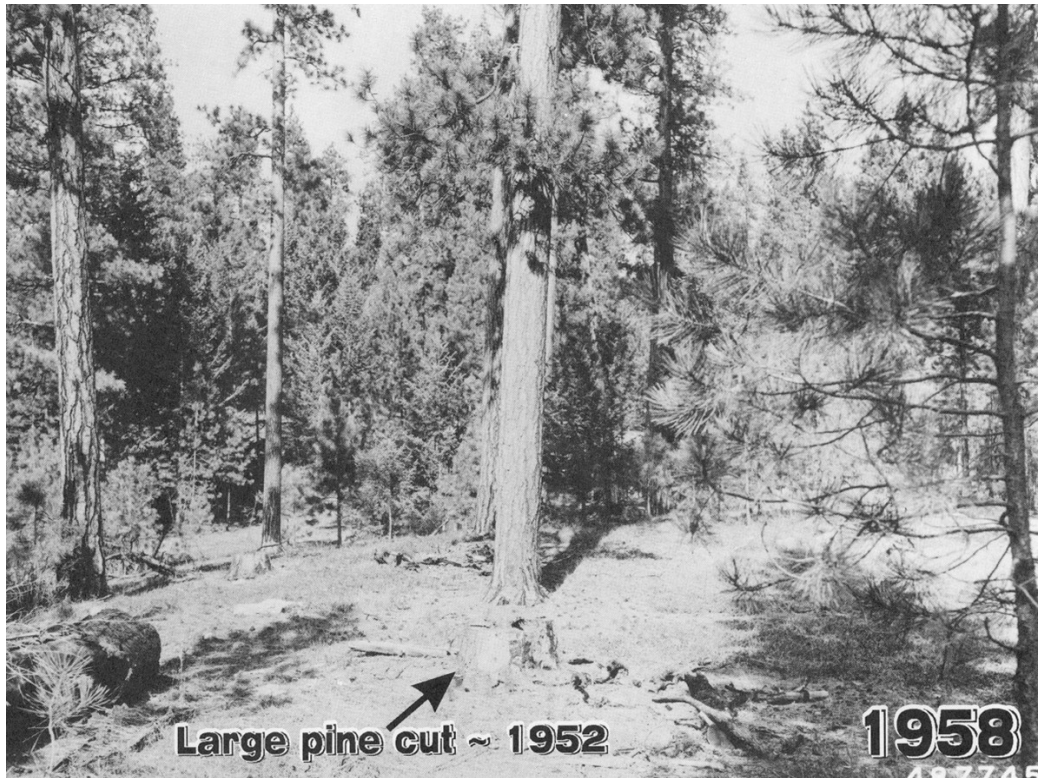




**These pictures are from the "Biomass - Overgrown For-  
ests" 60 Second Forester...**











Compliments from Jan Caster! Thank you Jan for sharing these for the newsletter.



## Legislation Report Joe Starr—Committee Chair

On October 7, Governor Newsom signed an executive order similar to AB 3030 which failed this year which ultimately sets a goal of conserving 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030 in order to prevent species and habitat loss.

The following is a link to that executive order:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/10.07.2020-EO-N-82-20-signed.pdf>

Additional Links that may be of interest to Members

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](mailto: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/>

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

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

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

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



## Water/Wildlife/Botany

Mark Pugsley — Committee Chair

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

The Board last met on October 15th 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/northcoast/board\\_info/board\\_meetings/10\\_2020/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/10_2020/)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 10 & 11th in Santa Rosa. the agenda is not yet available.

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

The Board last met on October 15 & 16th 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/2020/2010ag.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/2020/2010ag.pdf)

The next meeting is scheduled for December 10 & 11th in Rancho Cordova; the agenda is not yet available.

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

The Board last met on October 6, 14, 20, 27, 28, and 29th in closed sessions 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\\_schedule.htm](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/agenda/2020_schedule.htm)

The next scheduled meeting is on November 18th and 19th via teleconference. The agenda is not yet available.

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

The Board last met on October 22 & 23rd 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/oct\\_22/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2020/oct_22/index.html)

The next meeting is scheduled for December 10 and 11th via teleconference; the agenda is not yet available.

### **WILDLIFE**

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

The Fish and Game Commission (FGC) last met on October 14th via Teleconference. No forestry action items were on the agenda. Minutes are not yet available. Agendas: <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=183146&inline>

The next Fish and Game Commission meeting is scheduled for December 9 & 10th via teleconference. the agenda is not yet available.



## Forestry Challenge Update

Diane Dealey Neill

By the time you read this, Session 1 of the 2020 Virtual Forestry Challenge will be underway. We have done our best to integrate video clips into the field testing portion, asking students to give their answers as if they are the ones doing the work. Our intent is to ask questions that require them to interpret videos, graphics and information, rather than asking fact based questions that they can look up. Because of the difficulty of assessing their ability with tools and hands-on activities, the test will be worth less than the focus topic presentation, a reversal of point values from previous years.

The good news is that we have a great focus topic that includes a data set collected by James Able Forestry from Eureka, and FVS (Forest Vegetation Simulator) runs created by the Usal forestry staff for 13 possible action pathways. I am deeply grateful to the Usal forestry staff, with Forestry Operations Manager Jeff Houser as my “go-to” forester. With the FVS outputs created, I recorded the opening lecture just two days prior to the beginning of the first session. [Click here](#) or on the photo below for a link to the lecture.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEDfu4dpels&feature=youtu.be>



2020 Virtual Forestry Challenge Introductory Presentation

If you want a quick read of the topic rather than an hour plus lecture, you can access the focus topic question by [clicking here](#).

We will be “seeing” many of you on the Ask a Forester Zoom sessions happening over the coming weeks. Thank you for supporting our effort to bring real life forestry to the state’s high school students.





## 2020 CLFA BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### BOARD MEETINGS

- ◆ 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

- ◆ November 11 & 12, 2020 Archaeology Refreshers—Gaia, Anderson
- ◆ March 5 & 6, 2021—Spring Workshop, Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson, CA

### 2021

- ◆ **Registrations are being accepted for the fall 2021 5-day archaeology class—spring class is full. If interested email Kathleen Burr @ [admin@clfa.org](mailto:admin@clfa.org)**

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

### ***2020/2021 CLFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

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