Range Management Advisory Committee

History, Organization, and Purpose



# What does the RMAC do?

- Statutory committee that communicates issues of rangeland health and management to the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection and advised agencies (i.e., CA Natural Resources Agency, CA Env. Protection Agency, and CA Dept. Food & Ag on issues relating to rangeland resources
- Only state-level policy committee on rangeland issues
- Provides recommendations regarding agency policies and programs under the purview of the Board which may impact rangeland resources
- Conducts outreach to and solicits feedback from stakeholders on subjects related to rangeland health & management
- Facilitates interactions among interested individuals and organizations to refine and improve policies related to rangeland health & management in California

## History of the RMAC

- 1945 Board of Forestry and Fire Protection appointed the RANGE IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RIAC) in response to State legislature authorizing a range improvement program within the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- 1967 RIAC re-constructed and chartered with 11 voting members and 9 non-voting consultants
- 1975 Reactivated and rechartered as the RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RMAC) with 11 voting members and 1 non-voting ex-oficio member from the Board
- 1984 RMAC made a statutory committee to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection by Public Resources Code (PRC) 741; 2 public members added
- **1996** AB 3262 expanded the advisory role of the RMAC to include Cal EPA and the CDFA, in addition to the Board and CNRA
- 2016 SB 798 2015 replaced the Watershed Fire Council of Southern California with a third public member



**2021 California Code** VOLUME 2/4 **Public Resources Code - PRC** CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE 2021 **DIVISION 1 - ADMINISTRATION CHAPTER 2.5 - Department of Forestry and Fire** CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT Protection **ARTICLE 2 - State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection** Section 741. **CA Pub Res Code § 741 (2021)** 

"... (d) The Secretary of the Resources Agency, the Secretary for Environmental **Protection, and the Secretary of Food and Agriculture** shall notify the advisory committee of, and are encouraged to consult with the advisory committee [RMAC] on rangeland resource issues that are under consideration by the Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Food and Agriculture, respectively."

California Code, Public Resources Code (PRC) § 741

# Structure of RMAC



- 11 members with ranching, land management, and natural resources expertise. Today's representatives include:
  - 3 public members with an interest and background in the management and conservation of range resources or special knowledge in the protection of rangeland soils and watersheds
  - 1 member, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
  - 7 members, organizations representing rangeland owners
- A Board member appointed by the Chairman of the Board to serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member
- Chair and Vice-chair elected annually from the membership for oneyear terms
- Seat terms are four years

## <u>CURRENT MEMBERSHIP</u>

#### PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES (3)

- Marc Horney, Chair
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

**USDA US Forest** 

Service

- Lance Criley
- Dr. Paul Starrs

Professor Emeritus, University of Nevada, *Reno* and University of California, *Berkeley*  BOARD OF FORESTR

FIRE PROTECT

#### CALIFORNIA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (1)

• Joel Kramer

San Diego Resource Conservation District

#### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBER (1)**

• Katie Delbar

State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Farm Service Agency

### MEMBERS FROM ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING RANGELAND OWNERS (7)

- Rich Ross, Vice Chair
  California Cattlemen's
  Association
- Billie Roney
- Bart Cremers
- California Farm Bureau Federation

- Taylor Hagata
- Andree Soares

California Wool Growers Association

- Cole Bush
- Dr. Stephanie Larson

Director, Sonoma County U.C. Cooperative Extension



# **PARTNERS & ADVISED AGENCIES**

#### Natural Resources Agency

- California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
- CAL FIRE
- California Conservation Corps
- Dept of Conservation Exposition Park
- Dept of Fish and Wildlife
- Fish and Game Commission
- State Lands Commission
- State conservancies (10)
- Dept of Parks and Recreation
- Dept of Water Resources
- Biodiversity Council
- State Demonstration Forests
- AND MORE!



- State Water Resources Control Board
- Regional Water Control Boards (9)
- Air Resource Board (CARB)

Department of Food and Agriculture

- Drought Resources
- Ecosystem Services
- Animal Health and Food Safety Services Division
- Noxious Weed Management Areas
- Board of Food and Agriculture
- Office of Environmental Farming & Innovation
- Healthy Soils Program

# Range Organizations & the Public

- CA Fire Science Consortium
- Cal Polytechnic Schools
- University of California (UCANR / UCCE, Research & Extension)
- California Rangeland Conservation Coalition
- Audubon
- CA Climate & Ag Network
- CA Wool Growers Association
- Farm Service Agency
- Fire Safe Councils
- Prescribed Burn Associations
- Private landowners
- Livestock managers
- CA Cattlemen's Association
- U.S. Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Local fire departments
- Farm Bureau
- CA Resource Conservation Districts
- Central Coast Rangeland Coalition
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife

## **Guiding Principles of the RMAC**



### VISION

A resilient rangeland landscape in California that provides a diversity of ecosystem services to support the state's ecological and human health

### MISSION

To be an advocate to public agencies promoting scientifically and economically sound policies that affect the sustainability of California rangeland resources by:

- considering issues related to California's rangeland resources
- providing recommendations on addressing them
- facilitating strong relationships with local, state, and federal agencies
- developing solutions that are based on environmental, social, and economic information that is current, data-driven, and considers diverse perspectives

## **Major Accomplishments of the RMAC**



- 1982 Cal Fire Vegetation Management Program to reduce wildfire risk and increase resilience
- 1986 Integrated Hardwood Range Management Strategy collaboration with CDFG and UC system
- 1995 California Rangeland Water Quality Management Program cooperative effort between RMAC, livestock producers, state and federal agencies (including UCCE and NRCS), and interest groups
- 1998 Strategic Plan for the Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds in California an effort to coordinate noxious weed management among state, federal, and private land managers
- 2002 A Survey of Natural Resource Professionals on Threats to Water Resources on California Rangelands – a statewide workshop to measure and evaluate water resource impairments on rangelands
- 2004 Oak Woodland Policy Recommendations presented to the Board in consideration of updating the Joint Policy on Hardwoods between the Board and the Fish and Game Commission
- 2015 PRESCRIBED HERBIVORY FOR VEGETATION TREATMENT PROJECTS White Paper provided guidance to CAL FIRE and the public on herbivory for hazardous fuel reduction
- 2019 CALIFORNIA VEGETATION TREATMENT PROGRAM PROGRAMMATIC EIR approved, including prescribed herbivory
- 2022 STATE LANDS GRAZING LICENSE AND LAND MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE formed to develop grazing license and land management plan templates for use on state-managed lands

# **Operating Procedures**

- 6–8 meetings annually in person as of Apr 2022, with virtual option for public participants and invited speakers
- Publicly-noticed, open meetings with encouraged public participation
- Recorded meetings and materials posted online
- Regular outreach and invitations for input from range community
- Speakers from range-related organizations on management and policy issues
- Regular reports to the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection at public meetings
- Range-related policy and action recommendations to the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
- Action teams, appointees to liaise with advised agencies and departments, and partnered efforts to promote collaborative projects and deliverables to support information transfer
- Strategic Plan and Annual Report and Workplan to the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
- Annual educational workshops: in person and virtual (TODAY)

#### Tools for Sustainable Management of California's Fire-Prone Landscapes: Grazing for Fuel Reduction

With a special introduction by Jennifer Montgomery, Director of the Governor's Forest Management Task Force

California is facing unprecedented wildfires – how can we respond? In today's fire regime, we need a diverse toolbox to respond effectively and sustainably manage the land to prevent catastrophic wildfires.

The California Range Management Advisory Committee, an advisory body to the California Natural Resources Agency under the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, is co-hosting a workshop with the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources Program to discuss the use of prescribed livestock grazing as a sustainable fuel reduction and environmental management tool.

> When: September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM \*<u>Please arrive 15-20 minutes early to check in</u> Where: California Natural Resources Building Auditorium 1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95442 OR: Register to attend our live <u>Webinar</u> https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/850527620161147906

Questions may be directed to: Brandi Goss <u>Brandi.Goss@bof.ca.gov</u> (916) 215-4947



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Agriculture and Natural Resources



#### **Registration Open!** Sustainable Management of California's Fire-Prone Landscapes: Using Grazing to Help Keep Communities Safe



The California Range Management Advisory Committee, an advisory body to the California Natural Resources Agency, is co-hosting a virtual workshop with the California Fire Science Consortium to discuss the use of prescribed livestock grazing as a sustainable fuel reduction and environmental management tool.

Three separate workshops in November will be <u>from 10AM-12PM</u> followed by an optional virtual networking hour where participants can engage with each other and ask questions.

Wildland Fuels: A Primer for Concerned Citizens & Grazers November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Registration Link

Using Grazing for Fuels Management 101: Practices & Strategies November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Registration <u>Link</u>

Organizing Community-Based Wildland Fuels Management Projects: Approaches and Examples November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Registration Link

Additional meeting materials are on the <u>Workshop</u> <u>Webpage</u> and recordings will also be available afterwards on the <u>Range Management Advisory</u> <u>Committee's Webpage</u>.



Please address questions to: Edith.Hannigan@bof.ca.gov





the range management advisory committee & the ca fire science consoritum invites you to the third annual workshop series SAVE THE DATES!

### JULY 29, AUGUST 5, AND AUGUST 12



#### SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF California's fire-prone landscapes: Grazing for community resilience

Three separate workshops will highlight case studies of successful grazing contracts and partnerships across the state. These virtual events are free and open to all with registration.



To register, please visit https://calpoly.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_z30Yyczs TXmB966qHeOljQ



### Providing services to agencies and the public



#### DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING GRAZING PROJECTS: SLGLLM Grazing License template Management Plan template Guidance Booklet



#### **COLLABORATIVE WEBINARS**

Wildfire Prevention Grants for prescribed grazing Navigating the Proposal Process Developing a Grazing Agreement Creating and Implementing a Grazing Management Plan



#### FIELD DAY DEMONSTRATIONS East Bay Regional Parks San Diego Paso Robles / Salinas River Ojai Valley

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