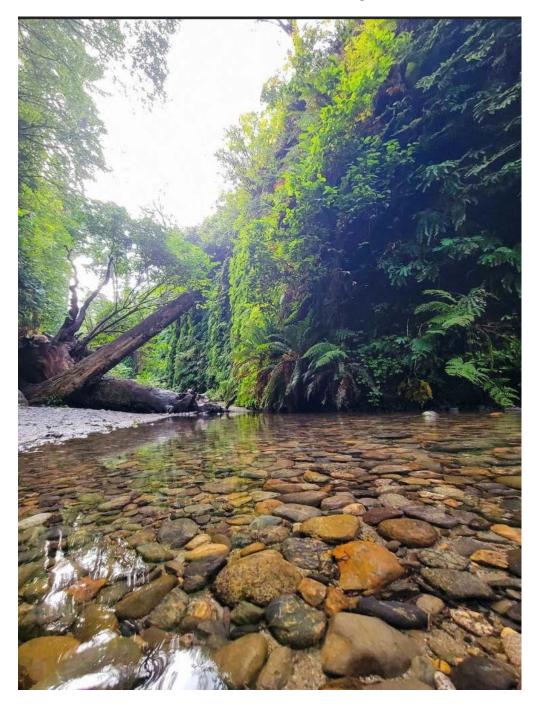
## Licensing News Office of Professional Foresters Registration



**WINTER 2021 VOLUME 33 - ISSUE 2** 

### CURRENT PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS EXAMINING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

Professional Foresters Registration shall protect the public interest through the regulation of those individuals who are licensed to practice the profession of forestry, and whose activities have an impact upon the ecology of forested landscapes and the quality of the forest environment, within the State of California.

Mr. Frank Mulhair, Chair - RPF (Industry Member)

Mr. William Snyder, Vice Chair - RPF (Government Member, Retired)

Mr. Christian Eggleton - RPF (Consultant member)

Mr. Larry Forero - CRM (Certified Specialty)

Mr. James Hawkins – RPF (Industry Member)

Ms. Danielle Lindler – RPF (Industry Member)

Mr. Jason Poburko – RPF (Government member)

Mr. Dan Sendek - RPF (Public Member, Retired)

Ms. Yana Valachovic - RPF (Government Member)

VACANT – (Public Member, Board of Forestry)

#### **PROGRAM STAFF**

Dan Stapleton, RPF No. 2707
Asst. Executive Officer, Foresters Licensing
<a href="mailto:dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov">dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov</a>
916.653.8031

Deniele Cade Staff Services Analyst deniele.cade@bof.ca.gov 916.653.8031

#### **CURRENT BOARD OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION COMPOSITION**

The Board's mission is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands, and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

Dr. J. Keith Gilless, Chair (Public Representative)

Mr. Christopher Chase (Industry Representative)

Ms. Katie Delbar (Range/Livestock Representative)

Ms. Elizabeth Forsburg (Public Representative)

Ms. Susan Husari (Public Representative)

Mr. Mike Jani (Industry Representative)

Mr. J Lopez (Public Representative)

Mr. Richard Wade (Industry Representative)

#### **BOARD STAFF**

Edith Hannigan Executive Officer 916.653.8007 edith.hannigan@bof.ca.gov

Laura Alarcon-Stalians Administrative Manager 916.902.5049 laura.alarcon-stalians@bof.ca.gov

> Claire McCoy Environmental Planner 916.902.5058 claire.mccoy@bof.ca.gov

Jeff Slaton Senior Board Counsel 916.902.5051 jeffrey.slaton@bof.ca.gov

Andrew Lawhorn Forestry Assistant II 916.902.5059 andrew.lawhorn@bof.ca.gov

Sara Walter
Associate Governmental Program Analyst
916.902.5060
Sara.walter@bof.ca.gov

Jane Van Susteren Environmental Scientist Regulations Coordinator 916.902.5061 jane.vansusteren@bof.ca.gov Linda Cano Executive Assistant 916.902.5054 linda.cano@bof.ca.gov

Mazonika Kemp Records Administrator 916.902.5053 mazonika.kemp@bof.ca.gov

Eric Hedge, RPF No. 3010 Regulations Program Manager 916.902.5048 eric.hedge@bof.ca.gov

Katie Harrell Associate Government Program Analyst 916.902.5055 Katie.harrell@bof.ca.gov

> Robert Roth Attorney III 916.902.5052 robert.roth@bof.ca.gov

Dr. Kristina Wolf Environmental Scientist 916.902.5057 Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov

## Edith Hannigan Appointed as Executive Officer to the Board of Forestry and fire Protection

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection at its November 3, 2021 meeting voted unanimously to appoint long time Board staff Edith Hannigan to the Executive Officer position. Prior to the appointment, Edith served as the Land Use Planning Program Manager for the Board managing a variety of committees and subject matter from land



use planning, range management, effectiveness monitoring, vegetation management, and fire safe development regulations. Edith has done it all and brings effective experience and leadership to the Board at a critical time for California's forestlands and wildland urban interface (WUI). Edith began her career as a planning intern at the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department, where she worked on vaccine Points of Dispensing plans and the City **Emergency Operations Plan Brushfire** Annex. Following her time in Los Angeles, she spent a year administering municipal bonds,

special taxes, assessments, and fees as an analyst with Willdan Financial Services in Sacramento. Edith was first hired by the Board in 2013 as an SRA analyst, working on land use planning and SRA programs, and was promoted to the Land Use Planning Program Manager position in 2017. She has a Bachelor's degree in Geography from Rutgers University and a Master's in Sustainable Land Use Planning from the University of Southern California.

Edith enjoys hiking, backpacking, and open water swimming throughout California. She bookended her summer with a backpacking trip in June that culminated in summiting Mt. Tallac, and then a few months later swam 10 miles across Lake Tahoe. She looks forward to continuing to serve the state of California and advancing the mission of the Board in her new role as EO.



#### **Director Thom Porter Retires**

Cal Fire Director Thom Porter announced that he will retire at the end of this year. In a letter to the department, Chief Porter stated "With bittersweet feelings, balanced by deep pride for CAL FIRE and anticipation for the future, I will be retiring on December 10, 2021 from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Office of the State Fire Marshal... I will be returning to San Diego to focus on family, aging parents, and self. A piece of my heart is and will always be with CAL FIRE."

Chief Porter has a Bachelor of Forestry degree from the University of California, Berkeley and is a

Registered Professional Forester. He joined Cal Fire in 1999 and was appointed Director by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019. Chief Porter's watch over the department saw some of the most destructive fires in California history, including two of the largest wildfires on record. More than 4 million acres burned in wildfires in 2020 and nearly 3 million acres in 2021. Board staff would like to thank Thom for his contributions and support of the Board and for his leadership during these extremely challenging times. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

#### The View from the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor by Dan Stapleton, Asst.

Executive Officer



As we come to the end of another extreme wildland fire year, it appears that managing forest fuels has gained a firm foot-hold in the conversation on how best to prevent and protect against catastrophic wildfire the infrastructure and natural resources of our beautiful state. I sense however, that the winds of change are being driven more by the proposed use of prescribed fire than the use of forest thinning to achieve the necessary fuels reduction. As I attend the various Forest Management Task Force Committee discussions, it is apparent that the broad application of fire has gained almost statewide acceptance as the key management action to be taken. Several stakeholders are now supporting large project scale prescribed fire and "natural" prescribed fire where fires initiated by

lightning strikes are allowed to burn under optimal conditions. As discussed, these events would encompass thousands of acres, some as high as ten thousand. I have to agree that the application of prescribed fire to such a scale may indeed need to happen

if we are to make a dent in the 100 years of fuel accumulation driven by historic fire policies, drought and historic forest practices. However, my concern is that along with the resulting increased accumulation of forest floor fuels are historically high tree densities and increased forest stand composition of thin barked, shade tolerant true fir. Anyone who has done a substantial amount of prescribed burning realizes that we are going to torch a lot of trees that will end up just contributing to carbon release. It makes more sense to me to increase the capacity for converting these low value trees into useful products that can be chipped and burned efficiently for power generation or stored in construction materials. Unfortunately, large scale wildfire like this year's Dixie Fire and Caldor fire have combined to burn over one million acres at such a high fire intensity that it is likely well over 50% of the forest fire area was stand replacing, destroying the seed source needed for natural regeneration. The huge amounts of salvage timber from these events will swamp our sawmill capacity to a point that small fir trees will have no value. These catastrophic fire events are painting us into a corner. Without economic value for suppressed and intermediate conifer trees, we are now left to managing forest fuels noncommercially by fire alone, depriving us of the useful tool that is forest thinning.

The Board's Joint Institute of Wood Products Innovation is attempting to find product and market solutions for this dilemma, and I am confident their research will provide needed answers. An essential question yet to be answered is will there be access to a substantial and predictable supply of raw material for those making the investments into future processing infrastructure? To accomplish this, forest thinning must become a significant portion of any fuel reduction strategy, not only around communities, infrastructure, and parks, but also along natural breaks, and high-density forests across the landscape. As foresters, we are taught that we should use all the tools in the toolbox to provide the needed result. Yet we are currently only harvesting a fraction of our state's forest growth. Commercial forest thinning needs to be emphasized as part of any fuel reduction solution and should be utilized in concert with both prescribed fire and natural wildfire to reduce stand damage, protect seed sources, and provide areas of modified fuel that are strategically located to assist in containment across a fuel laden landscape. Additionally, where we have burned over landscapes, we need to consider creating and maintaining substantial fuel free zones as part of our rehabilitation efforts. These zones should be located and maintained around high value resources in preparation for future prescribed fire application and for future emergency fire response.

The following are abstracts and a link to research presented to the Forest Management Committee of the Board in September 2021 by Brandon M. Collins and Scott Stephens, the principal forest researchers. The three research articles consist of studies utilizing various federal and private industry inventory data from the early 1900's, comparing them to current inventory data in the same areas 90 to 100 years later, after fire exclusion. The studies provide a clear picture of forest structure when fires were more

frequent and less destructive to the forest landscape. They point us in a direction we should consider as we devise strategies to create and maintain resilient forests.

## Novel characterization of landscape-level variability in historical vegetation structure

https://bof.fire.ca.gov/business/

To access please select: September 2021, then Management Committee, MGMT 4(a)

BRANDON M. COLLINS, JAMIE M. LYDERSEN, RICHARD G. EVERETT, DANNY L. FRY, AND SCOTT L. STEPHENS

Abstract. We analyzed historical timber inventory data collected systematically across a large mixed-conifer-dominated landscape to gain insight into the interaction between disturbances and vegetation structure and composition prior to 20th century land management practices. Using records from over 20 000 trees, we quantified historical vegetation structure and composition for nine distinct vegetation groups. Our findings highlight some key aspects of forest structure under an intact disturbance regime: (1) forests were low density, with mean live basal area and tree density ranging from 8–30 m2 /ha and 25–79 trees/ha, respectively; (2) understory and overstory structure and composition varied considerably across the landscape; and (3) elevational gradients largely explained variability in forest structure over the landscape. Furthermore, the presence of large trees across most of the surveyed area suggests that extensive stand-replacing disturbances were rare in these forests. The vegetation structure and composition characteristics we quantified, along with evidence of largely elevational control on these characteristics, can provide guidance for restoration efforts in similar forests.

#### Historical and current landscape-scale ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest structure in the Southern Sierra Nevada

https://bof.fire.ca.gov/business/

To access please select: September 2021, then Management Committee, MGMT 4(b)

SCOTT L. STEPHENS, JAMIE M. LYDERSEN, BRANDON M. COLLINS, DANNY L. FRY, AND MARC D. MEYER

Abstract. Many managers today are tasked with restoring forests to mitigate the potential for uncharacteristically severe fire. One challenge to this mandate is the lack of large-scale reference information on forest structure prior to impacts from Euro-American settlement. We used a robust 1911 historical dataset that covers a large

geographic extent (10,000 ha) and has unbiased sampling locations to compare past and current forest conditions for ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests in the southern Sierra Nevada. The 1911 dataset contained records from 18,052 trees in 378 sampled transects, totaling just over 300 ha in transect area. Forest structure was highly variable in 1911 and shrubs were found in 54% of transects. Total tree basal area ranged from 1 to 60 m2 ha1 and tree density from 2 to 170 ha1 (based on trees .30 cm dbh). K-means cluster analysis divided transects into four groups: mixed coniferhigh basal area (MC High BA), mixed conifer-average basal area (MC Ave BA), mixed conifer-average basal area-high shrubs (MC Ave BA Shrubs), and ponderosa pine (Pond Pine). The percentage of this 1911 landscape that experienced high severity fire was low and varied from 1-3% in mixed conifer forests and 4-6% in ponderosa pine forests. Comparing forest inventory data from 1911 to the present indicates that current forests have changed drastically, particularly in tree density, canopy cover, the density of large trees, dominance of white fir in mixed conifer forests, and the similarity of tree basal area in contemporary ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forests. Average forest canopy cover increased from 25-49% in mixed conifer forests, and from 12-49% in ponderosa pine forests from 1911 to the present; canopy cover in current forest types is similar but in 1911 mixed conifer forests had twice the canopy cover as ponderosa pine forests. Current forest restoration goals in the southern Sierra Nevada are often skewed toward the higher range of these historical values, which will limit the effectiveness of these treatments if the objective is to produce resilient forest ecosystems into the future.

## Mixed-conifer forest reference conditions for privately owned timberland in the southern Cascade Range

https://bof.fire.ca.gov/business/

To access please select: September 2021, then Management Committee, MGMT 4(c)

BRANDON M. COLLINS, ALEXIS BERNAL, ROBERT A. YORK, JENS T. STEVENS, ANDREW JUSKA, AND SCOTT L. STEPHENS

Abstract. The overwhelming majority of information on historical forest conditions in western North America comes from public lands, which may provide an incomplete description of historical landscapes. In this study we made use of an archive containing extensive timber survey data collected in the early 1920s from privately owned forestland. These data covered over 50,000 ha and effectively represent a 19% sample of the entire area. The historical forest conditions reconstructed from these data fit the classic model of frequent-fire forests: large trees, low density, and pine-dominated. However, unlike other large-scale forest reconstructions, our study area exhibited relatively low overall variability in forest structure and composition across the historical landscape. Despite having low variability, our analyses revealed evidence of biophysical controls on tree density and pine fraction. Annual climatic variables most strongly

explained the range in historical tree densities, whereas historical pine fraction was explained by a combination of topographic and climatic variables. Contemporary forest inventory data collected from both public and private lands within the same general area, albeit not a direct remeasurement, revealed substantial increases in tree density and greatly reduced pine fractions relative to historical conditions. Contemporary forests exhibited a far greater range in these conditions than what existed historically. These findings suggest that private forestland managed with multiaged silviculture may be similar to public forestland with respect to departure in forest structure and compositions from that of historical forests. However, there may be differences between management objectives that favor timber production, more typical on private lands, vs. those that favor restoration, increasingly supported on public lands.

#### YTD Wildfire Statistics (CAL FIRE & Federal)

Updated as of November 26, 2021

Interval	Fires	Acres
2021 Combined YTD (CALFIRE & US Forest Service)	8,536	2,569,766*
2020 Combined YTD (CALFIRE & US Forest Service)	8,553	4,439,374
5-Year Average (same interval)	8,421	1,404,405

<sup>\*</sup>These **numbers are subject to change** until the final fire season reports are completed and tabulated.

#### Meetings of Interest and Special Announcements

#### **Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Meeting Dates.**

The Board's next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022 and will likely be a virtual webinar-based meeting. Resumption of in-person meetings will be dependent upon COVID considerations and recommendations by building management for the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA). Board meeting schedule dates can be found at this link.

The public may sign up for webinars at the Board of Forestry website <a href="https://bof.fire.ca.gov">https://bof.fire.ca.gov</a>. You can use this link to also view agendas and other information for the Board and for the advisory committees listed below. Agendas can be found 10 days prior to the meeting date at the homepage link under <a href="Business">Business</a>.

#### **Professional Foresters Examining Committee (PFEC)**

The next PFEC meeting is tentatively planned for the last week of February 2022. Recently the PFEC has completed a list of PFEC priorities for the coming year. This includes; 1) an ad-hoc committee exploring an alternative pathway to qualify for licensing utilizing core competency training modules, 2) consideration of allowing RPF/CRM examinations on computers, 3) consideration of SAF Certification Exams for attainment of qualified exempt status for USFS employees, 4) assess the need for reconsideration of continuing educations (CE) for licensed foresters, and 5) discussion of the allowance for arboriculture to qualify as forestry work experience within the limitations of 1621.1 (b)(3) Forest Protection.

More information about this advisory committee to the Board can be found **HERE**.

#### **Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC)**

This October, the EMC reviewed a Multiscale investigation of perennial flow and thermal influence of headwater streams into fish bearing systems (EMC 2015-001) by Drew Coe. Presentations were also made to the Board on the Completed Research Assessment for translation of results from this research to policy, and to the Forest Practice Committee for policy implications and for any proposed/potential changes. The EMC 2021/22 Request for Proposals was released in July 2021. Initial Concept Proposals were reviewed in October 2021. Full Concept Proposals will be due by December 3, and funding decisions and recommendations for funding will be finalized at the December 2021 EMC meeting TBD. The grant program for EMC Project funding is in late stages of development and the goal is to roll this out for FY 2022/23.

Further formation about this advisory committee to the Board can be found **HERE**.

#### Joint Institute of Wood Products Innovation

The <u>Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation</u> (Institute) researches near-term wood product concepts s to promote highest end uses for California forest wood and biomass. By identifying new wood and biomass products and supporting existing related markets in the state, California can more effectively increase the pace and scale of forest restoration activities, sequester carbon in long-lived wood products, and support rural economies.

The Institute currently has four projects underway.

- 'Cross-Laminated Timber Layup Tests Using Western Wood Products Association White fir Species Group' is testing 2 different product layups using white fir species.
- 'Opportunities for Low-Carbon and Carbon-Negative Fuels from Non-Merchantable Forest Biomass in California' is assessing the attitudes of low-carbon fuel producers towards use of forest biomass, identifying perceived benefits and barriers to adopting forest biomass, and developing solutions to barriers.

- 'Cellulose Nanocrystals (CNCs) as a Value-Based Additive for Low Carbon Footprint Concrete with Limestone' is focused on utilizing CNCs from sustainably sourced wood fiber as an additive that can aid in mixture modifications that reduce concrete's carbon footprint.
- 'Forest Biomass Pile Data Collection' is working to quantify the number of forest biomass piles in the state that have accumulated from 2018 – 2021, including the area treated to create a given pile; composition, volume, and locations of the piles; and the planned vs actual fate of each pile. It will also provide an inventory of forest biomass pile material potentially available for wood and biomass utilization.

The Institute is also coordinating the Wildfire and Forest Resiliency Task Force Action Plan wood utilization action items, working closely with agencies tasked with each item, tracking progress, and providing technical feedback to agency representatives. The Institute also facilitates breakout discussions on trending innovative wood products, such as biochar.

In response to AB 2518, the Board is managing a report addressing 'Mass Timber and Other Innovative Wood Products in California: A Study of Barriers and Potential Solutions to Grow the State's Sustainable Wood Products Sector.'

#### Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC)

The Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) has been conducting annual public workshops/webinars on the use of prescribed herbivory (grazing) for reducing fine fuel loads since 2019 in conjunction with the California Fire Science Consortium.

Recordings of all events are hosted on their website:

<u>https://www.cafiresci.org/events-webinars-source/</u>, or via links at the RMAC webpage (<a href="https://bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/range-management-advisory-committee/">https://bof.fire.ca.gov/board-committees/range-management-advisory-committee/</a>).

Each annual session focused on different aspects of grazing for fuels management. The 2019 half-day introduced the fire ecology and animal science behind the practice



of prescribed herbivory for fuels management. In 2020, a 3-session webinar series focused on basic fire science principles and terminology for grazing animal managers and the public and provided case studies of animal use. The most recent webinar series in 2021 was also conducted over three sessions, and provided examples of establishing and conducting ongoing fine-fuels management projects around

the state, and how different collaborations between grazing service providers state

agencies, non-profit organizations, and private landowners can work to achieve management objectives utilizing prescribed herbivory alone or in combination with other tools.



The University of California Cooperative Service (UCCE), Extension the California Cattlemen's Association, the California Wool Growers Association, and the California Farm Bureau have also organized outreach/education efforts on this topic, most more locally oriented. Macon with UCCE Dan presented to the national Society for Range Management's Targeted Grazing

Committee on the use of the CalFire Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) for supporting grazing practices for fuels reduction/structural alteration on Nov 10 (Access Passcode: 7\*R.@#EU). Any foresters or fire-management professionals seeking guidance in designing grazing prescriptions for fuels treatment projects is welcome to contact their local CRM, UCCE livestock/natural resource advisor, or the CalVTP found RMAC itself. More information on the can be https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/.

Marc R. Horney, Ph.D., CRM Lic. #83

Chair, California Range Management Advisory Committee Professor, Rangeland Ecology & Management California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (805) 756-7543, <a href="mailto:mhorney@calpoly.edu">mhorney@calpoly.edu</a>. More information about this advisory committee to the Board can be found <a href="mailto:HERE">HERE</a>.

#### **Recently Approved Regulations**

In 2021, the Board approved the following:

- Santa Cruz and San Mateo Weekend Emergency This emergency action by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection temporarily eliminates a prohibition on weekend log hauling and timber operations in portions of the counties of Santa Cruz and San Mateo in order to facilitate wildfire cleanup and recovery.
- Emergency Notice RPF Responsibilities This emergency action by the Board requires an RPF to be retained to provide professional advice throughout Emergency Notice Timber Operations and specifies the timeline for fuel treatment pursuant to an Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction.

Most current and approved regulation files are now available at the Board website <u>HERE</u>. If you require archived material, please email <u>Eric Hedge</u>, Regulations Program Manager.

#### REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS & CERTIFIED

**RANGELAND MANAGERS** The table below indicates the known status of all current and former registrants by license type as of December 2, 2021. Expired licensees subsequently revoked by the Board for non-payment have one year to pay all fees to reinstate.

STATUS	RPF's	CRM's
Valid	1,108	81
Withdrawn	119	6
Expired	0	0
Revoked (non-payment	820	19
or disciplinary action)		
Voluntarily Relinquished	751	13
Suspended	0	0
Deceased	345	6
TOTAL	3,143	125

#### **Disciplinary Actions Report**

Since the last issue of the Licensing News, one new complaint was reviewed by the PFEC in both its August and December meetings. Case 342 was determined by the PFEC to not be actionable and was closed.

#### **RPF and CRM Examination Announcements**

The April 2022 RPF/CRM Exam Notice has been posted online and has been scheduled for April 8, 2022. The deadline for NEW applications for that exam is February 4, 2022. The October RPF/CRM Exam Notice has been posted online as well and has been scheduled for October 7, 2022. The deadline for NEW applications for that exam is August 5, 2022. The Exam Notices and information on RPF and CRM exams can be found HERE. Please be advised on the exam notices, the Professional Foresters Examining Committee has determined that applicant review must follow regulations. All new applicants must qualify by the exam application deadline to be considered eligible to sit for the exam. No exceptions will be allowed for those who do not qualify by the application deadline even if they qualify by the examination date.

For <u>those who are retaking the exam</u>, you will need to submit an updated application consisting of your personal information including updated contact information through the preferred examination location on page one. Include any updates if you have changed jobs since the last exam application. Then sign and date the last page of the application.

You can scan and email these documents to my assistant Deniele Cade at <a href="mailto:daniele.cade@bof.ca.gov">daniele.cade@bof.ca.gov</a>. Those interested in taking the RPF or CRM examinations are encouraged to contact Dan Stapleton with any questions about qualifications prior to applying and mailing the exam fee. Dan may be reached at 916-653-8031 or by email at <a href="mailto:dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov">dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov</a>.

#### **CLFA RPF Exam Prep Seminar**

The California Licensed Forester Association (CLFA) is sponsoring an RPF exam preparation seminar on February 11, 2022. Registration information can be found on the Board's RPF/CRM Examination page located <a href="https://www.clfa.org/">here</a> under the <a href="https://www.clfa.org/">Study Materials</a> heading or at the CLFA website (<a href="https://www.clfa.org/">https://www.clfa.org/</a>).

#### **Forestry Career Information**

California Licensed Forester Association Employment Announcements <a href="https://www.clfa.org/employment-announcements">https://www.clfa.org/employment-announcements</a>

**Society of American Foresters Career Page** 

http://careercenter.eforester.org/home/index.cfm?site\_id=8482



Executive Committee. Association of State Foresters September 1962. Left to Right: Ben Shirley (member, GA), Ralph Wible (member, PA), John Beale (VP, WI), Francis Raymond (Pres., CA) Tom Borden (Sec. Treas., CO).

#### **IN MEMORIUM**

This section is devoted to the memory of those fine foresters who have passed from our ranks. Regrettably, I am sometimes late in getting this information posted. So that I may provide timely remembrances, if you have knowledge of an RPF or CRM passing, please forward this information to my Board email address at <a href="mailto:dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov">dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov</a> so that we can pay tribute to these individuals.

#### John Michael Hughes, RPF No. 1939



John Michael Hughes passed peacefully in Polson, Montana. John was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico on September 11, 1938. Until the age of 2, John lived with his mother, Ruby, father, Ivan, and sister, Margaret Ellen Hughes (Peggy Wilson) in a lumber camp near Jemez Pueblo. In 1940, the family moved to California. Initially, the family resided in Marysville, and then moved to Foresthill, California. In 1942, John's father and his brothers opened Hughes Brothers Lumber Company in Foresthill. John attended Foresthill Elementary for 8 years and

then attended high school at San Rafael Military Academy in San Rafael, class of '56.

After high school, John went to work at Hughes Brothers Lumber Company. He married his high school sweetheart, Sharon Louise Stewart, on January 18, 1959. After getting married, and with Sharon's encouragement, John went back to school. First attending Boise Junior College (now Boise State University) in Boise, Idaho. John's oldest daughter, Kirsten Ellen, was born in Boise on December 2, 1959. In 1960, John moved with his young family to Moscow, ID. John studied forestry at the University of Idaho, attended forestry summer camp in McCall, ID, and graduated from the University of Idaho in 1962. John then went to work for Simpson Redwood Company and the family lived in a remote company cabin in Redwood Creek, CA. In the fall of 1962, John attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado for graduate studies in wild land management. In 1963, John received his first appointment with the United States Forest Service and moved his family to Forks, Washington. John and his family then moved to various district and forest staff assignments on the Umpqua, and Siuslaw National Forests in Oregon: In 1974, John was appointed District Ranger of the Illinois Valley District in Cave Junction, OR. In 1976, John was appointed District Ranger of the Baker Ranger District in Baker, OR. In 1977, the family moved to Portland, OR where John served as Regional Silviculturist for the Pacific Northwest Region. In 1981 through 1985, John served as Forest Supervisor of the Stikine Area of the Tongas National Forest in Petersburg, Alaska. After that John served from 1985 -1986 in the Washington DC Office of the United States Forest Service on the Alaska Desk to assist with congressional actions affecting the Alaska Region. In 1986 John was assigned to the timber staff for the Northern Region in Missoula, Montana. He was assigned Deputy Regional Forester for the Northern Region in 1990 and worked in that position until his retirement in 1996. away in 2000.

After his retirement, John was a California Registered Professional Forester and managed the family tree farm in Foresthill, California until it was sold in 2021. John always said he had a good life, he was raised by good parents, and he grew up during a good time. Throughout his life, he enjoyed outdoor activities including family hiking and camping trips, large game and bird hunting, fishing, golfing, and boating. He also loved baseball, dogs, horses, kids, and Maker's Mark.

#### Kenneth Richard Goings, RPF No. 1029



Kenneth Richard "Dick" Goings (1936-2021), who resides in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, passed away at 85 years old while surrounded by family at 1630 hrs. on Oct. 1. Dick graduated from Paradise Elementary, Chico High School, took preforestry at Cal State University at Chico and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry. Dick was a California Registered Professional Forester. He retired from the California Department of Forestry "CAL FIRE" in June 2003 and worked as a Cal Fire Volunteer in Prevention (with Mary) until 2013. He served in the U.S Airforce during the Korean War period in Germany, France and Libya North Africa as a

Military Policeman and Sentry Dog Handler with the 50th Fighter — Bomber Wing. He was assigned to the Air Police K-9 Corps during the last 18 months of his active military duty. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant and after spending three years in Germany and France, within three days after his discharge he was back fighting forest fires in the Butte Ranger Unit (BTU), where he had been employed seasonally since 1952.

Dick started as a forest firefighter when he was 16 in Stirling City, Butte County. While he worked, he attended Chico State College taking Pre-Forestry. Between his sophomore and junior years in college, he took time off to catch up on his bills by working as a Fire Apparatus Engineer at Jarbo Gap in BTU. During this time, he married the love of his life, Mary Watt from Red Bluff. He finally took an educational leave from CDF and Dick and Mary spent two years in Berkeley attending UC and working during the summer on Jackson State Forest. They graduated from UC Berkeley on the GI Bill in 1963. When they graduated Dick went to work in the old District I Headquarters in Santa Rosa. Dick worked his way up through the ranks as a Forest Fighter Foreman ECC Chief (Graduate Trainee) and Asst. State Forest Ranger in the Lake-Colusa Unit. As the first person with the title of Fire Prevention Officer II, he returned to the Butte RU in Project Butte and was then promoted to the first person with the title of Fire Prevention Officer III in Sacramento in the old District III Office. When the old District III was eliminated, due to budget cuts, Dick moved to Camino as the Forester II (DC) area Forester for Amador, Eldorado, and Alpine Counties. He later was appointed to Division Chief Administrative Officer and Operations Officer and then to Deputy Chiefs positions in the Fire Prevention and Law Enforcement Program Manager, Conservation Camp Program Manager and Fire Control Officer positions in old District I before being

promoted to Unit Chief. Dick became the first "Unit Chief" in the state (by that title) in Siskiyou Unit. From Siskiyou, he was promoted to the Assistant Region II Chief of Operations in Redding from which position he retired the first time. Dick came out of retirement to be the Humboldt-Del Norte Unit Chief. As chief of the Humboldt-Del Norte Unit Goings oversaw the Unit which covers approximately 3,000 square miles of unincorporated Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. While he was Unit Chief, he also became the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Services for Humboldt County. Dick was also appointed to be the first Humboldt County Fire Warden by the Board of Supervisors. This assignment included the administrative supervision for 14 volunteer fire departments and seven city departments located in Humboldt County. The Unit Chief assignment also included the resource protection of over two million acres with a permanent and summer-time employee roster of about 250 personnel, including foresters, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, pilots, dispatchers, mechanics, and administrative staff. These employees regulated all of the timber harvesting on private and state lands in Humboldt and Del-Norte counties and staffed 14 firefighting stations, which included the work supervision of three 100-person inmate prison camps, two airbases, three lookout stations, a ten-person helicopter, a 1200 gallon Air-tanker and an air attack coordinating aircraft. One of Goings' primary tasks was to manage the Unit's about \$50M in facilities, equipment, and personnel budget. Dick, after first going to work as a Forest Firefighter in 1952, finally retired in 2003. However, he then continued to work for the Volunteers in Prevention in Fire Information Centers in northern California as CDF Retired Annuitant (along with wife Mary) and conducted investigations for Cal Fire for another 10 years until 2013.

After 61 years with CDF, Dick and Mary finally fully retired when they moved to Coeur d' Alene, Idaho, where they have lived since. He had a genuine passion for life and spent his free time enjoying gardening, fishing, hunting, but mostly spending quality time with his family. He knew the meaning of a handshake and a hard day's work. Dick was an avid hunter and he mostly hunted by himself. He killed a moose when he was 79 at around 6 p.m. and it took him 12 hours to dress it out by himself, and he exhausted 2 Coleman lanterns in the process.

#### Outreach for Future RPFs by Dan Stapleton

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has received one-time additional funding for a Contract Licensing Outreach Specialist to travel both out of state and in-state conducting presentations to students attending SAF Accredited universities and community colleges. Currently, 47% of the RPF Registry have been practicing for 30 years or more, and the looming prospects of a "waterfall" of withdrawals and relinquishments requires us to be proactive and promote California foresters licensing to those most immediately and likely to become professional foresters. The resulting contract was awarded to Forestry Educators Incorporated which is the NGO responsible for the Forestry Challenge and administered by Diane Dealey Neill, a former Francis H.

Raymond award winner. I am confident this contract, which will last three years, will help pique the interest of the estimated 300 graduates of forestry programs annually in the western US and Canada. Within California, please help me pass the word about careers in forestry and send me any suggestions you may have about groups who may be interested in hearing about career development and opportunities in the forestry field. Call the Office of Professional Foresters Registration 916-653-8031 or email me at dan.stapleton@fire.ca.gov.

#### **CalVTP Update**

On April 7, 2021, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) certified the Tahoe Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (Tahoe PTEIR or PTEIR) (State Clearinghouse No. 2019069054) and approved the proposed forest management program.

The Tahoe PTEIR is a long-term, programmatic CEQA document which addresses a long-term program of forest management and fuel reduction on private, local jurisdiction, federal, and California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) lands primarily within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) throughout the California side of the Lake Tahoe Basin. The program includes numerous forest treatment activities to reduce the risk of wildfire including mechanical thinning, manual/hand thinning, prescribed understory burning, pile burning, sale and transport of merchantable timber, and the transport and use of biomass for energy generation and other forest products. Herbicide treatment is not proposed. An estimated average of 900 – 1,300 acres of treatments would be implemented each year within the program area.

The program objectives are to:

- reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires that could damage Lake Tahoe Basin forests, watersheds, habitats, and communities;
- increase Lake Tahoe Basin forest resilience to effects of climate change, including prolonged drought, pest and disease outbreaks and increased tree mortality;
- protect and restore meadow and riparian ecosystems, and forest habitat quality in the Lake Tahoe Basin;
- develop and implement all-lands fuel reduction, forest health improvement, and restoration projects that deliver multiple community and ecosystem service benefits; and
- increase the pace and scale of fuel reduction projects to assist in achieving the goals of Executive Order B-52- 18.

The Tahoe PTEIR program area contains private, local jurisdiction, federal, and Conservancy lands both in the WUI and select contiguous areas of forest outside of the WUI throughout the California side of the Tahoe Basin. The program area covers

approximately 17,480 acres in the City of South Lake Tahoe and in unincorporated areas of El Dorado and Placer Counties, including, but not limited to: Meyers, Cascade properties near Cascade Lake, Tahoma, Homewood, Alpine Peaks, Tahoe City, Dollar Point, Carnelian Bay, Tahoe Vista, and Kings Beach. The program area includes approximately 5,850 acres of the program area are identified as "Community Fuel Reduction Areas." Community Fuel Reduction Areas include smaller-acreage parcels that are publicly or privately owned and is generally located within the WUI intermix. These areas include developed parcels and undeveloped urban lots within and surrounding developed neighborhoods. The remaining 11,640 acres of land are identified as "Other Fuel Reduction Projects." Other Fuel Reduction Projects consist primarily of larger-acreage parcels of public land identified for fuel reduction in the Lake Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plan. These areas include undeveloped open space within and near developed communities and encompassing portions of the WUI defense zone and WUI threat zone. Approximately 1,315 acres of Other Fuel Reduction Projects are located outside of the WUI.

CAL FIRE prepared the PTEIR to more efficiently and comprehensively evaluate the effects of forest management, and improve the project approval and delivery process for subsequent activities that are consistent with the PTEIR. CAL FIRE served as the lead agency for completion of the PTEIR under CEQA and the California Forest Practices Act. Other public agencies may serve as responsible agencies in approving later treatment activities pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168, and following California Forest Practice Rules. These responsible agencies, or project proponents, could include CAL FIRE, Conservancy, fire districts, or other public agencies or landowners with land ownership/stewardship responsibilities. Later treatment activities would be evaluated using a Project Consistency Checklist that would be used to document the evaluation of the site and the activity to determine whether the environmental effects of the later activity are within the scope of the analysis in the PTEIR. After determining that a proposed treatment activity is within the scope of the analysis in the PTEIR, a project proponent could prepare a Program Timber Harvest Plan or "within the scope" findings pursuant to 14 CCR Section 1092.01 or State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c), respectively.

A copy of the Final PTEIR is available for download at the <a href="https://www.ntfire.net/tahoe-pteir">https://www.ntfire.net/tahoe-pteir</a>. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, printed copies of the PTEIR will not be available for review at public buildings. Individuals that are unable to access the PTEIR at the website listed above should contact North Tahoe Fire Protection District at <a href="https://www.ntfire.net/tahoe-pteir">TahoePTEIR@ntfire.net</a> or 530-584-2344.

You can find more information on CalVTP <u>here</u>. if you are interested in submitting a project for PSA technical assistance, contact Board Executive Officer Edith Hannigan at <u>edith.hannigan@bof.ca.gov</u> for more information.

#### Waiver of Effective Periods for Emergency Notices

CAL FIRE received reports of private timberland owners not being able to complete timber operations under Emergency Notices filed following the recent fires. There are a variety of reasons for this; most notably, limited resources to conduct the operations and move the material from the site. To facilitate the recovery, restoration and reforestation of these timberlands; CAL FIRE requested and was granted a suspension of the effective date of all currently operational emergency timber harvesting operations within the 2020 and 2021 fire perimeters. The application of the suspension in the attachment allows fire damaged tree removal operations to continue expeditiously for an additional one (1) year, thereby ensuring successful recovery and reforestation efforts and the protection of the environment, including tribal and archaeological resources. Timberland owners can continue to operate in conformance with all other applicable rules, regulations and statutes; including, but not limited to, the Forest Practice operational rules.

To ensure compliance with the operational requirements of the Forest Practice Rules, the Registered Professional Forester(s) of record will prepare a "Request for Extension and Certification of Compliance Letter" (Compliance Letter) and submit it to the appropriate CAL FIRE Regional Office prior to conducting any timber operations beyond the one (1) year limit specified under 14 CCR § 1052(e). If landowners are interested in pursuing this opportunity, they should read the attachment carefully and follow the instructions for completing and submitting the required Compliance Letter.

Questions regarding the opportunity for an extension of emergency operations and the required Compliance Letter may be directed to Staff Chief Eric Huff at <a href="mailto:Eric.Huff@fire.ca.gov">Eric.Huff@fire.ca.gov</a>.

The attachment detailing the waiver request requirements can be found on the Board's website <a href="https://bof.fire.ca.gov/">https://bof.fire.ca.gov/</a> under the <a href="https://bof.fire.ca.gov/">Hot Topics</a> header.

# Happy Holidays



Luffenholtz trestle, Humboldt County Circa 1900