

Licensing News

Office of Professional Foresters Registration



Eel River, Humboldt County, CA

**SUMMER 2023
VOLUME 35 - ISSUE 1**

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
dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov
916.653.8031

Deniele Casarubbia
Staff Services Analyst
deniele.casarubbia@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 Gillless, Chair (Public Representative)
Mr. Christopher Chase (Industry Representative)
Ms. Katie Delbar (Range/Livestock Representative)
Ms. Elizabeth Forsburg (Public Representative)
Mr. Mike Jani (Industry Representative)
Mr. J Lopez (Public Representative)
Mr. Richard Wade (Industry Representative)
Ms. Dawn Blake (Public Representative)
VACANT (Public Representative)

BOARD STAFF

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

Jane Van Susteren
Environmental Scientist
Regulations Coordinator
916.619.9795
jane.vansusteren@bof.ca.gov

Alexandra LaPlante
Administrative Manager
916.653.7102
alexandra.laplante@bof.ca.gov

Mazonika Kemp
Records Administrator
916.653.5060
mazonika.kemp@bof.ca.gov

Jeff Slaton
Senior Board Counsel
916.651.2940
jeffrey.slaton@bof.ca.gov

Katie Harrell
Associate Government Program Analyst
916.653.0510
Katie.harrell@bof.ca.gov

Andrew Lawhorn
Forestry Assistant II
916.653.8007
andrew.lawhorn@bof.ca.gov

Robert Roth
Attorney III
916.653.9066
robert.roth@bof.ca.gov

Jennifer Lau-Malicedem
Contract Analyst
916.531.7386
jennifer.lau-malicedem@fire.ca.gov

Dr. Kristina Wolf
Environmental Scientist
916.215.4947
Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov

Board Additions and Departures

Alexandra (Lexi) La Plante, Administrative Unit Manager



Lexi joined the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in April as an Administrative Unit Manager after working for CAL FIRE as a Budget Analyst for four years. Originally from Southern California, Lexi relocated to Sacramento in 2014 to pursue her career in public service. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and volunteering for the Red Cross.

Jerry Hallisey, Board of Forestry member – Jerry is leaving the Board to serve on the State Coastal Conservancy. Hallisey has been President at Hallisey and Johnson since 1971. He is a member of the San Francisco Bar Association, the Energy Bar Association and the California Construction Industry Labor Management Cooperation Trust Board of Trustees. Thanks Jerry for your service on the Board.



Jennifer Lau-Malicedem, Contract Analyst



Jennifer joined the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in August as a Contract Analyst. In the past, she was an Acquisition Analyst for four years with the Department of General Services. Prior to discovering a career in public service, she worked in human resources. Her hobbies include stargazing, crafting, hiking and most recently— running.

The View from the 10th Floor

by Dan Stapleton, Asst. Executive Officer



The winter of 2023 has proven to be one of the wettest years in recent memory and now that we are well into our fire season, the acreages burned appear to be below average compared to other years this past decade. Part of the reason for this could be elevated fuel moistures and more public awareness about being careful with fire, especially following the disaster in the city of Lahaina on the island of Maui.

A good portion of this can be attributed to CAL FIRE. California is blessed with significant fire response resources and fire control leadership, yet even with the best laid plans and efficient emergency response, the risks are extremely high, and all too often take their toll in human life. This was the case on August 6 when two firefighting helicopters collided on the Broadway Fire in Riverside County taking the lives of three heroic first responders: CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Josh Bischof, CAL FIRE Captain Tim Rodriguez, and pilot Tony Sousa. Air attack can be extremely risky when finely tuned machinery is exposed to the intense heat, dust, and wind from these infernos. The bravery of these firefighters is unparalleled, and we should all be grateful for their service and sacrifice to the State of California.



Asst. Chief Josh Bischof



Captain Tim Rodriguez



Pilot Tony Sousa

“On behalf of all Californians, our thoughts and heartfelt sympathies are with the loved ones, friends and CAL FIRE colleagues mourning the loss of Assistant Chief Bischof, Fire Captain Rodriguez, and Pilot Sousa. This terrible tragedy is a reminder of the dangers our courageous firefighters face daily while working to keep our communities safe. We

owe them our deepest respect and gratitude and will always honor their bravery and sacrifices.” - Governor Gavin Newsom, August 7, 2023

YTD Wildfire Statistics (CAL FIRE & Federal)

Updated as of **August 23, 2023**

Interval	Fires	Acres
2023 Combined YTD	4,792	173,645
2022 Combined, Year End Total	7,490	362,455
2021 Combined, Year End Total	8,835	2,568,948

Meetings of Interest and Special Announcements

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Meeting Dates.

The Board's next meeting is scheduled for September 26 through 28, 2023 in Quincy, California. Board meeting schedule dates can be found at this [link](#). The public may sign up for webinars at the Board of Forestry website [homepage](#) at <https://bof.fire.ca.gov>. 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 [Business](#).

Professional Foresters Examining Committee (PFEC)

The next PFEC meeting is planned for Monday, August 28, 2023.

Current PFEC priorities include:

- Apprentice Registered Forester – The PFEC will continue discussions about an alternate pathway for licensing examinations. The proposal would mirror the Board's Specialty Certificate program in that a professional society or state agency could propose for certification by the Board an educational program that focuses on RPF mentorship and forestry core competencies. The student of such a program would be allowed to take a core competency examination prior to achieving full qualification (PRC 769) for licensing. It is believed that this would put more forestry graduates on a career path towards registration earlier in the RPF qualification process which, as you know, requires seven years of qualifying forestry experience, three of which are under the supervision of an RPF and demonstrate increasing responsibility and complexity. Following successful examination on core competencies, the applicant can achieve full licensing by passing an abbreviated exam after year seven focusing on applied knowledge which will be equivalent to Part II of the current RPF examination.
- Qualifying forestry work experience – This is priority #5 for the PFEC. The

proposal would allow arboriculture to be a qualifying forestry work experience only when conducted on forested landscapes for forest protection purposes but would limit the qualifying experience to only two years and RPF supervisors would not be allowed. The review of this item has now expanded to include review of all qualifying forestry work experiences listed under 14 CCR 1621.1 at the PFEC's request.

More information about this advisory committee to the Board can be found [HERE](#).

Range Management Advisory Committee - (RMAC) is a statutorily created (Public Resources Code [PRC] §§ 741) advisory committee that advises the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection ('Board') and other state agencies (CalEPA, CDFA, and CNRA) on rangeland resource issues across the state. The RMAC offers an annual educational series that is open to the public and organizations throughout the state; provides a platform for discussion and exploration of rangeland resource issues in California on both public and private lands; and facilitates collaborations and partnerships to support sustainable rangeland management in California.

In its 2022/23 public annual educational program, the RMAC offered four all-day field tours and three online virtual learning sessions on prescribed grazing for fuels management. The RMAC partnered with organizations including CAL FIRE, local fire departments, the Department of Fish & Wildlife, Resource Conservation Districts, California Cattlemen's Association, California Wool Growers Association, California Cattlewomen's Association, local schools, Fire Safe Councils, local land conservancies, private consulting firms, livestock producers and targeted grazers, East Bay Regional Parks District, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Swanton Pacific Ranch Fuels Management and Education Training Program, community organizations, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, US Geological Survey, UC Berkeley, Cal Poly Humboldt, UC Cooperative Extension, ecological reserves and preserves, and more to provide demonstrations, local knowledge, and research results and technical guidance to participants wanting to learn more about the use of prescribed grazing for the management of fuels, along with the potential co-benefits and trade-offs of prescribed herbivory. Field tours were held in Alameda County (Oakland), San Diego County (Jamul), San Luis Obispo County (Salinas River corridor, Paso Robles), and Ventura County (Ojai Community Supported Grazing Program).

The RMAC is currently developing the program for this year's (2023/24) annual educational workshops and would like feedback on the potential topics and locations from organizations and individuals interested in learning more about livestock grazing in California. Please fill out the survey [HERE](#) to provide your input and help guide upcoming workshops!

The Board of Forestry certified the California-Pacific Section of the Society for Range Management's (CalPac-SRM) independent program as protecting the public interest in accordance with PRC §§ 762 and 772 and 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) §§ 1650 and 1651. Certification by CalPac-SRM qualifies an individual for a state CRM license without further examination subject to payment of licensing fees. Two individuals passed the recent Certified Rangeland Manager (CRM) exam offered in April 2023: Genoa Starrs and Mikie McDonnell.

Dr. Susan Marshall of Cal Poly Humboldt provided an update on workforce development in California range management at the July 17th RMAC meeting, and a recording of that meeting may be obtained by emailing Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov. Dr. Marc Horney also provided a brief update on educational offerings at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, including new research plans in LiDAR research field technologies.

Dr. Ken Tate of the University of California, Davis, U.C. Cooperative Extension in Rangeland Watershed Science, gave a presentation at the July 17th RMAC meeting on ***Current Standards for Riparian Grazing Practices***. Dr. Tate's PowerPoint slides are **online**, along with all other meeting materials from the July meeting and past meetings. The next meeting of the RMAC will occur in Sacramento on September 6th, 2023 and interested individuals and organizations may attend in person or virtually by registering [HERE](#).

Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC)

No updates to report.

Joint Institute of Wood Products Innovation

The [Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation](#) (Institute) researches near-term wood product concepts 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.

Finalized research findings in 2023 include Oregon State University's '[Cellulose Nanocrystals as a Value-Based Additive for Low Carbon Footprint Concrete with Limestone](#),' which was approved by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) in March and is now available online. An [education and outreach document](#) covering the research and basic information about cellulose nanocrystals (CNCs) has also been posted on the Institute webpage. Additionally an, '[Addendum to the TallWood Design Institute's Cross-Laminated Timber \(CLT\) Layup Tests Using Western Wood Products Association \(WWPA\) White fir Species](#)' was finalized and posted in March. The addition of the addendum to the report is to highlight the comparisons of white-fir CLT to that of the design values used within the CLT standard (PRG-320). Findings show that white-fir can meet the PRG-320 standard and is a viable option for CLT. Next steps will include a manufacturer going through the certification process to make white fir panels before white fir can be used within a structure.

Seven research projects are currently underway with the Institute.

- *Forest Biomass Pile Data Collection* is quantifying the number of forest biomass piles in the state that 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. An inventory of forest biomass pile material potentially available for wood and biomass utilization is also being produced.

- *Assessing the Use of Cellulose Nanocrystals to Improve the Service Life of Concrete by Increasing the Time to Corrosion* will help determine the benefits of CNCs as they relate to extending the onset of reinforced steel corrosion in concrete.
- *Mixed-Species Cross-Laminated Timber Layup Tests Using Western Wood Products Association White fir Species Group* will help inform industry as to how mixed species CLT (that include white fir) will fare as a mass timber commodity.
- *Procurement of Forest-Derived Renewable Natural Gas to Meet CA Public Utility Commission (CPUC) Targets* will provide recommendations to the CPUC and the state's investor-owned utilities regarding procurement of biomethane from forest biomass.
- *Development of a Life Cycle Accounting (LCA) model for biofuel production from forest biomass waste in CA* will quantify the greenhouse gas (GHG) impact of diverting forestry residues from current management practices to bioenergy products. The project will produce life cycle calculator tools that model the life cycle GHG impact of electricity or hydrogen fuel pathways, which will allow biomass fuel producers to model the net GHG impact of utilizing these waste resources for energy production in California.
- *CEQA Support for Wood Utilization* will produce a CEQA guidance handbook for consultants, businesses, and local governments interested in wood products businesses. It will also consider the value of a new CEQA Guideline amendment that was described in the Institute's November 2020 [Recommendations to Expand Wood and Biomass Utilization in California](#) to determine whether the language as proposed in the document should be recommended.
- *Assessment of State Purchasing Protocols Related to Innovative Wood Products* is assessing current state purchasing protocols and identifying barriers and implications of updating the protocols to facilitate procurement of innovative wood products. The final report will include detailed solutions and pathways that allow for implementation over a 2-year-period.

The Institute is also the Sustainable Wood Products Work Group Lead for the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.

CAL FIRE Update on Timber Harvesting Plan and Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan Filing Issues and Return Rates

The CAL FIRE Forest Practice Program recently conducted a review of Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) and Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) filing return rates between January 1, 2019 and June 15, 2023, and the reasons for those returns.

Overall, the number of plans (THPs/NTMPs) returned not filed thus far in 2023 are about fifteen percent (15%) higher than the 5-year trend. The largest proportion of

plans returned not filed, nearly sixty percent (60%), were due to errors on the Notice of Intent or Domestic Water Inquiry, and errors related to the Archaeology elements of plans. The following table indicates the categories for plan returns by percentage.

Return Categories 2019-2023	From total	6/15/2023	%difference
Alternative Analysis	0.9%	0.0%	-0.9%
Archaeology	29.8%	28.8%	-1.0%
Completion / Stocking Issue	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%
Cumulative Impacts	7.3%	3.8%	-3.5%
Geology	0.6%	0.0%	-0.6%
HD Form Incomplete	5.2%	1.9%	-3.3%
Listed Species / Biological Scoping	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%
Mapping	1.9%	1.9%	0.0%
MSP / Growth and Yield	4.1%	9.6%	+5.5%
Northern Spotted Owl	3.9%	0.0%	-3.9%
Other - mostly §897(b)(3) and §1037	6.9%	9.6%	+2.7%
Public Notice (NOI/NOP/Domestic Water)	32.0%	38.5%	+6.5%
Roads and Landings	0.4%	0.0%	-0.4%
Silviculture	6.0%	5.8%	-0.3%
Special Treatment Area	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%
Watercourse Protection / In-lieu / Exceptions	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%

Review of past CAL FIRE documents dating back to the 1990s highlight these same two return issues. Errors in Public Noticing and the Archaeology elements of plans have consistently resulted in the majority of plan returns over the years. It is worth noting that the plan return percentage for 2023 was influenced by a small number of plans that were returned more than once, including one plan that accounted for 33% of the increase in returns by itself. It bears mentioning as well that a number of plans in 2023 were returned for more than one filing issue. In several instances, the Review Team determined a plan was not complete due to the large number of corrections needed.

While plan returns are overall higher to June 15, 2023 and concentrated in errors related to noticing and Archaeology, there were a number of return categories that saw decreases since January 1, 2019. Cumulative impacts assessment and Northern Spotted Owl elements of plans were among these noteworthy decreases.

The writing and submission of a harvesting plan is a complex and complicated endeavor. CAL FIRE is currently in the final drafting and review stage in the development of the "THP Filing Checklist" required by the Forest Practice Act, Public Resources Code Section 4592.5. This checklist will soon be released for use by RPFs. CAL FIRE's intent is that this checklist will serve as a valued tool to guide RPFs in their development of harvesting plans. The checklist will be a "living document" that evolves

with changes to Forest Practice Rules over time.

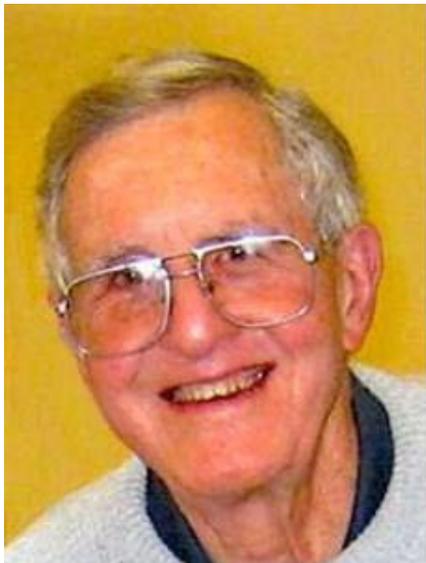
In addition to the forthcoming THP Filing Checklist, a resource currently available to assist RPFs in their development of harvesting plans is the online California Timber Regulation and Environmental Evaluation System (CalTREES). RPFs can use CalTREES to view examples of plans that were filed and the reasons for which plans were returned not filed. Through consistent use of CalTREES, RPFs can maintain awareness of the common return issues and make corrections prior to plan submission.

CAL FIRE's Forest Practice Program hopes this information is useful to harvest plan proponents and we look forward to releasing the THP Filing Checklist in the near future. Questions or comments regarding this article can be directed to Eric Huff, Staff Chief of Forest Practice at 916-217-8647 or by email to eric.huff@fire.ca.gov.

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 dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov so that we can pay tribute to these individuals.

Bob Rogers, RPF #1088 - Robert (Bob) Lawrence Rogers passed away March 15,



2023 in Portland, Oregon at the age of 90. Bob was born November 22, 1932, a few minutes prior to his twin brother Lloyd to parents Norman and Selma Rogers in Sacramento, California where he spent his entire childhood. In 1955 when Bob received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from the University of Montana, he was the first in his family to graduate from college.

Bob's passion for forestry took him and his family to many places in northern California and southern Oregon, working for large private lumber companies. During his final 10 years before retirement, Bob became a self-employed Timber Consultant in Ukiah. He was named the Outstanding Inspector of the Year

by the American Forest Foundation in 2017.

Bob enjoyed hiking, fishing, and hunting as he could be outdoors. As a parent, Bob was an enthusiastic fan of his children's sporting events. He was also an avid Warriors and 49ers fan. Bob especially treasured activities, holidays, and any gathering with family. After moving to Ukiah in the 90s, Bob discovered a passion for wine. It was this passion

that introduced him to (Janet) LaRee, whom he would marry and spend 25 years, until her death in 2021. Bob and LaRee enjoyed traveling, taking trips to many destinations around the world. During their many trips, they collected angels, accumulating over 450 which they displayed at their annual Christmas Angel Party.

Being involved in his community was very important to Bob. He was a dedicated member of the South Ukiah Rotary Club and was named Rotarian of the Year several times for his exemplary service to the club. Published by Ukiah Daily Journal on Jun. 4, 2023.

Trusten Wadsworth, RPF#1527 - Trusten "Bruce" Wadsworth, 91 years, 10 months



and 19 days old, left this mortal existence on January 9, 2019 after a long and well-lived life. Bruce was a husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who loved his family with all his heart.

Bruce was born in Red Bluff, CA and lived in Modesto for most of his early years through college. He loved astronomy, running track, mountain climbing and skiing, both downhill and cross country. He was adventurous in so many ways all through his life. Some would say he was quite the risk taker. Bruce joined the Navy at the end of World War II and was a Radarman First Class on the Navy ship LCI 451. He loved his country and was one of the most patriotic men that ever lived.

Bruce started his life's work using his UC Davis degree in Animal Husbandry as a ranch hand on a couple of cattle ranches in the Sacramento Valley where he also ran his own small herd of cattle. He then got a job working for Campbells Soup and worked with the tomato growers in the area. After moving to the Georgetown area, he changed his focus and started doing what he really loved, which was working in the trees as a Forester for the rest of his life. He was also the founding owner of Cool Forest Christmas Trees in Garden Valley.

Ryan Crans, RPF#2797 - Ryan Crans passed away earlier this year. He was a Shasta



County native, a 1987 graduate of Shasta High and a 1998 Humboldt State University forestry graduate. He was also a second generation RPF. He has spent most of his career working in the redwoods and had extensive experience in design and implementation of forest inventory across large acreages. When not in the field working, he was out camping or leading a troop of Boy Scouts as their Scoutmaster.

Leon Manich, RPF#1970



Leon James Manich, a beloved and devoted husband, father, and grandfather, passed away on July 19, 2023. Leon was born in Sacramento, California, and had lived in Tuolumne County for the past 45 years, where he worked as a registered professional forester and business owner. Leon was an active member of the community and was particularly active in youth sports. He formerly served as the president of Tuolumne County Youth Soccer and was a constant presence at youth sporting events of all kinds across the county as a coach, parent, or fan. Leon was a scuba diving enthusiast and cigar aficionado. Published by Sonora Union Democrat July 2023.

Phillip McDonald, RPF#864



Philip M. McDonald, devoted husband and father of three, passed away on March 28, 2023 at the age of 87. Phil was born February 5, 1936 to Phil and Mary McDonald in Seattle, WA. He was the eldest of four and brother to Doug, Mary, and Sara. His childhood years were spent fondly in Bothel, WA, Butte, MT, and on a farm in Deer Park, Spokane, WA. Phil earned his BS from Washington State University, his MS from Duke University, and his PhD in Forest Ecology at Oregon State University. While attending Washington State, he met the love of his life, Diane Hanson, in 1957 on a blind date. After Naval Air Cadet Training in Pensacola, FL and two years in the U.S. Navy, he completed his studies and married Diane in 1960. Soon after, they began their family and welcomed

three loving children, Mike McDonald, Ken (Jane) McDonald, and Denise (Larry) Weintraub. Phil is survived by his wife, their children and his grandson, Brandon Weintraub. Phil had a long and beloved career as a Research Forester with the U.S Forest Service. He published many manuscripts and spoke for the trees. Phil was a consummate lover of history and immensely enjoyed antique bottles. He was a collector of many things, and any given Sunday would find him at the Marigold Antique Mall manning his booth and selling his treasures. He and Diane enjoyed decades of traveling, square dancing and bridge playing with dear friends. Published in Redding Record Searchlight

George Stephen Vegos, RPF#2335 – “Steve” Vegos passed away in June of this year. He was a 1982 graduate of Humboldt State University and worked both in the timber industry and for the US Forest Service. He was from Rogue River, Oregon.

Richard Schoenheide, RPF#503 - Richard "Dick" Schoenheide passed away



September 5, 2022, surrounded by his loving family after a long and hard-fought cancer battle. Dick was born in Clintonville, Wisconsin, on July 14, 1936, to Harvey and Arlene Schoenheide (deceased). He graduated from Clintonville High School in 1954 and went back to attend many of his high school reunions throughout his life. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1955 to 1958. He attended Humboldt State on the GI Bill and graduated in 1963, with a degree in Forestry. Dick had a fulfilling career with the State of California Department of Forestry. He worked in the Sacramento Headquarters and the Conservation Camp Program briefly. He was Assistant Manager and then Manager of Mountain Home

State Forest in Tulare County. He worked in the Redding Headquarters for many years and ended his career in Truckee (Lake Tahoe Area) actually back working in the woods he loved so much. He was Assistant Manager of the California State Fair Forestry Center for many years. Dick enjoyed a long (31 year) retirement doing the things he loved - tending to family-owned timberlands; traveling far and wide with family and life-long friends; fishing - especially "Muskie Hunting" in Wisconsin Waters; golfing and softball. Dick enjoyed building and remodeling houses. He built two houses from the ground up in Springville and Truckee. He remodeled three houses in Redding, Sacramento and Bakersfield. He was a talented "Jack of all trades." There wasn't anything he couldn't fix or build.

Bernard J. Ward, RPF 1674 – Barney Ward passed away peacefully, August 17, 2023



with his Wife Marion at his side. A memorial service will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Anderson, CA on September 1, 2023 at 1:00 PM. Barney began his career with the Private Timber Industry with Diamond Match, which included a time overseas during the Vietnam war. His career with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) began on October 22, 1986, retiring on September 1, 2008. During this later career, Barney was the Modoc Area Forester, based out of Alturas and then later Bieber, CA while working in Forest Practice, CFIP and the VMP programs, eventually promoting to the Unit Forester position in Susanville, at the Lassen

Modoc Unit. An Honor Guard is being organized through Local 2881.

LOST IN THE WOODS - The following license registrants are “about to expire” in the CalTREES Licensing Platform and will have their licenses revoked at an upcoming Board meeting unless they renew, withdrawal or relinquish.



RPE

- | | | | |
|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
| 154 | Frederick Koepf | 2721 | Adrian Miller |
| 1905 | Peter Murphy | 3065 | James Woodside |
| 2239 | Dana Cole | 2889 | Brian Bishop |
| 2711 | Brian Christensen | 2567 | Thomas Porter |
| 1645 | Verner Laursen | 313 | Ronald Hunt |
| 1765 | Roy Webster | 2369 | Judy Bendix |
| 1997 | Stanley Boardman | 2733 | Steven Muha |
| 1951 | Thomas Sutfin | 2755 | William Foresburg |
| 2073 | Jac Blakely | 839 | Ronald Berryman |
| 2527 | Bruce Fox | 2319 | Katie Amrhein |
| 2439 | Kevin Turner | 2961 | T Kevin Young |
| 2967 | Rhett Imperiale | 249 | Doug Leisz |
| 2951 | Kyle Holland | 2499 | John Darley |

CRM

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----|------------------|
| M3 | Donna Lindquist | M37 | Ceci Dale Cesmat |
| M49 | Craig Thomsen | M79 | Kenneth Tate |

Recently Licensed RPFs and CRMs

The following individuals passed their respective examinations in October of 2022 and April of 2023:

October 2022 –

3183 Kristy Peterson	3184 Colin Wong
3185 Nicholas Smith	3186 Clint Doucette
3187 Joseph Reddan	3188 Lisa Gonzales-Kramer
3189 Alan Eberman	3190 Paul Ohlman
3191 Alex Geritz	3192 Camila Quintana
3193 Jarran Tindle	3194 Tanner Mar
3195 Samuel Macadam	3196 Anne Fehrenbach
3197 Cameron Musser	3198 Joey Gentry
M128 Roxanne Foss	

April 2023 –

3199 Justin Maytum	3200 Samuel Amaro
3201 Joseph Brooks	3202 Helena Murray
3203 Marco DeAnda	3204 Ronald Haug
3205 Caleb Sundahl	3206 Joshua Petitmermet
3207 Cody Kidd	3208 Ethan Fagan
3209 Bridget Tracy	3210 Dean Kern
3211 Hanah Rolf	3212 John Pope
3213 Jonathan Brunner	3214 Joseph Guidetti
3215 Michael Novak	3216 Monika Sowinska
3217 Natalie Javier	3218 Wesley Navarre
3219 Ethan Gicker	3220 Walter Passmore
3221 Seronica Biggs	3222 Byron Krempf
3223 William Maier	M129 Genoa Starrs
M130 Mikie McDonnell	

CLIMATE SOLUTIONS: Can Mushroom Prevent Wildfires?



By Stephen Robert Miller

This story was produced in collaboration with the Food & Environment Reporting, a nonprofit Journalism organization, and reprinted from the Washington Post

If you've gone walking in the woods out West lately, you might have encountered a pile of sticks. Or perhaps hundreds of them, heaped as high as your head and strewn about the forest like Viking funeral pyres awaiting a flame.

These slash piles are an increasingly common sight in the American West, as land managers work to thin out unnaturally dense sections of forests — the result of a commitment to fire suppression that has inadvertently increased the risk of devastating megafires.

"We have an epidemic of trees in Colorado," said Stefan Reinold, a forester with Boulder County's Parks and Open Space department.

In the Rocky Mountain forests that he manages, a century of stamping out wildfires as soon as they arose failed to account for the role fire plays in maintaining healthy forest ecosystems. Today, the resulting abundance of densely packed pines and firs fuels huge blazes.

In response, the federal government has committed nearly \$5 billion in the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to thinning forests on about 50 million Western acres over the next 10 years. Although this can be accomplished with prescribed burns, the risk of controlled fires getting out of hand has foresters embracing another solution: selectively sawing trees, then stripping the limbs from their trunks and collecting the debris.

The challenge now is what to do with all those piles of sticks, which create fire

hazards of their own. Some environmental scientists believe they have an answer: mushrooms. Fungus has an uncommon knack for transformation. Give it garbage, plastic, even corpses, and it will convert them all into something else — for instance, nutrient-rich soil.

An Alternative to Fire

Down where the Rocky Mountains meet the plains, in pockets of forest west of Denver, mycologists like Zach Hedstrom are harnessing this unique trait to transform fire fuel into a valuable asset for local agriculture.

For Hedstrom, the idea sprung from an experiment on a local organic vegetable farm. He and the farm owner had introduced a native oyster mushroom to wood chips from a tree that fell in a windstorm.

“That experiment showed us that the native fungi were helping to accelerate the decomposition really substantially,” he said. Working with local governments, environmental coalitions, and farmers, he is now honing the method.

As part of its regional strategy, the U.S. Forest Service plans to thin more than 47 square miles — an area larger than Disney World — along Colorado’s Front Range. Hundreds of thousands of slash piles already lay in wait here until conditions are right. Ideally, this means snow on the ground, moisture in the air and little wind. It can be a hard recipe to come by.

When slash piles are set alight, they burn longer and hotter than most wildfires over a concentrated area. This leaves behind blistered soil where native vegetation struggles for decades to take root. As an alternative, foresters have tried chipping trees on-site and broadcasting the mulch across the forest floor, where it degrades at a snail’s pace in the arid climate. Boulder County also carts some of its slash to biomass heating systems at two public buildings.

“We’re removing a ton of wood out of forests for fire mitigation,” Hedstrom said. “This is not a super sustainable way of managing it.”

He hopes to show that fungi can do it better.

“Cold Fire”

Jeffrey Ravage is a forester with the Coalition for the Upper South Platte, which manages protection and restoration of a more-than-million-acre watershed in the mountains southwest of Denver. He describes the action of saprophytes, a type of fungi that feeds off dead organic matter, as “cold fire.”

Like a flame, saprophytic fungi break organic material into carbon compounds. Mycelium, the often unseen, root-like structure of the fungi, secretes digestive enzymes that release nutrients from the substrate it consumes. Whereas a flame destroys nearly all organic nitrogen, mycelium can fortify nitrogen where

it's needed in the forest floor.

"We do hundreds to thousands of acres of fire mitigation a year," Ravage said.

Standard thinning costs somewhere around \$3,000 per acre, about a third of which is spent hauling out or burning the slash. Using mycelium could drastically reduce that cost. With the right kind of fungi, he said, "we can do in five years what nature could take 50 years to a century to do: create organic soil."

Though the method is new, it's not untried. At the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, north of Austin, biologist Lisa O'Donnell deploys mycelium to combat invasive glossy privet that spill over from surrounding urban sprawl. After the intrusive trees are cut and piled, volunteers inoculate — or seed — them with native turkey tail fungi, which takes about three years to transform hard logs into crumbly sponges. Eventually, the woody material breaks down into a rich and water-retentive loam that O'Donnell uses to rebuild the Balcones' deteriorated soils.

"You don't have to burn it or haul it out. You're using that biomass, keeping it in place and recycling it," she said. "You're turning a negative into a positive."

Mushroom Spread

For mycelium to be a truly viable solution to wildfires, however, it would have to work at the scale of the Western landscape. Hedstrom is experimenting with brewing mycelium into a liquid that can be sprayed across hundreds of acres. "It's a novel biotech solution that has great promise, but is in the early stages," he said.

Ravage doubts it could be so easy. "Half the battle is how you target the slash," he said. Success stories like Balcones are rare. Ravage has spent a decade cultivating wild saprophytes and perfecting methods of applying them in Colorado's forests.

He begins by mulching slash to give his fungi a head start. Then he seeds the mulch with spawn, or spores that have already begun growing on blocks of the same material and wets them down. Fungi require damp conditions and will survive in the mulch if it is piled deeply enough. Given the changing character of Western forests, however, aridity poses a serious hurdle.

At his lab in the Rockies, Ravage grows about a ton of spawn annually. To meet the demands of forest-fire mitigation, he wants to produce 12 tons every week. This presents an opportunity for intrepid mushroom farmers, should the government choose to fund them, but it's not the only way agriculture could benefit.

"There's going to be a lot of wood chip waste continuously coming out of the forest," said Andy Breiter, a rancher in Boulder County. "We can use those resources."

Some Front Range farmers pay to truck in compost from Vermont. Instead of adding synthetic fertilizers or importing compost, Breiter is using Hedstrom's mycelium to turn forest slash into organic soil that he can work into his degraded land.

"I'm trying to increase the productivity of my land while recognizing that past systems of productivity created these problems to begin with," Breiter said.

Regulatory Development

The following proposed regulation has been approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and will go into effect January 1, 2024.

Northern Spotted Owl Take Avoidance Pathways and Habitat Definition Updates, 2023 - This rule package updated regulations to reflect existing survey protocols and pathways for take avoidance of Northern Spotted Owl. The habitat definitions and standards for take avoidance now reflect those provided in the USFWS guidances from 2012 "Protocol For Surveying Proposed Management Activities That May Impact Northern Spotted Owls", the 2019 "Northern Spotted Owl Take Avoidance Analysis and Guidance for Private lands in California Attachment A: Take Avoidance Analysis- Coast Redwood Region" and the 2019 "Northern Spotted Owl Take Avoidance Analysis and Guidance for Private lands in California, Attachment B: Take Avoidance Analysis-Interior. The Forest Practice Rules now conform with the existing survey protocols and pathways for take avoidance of the NSO, providing consistency between the updated survey protocols and pathways for take avoidance of this species as described in the Forest Practice Rules and as described by the listing agencies.

The following proposed regulations have had their respective Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR) approved by the Board and are being sent out to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review;

Tractor Operations and Cable Yarding Amendments, 2023 - The purpose of the proposed action is to re-establish the ability for the RPF to propose an exception that allows for tractor operations in Cable Yarding areas on slopes greater than 50% where necessary to meet the objectives of 14 CCR §§ 914 [934, 954]. It seeks to establish a clear and comprehensive set of rules for the use of tractor yarding in cable areas, removing any ambiguity or confusion that may have existed previously. This would enable RPFs to propose exceptions to the limits of Tractor Operations where necessary licensed operators to carry out their activities in a more streamlined and efficient manner, while also ensuring that the relevant environmental requirements and safety considerations are met.

Maximum Sustained Production Amendments, 2023 - Current regulations related to maximum sustained production of high-quality timber products do not address the changing climate and increased risk of wildfire which cause widespread forest damage. The purpose of the proposed action is to specifically address fire protection and fire risk as factors affecting the production of timber products. The proposed action allows timberland owners to account for fire risk and increase fire protection without conflicting with the goal of maximum sustained production of high-quality timber products.

Ford Definition Amendment, 2023 - The current definition of “ford” lacks regulatory clarity as to the specific type of watercourse crossing in plans, because different types of ford have different levels of impact on watercourses. The purpose of the proposed action is to provide sub-definitions for “ford” to promote clarity as to the type of watercourse crossing in plans and to provide common vocabulary describing the crossing types that fall under the definition for “ford”. The action proposed is considered a more efficient and effective regulatory scheme.

Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas Silviculture Amendments, 2023 - The regulations concerning timber harvest in Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas do not account for the changing climate and fire hazard levels, advances in silviculture, and new regulatory pathways that limit the environmental impacts of timber management. The purpose of the proposed action is to update regulations to reflect existing regulatory standards based on best scientific knowledge and management approaches. The proposed action provides Forest Practice Rules for Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas that conform to the existing framework for timber harvest while considering the natural and scenic resources that led to the designation of those areas as Special Treatment Areas.

These proposed regulation files are available at the Board website [HERE](#). If you require other or archived material, please email [Jane Van Susteren](#), Regulations Coordinator.

CalVTP Update

I have included the following statement at the top of the Board's CalVTP homepage regarding the use of Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) on CalVTP projects. This was done to help address concerns expressed by CLFA membership at their Spring Meeting regarding use of RPFs on CalVTP projects that are located on forested landscapes:

CalVTP and the Professional Foresters Law (PFL)

An RPF may be required for certain CalVTP projects. The Professional Foresters Law (PFL), Public Resources Code §750, et seq., requires landowners to retain a Registered

Professional Forester (RPF) for activities constituting the practice of forestry on forested landscapes.

The PFL defines forested Landscapes as “those tree dominated landscapes and their associated vegetation types on which there is growing a significant stand of tree species, or which are naturally capable of growing a significant stand of native trees in perpetuity, and is not otherwise devoted to nonforestry commercial, urban, or farming uses.” (PRC §754.)

The Board recommends that you evaluate, during the initial phase of the project proposal process, whether your CalVTP project is located on a forested landscape that will require hiring an RPF to perform forestry services.

To find a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) for your CalVTP project, please use the Board of Forestry's [RPF/CRM Roster](#).

For more information about the CalVTP, please visit the websites linked below:

- Visit the Programmatic EIR webpage (<https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/calvtp-programmatic-eir/>) to view the Final CalVTP Programmatic EIR.
- Visit the CalVTP Database webpage (<https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/calvtp-database/>) for data related to proposed, approved, and completed projects under the CalVTP.
- Visit the Approved Projects Environmental Documentation webpage (<https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/environmental-documentation-for-approved-projects/>) to view the environmental documentation (e.g., Project Specific Analysis, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program) for individual CalVTP projects.
- Visit the Board's CalVTP Homepage <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/calvtp/>.

RPF and CRM Examination Announcements

The April 2024 RPF/CRM Exam Notice has been posted online and has been scheduled for Friday April 5, 2024. The deadline for NEW applications for that exam is February 2, 2024. The October 2024 RPF/CRM Exam Notice has been posted as well and is scheduled for Friday October 4, 2024. The deadline for NEW applications for that exam is August 2, 2024

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 those who are retaking the exam, 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 and email as instructed below. Retake exam applications are due one month prior to the exam date. You can scan and email these documents to my Email at dan.stapleton@bof.ca.gov. 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 916-767-2140 or at the above email.

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS & CERTIFIED RANGELAND MANAGERS

The table below indicates the known status of all current and former registrants by license type as of August 23, 2023. 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	1104	77
Withdrawn	117	9
About to Expire	26	4
Revoked (non-payment or disciplinary action)	829	20
Voluntarily Relinquished	785	14
Suspended	0	0
Deceased	355	6
TOTAL	3,216	130

Disciplinary Actions Report

Since the last issue of the Licensing News, one new complaint was received.

Case 346 – It was alleged that the RPF falsified survey data on a THP. The PFEC reviewed evidence supplied by the complainant and the RPF's response and found that the accusations of Deceit, Fraud, Misrepresentation and Material Misstatement of Fact were not sustained. The PFEC will issue a confidential letter of concern to the RPF. Case 346 is now closed.

Outreach for Future RPFs by Dan Stapleton

In Fiscal Year 2022/23, Forestry Educators Incorporated (FEI) and the Executive Officer of the Foresters Licensing have provided in-person outreach presentations to the following institutions:

- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- Cal Poly Humboldt
- Oregon State University
- Mt. Hood Community College
- College of the Redwoods
- SAF National Convention, Baltimore, MD.
- Lake Tahoe Community College
- The University of British Columbia

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.



Timber Tax Update Second Half 2023

The following are notes from Mike Doyich, RPF #2129, Senior Forest Property Appraiser for the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for the Timber Tax Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC) May 16, 2023.

Here is an update on the status of Tahoe Forest Products, the new sawmill near Reno, Nevada. Currently they are in the process of purchasing new timber sales for this season and the mill is supposed to start milling lumber in July. The planning mill and dry kilns should be operational by the end of summer. The first mill to open will handle large diameter logs. There are also plans to have a small log mill up and running sometime in 2024.

So, from the rare, good news of a new mill opening, to the all-too-common bad news of another sawmill closing in California. At the end of last year, Sierra Pacific Industries closed the only remaining pole processing plant left in California. The pole industry finally met its match and succumbed to the collateral damage caused by all the recent wildfires because the pole plant just could not maintain enough of a steady flow of pole quality logs to keep the facility up and running. Earlier this year SPI finished liquidating

remaining inventory and they finalized the sale of the plant at the end of March. The pole plant will be disassembled and moved to the new owner's operational site and according to my source, more than likely that will not be in California.

On a positive note, the relatively moderate 2022 fire season has allowed the industry to get caught up on harvesting the large backlog of fire salvage, and more normal green timber harvests are on the horizon for 2023 for most of the state.

Last fall, after struggling through another 5-year long drought, who could have imagined the long-wet winter we just experienced that yielded record amounts of rain and snowfall. The April 1st snowpack survey found the statewide average to be 237% of its historic April 1st average, which is one of, if not the largest surplus in state history. Large reservoirs and other surface storage facilities should easily fill this year. Of course, it will take more than just one extremely wet winter for ground water storage and vegetation, especially trees to fully recover.

But now instead of talking about large wildfires, insects, and droughts killing and impacting our state's forests, landowners and foresters are now faced with dealing with damage from floods, mudslides, road washouts, and wind damage in the form of broken tops and blowdown.

Historically, trends in log and lumber prices have mirrored one another for the most part, but for the last several years this has not been the case. Since Covid, lumber prices have fluctuated wildly both up and down, while the fluctuation in log prices has been much less radical. Lumber prices for the second half of 2022 declined and for some species rather significantly. The decline in lumber prices seemed to coincide with the declining economy and record inflation. This year first quarter log prices are either flat or down slightly, with the exception of Douglas-fir in some of the northern inland TVA's and the larger size classes of redwood in TVA 3. Lumber prices for the first quarter of this year have also been down significantly both on the coast and inland for all species, with the exception of the month of February where all species were up, with the whitewoods having more dramatic increases than the pines. The April lumber index shows the pines continuing to drop while the whitewoods are showing modest increases.

Forestry Mentorship Program

The Forestry and Natural Resources Career Mentorship Program is seeking qualified forestry professionals to serve as mentors for the '23-'24 academic year. This program pairs college students in 8 forestry programs in California with a mentor who can provide tailored guidance as they enter the field. More information on the Program can be found on the Placer RCD website: <https://placerrcd.org/projects/mentorship/>

Forestry and Natural Resources Career Mentorship Program

Apply to be a mentor or mentee to share your forestry experience!

Forestry students at **Bakersfield College, Cal Poly Humboldt, Cal Poly SLO, College of the Redwoods, Feather River College, Shasta College, Reedley College** or **UC Berkeley** are encouraged to apply.*



Apply by September 30th at placerrcd.org/projects/mentorship

The Program recognizes that a diverse and expanded workforce is critical to meeting the growing demand for forestry professionals. We support traditionally underrepresented groups, including women, Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, and LGBTQIA+ individuals, with the goal of recruitment and retention in the forestry field.

*At 4-year universities, freshmen are not eligible to apply. The Program runs from October to June, with the expectation of monthly mentor/mentee meetings. For more information, contact Allison Erny (allison@placerrcd.org).

Funding for this program is provided by the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection's Business and Workforce Development Grants, with additional support from the organizations below.



Snapshot in History



On the steps of the State Capitol, June 1959. Left to Right: Francis Raymond, Robert Hanley and Russ Richards of the California Farm Bureau.

XX END XX