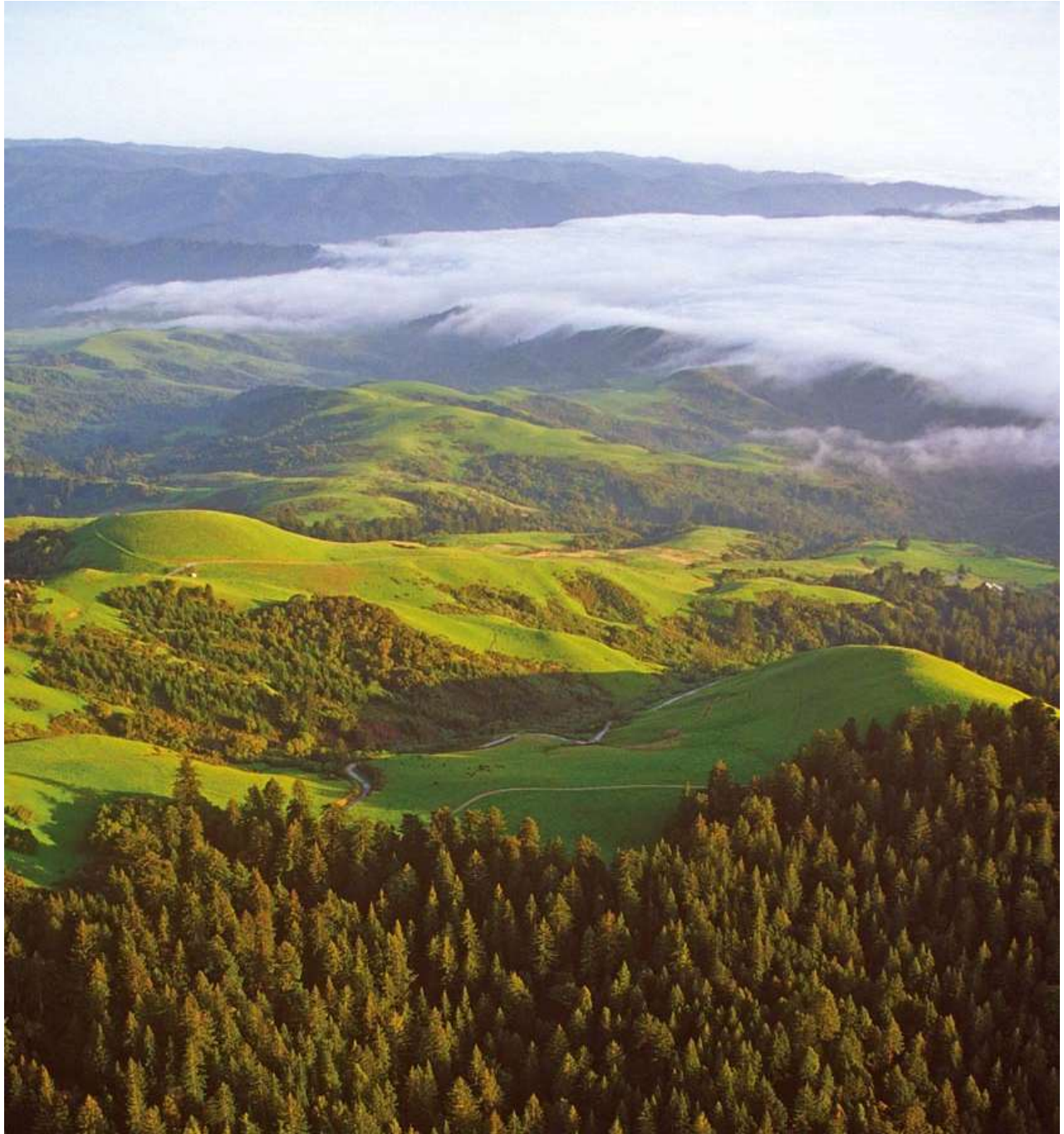


Licensing News

Office of Professional Foresters Registration



WINTER 2024/25
VOLUME 36 - 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. David Lile – 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)

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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.

Mr. Terrence O'Brien, Chair (Public Representative)
Ms. Elizabeth Forsburg, Vice-Chair (Public Representative)
Mr. Ryan Hilburn (Industry Representative)
Ms. Katie Delbar (Range/Livestock Representative)
Ms. Elicia Goldsworthy (Industry Representative)
Mr. J Lopez (Public Representative)
Mr. Richard Wade (Industry Representative)
Ms. Dawn Blake (Public Representative)
Mr. Ali Jahangiri (Public Representative)

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The View from the 10th Floor

by Dan Stapleton, Asst. Executive Officer

Another year is winding down and we all should be grateful we are all but done with fire season with substantial rains forecasted for much of the State. The total acres burned this year were up compared to last with the Park fire ranked as the fourth largest in California State history at 429,603 acres consumed. The area burned was some of the most productive forests with significant impacts to private lands and the timber industry.

This year the Board of Forestry toured CAL FIRE's Air Attack facilities at McClellan air base and were impressed with the number of air assets and logistical supports for what is the State's firefighting air force of aerial tankers, helicopters, reconnaissance and command and control aircraft. It was quite impressive the work that CAL FIRE is undergoing here to ensure rapid response and coordination. Board members began their tour with CAL FIRE's aircraft



simulator which provides needed training on the ground for pilots to experience the controls under various programable scenarios in a realistic virtual environment. The simulator provides for a more cost effective and safe way for pilots to get needed training.

Afterwards the Board toured the warehouse which contained aircraft components and older parts salvaged from retired

Left to right: Board members J. Lopez, Katie Delbar, Rich Wade, Chair Terrence O'Brien, Mike Jani, Dawn Blake.

aircraft. The emphasis of making the most of everything was evident here as aircraft fuselages and cabins from older military aircraft were neatly arranged on pallets for the retrieval of parts to keep their fleet of aircraft ready for flight.

Following this, Board members headed to the tarmac to inspect some of the Sikorsky Blackhawk helicopter fleet and learn of their capabilities. These new Sikorsky S-70s have a greater diversity of function and capacity than the older Bell UH-1H but also have a much higher maintenance requirement to keep them ready for work.

Next up Board members learned about how CAL FIRE uses aerial technology to provide imagery through smokey conditions to produce fire maps and data for fire command centers that utilize these digital aerial reconnaissance maps in planning and communication.

Finally, Board members visited the main tanker warehouse to witness the ongoing retrofitting and conversion of former military C-130s into CAL FIRE firefighting units. The bellies of these planes are enormous allowing for tanks to be inserted to carry up to 3,000 gallons of retardant. C130's are also known for their short takeoff and landing length requirements making them ideally suited for smaller runways if needed. With the multiple aircraft and capabilities, it was comforting to know that CAL FIRE has arranged these air assets throughout the state to be within 30 minutes flight time of other CAL FIRE air attack locations. This means needed air attack resources can be quickly transferred from base to base to support incident air operations. In a state with so many different regions in different stages of fuel curing and fire risk, CAL FIRE's "air force" is a difference maker in in a war against catastrophic wildfire.



New Board Members

Elicia Goldsworthy, of Arcata, has been appointed to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Goldsworthy has been the Policy and Communications Manager at Green Diamond Resource Company since 2021. She has held two other positions at Green Diamond Resource Company since 2016, including Silviculture Investments Manager from 2019 to 2021, and Senior Botanist from 2016 to 2019. Goldsworthy was a Forest Ecologist at James L. Able Forestry Consultants, Inc. from 2015 to 2016. She was an Operations Supervisor at Cal Poly Humboldt University Center from 2014 to 2015. Goldsworthy was a Natural Resource Specialist I at Ocean Associates, Inc. in 2012. She was a Staff Research Associate I at University of California

Cooperative Extension, Humboldt & Del Norte in 2011. Goldsworthy was a Registered Professional Forester at Mendocino Redwood Company, LLC from 2004 to 2009. She is a member of the California Licensed Foresters Association, and the Forest Stewardship Council – FSC North American Inclusion Council. Goldsworthy received her Master of Science degree in Forestry Sciences, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Natural Resources Management from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Ryan Hilburn, of Redding, has been appointed to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Hilburn has been Chief Forester at W.M. Beaty & Associates, Inc. since 2020. He was a District Supervisor at W.M. Beaty & Associates, Inc. from 2015 to 2020. Hilburn was a Natural Resources Manager at Swanton Pacific Ranch, Cal Poly Foundation from 2000 to 2005. He is a member of the California Licensed Foresters Association. Hilburn earned his Master of Science degree in Forestry Sciences, and his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Natural Resources Management from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Board Departures

Mike Jani, Santa Cruz. Mike Jani will be departing his position as an industry representative to the Board after eight years of service. Jani worked as a Senior Advisor for Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Companies. Collectively the timberlands consist of approximately 440,000 acres of redwood and Douglas-fir Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certified forestlands located along the north coast of California. Mike is an advocate of responsible forest stewardship and has demonstrated his leadership both in business and with the Board. His service draws respect from a broad spectrum of stakeholders in California forestry. Board staff will miss his insightfulness on forestry issues and his charming, good-natured personality. Staff are sad to see Mike go but are pleased that his departure will result in more time for Mike to pursue his love for fishing the crystal-clear trout streams of Northern California.



Christopher Chase, Mount Shasta. Chris Chase will be departing his industry seat on the Board after eight years of service. Chris is currently the timber Manager for Hearst Corporation and was formerly the timberland manager for the Michigan-California Timber Company and timber manager for its affiliate, Timber Products Company. Chris has always been a staunch supporter of active forest management and is known for his direct line of inquiry on forestry issues, especially as it relates to federal forest management. You will not find a more reasonable and articulate supporter of forestry and forest policy than Chris. Board staff will miss his leadership and friendship and wish him well in his future endeavors.



Meetings of Interest and Special Announcements

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Meeting Dates.

The Board’s next meeting is scheduled for January 22 at the Resources Building in Sacramento. 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](#).

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 19, 2024**. 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	1,121	77
Withdrawn	93	8
About to Expire	0	1
Revoked (non-payment or disciplinary action)	858	24
Voluntarily Relinquished	818	17
Probation	1	0
Deceased	365	7
TOTAL	3,256	134

CALIFORNIA TOTAL WILDLAND FIRE STATS YTD

Year-To-Date (YTD) is for current year, last year, and 5-year average, as of December 19, 2024.

<u>INTERVAL</u>	<u>WILDLAND FIRES</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
2024 Combined USFS, CAL FIRE YTD	7,668	1,040,146
2023 Combined USFS, CAL FIRE YTD	6,410	308,761
5 Year Average (same interval)	7,239	1,284,570

* <https://www.fire.ca.gov/our-impact/statistics> Updated weekly from preliminary numbers from our dispatch system and the national Incident Management Situation Report. These numbers may change as we receive more accurate information and remove false alarms.



Snapshot in History



Washington Ridge Youth Conservation Camp, November 4, 1961. Left to right: Ed Shuckert, Camp Superintendent. Fred Dunow, Deputy State Forester. Francis Raymond, State Forester. Ed Dolder, Deputy Director, Department of Conservation (Mines and Geology).

Disciplinary Actions Report

Since the last publication of the last Licensing News, no new RPF complaints have been filed with the Executive Officer of Foresters Licensing.

Outreach for Future RPFs by Dan Stapleton

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@bof.ca.gov.

Ryan Tompkins Posthumously Honored by California Board of Forestry



On November 6, 2024, former University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR) Forestry Advisor, Ryan Tompkins, was posthumously awarded the Francis H. Raymond Award by the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. This award is given to the individual, organization, agency or company who has contributed the most to the management of California's natural resources based upon criteria including volunteer participation and achievements reached as a professional. Ryan Tompkins was Registered Professional Forester #3108.

Tompkins was nominated for the award by Registered Professional Forester, Robert A. Gimble and UC Berkeley Professor of Fire Science and Forest Policy, Scott Stephens.

The award ceremony, held during the Board of Forestry meeting in Sacramento, Tompkins wife, Michelle Coppoletta, accepted the award.



Tompkins, a 1996 graduate of UC Berkeley's School of Forestry, received his Masters in Forestry from UC Berkeley in 2001. His first job was researching wildfire impacts for the National Parks Service. In 2003 he went to work for the Plumas National Forest as a Timber

Sale Administrator and steadily climbed the USFS ranks to the position of Lead Silviculturist for the Plumas National Forest. In 2019, he left the US Forest Service to become a Forestry Advisor for UCANR in Plumas, Lassen and Sierra counties.

Tompkins served on the science advisory panel for the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force as a member of its reforestation working group. He's shared his expertise with the Quincy Library Group and with other projects including US Forest Service efforts to accelerate the pace and scale of fuels treatments.



Tompkins volunteered to help communities to prepare for wildfire. After certifying his own home and 36 others in the Galeppi Firewise community in 2018, Ryan helped with the creation of the Quincy Firewise community in 2020, certifying 2,400 residences and also introduced an interactive measuring tool to allow volunteers to register their efforts. The tool is now recognized nationally.

From Left to Right J. Lopez, Chair Terry O'Brien, Mike Jani, Michelle Coppoletta, Rich Wade, Katie Delbar, Chris Chase.

In 2020-2021, Tompkins worked with the Feather River RCD in monitoring long-term ecological conditions following post fire treatments and helped to pilot an emergency forest restoration team which led to the treatment of over 2,000 acres of timberland by over 200 landowners.

In 2022, Ryan co-authored the paper "Operational Resilience in Western US Frequent-Fire Forests" which became a guiding document for USFS and local RCD forest health projects including the Claremont and North Quincy Projects. Following the occurrence of catastrophic fires like the Dixie and North Complex as well as others, he worked with small and large private landowners to obtain grants to help reforest their lands and to prepare these landowners for the follow-up investments in treatments that ensure successful reforestation.

Most recently, Ryan collaborated with local indigenous groups to develop a management plan that would incorporate traditional ecological knowledge for beargrass management in timber harvest plan areas. Michael Hall, District Manager Feather River RCD, said of Tompkins influence:

Ryan never had to shout because the room always listened when he spoke. His passion for forestry went beyond his job. It permeated into his life and was something he loved sharing.

He was the consummate educator, never dumbing his topics down but always making it relatable and fun. The greatest tragedy would be to let this person, who has done so much for forestry go unrecognized.

Ryan Emmett Tompkins passed away while receiving treatment for cancer on May 6, 2024. He was 49 years old.

Professional Foresters Examining Committee (PFEC) - The next PFEC meeting is planned for January 16, 2025.

At the August 2024 Board meeting, the Board unanimously approved for 45-day public noticing for the "Licensing Fee Amendments, 2024" proposed rulemaking. On December 11, 2024, the Board approved the Final Statement of Reasons to send this proposed rulemaking to OAL for review. With enrollment of this regulation, the renewal fees for RPFs, 30-year RPFs, and CRMs will increase by \$70 biennially and \$35 annually where applicable.

Current PFEC priorities include:

- 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)

The RMAC is a statutorily created ([Public Resources Code \[PRC\] § 741](#)) advisory committee that advises the 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.

The RMAC is currently developing the program for the **2025 Annual Educational Series** workshops and will release workshop details as they are confirmed. In collaboration with the California Forester's Association and other professional forestry organizations, the RMAC is planning to develop a collaborative workshop training opportunity in spring of 2025 for forestry and rangeland professionals working in oak woodlands. Keep an eye on the [RMAC webpage](#)

for event announcements, and email Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov to join the RMAC mailing list and keep informed on upcoming range events.

The Board 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 October 2024: Michelle Katuna and Kaveh Motamed.

Two seats remain open on the RMAC and must be filled by individuals nominated by an organization representing rangeland owners; nominated individuals themselves do not need to be affiliated with the nominating organization. Interested individuals or nominating organizations may see the [Call for Applications](#) for more details.

The next meeting of the RMAC will occur in Sacramento on January 28th, 2025 and interested individuals and organizations may attend in person or virtually: [REGISTER HERE](#).

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

Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC)

The Board formed the EMC in 2014 to develop and implement a monitoring program to provide an active feedback loop to policymakers, managers, agencies, and the public as to the impact and effectiveness of state regulations in California's timberland ecosystems, including watershed and wildlife concerns. Effectiveness monitoring is necessary to assess whether management practices are achieving the resource goals and objectives set forth in the California Forest Practice Act (Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973, California PRC § 4511-4630.2 [2021]) and Forest Practice Rules (FPRs) and related natural resource protection statutes and laws, codes, and regulations, including the California Endangered Species Act (ESA), federal ESA, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act, federal Clean Water Act, and Fish and Game Code. The EMC collectively refers to these as the 'FPRs and associated regulations' and evaluates their effectiveness by utilizing research results stemming from EMC-supported research.

The EMC is generally allocated \$425,000 from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund, which funds EMC-supported research projects, and is directed by AB 1492 to develop ecological performance measures for state and private forestland management. Findings are presented in a formal Adaptive Management process to inform the Board on future policy development. This process provides the basis for decision-making and facilitating adaptation to changing circumstances and unexpected outcomes in dynamic ecosystems. In the 2024/25 Fiscal Year (FY), the EMC's research budget was reduced to \$389,700 due to State budget cuts.

The next EMC meeting will occur in Sacramento on February 12th, 2025 and interested individuals and organizations may attend in person or virtually: [REGISTER HERE](#).

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

California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

On December 30, 2019, the Board certified a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and approved the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting program. This CalVTP and PEIR will streamline California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance for CAL FIRE and other state and local public agencies' vegetation management projects. The CalVTP PEIR is intended for vegetation management activities that lower the risk of catastrophic wildfires in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and some contiguous Local Responsibility Areas (LRA) by managing vegetation to modify or reduce hazardous fuels.

Training sessions have been conducted in previous years starting in 2021 to provide guidance on using the CalVTP for CEQA streamlining. These videos are available for viewing on the Board's website. From 2021 through 2024, the Board was allocated early action technical assistance funding to support lead agencies in preparing Project-Specific Analyses (PSAs). These projects were selected to present a cross-section of contexts and examples in which the CalVTP can be used for CEQA compliance for eligible vegetation management projects. A [StoryMap](#) of these projects, along with a CalVTP Resource Library, were developed in partnership with Ascent Environmental. The [CalVTP website](#) features a variety of resources to support project proponents, lead agencies, implementing agencies, and other partners, including:

- Example PSAs and PSA/Addenda
- Mitigation monitoring and reporting program implementation tools
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Treatable landscape calculator tool to calculate acreage within the SRA
- Downloadable spatial files for proposed and approved CalVTP projects, completed treatments, and the treatable landscape
- User Guides for submission of required environmental documentation and acreage calculations for the treatable landscape
- Online submission tool for Proposed Projects

As of December 16, 2024, of 153 projects, 104 have been approved for implementation, and the environmental documentation (i.e., Project Specific Analysis and supporting addendum, if any) certifying fulfillment of the CEQA compliance is posted on the Board's webpage for [Environmental Documentation for Approved Projects](#) (also see Table 1). Planned, active, or completed treatment data has been submitted for 36 projects.

Table 1. Vegetation Treatment Projects Approved under the CalVTP as of December 16, 2024.

# Proposed Projects <i>pending approval</i>	44	Acres Approved for Treatment	
			Summed* 1,009,090
		Manual Treatment	227,702
		Mechanical Treatment	213,241
		Prescribed Fire (Broadcast)	179,233
		Prescribed Fire (Pile Burn)	159,943
		Herbicide Applications	124,575
	Prescribed Herbivory	104,397	
# Approved Projects	104	Acres Approved for Treatment	
			Summed† 3,084,987
			Footprint† 515,384
		Manual Treatment	377,939
		Mechanical Treatment	1,503,215
		Prescribed Fire (Broadcast)	376,469
		Prescribed Fire (Pile Burn)	274,461
	Herbicide Applications	259,044	
	Prescribed Herbivory	298,859	
# Projects with Reported Completed Treatments**	28	Acres Completed Treatments‡	5,886
		Manual Treatment	1,081
		Mechanical Treatment	750
		Prescribed Fire (Broadcast)	3,845
		Prescribed Fire (Pile Burn)	206
		Herbicide Applications	4
	Prescribed Herbivory	0	

* The sum of acres of proposed treatments is substantially greater than the proposed treatment **footprint**, as treatment activities may overlap spatiotemporally; data on the acreage of the proposed treatment **footprint** is not collected.

† The total treatment footprint (acres) will not match acres summed across individual treatment activity, as treatment activities may overlap spatiotemporally.

‡ This is the most accurate reflection of treated acres as of December 16, 2024. Acres approved for treatment may or may not be treated or reported at the time of this summary, depending on a variety of factors. Project proponents are not required to report treated acres until projects are complete and closed, which could be up to ten years. The Board of Forestry & Fire Protection makes efforts to collect treatment data on a regular basis but cannot compel reporting before a project is closed.

Several new endeavors are in various stages of development and implementation to improve the CalVTP reporting process and quality of the data received by lead and implementing agencies, with expected completion and roll-out by year end of 2024, including:

- Online submission of Approved and Completed Projects, including Treatment Reporting, using GIS Web Applications
- A CalVTP Report Summary platform

Joint Institute for 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 support the increased pace and scale of forest restoration activities, sequester carbon in long-lived wood products, and support rural economies.

Four Institute projects are nearing completion and anticipated to be finalized in the next few months. The "Assessment of State Purchasing Protocols Related to Innovative Wood Products" project and a newly developed "California Infrastructure Map, Wood Products Site Planning Tool" have been reviewed and approved by the Institute. Both will be heard by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) at their December meeting. The Institute "CEQA Support for Wood Utilization" project will be heard by the Board at their January 2025 meeting, and the "Development of a Life Cycle Accounting Model for Biofuel Production from Forest Biomass Waste in California" project will be heard at the March 2025 Board meeting. Three other projects underway include:

- Mountain Community Affordable Workforce Housing with Mass Timber Components,
- Forest Industry Infrastructure Capacity Assessment and Needs Analysis, and
- Marketing Strategy and Guidebook for California Biochar Producers and Consumers

More information regarding this Board Advisory Committee can be found on the [Institute webpage](#). If you are interested in joining the listserv to stay abreast of Institute meetings and work, please contact Katie Harrell, program administrator, at katie.harrell@bof.ca.gov.

Regulatory Development

Please note that with the passage of AB 2276, the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption will expire on 1/1/2025. To enact the directives of AB 2276 and provide for a similar forest management tool, the Board has approved emergency regulations for the Forest Resilience Exemption and Oak Woodland Exemption, which will be reviewed by the Office of Administrative Law. The Board plans for these emergency regulations to become effective in early January 2025.

The following proposed regulations have been approved by the Office of Administrative Law and will go into effect on January 1, 2025.

Wet Areas, Meadows, and Restoration Activities, 2024 - This rule package updates the definition for "Wet Areas" so that it takes into account interannual variation in precipitation, replaces the definitions "Wet Meadows or Other Wet Areas" and "Meadows and Wet Areas" with "Wet Areas", and expands the areas that can undergo meadow restoration activities under the "Aspen, Meadows and Wet Areas Restoration" special prescription to include the historic extent of a meadow.

Less Than 3-acre Conversion Exemption Amendments, 2024 – This rule package updates the Less than 3-acre Conversion Exemption to improve the clarity and efficiency of the

regulations related to the regulatory exemptions authorized by PRC § 4584(g) and make them consistent with the regulatory revisions to exemptions following the passage of SB 901. The revisions plan to provide adequate resource protection while maintaining a minimally burdensome ministerial permitting process by clarifying some aspects of the Less than 3-acre Conversion Exemption submission, notification, and review process. The changes also adopt the waiver of the one-time conversion permitted by the passage of AB 1526.

Drought Mortality and Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Amendments, 2024 - This rule package places a 500 acre limitation on the Drought Mortality Exemption, adjusts canopy closure standards for the soon-to-expire Forest Fire Prevention Exemption and places those requirements under § 1038.3 instead of under §1052.4, and removes the now-expired Small Timberland Owner Exemption from the rules.

The following proposed regulations are within their 45-day Notice Period, which will end on January 22, 2025.

Watercourse Crossings and Emergency Notice Watercourse Crossing Requirements, 2025 This proposed action confirms that current regulatory requirements limiting construction or reconstruction of watercourse crossings under notices of exemption apply in ASP watersheds. It also brings the mapping requirements for watercourse crossings under emergency notice timber operations within ASP watersheds into compliance with changes made to §1052. It updates requirements for compliance with FGC § 1600 et seq. to reflect circumstances where only notification of CDFW is required. Finally, it addresses several issues that have arisen during emergency notice timber operations by adding mapping requirements for tractor road crossings and logging road watercourse crossings; requiring notification of CDFW and certification of compliance with FGC § 1600 et seq. requirements; providing a pathway to update initial emergency notice submissions with new watercourse crossings that require construction or reconstruction; and explicitly stating that the construction or reconstruction of watercourse crossings under emergency notices comply with the Road Rules covering Watercourse Crossings under § 923.9 [§943.9, §963.9] et seq.

Apprentice Professional Forester Educational Program Proposal, 2024

The proposed action is to create an alternative licensing pathway titled the Apprentice Professional Forester (APF) educational program. Mirrored after the existing specialty program (14 CCR 1651, PRC 772), any public agency or professional society could submit to the Board their proposal to educate forestry licensing applicants and provide requirements for evaluation and/or testing of core competency subject matter in forestry. Proposals for education programs would be reviewed by the Board. RPF licensing applicants will be mentored, educated, and evaluated for their understanding of significant core competency subject matter that enables these licensing applicants to take their first step towards licensing earlier in the RPF licensing process, at year four of the seven required to qualify for the license.

Applicants could join the program having achieved only four years of qualifying forestry work experience or the combination of four years of forestry work and qualifying

educational substitution. Upon completion of the APF program and passing of the program's core competency requirements, mentored forester graduates would only need to pass an abbreviated exam that tests applied knowledge at year seven. The abbreviated exam will be roughly equivalent to 1/2 of the current RPF exam in length and like the current RPF exam, it is focused on situational, multi- component essay questions.

These regulation files are available at the Board website [HERE](#). If you require other or archived material, please email Dan Craig, (Dan.Craig@fire.ca.gov) Regulations Program Manager.

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.



Glen Rouse, RPF 2552, Glen died August 5, 2024 after a courageous battle with ALS.

Glen was born on September 10, 1968 in Redding, CA to Ernie and Molly Rouse. Glen graduated from Liberty Christian High School in 1986 and continued his education at Humboldt State University in Arcata, CA. Glen graduated from Humboldt State with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Forestry. Glen began working at Sierra Pacific Industries in Anderson, CA after graduation and worked there for 33 years. While at Sierra Pacific, Glen's passion was the Giant Sequoia Gene Conservation Program. This program was designed to create new Giant Sequoia groves that extended its distribution in California in the case of a wildfire or other disaster that could decimate the limited genetics of Giant Sequoia's. Glen married Kellie on December 10, 1994. They raised 3 children, Jacob, Sabrina, and Symphony.

In lieu of flowers, Glen's family asks that donations go to the I Am ALS Foundation at <http://www.iamals.org/give>. Glen was a co-chair on the Legislative Affairs Team fighting to help pass legislation that would help people afflicted by ALS. If you are interested in learning more about Glen's work with I Am ALS, please visit <https://www.iamals.org/action/legislative-affairs-team/>.



Dr. Carl Yee, RPF 911, Carlton Yee, resident of Eagle, Idaho died on December 13, 2024, at the age of 83. Born on May 25, 1941, in Morenci, AZ, to Joe and Laura Yee, he was raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and graduated from San Mateo High School in 1959. He continued his collegiate education at Humboldt State University in (BS)Forest Management, Yale University in (MF) Industrial Forest Administration, and Oregon State University for a Ph.D. in Forest Engineering and Hydrology.

Early in his varied career, he worked as a Timber Sales Officer for the US Forest Service and an Intelligence Analyst with the NRO. He was University Professor at various universities, including Humboldt State University (now Cal Poly Humboldt) for 30 years doing research and instruction in Forest Operations and Forest Hydrology.

Besides a Ph.D., he had more than 30 years of research experience in forest operations, water quality, fishery habitat and soil erosion processes and mitigation. In addition, he was one of two technical advisors to the Best Management Practices Subcommittee of the Board of Forestry from 1978 to 1980, which resulted in the first revision to soil erosion, watercourse and lake protection, and other forest practice regulations.

From 1983 to 1991, he served as chair and vice-chair of the State Board of Forestry. He was also chair of the Board's Forest Practices Committee and headed up negotiations with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) towards Best Management Practices certification of the Forest Practice Rules. He also led efforts to institute the first joint monitoring efforts of the Department of Forestry and State Water Board, the Monitoring and Assessment Plan, and the "208 Study." He was also the expert examiner for the Professional Forester Examining Committee, the group that examines and disciplines Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) in the state. Carl held RPF license number 911. He retired from university life in 2000 but continued to be engaged in consulting forestry for clients in the western US.

His beloved wife, Judi, survives Carl, and he will be missed by his pet, Sadie, a Jack Russell extra-ordinary. While they had no children from their marriage, they had a passion for rescuing dogs many of whom were happy to greet him at the Gates.

At Carl's request, there will be no memorial service. He has asked that his ashes be shot from a cannon where he will rest peacefully forever, hopefully in a forest somewhere.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Jack Russell Rescue of OR, WA, & ID.



Former Board of Forestry member, Pam Giacomini, 66, of Hat Creek, California died December 29, 2024 at home.

Pamela Ann Thompson was born October 21, 1958 in Redding to her parents, Robert and Lois Opdyke Thompson. She grew up with her older brother and sister on the family ranch originally settled by her great-grandparents in 1903. Pam was active in 4-H and FFA, showed livestock at the Intermountain Fair and won awards at the local, regional and state levels. She graduated from Fall River High School in 1976.

In the summer of 1975, while attending a statewide Regional FFA Officer Leadership Conference, Pam first kindled a relationship with Henry Giacomini from Ferndale who at that time was State FFA President. They dated for three years while never living near each other. Pam attended Chico State from 1976-78. She and Henry were married on August 12, 1978 at the ranch in Hat Creek and celebrated their 46th anniversary this year. Their devotion to each other has always been apparent to everyone who has known them.

Following their graduation from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 1980, she with a degree in Agricultural Journalism, Pam and Henry moved to Humboldt County and took over Henry's family dairy business. Pam worked off the farm while actively partnering with Henry on it. Their son, Wade, arrived in 1985. During their time in Ferndale they were actively engaged in the local community and made significant improvements on the dairy, receiving the first Humboldt County Dairy of the Year Award in 1984.

After eight years in Ferndale the young family shifted from dairy cows on the coast to beef in the mountains, acquiring the cattle business at Hat Creek Hereford Ranch from Pam's parents. They established HP Livestock and proceeded to grow their cattle numbers and added leased properties to support them, eventually reaching 60,000 acres. It was a true partnership, and they became known in the community as the "dynamic duo." Henry and Pam were the first to introduce innovative pasture management systems that have now been widely adopted in the area. In 2007 they introduced Hat Creek Grown which they operated as a consumer direct beef sales business. In 2024 they were named one of three finalists for the California Leopold Conservation Award which is annually presented nationwide to "landowners who demonstrate exemplary dedication to land, water, and wildlife management on private, working lands."

Pam held many interests and never engaged in anything at which she was not determined to excel. Her pursuits included time as an FFA Advisor and judging team coach, high school and college instructor, professional photographer, and as partner with her sister, Kathy, at Century 21 Big Pines Real Estate. She was a graduate of the California

Agricultural Leadership Class XXI in 1993, and obtained her Master's Degree in Agriculture from Cal Poly in 2003.

Pam's interest in agricultural advocacy and politics led her to rewarding work with the California Farm Bureau Federation; nine years as a Regional Field Representative and four as Director of Governmental Affairs in Sacramento focusing on livestock, public lands and associated environmental issues. She also engaged in leadership and service including the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Pam was elected to represent District 3 on the Shasta County Board of Supervisors from 2013 to 2016. In 2016 she received the prestigious Common Threads North Award, "presented to a Northern California woman in agriculture who has made a difference in their communities and our world through service."

Pam is survived by her husband Henry, son Wade, sister Kathy (Howard) Lakey, mother-in-law Elsie Giacomini, sisters- and brothers-in-law Alice Thompson, Pete (Libby) Giacomini, and Dan (Pat) Giacomini, and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and their families. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Robert Thompson, Jr., and her father-in-law, Donald Giacomini.

A celebration of Pam's life will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at George Ingram Hall, Intermountain Fairgrounds, McArthur, California. In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions in Pam's memory be directed to Mayers Healthcare Foundation, P.O. Box 77, Fall River Mills CA 96028.

RPF and CRM Examination Announcements

The April 2025 RPF/CRM Exam Notice has been posted and is scheduled for Friday April 4, 2025. The deadline for NEW applications for that exam is February 7, 2025.

The Exam Notices and information on RPF and CRM exams can be found [HERE](#).

Note to Examinees: Please be advised of a change on the exam notices. The Professional Foresters Examining Committee has determined that an applicant who is contracted to their RPF supervisor to meet the requirements of 1622 must provide with their application a copy of the contract and that the contract shall contain the information required in 14 CCR 1622.2 (see below).

1622.2. Contracting Forestry Work Experience.

Forestry experience obtained while working as a contractor may be claimed as having charge of forestry work, or forestry work under the supervision of a person registered, or qualified but exempt from, registration provided:

- (a) The applicant submits a copy of the contract and any documentation necessary to verify the appropriateness of experience.*

- (b) *The contract required the work of the contractor to be supervised as stated in Section 1622(b) of this article.*
- (c) *The contract or documentation specifies the various items of supervision including, but not limited to: training; frequency of contact both for professional and contract compliance purposes; office and field review; and how corrective actions can be taken.*
- (d) *The contract or documentation has the names, current addresses, and phone numbers of each qualified forester who directly carries out this supervision. If the supervisor is Registered, the license number must be included.*

If this applies to you, please US postal mail, or scan and email your signed and dated contract with your application to the address/email listed on the application.

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.

Research Readings

State News Release: Erosion Following Wildfire as Increased in California Since 1984.

By [Communications and Publishing](#) August 28, 2024

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. — In a first-of-its-kind study, scientists compiled one year’s worth of soil and sediment erosion quantities occurring after large California wildfires between 1984 and 2021. Scientists found that postfire erosion has accelerated over time, particularly in northern California, likely reflecting both the increase in wildfire in the state and the frequency of wet water years. In addition, scientists found that 57% of postfire erosion by mass occurred upstream of reservoirs. This research helps planners understand the degree to which postfire erosion has impacted watersheds and can inform management actions to minimize the effects of runoff on clean water storage.



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Using the Water Erosion Prediction Project model developed by the USDA Forest Service, in combination with field-based debris-flow volume measurements and modeled debris-flow volumes, scientists from the USGS and California Geological Survey evaluated postfire erosion throughout California for 196 large wildfires, which includes fires over 100 km², ~25,000 acres, in California between

1984 to 2021. Researchers estimated the magnitude of erosion contributed by postfire debris flows and hillslope erosion in the first water year following wildfire. Results show that postfire debris flows can mobilize vastly more sediment than hillslope erosion processes. As climate change exacerbates hillside erosion, it has become more common and could create more of a downstream hazard for water resources. Examples of this



include the filling of storage space in reservoirs and damaging infrastructure as 'nuisance' sediment that blocks roads and culverts.

Results from the study show a tenfold increase in postfire hillslope erosion between 1984–1990 and 2011–2021 in northern California, with the majority of top sediment-producing fires occurring in the last decade.

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The team of researchers reviewed published studies of the Water Erosion Prediction Project model's accuracy in application to burned areas and conducted their own tests comparing model output to field data. Results showed that the model often over-predicts erosion where little erosion has occurred and underpredicts erosion where significant erosion occurred, particularly in watersheds with greater burn severity.

Researchers acknowledged that targeting erosion in just the first water year following wildfire may underestimate postfire erosion, as those effects may last for several years.

Because fire extent and burn severity are projected to increase alongside extreme rain with ongoing climate change, postfire sediment mobilization will be a growing risk to water-resource security, as well as riparian, coastal, and marine ecosystems and communities.

The study "[Postfire sediment mobilization and its downstream implications across California, 1984–2021](#)" was published in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Earth Surface from the American Geophysical Union.

TIMBER TAX UPDATE FIRST HALF OF 2025

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) November 7, 2024.

When we met last May I talked about the timber industry finally cleaning up the large back log of fire salvage across the state and the markets beginning to transition back to mostly green sales. Overall, that is how things played out for the first half of the year until about mid-summer. Late spring log prices were beginning to improve and with most of the high intensity burned timber already removed, salvage harvests were primarily focused on cleaning up secondary die back from the previous years of fires. Things were finally starting to look good but as I said last time, there is always some uncertainty with what the future will bring. In July the Park and Shelly Fires ignited, followed by numerous small to moderate size fires that burned commercial timberlands. This year's fire season is turning out to be much more severe than last year and it is currently running close to average at a little over one million acres. The 5-year average for the state is about 1.3 million acres per year. Now bear in mind that not all of the one million acres burned so far this year are in commercial timberlands. A good portion of them are in low elevation grasslands and oak-woodland vegetation types.

With fire season now in full swing, late August and early September saw inland pine lumber prices falling and pine log prices quickly followed. Lumber prices for pine have been quite volatile all year with large double digit gains from 1Q to 2Q, while third quarter drops in prices were more than twice than the previous quarterly gains. Whitewood lumber prices have been much more stable than the pines with modest second quarter gains and third quarter prices only down slightly. The high Douglas-fir log prices the northern TVA's were experiencing the last two years has begun to wane.

On the coast, Douglas-fir and Hem/Fir lumber prices were up in both first and second quarters. Third quarter saw Doug-fir only slightly up by \$3, while Hem/Fir took a big drop and was down by \$18. Redwood is the biggest loser statewide with log prices down between \$100 to \$165/MBF since last April. Some of the north coast redwood mills are either offering such low log prices landowners can't afford to cut and deliver at those prices, or they are off the market until next spring. With the linear relationship between lumber and log prices, it is easy to see that these downward trends in lumber prices are reflected in the sales information we collect and in the proposed values for the first half of 2025. So it should be no surprise to see that the timber values are down across the state.

Heading into the new year the markets are in limbo and there is a lot of uncertainty for the first half of 2025. Now, we will just have to wait and see what will happen next spring.

California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, year in review 2024

The task force provided an update on their progress. Please see the update at this [link](#).

CLFA Licensing Exam Prep Seminar

Another Exam Preparation Seminar is scheduled for Monday, February 3, 2025 at Granzellas Hotel in Williams. Please visit this [link](#) at the CLFA website to sign up.

Francis H. Raymond Award – Upcoming Call for Nominations

Nominations for the Francis H. Raymond Award for 2025 will be coming up shortly. Check the Board's website for the Call for Nominations announcement starting in February at <https://bof.fire.ca.gov/> on the first page under Latest.



Register Now Feb 11 & 12, 2025

FSI Registration
www.calforests.org



Registration for FSI is open for everyone! Take advantage of early bird registration, which ends on December 31.

Location:



Kimpton Sawyer Hotel
500 J Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814

For more information
please contact :

Cara Ward-Mendoza

 916-628-2747

 caraw@calforests.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR