

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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**Range Management Advisory Committee Meeting (RMAC)****Meeting Minutes****Meeting Date:** Monday, July 15, 2024, 12:30 PM**Primary Location:** California Natural Resources Agency Headquarters, 715 P Street, Sacramento, 95814, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room 2-221C**Secondary Locations:**

- Star Creek Land Stewards, Inc. – 1232 California Avenue, Los Banos, 93635
- Cal Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo – Alan A. Erhart Agriculture Building, Building 10, Room 101, 1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo, 93407
- UC Cooperative Extension Sonoma County – 133 Aviation Boulevard, Suite 109, Santa Rosa, 95403
- Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego – 11769 Waterhill Road, Lakeside, CA 92040
- Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council – 201 Bryant St, Ojai, CA 93023

See the [July 15, 2024 Agenda](#) for further details.

The meeting recording may be retained for a limited amount of time, and during that time, may be observed by completing registration at the following weblink. Access to the recording is not guaranteed at any given time.

**Webinar Recording Access Link:**<https://calfire.box.com/s/ifexma71nrng8q4wpmhyk8963f6u2a06> (audio only)**ROLL CALL****RMAC Members Present**

Chair, Dr. Marc Horney – in person at Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo  
Vice-Chair, Dr. Stephanie Larson – in person at UCCE Sonoma County  
Dr. Paul Starrs – in person at UCCE Sonoma County  
Bart Cremers – in person at California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Headquarters  
Lance Criley – in person at Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego  
Joel Kramer – in person at Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego  
Cole Bush – in person at Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council

**RMAC Members Absent**

Rich Ross – in person at CNRA Headquarters

*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.*

Andrée Soares  
OPEN SEAT  
Katie Delbar, ex officio member  
OPEN SEAT

### **Board Staff**

Dr. Kristina Wolf, Environmental Scientist – in person at CNRA Headquarters  
Mazonika Kemp – virtual  
Deniele Cade – virtual

### **Department Staff**

Steve Fountain, Technical Support – in person at CNRA Headquarters  
Chris Talbott, Technical Support – in person at CNRA Headquarters

**Public Attendees** (*Note: Names for virtual attendees listed only; two audio-only attendees identified by a phone number are not listed here*)

Brian Shobe, Ahmad Majid, Ziani Paiz, Alan Bower, Benjamin Waitman, Lawrence Ford

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### **AGENDA ITEMS and MEETING MINUTES:**

Items are numbered by their corresponding number on the agenda and documented below in order of their introduction during the meeting. [Video Recording Times](#) preceding each Agenda Item are approximate.

***Approximate start time on video recording: 00:04:45***

**1. Call to Order, Webinar Meeting Format, and Roll Call – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff**

Dr. Wolf reviewed webinar functionality and called the roll. A quorum was present.

***Approximate start time on video recording: 00:09:30***

**2. Staff/Chairman's report – Dr. Marc Horney, Chair**

- The RMAC has continued to work on the Prescribed Grazing Resources list and will get that out to the SRM listserv soon.
- The Van Vleck Ranch Field Tour is still in the planning stages and we hope to have more information on that soon.
- We are still working on the Oak Woodlands Training workshop as well.

***Approximate start time on video recording: 00:10:45***

**3. Approval of meeting minutes – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff**

The draft May meeting minutes were sent out to the RMAC members for their review prior to this meeting.

### ***Discussion***

Member Dr. Starrs noted that the date in the meeting minutes was incorrect. Dr. Wolf will make that correction.

Member Bush motioned to approve the May 2024 meeting minutes with the above correction; Vice-Chair Dr. Larson seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Rich Ross	Absent
Joel Kramer	Aye
Cole Bush	Aye
Bart Cremers	Aye
Dr. Paul Starrs	Aye
Andrée Soares	Absent
Lance Criley	Aye
Dr. Stephanie Larson	Aye
OPEN SEAT	N/A
OPEN SEAT	N/A
Dr. Marc Horney	Aye

**Action Item**

The motion passes unanimously; the meeting minutes are posted online: [May 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes](#).

**Approximate start time on video recording: 00:14:00**

**4. Expiring Member Terms and New Member Nomination(s): Discussion and recommendations for appointment or reappointment to the RMAC – Dr. Wolf, Board Staff**

- Two seats are open, and are statutorily to be filled by individuals nominated by organizations representing rangeland owners. Potential Applicants should be nominated by an organization representing rangeland owners, and nominations can be made using the Nomination Form.
- Jeremy Walker of Corte Madera Ranch was nominated by Joel Kramer at the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego to fill one of these seats. Member Kramer noted that Jeremy is a first-generation rancher operating a historic ranch in San Diego and spoke to his qualifications to serve on the RMAC, including his experience with virtual fence technologies, collaborations with CAL FIRE, and membership with the California Cattlemen’s Association.
- Vice-Chair Dr. Larson motioned to recommend Jeremy Walker to a seat on the RMAC; Member Bush seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Rich Ross	Absent
Joel Kramer	Aye
Cole Bush	Aye
Bart Cremers	Aye
Dr. Paul Starrs	Aye
Andrée Soares	Absent
Lance Criley	Aye
Dr. Stephanie Larson	Aye
OEN SEAT	N/A
OPEN SEAT	N/A
Dr. Marc Horney	Aye

## **Resources**

- [4a-i. RMAC Call for Nominations 2024](#)
- [4a-ii. RMAC Membership and Terms](#)
- [4b. RMAC Nomination Form](#)
- [4c-i. RMAC Nomination Form - Jeremy Walker Redacted](#)
- [4c-ii. Jeremy Walker RMAC Letter of Interest Redacted](#)
- [4c-iii. Jeremy Walker Resume Redacted](#)

## **Action Items**

- One seat remains open; if the RMAC has nominees, they will be reviewed at the next RMAC meeting after applications/nominations are received.
- Nominees may submit a Letter of Interest and CV to Dr. Wolf via email. Nominating Organizations may submit nominations to Dr. Wolf via [email](#) using the following template: [RMAC Member Nomination Form](#).
- Jeremy Walker's appointment recommendation will be voted on at the Board's September meeting.

## **Approximate start time on video recording: 00:21:45**

5. **2023 Annual Report and Workplan and 2024 Annual Priorities** – Dr. Horney, *Chair*; Dr. Wolf, *Board Staff*; and RMAC members

## **2024 Annual Priorities**

- To recap the discussion from last meeting, Member Kramer proposed identifying demonstration sites for pilot studies on prescribed grazing. She did not receive any other feedback about progress on or changes to annual priorities. She also reported that there was some discussion about putting together a proposal for the Board of Forestry & Fire Protection ('Board') requesting funds to support some of the RMAC's annual priorities (e.g., the demonstration sites/pilot studies), but it was decided that the turnaround time was too soon to make it to the Board's next meeting; no additional progress was made or discussion ensued as far as she knows.
  - Re: proposal to the Board: Member Bush noted that a discussion last meeting occurred around better bridging communications from the Board and the RMAC. There is a Board meeting in July, and again on August 21<sup>st</sup>. The September meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>; a field tour will occur the day before on Wednesday at McClellan Field Station. She reviewed the timeline for when items would have to be ready to share with the Board, and the processes for approval for sending such an item to the Board. Member Kramer noted that a funding element was also discussed to be included in a proposal and request to the Board.
  - While the proposal is being developed, presentations could be made to the Board at its public meetings to keep the Board informed about imported range related news. Member Bush suggested that a duo present at the Board's November meeting. She and Dr. Larson will provide a presentation at that meeting.

## **Resources**

### [5. RMAC 2023 Annual Report and Workplan and 2024 Annual Priorities](#)

#### **Action Items**

- Member Bush and Dr. Larson provide a presentation at the Board's November meeting.
- A proposal to the Board requesting funding to support demonstration site development will be delayed until later. Member Kramer and potentially Member Bush will be involved in this. It is possible that this proposal, if ready, could be referenced at the November meeting as well. The meeting is Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Meeting materials will need to be ready by Monday October 28.
- Dr. Horney will provide a presentation to the Board in January.
- Provide suggested presentation topics to Dr. Wolf via email.

### **6. Annual Educational Workshop Series Planning 2024 – Vice-Chair Dr. Larson**

#### **Discussion**

Vice-Chair Dr. Larson reported that she reached out the Sacramento Valley Conservancy and the Van Vleck Ranch, and the venues are near to each other and both are willing to host. A discussion about the timing, audience, topics, and speakers ensued. Member Kramer also suggested that a webinar on Virtual Fence could be presented, and Jeremy Walker at Corte Madera Ranch would be willing to host that. Member Kramer noted that CalCAN's Summit is October 29-30, and Brian Shobe noted that any day of the week should be fine for legislative staff, although avoiding the two weeks prior to the federal election could be desirable. Dr. Wolf noted that the Sierra Regional meeting for the Wildfire and Resilience Task Force is October 10 and 11. These dates should be avoided.

#### **Action Items**

- Send suggestions for locations, speakers, and organizations to Dr. Larson, Dr. Horney, and Dr. Wolf at [Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov](mailto:Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov), [slarson@ucanr.edu](mailto:slarson@ucanr.edu), and [mhorney@calpoly.edu](mailto:mhorney@calpoly.edu).
- Dr. Larson will move forward on scheduling a date or dates for the field tour(s) and/or webinar.

**Approximate start time on video recording: 01:05:30**

### **7. Updates and Next Steps: Prescribed Herbivory Deliverables – Member Bush**

#### **Resources**

### [7. RMAC Rx Herbivory Fuel Reduction 2024 Update DRAFT](#)

Member Bush noted that it would be helpful to see examples of good prescribed grazing Requests for Proposals (RFPs). What practitioners are seeing is that many RFPs are still infeasible for most graziers. She reached out to the Targeted Grazing (TG) Committee at California Wool Growers Association (CWGA) for examples of reasonable RFPs that have attracted and resulted in a successful grazing agreement. Dr. Larson and Dr. Horney have contributed at this point. The document is relatively short, as long as appendices are omitted.

Dr. Wolf noted that as of the last meeting any changes were to be sent by May 19, and she is integrating all suggested edits and comments from all input sources, leaving it to the RMAC

authors to decide which edits to incorporate. Member Bush is waiting on comments from the CWGA TG Committee and would like to see edits from the CalCAN group.

### **Action Items**

- The RMAC members and CWGA Targeted Grazing Committee will provide revisions to this document, information for the appendices, and examples/case studies to Dr. Wolf via email by **May 19, 2024**. She will send that out to the RMAC members again to hopefully receive additional input.
- CalCAN will provide comments within 30 days.

### **Approximate start time on video recording: 01:19:05**

## **8. State Lands Grazing License & Land Management (SLGLLM) sub-Committee Deliverables – Bart Cremers, Member**

### **Resources**

- [8. Public Comment on SLGLLM 2024-07](#)
- [8a-i. Sept 2023 Grazing License DRAFT - Clean](#)
- [8a-ii. Sept 2023 Grazing License DRAFT - Red Line](#)
- [8b-i. Dec 2023 Mgmt Plan DRAFT - Clean](#)
- [8b-ii. Dec 2023 Mgmt Plan DRAFT - Red line](#)
- [8c. May 2024 Guidance Book DRAFT](#)

### **Discussion**

Dr. Wolf noted that several comments were received from the public and former members of the SLGLLM team and are available in the meeting materials. Member Cremers noted that he had done a decent amount of work on the Guidance Booklet and he would like general feedback at this time as to whether or not it is looking like it is heading in the right direction. He is also waiting for some legal feedback from Member Ross.

A discussion occurred around potential concerns about changes to the drafts that some folks may disagree with, and there was concern the drafts would be approved without discussion around those points. Dr. Wolf noted that the drafts shared today have gone through several rounds of edits since the SLGLLM team was disbanded, all at open public meetings, and all changes have been tracked and shared at every step of the way (see the [RMAC webpage](#) under Meeting Materials). Dr. Wolf invited anyone to provide input to the drafts via email to her. Larry Ford expressed his intention to become re-involved in developing and finalizing the SLGLLM deliverables and indicated his desire to address issues like the potential requirement for Certified Rangeland Managers (CRMs) to be involved in writing grazing plans and regulations around CRM activities on forested landscapes.

Dr. Wolf provided a history of the creation and development of the various SLGLLM deliverables (Grazing License, Grazing Management Plan, and Guidance Booklet) and invited Dr. Ford to re-join the effort and be involved in resolving some of these issues. Dr. Wolf noted that the goal is to finalize these deliverables by end of this calendar year. She shared a document with a proposed timeline. Dr. Horney also reviewed the process for developing RMAC products, and how decisions are made collectively by the RMAC and a public, formal voting process in terms of finalizing and approving the publication of the final SLGLLM deliverables. Dr. Ford indicated his satisfaction with the described process.



### Action Items

- Dr. Ford will rejoin the effort to develop and finalize the SLGLLM deliverables.
- Anyone can send comments and suggested edits on the Guidance Booklet or any of the other SLGLLM deliverables to Dr. Wolf asap ([Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov](mailto:Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov)).
- Member Ross should send legal feedback to Dr. Wolf asap ([Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov](mailto:Kristina.wolf@bof.ca.gov)).

**Approximate start time on video recording: 02:06:00**

### 9. Collaborations with Working Groups or Advised Agencies – Dr. Wolf, Board staff

None provided.

**Approximate start time on video recording: 02:06:25**

### 10. Updates from Partner Organizations & Public Forum

#### a. Legislative Updates

Brian Shobe from CalCAN updated the RMAC on SB 675 (Limón). The bill would require the RMAC to create some guidance by July of next year for entities interested in using Prescribed Grazing. It would also require the state's Wildfire and Resilience Task Force to consult with the RMAC to develop strategic actions for scaling up prescribed grazing, particularly focusing on fire-threatened communities. That bill is almost all the way through the legislative process (it has one final concurrence bill in the Senate anticipated for August). It currently has unanimous bipartisan support. After the next vote it heads to the governor's desk.

#### b. Updates from Partner Organizations

- Brian Shobe (CalCAN) offered to help reach out to legislative staff about the Field Tour and encourage attendance.
- Member Bush reported that the CWGA TG committee completed an informational brochure and they are working on the dissemination plan, and the RMAC could be involved in promoting that.  
[State Certified Prescribed-Fire Burn Boss | OSFM \(ca.gov\)](#)
- [July 18th, 2024: Coastal Prairie Restoration to Mitigate Wildfire Risk](#). This webinar is an opportunity learn about coastal prairie restoration and its role in strategic, values-based wildfire risk reduction.
- [July 26th, 2024: Prescribed Fire: Collaborative Experiences from the Forests of Alpine County](#). This field workshop is an opportunity to learn about collaborative prescribed burning throughout Alpine County.

## SAVE THE DATE: *California State-Certified Prescribed Fire Burn Boss (CARX)*

This in-person course provides information about and develops the skills required for planning and managing prescribed fire on State or private lands. The curriculum includes portions of the NWCG courses RX301, RX341, and RX410 classes, but should not be considered a substitute for any of these RX classes. There is no course equivalency between this class and any NWCG course. In addition, CARX certification is not equivalent to NWCG RXB1 or RXB2 qualification. This course contains instructor-led training, including simulation exercises and a task book. Students will conduct one day of reconnaissance in the field in addition to classroom work. Students are required to complete the prerequisites (coursework, firing, and leadership requirements) prior to taking the course.

**Dates:** Monday, November 4th to Friday, November 8th, 2024

**Location:** South Bay Training Center, Los Osos, CA

**Applications open:** Monday, August 5th, 0800

**Applications close:** Friday, August 23rd, 1700

*Applications will not be accepted prior to the opening date and any applications submitted prior to August 5th will be rejected.*

For additional information regarding State Certified Prescribed-Fire Burn Boss Certification, Course Plan and Equivalency Information [click here](#).



to

- [August 5th-8th, 2024: S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior Training Course](#). S-290 is a classroom-based 32-hour skills course designed to meet training requirements to work in the operations section of an incident command system.
- [August 8th, 2024: Forest Health Management in the WUI: Lessons Being Learned at Jackson Demonstration State Forest](#). This field workshop is an opportunity to learn about forest health management in a wildland urban intermix at CalFire's Jackson Demonstration State Forest.
- [August 15th, 2024: Forest Health in a Post-Fire Redwood Ecosystem: Restoration and Regeneration at Swanton Pacific Ranch](#). This webinar is an opportunity for participants to increase their understanding of approaches to restoring forest health to, and reducing fuels in, a post-fire redwood ecosystem.
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***c. Members of the public may address the Committee on any topic within its jurisdiction not otherwise on the agenda. Items will not be discussed in depth but may be agendized for the next committee meeting.***

## **11. Announcements, next meeting date, agenda items**

The next RMAC meeting will be Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 12:30 PM in Sacramento, CA.