



**California Society of American Foresters**  
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*For Immediate Release*

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## ***California Foresters Endorse Rancho Venado Declaration, Stress Need for Robust Reforestation Infrastructure, Investments***

The California Society of American Foresters (Cal SAF) is in strong support of an agreement reached in October by a group of scientists, land managers and former government officials led by Edmund G. “Jerry” Brown, Governor of California, 1975-83 and 2011-19. The document, “KEEP OUR FORESTS”, posted at <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/21100767-venado-declaration>, represents a paradigm shift in forestry thinking, with sweeping implications for the future management and protection of seasonally dry forests and wildlands, not only in California but in large swaths of the American West.

Cal SAF has long advocated for more active management in response to increasing wildfire threats and occurrences. An example of this policy work is “California’s Wildfire Emergency”, posted on our Cal SAF website (<https://Californiasaf.org>) at <https://Californiasaf.org/2019/05/22/Californias-wildfire-emergency/>. In light of the ongoing wildfire, smoke, and deforestation crises, and with increased public consensus supporting science-based responses, Cal SAF is developing an updated version of this and other forest policy statements with the goal of ensuring that the public and policy makers are as well informed as possible. Included will be a set of recommendations addressing the critical need for effective reforestation efforts at an unprecedented scale. These and other green infrastructure investments are urgently needed to restore and safeguard California’s climate, water quality and quantity, biodiversity, and public health.

Revised Cal SAF Position Statements will be completed and made available online and at our annual Winter Meeting, to be held virtually on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **For More Information Contact:**

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### ***The California Society of American Foresters***

Cal SAF is a State Society of the [Society of American Foresters](#) (SAF). SAF is a professional association with headquarters in Washington, DC. The Society is organized across the United States and Canada, serving as an accreditation and research body representing all segments of the forestry profession; including public and private practitioners, administrators, educators, and forestry students. SAF governs a majority of the political and scientific topics at the national level, which allows each jurisdiction to represent itself independently, guided by SAF’s Mission and Code of Ethics.