



SAF Fourth Quarter 2022 Newsletter

Message from the Chair Rachelle Hedges

As I wrap up my term as Cal SAF Chair, it's satisfying to take a look back on 2022 and all of the accomplishments of the state organization this year. I'll start by taking absolutely no credit for any of it. The work done this year is thanks to the many dedicated Cal SAF volunteers throughout the state who support the state chapter as members of the Executive Committee and beyond. Highlights include three Forestry Institute for Teachers sessions, the return of Forest Conservation Days, an excellent in-person summer meeting (during which we were joined by National SAF leadership), two new policy statements published, a more streamlined website with regular updates, and a vibrant and active Executive Committee that has welcomed a number of new faces to its mix and filled some long vacant positions. I am proud of what our organization has accomplished over the past year, and am excited to continue to support Cal SAF as Immediate Past Chair in 2023.

Another highlight of 2022 was the return of the in-person National Convention. I had the opportunity to attend the full week – from the House of Society Delegates meeting on Monday, to the very exciting Quiz Bowl on Tuesday, to the excellent plenary and breakout sessions Wednesday through Friday – it was an all-around fantastic experience and the organizers and local hosts deserve much praise. As many of our members already know, California is being given to host the 2023 National Convention, October 25-28, after the 2021 convention slated for Sacramento was moved to a virtual meeting due to COVID-related concerns.

Hosting the 2023 SAF National Convention provides California SAF Members with an excellent opportunity to get involved in many different ways – and I hope that each of you reading this will do just that. You can invest your time as deeply or lightly as fits your current availability, helping to plan and organize, volunteering to support a field tour, manning the Foresters Fund auction area, or simply attending and encouraging other foresters you know to attend as well. There is no wrong way to support the 2023 National Convention, and I encourage all of you to join me in making next year's Convention one of the best yet.

Long before the National Convention in October, we are excited to give members another opportunity engage with California SAF by offering a great in-person winter meeting in Arcata this January (more on that further on in this newsletter). We are excited to hold this meeting on the north coast, and to hopefully reconnect with current and past members in the area who may have been less active in the organization of late. If you know anyone who was once a member but has since let their membership lapse in the area, please encourage them to come!

This is truly an exciting time for California SAF. In addition to an excellent roster of meetings coming up, we also have a very active Policy and Communications team at the executive level who will be presenting our most recent Policy Statements to the Board of Forestry in 2023, opportunities for more people to be involved in meeting planning, and a robust set of FIT programs coming up that always need forestry volunteers.

All of this also means this is also one of the best times to bring new members to the organization – with so much happening in 2023, I truly believe that every forester in our state can find value in SAF Membership. I encourage you to reach out to friends and colleagues working in forestry and related professions to share with them the benefits and values of SAF!

On a personal note, I am excited to share that the newest California forester made her debut in our family at the end of November. Our daughter Marigold Louise Moore was born on the 29th, and we couldn't be more thrilled – especially big sister Josephine. I hope Goldie (as we're calling her) has the chance to see many of you at the upcoming winter meeting.

Wishing you happy holidays and a wonderful new year – looking forward to all of the wonderful things to come in 2023.

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Message from the Vice Chair

Karin Linnen

Climate Change is Real – At Least at the Christmas Tree Farm

I recently went to cut a tree for Christmas from a local tree farm. Prices have gone through the roof, and the owner explained the price hike was due to the drought. It made me wonder how many things we have taken for granted might become luxuries in the future? As incoming Chair of the California Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, I am excited about our planned activities in years ahead. Climate change, mega fires, and sustainable forestry are on our collective minds, as is growing our membership and building new partnerships. To this end, I am excited about our collaboration with Cal Poly Humboldt and College of the Redwoods at the upcoming CA SAF Winter Meeting in Arcata in January as well as our SAF National Convention in Sacramento in October.

The new year brings change in leadership and goals for the year. Together, we will work to increase student engagement and membership as we prepare for the national convention. No easy feat considering the diverse group of natural resource professionals and organizations involved in SAF. 2023 will offers numerous opportunities to volunteer at the state-level (for those of us who still benefit from a resume boost) and to help carry our organization forward.

Happy Holidays!
Karin



Cal Forestry Club Christmas Tree Sale 2022. Trees were harvested on SPI land in Eldorado County. Due to the snow the kids had to cut trees by hand! As always this was a huge success. CAL SAF donated Peet's Coffee.



Immediate Past Chair Musings

Tim Robards

While we tend to think of ourselves as heavily regulated on public and private lands in California, apparently this is not a new phenomenon. The following is extracted from a book on Anglo-Saxon England (Blair 1997). The penalties are a bit harsh.

A passage in a seventh-century West Saxon code of laws state that a stranger who travels through a forest off the highway and does not shout or blow a horn shall be assumed to be a thief and as such may be either slain or put to ransom. The same code lays down penalties for setting fire to a tree in a forest, for felling a large number of trees or for felling a tree that can shelter thirty swine.

Additional regulations came into effect with the Norman Conquest of 1066 and William the Conqueror's desire to manage the forests to exclude what he considered undesirables (Clanchy 1997).

William protected the deer and wild boar and let the hares run free by contrast with his meanness to the people. The Society of American Foresters celebrated its six-score anniversary in 2020. We commonly think of American forestry as beginning in the late nineteenth century, but its roots are much older. St Hugh of Lincoln, England traveled to a hunting lodge sometime in the 1180s, according to one Walter Map. His purpose was to visit Britain's King Henry II. The Norman Conquest of 1066 brought the Latin and French languages with it, at least for the ruling elite. The guards at the hunting lodge refused to allow St Hugh to gain admission to their king. St Hugh demanded that they identify themselves. "Forestarii sumus" they replied, "we are foresters." The speculation is that they answered St Hugh in Latin because they did not know French, only English and some smatterings of Latin (Clanchy 1997). "Forestarii foris stent" was St Hugh's reply, a Latin pun that brought the King outside of the lodge to greet St Hugh in great merriment and laughter. What was it that St Hugh had said that was so riotous? "Foresters should stand outside." Perhaps you had to be there.

The picture below is a nod to my rural heritage in western Kentucky. This is a cousin mule skinner with some respectable logs. I wonder if it was chestnut. Trees can grow big in the east as well as the west.

Happy Holidays and New Year!

References

Blair, P. H. (1997). Anglo-Saxon England. London,

The Folio Society.

Clanchy, M. T. (1997). Early Medieval England. London, The Folio Society.





District 3 Representative

John Todd

A Society of American Foresters Christmas Story: “How SAF Works”

At the end of October, I had a chance to join the Bay Area Chapter for a Zoom lunch meeting where the guest speaker was Jon Shinn, CEO of Tahoe Forest Products. Jon is leading a project to bring a mill to Washoe Tribal Lands in western Nevada – just across the border from California. When the mill becomes operational, it will fill a critical infrastructure need – as a facility to process lumber into wood products from the nearby Tahoe Basin has been absent for many years. During his comments, Jon told us about his life’s journey, working in forestry, designing and operating multiple sawmills, and his efforts to bring his current project from dream to reality. As we closed the meeting and our speaker took questions, the SAF connections became readily apparent. When I asked Mr. Shinn “what the genesis of this effort was?” he said, “it started at an SAF meeting in Folsom, California in 2020.”

I remembered the meeting well, as I had served as Program Chair. One of our late afternoon speakers was a forester and innovator from Washington by the name of Bill Quigg. Bill had developed a unique method for forwarding and utilizing logging slash to support mill operations and provide additional resource benefits. During breaks and social hours, Mr. Quigg was happily engaged with Cal SAF members in vigorous conversations that I would have liked to join. However, I was engaged in Program Chair duties like photocopying CFE certificates, printing name badges and other meeting logistics. Now, three years later, Mr. Shinn credited these conversations as the beginning of an idea that was to become the mill that will start operating early in 2023. Furthermore, Jon gave credit to SAF member Larry Swan, for calling weekly to ascertain progress and to see how he could assist with the project. Yes, the same Larry Swan who just received the 2022 SAF Technology Transfer Award from National SAF.

As Jon Shinn described how the project came together, I could clearly see the SAF-created linkage. An SAF Meeting (the 2020 Cal SAF Winter Meeting), an interesting and outgoing speaker (Bill Quigg), a forester who had the expertise and creativity to solve a problem (Jon Shinn), and a nationally recognized expert who was there to provide needed support and encouragement (Larry Swan). Wow! That is how SAF works!

So as the holiday season is upon us this may, or may not, qualify as a Christmas Story. For me I could not help but see how the efforts of several SAF members have been combined to create a gift that will benefit the forests, the residents, and all who wish to visit the Lake Tahoe Basin in the future.

Wishing each of you a pleasant Holiday Season and blessings for a healthy and productive 2023.

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Opinion: The News is What is Reported

By Bill Keye, Cal SAF Communications Chair

OPINION: CAL SAF Breaking New Ground

Move over, Gifford. You got things going in your time, but as the decades piled on, mistrust bore in like so many bark beetles. Public support eventually died. What I term *Nothingism* took over, and the land... well, it has suffered.

Revolution is about trashing old modes that no longer work. Nothingism, in its time, was a revolutionary break from what was going on. Today we break with Nothingism, an idealistic pursuit of Muir that has not gone as prophesied

The issue is what to do now. The public may be open to change, but we need to get their attention.

We do this by speaking forestry until our teeth turn green. Shout trees from the rooftops, and why not? A sort of fanatical moderation, with actual science that can be applied for artful purposes such as forest protection and restoration. To that end, your state society has been photosynthesizing, capturing light and leafing out words. Already approved (posted at <https://californiasaf.org/>) is a truly revolutionary CAL SAF position statement on saving the giant sequoia. Recently completed (and submitted, as of this writing, for final approval by our National SAF) is a somewhat parallel, but more broadly applicable, CAL SAF work product, *Forestry Solutions to California's Wildfire Crisis*. Once it's also online, we will enter 2023 with fresh new tools of professional outreach.

I sense a sort of *Forestry 2.0* on the rise. 2023 will also be CAL SAF's opportunity to host the national conference. Talk about green teeth! Plan on bringing them, and a smile, to Sacramento in October.

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Bay Area SAF Chapter

David Bakke

Bay Area Chapter's October Meeting – A Conversation with Jon Shinn, CEO of Tahoe Forest Products

For those of you who couldn't attend, we had a great (virtual) conversation with Jon Shinn, the CEO of Tahoe Forest Products. This topic was of interest after the CalSAF summer meeting on the Caldor Fire, where we learned that the harvested logs from the Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Area were being trucked to a new mill in the Reno/Carson City area. This new mill is situated on Washoe Tribal lands and is in the process of being built.

Jon told us that he is a Cal alum, having received a masters in forest economics at Cal in 1968. He worked for many years as the owner of Sierra Cedar Products in Marysville. He 'retired' about 17 years ago when that operation was sold to Soper-Wheeler. Currently he and his wife live in Tahoe City, but with the operation ongoing at Tahoe Forest Products, they also have a place in Carson City.

Jon told us that he first had the idea of processing dead trees in the Tahoe Basin into fuel or chips; the idea of a sawmill wasn't there at first. He wanted to develop a facility within 50 miles of the Basin in California, but couldn't make things work. Talks with folks at the nonprofit Tahoe Fund steered him to the Washoe Tribe in the Carson City area. After 4-5 months of negotiations, an agreement was reached to develop the facility. Although the tribal locations reduce some permitting requirements, an extensive environmental analysis was conducted.

After the Dixie and Caldor fires, he realized that a log mill would make the most sense. It was decided that a large log mill would be built first, followed by a small log mill. The contract to receive logs from the Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Area provided Tahoe Forest Products with about 20 MMBF this year, with an average diameter of 35 inches (hence the large log mill). At the time of our meeting in October, 12 MMBF of logs had been trucked to the mill site.

So, at the mill site, all the machinery is bought, foundations are being poured, the buildings are going up soon. They hope to be operating by April 1, 2023. The mill will have dry kilns and a boiler. It helps the economics that the logs were essentially free. Jon is estimating the mill will have a capacity of 50-70 MMBF/year. Eventually he hopes to enter into stewardship contracts with USFS. The mill's supply radius reaches Truckee, and onto the Eldorado NF (over the summit to highway 50 and over the summit to highway 88), as well as the Basin and down Highway 395 onto the Humboldt-Toiyabe NF.

Jon has not heard anyone saying this is a bad idea, not to do it. Everyone is saying it is needed and are encouraging. He thinks there will be sufficient supply to keep one shift going.

As for the Washoe tribe, the Washoe Development Corporation (WDC) is a partner with mill. The Tribe has a vote on the development of mill, the WDC has votes on details. Tahoe Forest Products is leasing the land from tribe; the tribe will share with profits. Tribal members will be hired and there are lots of other skilled workers in the Carson City area with the closure of the Loyalton Mill.

We wish Jon, his company, and the Washoe Tribe the best of success in this endeavor. A new mill facility so close to the Tahoe Basin will certainly be a good thing for the needed active forest management there.

A side note for those of you who attended the CalSAF Summer meeting – Sierra-at-Tahoe Ski Area is slated to open December 3rd after completing the removal of hazard trees. Go to <https://www.sierraattahoe.com/blog/general/caldor-fire-update/> for much more detail on the post-fire restoration ongoing at the resort.

Letter in Support of a Resolution by Friends of Sausal Creek

Back in late April, we had a Chapter meeting with the non-profit group Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) where we learned about the land restoration work they have been spearheading in Sausal Creek watershed and Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland. At lunch we had a discussion of how our Chapter could assist FOSC in their work (and how we couldn't). One thing we mentioned was sending



Bay Area SAF Chapter cont.

Well, FOSC took us up on our offer and in early November, they asked if we would send in a letter to the Oakland City Council in support of FOSC's call for a master plan for Joaquin Miller Park. FOSC is concerned that without such a plan, the restoration work they have been involved with could be jeopardized by unplanned and unsanctioned trails and irresponsible mountain bike riders.

On November 17th, the Chapter sent a letter to the City Council stating our support for such a master plan and offering assistance in the future. Let us know if you would like to see a copy of the letter that was sent, as well as the original FOSC resolution.

Request from the Friends of Joaquin Miller Park (FoJMP)

Through my role as webmaster for California SAF, I saw the following request that may be of interest to Bay Area Chapter members. I told Bob Mon that I would circulate it to you all. I also told Bob about the list of consulting foresters that the state maintains and provided him with that website. Here is Bob's request:

The Friends of Joaquin Miller Park (FoJMP) are pursuing a CAL FIRE Forest Health grant for Joaquin Miller and Knowland parks in Oakland, CA. CAL FIRE recommended we contact you for referrals to foresters who'd be interested in guiding and managing this project. The City of Oakland (which owns the parks), the Oakland Zoo (which is responsible for Knowland Park maintenance), the East Bay Regional Park District, the Oakland Firesafe Council, and the Oakland Fire Department are all willing partners, though none of us are foresters who can effectively guide these long-neglected forests back to health. If you can connect us with foresters who might be interested in our project, please pass along my email address and my cell number (808-282-7867). Many thanks, Bob

SAF Membership Renewal

In the hectic environment that is December, it is easy to forget to check your SAF renewal dates. For those of you whose membership is set to expire at the end of December (there are still quite a few of you out there!) don't forget to send in your renewal payment. With all that is going on these days in forestry nationally and in California, we all need to be engaged - SAF is a great way to do that!

Also, when you renew your membership, please check and update your email address!!

Thanks for supporting SAF!

Newsletter Articles

Articles for the March newsletter are due to Kathleen by February 25, 2023.



Incoming SAF Chair-Elect

Helena Murray

Helena works for the US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region as a wood and biomass utilization specialist. She collaborates with partners on initiatives to improve markets for wood and biomass that can support forest ecosystem restoration across California, Hawaii and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands. In addition to her current role, she has worked as a forester at the Tahoe National Forest in California, as a forestry extension assistant in Massachusetts, and has conducted research on forest stand dynamics and economic benefits of forest conservation. Helena has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from University of Vermont and a Master of Science in Environmental Conservation/ Forest Resources from The University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Helena has been an SAF member since she was a student in in 2014 and has served as the Vice Chair of the Bay Area Chapter since 2021.

Other election results:

- John Bradford—Treasurer
- Jane LaBoa—Secretary
- Renaldo Arroyo—Education Chair
- Julie Stewart—Policy Chair



December Awards Report

Julie Lydick, California SAF Awards Chair

The 2023 National Award nominations will be presented at the National Convention in Sacramento, Calif, October 25-29, 2023. CA SAF doesn't want to miss this opportunity to put forward nominees and show off the great professionals we have contributing to forestry in California and Hawaii.

In order to stay on top of the award process we will have a discussion about candidates for the awards and define responsibilities for developing nominations at the Dec. 8, 2022 Executive meeting. Look over the award categories on the National SAF website (https://www.eforester.org/Main/Community/Awards_Fellows/Awards.aspx?hkey=08ba93f9-1ce4-4faf-ae09-8917c9f00e94) and be prepared to discuss your ideas, or send them to me ahead of time (djlydick@comcast.net).

2023 National Award Nominations Open January 2023 and are due by March 15

Awards nominations are made into the portal at eforester.org. Several of the awards nominations require the approval of the CA SAF Board. Fellow nominations are accepted from any member. A person that knows the nominee well is the best person to work with the nominee to develop the nomination package. Often times nominees are rather shy about addressing their accomplishments and it takes someone that knows them and what they've done to make sure that the biographical form and letters of support provide adequate detail.

Fellow Award: All who've been selected as a Fellow highly value this recognition of their commitment to the forestry profession. With the diversity in our membership it takes all of us to bring forth candidates worthy of recognition, whether they contribute to forestry and SAF through involvement in academia, government agencies, private industry, research, or nonprofits. The Fellow awards are reviewed by our state society Fellows committee and the National SAF Board will confirm final selections. A list of California SAF Fellows is on the Calif. SAF website.

Fellow Award Criteria

The Fellow Award is a prestigious award that recognizes an SAF member for long-standing service to forestry at the local, state, and national levels. The SAF Fellow is recognized as an ambassador for the advancement of forestry. Nominations are accepted from any SAF member in good standing. Awardees are recognized during their local state society meetings and during the SAF National Convention.

Eligibility

- Individuals must be Professional Members in good standing.
- Self-nominations are not allowed.
- Work performed for SAF under contract, directly or indirectly, cannot be counted toward volunteer service.

Criteria

Nominees must demonstrate the following:

- Significant number of years of sustained commitment to SAF volunteer activities, performed at two or more of the following SAF organizational levels: chapter; division; state; regional (multi-state or voting district); or national.
- Exemplary action and sustained leadership over many years in advancing the forestry profession at two or more of the following organizational levels: local; regional; national; or international.



BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

News Release

Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force and Long-Time Fire Fighter Receive Awards for Outstanding Contributions to California Forestry

SACRAMENTO—The Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force (TMTF) and Darin Quigley are co-recipients of this year’s prestigious “Francis H. Raymond Award for Outstanding Contributions to California Forestry.” The California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) acknowledged the TMTF for its leadership role in helping to safeguard Fresno County through collaborative wildfire prevention and protection work. Darin Quigley is being recognized for 39 years of exceptional service as a firefighter and fire coordinator.

“The Board is very pleased to honor the Fresno County Tree Mortality Task Force and Darin Quigley this year for their work in helping to make California a safer place in the face of climate change and wildfire threats to lives, communities, and critical infrastructure. As California faces longer fire seasons and drier conditions, putting communities at increased risk, these recipients serve as models for others looking to move the needle on wildfire issues in meaningful ways,” said Board Chair Keith Gilliss.

The TMTF was established in 2015 in response to widespread bark beetle-related tree mortality throughout the county. It was comprised of a core group of agencies and cooperators who were committed to ensuring public safety and community protection, ingress and egress routes for threatened communities, and protection of critical infrastructure (e.g., power, water, schools, fire stations) if a wildfire was to occur given the heightened tree mortality levels. With priorities in place, dead and dying trees within 200 ft of county highways, community public and private roads, and evacuation routes were removed. Community-wide fuel breaks were put in place that tied into cleared access roads, and tree removal work along threatened powerlines was coordinated with fuel break and road work. Meetings were also held to inform the public on the status of the tree mortality as well as to provide education on fire prevention, evacuation procedures, powerline safety, fuels reduction programs, and grant opportunities.

The proactive work of the TMTF and its collaborators was challenged with the 2020 Creek Fire. Thanks to the preventative measures and education and outreach conducted, impacts from the fire were less than they otherwise would have been. Ingress and egress routes remained open for evacuation and responders, power outages were minimal, fire suppression and structure protection were enhanced, fire progress was limited in treated areas, and emergency response efforts were bolstered. The TMTF recently transitioned to the Fresno County Forest Health Task Force (FHFTF). The FHFTF will carry forth the cooperative working relationships of the TMTF and will continue to ensure public and community



December Forester Fund Update

Julie Lydick

The next round of Forester Fund applications for a Regular grant of up to \$2,000 is February 15, 2023. Grants are available to chapters, divisions and state societies. The Foresters' Fund was established to promote forestry education and enhance public understanding of forest management. Grants are awarded to SAF local units to financially support projects and activities at the grassroots level that increase our impact and grow our organization.

Details about how to apply for a grant are on the National SAF website.

The SAF Board of Directors wishes our members and their families a safe & wonderful holiday season!





Forestry Challenge

Diane Dealey Neill

The Forestry Challenge just wrapped up a successful and record-breaking fall event season. Events were held at the locations used in previous years, Shasta, Santa Cruz, El Dorado, and San Bernardino. New this year was the addition of a second session at the San Bernardino location because of high demand in Southern California. Event dates and metrics were as follows:

Dates	Event	# of Schools	# of Teams	# of Students
September 25 to 28	Shasta	15	18	72
October 12 to 15	Santa Cruz	18	28	112
October 26 to 29	El Dorado	16	28	112
November 9 to 12	San Bernardino Session 1	10	22	92
November 16 to 19	San Bernardino Session 2	6	13	49
	Totals	65	109	437

It is interesting to note that 62% of the students were female.

I would like to thank the 140 volunteers who donated over 2,400 hours for an in-kind contribution of nearly \$123,000. Our volunteer of the year was Steve Whitehorn from Oak Run, who came to the Shasta event and also session 2 of the San Bernardino event. He has been a dedicated volunteer for many years.

More information about these events can be found under the event tabs at the Forestry Challenge website, forestrychallenge.org. The top teams will be invited to the Championship event, April 20 to 22 at Camp Sylvester in Pinecrest. If you are interested in volunteering at that event, please contact Diane Dealey Neill at dianedealeyneill@gmail.com.



Forester Steve Whitehorn trains students how to use an angle gauge at the Shasta Forestry Challenge.



John Nicoles helps a student locate a plot center at the Santa Cruz Forestry Challenge



2023 SAF Meeting & Event Schedule

- ◆ January 2023
Evening of Jan 26th through Jan 28th – Winter Meeting @ Cal Poly Humboldt (in person)
- ◆ February 2023
2/21/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ March 2023
3/9/23 – Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ April 2023
4/25/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ May 2023
5/23/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ June 2023
6/8/23 – Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ July 2023
7/25/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ August 2023
8/22/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ September 2023
9/14/23 – Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
- ◆ October 2023
10/25/22-10/29/2023 – National Convention in Sacramento (in person)
- ◆ November 2023
11/14/23 – Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm**
- ◆ December 2023
12/7/22 – Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

All meetings are virtual unless otherwise noted.

Announcements

- ◆ January 11—13, 2023
Forest Vegetation Management Conference—Anderson, CA—for more information fvmc.org
- ◆ February 9—11, 2023
Sierra Cascade Logging Conference—Anderson, CA—for more information sclcxpo.com
- ◆ March 3-4, 2023
CLFA Spring Conference—Anderson, CA