

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Vegetation Management Workshop and Quarterly Meeting

March 2 and 3, 2021, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.



Notice of Meeting¹

On Day 1, the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB or the Board) will hold a Vegetation Management Workshop on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. online via WebEx Events, AdminMonitor, and a phone conference line. On Day 2, the WSAB will also hold a Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday March 3, 2021 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., online via AdminMonitor and a phone conference line.

Day 1: Vegetation Management Workshop Agenda

This workshop will review and discuss California's variable ecosystems and the varying drivers of fire behavior to inform utility vegetation management practices. Speakers will discuss the state-of-the-art technology for monitoring vegetation health and forecasting risks across spatial and temporal scales.

Please note, a quorum of Board Members will be in attendance, but no decisions will be made at this event.

1. Panel 1: Understanding Differences in California's Fire Regimes

- **Dr. Jon E. Keeley** – Research Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Sequoia National Park

Dr. Keeley's research focuses on ecological and social impacts of wildfires and other aspects of plant ecology. Dr. Keeley has published over 350 publications on fire and plant ecology.

Dr. Keeley will discuss the variation in the drivers of fire behavior across different vegetation types and the importance of understanding the ecosystem where utility infrastructure operates.

- **Panel Discussion** –
 - **Brian D'Agostino**, Director of Fire Science & Climate Adaptation, San Diego Gas & Electric
 - **Michael Daleo**, System Forester, Vegetation Management, San Diego Gas & Electric
 - **Stephen Fischer**, Director, Vegetation Management Execution, Pacific Gas & Electric
 - **Melanie Jocelyn**, Principal Manager, Vegetation Management & Compliance, Southern California Edison
 - **Tom Rolinski**, Fire Scientist, Southern California Edison
 - **Eric Brown**, Transmission and Distribution Manager for Grid Assets, Vegetation Management, Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- **Q&A**

2. Panel 2: Emerging Technology for Wildfire Monitoring and Modeling

- **Dr. David Marvin** – Co-Founder and CEO, SALO SCIENCES

Dr. Marvin is an expert in forest ecology, remote sensing, and machine learning.

Dr. Marvin will describe the California Forest Observatory, its underlying datasets, and applications. He will further discuss tree mortality and fire hazard modeling data products for California.

¹ To further combat the spread of COVID-19, on March 18, 2020, Governor Newsom issued [Executive Order N-29-20](#). This Order permits state bodies to hold meetings entirely via remotely without violating the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act.



- **Kevin Hiers** – Director of Fire Science Applications, Tall Timbers Research Station

Mr. Hiers has worked in fire management and prescribed fire science for 27 years, and has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles. He was in the US Air Force Wildland Fire Program Manager at Eglin AFB and now partners with various agencies to develop improved methods and practices for wildfire mitigation and prescribed fire application.

Mr. Hiers will discuss developments of high resolution 3-D fuel and fire models, and wind effects on vegetation for applications to fire risk and resilience.

- **Panel Discussion** – Same panelists as above.
- **Q&A**

3. Public Comment

Day 1: Vegetation Management Workshop Participation Information

Participation via WebEx Events:

Link: <https://cpuc.webex.com/cpuc/onstage/g.php?MTID=ec0ebc35e82df244a9acd5ac1df8f27a8>

Password: 2021

Participation via Web Broadcasting: www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc - Listen and Watch Only

Participation by phone: Verbal comments possible with the assistance of the telephone operator.

To participate by phone, dial **1-800-857-1917** and enter passcode **1767567**.

Participants will be placed on mute in “listen-only” mode until the public comment portion of the meeting. Once the public comment portions of the meeting begin, participants may dial *** 1** (star one) when they wish to speak to be placed in a queue by the operator.

Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker and one speaker per organization. Any comments will become part of the public record.

Day 2: Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Quarterly Meeting Agenda

Any of the agenda items, other than welcome, public comments and announcements may include a Board vote.

1. Opening Public Comment
2. Discussion on Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2020 Meeting
3. Presentation on 2021 Publicly Owned Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plan Updates (WMP)
 - **Barry Moline**, California Municipal Utilities Association
4. Presentation from Wildfire Safety Division on the 2021 Investor-Owned Utility WMP Updates
5. Overviews of the 2021 Investor-Owned Utility WMP Updates
 - **Jonathan Woldemariam**, Director, Wildfire Mitigation & Vegetation Management, San Diego Gas & Electric
 - **Justina Louie**, Principal, Community Wildfire Safety Program, Pacific Gas & Electric
 - **Bill Chiu**, Managing Director of System and Asset Strategy, Southern California Edison
6. The Board’s Work Plan for 2021
7. Closing Public Comment



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Additional Participation Information*

Participation by mail or email: Comments may be sent by mail or email (with WSAB or Wildfire Safety Advisory Board in the subject line) to the following addresses –

California Public Utilities Commission
Attn: Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Staff
300 Capital Mall, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814
WildfireSafetyAdvisoryBoard@cpuc.ca.gov

Please note that the Board intends to post submitted materials and your written comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, address, phone number, and email address) may become viewable public documents.

*Additional Participation Information may develop in light of the evolving nature of the COVID-19 emergency. All meeting participation information will be available on the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board website prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Please see <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/wsab/> for the most updated information.

Availability of Documents

Links for the relevant documents are posted on the WSAB webpage: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/WSAB/>

CPUC Contacts

The CPUC’s Public Advisor’s Office provides the public with assistance in participating in public meetings. For information on how to participate in this forum, please contact public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov, (866) 849-8390.

Please direct requests for Reasonable Accommodations to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov, (866) 849-8390, at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be directed to the CPUC’s News and Outreach Office, news@cpuc.ca.gov, (415) 703-1366.

Questions on the subject matter of this meeting, should be directed to WildfireSafetyAdvisoryBoard@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you would like to be added to an informal public email list to receive notices of future meetings and other related matters, please sign up [here](#).