**Update on the Los Angeles Fires - Ongoing Threats and the Road to Recovery**

**Wednesday, January 28, 2025**

**Panelist Bios and Links**

**Secretary Speaker Series:** <https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Secretary-Speaker-Series>

**California Natural Resources Agency**: <https://resources.ca.gov/>

**Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency**:

<https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Who-We-Are/Secretary-for-Natural-Resources>

**2025 Los Angeles Fires:** <https://www.ca.gov/LAfires/>

**Los Angeles Recovers:** <https://recovery.lacounty.gov/>

**Apply for Disaster assitance (FEMA):** <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4856>

**Get Help in Person/Find the nearest Disaster Recovery Center:** <https://www.ca.gov/lafires/get-help-in-person/#Find-the-nearest-Disaster-Recovery-Center>

**Get help online with food, expenses, shelter, and more:** <https://www.ca.gov/lafires/get-help-online/#Replacing-your-personal-documents>

**Return to your home safely:** <https://www.ca.gov/lafires/return-to-your-home-safely/>

**CAL FIRE Real Time Updates:** <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents>

**Real Time Updates/Stay safe and informed:** <https://www.ca.gov/lafires/see-real-time-info/>

**Ready LA County | Emergency Notifications**: <https://ready.lacounty.gov/emergency-notifications/>

**Preparing for wildfire evacuation in California:** <https://readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/>

**Be Disaster Ready (Wildfire):** <https://www.listoscalifornia.org/disaster-readiness/wildfires/>

**CAL FIRE Director and Fire Chief Joe Tyler**

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/about/executive-staff/profile-list/joe-tyler>

Chief Tyler began his career with CAL FIRE in 1990 as a Fire Fighter in the Shasta Trinity Unit. Since then, he has worked in the Riverside Unit, Amador El Dorado Unit, and Statewide Training Program in various operational classifications in Schedule A and Schedule B, including fire stations, training bureaus and programs, camps, safety programs, and as an Administrative Officer and Staff Chief. Prior to his appointment to Deputy Director, Chief Tyler served as the Assistant Deputy Director of Fire Protection with oversight of Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery, Fire Protection Operations, Aviation Management, Tactical Air Operations, and Mobile Equipment. Chief Tyler has served on several Statewide committees and cadres, most recently leading a work group in the acquisition of a new fleet of helicopters. He is qualified as an Agency Administrator, Incident Commander – Type 1, Safety Officer, Operations Section Chief, and is a licensed paramedic. He was a member of CAL FIRE Incident Management Teams from 2005 through 2014, last holding the position of Deputy Incident Commander on CAL FIRE Incident Management Team 3 until his promotion to Staff Chief.

One of Homeland Securities 50 Trailblazers of 2022: <https://trailblazers.hstoday.us/joe-tyler/>

CAL FIRE About Us: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/about>

CAL FIRE Real Time Updates: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents>

CAL FIRE Home Hardening: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening>

**Deputy Director DWR Flood Management and Dam Safety Laura Hollender**

<https://water.ca.gov/>

Flood Management: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Flood-Management>

Laura advises and assists in the formulation and implementation of policies and programs within the Division of Flood Operations (DFO), the Division of Flood Planning and Improvements (DFPI) and Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). Laura is a key advisor to the Director and other Executive staff on major policy, program and operational issues affecting flood management and DSOD, as well as the entire Department.

Prior to serving in her current role, Laura was an Executive Policy Advisor and Attorney at the Department. Her work primarily involved advising Department executives and managers on a wide variety flood, dam safety, and integrated watershed management relating topics, including policy and regulatory issues, State and regional planning for flood risk reduction and residual risk management, as well as project implementation. Laura joined the Department in 2012. Prior to coming to the Department, Laura was an Associate Attorney with the law firm of Meyers Nave Riback Silver & Wilson PLC (Meyers Nave) from 2007 to 2012. While at Meyers Nave, Laura served as City Attorney to the City of Plymouth and Assistant City Attorney to the City of Winters. She also served as counsel to several local planning commissions and advised numerous local agencies on a wide variety of public law topics, including the State’s planning and zoning laws, the Brown Act and the California Public Records Act. Before joining Meyers Nave, Laura served as a law clerk at East Bay Municipal Utility District where she assisted with the development of environmental impact reports pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Laura received her law degree and a Master of Studies in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School in 2006 and 2007 respectively. Laura also attended Bates College where she received a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies in 2001. Laura lives in Sacramento, California with her husband and three children.

Ways You Can Be Flood Ready: <https://water.ca.gov/What-We-Do/Flood-Preparedness/Be-Flood-Ready>

Flood Management Community Resources: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Flood-Management/Community-Resources>

DWR Takes Action to Support Recovery and Fire Mitigation Efforts in Los Angeles: <https://water.ca.gov/News/Blog/2025/Jan-25/DWR-Takes-Action-to-Support-Recovery-and-Fire-Mitigation-Efforts-in-Los-Angeles>

California Water Watch: <https://cww.water.ca.gov/>

**HOTLINE:** CALL Public Works 24/7 – Dispatch for assistance and referral **800-675-4357**

**Deputy Director of Californias Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Forest Schafer**

Forest Schafer is the Deputy Director of California’s Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force and has worked in natural resources protection for 20 years. He is a Registered Professional Forester and previously served as the Director of the Natural Resources Division for the California Tahoe Conservancy and as Incident Commander of the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team.

CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: <https://wildfiretaskforce.org/>

**California Wildfire + Landscape ResilienceInteragency Treatment Dashboard**

<https://wildfiretaskforce.org/treatment-dashboard/>

**Top 5 Things to Know About California’s Progess on Wildfire Resilience**

<https://wildfiretaskforce.org/progress-on-wildfire/>

**Stay Up-to-date With The Latest Wildfire Resilience Updates:** <https://wildfiretaskforce.org/newsletter-signup/>

**President & CEO Irvine Ranch Conservancy** **Michael O’Connell**

Michael is Founding President and oversees all aspects of stewardship, public programs, and operations for the Irvine Ranch Conservancy. He has over 30 years’ experience in land protection, management, and conservation science including senior positions with The Nature Conservancy and World Wildlife Fund. He has served on the Board of Governors of the Society for Conservation Biology and is currently on the Dean’s Leadership Council for the School of Biological Sciences at UC Irvine, and the Board of Directors of Crystal Cove Conservancy. Since 2014, he has facilitated the COAST Fire Prevention Working Group, bringing together more than 25 agencies, organizations, and fire departments to reduce the frequency and severity of wildfire in Orange County.

Irvine Ranch Conservancy: <https://www.irconservancy.org/>

**County of Orange Area Safety Task Force (COAST):** The County of Orange Area Safety Task Force (COAST) is an unprecedented collaboration of nearly three dozen public agencies, municipalities, landowners, land managers and other organizations directly affected by wildland fire in Orange County. The group was convened six years ago by the Orange County Fire Authority consistent with the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. The common thread among all participants is the urgent imperative to reduce the severity, frequency, spread, and impact of wildfires in our community.

Learn more here: <https://abgt.assembly.ca.gov/sites/abgt.assembly.ca.gov/files/COAST%20Orange%20County%20Strategy.pdf>

Contact: Oscar Hood - [ohood@irconservancy.org](mailto:ohood@irconservancy.org)

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**Governor Newsom Exectuive Orders:**

Governor Newsom issues executive order to help protect firestorm-affected communities from landslides and flooding 1/20/2025:<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/01/20/governor-newsom-issues-executive-order-to-help-protect-firestorm-affected-communities-from-landslides-and-flooding/>

Governor Newsom signs executive order to jumpstart firestorm cleanup of damaged and destroyed homes (1/15/2025):<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/01/15/governor-newsom-signs-executive-order-to-jumpstart-firestorm-cleanup-of-damaged-and-destroyed-homes/>

With eye toward L.A.’s recovery, Governor Newsom issues executive order directing fast action to clear debris, prepare for mudslides and flooding (1/12/2025):

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/01/12/with-eye-toward-l-a-s-recovery-governor-newsom-issues-executive-order-directing-fast-action-to-clear-debris-prepare-for-mudslides-and-flooding/>