



# SOUTHERN CA ASSOC OF FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS

## OFFICERS 2025-2026

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1ST VICE PRES.	JASON MAHAN	BDU
2ND VICE PRES.	NATHAN ARELLANO	ORC
SECRETARY	TIM CHAVEZ	CDF (R)
TREASURER	TROY WHITMAN	SCE

## DIRECTORS

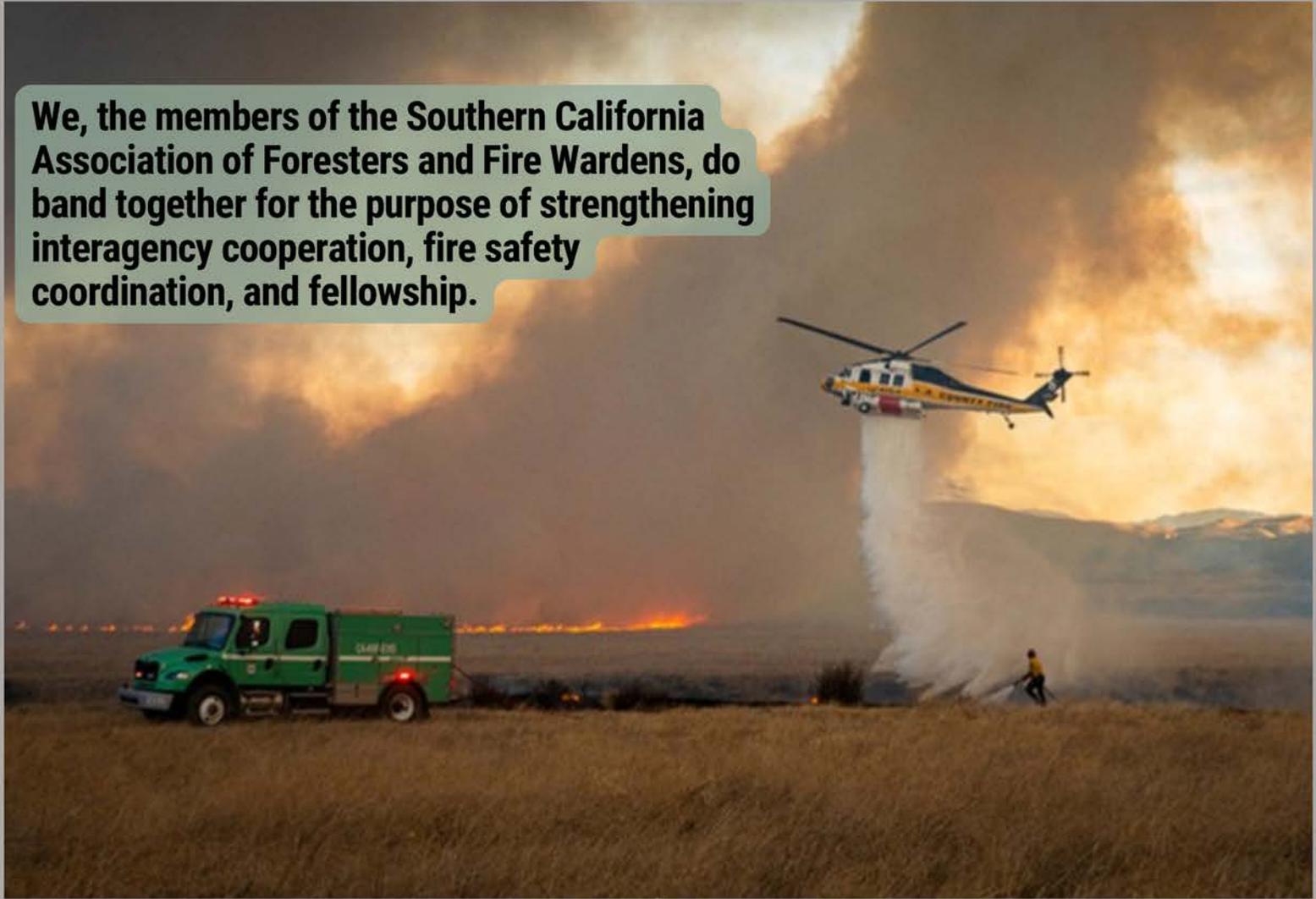
BDF	VACANT
CNF	SCOTT GRASMICK
CSR	DAVE FOWLER
KRN	ANDREW KENNISON
LAC	DREW SMITH
LFD	GUY TOMLINSON
LPF	CHRIS SCOTT
RRU	RYAN DUTTON
SBC	BRENT MANFRED
SCE	TROY WHITMAN
SDU	JOSH BLACK
SLU	DONTE GASH
SQF	VACANT
VNC	TREVOR JOHNSON
VENDOR REP.	TRACY RABE
ARRANGEMENTS CHAIR	DOUG LANNON
SAFETY CHAIR	DON FORSYTH
LIAISON CHAIR	DAN SNOW

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of the Southern California Assoc of Foresters & Fire Wardens

**December 6, 2025**  
**Bakersfield, CA**

AN ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO THE TRAINING AND SAFETY OF SOUTHERN CA WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS SINCE 1930

**We, the members of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens, do band together for the purpose of strengthening interagency cooperation, fire safety coordination, and fellowship.**



## CONTACT US

 [\*\*scaffw@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:scaffw@gmail.com)

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**SCAFFW**

c/o Tim Chavez  
25268 Howard Dr.  
Hemet, CA 92544

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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING of the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOC of FORESTERS & FIRE WARDENS

DECEMBER 6, 2025 | BAKERSFIELD, CA

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The meeting of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was called to order by President Fry at 09:07 hours in Bakersfield, California on December 5, 2025. A round of introductions was made. President Fry thanked Director Kennison for making the arrangements for the meeting and dinner.

## **Officers and Directors Present:**

Chris Fry – President – Angeles National Forest  
Jason Mahan – First Vice President – CAL FIRE San Bernardino County  
Nathan Arellano – Second Vice President – Orange County Fire Department  
Troy Whitman – Treasurer – Southern California Edison  
Tim Chavez – Secretary – CAL FIRE (Retired)  
Don Forsyth – Orange County Fire Department (Retired) – Safety Chair  
Dan Snow – San Bernardino National Forest (Retired) – Liaison Chair  
Andrew Kennison – Kern County Fire Department  
Chris Scott – Los Padres National Forest  
Dave Fowler – CAL FIRE Southern Region HQ

## **Online:**

Josh Black – CAL FIRE San Diego  
Guy Tomlinson – Los Angeles Fire Department  
Brent Manfred – Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
VACANT – Sequoia National Forest  
VACANT – San Bernardino National Forest

## **Officers and Directors Absent:**

Trevor Johnson – Past President – Ventura County Fire Department  
Tracy Rabe – LN Curtis – Vendor Representative  
Doug Lannon – CAL FIRE San Bernardino (Retired) – Arrangements Chair  
Drew Smith – Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Ryan Dutton – CAL FIRE Riverside  
Scott Grasmick – Cleveland National Forest

## **Guests Present:**

Donte Gash – CAL FIRE San Luis Obispo

## **Online:**

John Hawkins – Life Member  
Jason Marsh – CAL FIRE Riverside (Retired)  
Samantha Conn – Los Angeles County Fire Department



## **Committee Reports**

### **Arrangements:**

Snow substituting for Lannon, reports that a recent visit to the Pilgrim Pines camp showed it was in great shape despite recent flooding in the area. They recently received a large grant and are in the process of making physical improvement to lighting, windows, roofing, plumbing etc. The Association usually makes a deposit in February to secure the dates for the conference. It appears the deposit has gone up to \$6675 from \$4000 last year.

**Exhibits and Demonstrations:** No report

### **Registration and Membership:**

Director Kennison reported a new registration program is needed as Microsoft Access is aging out and will not be supported soon. We should also think about a shadow for Larry Kurtz as technical specialist for registration. A new printer was purchased authorized by the Board last year. But a new laptop is probably not needed. There is a need for members to receive a receipt for their registration from Square, will look into that option in Square.

### **Entertainment and Raffle:**

Jason Marsh will assist again with raffle. No report for exhibits.

**Publicity:** No report

### **Historian:**

Due to his new role as Treasurer, a new historian will be considered. Forsyth reported that former CAL FIRE Deputy Director Bill Teie is writing a history of CAL FIRE and there is a mention of the Association in the draft copy he obtained.

### **Safety:**

No issues reported at the Conference last May. Director Tomlinson will volunteer to shadow Safety for the next conference.

### **Golf:**

A discussion of interest in Golf by members. It was decided that a survey will go out to see if there is any interest in golf before the conference in the future.

### **Newsletter:**

Secretary Chavez reported that an attempt will be made to get the newsletter out sooner than the night before the conference. The web page will be checked on for photos from the 2025 conference and dates for the future conference. Also the SCE Grant application has been filed and awaiting approval.

**\*\*Minutes:**

President Fry presented the minutes of the May 2 & 4 meetings and October 31 Conference Call. Motion by Director Whitman seconded by Chairman Forsyth, to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

**Program:** See attached

**Old Business:**

Director Fowler mentioned that we had talked about a style guide for presenters at the conference including color and font recommendations to make presentations more readable on a screen. He will work on a draft. Putting conference videos on our web page is a constant project. We are still working on it.

Snow advised it's time to think about member giveaways and speaker gifts for the conference.

**Life Membership Recommendations:**

Chad Cook Ventura County – Motion by Whitman, seconded by Mahan, motion approved

Bill Weiser – Motion by Chavez, seconded by Snow, motion approved

**Gary Helming Award Nominations:** None at this time

**New Business:**

Need to update Department Heads and Board of Director rosters

President Fry suggested that we do a better job of outgoing director recognition. We will get a list together and make some certificates.

Pilgrim Pines deposit will need to be made soon.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens will be held February 6, 2025 at a location to be announced, either Riverside or San Diego.

The meeting was adjourned at 1139

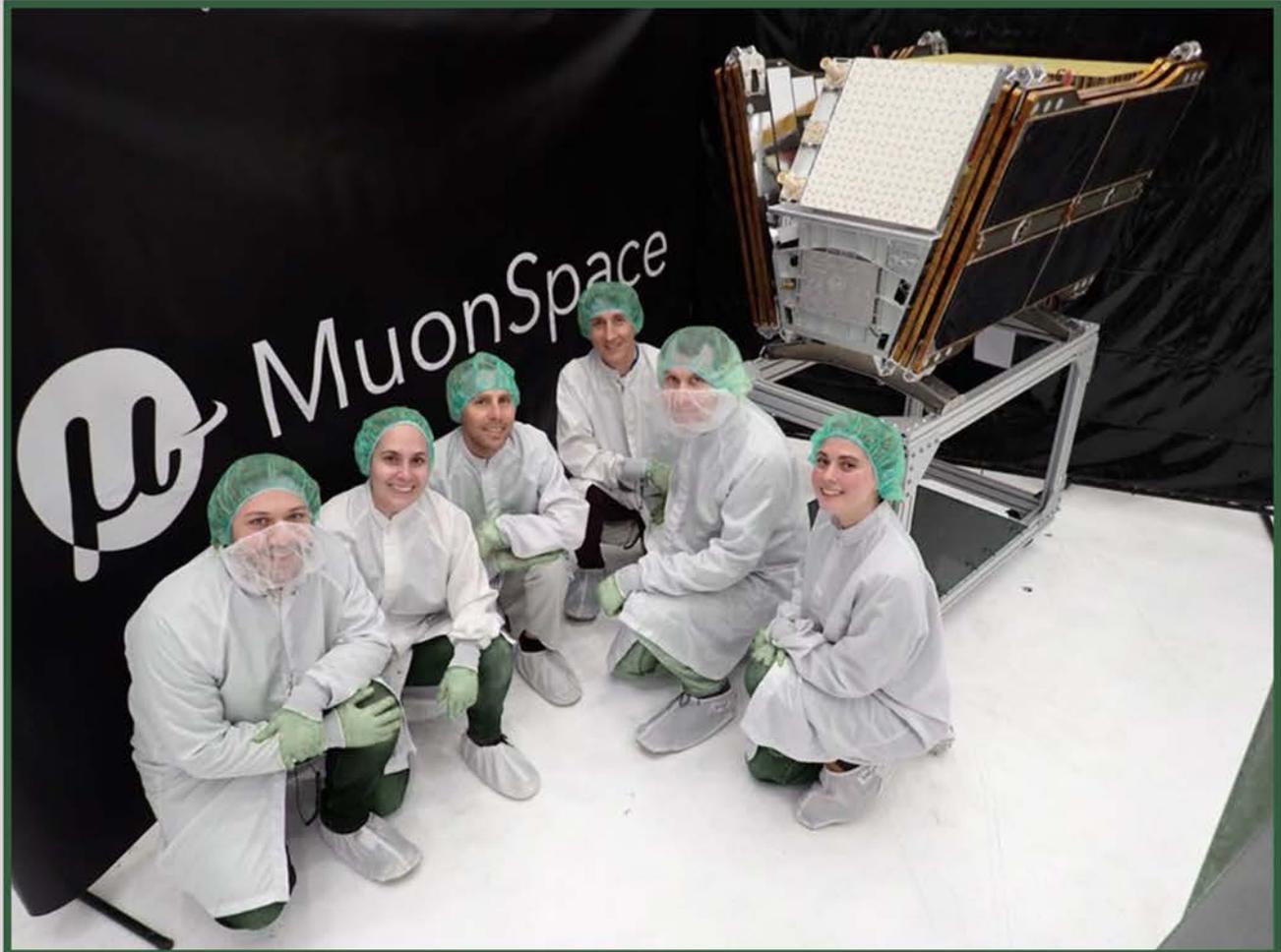
Respectfully submitted,

Tim Chavez  
Association Secretary



# Muon Space Deploys FireSat Protoflight, Marking a Major Milestone in Global Wildfire Monitoring

Initial FireSat satellite is healthy, paving the way for improved real-time wildfire intelligence and future constellation expansion



MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA – March 15, 2025 – Muon Space, an end-to-end space systems provider, has successfully launched the FireSat Protoflight satellite, marking a significant milestone in the deployment of the FireSat constellation. This groundbreaking initiative aims to transform global wildfire detection, monitoring, and response.

Designed and built by Muon Space—including its state-of-the-art six-channel multispectral infrared (IR) instrument—FireSat showcases the company’s expertise in delivering fully integrated, mission-tailored satellite systems from concept to operation. Launched aboard SpaceX’s Transporter 13 rideshare mission on March 14th from Vandenberg Space Force Base, Muon Space has successfully established communications with the satellite and confirmed its operational health.

“The FireSat mission exemplifies Muon Space’s ability to rapidly design, build, and deploy high-performance remote sensing systems tailored to address complex, real-world challenges,” said Jonny Dyer, CEO of Muon Space. “FireSat is just the beginning—we are demonstrating how purpose-built constellations can deliver transformative solutions at the speed our customers and partners require.”

Announced in May 2024, the FireSat Constellation is a collaboration between Muon Space and Earth Fire Alliance, combining Muon’s expertise in space-based remote sensing with the Alliance’s deep knowledge of wildfire management and response strategies. This partnership aims to enhance global wildfire response, management, and situational awareness by providing actionable data to first responders, policymakers, and communities facing escalating wildfire threats.

Working closely with hundreds of members of the federal, state, and local fire communities, Muon Space developed the FireSat system and delivered its first satellite to orbit in just 16 months. The initiative has been supported by Google Research and leading NGOs and philanthropic organizations, including Environmental Defense Fund, Google.org, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, and others.

“Designing and building an advanced infrared instrument capable of detecting wildfires with high confidence required significant scientific and engineering innovation,” said Dan McCleese, Chief Scientist of Muon Space. “This achievement underscores Muon Space’s ability to push the boundaries of space-based observation, advancing not only wildfire intelligence but also a broad range of critical operational, scientific, and security applications.”

The planned 50+ satellite constellation will eventually provide global coverage with each point on Earth observed every 20 minutes with key wildfire-prone regions benefiting from more frequent observations.

“FireSat is a game-changer for wildfire response,” said Brian Collins, Executive Director of Earth Fire Alliance. “For too long, decision-makers have relied on outdated or incomplete fire data. FireSat is poised to provide persistent, high-fidelity, and detailed information that will empower end users to save more lives and structures, better protect ecosystems, and reduce economic losses.”

Muon is currently developing three additional satellites, which will launch in 2026. FireSat is expected to reach full operational capacity by 2030.

### **About Muon Space**

Founded in 2021, Muon Space is an end-to-end Space Systems Provider that designs, builds, and operates LEO satellite constellations delivering mission-critical data. Our revolutionary, integrated technology stack, Halo enables customers to optimize every dimension of their missions for faster time-to-orbit and superior constellation remote sensing performance.

Our state-of-the-art facilities in CA are optimized for manufacturing spacecraft and rapid, flexible payload integration at scale. From earth observation to national security, Muon Space is dedicated to delivering Earth Intelligence for a safer and more resilient world.

For more information on Muon Space, visit: <https://www.muonspace.com/>

### **About Earth Fire Alliance**

Earth Fire Alliance is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation founded in 2024 on the belief that high-fidelity data, accessible on a global scale, will transform humanity's collective approach and relationship to fire.

The Alliance shares a vision of expanding wildfire focus and funding from reactive suppression to proactive stewardship that includes better informed real-time decisions on the ground, data-driven resilience initiatives, and improved understanding about the positive and negative role of fire on the landscape.

Committed to delivering transformative real-time data from all wildfires on Earth through user-driven technology and radical collaboration, Earth Fire Alliance champions the FireSat satellite constellation. FireSat will deliver unprecedented data about where fires are and how fast they're moving to frontline fire responders around the globe.

Learn more about the Alliance, FireSat, and how to get involved or support at <https://www.earthfirealliance.org/>.