

PARTICIPANTS

Angela Avery leads the Sierra Nevada Conservancy by providing strategic direction and oversight to the agency's region-wide staff. As executive officer, she is committed to restoring the health and resilience of the Sierra Nevada region. She is working with the conservancy's partners to implement the Sierra Nevada Watershed Improvement Plan, with the goal of ensuring that the region thrives and continues to provide California with clean air, clean water, recreational opportunities, and spiritual respite.

Chris Fischer is the deputy director for State and Private Forestry with the US Forest Service in the Pacific Southwest Region, a position he has held for seven years. His responsibilities include forest health protection, cooperative forestry, and shared stewardship programs. Previously, he was the district ranger for the American River Ranger District in the Tahoe National Forest, where he served for five years. He has also worked for Cal Fire in Sacramento, managing their vegetation mapping and monitoring system and later as a forester working with diverse public and private groups to produce watershed assessments and long-term strategies for forest health management. He holds an MS in forest management from the University of Wisconsin.

Keith Gilless is Dean Emeritus of the College of Natural Resources at the University of California, Berkeley, and an emeritus professor of forest economics in the college's Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management and Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. He currently serves as chair of the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Under his leadership, the board has engaged in substantive revisions to the portions of the California Public Regulatory Code dealing with protection of watercourses, fire safety-related land use planning, and non-industrial forest management plans, as well as crafting emergency rules to allow the public to deal with problems such as tree mortality resulting from drought and fire. He previously served on the USDA's Forest Research Advisory Council. He holds a joint PhD in forestry and agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Henry McCann is a research associate at the [PPIC Water Policy Center](#), where he manages research projects and provides core research support. His recent projects have focused on water information and accounting systems, urban drought resilience, and headwater forest management. He previously managed research projects within the Smart Water Systems initiative at the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation. He holds an MA in urban and regional planning from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Jeffrey Mount is a senior fellow at the [PPIC Water Policy Center](#). He is an emeritus professor of earth and planetary sciences and founding director of the Center for Watershed Sciences at the University of California, Davis. A geomorphologist who specializes in the study of rivers, streams, and wetlands, his research focuses on integrated water resource management, flood management, and improving aquatic ecosystem health. He has served on many state and federal boards and commissions that address water resource management issues in the West. He has published more than a hundred articles, books, and other publications, including the seminal book *California Rivers and Streams* (UC Press). He holds a PhD and MS in earth sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz.