

**Conference Program**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual**

# **Vegetation Management Conference**

**December 4-5, 2018  
Berkeley, CA**

# Conference at a Glance

## OVERVIEW

The effective management of vegetation on transmission and distribution corridors is essential for providing a reliable supply of electricity and for ensuring public and worker safety. Comprehensive and effective vegetation management programs must address several issues: these programs must comply with new and emerging regulations, meet public and landowner expectations, and consider various environmental issues. Managing vegetation can range from pruning or removing individual trees to encouraging the establishment of low-growing compatible plant communities on power line corridors. Furthermore, vegetation management programs involve responding to the public, indigenous communities, the government, and landowner requests and concerns. At the same time, they must also comply with NERC and other regulations in a cost-effective manner.

A focus of the 5th Annual Vegetation Management Conference will be on the various technologies, techniques, and equipment that are being developed or are currently available to Vegetation Managers.

## THEMES

### 1 Social & Environmental Issues

This session will cover the programs and tools used to improve public relations and to protect the environment. Topics include:

- The use of social media
- Innovative tools and programs to enhance public relations
- Mutually-beneficial partnerships with NGOs or other groups to implement IVM programs
- Programs to protect riparian areas
- Creating pollinator habitats
- Programs to enhance and protect wildlife
- Impacts or benefits of herbicide use

### 2 Tree and Powerline Related Fires

The issue of fires and the potential impact on utilities, including fires caused by tree contact with powerlines, has been a significant issue in California, and the potential impact of this issue exists throughout North America. This special session will cover:

- Mechanics of tree and powerline related fires
- Significant legal cases
- California fire experience in 2017 and regulatory response
- Utility response to the Northern California fires of 2017 and how their programs are impacted by the fire issue
- Federal legislative changes regarding fire on Federal lands in the U.S.





## **3 Program Optimization and Technological Solutions**

This session focuses on joint presentations with developers and utilities to highlight operational implementation, including the creation of new and innovative solutions that could be used in vegetation management programs and the sharing of information on developing and managing such programs. Examples include:

- Effective use of LiDAR
- Advances in mapping platforms
- The use of drones
- Justifying budgets
- The cost of deferred maintenance

## **4 Work Management Systems**

This session will introduce new software and digital solutions to assist utilities in moving toward a paperless system. Topics covered include:

- Work scheduling
- Contractor management
- Mobile field solutions
- Introducing software



# Vegetation Management

December 4, 2018

## 7:30-8:20 Registration & Breakfast

8:20-8:30 **Welcome & Introduction**

*Gwen Shrimpton,  
CEATI International*

## Session 1: Social & Environmental Issues

8:30-9:00 **Hydro One's Approach to Community Consultation:  
Balancing Safety and Reliability with Community Interests,  
Environment, and Value to Customers**

*Denise Jamal &  
Neil Anderson, Hydro One*

9:00-9:30 **Creating Incentive by Involving the Customer in ROW  
Landscape Decisions**

*Givonne G. Law,  
Davey Resource Group*

9:30-10:00 **Integrating Utility Vegetation Management and Urban  
Forestry: A Municipal Utility Perspective**

*Joe Purohit, EcoLayers Inc.  
& Peter Gollinger,  
City of Palo Alto*

## 10:00-10:30 Break

10:30-11:00 **The Nationwide Monarch CCAA for Energy and  
Transportation Lands: A Cooperative Conservation  
Opportunity for ROW Managers**

*Daniel Salas, Cardno*

11:00-11:30 **Pollinator Habitat Quality and IVM Strategies in ROW  
Vegetation Management**

*Anand Persad,  
Davey Institute*

## Session 2: Tree- and Powerline-Related Fires, chaired by Stephen Cieslewicz

11:30-11:35 **Introduction to the Fire Session**

*Stephen Cieslewicz,  
Utility Arborist*

11:35 - 11:45 **Welcome and Introduction**

*Kevin Dasso, Pacific Gas  
and Electric*

11:45-12:15 **Related Fires: Legal Perspective**

*Richard Finn, Burnham Brown*

## 12:15-1:15 Lunch

1:15 - 1:45 **Rethinking Utility Vegetation Management:  
A California Regulator's Perspective**

*Elizaveta Malashenko,  
California Public Utilities*

1:45 - 2:15 **California's Policy on Fire Prevention and  
Vegetation Management**

*Michael Jarred, California  
State Assembly*

2:15 - 2:45 **Wildfires: Federal Perspective**

*Rick Loughery, Edison  
Electric Institute*

2:45 - 3:15 **Wildfires in California: Pacific Gas and Electric's  
Perspective**

*Kevin Dasso, Pacific Gas  
& Electric*

## 3:15-3:45 Break

3:45 - 4:15 **Wildfires in California: Southern California Edison's  
Perspective**

*Phil Harrington, Southern  
California Edison*

4:15 - 4:45 **Wildfires in California: San Diego Gas and Electric's  
Perspective**

*David Geier, San Diego  
Gas & Electric*

4:45 - 5:15 **New Technology Creating Situational Awareness**

*Tero Heinonen, Aware*

## 6:00-7:30 Reception

*Last updated 22 Nov 2018. Agenda is subject to change without notice.*

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# Vegetation Management

**December 5, 2018**

**7:45-8:30 Breakfast**

## **Session 3: Program Optimization and Technological Solutions**

8:30-9:00	<b>Integrating Augmented Reality into Vegetation Management Work Planning</b>	<i>David Enns, MHI &amp; Jason Grossman, Liberty Utilities</i>
9:00-9:30	<b>Using Prescriptive Analytics Modeling for Optimizing Mechanical and Integrated Vegetation Management Programs</b>	<i>Mike Oliver, Remsoft &amp; Chuck Anderson, ECI Consulting</i>
9:30-10:00	<b>Long Range Drones vs. Manned Helicopters for Long Range Asset and Vegetation Inspection</b>	<i>Mantas Vaskela, Laserpas</i>

**10:00-10:30 Break**

10:30-11:00	<b>Understanding the Cost of Deferred Maintenance</b>	<i>Jerome Otto, Corteva</i>
11:00-11:30	<b>Trends in Vegetation Management: A Survey of Industry Leaders</b>	<i>Joe Marshall, ACRT</i>
11:30-12:00	<b>PG&amp;E uses Novel Mobile Based Technology to Improve Operational Safety</b>	<i>James Murray &amp; Ian Conroy, Cyclomedia Technology &amp; Brian House, PG&amp;E</i>

**12:00-1:00 Lunch**

## **Session 4: Work Management Systems**

1:00-1:30	<b>Utilizing Web GIS to Manage Vegetation in Rights-of-Way</b>	<i>Krista Bullock, KBM Resource Group</i>
1:30-2:00	<b>Removing Bottlenecks in Technology-led UVM Programs through Big Data Computing and Machine Vision</b>	<i>Nick Ferguson, Enview</i>
2:00-2:30	<b>Transforming Our Business with Actionable Work Management Software</b>	<i>Steve Dowding, GeoDigital &amp; Michael Clayton, Jingoli Power</i>

**2:30-3:00 Break**

3:00-3:30	<b>Driving Successful Vegetation Management Software Implementations through Cooperation and Collaboration</b>	<i>Chris Kelly, Clearion; Jeff Henry, GeoDigital; &amp; Scott Rogers, ECI Consulting</i>
3:30-4:00	<b>Integrated Remote Sensing for Distribution Vegetation Management</b>	<i>Jennifer Whitacre, Quantum Spatial &amp; Eric Brown, Sacramento Municipal Utility District</i>
4:00-4:30	<b>Advances in Processing of LiDAR Data for Vegetation Encroachment</b>	<i>Gert Riemersma, Routescene</i>
4:30-4:45	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>	<i>Gwen Shrimpton, CEATI International</i>

**4:45 Adjournment**

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