



Thu May 27, 2021, 6 PM (Online)

Register at www.ieee-bv.org/meet/2021-05-section

Re-engineering Resilience to Wildfires

Speaker: John R. Mount

The Shaver Lake area was in the direct path of the Creek Fire in September 2020, the fourth-largest wildfire in modern California history. Yet the Shaver Lake area was spared from being torched. This is the direct result of strategic decisions that were made about engineering resilience to wildfires. Our speaker John R. Mount, retired forester with the Southern California Edison, is the mastermind who engineered ways to protect Southern California Edison 20,000 acres of mix-conifer private land surrounding Shaver Lake. Today, the survival of Shaver Lake is a story of applying science in service of sustainability and a recipe to be shared to help other communities engineer their own defense strategies.

John R. Mount worked for Southern California Edison for 31 years, managing the company's 20,000 acres of private land surrounding Shaver Lake. He has a total of 57 years in forest management starting with the Forest Service and then 15 years in private practice. John has received the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership and Stewardship Award, and the Conservationist of the Year award from the western section of the Wildlife Society. He was the recipient of the Frances Raymond Award, as outstanding forester in California for 2010. In 2010 he published a comprehensive book on forest management in the Sierra Nevada titled, "Torching Conventional Forestry, the Artful Application of Science". He is a 1961 graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, where he received a B.S. degree in forest management.

This program is made possible by the support from the IEEE Foundation and the IEEE Buena Ventura Section appreciates having been selected with the grant *Engineering Resilience to Drought and Wildfires*.