

From: [Carl Pongs](#)
To: Weber, Kristina@CDFA
Subject: NAB Position
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[IMG_4525.jpg](#)

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Hello Kristina,

Dave Cox and Michael Frantz suggested I apply for the NAB position. I am honored by the request and consideration, please see my bio below

Carl Pongs Bio:

Carl Pongs president of Greenbelt Growers nursery, president of Riverside and Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD) and founder of En-Gage Riverside serves as a tempered realist in the face of the evolving agricultural business environment. Over 25 years ago he purchased Greenbelt Growers and has relied on a keen instinct for industry trends, leaning on his professional network to build his business. When the Glassy Winged Sharpshooter appeared in Temecula the Nursery Industry was disproportionately burdened with the consequences of overreaching regulations. As a result Carl joined the Nursery Growers Association, there he was instrumental in sending a delegation of growers to Washington. This group returned with some funding and an outline for solutions. He currently serves on the Riverside Corona Resource Conservation District Board where his realistic and fiscally responsible approach to conservation has been essential to the success of the organization. Carl's passion for environmental consideration has only grown since then, from championing the expansion of green infrastructure and being one of the largest producers of California Native Grasses to establishing himself as an advocate for Urban Agriculture and the protection of valuable water resources and the property rights associated with water. As pressures over the repurposing of agricultural water resources for urban development began to overwhelm Riverside, Carl took to action, protecting water security. By forming the non-profit organization, En-Gage Riverside, he provided the platform for those who use water to produce our food, looking to ensure the future of environmentally sustainable agricultural and horticultural production.

Carl has always had a human-based approach to conservation, an avid off-road

adventurer and outdoor recreation enthusiast, his appreciation for the beauty of nature cannot be overstated. His objective approach and staunch commitment to his values, paired with his good humor have contributed greatly to his success.

Best regards,

Carl Pongs

Greenbelt Growers Inc

