

SFSRA Member Survey - Dashboard

146

Viewed

50

Total Responses

50

Completed

100%

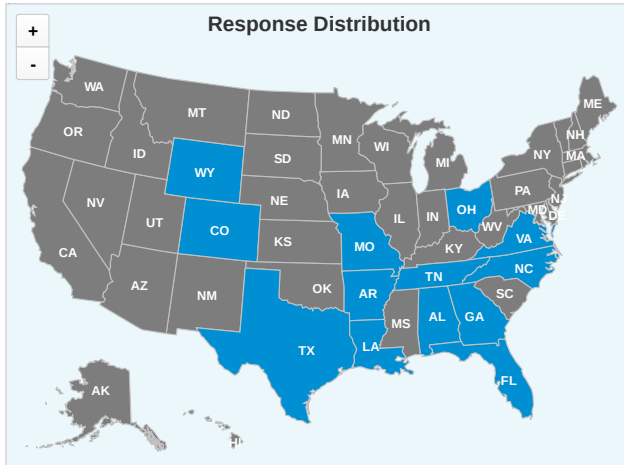
Completion Rate

0

Dropouts

12 min

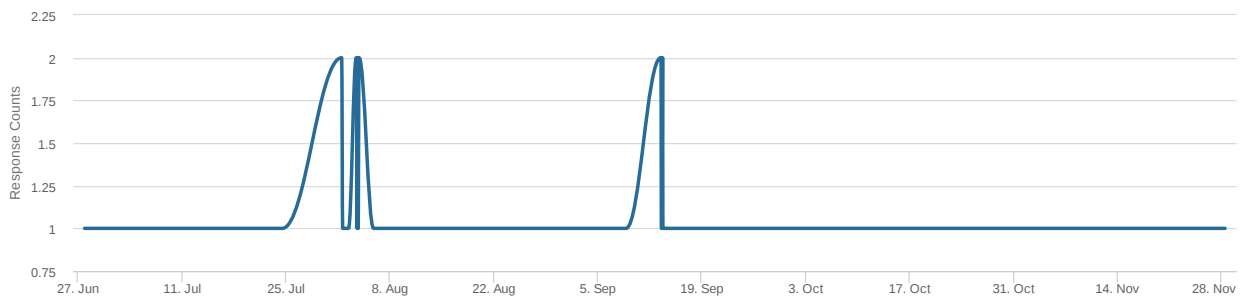
Average Time



States	Responses
GA	42.00%
Unknown (US)	18.00%
NC	10.00%
FL	6.00%
TN	4.00%
TX	4.00%
VA	2.00%
MO	2.00%
AR	2.00%

54% Desktop / LAPTOP	63% Windows	33% Mac	0% Linux	4% Other
40% SMARTPHONES	30% Android	70% iPhone	0% Windows	0% Other
6% TABLETS	100% iPad	0% Android	0% Windows	0% Other

Response Count Time Line



What are your thoughts on changing the name of "The Dixie Ranger" newsletter? What do you see as pros and cons?

11/28/2022	92670005	<p>The November Dixie Ranger comments are repugnant to me. The article listed at least 23 reasons for changing the name and 3 which supported the current name. This is on the same pattern as the national news media. Political correctness making another shot at being a Southerner. First remove all history in the South. After all, we are just a bunch of red-neck idiots. We have no right to have an opinion of support an idea or display an allegiance to togetherness as a people. Our culture is all wrong and needs changing by those who move into our section of the country. I grew up in Texas and have lived in Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and California. Never have I rejected being a part of the United States of America. It seems that anything honoring our part of the nation is an affront to America and Americans. What would those same people say if I told them to cancel out the New York Yankees because I didn't like the term Yankee? Here is a list of what has been said in the November article about our culture: find a better name, this name is derogatory, hurtful, offensive, represents ethnicity, racist, politically incorrect, promotes divisiveness, insults people of color, represents an ugly period of history, needs to "be gone", is a negative influence, is toxic, offensive, is a bad association, has really negative impact on the Forest Service, the name is the problem. My wife's sister's name is Dixie. One positive mention in the article asked the question, "When will it stop?" Look at CRT (Critical Race Theory) which truly takes a shot at white people and white men in particular. That is truly a divisive organization with close ties to Marxism. But, no, you want to cow-tow to a group of people, most of whom didn't grow up in the South and likely less patriotic than we Southerners. I love America and everything about the nation our Founding Fathers gave us with the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence. The obvious aim of these folks is to destroy our culture and replace it with some title friendly to them. Looking at our current political world we see historical shrines in the South torn down, painted over, burned and/or eliminated and in some cases replaced with more acceptable monuments. For your information, our culture is not racist, or any of the other things listed above. Our way is simply different from other sections. We honor our nation serving our country on the battlefields of the world. We love our homes and our less frantic way of life. We don't need folks sticking a sharp stick in our eyes every time they get a chance. Personally, I love America and I love the segment of the country I was raised in. I will close this with one last statement which may fit and it may not, but it needs to be said. Think how you would feel if people in the South kicked you in the rear end every time you thought or acted differently.</p>
09/16/2022	86427770	Do not change it, thanks for asking
09/16/2022	86070042	<p>Some people change their names when they marry. The Forest Service has changed the names of ranger districts and rec areas and roads and creeks. They call timber sales veg management. Schools with Lincoln, Jefferson and Jackson on them have been changed. It's never ending. If the word "Dixie" offends somebody, then don't use it. Spend your time raising hell because you couldn't get in a Forest office for two years and even now. Spend your valuable time raising hell because the forests are no longer managed. Our Forest communities don't even know the Forest Service any more. Worrying about the name of our retiree newsletter is silly. Thank you for letting me express my opinion. Hopefully we will be able to vote.</p>
09/15/2022	85736186	<p>Pros, it has been the name for a long time, Dixie is the South and we are all Rangers to the public . I would have to twist the meaning to come up with a con</p>
09/15/2022	85427041	<p>I am OPPOSED to this suggested name change. Since when did the word "Dixie" become offensive? The name "Dixie" refers to the southern United States. Hence the Southern Region, R-8, is in most, but not all, of the area, sometimes previously known as "Dixie." The justification statement for the name change seems to accentuate a list of negative reasons based on Southern heritage, yet completely overlooks any positive reasons: warm climate, home of many U.S. Presidents, Birthplace of Jazz, Southern Hospitality, and numerous people from "Dixie" that have contributed much to the American culture and fabric: Washington Carver, Helen Keller, William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Pat Conroy, Alice Walker, James Dickey, Joel Chandler Harris, Martin Luther King, Sidney Lanier, John Lewis, Carson McCullers, Flannery O'Conner, Margaret Mitchell, to name but only a few. A number of famous women were named Dixie (e.g., Dixy (some times spelled Dixie) Lee Ray (governor of the State of Washington), Dixie Carter (actress), etc. Then, there is the Dixie National Forest in southern Utah, so named by settlers because of the area's warm moderate climate. I dispute the claim that this idea is not about being political correct. In the South there is an old saying, "Saying it ain't so don't mean it ain't so." I can see no real "pros" for doing this. The major "con" I can see is that we may lose members because of it. Many will likely be offended by it. I was not born in the South, but I grew up here and spent my entire Forest Service career in the South. I love the South because it is my Homeland. I love Dixie.</p>
09/14/2022	85375950	<p>what I would really like to see is someone to come forward to tell us how the name Dixie Ranger impacts them or make them feel affected by that name. I often think that we rush into changing something before we ever hear from one or more people on how they are affected.</p>
09/14/2022	85374270	Tom Darden wrote a very thoughtful and articulate rationale for why the name should be changed. I agree
09/14/2022	85369990	I suggest we keep the current name. It is descriptive of our geographic region.
09/14/2022	85315586	I do not perceive anything wrong with the current name. I like it . It sets us apart .
09/13/2022	85291805	I believe the name should be changed to be more inclusive of all the retirees. No retirees should be offended by a name that can be interpreted as synonymous to the southern confederacy.
09/13/2022	85283395	<p>I don't understand why the present name "The Dixie Ranger" is so offensive to people. I feel like if you grew up or worked most of your career in the South, then Dixie represents the Southern states. If the schools and our organization continue to disregard our past History, we will lose what we are about. And we will not have any background to leave our future generations, on how things existed in the past and to carry this organization into the future. Our history is a part of our future and we must be able to explain it to all employees to show them what Pinchot wanted when he developed US Forest Service. So I guess my opinion would be to keep the name "The Dixie Ranger" for our newsletter.</p>
09/13/2022	85280285	Leave it as the Dixie Ranger!
09/13/2022	85275459	<p>I'm opposed to a name change! There is nothing inherently wrong with the word "Dixie". It was, afterall, a part of our country's history. And, it denotes "southern" and therefore is an ideal name to represent our Southern Region. I'm VERY tired of all the changes being made to the history of our country. Our history is what it was. We, as a people, have moved beyond those problematic attitudes. Granted, some have not; and they may never and nothing can change that. (You know what they say: "You can't fix stupid!") So, let's all move on and accept our history for what it was h-i-s-t-o-r-y !! And leave the DIXIE RANGER as is!!!</p>
09/13/2022	85275296	<p>"Dixie" is a geographic term/name. It goes back to at least the early days of the 1800s. It is thought to tie to going to New Orleans to get some "dixs" (Spanish gold pieces). It is historic as is the name of the Newsletter. It is not racist, political, old fashioned, stupid, etc. etc . It is very descriptive of Region 8. I see no reason to change it.</p>

09/13/2022	85268109	I do not agree with changing the name of the "Dixie Ranger". It has been in place for many years and is recognized readily by all who have read it. To change it would eliminate the recognition factor. I realize the word "Dixie" can make some folks unhappy but there is a great history of the South and I do not wish to change it. Mike Sparks
09/13/2022	85259497	Given the stigma attached to the word Dixie, I think it's a good idea.
09/13/2022	85256591	Not necessary but if needed keep it generic for future generations to interpret.
09/13/2022	85250612	How about just "Ranger News"? Or "Southern Ranger" or just Ranger, or Senior Ranger, or FS Ranger... FSRanger sounds good to me or Southern Ranger...
09/13/2022	85248393	It needs to change but I'm at a loss as to what it should be changed to. Maybe The Southern Ranger newsletter.
09/08/2022	84933854	I support changing the name to remove "Dixie". While that word symbolizes lively southern culture and history in the minds of many it also reflects a part of US history that shouldn't be celebrated. Let's find a better name.
08/15/2022	82040069	I think that it is time to change the name from something that is so derogatory and hurtful to some to something not offensive and represent all ethnicities of the Forest Service, both past and present. Some traditions are ineffective and does not keep in step with the times. While I support the Forest Service as a traditional-type organization, its tradition of non-inclusiveness cannot be supported.
08/13/2022	81926905	It's about deciding If and/or How, a change should be made? Perhaps, Retiree members who have done good work under the name "Dixie Ranger" want to honor that work and relationships. Other Retiree members, may have different life and family experiences associated with Dixie. Whatever the decision, it should try to be inclusive as much as possible. So if the decision is to change/modify the naming of the newsletter,
08/09/2022	81586240	I think a name change that is embracing for everyone would be nice. I feel the current name causes feelings for some that are not things we like to remember even though they happened.
08/08/2022	81532853	It makes sense to change the name to something that doesn't offend, from historical roots as well as current perspectives, more than a few Southern Region retirees.
08/08/2022	81526597	I think the name of The Dixie Ranger newsletter should be changed to something more positive for all Southern Forest Service retirees. Changing the name will have long-term benefits for the Retirees Association.
08/06/2022	81386863	I have never been in favor, or favored the name "Dixie Ranger." For me, my position on the name has nothing to do with racism, being politically correct, civil war days, or anything like that. It simply does not, in my view represent the entire region. I do see NFs in TX thinking of themselves being in Dixie. I don't see the GW-Jeff as part of Dixie. Same goes for other forests: Kisatchie, NFs in NC, and so on. It just isn't representative of the entire regions personality, in my view.
08/05/2022	81343127	When I was hired by the Forest Service our mission was as stated in letter by Gifford Pinchot (Greatest Good) to SEC of AG. As the Forest Service evolved, planning, stewardship, Research, State and Private Forestry as well as air quality, insect, disease, and fire management progressed. Salvage of annual hurricane damage, invasive species, ecosystem classification and management, and new research for the future are changing. Why aren't any of these mentioned in the message from the Regional Forester as well as worrying about changing the name of a newsletter. In conclusion, in the earlier days, The Forest Service was in the top ten federal agencies to work for. How far down the list today? Changing a name is way down the list of most retirees' priorities today. Good luck., Steve McCorquodale P.S. Please read Pinchot's letter.
08/03/2022	81138375	"Dixie" has negative connotations; Dixie, refers to the Southern U.S. states, especially those that belonged to the Confederate States of America (1860-65). Dixie means slavery and Jim Crow, period.
08/03/2022	81138361	Yes, let's change the name.
08/03/2022	81127536	The name should be changed. There is a negative connotation behind name that promotes divisiveness for people of color. In the type of world we live in today, we should promote unity and diversity.
08/03/2022	81124089	I understand why some people would be offended. Personally I have no problem with a name change and believe it is time.
08/03/2022	81120422	The newsletter nMe has some hurtful, racist connotation for some ethnicities. It is representative of a ugly period of our history, slavery, segregation, inequality and hideous acts of murder and violence. To change it would be a good reflection of what we as a retiree association should represent - inclusivity
08/03/2022	81117502	The name does not offend me. If it does offend others, then it needs to be changed. I really dont care. I dont see any cons. Pros would be making others feel good about the word "Dixie" gone.
08/03/2022	81109913	The name should be changed given the negative connotation it has for a big sector of Forest Service current and future retirees. It could even be offensive for the general public that we serve or used to serve.
08/03/2022	81097013	The fact that the name is also being used by hate groups should tell you it is time to change it.
08/03/2022	81096271	A name change should not be a problem....even though I respect tradition, change can be a positive influence!
08/01/2022	80939694	I think we definitely need to change the name. Pro: Any word or name that is as toxic as Dixie should be changed. The KKK even have a web site called the Dixie Rangers. Con: The only con is that some of our long term members may be resistant to the change but in my opinion nothing stays the same forever and organizations that never change in the end wind up on the extinction list.
08/01/2022	80922790	The name Dixie Ranger should changed immediately. "The Dixie Rangers" (https://reddead.fandom.com/wiki/Posse:The_Dixie_Rangers) are a group of the Klu Klux Klan. In addition, the Dixie Rangers was the name of a Confederate Unit during the Civil War (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6th_South_Carolina_Cavalry_Regiment). Regardless of what we would like the term Dixie Ranger to be, we can not avoid the association with these other uses. It may hurt the feeling of a few people but to ignore the association with the Klan and the Confederate Unit would put the SFSRA in the same class. It is time for a new name that reflects what the FS and its retirees are about. (not insurrection and racism)

07/24/2022 80184599 The current name does not offend me. Dixie can be interpreted as 13 southern United States or if we go back over 150 years as the states who were part of the Confederacy. If the committee in charge of determining if a name change is necessary, then I would go along with their decision. If a name change is thought to be in the best interest of the association, then a similar name could be achieved.

07/19/2022 79845717 I would like to thank the officers of the Dixie Ranger for offering the opportunity to discuss a possible name change. I feel that change in itself can be good or bad depending on how it impacts people. Change helps and hurts but it is a constant part of life and should be embraced when it comes along and evaluated by those who are affected. While I do not have a replacement name, the suggestion that the name, "The Dixie Ranger" be changed has merits. What's in a Name? There are some potential negative impacts associated with the current name. I think Tom's column did a good job of bringing out the need to be inclusive and to offer to all of our retirees a "home" after retirement that most of us seek after leaving such a great organization after many years of service. All of the camaraderie that we are so lucky to have within the Region is something I was so glad to carry on after we no longer had that ID card. Now we have the SFSRA. We really need to encourage that feeling for all of our retirees. We "need" a place to call home after we leave a great organization like the Forest Service. But, I will point out that the word "Dixie", while it is and has had special meaning to many, has little meaning to me. I spent a little less than half my Forest Service career in this Region (14 years), spending nearly 10 years in the Alaska Region and the seven more in R-1 and R-6. So, for me, I have little need for a nostalgic name for any of those regions. I don't believe retirees from my other regions use anything but the place names we naturally give them (Alaska, Northwest, Intermountain). I am happy to have a "home" after the Forest Service but in one way I don't completely feel "at home". The name "Dixie" doesn't really apply to my career in any substantial way. In fact, I have considered submitting articles to the "Ranger" which relate to my field experience. However, I have not done so because of a sense that they don't belong among all the stories that occurred within this Region. The word "Dixie" has a strong connection to one part of the National Forest System. My career, as with that of many others, comes from a much larger context. I would like to see some stories of those careers shared. The other issue relating to inclusion of all retirees is that elephant in the room. The word Dixie relates strongly to the War Between the States and the connected issues. This relates to the need to include all our retirees. To conclude I would just like to mention that I think we should change the name in a way that includes more of us in a real meaningful way and that broadens and yes improves the organization.

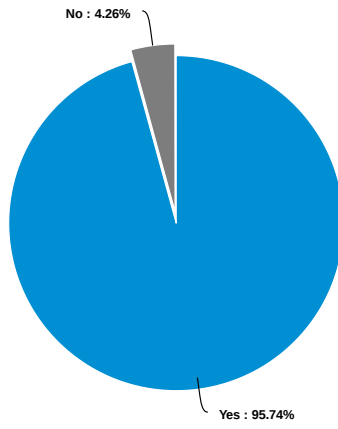
07/11/2022 79315457 Why change it. Must we change everything with any historical significance? And to what end? Change it now, and change it again in a few years? When does it stop?

Do you have ideas on a new name for the newsletter? What name(s) do you suggest?

09/17/2022	86612600	Leave it as it is.
09/16/2022	86070042	The Ranger, R8 Retiree News, the Southern Region Retiree News, Crosscuts and Wood Chips, The Treeline, Smokey's Friends, Smokey Bear News
09/15/2022	85736186	Keep it Dixie Ranger
09/15/2022	85427041	No.
09/14/2022	85375950	I believe it needs to remain the same until such time as we hear from someone as I suggested in my answer to the first question. At that time I would be able to make a decision on whether the name should be changed or not.
09/14/2022	85374270	The Southern Ranger.
09/14/2022	85369990	The need for a new name has not been adequately addressed.
09/14/2022	85315586	No
09/13/2022	85291805	The Southern Pine newsletter
09/13/2022	85283395	Dixie Retirees or stay with The Dixie Ranger.
09/13/2022	85280285	NO
09/13/2022	85275459	DIXIE RANGER
09/13/2022	85275296	No.
09/13/2022	85268109	Keep it the same
09/13/2022	85259497	How about the Smoke Signal...one of the earliest forms of communication.
09/13/2022	85256591	Southern FS Retirees Association
09/13/2022	85250612	Ranger News or FSRanger News, or Ranger Comms ha...
09/13/2022	85248393	The Southern Ranger newsletter
09/13/2022	85247753	Just leave it the way it is.
09/08/2022	84933854	Sorry, I don't have a suggestion.
08/15/2022	82040069	1. The Southern Diversity - It encompasses all ethnicities, genders, and backgrounds. As such, the articles, subjects, and pictures should reflect the same. 2. The Southern Credence - credence means belief in or acceptance of something as true. It is true (my belief) that the Forest Service is an agency of integrity and diversity. Therefore, the contents of the newsletter will reflect such truths. 3. Retirees Corner 4. Retirement Today
08/13/2022	81926905	If there is a new name for the newsletter, I would suggest words that people have warm connections to the Southern Region, drawing on their experience of the land and culture? The complex part of this, is that the Southern Region is so vast, and covers so many ecotypes, cultures and landscapes. Suggestions #1 - Incorporate the word "South" to encompass all 14 NFs +, Then add Smokey - to invoke both the Smoky Mountain-Appalachian landscape and our Cultural Icon "Smokey Bear." The newsletter suggestion would be "The Southern Smokeys" or Southern Smokey Signals? #2 - Incorporate a distinct Southern tree species, (but this would not be as inclusive for entire south). "Longleaf Pine Whispers"? #3 - Incorporate a familiar animal species, such as "lightning bug sparks" or "firefly flashes"? #4 - On a different path -Maybe a suggestion for new sections in the newsletter? Something fun and cultural - "Mama says..." an opportunity for humorous and wise op ed or reader opinion? Or "Eating in the South" which might invite recipes from readers for more participation?
08/09/2022	81586240	Forest Service Southern Region Retirees
08/08/2022	81532853	"Southern Region Ranger" or similar.
08/08/2022	81526597	A good name for the newsletter is "The Lighter Knot." Lighter wood is a "forest product" of the South. It has been part of Southern culture forever and has an old-time Southern feel that many can relate to. It is the old hard resin-filled heart of southern pines but is still useful and prized. It can be used to start fires and shed light. These characteristics are like Forest Service retirees. (Lighter wood's other name, fatwood, might also apply, but we won't go there!) These characteristics can also apply to our newsletter. The newsletter can start fires (literally and figuratively) and shed light, especially on our history in the Forest Service, and maybe even into its future. It includes "lighter" fun topics, and other topics that are hard and complex as a "knot." Another good name is "The Lookout." It is less specific to the Southern Region but has obvious ties to lookout towers and operational fire management, and can be a description of our newsletter content. Or, how about "The After-Action Review"? Commonly known as AAR in the business. Awfully close to AARP. That's funny, right there...
08/06/2022	81386863	Not really. Not my strong suit, but some that works off Southern Region. Southern Region Siren. Region 8 Announcer. Something like that. Maybe something built off the number of southern region states - 13. The Thirteen States. I dunno. I'm not good at this, as I said.
08/06/2022	81366899	SFSRA Newsletter
08/05/2022	81343127	Other things are more important

08/03/2022	81138375	The Ranger, something that is not offensive to some retirees.
08/03/2022	81138361	I will have to give this some thought.
08/03/2022	81127536	How about naming the newsletter after Gilford Pinchit
08/03/2022	81124053	SOUTHERN FEDERAL U.S. FOREST SERVICE RETIREE ASSOCIATION
08/03/2022	81120422	Southern Ranger, Visions of the Southern Forests and Stations,
08/03/2022	81117502	The Ranger. Oaks and Pines. The Weekly Wipe. Retirees and Friends. Stories, Tales, and News. The Smokey News.
08/03/2022	81109913	Why not a simple "Southern Forest Service Retirees Newsletter".
08/03/2022	81097013	The Down South Ranger
08/03/2022	81096271	How about just: SFSRA Newsletter
08/02/2022	81006058	I am expanding on my previous comments The purpose of the newsletter is to share stories by and about retirees and the FS in the Southern Region, to let members of the SFSRA know about issues that could impact them, to share information about other members of the SFSRA and other FS retirees (including obituaries), and it should be inviting to FS retirees who are not members and encourage them to join. It should be fun to read and informative. There are a few things that the newsletter should not be. It should not contain offensive content, and by offensive, I mean racist, sexist, political, obscene, demeaning, bullying, or insulting comments, stories, pictures or other content (not a complete list but this covers a lot). I worked for the Fed (TVA and the FS) for quite a few years and I have seen a lot of offensive behavior disguised as "joking around", "just kidding", "just being good ole boys", "not politically correct", "doesn't mean any harm", etc. That did not make the behavior any less offensive. The newsletter is just that, a newsletter. What we call it should not be the basis of whether someone stays in the SFSRA, joins, or quits. It should be about what all the many hundreds of retirees in the Southern Region want to know about and be inviting to all of them. The fact that the newsletter has a title which many people consider a reference to the Pre-Civil War South matters. The story of the Southern Region is about people from all the states in the Region and Puerto Rico. There is tremendous diversity in this region and that diversity has had a real impact on the Forest Service and made it a stronger organization. The name Dixie Ranger is offensive to some people. For those people, references to Dixie inevitably bring to mind the pre-Civil War South and the Confederacy, as well as the Jim Crow era. I recognize that for others, the name Dixie is not at all problematic. As we have seen in recent emails Dixie is so unproblematic that some would resign from SFSRA if there were a name change. That in itself tells me that the name Dixie Ranger is a problem. The following is from part of the discussion of a similar attempt to change the name of an institution from Dixie to something else: "Our racism is not harmless. Our Dixie is not a sanitized Dixie," she said. "Our Dixie references the Confederacy, enslaving people, violent racism, lynching and white supremacy, the same as it means everywhere else. ... It is time to make a change." Nancy Ross, Dixie State University Faculty (St George Spectrum & Daily News, 7/17/2020) It is time for the SFSRA newsletter to have a new name. A name that does no harm as opposed to the present name, which does and may be a barrier for some retirees to consider joining. SFSRA Newsletter
08/01/2022	80939694	I think we should immediately change the name to "The Southern Forest Service Retirees Association Newsletter" and then our organization can take their time in finding another name or just leave it the SFSRA newsletter.
08/01/2022	80922790	The SFSRA Newsletter
07/24/2022	80184599	"Southern Ranger"
07/19/2022	79845717	Not yet but I will be thinking about it.
07/11/2022	79315457	Keep it the same

Are you currently a member of the Southern Forest Service Retirees Association?



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Yes	45	95.74%					
No	2	4.26%					
Total	47	100 %					