



Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

Resources Building, Auditorium
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814



August 2016 Board of Forestry Report

Resource Management

Forest Practice Program (through 8/1/2016)

Plan submissions:

- THP submissions: THP submissions through July were down from last year (i.e. 127 compared to 156).
- NTMP submissions: NTMP submissions are up from last year at this time (i.e., 13 compared to 5). NTO submissions are about the same as last year (i.e., 83 compared to 82).
- Exemption Notice submissions: Exemption submissions are up considerably compared to last year (i.e., 1,770 compared to 1,294, or nearly 40%). There have been 877 Drought Mortality exemptions submitted under the new regulations.
- Emergency Notice submissions: Emergency Notice submissions were up compared to last year (i.e., 140 compared to 135).
- Plan Approval: 139 THPs have been approved in 2016, in addition to 9 NTMPs.

General Review Team:

Santa Rosa:

- Shawn Headley has accepted the Forester II TRFRF position. He starts on September 5, 2016.
- Chris Curtis has accepted the Forester II Review Team Chair position. He starts on August 1, 2016.
- Irene Beasley has accepted the Program Technician II Mail Desk position. She starts on August 8, 2016.
- There is one Forester II Review Team Chair vacancy and it advertised with a closing date of August 5, 2016.
- Meghan Reeves has accepted a limited term Forester I position in the CFIP program. Her last day is September 30, 2016. Topher Henderson has accepted a limited term Forestry Assistant II position in the CFIP program. His last day is September 16, 2016. Jeremiah Steuterman has accepted a permanent Forestry Assistant II position at

Boggs Demonstration State Forest. His last day is August 30, 2016. The limited term positions are currently being advertised. These vacancies affect First Review.

- Redding Review Team staff and Anthony Lukacic are continuing to assist Santa Rosa with plan approvals.

Redding:

- TRFRF Forester II Dan Craig has started to develop a monitoring approach to the Aspen-Wet Meadow-Meadow Restoration silviculture prescription. The first five-year update to the Board is in 2017. Dan started his field visits in August and will provide an outline and suggestions for monitoring to Chief Hall after he conducts a few visits.
- Forester II's Jon Woessner, Adam Deem and Dan Craig are assisting Sacramento Forester I Chris Maranto in the field review of the Fruit Growers Option A update.
- Forester II Adam Deem has developed a draft checklist all-exemption monitoring form that has been forwarded to Sacramento for possible use in monitoring of the various forms of exemptions. Dan Craig has used this form in recent field visits on monitoring visits of Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Pilot Projects.
- Forester II Jon Woessner is continuing to provide support to the Santa Rosa Review Team for plan review and signing.

Fresno:

- The Redding office assisted Fresno with contact information inputs into FPS for three Caltrans ROW exemptions with approximately 450 landowners. Kevin Kinery worked with the applicant and his work has helped pave the way for a more expedient process for the future. It is expected that many more public utility and public agency ROW Exemptions will be submitted to Fresno as tree mortality and efforts to reduce the dead fuel continue.

Watershed Protection Program Update:

- Watershed staff continue to participate in the BOF's Effectiveness Monitoring Committee, including the meeting held on August 2 in Redding. Drew Coe has produced revised project descriptions for EMC-2015-001, Class II-L Effectiveness Monitoring, and EMC-2015-004, Effectiveness of Road Rules in Reducing Hydrologic Connectivity and Significant Sediment Discharge.
- Drew Coe continues to work on the Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest post-fire runoff and erosion study with Dr. Joe Wagenbrenner (MTU), and Don Lindsay (CGS). Dr. Wagenbrenner has submitted an abstract for the 2016 American Geophysical Union (AGU) meeting for the Boggs study, titled "Runoff Response to Rainfall in Small Catchments Burned by the 2015 Valley Fire." Drew has also summarized potential ideas for watershed monitoring/research for LaTour Demonstration State Forest.
- Drew Coe participated in the first meeting of the Elk River Sediment Remediation Workgroup of the Elk River Watershed Stewardship Program on August 3 in Eureka.

- Stacy Stanish has been working on the Soberanes Fire as a GIS Specialist (trainee) since July 23 and expects assignment to the incident through at least August 19, completing her training certification.
- Pete Cafferata is working with Dr. Leslie Reid, USFS PSW (retired) on a paper titled “Using Caspar Creek Flow Records to Test Peak Flow Estimation Methods Applicable to Crossing Design” for the Coast Redwood Science Symposium, which is scheduled from September 13-15 in Eureka.
- Pete Cafferata is serving as a co-leader for the Tree Mortality Task Force—Forest Health and Resilience Working Group.
- Watershed staff continue to participate in the ad hoc Wood for Salmon Working Group, which has produced a short draft document titled “Accelerated Wood Recruitment and Timber Operations: Best Management Practices and Process Guidance from the Review Team Agencies and NMFS” (currently in review).
- Watershed staff continue to contribute to the AB 1492 Leadership Team, Ecological Performance Measures and Data and Monitoring Working Groups, Pilot Projects Team, and Interagency Training Team meetings.

Forest Practice Enforcement Update:

- The Administrative Civil Penalty Program has had six cases submitted to date in 2016. There are currently 45 active civil cases. Several settlement meetings have been held with tentative settlements reached. Cases continue to move through the process. The Enforcement Program continues to assist Santa Rosa Review Team with THP processing. Preparation for the Forest Practice Program Review will be initiated once assistance with review team is no longer needed. Forester II Robert Little recently spoke at the Associated California Loggers chapter meeting in Nevada City this month to discuss LTO and tree service interaction.

Timber Operators Licensing Program Update:

- The Timber Operator Licensing Program is continuing to process applications as they are submitted. Thirty people attended the additional LTO class offered in Roseville in July. Class attendance continues to be high. There are three classes remaining for 2016, and we expect them to be full as well. Information for the remaining classes in 2016 is posted on the CAL FIRE website. Staff will be developing a post card renewal reminder to be mailed out in October. Kelle Adair will be leaving the program this month to take a permanent position with another department. Kelle did a great job getting the program caught up and allowed the program to get some needed projects done.

Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) Updated from the TRFRF Database (01/01/2016 through 07/31/2016)

- Specific TRFRF Forest Practice Effort: The Forest Practice Program has utilized 87,844 hours in conducting forest practice activities. The following is a breakdown: Review and processing of THPs (20.8%); Conducting forest practice inspections (23.3%); Participating in mandated training (13.7%); Supervising and managing the forest practice program (8.1%); Processing and managing the data related to THPs (7.7%); Forest practice law enforcement (1.9%); Program/project monitoring (0.8%); and Responding to letters of concern (1.6%). Other activities comprising an insignificant portion of the time include Board of Forestry and Fire Protection related activities, ecological performance, and litigation. (This represents TRFRF funded forest practice effort only.)
- Total Departmental Forest Practice Efforts: The Forest Practice Program has utilized a total of 94,157 hours in conducting forest practice activities and non-forest practice activities. The following is a breakdown: Review and processing of THPs (20.3%); Conducting forest practice inspections (24.0%); Emergency incident support (3.8%); Participating in mandated training (13%); Supervising and managing the forest practice program (8.6%); Processing and managing the data related to THPs (7.6%); Other duties in support of unit programs (8.5%); Other forestry related activities (8.7%); Forest practice law enforcement (1.8%); Project/program monitoring (1.1%); and Responding to letters of concern (1.5%). Other activities comprising an insignificant portion of time include Board of Forestry and Fire Protection related activities, ecological performance, and litigation. (This represents all forest practice efforts both TRFRF and Non-TRFRF funded.)

Resource Protection and Improvement Program

Urban and Community Forestry:

- Work continues on all Urban and Community Forestry GGRF grant projects. Projects are continuing work and are actively billing and reporting regularly.
- The Program is still working to fill a Program Manager Forester II. The previous program manager, John Melvin, has promoted to Staff Chief of Resource Protection and Improvement.
- Federal funding (USDA Forest Service) sub-grants are active. Six projects were funded for FY2015; two are already completed.
- The Program is engaged in the selection process for sub-granting of 2016 USDA Forest Service funding. These funds are used for projects that State GGRF funds cannot be used. These include priority educational, applied research, and outreach projects.
- The Program has hired a Regional Urban Forester for the San Joaquin Valley and Central Coast area to replace Guy Anderson (promotion to Forester II in Forestry Assistance). Forestry Assistant II Gregory Dion started work on August 2 in Fresno.

State Forests:

- A permanent Forestry Assistant II position has been filled on Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest to assist with the rehabilitation efforts. Jeremiah Steuterman (a former Forestry Aide at Boggs) was the successful candidate and will report to work on September 1.
- Salvage operations are currently winding down on Boggs Mountain as one of the major log buyers (Mendocino Forest Products) is no longer accepting any “blue” pine logs. Two Licensed Timber Operators are still working on the forest. Approximately 45 MMBF of the estimated 60 MMBF of salvage timber has been harvested.
- Operations have begun on the 1.5 MMBF Valley Fire Phoenix Rising/ Mendocino Forest Products/CAL FIRE Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Salvage Timber Sale on Boggs Mountain.
- The Boggs Mountain Forest Manager met with the organization Friends of Boggs Mountain on July 26 to update the group on the progress of the restoration activities on the forest. The main concern expressed was when the forest will re-open. The Forest Manager informed the group that there is currently no specific date set for when the forest will re-open, and that all salvage operations must be completed and all hazards to the public mitigated before the forest will be re-opened to the public. The group responded favorably, and seemed to appreciate the fact that it will be a slow process to restore the property.
- The Boggs Mountain Forest Manager also attended a meeting of the Cobb Area Council, a newly organized group that will report directly to the Lake County Board of Supervisors about matters pertaining to Cobb Mountain communities. This meeting was essentially a meet and greet, and an opportunity to network. Not surprisingly, the audience also wanted to know when the forest would re-open to the public.
- Dr. Joe Wagenbrenner, a collaborative researcher on the Boggs Mountain State Forest erosion study, will be submitting an abstract on post-fire rainfall-runoff dynamics to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting scheduled for December 12-16 at Moscone Center in San Francisco. AGU is considered the premier earth/space science conference in the world, with 24,000 attendees at its 2015 conference.
- Jackson Demonstration State Forest will be one of the landowners in Mendocino County to benefit from a public LiDAR acquisition project. This will be funded through the CA Natural Resources Agency in association with the Forest Planning Watershed Pilot Project, led by Russ Henly. Jackson Demonstration State Forest staff are working on acquiring hyperspectral data acquisition to facilitate forest biometric analysis.
- Jackson Demonstration State Forest and CAL FIRE Technical Services participated in a field meeting with Caltrans regarding a proposed realignment of Highway 20 just west of the Camp 20 Day Use Area. Four alternatives were presented with the preferred alternative requiring the least amount of new highway infrastructure.
- Emily Francis and three associates spent two weeks sampling redwood foliage on Jackson Demonstration State Forest for the Carnegie Institute Department of Global Ecology at Stanford University. They will be evaluating canopy water and nitrogen

content across valley to upland gradients as well as coastal to interior sample points across the Forest.

- Timber Harvest Plan preparation and the integrated Third Experiment work continues on Jackson Demonstration State Forest in the South Fork Caspar Watershed. Additional fieldwork has refined known management constraints (e.g. land allocations, MAMU habitat, unstable areas) that somewhat limit silviculture opportunities in the gauged watersheds.
- The Jackson Demonstration State Forest campgrounds have hosted 4,375 camper days and have generated \$22,688 in camping fees so far this season, with a notable increase in out of area campers visiting the campgrounds for the first time.
- The Mendocino Coast Cyclists continue to perform volunteer trail maintenance on Jackson Demonstration State Forest. Some of the organized workdays have up to 20 people working on the trails. The group has also helped collect trash and debris near roads and trails.
- The second year of the two-year survey protocol of Marbled Murrelet surveys were completed at two habitat areas on Jackson Demonstration State Forest: one old growth stand and one patch of older Douglas fir. No Murrelets were detected.
- The final Northern Spotted Owl surveys on Jackson Demonstration State Forest were completed for the year. The last surveys only detected Barred Owls.
- The successful bidder, Jefferson Resource Co. has started the Forest Resource Inventory cruise, consisting of 5,000 plots on Jackson Demonstration State Forest.
- The Soquel Demonstration State Forest 26th Anniversary Open House was held on August 6. About 200 people attended the event, which included educational tours and presentations to the public. The Stewards of Soquel Forest sponsored lunch and two of the six shuttle vehicles. Matt Woods from the CAL FIRE Communications Office in Sacramento attended and took video footage and will be producing a video segment of the event. CAL FIRE VIP photographer, Mike Gagarin, also attended to take photos. The District 1 Santa Cruz Supervisor, John Leopold attended and provided positive feedback about the great opportunity that was provided for the public to learn more about the State Forest. A presentation of the event is scheduled for the September Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Meeting.
- Soquel Demonstration State Forest assisted with the Cal Poly Forestry Course 475 at Swanton Pacific Ranch on separate days, and on July 11, led a group of students studying redwood ecology from Sierra Nevada College on a field tour.
- Trail Head Cyclery sponsored a group ride on Soquel Demonstration State Forest for 50 women mountain bikers on July 10, and Monterey Bay Search Dogs held a canine training day on August 7.
- Construction of a new 10,000-gallon water tank on Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest began in early July. This new water tank and accompanying well are being installed to provide a dependable water source to campgrounds.
- Salvage operations have commenced on Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest because of drought mortality, averaging three to four loads per day.

- A landowner adjacent to Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest has offered his 182-acre property for sale to CAL FIRE. State Forest Staff are discussing prices with the landowner.
- Latour Demonstration State Forest and program staff met with Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) personnel and CAL FIRE Forest Practice Monitoring Program Coordinator Drew Coe on the Forest to discuss and evaluate potential carbon related research opportunities and sites on July 28.
- Latour Demonstration State Forest staff conducted a silviculture field tour with the Northern Summit Academy forestry challenge team, with Sierra Pacific Industries as a cooperator.
- Harvest operations started on the Latour Demonstration State Forest Old Cow Timber Sale on July 28. The estimated volume is 2.96 million board feet with an estimated value of \$492,175.
- Due to the fir and pine mortality on Latour Demonstration State Forest, staff are evaluating market conditions and operator availability for a potential salvage sale.
- With the hot July weather, most campsites were occupied on Latour Demonstration State Forest, and there were many daily visitors as well.

FORESTRY ASSISTANCE

L.A. Moran Reforestation Center:

- We are pleased to announce that Eric Huff has accepted the position as Supervisor for the L.A. Moran Reforestation Center. Eric will officially begin his duties on September 1.
- Cone collection survey packets, mass emailed to Region Chiefs, Unit Chiefs and Unit Foresters the third week in June, are being returned from Units and it is shaping up to be a good cone year.
- LAMRC also sent out collection bid packets by mail to 17 potential collectors. Packets contained our updated cone needs list for 2016. We have been able to compile a short list of available contractors. Last year, there was only one collector available. This year, we are able to find several more collectors to add to our list.
- Cone crops are being evaluated over the next several weeks, with LAMRC employees travelling across the State collecting cone samples for evaluation in the seed lab. We are seeing cone crops developing in Sugar Pine, White Fir, Ponderosa and Jeffry Pine, as well as Incense Cedar, in many areas of the State.
- We are focusing on pursuing Ponderosa, Sugar and Jeffry pinecones from low elevations in all areas of the Sierra.
- Once LAMRC receives additional surveys, they will start requesting cones from species/areas that show a promising crop for cone cutting tests.

- LAMRC will be receiving two orchard collection harvests this cone season: an estimated 800 bushels of NSTIA PP from the Malin seed orchard; and 200 bushels of PP from the low elevation lots at the USFS Chico Seed Orchard. This is a great collaborative effort between the USFS and CAL FIRE. Cones are being harvested now in Chico.
- Staff at LAMRC assisted with a Giant Sequoia cone collection for research at Whitaker Forest. Cones were processed at the LAMRC facility and the seed is being upgraded.
- LAMRC is currently expanding the relationship with the Putah Creek Council for research/growing at the facility. LAMRC staff continue to assist an expanded growing program for this agency, developing an out-planting site for growing seedlings to a larger plant size.

California Forest Improvement Program:

- The CFIP Coordinator will be requesting the BOF to approve new “hourly” rates for landowners wishing to accomplish CFIP activities on their property. Rates will be based on existing NRCS EQIP contractor rates, but reduced to adjust for profit and risk.
- The CFIP program encumbered all TRFRF funds allocated to the program as of the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year, and is now encumbering the 2016/2017 funds.
- A total of 34,759 acres across 96 contracts are included as encumbered project areas in the 15/16 FY funds.
- A total of 1,016 acres across five contracts are included as encumbered project areas in the 16/17 FY funds to date.
- The following lists the total number of acres and contracts by general region:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u># of contracts</u>
-High tree mortality counties	15112	46
-Sonoma, Lake, Napa county area	9227	27
-North Coast (Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino)	8342	15
-North State Interior (Siskiyou, Shasta, Modoc)	1286	7
-Other areas (Monterey county*)	525	1

* This CFIP project area was burned in the Soberanes Fire and may become a much larger project scope as a result.

- Two Forester I positions have been successfully filled. The Sonoma area vacancy will be filled on October 1 and the Santa Clara position on September 19. The Riverside vacancy remains unfilled and the announcement remains open until filled. We are considering a retired annuitant to fill the position if available.
- Forest Legacy Program: All applications to the FLP were due July 30. The CA Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee will score the applications. The top three scoring applications will be considered for Federal FLP funding in FY2018. There were many revisions of existing applications, but no applications were received for new projects.

Cultural Resources:

- New Associate State Archaeologist, Denise Ruzicka, began work on August 8, 2016, at the Southern Region Administrative Headquarters in Fresno. Southern Region Senior State Archaeologist Stephanie Velasquez has been working with Ms. Ruzicka to provide job and Departmental orientation. We are very happy to have a permanent archaeologist in Fresno.
- Sacramento HQ has advertised for an Associate State Archaeologist position. The advertisement will remain open until filled. The position will provide cultural resources management coverage within Central California.
- Five CAL FIRE archaeologists have recently worked on fires in California. Several have been at the Soberanes incident in Monterey County. A continued archaeological presence is expected there due to damage to significant cultural resources.
- CAL FIRE is re-forming its Native American Advisory Council. The Council's mission is to assist CAL FIRE in establishing a cooperative and meaningful relationship with California tribes. CAL FIRE expects the process to take several months, hoping to hold the first council meeting once it has recruited sufficient members.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Program:

- The Legislature has decided to take up the funding decisions for non-continual appropriations of GGRF funding after their summer recess.
- Program development is currently underway. Meetings with Air Resources Board staff on this topic are ongoing.

Other Grant Programs:

- CAL FIRE is nearly done negotiating an inter-agency agreement to assist the California High-Speed Rail Authority in meeting its environmental commitments to offset direct greenhouse gas emissions resulting from construction of Phase 1 of the California High-Speed Rail Project.
- CAL FIRE will provide tree-planting services through its Landowner Assistance and Urban and Community Forestry Programs. The tree planting will provide climate benefits by sequestering carbon.

FRAP:

- Forests and Rangelands Assessment Indicator development: Fire and Resource Assessment staff developed candidate draft indicators to report on in the Forests and Rangelands Assessment, 2016. FRAP has a number of draft chapters developed, but due to workload issues, the report has been delayed. Expect completion in early to mid-2017.
- Wildfire Issues: FRAP staff are assisting ARB in responding to public comments and concerns on ARB's Short Lived Climate Pollutant plan.

- GGRF Quantification Methodology: Tadashi Moody (FRAP) continues to work with ARB on a quantification methodology for estimating GHG emissions and carbon balance from fuel reduction projects. This work will support CAL FIRE GGRF funded projects at both the project and landscape level.
- Fire Effects, Carbon, and Forest Recovery: Ongoing research and stand inventory monitoring is occurring following the Valley Fire at Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest. FRAP staff recently visited the LaTour forest to discuss recommendations for additional research and experimental design.
- Fire Map 1 for PUC: FRAP (D. Sapsis) lead a technical committee to develop a map that depicts areas of California where there is an elevated hazard for the ignition and spread of fire from utility lines under conditions with strong winds and dry vegetation. Due to workload limitations, FRAP will have minimal involvement in future revisions (Map 2) undertaken by PUC
- Climate Change: FRAP staff are assisting FCAT in developing the Forest Carbon Plan and other supporting documents.
- Tree Mortality Task Force (TMTF): FRAP staff are supporting Mapping and Monitoring workgroup and the Forest Health workgroup. The Mapping and Monitoring group has used recent Aerial Detection Survey data to update High Hazard Zones (HHZ) Tier 1. Updates to HHZ Tier 2 are still under development.
- FIA Committee Assignment: Mark Rosenberg (FRAP) is in the process of developing a contract with USFS-PNW to develop custom FIA tables and take a primary role in preparing an inventory report that meets AB 1504 reporting requirements. PNW has recently provided regional FIA tables that will be incorporated into the Forest Carbon Plan and support AB 1504 reporting.

Forest Pest Management

- Forest Pest Management staff will be submitting a request in the next US Farm Bill for funding for extensive trapping of the polyphagous and kuroshio shot hole borers.
- Incense Cedars are reported to be dying over large areas of California. So far, no potential insect or disease cause has been identified. Drought is thought to be the primary cause of the mortality.
- Staff is working with the California Forest Pest Council to provide information on individual bark beetles to be highlighted in upcoming newsletters.
- Bark beetle activity is increasing in central Sierra Nevada showing the expansion of the epidemic.
- Bishop Pine decline and mortality is increasing in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, possibly related to drought stress and the lack of fire related regeneration. The USFS has awarded an Evaluation Monitoring grant to research the causes and extent of the decline.

Tree Mortality Task Force

- The Resource Allocation Working Group has been developing a new grid by which to match other department/local government resources to CAL FIRE program resources committed to Tree Mortality. This grid is then expected to be a launching board for developing cooperative projects between CAL FIRE and others to leverage maximum resource use on TM projects going forward. The details are expected to provide the framework for interagency agreements as well, if determined beneficial.
- CAL FIRE released the Mortality Project Mapper web based mapping application to support entry of project level information in map and tabular form. This tool gives responding agencies a place to collect and store information on their projects and may support information requests from TF leadership. This tool should not be used to replace direct requests to agencies; it may help those using the tool to report information requested by the TF.
- Task Force Leadership Transition: Task Force Leader Gabe Schultz and Deputy Task Force Leader Rick Carr have transitioned with Glenn Barley and Chris Anthony. Glenn Barley and Chris Anthony will be available to the Task Force for specific efforts and consultations. Whitney Bray will remain as the Logistics Chief for the Task Force and her role will continue in all efforts as previously involved.
- The 16-17 FY Budget includes a one-time increase of \$11 million General Fund dollars for CAL FIRE to assist in the removal and disposal of trees in high hazard areas. This includes:
 - \$6 million for grants to the California Conservation Corps and local entities, including local government, fire districts, local conservation corps, tribal entities, and fire safe councils, to provide support to local efforts to remove hazardous trees that pose a threat to public health and safety.
 - \$5 million to support additional miscellaneous equipment, personnel overtime for foresters, hand crews, engine companies, and heavy equipment operators, for hazardous tree removal and fuels reduction efforts.
- The 16-17 FY Budget also includes:
 - \$10 million one-time funding in grants from the State Responsibility Area Fund, with \$5 million of that dedicated for tree mortality related work.
 - \$31.6 million for the Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to provide assistance to counties through the California Disaster Assistance Act.

Fire Protection

Cooperative Fire Program

- Conservation Camp Program: An interagency ad hoc workgroup consisting of CAL FIRE and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) managers has undertaken the revision and updating of CAL FIRE Handbook 6400. This policy section addresses the operation and administration of conservation camps and applies to employees of both agencies. This revision effort is mandated in advance of the renewal of the Interagency Agreement between CAL FIRE and CDCR in 2017. 2016 marks the 71st year of this cooperative relationship.

- The statewide Conservation Camps count as of Wednesday, August 3, 2016:
 - The current statewide shortage of fire crew members assigned to fire crews is **818** (a reduction of 7 from 825 as of July 6, 2016).
 - The inmate population stands at 84 percent of capacity.
 - Fire crew capacity stands at 75 percent.
- State-Federal Program: The Department has seen a marked increase in the number of federal Fire Management Assistant Grants (FMAG) approved. The State-Federal Program is currently processing nine grants for the 2016 fire season, the most recent being the Pilot Fire in San Bernardino County. These FEMA administered FMAG's provide up to a 75 percent federal reimbursement of costs linked to efforts (fire suppression) to avert a major disaster. The definition of a major disaster focuses primarily upon impacts to life, residential, and commercial structures as well as overall infrastructure.
- Local Government Program – With notification from the San Miguel Fire Protection District of its intent to terminate its standing cooperative fire protection reimbursement agreement with CAL FIRE in 2017, the Local Government Program has been advising the local Unit (San Diego) on contractual issues.

Safety, EMS and Research and Development

- A Serious Accident Review Team (SART) was activated for the hired equipment dozer rollover fatality that occurred on the Soberanes Fire in Monterey County.
- The Safety Program is developing a document to be provided to physicians who evaluate and treat CAL FIRE employees who suffer heat related symptoms, requesting that a specific blood test be conducted to determine the condition known as rhabdomyolysis. This condition can only be confirmed by the blood test and is often misdiagnosed as dehydration. Conducting the blood test during initial evaluation and treatment will avoid future misdiagnosis, thereby shortening the recovery time.

Academy

- Re-write of the Fire Fighter Academy (FFA) and Company Officer Academy (COA) curriculum is under way as the Department prepares to transition to a seven week format for both courses starting this next training season

Statewide Training

- Assembled the 4039 Ad-Hoc working group to complete a rewrite of the Department's Incident Command System (ICS) position qualifications found in the Department training Handbook, Section 4039
- Assembled an Ad-Hoc working group to address the alignment issue with Type III FEMA classes needing to be at a Type I level for Incident Management Teams (IMTs)

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- Last month, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement made 25 arrests and issued 157 citations (non-4291).

- Last month, CAL FIRE Civil Cost Recovery received \$370,252 in fire cost recovery.
- On August 10, 2016, after a comprehensive investigation, CAL FIRE released the cause of the 2015 Valley Fire. The fire was caused by a faulty residential electrical connection used to service a hot tub on private property. The investigation uncovered evidence that a residential electrical connection arced and ignited surrounding dry grass.
- On Friday, August 5, 2016 Jonathan Benjamin Cohen, 45, of Poway, CA was found guilty on five counts of arson. Cohen was initially accused of starting 8 wildland fires between 2014 and 2015, as well as suspected of lighting fires going back as far as 2012. Cohen was charged with California Penal Code 451(c), "willfully and maliciously setting fire to forest land." Cohen was responsible for lighting fires along Wildcat Canyon Road between the communities of Barona and Lakeside, Highway 67 just north of Lakeside, and Lake Wohlford Road between Escondido and Valley Center.

Fire Protection Operations

- Working on updating the Mobile Communications Center (MCC) specification to allow for an IP based system that is e-adaptable with the ECC CAL FIRE Local Area Network (LAN). This will allow the MCC to "Plug in" to the ECC circuitry for bandwidth and local radio control.
- New Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) for NEU, TCU, LNU, and SLU have been delivered. Aforementioned Units have submitted CEQA paperwork and are awaiting approval for installation. The goal for installation is the week of September 5. These new RAWS will provide weather data in areas currently experiencing "gaps" in coverage and will provide for enhanced decision-making and firefighter safety.

Mobile Equipment

- MEU is working with DGS Procurement on Engines, Emergency Crew Transports, Truck Transport and Low Bed Trailer specifications. DGS will soon release for bid.
- Based upon recently approved BCPs, the preliminary count reflects a 34-vehicle increase in CAL FIRE's mobile equipment fleet.

Aviation Management Unit

- AMU is continuing to seek additional Air Tanker resources that can be utilized on a Call-When-Needed (CWN) basis. We have added a Canadian based Electra (P3) to the CWN fleet. This brings the count to five Air Tanker resources available to augment our CAL FIRE aviation fleet.
- AMU has submitted Helicopter performance validation criteria for the New Helicopter Acquisition Project. This would confirm, on delivery, that the Helicopter provided can actually perform, or have the attributes required in, the specifications of the bid offering.

Tactical Air Operations

- In coordination with CAL FIRE Mobile Equipment, four of the eleven new replacement Helitenders have been delivered and are now in service. Expect an additional five to be delivered within the next 30 days. The remaining two shall be completed and placed in service by October 2016.
- The Department has received eleven new Plastic Sphere Dispenser (PSD) machines to be used in support of both wildland fire control and prescribed fire operations. These devices are utilized on CAL FIRE's helicopters to ignite vegetation in coordinated support of wildland fire operations and vegetation management project (VMP) burns.

Incident Management Team Deployments

- **July 1, 2016** – Incident Management Team 1 assigned to Kern County, Deer Incident.
- **July 2, 2016** – Incident Management Team 2 assigned to the Fresno Kings Unit, Curry Incident.
- **July 22, 2016** – Incident Management Team 4 assigned to the San Benito Monterey Unit, Soberanes Incident.
- **July 31, 2016** – Incident Management Team 5 assigned to the Fresno Kings, Goose Incident.
- **August 3, 2016** – Incident Management Team 6 assigned to the Sonoma Lake Napa Unit, Cold Incident.
- **August 9, 2016** – Incident Management Team 1 assigned to the Fresno Kings Unit, Mineral Incident.
- **August 14, 2016** – Incident Management Team 2 assigned to the San Luis Obispo Unit, Chimney Incident
- **August 14, 2016** – Incident Management Team 3 assigned to the Sonoma Lake Napa Unit, Clayton Incident

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Planning and Risk Analysis Division

Wildland Pre-Fire Engineering

- Deputy Chief Steve Hawks assumed his new position on August 15, 2016. He immediately left to help oversee the DINS work being performed at the Clayton Fire in Lower Lake.
- Defensible Space Inspection data using the new electronic collector app has now exceeded 20,000 records across the State. Minor glitches are being identified and corrected. With the new ESRI Enterprise system now in place, all records are being migrated over to this new platform.
- New electronic records of defensible space inspections are now beginning to have a positive impact on post fire analysis. More detailed information to be released soon.
- Staff is working with IT to initiate purchase of the first 100 tablets for electronic data collection. An additional 300 tablets will be purchased over a phased-in timeframe.

Fire Plan

- Staff has been working with BOF Staff to complete requested information and SRA Report from the Board.
- CAL FIRE is gathering information to prepare for the annual report and presentation of the Strategic Fire Plan to the Board on accomplishments.
- Annual WUI Grant application period for the Western States Fire Manager Program has been opened, with applications due on September 15, 2016.

SRA Fire Prevention Fee

- SRA FPF Grant application period (in conjunction with other Tree Mortality Grant Programs) will publicly launch on August 22, 2016.
- There has been a significant increase in Exemption Applications from individuals who have lost their homes due to a natural disaster

CAIRS

- Current CAIRS contract expires in May 2018. Staff is putting together a group of stakeholders to help identify new contract parameters.
- 2015 Redbook data has been gathered and the review process will begin soon.

Land Use Planning

- LUP Staff, in conjunction with DSFM members from the State Fire Marshal's Office, were deployed on both the Chimney Fire in SLU, and the Clayton Fire in LNU, to perform Damage Inspections.
- LUP Staff continue to support LNU in Lake County with issues surrounding rebuilding from last year's Valley Fire.

**CALENDAR YEAR 2016
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH JULY**

Note: This information is for Timber Harvesting Plans, Exemptions, Emergencies, and Nonindustrial Timber Management Plans submitted to the Department during a calendar year. The numbers are the cumulative totals for the calendar year as of the specific date

Year Comparison	Santa Rosa		Redding		Riverside		Fresno		Totals	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
THPs Received	86	89	36	58	0	0	5	9	127	156
THPs Rejected for Filing (Returned)	17	18	9	29	0	0	4	9	30	56
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	89	98	37	53	0	0	7	9	133	160
THPs with NON-Concurrences	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
THPs Denied	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
THPs Approved	84	87	52	32	0	0	3	10	139	129
Acreage in Approved THPs	25,480	22,801	27,047	33,804	0	0	1,078	2,636	53,605	59,241
NTMPs Received	12	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	13	5
NTMPs Rejected for Filing (Returned)	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	2
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	9	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	10	6
NTMPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	6	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	9	5
NTMPs Approved Acres	1,222	721	4,311	84	0	0	0	0	5,533	805
NTMP Notice of Timber Operations Received	69	74	10	8	0	0	4	0	83	82
Exemption Notices Received	251	247	860	829	3	4	656	214	1,770	1,294
Emergency Notices Received	40	3	32	92	0	0	68	40	140	135
Exemption Types Received 2016	< 3 Acre Conversions		Fire Hazard		Forest Fire Prevention		Dead Dying Diseased		Other Exemp	Rec'd 2016
Santa Rosa	85		62		2		75		27	251
Redding	197		136		16		316		195	860
Riverside	1		0		0		1		1	3
Fresno	18		44		1		65		528	656
Emergency Types Received 2016	Fire		Fuel Hazard		Insect		Wind		Other Emerg	Rec'd 2016
Santa Rosa	40		0		0		0		0	40
Redding	25		0		4		0		3	32
Riverside	0		0		0		0		0	0
Fresno	64		0		2		0		2	68

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by CAL FIRE January - July

Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2015		2016	
		Count	Acres	Count	Acres
<i>1038 (c) 150 FT Fire Hazard</i>	Coast	111	174	56	81
	Cascade	183	315	133	353
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	43	91	41	219
	Totals	337	580	230	653
<i>1038(c)(6) 300 FT Fire Hazard effective 7/1/2015</i>	Coast	0	0	6	27
	Cascade	0	0	3	13
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	3	7
	Totals	0	0	12	47
<i>1038(d) Substantially Damaged Timberland</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	0	0	2	1,500
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	9	1,125	0	0
	Totals	9	1,125	2	1,500
<i>1038(i) Forest Fire Prevention</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	1	160	5	250
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	2	72	1	29
	Totals	3	232	6	279
<i>1038(j) Forest Fire Prevention Pilot</i>	Coast	2	99	2	120
	Cascade	6	1,101	11	1,189
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	0	0
	Totals	8	1,200	13	1,309
<i>1038 (k) Drought Mortality effective 7/1/2015</i>	Coast	0	0	11	938
	Cascade	3	614	171	18,274
	South	0	0	1	20
	Sierra	11	816	499	61,657
	Totals	14	1,430	682	80,889
<i>1104.1 <3 Acre Conversions</i>	Coast	50	126	85	218
	Cascade	221	449	197	411
	South	3	7	1	3
	Sierra	28	39	18	30
	Totals	302	621	301	662
<i>All other Exemptions</i>	Coast	86	515,843	91	306,029
	Cascade	417	1,731,485	342	1,684,831
	South	1	240	1	240
	Sierra	123	242,451	96	231,945
	Totals	627	2,490,019	530	2,223,045
Year to Date		1,300	2,495,207	1,776	2,308,384

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by CAL FIRE January - July

Type of 1052 Emergency	Admin Area	2015		2016	
		Count	Acres	Count	Acres
<i>Drought</i> effective 7/1/2015	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	0	0	3	1,336
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	2	4
	Totals	0	0	5	1,340
<i>Fire</i>	Coast	0	0	40	7,463
	Cascade	59	11,985	25	2,250
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	23	7,217	64	4,628
	Totals	82	19,202	129	14,341
<i>Fuel Hazard Reduction</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	13	164	0	0
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	1	33	0	0
	Totals	14	197	0	0
<i>Insect</i>	Coast	3	372	0	0
	Cascade	14	1,213	4	403
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	17	1,818	2	143
	Totals	34	3,403	6	546
<i>All other Emergencies</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	8	39	0	0
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	0	0
	Totals	8	39	0	0
Year to Date		138	22,841	140	16,227



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Data Source: Forest Practice System (FPS)

Data Contact: fpgis@fire.ca.gov