

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

P.O. Box 944246  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460  
(916) 653-7772  
Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



July 18, 2016

Dr. Keith Gillless, Chairman  
State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection  
P.O. Box 944246  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Re: Listed Anadromous Salmonid Amendments, 2016

Dear Chairman Gillless:

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has reviewed the proposed regulation language included in the 45-day notice for the Listed Anadromous Salmonid Amendments, 2016. CAL FIRE supports the proposed regulation that would maintain the standard Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ) widths and protection measures in areas where experimental populations of listed anadromous salmonids are reintroduced to watersheds.

The proposed rule text revises the 14 CCR § 895.1 definition of "Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids" to provide clarity regarding the geographic scope that does not include the areas of introduction of experimental listed anadromous salmonid populations. The proposed regulations also amends 14 CCR § 898.2 (d) to exclude such experimental populations from the take prohibitions of the Federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act, an action that will provide regulatory assurances to private timberland owners in California.

Thank you for providing CAL FIRE an opportunity to comment on this important rule package. We will have a representative available at the July 21, 2016, Board meeting should there be any questions related to implementation and enforcement of the Listed Anadromous Salmonid Amendments, 2016, regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Helge Eng".

HELGE ENG  
Deputy Director  
Resource Management