



## Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

Twin Pine Casino and Hotel  
22223 S. State Hwy 29  
Middletown, California 95461



July 2016 Board of Forestry Report

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### Resource Management

#### Forest Practice Program (through 6/30/2016)

##### Plan Submissions

- **THP Submissions:** THP submissions through June were down from last year (i.e. 112 compared to 130).
- **NTMP Submissions:** NTMP submissions are up from last year at this time (i.e., 11 compared to 5). NTO submissions were down (i.e., 57 compared to 65).
- **Exemption Notice Submissions:** Exemption submissions are up considerably compared to last year (i.e., 1,564 compared to 1,135 or nearly 40%). There have been a total of 812 Drought Mortality exemptions submitted under the new regulations.
- **Emergency Notice Submissions:** Emergency Notice submissions were up compared to last year (i.e., 125 compared to 112).
- **Plan Approval:** 120 THPs have been approved in 2016, in addition to 8 NTMPs.

##### General Review Team

###### Santa Rosa

- There are two Forester II vacancies (one Review Team Chair Forester II position, and one TRFRF Forester II position). Interviews for the TRFRF position occurred on June 29, 2016.
- Redding staff are assisting Santa Rosa with plan approval of coastal plans until the vacancies are filled.
- We also have a vacant Program Technician II position (Mail Desk). Interviews are scheduled for July 19, 2016.
- Forestry Assistant II Topher Henderson graduated from COA on June 17, 2016.

## **Redding**

- Forester II TRFRF Forester Dan Craig has started his assignment as a Subject Matter Expert to assist with the development of the on-line THP submissions (ACELLA) and expects to be more and more involved as the summer progresses.
- Forester II Jon Woessner is continuing to provide support to the Santa Rosa Review Team for plan review and signing.

## **Fresno**

- Exemptions have continued to be submitted at an elevated pace in the Fresno office. Currently there are approximately 150 more exemptions in 2016 than all of 2015.
- Forester I Kevin Kiniery is working with CalTrans to provide guidance on how to properly submit Right-of-Way exemptions in Tuolumne County. CalTrans expects to expand these into Mariposa and other counties. The first project is approximately 24 miles long.

## **Watershed Protection Program Update**

- Watershed Program staff attended the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (NCRWQCB) meeting for the agenda item on the proposed Waste Discharge Requirement Order for Humboldt Redwood Company in the Upper Elk River Watershed in Santa Rosa on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The NCRWQCB directed staff to make further changes to the draft Order, which will likely be recirculated.
- The Third Experiment at the Caspar Creek watershed, located on Jackson Demonstration State Forest, continues to move forward, heavily involving CAL FIRE Watershed Program staff. Several study components have been active:
  - The contract for the bioassessment study has been signed by DFW. Field training for CAL FIRE and USFS PSW staff to collect benthic macroinvertebrate samples, physical habitat information, and chemical samples was held in the South Fork on June 28 and 29. Five CAL FIRE and five PSW staff participated, and Jim Harrington of DFW conducted the training.
  - CAL FIRE purchased the equipment, including sap flow meters and data loggers, required to complete the instrumentation for the fourth transect of the Plant-Soil-Water Dynamics Study.

- The Oregon State University sediment fingerprinting study contract has been signed by both parties and is at the Department of General Services for final approval.
- A draft contract for the DHSVM (Distributed Hydrology Soil Vegetation Model) modeling work with Dr. Chris Surfleet of Cal Poly State University has been produced. The calibrated model will allow several questions to be addressed regarding how timber harvesting, road construction, and buffer strip design influence streamflow, sediment yield, and water temperature.
- Isotope field sampling for the Water Worlds study being conducted by the PSW, Dr. Jeff McDonnell (Univ. of Saskatchewan), and Dr. Kevin Bladon (OSU) has been conducted.
- Work on the South Fork THP continues; CAL FIRE has decided to use the CA FPR requirements for WLPZs in the South Fork, rather than the FPRs plus JDSF Management Plan standards.
- Watershed staff continue to participate in the BOF's Effectiveness Monitoring Committee. At the meeting held on June 17th in Ukiah, we reviewed the status of four projects: (1) Class II-L monitoring, (2) Effectiveness of the Road Rules in Reducing Hydrologic Connectivity and Significant Sediment Discharge, (3) BMDSF Post-Fire Research and Effectiveness Monitoring, and (4) FORPRIEM ver. 2.0. The EMC project ranking procedure was tested for the BMDSF post-fire project and FORPRIEM ver. 2.0.; there was full EMC support for both projects. The Class II-L study was not ranked due to the need for a revised project description, and the road rules project was not ranked due to the need for a proposed budget.
- Stacy Stanish completed the first phase of her wildlife photo monitoring study on Demonstration State Forests (DSFs), including Mountain Home DSF, and she continues to conduct spotted owl surveys on the DSFs. She completed her assignment for the Tree Mortality Task Force in the Tulare Unit, marking dead and dying trees, and is actively participating in the bioassessment study data collection effort on JDSF in the South Fork Caspar Creek watershed.

### **Forest Practice Enforcement Update**

- The Administrative Civil Penalty Program has had a total of 6 cases submitted in 2016. There are a total of 45 active civil cases. Ten active cases are in the review process for signature. Ten cases have been served and are waiting for response from respondents. Ten cases are due and payable or in need of judgements. There are payments being made for 6 cases and an additional ten are under stipulated settlement mitigation. The enforcement program continues to assist Santa Rosa Review Team with THP processing, and Licensed Timber Operators training classes.

## Timber Operators Licensing Program Update

- The Timber Operator Licensing Program is continuing to process applications as they come in to the program. The LTO classes have been filling up. An additional class to be held on July 21 and 22 in Roseville is full. Information for the remaining classes in 2016 is posted on the CAL FIRE website. Staff has completed mailing of all certificates from the May 2016 class, and continues to work on developing new application forms. The CAL FIRE Resource Management website for Licensed Timber Operators contains improvements to the update status for valid LTO licenses. A list of valid LTO licenses updates automatically every Monday morning and is available to the public. The link is provided below:

[http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestpractice\\_ltos](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestpractice_ltos)

## Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) Updated from the TRFRF Database (1/1/2016 through 05/31/16)

- **Specific TRFRF Forest Practice Effort:** The Forest Practice Program has utilized 62,572 hours in conducting forest practice activities in the following breakdown: review and processing of THPs (20.5%); conducting forest practice inspections (22.5%); participating in mandated training (16.6%); supervising and managing the forest practice program (8.4%); processing and managing the data related to THPs (8%); forest practice law enforcement (2%); program/project monitoring (0.9%); and responding to letters of concern (1.9%).
- **Total Departmental Forest Practice Efforts:** The Forest Practice Program has utilized a total of 66,407 hours in conducting forest practice activities and non-forest practice activities in the following breakdown: review and processing of THPs (20.3%); conducting forest practice inspections (23.8%); emergency incident support (.2%); participating in mandated training (15.8%); supervising and managing the forest practice program (9%); processing and managing the data related to THPs (8.1%); other duties in support of unit programs (8.6%); other forestry related activities (8.5%); forest practice law enforcement (1.9%); project/program monitoring (1%); and responding to letters of concern (1.8%). 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 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 are funded for FY 2015 funds, 2 have been completed already.
- 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 to fund. 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 will start work on August 2 in Fresno.

### **State Forests**

- Seven candidates were interviewed on June 10<sup>th</sup> for the vacant Latour State Forest Manager position. The new Forest Manager, Jason Poberko, was selected and began work on July 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The new Boggs Mountain State Forest Manager, Peter Leuzinger, reported for duty on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The workload for preparing new contracts, administering current contracts, giving tours and engaging and supporting researchers is quite large, so the added temporary and permanent staff is critical to ensure quality work gets done during this fast moving and massive salvage and rehabilitation effort.
- Approximately 75% of the salvage operations have been completed on Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest, with some signs of wood deterioration and insect damage beginning to appear. Many fire weakened and drought stressed trees that survived the fire are now showing signs of bark beetles. Keeping up on marking and removing these trees is a daily task. Buyers have acquired and committed more log trucks to keep up with the logging production, which had slowed operations in the past.
- A June 4<sup>th</sup> tour and presentation on Boggs Mountain State Forest was well attended with over 30 members from the Forest Landowners of California and the California Tree Farm Committee participating.
- A tour and meeting to discuss the research projects underway on Boggs Mountain State Forest was conducted on June 16<sup>th</sup> with Deputy Director Helge Eng, LNU Chief Shana Jones, Fire Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) and State Forest staff in attendance.

- Camping activity on Mountain Home State Forest has been consistently higher than recorded at this time last year.
- Timber salvage operations are scheduled to begin at Mountain Home State Forest in late July.
- A four acre prescribed burn was conducted on Mountain Home State Forest on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with the help of Mountain Home Conservation Camp.
- Jim Harrington of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife taught the SWAMP bioassessment protocol to Jackson State Forest staff, CAL FIRE's Pete Cafferata and Stacy Standish, and several USDA-Pacific Southwest Research Station staff in June. The bioassessment will provide valuable pre and post treatment data sets using a well-documented protocol.
- Jackson State Forest staff led a tour for Sierra College (Rocklin) Biology/Ecology class on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Topics included logging history and its effect on future stands, harsh site restoration/reclamation and possible genetic factors selected to try to maximize harsh site reclamation, hardwood control methodology and redwood cutting (harvest densities) and their resultant yields. This is the first year this group has visited the forest as part of a field studies weekend.
- PG&E has begun vegetation management work to control incompatible and encourage compatible species within the right-of-way and identify hazard trees on its electric transmission line corridor that traverses approximately 13 miles of Jackson State Forest along Highway 20.
- The Chamberlain Cat Barn demolition project on Jackson State Forest was completed on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The steam donkey at the Camp 20 Day Use Area has been moved onto its newly constructed concrete foundation, and plans are under development to begin restoration (i.e. foundation and roof) of the Little Red Schoolhouse.
- Jackson State Forest personnel staffed a booth at the annual "World's Largest Salmon BBQ" in Fort Bragg on July 2<sup>nd</sup> where visitors learned about JDSF's projects associated with improving and monitoring salmonid habitat, and JDSF's partners (Mendocino Land Trust, CA Conservation Corps, CDFW). They spoke to an estimated 200 people.
- The successful bidder for the Jackson State Forest resource inventory (FRI) is Jefferson Resource Company, headquartered in Weed, CA. They will start cruising on JDSF in the next few weeks and are scheduled to complete the cruise in fall, 2017.

- Jackson State Forest campgrounds have been open for just over one month and use appears to be at roughly the same level of use as last season, with 2,200 camper days so far.
- Soquel State Forest has been working with two adjacent landowners who have offered to donate land to CAL FIRE for the development of a continuous trail connecting the forest to Highland Way. The parcels, totaling approximately 26 acres, also have educational and recreational value, important historic and Native American archeological sites and features, old growth redwood trees and natural springs.
- Plans for the Soquel State Forest Open House/26 Year Anniversary are underway to hold a public event at the forest on August 6<sup>th</sup>. The Stewards of Soquel Forest will sponsor the event by providing food, RSVP registration, portable toilets and 2 shuttle vehicles. Over 14 different researchers and entities involved in research or projects at SDSF will be presenting information and/or providing demonstrations. Information will soon be available on the Stewards of Soquel Forest new website [www.SoquelForest.com](http://www.SoquelForest.com).
- The Soquel State Forest educational app Nature Tour developed by UC Berkeley is in the testing phase. Several improvements are in process before it is released to the public. The Android based Nature Tour app should be available for download prior the Open House and will provide audio information and Google map location at 18 stops along Hinh's Mill Road.
- Marianne Elliott from Washington State University returned to Soquel State Forest to continue the bay laurel Sudden Oak Death study.
- Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC) held a volunteer appreciation event at Soquel State Forest on June 12<sup>th</sup> to thank the trail workers and team leaders, with 80 people attending the celebration.
- Employees from Google volunteered for a Soquel State Forest trail work day on June 9<sup>th</sup> with 45 people participating.
- An additional Forestry Aide was hired on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- One La Tour staff (Ozard) was deployed to assist in the tree mortality in MMU.
- On La Tour, operations have resumed on the Cable Cow TSA.
- WM Beaty & Associates has started yarding the timber in the clearcut unit below Middle Bridge Road on La Tour.
- La Tour's logging of the Cow TSA will commence operations as soon as final approvals are received.

- Memorial Day Weekend brought the return of campers to La Tour. All accessible campsites were full and there were many daily visitors on quads and side by sides.
- La Tour received 8 new cameras from Stacy Stanish. The Cameras are video compatible and some will be utilized to see if there is a presence of COTO at Cave Rock. Two have been placed under the current cameras for comparison. Most cameras are now accessible by vehicle.
- Cave Rock water monitors on South Cow Creek were reinstalled on La Tour.
- Additional Spotted Owl calling was conducted at La Tour with Cal Fire Biologist Stacy Stanish June 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **L.A. Moran Reforestation Center**

- Survey packets were mass emailed to Region Chiefs, Unit Chiefs and Unit Foresters the third week in June with a due date this year of July 30<sup>th</sup>.
- LAMRC also sent out collection bid packets by mail to 17 potential collectors, also with a July 30<sup>th</sup> due date. Both packets contain our updated cone needs list for 2016.
- Cone crop surveys are coming in and we received the first surveys from the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit. This area has a decent White fir crop that we will try to pursue for collection.
- We are focusing on pursuing Ponderosa, Sugar and Jeffry pine cones from low elevations in all areas of the Sierra.
- Once LAMRC gets more 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 harvest this cone season at LAMRC: 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.
- Staff at LAMRC is going to assist with a Giant Sequoia cone collection for research at Whitaker Forest the first week of June and the cones will be processed at the LAMRC facility.

- In early June, LAMRC received ~11 bushels of Giant sequoia cones from UC Berkeley Center for Forestry at Whitaker's Forest, in an ongoing study to detect the differences in seed yield and viability between cones of different ages where age is related to cone color and morphology. We finished tumbling the cones after they ripened on our cone racks for four weeks and are now in the process of upgrading these seed lots.
- In general the seed bank inventory is low and a significant amount of seed lots are aging. Those seed lots over 25 years old are losing a lot of vigor while germinating. Staff are focused on ensuring the current seed requested is obtained.
- Germination retesting of seed lots in the State Seed Bank has picked up again since employees have returned from Academy duties.
- The kiln building is undergoing some major repairs for the rollup doors and much needed welding of the bottom boxes to stabilize them.
- A custom-built cone de-winger machine with tumbler assembly is still being built by a private contractor.
- LAMRC is currently expanding the relationship with the Putah Creek Council for research/growing that they are continuing at the facility. LAMRC staff is assisting with an expanded growing program for this agency, in developing an out-planting site for growing seedlings to a larger plant-able size.

### **California Forest Improvement Program**

- Stewart McMorrow accepted the position of Stewardship Forester (Forester II) on April 18, 2016.
- The CFIP program continues to encumber TRFRF funds allocated to the program as of the 2015/2016 fiscal year.
- A total of 3 positions were advertised at the Forester I or Forestry Assistant II level. These positions will be located in the Riverside, Santa Clara and Sonoma areas.
- Two Forester I positions have been successfully filled with promising candidates. The Sonoma area vacancy will be filled in August, and the Santa Clara position in September.
- A total of \$1,180,898 has been encumbered for the 15/16 FY as of May 1, 2016.

- A total of 17,406 acres are included as encumbered project areas.
- A total of 50 contracts have been approved or are in the approval process.
- The following lists the total number of acres and contracts by general region:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b># of Contracts</b>
High tree mortality counties (Fresno, Mariposa, Tuolumne, Tulare)	3,137	18
Sonoma, Lake, Napa county area	5,565	16
North Coast (Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino)	6,965	10
North State Interior (Siskiyou, Shasta, Modoc)	828	4
Mid Sierra Counties (Placer, Nevada, Sierra)	912	2

### **Forest Legacy Program**

- The three working-forest conservation easements of the Eel River Peninsula, Phase 2, FLP project closed on June 2, 2016. The addition of 15,620 acres will bring the total in the California program to 111,379 acres.

### **Cultural Resources**

- Chris Browder has been named manager of the CAL FIRE Archeology Program.
- A new Associate State Archaeologist has been hired and will begin working out of the Southern Region Administrative Headquarters in Fresno in early August.
- Sacramento HQ continues to recruit for Associate State Archaeologist.
- Ben Harris will begin working as an Associate State Archaeologist in the CAL FIRE Santa Rosa Review Team Office on July 18<sup>th</sup>. His position is limited term to fill behind Chuck Whatford, who plans to retire in early November 2016.

### **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Program**

- CAL FIRE completed its annual reporting on FY 14-15 GGRF projects to the Air Resources Board.

- 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 meet 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 is in the process of restructuring the format of the Assessment report around indicators.
- Wildfire Issues: FRAP staff (Dave Sapsis – lead) arranged an interagency team to draft a white paper that highlights where there is consensus among scientists that fuel treatments can be an effective strategy to provide emissions avoidance and promote stable long term carbon storage. The white paper has been completed and is being made available as a CAL FIRE Forestry Note.
- GGRF Quantification Methodology: Tadashi Moody (FRAP) continues to work with ARB on 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 following the Valley Fire at Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest.
- Fire Map 1 for PUC - FRAP (D. Sapsis) lead a technical committee that developed 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. The PUC adopted Fire Map 1 and are under deliberation of the second phase of the project.
- Climate Change: FRAP (C. Keithley) assisting FCAT in developing the Forest Carbon Plan and other supporting documents.

- Tree Mortality Task Force (TMTF): FRAP staff are supporting Mapping and Monitoring work group and the Forest Health work group. Staff have developed a mapping application that local government can use for entering tree removal projects. The application will also show CAL FIRE projects that have been captured in CalMAPPER. Coordinating with USFS on revised tree mortality estimates.
- 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.
- CalMAPPER FRAP staff are working with IT, OSFM (D. Shew) and Phyllis Banducci to implement a contract that will be used to upgrade and enhance Cal MAPPER. The upgrade will allow CalMAPPER application to be better integrated with existing GIS software.

### **Forest Pest Management**

- Staff is completing work on a short landowner guidance document for forest health and resiliency as part of the Governor's Task Force on Tree Mortality and the Drought.
- Bark beetle activity continues to increase around the State, especially in the central Sierra Nevada Range.
- A new infestation of Kuroshio shot hole borer and its associated fungi has been identified in the San Elijo Lagoon riparian habitat in San Diego County.
- The Polyphagous shot hole borer and its fungi have been found along the Santa Ana River in Riverside County.
- Pest Management Staff has agreed to a training class for urban foresters and arborists about pest issues sometime in the near future.

### **Climate and Energy Program**

- The Forest Climate Action Team (FCAT) established a technical team to manage the climate drafting of the Forest Carbon Plan. The team consists of representatives from CAL FIRE, CNRA, CARB and USDA Forest Service. Compiling data and drafting the report is in progress and on schedule to be completed by the end of the year. The draft report will be completed in August.

- The Tree Mortality Task Force continues to make progress on implementing the tree mortality emergency proclamation. There are two working groups focused on biomass management: 1) Bioenergy and 2) Markets Development. The Investor-Owned Utilities have released a solicitation to accept bids for facilities using primarily fuel from tree mortality areas. Bids from facilities are due at the end of July and assuming no protests, contracts between facilities and utilities will be signed in October or November. This will fulfill the CPUC's requirement of utilities purchasing a minimum of 50 MW's of power from bioenergy facilities.
- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Administrative Law Judge is expected to release the final BioMAT program decision in August which will outline the terms of the program. This program is for new, small facilities located in forested communities. The Governor's Proclamation directed CPUC to revise the program to expedite power contracts for new facilities.
- Market Development - Several market opportunities are being investigated by the Market Development Working Group, including:
  - Exports of logs – Logs from private property are being exported by operators to overseas markets, primarily China. The volume limitation is a shortage of delivery trucks.
  - The Office of Planning & Research (OPR) has formed a Technical Advisory Group to compile data on potential markets for biochar and pursue new applications. CAL FIRE is a member. While nothing is on the immediate horizon, this potential market warrants continued investigation.
  - Salton Sea is required to mitigate dust on the playa. CAL FIRE is coordinating with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), CA Natural Resources Agency and others to evaluate the potential to apply chipped dead trees to abate dust. As part of this, the potential to transport the wood by rail is under consideration.

### **Tree Mortality Task Force**

- On Wednesday June 22nd, the US Forest Service (USFS) released the outcome of the latest aerial detection surveys over California forestland, finding that over 66 million trees have now died due to drought and bark beetles since 2010. This number is up from 40 million dead trees from 2010-2015. In 2015, 29 million trees died as compared to 3.3 million in 2014. This number will be updated as additional flight paths are flown later this summer and in early fall, so estimates are expected to increase.

- Task Force Leader Glenn Barley and Deputy Task Force Leader Chris Anthony began to transition leadership with CAL FIRE's Northern Region Staff Chief Resource Manager Gabe Schultz and Southern Region Staff Chief Resource Manager Rick Carr. While Glenn Barley and Chris Anthony will be available to the Task Force for specific efforts and consultations, they will be returning to their normal duties within CAL FIRE. Whitney Bray will remain as the Logistics Chief for the Task Force and her role will continue in all efforts as previously involved.
- Tuolumne County supervisors, administrators, Cal OES staff, CAL FIRE staff, and several others visited the Leisure Pines Pilot Project in the Leisure Pines neighborhood off Highway 108 just east of Twain Harte. The project is a collaborative effort involving multiple public and private entities, including Tuolumne County, CAL FIRE, PG&E, Cal Trans, and several other contractors and subcontractors, targeted at providing indirect relief to homeowners as long as trees are threatening county roads and PG&E powerlines are on their property. The work in Leisure Pines is being completed in a three step approach at no additional cost to a homeowner, as long as the landowner signs a right-of-entry permit that allows foresters to inspect dead or dying trees on their properties and the County's partners to come in later and remove them.
- Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup> Tree Mortality Task Force (TMTF) leadership met with the Amador County Task Force to provide information on the activities of the Statewide Task Force and to gather information on how the State Task Force can help Amador County efforts. The Amador Task Force was well represented by a variety of agencies and there was good information sharing on California Disaster Assistance Act funding, state equipment, PG&E activity, the status and effect of a possible Federal declaration, and the outlook for mortality along with several other topics.
- TMTF leadership and other State and Federal agencies participated in a workshop with El Dorado County officials on June 17 to share information on the many activities going on related to tree mortality. Over 90 people representing the public, utilities, non-governmental organizations, and numerous local, State and Federal agencies were in attendance. Numerous topics were covered including an overview of Statewide TMTF efforts, El Dorado County Task Force response, Eldorado National Forest mitigation and tree removal projects, CAL FIRE and NRCS landowner and forestry assistance programs, PG&E's vegetation treatment program, and a review of the causes of tree mortality in El Dorado County. Following the morning session, attendees travelled to the El Dorado Irrigation Districts Sly Park recreational area where numerous trees surrounding the lake are actively infested by bark beetles. A field lesson on diagnosing tree diseases and insect problems was provided to the group.

- The Tree Mortality Task Force is currently working with CAPCOA, CA Air Resources Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on possible options to the Title V permitting process.
- As directed by the Governor's Emergency Proclamation, the California Energy Commission has prioritized Electric Program Investment Charge funding for woody biomass-to-energy technology development and deployment. Grant Funding Opportunity 15-325 was released June 27<sup>th</sup>. It includes \$5 million for research and development projects using woody biomass and \$10 million for technology demonstration and deployment to projects using high hazard zone material. Three solicitation workshops will be held July 20-22, 2016. Concept papers for this solicitation are due on August 29, 2016.

## **Fire Protection**

### **Cooperative Fire Program**

- Conservation Camp Program – With the acquisition of the former Orange County juvenile offender center at Los Pinos (Orange County), the California Conservation Corps (CCC) has begun work on establishing another Fire Center. This will be a cooperative effort between CCC and CAL FIRE similar to that used to establish the Butte Fire Center in Magalia. Both agencies are working jointly on a Budget Change Proposal to establish funding for this Center. This effort will partially offset the loss of inmate fire fighters at the Department's Conservation Camps. As of Wednesday, July 6, 2016, the current statewide shortage of inmate fire crew members assigned to fire crews is **825**, (a reduction of 17 from 842 as of June 22, 2016). The inmate population stands at 85% (+1%) of capacity while crew capacity stands at 75% (+2%).

### State-Federal Program

- With the current level of fire activity experienced this fire season, the Department has seen an uptick in the number of Fire Management Assistant Grants approved. These federal grants provide a 75% reimbursement of costs linked to efforts (fire suppression) to avert a major disaster. The definition of a major disaster focuses primarily upon impacts to residential and commercial structures as well as overall infrastructure.

### Local Government Program

- The Local Government Advisory Committee, composed of CAL FIRE field and program personnel as well as local government representatives, met last week. The current focus of the Committee is on policy revisions impacting the program as well as monitoring efforts to refine the calculation of the Department's administrative charge to local government cooperators.

## **Safety, EMS and Research and Development**

- Chief Hamilton was promoted to the Battalion Chief Department Safety Officer July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Distributed three Safety Communications this month:
  - 2016 Annual Focus on Safety
  - Tree Mortality Hazard Tree Safety Communications
  - Airdrop Safety Communications
- Chief Brown traveled to Washington to attend the DHS Science and Technology First Responder Research Group meeting. This is the same group that collaborated with the single layer wild land PPE and the same group the collaborated with SCOUT/NICS research.

## **Training**

### Statewide Training

- Department JAC Coordinator is working with a newly developed Ad-Hoc group to re-align the departments JAC program with changes to State Fire Training taking effect January 1, 2017.

### CAL FIRE Academy

- The Academy is preparing for the new three story dormitory construction. Site preparation, infrastructure preparation and relocating current portable office and dormitory building to lower lot, removing them from the proposed DGS construction area are under way.
- Academy curriculum development is working on developing a process of re-aligning both Firefighter and Company Officer Academy's delivered curriculum in to the State Fire Training format.

## **Mobile Equipment**

- The Department continues to have vacancies in the Mobile Equipment classifications. Program is working with HR to address recruitment challenges.

## **Aviation Management Unit**

- Continuing construction of the replacement for Air Tanker 81 by CAL FIRE AMU staff and DynCorp International staff.
- Next Generation Helicopter Working Group members met with CAL FIRE and DGS Executive staff to provide the work group's update.

## **Tactical Air Operations**

- The Department is purchasing 11 new Plastic Sphere Dispenser (PSD) machines for helicopter firing operations that can support both wildland fire control operations and prescribed fire.

- All necessary components to standardize and update the Department's helitorch program have been purchased which can also support both wildland fire control operations and prescribed fire.
- Program continues to develop the Scope of Work for development of the Department's aviation strategic plan.

### **Operations Support**

- ROSS outage from June 29 - July 2 was handled exceptionally well by our OCCs and ECCs. Outage will affect reports available for the time period (memo sent to field).
- Program is developing a standardized policy and procedure for UAS/Drone reporting over fire incidents.
- Program is purchasing new Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) and parts to both add new and repair existing RAWS. New RAWS will be placed in the following CAL FIRE Units:
  - Tuolumne-Calaveras (TCU)
  - Sonoma-Lake-Napa (LNU)
  - Nevada-Yuba-Placer (NEU)
  - Tehama-Glenn (TGU)

### **Incident Management Teams**

- CAL FIRE Incident Management Teams have been activated to four incidents so far this year and are prepared for the fire activity to increase.
  - IMT #4 was activated to develop a pre-response and response planning tool to be utilized in those areas of the State impacted by high tree mortality
  - IMT #5 was activated to the Border Fire in San Diego (MVU)
  - IMT #1 was activated to the Deer Fire in Kern County (CAL FIRE Contract County)
  - IMT #2 was activated to the Curry Fire in Fresno County (FKU)

## **Office of the State Fire Marshal**

**State Fire Marshal Tonya Hoover retired July 15, 2016.**

### **Planning and Risk Analysis Division**

#### **Wildland Fire Engineering**

- Beta testing for the new Electronic Collector Application for Defensible Space Inspection data continues to be improved. In addition to the four CAL FIRE Units that began the beta testing (LNU, FKU, TUU, and BDU), AEU and BTU are now also collecting electronic records. In addition, three Contract Counties, KRN, MRN, and ORG, are also beginning to use the app. To date, more than 14,600 inspections have been collected using the new program.
- Interviews to fill the Deputy Chief position will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The new ESRI Enterprise Agreement has been signed, and a kickoff meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2016 to use this new process.
- Statewide application for electronic Defensible Space data collection is still scheduled to be launched in 2017. Program is working with IT to begin the purchase of electronic devices for statewide collection to begin.

#### **Fire Plan/Pre Fire**

- Staff continues to work on tree mortality issues, and responding to requests for reports and maps.
- CalMAPPER Working Group has entered a phase to fund a broad upgrade to the program. Fiscal commitments are being made to fund this "Phase 3" upgrade during the current Fiscal Year.

#### **SRA Fire Prevention Fee**

- Updated Information Report was completed in June, and posted online.
- Staff will be working with others to coordinate SRA Grant Funds for statewide distribution.
- Staff will be working with the Resource Protection Committee to discuss questions regarding the Information Report. Better reporting data is being collected now.

- Staff is working with the Grants Management Unit to coordinate the past two years of grant projects.
- New contract for the Designated Fee Administrator (DFA) has been completed through DGS.

### **CAIRS**

- A new SSA position has recently been filled, and one additional SSA position will be advertised and filled over the next couple of months.
- Redbook data have been gathered with the Green Sheet process to begin soon.
- Contract amendments are being processed to increase storage capacity for CAIRS data.

### **Land Use Planning**

- Program personnel met with LNU Executive Staff in June to discuss redevelopment in Lake County and considerations that are being asked of the Department.
- LUP Staff assisted with the Erskine DINS deployment, and led the team to collect data and complete the DINS Report.
- LUP Staff is working with the BOF in revision of existing Safety Element review documents.

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

*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	75	77	29	45	0	0	5	8	109	130
THPs Rejected for Filing (Returned)	16	14	7	27	0	0	4	8	27	49
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	75	87	33	44	0	0	5	8	113	139
THPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THPs Denied	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
THPs Approved	74	66	43	28	0	0	3	9	120	103
Acreage in Approved THPs	22,551	17,328	23,677	33,531	0	0	1,078	2,300	47,306	53,159
NTMPs Received	10	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	11	5
NTMPs Rejected for Filing (Returned)	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	1
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	8	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	9	5
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	5	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	8	5
NTMPs Approved Acres	842	721	4,311	84	0	0	0	0	5,153	805
NTMP Notice of Timber Operations Received	45	60	9	5	0	0	3	0	57	65
Exemption Notices Received	202	203	771	743	2	4	589	185	1,564	1,135
Emergency Notices Received	37	3	30	71	0	0	58	38	125	112
<b>Exemption Types Received 2016</b>	<b>&lt; 3 Acre Conversions</b>		<b>Fire Hazard</b>		<b>Forest Fire Prevention</b>		<b>Dead Dying Diseased</b>		<b>Other Exemp</b>	<b>Rec'd 2016</b>
Santa Rosa	69		52		2		57		22	202
Redding	186		114		14		290		167	771
Riverside	1		0		0		1		0	2
Fresno	17		48		0		66		458	589
<b>Emergency Types Received 2016</b>	<b>Fire</b>		<b>Fuel Hazard</b>		<b>Insect</b>		<b>Wind</b>		<b>Other Emerg</b>	<b>Rec'd 2016</b>
Santa Rosa	36		0		0		0		1	37
Redding	23		0		5		0		2	30
Riverside	0		0		0		0		0	0
Fresno	55		0		1		0		2	58

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
January - June

Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2015		2016	
		Count	Acres	Count	Acres
<i>1038 (c) 150 FT Fire Hazard</i>	Coast	93	143	46	63
	Cascade	158	286	111	316
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	38	85	37	210
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>589</b>
<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	2	6
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>46</b>
<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
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<i>1038(i) Forest Fire Prevention</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	1	160	4	230
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	1	15	0	0
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>230</b>
<i>1038(j) Forest Fire Prevention Pilot</i>	Coast	2	99	2	120
	Cascade	5	868	10	1,093
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	0	0
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1,213</b>
<i>1038 (k) Drought Mortality effective 7/1/2015</i>	Coast	0	0	5	445
	Cascade	0	0	142	16,417
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	0	0	439	49,902
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>66,764</b>
<i>1104.1 &lt;3 Acre Conversions</i>	Coast	42	108	69	176
	Cascade	205	429	186	392
	South	3	7	1	3
	Sierra	26	37	17	27
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>598</b>
<i>All other Exemptions</i>	Coast	67	494,029	71	292,488
	Cascade	376	1,623,716	312	1,674,307
	South	1	240	1	240
	Sierra	111	241,337	93	231,041
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>2,359,322</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>2,198,076</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>		<b>1,138</b>	<b>2,362,684</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>2,269,016</b>

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
January - June

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
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,340</b>
<i>Fire</i>	Coast	0	0	36	6,986
	Cascade	51	9,761	23	2,090
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	21	5,882	55	3,623
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>15,643</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>12,699</b>
<i>Fuel Hazard Reduction</i>	Coast	0	0	0	0
	Cascade	0	0	0	0
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	1	33	0	0
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<i>Insect</i>	Coast	3	372	0	0
	Cascade	14	1,213	4	403
	South	0	0	0	0
	Sierra	17	1,818	1	118
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,403</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>521</b>
<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
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>		<b>115</b>	<b>19,118</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>14,560</b>



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Data Source: Forest Practice System (FPS)  
Data Contact: fpgis@fire.ca.gov