

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

-Meeting Held January 5, 2010-

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Tom Walz and Dr. Doug Piirto (Chair); Dr. Russ Henly, Dr. Helge Eng, Jim Kral (Department of Forestry & Fire Protection); Doug Ferrier (Forest Slopes Management); Bill Keye (California Licensed Foresters Association); Rhianna Lee, Lorna Dobrovolny (Department of Fish & Game); Addie Jacobson, Susan Robinson (Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch); Charles Greenlaw (non-industrial forest landowner); Dan Weldon; Gary Rynearson (Green Diamond Resource Company); Richard Gienger (Humboldt Watershed Council).

AGENDA ITEM 1: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION TO SUPPORT THE DRAFT FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE FOR MOUNTAIN HOME DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST. POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM: THE COMMITTEE MAY ADOPT A RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION BY THE FULL BOARD.

State Forest Program Manager, Dr. Helge Eng presented the draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to meeting participants. Dr. Eng noted that the Department of Fish and Game's timely comments on the draft had been incorporated into the document. Following comment and discussion by the assembly, Member Walz made a motion to recommend that the full Board recognize that the proposed mitigated negative declaration is the appropriate CEQA compliant document for the proposed management plan update; and that the full Board authorize the Department to file the draft mitigated negative declaration with the State Clearinghouse of the Office of Planning and Research to commence the 30-day public comment period. The motion received the concurrence of Committee Chair Piirto.

ACTION ITEM: THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. RECOGNIZE THAT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION IS THE APPROPRIATE CEQA COMPLIANT DOCUMENT TO SUPPORT THE MOUNTAIN HOME DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE AND;**
- 2. DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT TO FILE THE DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (INCLUDING THE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES) WITH THE STATE CLEARINGHOUSE AT THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH TO INITIATE THE 30 DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.**

AGENDA ITEM 2: REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY WASTE AUTHORITY'S REQUEST FOR AN EXCHANGE OF PARCELS WITH JACKSON DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST. POSSIBLE ACTION ITEM: THE COMMITTEE MAY ADOPT A RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION BY THE FULL BOARD.

Assistant Deputy Director, Dr. Russ Henly reported on a proposal from the Mendocino County Waste Authority that would result in the State Forest's acquisition of a small portion of Russian Gulch State Park in exchange for a similar sized portion of the State Forest for the siting of a solid waste transfer facility. Dr. Henly noted that this proposal is in the very early stages of review and that Board action will not be solicited until such time as the proposal has been clearly articulated by the county waste authority. In the course of the presentation, the Committee and meeting participants expressed concerns about the proposal and concurred that further detailed information would be necessary for complete evaluation of the proposal.

Agenda Item 2 Continued...

Dr. Henly will brief the rest of the Board membership on the proposal during the full Board meeting on the following day. The item will again be agendized for review by the Committee in February 2010.

AGENDA ITEM 3: IDENTIFICATION AND REVIEW OF COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR 2010.

Staff reviewed the proposed Management Committee priorities as detailed in the draft 2010 Board Committee Priorities Report. Meeting participants were solicited for additions to the Committee's priorities. Review of the Committee's priorities will be agendized as new and unfinished business for the February 2010 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4: CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF A MODIFIED TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN (MTHP) REGULATORY PROPOSAL FOR STREAMLINED PERMITTING OF FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION PROJECTS.

Staff introduced the topic and explained that the work he was directed to complete in advance of this meeting was unfinished. Staff was accordingly re-directed to continue work on incorporation of contemporary research findings into the Initial Statement of Reasons and rule pleading language; draft a "cumulative effects checklist" for possible inclusion in the rule pleading language; and identify specific points of meeting participant disagreement over the proposal. This work is to be completed in advance of the February 2010 Committee Meeting.

Staff then introduced Ms. Lorna Dobrovoly of the State Department of Fish and Game to present her idea to associate the proposed Modified THP with a county Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. Ms. Dobrovoly provided meeting participants with a written explanation of the proposal and solicited comment from the assembly. Following comment from meeting participants, Ms. Dobrovoly was encouraged to continue her work on the proposal for further review with the ongoing MTHP discussion.

AGENDA ITEM 5: NEW AND UNFINISHED.

No new or unfinished business was reported.

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 2010 COMMITTEE MEETING:

- 1. Review of Request for Parcel Swap between the Mendocino County Waste Authority and Jackson Demonstration State Forest.**
- 2. Status Report on Comment Received to Date on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to Support the Forest Management Plan Update for Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest.**
- 3. Staff Presentation on the Regulations for Non-industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs).**
- 4. Status Report on Implementation of the Sustained Yield Plan Renewal Regulations.**
- 5. Continuing Discussion of a Modified Timber Harvest Plan (MTHP) Regulatory Proposal for Streamlined Permitting of Fuel Hazard Reduction Projects. Presentation of Department's Fuel Behavior Modeling Results.**
- 6. New and Unfinished Business (Review of Committee Priorities for 2010).**

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