

**RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**REPORT ON PENDING LEGISLATION****SB 937, as introduced, McGuire. Disaster relief: Lake County Fires.**

The California Disaster Assistance Act generally provides that the state share for disaster project allocations to local agencies is no more than 75% of total state eligible costs, except for specified events for which the state share is up to 100% of state eligible costs. This bill would add the forest fires that occurred in the County of Lake in 2015 to the list of events for which the state share of state eligible cost is up to 100%. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced.
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**SB 1028, as introduced, Hill. Electrical corporations: wildfire mitigation plans.**

This bill would require each electrical corporation and each local publicly owned electric utility or electrical cooperative to construct and maintain its electric plant in a manner that would prevent it from causing a catastrophic wildfire. The bill would require each electrical corporation and each local publicly owned electric utility or electrical cooperative to annually prepare a wildfire mitigation plan. The bill would require each electrical corporation to submit its plan to the commission and each local publicly owned electric utility or electrical cooperative to submit its plan to its governing board for approval, as specified. The bill would require the commission and the governing board to accept, accept provisionally, or reject the submitted plan, as specified. By placing additional duties upon local publicly owned electric utilities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Because a violation of these provisions would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**AB 1589, as amended, Mathis. California Environmental Quality Act: exemption.**

This bill would, for the duration of a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor due to drought, flood, or fire, exempt from the requirements of CEQA projects that are undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to mitigate the effects of, or conditions caused by, drought, flood, or fire.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**AB 2162, as introduced, Chu. Oak Woodlands Protection Act.**

The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 prohibits a person from conducting timber operations unless a timber harvesting plan prepared by a registered professional forester has been submitted to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The Oak Woodlands Conservation Act provides funding for the conservation and protection of California's oak woodlands. Any violation of the Fish and Game Code is a crime.

This bill would enact the Oak Woodlands Protection Act, which would prohibit a person from removing from an oak woodland, as defined, specified oak trees, unless an oak removal plan and oak removal permit application for the oak tree removal has been submitted to and approved by the Director of Fish and Wildlife.

By June, 30, 2016, the bill would require the Fish and Game Commission to adopt regulations to implement the act, including regulations establishing an oak removal permit application fee. The bill

*The Board's mission is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands, and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.*

would require the fee to be deposited into the Oak Woodlands Protection Act Fund, as created by the bill. Moneys in the fund would be continuously appropriated to the department for purposes of paying the total costs incurred by the department in administering and enforcing the act, thereby making an appropriation.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**AB 1958, as introduced, Wood. Forest practices: oak woodlands.**

The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973, which regulates timber harvesting, requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to divide the state into districts, taking into account differing characteristics, and to adopt, and continuously review and revise, district forest practice rules and regulations for each district in accordance with specified policies.

This bill would require the board, by January 1, 2018, to revise or repeal those rules and regulations that are an impediment to the restoration of oak woodlands.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**SB 1463, as introduced, Moorlach. Electrical lines: mitigation of wildfire risks.**

This bill would require the Public Utilities commission, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to prioritize areas in which communities are at risk from the consequences of wildfires when determining areas in which it will require enhanced mitigation measures for wildfire hazards posed by overhead electrical lines and equipment.

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**SB 1402, as introduced, Pavley. Low-carbon fuels.**

This bill would additionally authorize moneys in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction fund to be used to promote and further California climate goals to encourage the in-state production of alternative fuels with low-carbon intensity from new and existing facilities, using sustainable feedstock, with preference to be given to disadvantaged communities.

*((3) Funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with water use and supply, land and natural resource conservation and management, forestry, and sustainable agriculture.)*

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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**SB 1043, as introduced, Allen. Renewable gas: biogas and biomethane.**

This bill would require the Air Resources Board to consider and adopt policies to significantly increase the sustainable production and use of renewable gas, as defined, and, in so doing, would require the state board, among other things, to ensure the production and use of renewable gas provides direct environmental benefits and identify barriers to the rapid development and use of renewable gas and potential sources of funding.

*(The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:...(e) Using forest biomass collected as part of a sustainable forestry plan can significantly reduce the risks and impacts of catastrophic wildfires, including black carbon emissions and air pollution, impacts on water supply and quality, impacts on utility and other infrastructure, threats to public safety and communities, impacts on fisheries and wildlife, and effects on precipitation.*

*39735 (b) In order to meet the state's climate change, low-carbon fuel, renewable energy, landfill diversion, and wildfire reduction goals, the state board shall consider and adopt policies to significantly increase the sustainable production and use of renewable gas. In doing so, the state board shall do all the following:.... (5) Coordinate with the Public Utilities Commission, the State Energy Resources*

*Conservation and Development Commission, publicly owned utilities, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.)*

02/26/2016 Status	In committee
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**SB 805, as introduced, Committee on Natural Resources and Water. Natural resources.**

*(3) Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to appoint a Range Management Advisory Committee and requires 2 members on the board to be from the general public, as provided, and for one member to be nominated by the Watershed Fire Council of Southern California. This bill would instead require 3 members to be from the general public, as provided, and would delete the nomination from the Watershed Fire Council of Southern California.*

02/26/2016 Status	In committee
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**AB 1555, as introduced, Gomez. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.**

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The state board is required to adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board from the auction or sale of allowances as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and to be available upon appropriation.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation that would appropriate \$1,700,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the 2015–16 fiscal year that would be allocated to different entities in amounts to be determined in the future legislation for purposes including low carbon transportation and infrastructure, clean energy communities, and community climate improvements, wetland and watershed restoration, and carbon sequestration.

*Undetermined amount of dollars for agricultural and rangeland carbon sequestration programs.*

02/26/2016 Status	Introduced
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