

Vegetation Treatment Program Environmental Impact Report (VTPEIR) Public Webinars

April 14th and April 26th
10 :00A.M. to 11 :30A.M.

Webinar and Conference Call Information

Space is limited. (Maximum of 100)

Reserve your Webinar Seat Now at:

April 14 : <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/229075603>

April 26 : <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/972476946>

Conference Line: (866) 680-0146

Participant Code: 439863#

Purpose of the Webinars: Provide the public the opportunity to provide information, data, or suggestions on a range of vegetation treatments that will be effective in reducing the risk of large damaging wildfires while maintaining forest health, resilience and biodiversity.

Background: In 2005 the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) initiated preparation of an updated Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Vegetation Management Program administered by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Department). The original 1981 PEIR applied only to the use of prescribed fire on private land within state fire protection responsibility areas. As time progressed it became clear that implementation of an effective vegetation management program to reduce the risk of large damaging wildfires would need to cover a wider range of land ownerships and utilize a wider range of tools for vegetation treatment than prescribed fire. The Board adopted a new California Fire Plan in 1996 that relied on expansion of vegetation management treatments (land and tools) to reduce the large wildfire risk. The Department then prepared and certified a revised PEIR for vegetation management in 2000. The PEIR was subsequently decertified 2002 as directed by a superior court decision. The court found that the use of herbicides for vegetation treatment was not adequately addressed in the PEIR.

In 2005 SB 1804 broadens the range of vegetation treatment practices described in Public Resources Code. The Board then began work on preparation of the current PEIR which does cover a wider range of vegetation treatments and broader range of land ownerships (non-federal public lands). With this change the title of the PEIR was changed to the Vegetation Treatment Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (VTPEIR). Scoping sessions for this effort were conducted in August of 2005 and work began on preparation of a Draft EIR, but was delayed due to staffing and funding constraints. Since that time the Board adopted a new 2010 California Fire Plan which is risk based. The Board and Department have been able to identify the resources necessary to move forward with preparation of the Draft VTPEIR and wants to provide the public the opportunity to provide any new information or incites that may have occurred since the original 2005 Scoping Sessions. That is the purpose for these Webinars and public comment period.

Contact: For more information or if you have trouble registering for the webinar, please contact Doug Wickizer at (916) 653-5602 or doug.wickizer@fire.ca.gov.