



Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

Bahia Resort
998 West Mission Bay Drive
San Diego, California 92109



May 2016 Board of Forestry Report

Resource Management

Forest Practice Program (through 4/30/2016)

Plan Submissions

- **THP Submissions:** Santa Rosa had 47 new THP submittals, Redding 14, and Fresno had 3; totaling 64. THP submissions through April were down from last year (i.e. 64 compared to 86).
- **NTMP Submissions:** There were 8 NTMPs, and 7 NTOs submitted in Santa Rosa. There was 1 NTMP and 5 NTO submitted in Redding. No new NTMPs or NTOs were submitted in Fresno. NTMP submissions are up from last year at this time (i.e., 9 compared to 2).
- **Exemption Notice Submissions:** Exemption submissions were down compared to last year. Santa Rosa had 121 exemptions submitted, Redding had 496 (compared to 528 last year) and Fresno had 331 (compared to 122 last year). There have been a total of 514 Drought Mortality exemptions submitted under the new regulations, 404 of those were submitted to Fresno.
- **Emergency Notice Submissions:** Emergency Notice submissions were slightly up compared to last year. There were 27 Emergency Notices submitted in Santa Rosa; Redding had 16 and Fresno had 37 submitted.

General Review Team

Santa Rosa

- Dominik Schwab promoted to the Santa Rosa FOR III- Forest Practice Program Manager, effective April 11, 2016.
- The Forester II Review team Chair position has been vacant for over a year. The TRFRF Forester II position is also currently vacant. These positions were re-advertised with the possibility of a Temporary Authorization Appointment, and closed on March 23rd.
- Forestry Assistant II Christopher Henderson has successfully completed FFA at Ben Clark Training Center in Riverside and will be attending COA on May 9th.

Redding

- Forester II Review Team Chair Jon Woessner successfully completed COA on April 15th.
- Forester II Woessner has been temporarily assigned to assist Santa Rosa Review Team with plan approvals, beginning April 18th.
- The TRFRF Office Technician (Typing) position has been filled with a start date of May 2, 2016.

Fresno

- Emergency notices continue to be submitted for the Butte Fire. The submittal numbers are roughly equal to this time last year, when notices were being submitted for the King Fire.
- Over 220 1038(k) Drought Mortality exemptions have been submitted in 2016.
- Overall, exemption notice submissions are up almost 3 times from 2015.

Watershed Protection Program Update

- Drew Coe provided a presentation titled "Post-Fire Erosion and Sediment Delivery Rates to Headwater Streams in the California Coast Ranges" at the Geological Society of America (GSA) Cordilleran meeting in Ontario, CA, on April 4th. This talk was developed from data he collected from six channel swale fences located on Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest (BMDSF). A field BOF Monitoring Study Group meeting on BMDSF to observe and discuss these sites will occur on May 18th. Mr. Coe assisted Dr. Susan Marshall, HSU, with a soils class field visit to sediment fence sites in April.
- Stacy Stanish and DFW staff provided five one-day water drafting workshops that were held throughout northern California in March and April. Reviews of the workshops have been very positive, and CAL FIRE Communications staff videotaped the indoor portion of the final workshop for posting.
- Watershed staff continue to provide instruction for training workshops and classes in April, May, and June, including Resource Management training for the HFEO Academy, two Fire Suppression Repair classes, a Basic Forest Practice course, and a VMP workshop.
- Detailed outside peer review comments have been received for the draft agency-reviewed revised watercourse crossing guidance document. The goal is to finish the document in June 2016.

- Stacy Stanish has completed a post-wildfire northern spotted owl (NSO) survey on BMDSF, allowing USFWS staff to conclude that the activity center is now abandoned and permitting further salvage logging operations to proceed. She has recently observed wildlife camera station setup procedures with SPI staff on its timberlands, in preparation for deployment of wildlife cameras on BMDSF and other State Forests. Ms. Stanish also began NSO survey work on Las Posadas State Forest in Napa County.
- Suzanne Lang and the CAL FIRE Santa Rosa GIS staff have assisted Watershed Program staff with development of a GIS-based approach to rate hillslope erodibility in forested California planning watersheds. This will be used to develop a stratified random sample of completed THPs and NTMP-NTOs to test the Forest Practice Rules (FPR) on a larger percentage of higher erosion risk sites as part of FORPRIEM ver. 2.0 (testing the implementation and effectiveness of the FPR to protect water quality). A summary of progress made to date was provided at the BOF's Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC) on April 14th, with considerable input provided by EMC members, staff, and the public.
- Watershed Program staff attended the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Elk River Basin Plan Amendment /WDR Order hearing held in Eureka on April 7th, and will participate in the continuation of this meeting on May 12th, in Loleta.
- Work continues on the new Third Experiment at the Caspar Creek Experimental Watersheds, located on Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF), including new contracts for sub-studies and equipment purchase. The South Fork Caspar Creek THP is under development by JDSF staff, with logging planned to occur during fiscal year 2017-18. The annual Caspar Creek watershed meeting with the USFS PSW is scheduled for May 19-20.
- Watershed staff continues to serve and staff the Board's EMC and Monitoring Study Group (MSG), as well as the AB 1492 Leadership Team, Ecological Performance Measures and Data and Monitoring Working Groups, Pilot Projects Team, and Interagency Training Team.

Forest Practice Enforcement Update

- The Administrative Civil Penalty Program has a total of 46 active cases. Active cases are in some stage of the civil process. A settlement was reached on one case this month. There have been 4 cases submitted in 2016. Anthony Lukacic continues to assist Santa Rosa Review Team with THP processing.

Timber Operators Licensing Program Update

- The Timber Operator Licensing Program is continuing to process applications. The submittal of renewals and new applications averages approximately 30 per week. The Program has received positive feedback from the public and LTO community regarding the prompt response to questions and service. There appears to be a need to provide additional LTO licensing classes. The Department offers 6 classes a year and the classes have been full. We provided an additional class at the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference this year and based on public interest we will be looking to add another class in July.

Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) updated from TRFRF database 1/1/2016 through 3/31/2016

- **Specific TRFRF Forest Practice Effort:** The Forest Practice Program has utilized 32,437 hours in conducting forest practice activities in the following breakdown; conducting forest practice inspections (27.7%); review and processing of THPs (24.9%); participating in mandated training (18.8%); supervising and managing the forest practice program (11.6%); processing and managing the data related to THPs (10.3%); forest practice law enforcement (2.4%); responding to letters of concern (2.1%); BOF related activities (0.6%). Other activities comprising an insignificant portion of the time include program/project monitoring, ecological performance, and litigation. (*This represents TRFRF funded forest practice effort only.*)
- **Total Departmental Forest Practice Efforts:** The Forest Practice Program has utilized a total of 39,523 hours in conducting forest practice activities and non-forest practice activities in the following breakdown; conducting forest practice inspections (22.7%); review and processing of THPs (20.5%); participating in mandated training (15.4%); supervising and managing the forest practice program (9.5%); other duties in support of unit programs (9.5%); processing and managing the data related to THPs (8.5%); other forestry related activities (8.3%); forest practice law enforcement (2.0%); and responding to letters of concern (1.7%). Other activities comprising an insignificant portion of time (less than 1%) include BOF related activities, project/program monitoring, emergency incident support, ecological performance, and litigation. (*This represents all forest practice efforts both TRFRF and Non-TRFRF funded.*)

Resource Protection Program

Urban and Community Forestry

- Work continues on all Urban and Community Forestry GGRF grants. Many grant projects have begun work and started the billing process.

- Federal funding (USDA Forest Service) sub-grants are all active. Six projects are funded for FY 2015 funds. These funds are used for projects that cannot be funded through State GGRF funds and include priority educational, applied research, and outreach projects.
- The California Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (CUFAC) met in April. The focus of the meeting was on preparing the survey document for the “State of the Urban Forests” survey that will go out to all municipalities in the State. This information will be used to prepare a “State of the Urban Forests” report. This information will replicate previous reports and will show trends in municipal efforts. It will also supplement and compliment the information on urban forestry that will be in the 2015 FRAP report.

State Forests

- Interviews were conducted for a new Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest Manager on April 21st. Peter Leuzinger, currently a Forester II – Review Team Chair in Santa Rosa, was selected as the new Forest Manager. Peter was raised in the Middletown area and has relatives and other ties to the community. His reporting date is June 1st.
- Salvage harvesting continues on Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest as a result of the Valley Fire. Currently, virtually all of the salvage timber on the Forest is under either Timber Sale Agreements (contracts) or Class I Sale Permits. In addition, 150 stumps were sold for use in watershed restoration work.
- Most of the ground to be salvage harvested on Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest is also now under contract for site preparation, with over 700 acres completed to-date. This site preparation work consists of clearing (cutting and piling) the sub-merchantable material in preparation for planting in early 2017.
- On April 4th, Latour Demonstration State Forest Manager Ben Rowe was promoted to Shasta-Trinity Unit Forester III. Ben will continue as the acting Forest Manager until the position is filled. The vacant Forest Manager position was advertised on April 26th, with a closing date of May 10th. The Forest continues to operate with a full-time staff of two Forester I's and a Forestry Assistant II.
- The Latour Demonstration State Forest Cave Rock THP (#2-15-008 SHA) with Option V was approved on April 26. This plan includes site-specific and nonstandard operational provisions for group selection openings to be established within the Water and Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ) of a Class I watercourse, South Cow Creek, as allowed under Section 936.9 (v) of the Forest Practice Rules.

- Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest staff completed a forest wide assessment of all campgrounds, day use areas and roads to prioritize clean-up and hazard tree work to prepare the Forest for opening on May 20th.
- Significant tree mortality continues to manifest in the less managed areas of Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest.
- Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest is investigating the possibility of shipping tops and small logs less than 25" to the valley for co-generation in an attempt to increase the utilization and production for this season's salvage operations.
- 300 giant sequoia seedlings were donated to Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest to restock campground areas that have been salvage logged over the past few years.
- A 38 foot boom truck and pole saws will be utilized on Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest to collect the genetic material from the unique chimera sequoia (albino) in May.
- CAL FIRE Technical Services personnel assessed the site and latest design plans for construction of the new Soquel Demonstration State Forest office and Soquel Fire Station on April 6th.
- Data programming and configuration for the Soquel Demonstration State Forest weather station was completed by Western Weather on April 12th. Forest staff completed the installation of the new modem for the weather station, with input from forest volunteer and hydrologist, Brook Kraeger. Western Weather is working on making a Soquel weather station webpage and adding it to the Weather Underground network.
- Assistance with maintenance along a shaded fuel break near Soquel Demonstration State Forest was provided by the SRA-funded engine (E-1774) and Fuel Reduction Crew (Loma 1) for several days in April. For most CAL FIRE engine personnel, this was their first exposure to fuel reduction work. It was a very positive experience for the personnel and State forest staff, as well as the residents along the shaded fuel break who are very appreciative that this work is being done in their neighborhood.
- Soquel Demonstration State Forest staff attended a meeting with State Parks staff and CAL FIRE prevention staff to review needed upgrades on neighboring Aptos Creek Fire Road along the boundary of the Forest and Nisene Marks State Park. The road has become impassable this season and will need to be rerouted in certain locations in order to avoid inundation from sag ponds and new springs that have developed.

- Researcher and graduate student, Benjamin Plourde, returned to Soquel Demonstration State Forest in mid-April to follow up with his study of tick-borne disease and small mammal populations in the Comstock Mill THP area, and will be back the first week of May to continue this work.
- Researchers from the Mountain Puma Project with UC Santa Cruz returned to Soquel Demonstration State Forest in April to set up a bait station.
- The UC Berkeley Advanced Silviculture class toured Jackson Demonstration State Forest on April 16th with Dr. Kevin O'Hara.
- Sonoma State University students conducted the first post-wildfire resurvey of a significant archeological site at Jackson Demonstration State Forest, accompanied by CAL FIRE Archeologist, Chuck Whatford, on April 23rd.
- Jackson Demonstration State Forest staff participated in the Noyo Food Forest's Earth Day Event on April 23rd, in Fort Bragg. Forest staff modified posters to focus on the youth centered event and staffed a booth answering questions regarding recreation and forest management.
- Jackson Demonstration State Forest staff are reviewing a new research project that will use geospatial data to examine the drought effects on nitrogen and water in redwoods.
- The firewood, mushroom, camping rules and permit information sheets at Jackson Demonstration State Forest have been translated into Spanish and will be printed on the back of the English version sheets.
- Data collected from April Northern Spotted Owl surveys on Jackson Demonstration State Forest indicate that single owls are being found near historic owl centers that were thought to have been abandoned, suggesting barred owls may be displacing them. Several barred owls have been found in the southwest portions of the Forest.
- A meeting was held with Jackson Demonstration State Forest, Mendocino Land Trust, California Conservation Corps and Chris Blencowe (Blencowe Watershed Management) to discuss the planned Large Woody Debris project grant award for the South Fork Noyo River, upstream of Camp One.

- In our ongoing effort to reach out to the public, and more specifically potential resource management professionals, to provide information about CAL FIRE, the State Forests Program and forestry in general, our State Forests Biometrician, Jeff Leddy, spoke as a guest lecturer for an ecology class held by the Department of Recreation, Parks & Tourism Administration at California State University in Sacramento on April 5th. The focus of the class was Silvicultural Practices and Forest Management in California, which provided an excellent platform to discuss CAL FIRE's many roles in the management of the State's resources. There was a good response overall, including several inquiries about employment opportunities in CAL FIRE's Resource Management programs.

L.A. Moran Reforestation Center

- Staff are actively focusing efforts for planning cone surveys for the summer 2016 season. While all possible cone crops will be reviewed for collection, specific focus will be on areas where heavy tree mortality is affecting the Southern and Central Sierra, as well as in areas where large fires have occurred in the last two fire seasons.
- The facility will be operating with limited staff through early 2016. Dorus Van Goidsenhoven and Rick Johnson have attended and passed the FFA and COA. Rodney Sterling will be attending both FFA and COA, back to back, starting in October 2016.
- Ed Medina retired after over 30 years of State service on February 14, 2016. We have completed the hiring process for a replacement who should start in mid May 2016.
- Staff have conferred with USFS on a cooperative agreement to collectively survey for and collect conifer cones. This agreement would help both organizations to fulfill their cone and seed needs across a larger geographic area.
- LAMRC has successfully approved a bid to construct a new seed dewinger machine and is currently accepting bids on a new cone tumbler line assembly. Neither may be available for this cone season, however we expect delivery in early Fall.
- Transfer of seed from the old seed bank is anticipated to occur in May, following staff return from the Academy.

- The partnership with the Putah Creek Council (PCC) for growing of native plants continues to produce a positive influence on the restoration of riparian ecosystems. LAMRC is working with PCC to develop an out-planting project for native oaks and other native plants on the fields at the Davis Site. This will include planting of one year old oak plugs into tilled soil and woodchip mixture in order to both test the growing medium as a temporary holding site for 3-5 years which will culminate in a lifting of the trees for replanting at restoration sites. We hope to further increase our use of the Davis property for more native oak restoration research in future years.
- CAL FIRE, El Dorado Resource Conservation District (RCD) and USFS continue to cooperate and draft plans for a seedling ordering program where private, non-industrial timberland owners can order seedlings. The seeds come from CAL FIRE and the seedlings are grown in Placerville at the USFS nursery. EL Dorado RCD handles the administrative aspects, including receiving orders and distributing the seedlings. Efforts are being made to expand this program to include speculative seedling orders to support fire recovery and CFIP projects.

Environmental Protection Program

- Associate State Archaeologist Hiring: CAL FIRE continues the process to hire three associate state archaeologists. However, the current Department of Parks and Recreation list is limited and there are not many candidates.
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF): CAL FIRE continues to work with the Air Resources Board to develop grant programs for the 16-17 fiscal year. CAL FIRE expects to have two programs—forest health and urban and community forestry. GGRF grants will consist of a mix of competitive and non-competitive projects.
- Native American Advisory Council: CAL FIRE has put together a Native American Relations Action Plan that includes re-constituting its Native American Advisory Council. The Council's mission is to assist CAL FIRE in establishing a cooperative and meaningful relationship with California tribes. The action plan also includes: (1) reviewing the Department's Native American Tribal Communities Relations Policy for currency; (2) developing and providing periodic Departmental training on its Native American Tribal Communities Relations Policy; (3) communicating with tribes having ancestral lands related to PG&E parcels that CAL FIRE may acquire; (4) considering how to integrate Native American advisement into executive decisions; and (5) establishing partnerships with tribes similar to those CAL FIRE has with BLM, USFS, PG&E, etc.

- CAL FIRE is currently negotiating an inter-agency agreement to assist the California High-Speed Rail Authority in meeting its environmental commitments to offset direct greenhouse gas emissions resulting from construction of Phase 1 of the California High-Speed Rail Project. CAL FIRE plans to provide tree planting services through its Landowner Assistance and Community and Urban Forestry Programs. The tree planting will provide climate benefits by sequestering carbon. California High Speed Rail Authority CAL FIRE Interagency Agreement: CAL FIRE and the High Speed Rail Authority are nearing completion of an interagency agreement whereby CAL FIRE will plant trees to offset carbon emissions associated with high speed rail construction activities through urban and community forestry grants and California Forest Improvement Program cost share agreements for reforestation.
- California Disaster Recovery Framework: CAL FIRE has been participating in the development of a framework for post-disaster recovery in California. It is a multi-agency effort headed up by the California Office of Emergency Services. Meetings started in late 2015, and will continue into 2016.

Climate and Energy Program

- The Forest Carbon Action Team (FCAT) circulated a draft concept paper and held a public workshop in late March. Written public comments were due April 8th.
- 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. Recently the California Public Utilities (CPUC) adopted resolution E-4770, authorizing biomass procurement in high hazard zones. The resolution allows utilities to hold a solicitation for facilities that use biofuel from high hazard zones using the Renewable Auction Mechanism (RAM). The resolution also allows utilities to enter into bilateral contracts with existing forest bioenergy facilities receiving forest feedstock from high hazard zones during their 2015 Renewable Portfolio Standard solicitation cycle. CPUC also released a ruling on accepting into the record the Energy Division staff proposal to implement targeted changes to the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff Program (BioMAT) to facilitate contracts with facilities using fuel from high hazard zones and seeking comment on a staff proposal. A final decision is expected soon.

- In Executive Order B-30-15, Governor Brown set aggressive targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions and called for the *Safeguarding California* climate adaptation report to be updated. CAL FIRE serves as the lead for the forest sector, one of eleven sectors outlined in the report and in this capacity, drafted the forest sector chapter. The report was completed and published in early March and made available on CAL FIRE's website. The purpose of the report is to identify the state's vulnerabilities to climate change by sector; outline primary risks to residents, property, communities and natural systems; identify an agency or group of agencies to lead adaptation efforts in each sector; and to prepare an implementation plan of necessary state actions. The report also analyzes what actions have already been taken to prepare for climate change and details steps that still need to be taken.

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 will be 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 is occurring 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 is 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):** 1) Working through the Mapping and Monitoring work group FRAP staff implemented significant revision to High Hazard Zones (HHZ) (K. Larvie). The revisions resulted in two tiers for HHZ. 2). Working on development of a web based tool to allow local agencies to input tree removal project data (R. Ferkovich). 3) Conducting GIS analysis that supports California's request to Federal government to provide funds through FEMA to impacted communities (K. Larvie).
- **FIA Committee Assignment:** Mark Rosenberg (FRAP) is making a request to USFS-PNW to develop custom FIA tables that can be used to by FCAT for the Forest Carbon Plan and for inventory reporting requirements for AB 1504. Participating in National FIA meeting.
- **CalMAPPER:** FRAP staff are working with IT, OSFM and Fire Protection to implement a contract that will be used to upgrade and enhance CalMAPPER. The upgrade will allow the CalMAPPER application to better integrate with existing GIS software.

Tree Mortality Task Force

The Tree Mortality Task Force continues to work to implement the directives of the Governor's State of Emergency proclamation. The following are highlights:

- The Regulations Guidance Document Public Meeting was held on April 25, 2016 in Mariposa County. The Regulation Guidance document provided information on tree removal from within High Hazard Zones.
- The Regulations Working Group (RWA) is working on a flyer for affected homeowners. A few suggestions were made to include different pictures, the web site information and email address for those wanting to research or needing addition information.
- The RWG is working on CEQA issues surrounding State agencies involved in the tree removal efforts and tribal consultations for cultural resources. Caltrans was recently asked by USFS to mark the cultural areas where tree removal will occur. There was a request to resend the information from the CA Native American Heritage Commission on Protecting Native American Sites during Drought, Wildfire and Flood Emergencies.
- The United States Forest Service (USFS) is scheduled to fly the low elevation forestland along the west slope of the Sierra Nevada range (below snow line) next week, weather permitting. We anticipate having results to share with the Task Force in two to four weeks post-flight.

- FRAP is developing a web based mapping tool for agencies to capture and report tree removal projects from the various entities removing dead trees related to the Emergency Proclamation. The tool will be secured and provided to authorized users as a platform to develop project information and view the tree removal work being done by other entities. FRAP will work with entities that have their own mapping or project tracking systems to translate their data into a standard format for entry into the application. A draft version of this application is expected by the next Task Force meeting.
- CPUC has requested an estimate of the volume of trees that will be cut over the next 5 - 10 years. The working group is outlining processes to compile biomass volume estimates (in bone dry ton) for Tier 1 and 2 High Hazard Zones. Initial estimates are expected to be available for all of the High Hazard Zones by the end of this month.

**TREE MORTALITY RELATED WEBSITES FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

**California's Tree Mortality Information Clearinghouse for
Stakeholders**

www.treetaskforce.org

**California's Tree Mortality Information Clearinghouse for the
Public**

www.prepareforbarkbeetle.org

California's Tree Mortality Viewer

egis.fire.ca.gov/TreeMortalityViewer/

Fire Protection

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery Programs

- The Butte Incident fire investigation report was publically released on April 27th.
- For the month of April, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement made 13 arrests and issued 37 citations (not including citations relating to PRC 4291).
- CAL FIRE Civil Cost Recovery received \$1,654,188.95 in fire suppression cost reimbursement for the month of April.

State-Federal

- The Annual Operating Plan (AOP) meetings are being held during the month of May between CAL FIRE staff and the six Contract Counties (Orange, Kern, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Marin). Pursuant to statute, and with the approval of the Director, these counties provide fire prevention and suppression services on behalf of the State on SRA lands within their boundaries. The purpose of these meetings is to review contractual requirements as well as review and coordinate operational procedures for the upcoming fire season.

Conservation Camps

- Staff from CAL FIRE, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), and the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) have a completed a draft policy handbook that, when approved, will merge the current handbooks that guide the operations at adult and juvenile camps into a single handbook. This will provide for increased efficiencies in administration and management, as well as more consistent operations, between the types of camps.
- Conservation camps inmate counts as of Wednesday April 27, 2016, improved slightly over the previous count of two weeks ago. The current statewide shortage of fire crew members assigned to fire crews is 921 (A decrease of 42 from 963 as of April 13, 2015).
- The current camp population capacity is at 83%, with the current handcrew capacity at 72%.

Aviation Management Unit

- Staff are currently in the process of developing Exclusive Use contracts for two Large Air Tankers (LAT) and one Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT) that will be brought on in support and augmentation of CAL FIRE's aviation assets as needed this summer.

- If additional funding is approved, Exclusive Use contracts will also be developed for two additional Type II helicopters and one Type I helicopter to be brought on in support of CAL FIRE's aviation assets as needed this summer.

Operations Support

- An acquisition for 685 portable handie-talkie (HT) radios has been completed and the radios should be received by the end of May.
- The annual Radio Call Plan has been finalized and this year's frequency programming of all radios is starting on May 2nd with the goal of department-wide completion by June 1st.
- Program staff are working with staff from the California Office of Health Information Integrity (CalOHII), who have asked to review several of CAL FIRE's programmatic areas for compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- CAL FIRE's annual Incident Management Team (IMT) Workshop was held in the Sacramento area the week of April 25th – 29th. All six of CAL FIRE's IMTs were present for the training and after action review of the larger significant fires of 2015. In addition to multiple functional breakout sessions, CAL FIRE IMT Incident Commanders met with Federal IMT Incident Commanders to discuss multi-agency and unified command incidents.
- Final planning is occurring for the Advanced All-hazard Incident Management training that will be conducted the week of May 15th in the Sacramento area. Three of the six CAL FIRE IMTs will attend and receive the week long training.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Planning and Risk Analysis (PRA) Division

Wildland Fire Engineering

- Beta testing for the new Electronic Collector Application for Defensible Space Inspection data is going extremely well. Four CAL FIRE Units (LNU, FKU, TUU, and BDU) have collectively recorded over 5,000 inspections using the new program. Eight new tablets have been purchased to include in the testing process.
- Orange County and Marin County will join the beta testing process in May to provide feedback from the Contract County perspective. Work continues with ESRI to fine tune the app.

- PRA Staff continues to work with FRAP and CAL FIRE IT staff to finalize an agreement with ESRI to create a department-wide enterprise system for all GIS work.
- Statewide implementation of electronic Defensible Space data collection will launch in 2017.

Fire Plan/Pre Fire

- Staff continues to work on tree mortality issues, and responding to requests for reports and maps.
- Work continues with CalMAPPER to increase quality control, and improve data in projects that are listed throughout the State.
- The CalMAPPER Working Group has recommended 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

- The updated Information Report has now begun the review process. The final report will be shared with the Board once the review process is complete.
- All new 63 SRA FPF Grants awarded for the FY 2015/16 cycle (including the initial 19 Grants focused on Tree Mortality) awarded just after the first of the year are now in the contract stage. Final signatures for all agreements are being completed prior to work beginning.
- The 2015-2016 SRAFPF billing cycle continues as bills are mailed by BOE throughout the State. No significant issues to report. Final bills for this cycle are scheduled to be mailed in mid-June.
- An individual brought a Small Claims case against CAL FIRE and BOE in Calaveras County in protest over the legality of the fee. Case was dismissed as having no merit.

CAIRS

- A new SSA position is currently being posted, with hopes of filling this position by the end of May.
- One additional SSA position will be added prior to June, giving the CAIRS program a total of 3 full time personnel – a staffing level that has not been seen in several years.
- Contract amendments are being processed to increase storage capacity for CAIRS data.

- Data collection has begun for the 2015 Redbook.

Land Use Planning (LUP)

- Meetings were recently held in San Diego County with local government planners and building officials to look at specific challenges with current code requirements. Examples and conclusions are able to be used throughout the State to help with difficult planning projects.
- LUP staff is being requested to help with the increasing load of plan reviews, and condition guidelines offered for both Lake and Calaveras Counties.
- Interviews have been held to fill a vacant BC position for the Southern Region. Announcement of replacement will be made soon.

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

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 | 47 | 48 | 14 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 64 | 86 |
| THPs Rejected for Filing (Returned) | 6 | 12 | 2 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 42 |
| THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections | 49 | 55 | 10 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 61 | 82 |
| 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 | 45 | 40 | 28 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 75 | 67 |
| Acreage in Approved THPs | 12,686 | 11,214 | 13,747 | 28,962 | 0 | 0 | 611 | 2,281 | 27,044 | 42,457 |
| NTMPs Received | 8 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 2 |
| NTMPs Rejected for Filing (Returned) | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 3 |
| 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 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| NTMPs Approved Acres | 479 | 551 | 603 | 84 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,082 | 635 |
| NTMP Notice of Timber Operations Received | 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 13 |
| Exemption Notices Received | 121 | 132 | 496 | 528 | 2 | 3 | 331 | 122 | 950 | 785 |
| Emergency Notices Received | 27 | 1 | 16 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 20 | 80 | 77 |
| Exemption Types Received 2015 | < 3 Acre Conversions | | Fire Hazard | | Forest Fire Prevention | | Dead Dying Diseased | | Other Exemp | Rec'd 2016 |
| Santa Rosa | 33 | | 26 | | 2 | | 32 | | 28 | 121 |
| Redding | 127 | | 91 | | 11 | | 209 | | 58 | 496 |
| Riverside | 1 | | 0 | | 0 | | 1 | | 0 | 2 |
| Fresno | 8 | | 22 | | 0 | | 39 | | 262 | 331 |
| Emergency Types Received 2015 | Fire | | Fuel Hazard | | Insect | | Wind | | Other Emerg | Rec'd 2016 |
| Santa Rosa | 27 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | 27 |
| Redding | 11 | | 0 | | 5 | | 0 | | 0 | 16 |
| Riverside | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Fresno | 36 | | 0 | | 1 | | 0 | | 0 | 37 |