

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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MINUTES
BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
AND FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING
May 4 and 5, 2004
San Diego, California

FULL BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING
MAY 4, 2004

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stan Dixon, Chairman
Kirk Marckwald, Vice Chair
Mark Bosetti
Susan Britting
David Nawi
Tharon O'Dell
Gary Rynearson

BOARD STAFF PRESENT:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
and Executive Officer, Foresters Licensing
Donna Stadler, Executive Assistant
Chris Zimny, Regulations Coordinator
Mark Hite, Committee Staff

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF PRESENT:

Andrea Tuttle, Director
Bill Snyder, Deputy Director
Resource Management

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dixon called the May 2004 meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Dixon asked that the Board to consider approval of the April 2004 minutes.

04-5-1 Mr. Rynearson moved to approve the April 2004 minutes as amended. Ms. Britting seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There was nothing to report.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order. He commented on the passing of Joe Blum and asked for a moment of silence.

Chairman Dixon commented that he had the opportunity to attend the Board's Range Management Advisory Committee's (RMAC) workshop on Oak woodlands. The Committee will update the Policy and Management Committee at the June Board meeting. RMAC currently plans to finalize and bring recommendations at the July BOARD about that issue.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Andrea Tuttle, Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), reported that the Department declared fire season open in the Southern California Counties. The other parts of the state will be open by June 15, 2004. She commented that since the firestorm of last fall, all of the agencies are responding quickly. The National Transportation Safety Board has just released a report on the two federal air tanker crashes of the last two years. That report is critical of the system that the federal agencies developed contracting with private contractors. CDF is on alert because the Forest Service may need to take some dramatic action with respect to the aviation fleet that they contract for. The response by the federal agencies has not been made public, but she will keep the Board informed.

Director Tuttle reported on the THP review process and commented that CDF is the lead agency and needs to retain its standards of review. There are internal guidelines for staff to maintain the quality of the THP review that they are now providing.

Director Tuttle announced that the Jackson Demonstration State Forest campgrounds would be open by May 15, 2004, and remain open until Labor Day.

Director Tuttle reported that she went on a field trip with the Buckeye Conservancy. The Conservancy believes the process is unnecessarily limited to landowners of fewer than 2500 acres. They believe it would be beneficial if it were expanded to 5000 acres. There was some discussion about the RPF's role and there is a continued interest amongst the stakeholders.

Director Tuttle commented that the SRA fees issue has the attention of the Administration and the Legislature.

Director Tuttle commented on the California Performance Review, which is the Governor's initiative to restructure state government. There are a number of proposals being considered the original deadline for staff work on the proposals was to be at the end of April, but it has been moved to May 30, 2004.

Chairman Dixon commented that because of the timeframe set by the California Performance Review Commission, staff was able to get out a generic statement to the Commission since the Board did not have the opportunity to meet. Copies were provided to the Members.

PRESENTATION ON THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION REPORT

Director Tuttle provided some background and read from the Executive Summary of the Blue Ribbon Commission Report for the Members. The Chairman of the Blue Ribbon Commission, Mike Chrisman, has been charged with coming up with an action plan for the Governor by the end of May. She reviewed the headings in the Executive Summary for the Members: Jurisdictional and Operational Barriers; training; Interstate/Regional Mutual Aid Systems; Local Building, Planning, and Land Use Regulations; Brush Clearance and Fuel Modification; and Communication and Public Outreach. She will provide the Board with an update next month.

There was some discussion.

Mr. Bill Snyder, Deputy Director for Resource Management, spoke to the changes in the THP Review processes. CDF will be consolidating some of the Review Team functions from Santa Cruz and Mendocino Counties. The Department will maintain CEQA functional equivalency for the process. During the summer season the Department will receive reports that will enable it to determine if the process is working or not. He will keep the Board apprised.

Chairman Dixon commented that the Executive Officer would schedule an agenda item to include the Department and some of the other review team agencies to talk about their issues regarding THP reviews. He indicated that it would be better to wait to see what some of the experiences are before the item is scheduled.

REPORT ON STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA CLASSIFICATIONS AND REGULATION CONSIDERATIONS (SRA)

Mr. Dean Cromwell, FRAP, referred to the Board's binder and the SRA report. He provided some background on the SRA Framework and fee structure for the Board. He commented that this is a project that the Board's Resource Protection Committee has been working on since October of last year. The California Farm Bureau and others have filed a lawsuit contesting SB 1049 on a variety of grounds. The hearing date for the suit is May 28, 2004, in Sacramento Superior court and the Attorney General is representing CDF. He reviewed the proposed changes in the Board's SRA classification regulations for the Members.

There was some discussion.

Mr. Mark Rentz, California Forestry Association, wanted to know what would happen if the fees collected in a given year exceed the expenditures by the Department. He wanted some insight on 1665.3, subsection (a) on page three.

Mr. Cromwell commented that the bill addresses that issue; the fee would come down the following year. He explained that under the law, there are two categories; one, which is exempt and the other, is not.

Ms. Viviane Marquez was puzzled because she believes that attorney fees and other costs would minimize the amount of money that would be gained.

Mr. Paul Mason, Sierra Club, commented that these fees were originally meant to be an interim step. The Legislative Analysis continues to say that the SRA protection CDF provides is adequate. Everyone in the State benefits at some level. The people that live in the SRA lands benefit more than people who live in San Francisco. There was some additional discussion.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR JACKSON DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST

Chairman Dixon introduced the topic.

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, provided an update for the Board. He commented that he met with CDF to set up a work plan and timelines for the potential division of labor in areas that various CDF staff would be working on in relation to the EIR. The CDF Northern Region has taken an active interest in knowing what timelines have been set up so they can be sure that staffing is available to meet the Board's needs.

Mr. Nawi commented that he would like a status report from staff prior to the June meeting.

Mr. Gentry commented that staff would have a detailed work plan for the Board to review within a week.

Mr. Mark Rentz, California Forestry Association (CFA), commented that the volume of material that comes off of JDSF is critical to the remaining mills in the area. He wanted to know if the employees of the Department that work on the Jackson State Forest are being utilized.

Mr. Gentry commented that every available resource is being utilized for this effort.

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEES

CALIFORNIA FOREST PEST COUNCIL

There was no report this month.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RMAC)

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, expressed his appreciation for Ken Zimmerman, Chairman of the RMAC, and Jeff Stephens, RMAC staff for making the Oak Workshop a reality. The Committee will provide a summary of the comments received at the next meeting with a full presentation in July.

Ms. Britting wanted to know if they Board would receive a list of the participants in the workshop.

Mr. Gentry indicated that it would, as well as the initial list of people that were contacted.

MONITORING STUDY GROUP (MSG)

Mr. O'Dell, Chair of the MSG, reviewed the Monitoring Study Group Update in the Board's binder for the Members. He reported that the Committee did not meet in April. This report may be viewed in its entirety at: www.bof.fire.ca.gov/board.

PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS EXAMINING COMMITTEE (PFEC)

Mr. George Gentry, Acting Executive Officer for Licensing, reported that the PFEC did not meet in April. However, on April 16, 2004, it did conduct the Professional Forester Examination. The test in Riverside had been canceled, but the test in Redding, Sacramento, and Eureka where conducted.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

REPORT OF THE SENSITIVE WATERSHED NOMINATIONS REVIEW

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, commended staff, Mark Hite and Frank Goddard, for the work they have done on this project. They have worked out a concept of a technical advisory committee consisting of Agency personnel. The voting aspect of the committee still has some confirmations that need to be made. The first meeting will be on May 12, 2004, in Eureka. It is anticipated that there will be two additional meetings, one of which will be a field trip, prior to the committee making its recommendation to the Board.

Mr. O'Dell, Chair of the Review Committee, commented that he is extremely pleased that the date has been set and that there are people will to serve in the capacity to evaluate the petition. He echoed Mr. Gentry's comments regarding the work staff have done one the project.

Mr. Richard Gienger wanted to be sure that people in the Elk River residents were adequately represented.

Mr. Gentry commented that the voting members have not been set yet. Water Quality does have representation on the committee.

There was some further discussion.

Chairman Dixon assured the public that staff was working as fast as possible to insure that the Committee has a balanced representation.

FOREST PRACTICE COMMITTEE (FPC)

Ms. Sue Britting, Acting Chair of the FPC, commented that the Committee had met twice since the last Board meeting; they met in Redding and also today. The focus of both of the meetings was fuels reduction rules allowing landowners to reduce hazardous fuels on their properties. Those areas for treatment are around communities at risk, as identified by the Department, and going out beyond those communities at risk about a quarter of a mile to create community zones. The Committee also discussed allowing treatments near structures and mainline roads and other areas. Options will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Next meeting the Committee will discuss language to present to the Board. The vehicle for implementing this rule is emergency conditions under 14 CCR 1052.

Ms. Britting commented that the Stewardship NTMP group has come forward with a draft concept paper and will have a presentation to the full Board at the June meeting. The Committee did not discuss AB 47; it was deferred until June.

Ms. Britting commented that the Heritage Tree definitions would be discussed in June.

POLICY AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PMC)

Mr. O'Dell, Chair of the PMC, reported that the PMC addressed the FRAP Assessment. Staff provided mission goals and themes as a work product for the Committee to work on from now until the June meeting. The Committee members will have a more though discussion on this piece next meeting. In July, there will be a public hearing, and in September a second hearing on the policy piece for adoption by the Board.

Mr. Nawi commented that both Member O'Dell and the Executive Officer provided materials for a good start.

Ms. Britting wanted to know if it was possible to post some of this on the Website. The Executive Officer indicated that he would do that.

AD HOC ROADS AND WATERSHED COMMITTEE

Mr. Rynearson, Chair of the *Ad Hoc* Committee, commented that the *Ad Hoc* Committee reviewed the Roads Management Package and that it is getting close to a final draft. There have been some amendments to the package and it is hoped to have a substantial portion of that work completed by the next Committee meeting.

RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING (RPC)

Mr. Bosetti reported that the Committee received reports from the Region Chiefs and copies of those reports are in the Board's binders. The Committee received a report from the San Diego Unit Chief, Charles Maynard. He provided a handout with specifics relative to the Unit and reviewed page four the wildland fire of 2003. He offered

a correction to the SRA damage that was reported as \$312,650.00. The correct figure is \$561,000.00. Chief Maynard also provided an overview of the Border Agency Fire Council.

Mr. Bosetti indicated that the Committee had a discussion on the SRA fees, which was also discussed here today. Under New Business, an item relative to some of the Public Resources Code sections was brought up. That was deferred until next months Committee meeting.

Chairman Dixon commented that he believed that the SRA issue was an important issue and thanked FRAP for its presentation on that issue.

PUBLIC FORUM: Members of the public may address the Board on any topic within its jurisdiction not otherwise on the agenda. Submittal of written comments is encouraged to ensure that all comments will be included in the record before the Board. Please be prepared to summarize comments to three minutes in length, or otherwise at the discretion of the chairman.

Mr. Richard Gienger commented on the passing of Joe Blum and suggested a letter to the family would be appropriate. He then spoke on the Buckeye NTMP workshop was very successful. CDF put together a review program for NTMP taking elements from the SYP review every 10 years. The SNTMP that was discussed had some elements that provided incredible feedback. He referred to the THP report under the Director's report in the binder and reviewed it for the Board. He expressed his disappointment that the Department of Fish and Game was pulling its personnel out of the NCWAP pilot program for a planning watershed. He hopes that CDF would give a comprehensive look at the old growth gap. He referred to the May 19, 2004, MSG field trip. He commented that on May 24, 2004, there would be a full day workshop on the volunteer issue, which affects a lot of the local population. It will be held at the Ag Center on Spruce Point Hill in Humboldt County.

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, commented, for clarity, that the THP summary worksheet reports the activities that the Department recorded that month.

Mr. Gienger indicated that it is confusing to the general public.

Mr. Mark Rentz, California Forestry Association (CFA), provided a handout regarding the costs in producing a THP and reviewed it for the Board. He noted that approximately 75 percent of the costs are incurred by a landowner in preparing a THP even before it arrives at the review process. He reviewed the numbers for the Members and expressed concern over budget costs and fees.

Mr. Bernie Bush, representing Green Diamond Resource Company, spoke in support of asking review team agencies to come before this Board to discuss the impacts that the departments are going through. He briefed the Board on where the Water Board is in the waiver issue. They met a couple of weeks ago and will now have the Executive Officer of the North Coast Region Board come before them on a monthly basis to report the progress as they move forward on a waste discharge permit. There will be a hearing on May 11, 2004, on a draft proposal for a waiver in the North Coast Region with a field trip on the following day discussing a waste discharge permit. He believes that the draft addresses projects with a very light touch. The draft document is supposed to be sent out as a public notice document tomorrow. The results will become a part of the THP process.

Mr. Paul Mason, Sierra Club, commented on the Buckeye Conservancy workshop and the issues discussed regarding THPs. He commended the extra effort some of the Board members have put into the discussions of hazard fuel reduction during committee meetings.

REPORT OF THE REGULATIONS COORDINATOR

Mr. Chris Zimny, Regulations Coordinator, reviewed the proposed regulations and timetables for the Members. There are eight potential packages that could be completed this year. He reviewed those for the Board. The Fuel Hazard rule package could possibly be ready for recommendation to the Board at the June meeting. AB 47 is the Cumulative Watershed Mapping Requirement. The working group has forwarded some simple requirements that

are alternatives to rule language and that could be available for June consideration in Committee and possibly the Board. The FRAWG group has been working on incorporating a few inland protection requirements; once that information comes to the Committee the rule should be ready to be sent to the Board with a recommendation. The Road Management package should be ready to forward from Committee for re-noticing this year. Napa County is waiting to forward any regulation proposals until the Timber Conversion Permit Policy Statement is issued from the Department. Policy recommendation says that the County will reevaluate additional rules to potentially meet the needs of requirements that are not in place. They believe the package would be ready by September; however, Mr. Zimny is encouraging the County to try to get it to staff by August, due to noticing requirements. He commented that staff would be evaluating fire prevention standard code amendments offered by the Department.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer to the Board, provided an update on legislation for the Members.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Rynearson commented that he would like for the Board to recognize Humboldt State University in their Forestry and Watershed Management Department in their 50th anniversary, which was held last weekend. He suggested that the Board issue a proclamation to Humboldt State.

Chairman Dixon asked that Member Rynearson and the Executive Officer work together in preparing that proclamation.

Mr. Gienger suggested that a letter be drafted for Joe Blum's family. He also wanted to know the status of the get together for ex-Member Heald.

Chairman Dixon indicated that notification would be forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dixon adjourned the May 4, 2004, meeting of the Board.

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
AND FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING**

MAY 5, 2004

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Kellogg, President
Michael Flores, Member
Marilyn Hendrickson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sam Schuchat, Vice President
Bob Hattoy, Member

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT: Robert Treanor, Executive Officer
Adrianna Landrum, Executive Assistant

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME:
Ryan Broddrick, Director

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Stan Dixon, Chairman of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, called the Board to order.

Mr. Jim Kellogg, President of the Fish and Game Commission, called the Commission to order and introduced the Commission members.

Chairman Dixon introduced his Board and commented that it was a pleasure to meet with the Commission. It is clear that there are joint issues that are important. He indicated that he anticipated some action today.

President Kellogg welcomed everyone to the Joint meeting. He commented that it was a pleasure to participate in this Joint meeting and they look forward to future meetings.

Chairman Dixon announced that the report of the NOAA Fisheries would be deferred to a later meeting.

Mr. Gentry commented that the NOAA Fisheries report would be given at the Board's June meeting. He noted the passing of Joseph Blum from NOAA Fisheries.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, announced that there was one item to report out of the Executive Session. He reported that Eric Huff has been approved as the new Executive Officer for Forester's Licensing and the Assistant Executive Officer to the Board.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Ms. Andrea Tuttle, Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), thanked the Board and the Commission for holding a Joint meeting. It is important for better understanding. She provided some background as to the Joint meetings and talked about the importance of working closely with the Fish and Game Commission. She provided an update on Coho strategy; 1600 process and the THP process and how the Department is working at bringing those two processes together. She explained that the MSG has been in existence since 1989 and is looking at the effectiveness of the Forest Practice Rules as implemented in the Field. Water Quality

and riparian zones are a major issue and the MSG has put together some protocols. She summarized some of the findings for the Members.

Director Tuttle commented the Department has new authority for Civil Penalties, which has resulted in a deterrent. The Department has been getting much better compliance.

Director Tuttle provided an update on the fire situation and the opening of fire season. She commented that CDF is known nationally and internationally for its excellence in fire fighting.

Director Tuttle reported on the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC). She provided background and an update for the Members. She commented that the BRC recognizes that the issue facing them is saving property and lives. The Department of Fish and Game will be asked, by the Resources Secretary, to participate with CDF and other agencies; state, federal, local governments, and stakeholders to look at fuels management and land use issues in the Southern California Counties.

Director Tuttle commented that she was looking forward to the meeting and thanked the Commission for its participation.

Mr. Marckwald wanted to know if there was a sense of timing in the BRC report.

Director Tuttle commented that fuel management was being addressed on many fronts. The Governor has tasked the Resources Secretary to come up with something by the end of May. .

REPORT OF DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Mr. Ryan Brodrick, Director of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), complimented the Board and the Commission on the work they have done on the Joint Policies. The issues identified and the need to coordinate between the departments was very perceptive. He commented that the review today will be provided by the Regional managers, providing an overview of what happened in last year's fires and other issues relative to hardwoods, as well as, pre, post, and during fire relationships. Fish and Game staff will provide an update on Coho and anadromous fish.

Director Brodrick commented that personnel have been in short supply and coordinating staff is very important. It is critical for the DFG and CDF with their respective Board and Commission to have regulations and response direction and a reconciliation of the relative tradeoffs. DFG recognizes that, as it relates to fires such as last year, there has to be coordination in advance and relationships built in advance. Arranging the relationship in advance of a fire can minimize harm and provide a platform for recovery. If pre-fire coordination is to be accomplished, staff is very important. The focus remains on high priority issues. He believes it important that all departments and agencies work with the Blue Ribbon Commission.

Director Brodrick commented that the DFG has not been involved in the THP process in the Sierra due to budget cuts. DFG has made progress working on the Stewardship Non-industrial Plan, working on a 4(d) rule so that the processes can be streamlined. He has looked at some of the conflicts and obligations the companies are dealing with in the field. He sees it as a continuing challenge and an opportunity to work through programs with respect to working landscapes. The Fish and Wildlife service has been working with groups related to habitat conservation planning, so people are trying to get to a broader landscape vision. DFG can sustain that only if it provides predictability and long-term sustainability for the landowners and the regulators.

Director Brodrick commented that CDF's incident command system is a thing of beauty to watch. The training that the DFG is doing and the coordination is through the DFG response and prevention side. He believes that that should improve effectiveness and enable DFG personnel to be effective within CDF's incident command system providing mapping assistance as well.

Director Brodrick commented that DFG is now using the FEMA process by using disaster relief funds to remediate. The work that CDF did in the mid 1990's has helped in getting remediation conducted effectively and

addressing resource needs. He believes that the real challenge for the Departments is how to manage and forecast risk assessment to large landscapes. He asked for the Commissions and CDF's help and their participation in explaining that the balance is rational to the general public. People are trying to get to a broader landscape vision that provides predictability and long-term sustainability for the landowners, the regulators that provide incidental take, and assurance that it is a preferred long-term strategy.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT POLICY ON PRE-DURING, AND POST FIRE ACTIVITIES AND WILDLIFE HABITAT

Chairman Dixon introduced the topic.

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, referred to the copies of the Joint Policy on Pre-During, and Post Fire Activities and Wildlife Habitat and provided an overview for the Commission and the Department. Mr. Gentry commented that should the Board and/or Commission find areas that could be corrected in these policies that they so direct staff; barring that, a reaffirmation of these policies.

Mr. Christopher Zimny, Regulations Coordinator for the Board, commented on the positive cooperation he has received from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG). He provided an update on fuel hazard reduction and provided an overview as to preferred alternatives; defensive zone alternatives; and communities at risk. He believes it is important that CDF gets information from DFG and other agencies. He reviewed where the Board is considering applying this rule and the nature of the treatment that might be done. He commented that the Department and the Board looks forward to working with and continued cooperation from DFG in the future.

Dr. Marty Berbach, Department of Fish and Game, introduced Bill Tippet from the south coast region, on the Region's involvement in the fire incidence of 2003.

Mr. Bill Tippets, DFG Deputy Regional Manager for the South Coast Region, commented that he has been focusing on the natural community conservation-planning program. He commented that his Power Point presentation would provide what the Department has been doing in relationship with the 2003 season. He also provided an overview on the fires in the Santa Barbara and Ventura areas.

There was some discussion.

Director Tuttle thanked the DFG for its presentation and commented that it was encouraging for her to hear positive comments about how CDF and DFG try to work together during these emergency situations. She introduced CDF's Region Chief and asked him to comment.

Mr. Tim Turner, CDF Southern Region Chief, commented on how the CDF works with DFG during an incident. He commented that time passes from incident to incident and faces change. He believes that the key is to get together on the operating plan each spring. It is important to continue these meetings. He expressed his pride in the Power Point presentation and DFG's interest. He reported that the training for DFG was non-carded, non-certificated training; that CDF includes basic fire behavior and fire safety, and shelter deployment.

There was some discussion.

Director Broddrick explained about the filming of the Commission meetings. He commented that they are funded through the City and some local groups of San L Obispo.

Mr. Steve Mathews, AGP Video, Moro Bay, commented on his network of government channels.

REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENTS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT POLICY ON HARDWOODS

Chairman Dixon introduced the topic.

Mr. George Gentry, Executive Officer for the Board, provided some background for the Members. He commented that the Board's Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) held a two-day workshop last week to address issues of oak woodlands and that he would forward copies of the findings of that meeting to the Board and the Commission.

Mr. Bill Snyder, Deputy Director for Resource Management commented on issues under the joint policy on hardwoods, such as to staff reduction and budget, which affects the ability to implement the policy. He reported on the THP review process and Vegetation Management. He commented that oaks remain an issue as far as disclosure and we should start looking at how successful oak regeneration is within areas impacted by THPs. He commented that CDF would continue to support the efforts of RMAC and the IHMP through FRAP.

There was some discussion.

Dr. Marty Berbach, DFG, reported that most of the hardwoods and oaks activity are the responsibility of Regional and Sacramento staff. There is currently no full-time position. There are no DGF staff in the Sierra Nevada where most of the concerns regarding deciduous oaks exist. In the past two or three years, the DFG has been working with the Board on specific rule language on deciduous oak disclosure and the Board adopted an cumulative assessment in January 2003. Now DFG is working with the California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) workshop in November 2004 on Oak and hardwood retention. He and other staff will work with CLFA as time permits. DFG is also working on vegetation mapping in the central Sierra Nevada and regeneration issues in cooperation with the Forest Service. He commented that DFG has been working with the Wildlife Conservation Board and also with CDF to establish a program for the protection and conservation of oak woodlands throughout California. Staff is still working with the California Oak Mortality Task Force. There are currently Sudden Oak Death mitigation guidelines. Staff is also working with the Integrated Hardwood Management Program on updating the Planners Guide for Oak Woodlands. DFG is also working with the California Association of Wine Grape Growers. They have put together a publication called, "California Vineyards and Wildlife Habitat." The DFG has contracted with UCB to conduct oak tree health and mass production surveys, which is being funded by the DFG's Resource Assessment Program.

There was some discussion.

REPORT BY DEPARTMENTS REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT POLICY ON PACIFIC SALMON AND ANADROMOUS TROUT

Mr. Robert Treanor, Executive Director, provided background on the Joint Policy on Pacific Salmon and Anadromous Trout for the Members. He then commented that he wanted to clarify some misinformation regarding this agenda item. This item is information only to the Board and the Commission by the Department on what has transpired and whether or not, with their implementation of these policies, if there is a need to bring in the proposed amendments to the Board and the Commission for their consideration at a future meeting.

Mr. Treanor reported that the Commission, pursuant to §2114 of the Fish and Game Code directed the DFG to develop a listing process on Coho salmon. That was done via the California Endangered Species Act where the Commission was provided a petition to consider listing Coho. As part of that process, the Commission in 2002 made a finding that the petition action was warranted. He explained the process for the Members and commented that §2114 allows the Commission to hold that regulatory action in abeyance and directs the DFG to develop a recovery strategy. In February 2004, the Commission adopted the Coho Salmon Recovery Strategy Plan. He noted that he received earlier in the day two letters recommending the Board and the Commission adoption of the Recovery Strategy. He committed that there has been some misinformation that the Board may be ready to consider adopting a recovery strategy on Coho in Southern California. He announced that there is no action that is being contemplated at this time. This is an information item only.

Ms. Gail Newton, with DFG Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed program and the team leader for the Coho Recovery Strategy, reported on the Notice of Intent that was filed in February and published on March 12, 2004. She indicated that the process to put the species on the Endangered Species list will be completed on June 25, 2004, at the Commission hearing in Crescent City and reviewed the process for the Members.

REPORT OF FEDERAL AGENCIES, INCLUDING U.S. FOREST SERVICE, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, AND U.S. EPA

No report was given.

PUBLIC FORUM

Comments were received by; Richard Gienger, Tracie Thiele representing Humboldt Watershed Council, Kevin Collins, Sabrina Aller, Joey Racano, Amelia Rodriguez, Mark Rentz representing California Forestry Association, Bill Keye representing California Licensed Foresters Association, and Paul Mason representing the Sierra Club.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Jim Kellogg thanked those who attended the Joint meeting.

Chairman Dixon asked that the Board members give consideration to what it has heard today regarding the three Joint Policies, and if there are areas that might require further research by our staffs, bring those forward; if there is a need to bring this back for discussion he asked that the Members make the Executive Office aware of their concerns.

Ms. Britting commented that Coho implementation is very important and she would like to hear back from DFG on its modification.

Director Tuttle thanked the Board and the Commission for coming together to meet and reminded the Commission of the field trip to be conducted the following day.

RESULTS OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mr. Robert Treanor, Executive Director DFG, thanked the Board and the Commission for coming together again as a joint body. He would like to see these meeting continue. He expressed his appreciation to Board staff.

Mr. Bill Cunningham, Deputy Attorney General and Counsel for the Commission, and for this meeting, the Counsel for the Board of Forestry. He reported that the Commission met in Executive Session pursuant to Government Code, § 11526 (e) to discussion matters of licenses and permits. The Commission took the following action: Eugene Higgins, Approved, Squid Light Boat Permit; Alvin Muller, Denied, Deeper Near-shore Fishery Permit; Mark Neugebauer, Denied Near-shore Fishery Permit And Deeper Near-shore Fishery Permit; Gary Perkins, Denied Near-shore Fishery Permit; Robert Simpson, Denied Sea Urchin Diving Permit; Abe Toke, Denied Near-shore Fishery Permit; and John Valentine, Approved Educator's Exhibitor Permit.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dixon and President Kellogg called the Joint meeting of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Fish and Game Commission to a close.

Chairman Dixon
Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

Stan Dixon
Chairman

Copies of the attendance sheets can be obtained from the Board Office.