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Draft Minutes
BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Sacramento, CA
March 6, 2013

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stan Dixon, Chairman
Bruce Saito
Mark Andre
Susan Britting
Mike Miles
Richard Wade
J. Keith Gillies

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS ABSENT:

BOARD STAFF:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
Matthew Dias, Executive Officer, Forester's Licensing
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:

Ken Pimlott, Director
Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director
Bill Snyder, Deputy Director, Resource Management
Duane Shintaku, Asst. Deputy Director, Forest Practice
Russ Henly, Asst. Deputy Director, Resource Protection
Phyllis Banducci, Chief, Fire Planning
Pete Cafferata, Forest Hydrologist
Shane Cunningham, Forest Practice LE, Monitoring and Audit
Coordinator
Dennis Mathisen, Communication Officer

The Board's Mission:

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.

Call to Order

Chairman Dixon called the March 6, 2013 meeting of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to order.

Announcement of Actions Taken in Executive Session

No Executive Session

Approval of Minutes

Deferred

MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Report of the Chairman

No Report

Report of the Director/Department. Ken Pimlott - Full Report available on the Board's website.

- January and February have been the driest months on record. The latest drought forecast and snow survey information from DWR is that the state is headed for another dry year. Cal Fire will continue to monitor and prepare for worst case scenarios as we go into the spring months. The Forest Service has discussed their concerns for fuel and potential weather conditions in the west. They see fuel and weather conditions similar to, if not worse than last year.
- Spring Readiness exercises have been scheduled for April with the Conservation Camps inmate fire crews. The Director will keep the Board updated with dates and locations so they can attend.
- February saw fire activity in Lake County, just under 300 acres burned, in Inyo County 406 acres burned and in Jurupa Valley, 300 acres burned.
- Wildfire Awareness Week is scheduled for the first week in May, the Director will inform the Executive Officer of dates and locations. Historically Cal Fire schedules activities in five key areas of the state to get fire prevention information to the media.
- Incident Management teams trained three days in Sacramento. The incident management teams have been restructured. Cal Fire now has six statewide incident management teams that's down from ten regionalized teams, there are many new members and leaders. The teams reviewed fiscal policy and incident management expectations.
- Cal Fire has worked with local government partners to transition in five new local government cooperative agreements, Norco, Morgan Hill, Paradise, San Miguel and Soledad, particularly with the Schedule A program. Cal Fire will provide a brief at the committee level or the full Board meeting.
- The department is continuing their implementation of the Strategic Plan, key elements that are currently being worked on are the succession planning elements of the plan. The focus is to bring in new management and leadership and provide them with the tools they need to be successful. The department will provide a Supervision 5 course in the next two weeks. It is a weeklong interactive course that will provide new leadership with the budget, legislative, program interaction processes and the Board of Forestry regulatory and statutory process.
- The Director attended a meeting in February with the department's six contract county Unit Chiefs and staff, he sees it as an opportunity to build new relationships and strengthen existing ones.
- The Director attended Budget Hearings on Thursday March 07, along with Resources Agency and Fish & Wildlife to discuss AB 1492 with the Senate.
- Cal Fire continues to negotiate with CDCR, Department of Finance and Administration to bring inmate crews back into the system. CDCR is has been working diligently to look at areas where there are inmates that are in the existing system who meet the criteria for the Conservation Camp Program.
- The Redding Pilot Project will be concluding in March, the department will be evaluating the lessons learned from the project. They will keep the Board updated and share the results of what was learned.

Report of the Regulations Coordinator-George Gentry

The Executive Officer worked to provide additional information requested by OAL regarding the SRA Fee and Defensible Space regulations.

Report of Executive Officer.

Drafting schedule for Board travel to various locations throughout the state. Met and discussed with the Director of a trip to the Lake Arrowhead area to look at issues related to GSOB. The Executive Officer asked Board members for recommendations to areas they would like to tour or visit. He has considered tours to the coast and Southern California in light of the VTPEIR.

Introduced Donna Lewis as the new Office Technician for SRA.

Forest Practice, Mark Andre, Chair

Reviewed Scoping for the Class II-L Watercourse Regulation, staff provided field data. Anticipates a draft for the next Board meeting.

Reviewed the Request by the Hills Emergency Forum regarding non-native tree removal. George Gentry added the issue will be approached in two tiers, one being the NTHP and the second being restoration of the non-native invasive species that pose a hazard.

Reviewed Consideration of Proposed Revisions to Road Rules Text. There are still issues to resolve. Plans to have the Road Rules package out for noticing in the next few months.

Resource Protection, Bruce Saito, Chair

Reviewed possible changes to Title 14 CCR 1299 et. seq. regarding measures for woodpiles. George Gentry will continue to vet the language and work with OAL.

Update on SRA Focused Review Project PowerPoint. Phyllis Banducci, Staff Chief, Fire Planning.

Reviewed permanent regulations for State Responsibility Area Fees. There are three outstanding issues that George Gentry continues to work on.

Update on Wildland Prevention Engineering. Mike Wilson, Assistant Chief, Wildland Fire Prevention.

VTP EIR Update

Utility Vegetation Management Update, Niel Fischer with PG&E was there to answer any questions.

Report of Board's Advisory Committees

- **Forest Pest Council-**

- **California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF) –Katie Palmieri**

Tanoak will be the focus of the spring 2013 special issue of Madroño, a publication of the California Botanical Society. Several of the papers were presented orally at "Tanoak Wild: A Celebration," held June 22, 2012 in Petaluma, CA, as part of the Fifth Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium.

***P. ramorum* was found on Japanese larch (*Larix kaempferi*) in Glen Dye, east Scotland, for the first time** in January. The site consists of four symptomatic larch trees adjacent to a public road; however, there are symptoms suggesting there may be disease adjacent to the infected trees.

- **Monitoring Study Group- Pete Cafferata (Full report can be found on the BOF website)**

The MSG has not met since the last Board meeting.

The next MSG meeting will be held March 20th, in Willows at the Mendocino National Forest Supervisors Office. Agenda items include:

- a. A presentation by Dr. Cajun James, SPI, on post wildfire water quality and hillslope erosion monitoring data in the Battle Creek watershed."
- b. Presentation by Mr. Drew Loganbill, NRCS, on post-fire response in the Little Creek Watershed: evaluation of change in sediment production and suspended sediment export.

c. Discussion on the draft MSG **Effectiveness Monitoring Committee**. Charter sent to RSC Chair Dr. Rick Standiford on February 1st.

Caspar Creek, one of our 4 cooperative watershed studies, is holding its 50 year celebration on June 28th in the Fort Bragg area. The title of the workshop is "The Caspar Creek Research Project: 50 Years of Discovery; What are the Implications for Forest Management."

Richard Harris is hosting riparian function and management webinar series from May 1st-May 29th. There will be 5 two-hour sessions on Wednesdays, starting at 11:00 a.m.

Regarding FORPRIEM, or our Forest Practice Rule Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring Program that uses a random selection of THPs and our Forest Practice Inspectors, Clay Brandow has been actively entering data into the FORPRIEM database, with total THPs submitted with data nearing 100 plans.

Pete Cafferata will be doing a Monitoring Study Group Overview for the California Water Quality Monitoring Council webinar series on September 19th. For more information, see: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/mywaterquality/monitoring_council/collaboration_network/index.shtml.

- **Research and Science Committee- George Gentry**
Sent a charter on the Effectiveness Monitoring Committee for review and advisement. He will present it to the Board for review once EMC has completed their review and consideration.
- **Committee on Criminal Trespass- George Gentry**
The Executive Officer is in the process of securing speakers for a symposium to be held in May or June.
- **Range Management Advisory Committee- George Gentry**
Meeting held in February, the main focus was to have committee members weigh in and provide comments on the VTPEIR.
- **Professional Foresters Examining Committee – Matt Dias**

The following Registered Professional Foresters have failed to renew their licenses. REVOCATION of the following licenses is requested:

Jon Gustafson – CRM 94	William Sandeen – RPF 1788
Doug Seastrom – RPF 208	Michael Hicks – RPF 1850
Richard Borden – RPF 1137	Robert Eckart – RPF 2428
John Finlay – RPF 2608	

03-13-01 Member Andre moved to approve revocation of CRM and RPF's. Saito seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Office of Professional Foresters Registration notes the RECENT PASSING of the following Registers Professional Forester:

Dale Thornburgh – RPF 430

Currently there are 27 applicants sitting for the April 12, 2013 RPF and CRM examination. These applicants have been determined qualified of meeting minimum requirements.

One Registered Professional Forester requested license WITHDRAWAL pursuant to 14 CCR §1608(a) during this month:

John Tappeiner – RPF 1212

03-13-02

Member Saito moved to approve withdrawal. Member Gilless seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS

REVIEW OF THE LUMBER ASSESSMENT REGULATION. George Gentry.

Possible action item: Board may authorize staff to develop permanent regulations for the April Board Meeting.

George Gentry gave an overview of the regulation process. He presented to the Board an interim guide; it is his recommendation that he will present to the Board a permanent regulation that will have a detailed listing of products at the April Board meeting. He gave a list of examples of product issues that have come up while compiling the list. He is in the process of pulling together individuals from the industry to get their perspective and to see what recommendations they may offer.

Public Comment

Mark Burgatt, James Hardy Inc., would like to schedule a meeting with George Gentry to discuss the process of how items are selected to be on the list.

BOARD 2012 REGULATION AND PRIORITIES REVIEW

The Executive Officer plans to have the report finalized by April. The report covers major issues facing the Board which include: AB 1492, SRA Prevention Fee, Road Rules, Small Land Regulatory Improvement, Stewardship Lands and State Forests, PRC 4290, Safety Element Review, Vegetation Treatment Program, Research and Science Committee/Effectiveness Monitoring Committee, Cumulative Impacts and Committee on Criminal Trespass.

NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL

HEARING: Pursuant to Government Code §11340.7, the Board has scheduled a public hearing for **10:00 a.m.** of a petition by the Environmental Protection Information Center. The petition requests the deletion of sections addressing protection measures for the Northern Spotted Owl contained in the California Forest Practice Rules (ref. 14 CCR § 919.9(g)[939.9(g)]). - Rob DiPerna, Ken Hoffman,

Rob DiPerna, gave PowerPoint presentation. He asked the Board to accept their petition and delete option (g) from the rules.

Ken Hoffman, Consultant, asked the Board to accept the petition from EPIC and eliminate option (g) of the rule.

Duane Shintaku, Assistant Deputy Director, Forest Practice, gave his thoughts on option (g) of the rule; he stated the department recognizes the problems with option (g) being obsolete. Instead, they have developed requirements above those required in the rules.

Public Comment

Pete Ribar, Hawthorne Timber Co., referred to a letter that was submitted by the company opposing the petition. He believes that option (g) has a lot of value, it allows for a site specific analysis, it allows for modifications to some of the rule standards for habitat retention and protection measures. There is a benefit to having flexible options, retaining (g) is important.

Mike Tadlock, stated that he finds value in option (g), it allows for the RPF to implement practices that could improve habitat value for spotted owl.

Luke Bright, Forests Forever, in support of the petition and hoped that it be granted.

Dave Bischel, Forestry Association, he asked the Board to reject the petition, option (g) and option (g)+ is one of the few opportunities that landowners have to be able to do site specific protection measures. He also stated that activity sites for measuring actual populations is not an appropriate method for determining what is and isn't the status of the populations.

Bill Key, California Licensed Forester's Association, concerned with losing options if the petition is granted. We want to protect the species but also want to have mechanisms in place that landowners and foresters can use to address the issues

Eric Carlson, Associated California Loggers, seeks denial of the petition and suggests to continue discussions to implement options that are optimal for both sides.

Paul Mason, doesn't have an official position on the petition but has seen a continuing decline in owl population. He stated that he would like see an acknowledgement that the rules are not adequate.

Kevin Collins, he would like to see the Board uphold the petition.

03-13-03 Member Britting moved to accept petition and issue a 45 day notice for rulemaking to delete option (g) from sections 919.9 and 939.9. Committee Member Andre seconded the motion. He offered an amendment "and to further explore the issue of Spotted Owl rules, in Forest Practice Committee with attention to finding a substitute for option (g)." Member Britting accepted member Andre's amendments.

Chair Dixon called for a Roll Call vote.

Saito	Yes
Britting	Yes
Andre	Yes
Gilless	Yes
Miles	No
Wade	No
Dixon	No

The motion passed 4 to 3.

CONCLUSION

Public Forum

Chris Quirnbach, Michigan-California Timber Company, explained the name change of the company. He mentioned that nothing has changed in the way they conduct business.

New and Unfinished business

None

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

Keith Gilles
Chairman

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