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BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Sacramento, CA
May 8, 2013

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Keith Gilles, Chairman
Stan Dixon
Bruce Saito
Mark Andre
Susan Britting
Mike Miles
Richard Wade
Stuart Farber
Mary Rickert

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS ABSENT:

BOARD STAFF:

George Gentry, Executive Officer
Matthew Dias, Executive Officer, Forester's Licensing
Eric Huff, Regulations Coordinator
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 Gillless called the May 8, 2013 meeting of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to order.

Announcement of Actions Taken in Executive Session

Matt Dias, Licensing Officer reported on Licensing case 319 involving RPF 2215, Scott Leonhard. It is alleged that Mr. Leonhard's record of violations indicated a pattern of practices that displayed gross negligence and disregard for the Forest Practice Rules of the State of California. The accused was issued 15 notices of violation spanning a five year period, eight different harvesting documents . The violations were issued as a direct result of professional failure. Mr. Leonhard entered into a stipulated agreement that resulted in a suspension of his license for one year followed by one year probation. The suspension began May 8, 2013.

Approval of Minutes

Deferred

MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Report of the Chairman

Nothing to report

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

- The Department has been following weather patterns and fuel conditions. The months of January through March have been the driest on record in many parts of California. DWR completed their last snow survey the first week of May; snowpack is at 17% of average. Although snowpack doesn't directly impact fire activity, it is an indicator of the dry conditions in the state. The wind events in Northern California have greatly accelerated drying fuel conditions. These conditions have put SRA and much of the adjoining Federal land in above normal potential for extreme fire activity. The Department has taken further steps to accelerate staffing along with securing resources and equipment in the state.
- Wildfire Awareness week kicked off the first week in May. With recent fires it presented the perfect opportunity to educate the public on defensible space, fire prevention and preparedness.
- To date there have been 1184 fires with just 3,800 acres burned compared to 750 fires with 1,260 acres burned last year. The average is 600 fires with 1,600 acres burned. The Governor attended Cal Fire's press conference, the department received a great deal of attention and support on the 2013 fire season. He was clear as was The Natural Resources Secretary Agency's John Laird about preparing and providing the resources needed to combat wildfires.
- There have been several appointments. Kate Price is the new Training Chief over the Training Program and Josh White is the new Unit Chief for Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit. The Department is still working on the succession plan and filling positions as staff retire.
- May revise was due to come out the week of May 13, the department was following closely the outcome of the budget. Cal Fire will work with the Legislature and Administration on any changes and will brief the Board on the outcome.

Carlos Suarez, State Conservationist, gave a report on the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Report of the Regulations Coordinator-Eric Huff

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| • §1299 AB 1595 Defensible Space | Partial Approval Effective April 1, 2013 |
| • Class II-L Identification | Remanded to Forest Practice Committee |

- **NSO Protection Protection Measures, 2013** **Initial Hearing July 10, 2013**
- **NSO Activity Center Definition, 2013** **45-day Notice of Rulemaking pending**
- **MTHP Amendments, 2013** **45-day Notice of Rulemaking pending**

Report of Executive Officer.

The Executive Officer asked for approval on the proposed 2014 Board schedule. The schedule will go from meeting twelve times a year to ten times a year to allow for field trips to various locations.

Proposed 2014 meeting schedule:

- January 28-29
- March 4-5
- April 8-9
- May 6-7
- June 3-4
- August 5-6
- September 9-10
- October 7-8
- November 4-5
- December 9-10

05-13-01 Member Saito moved to approve the 2014 Board schedule. Member Britting seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

George Gentry is working on the schedule for the June Board meeting, the meeting will be held in Redding. The June meeting agenda will be posted on the Board's website. He is also working on a field trip in Riverside for August. Met with Board of Equalization (BOE) with the Timber Tax Advisory Committee on April 25. They approved the schedule for the second half of 2013.

Forest Practice, Mark Andre, Chair

Reviewed and consideration of options to address Northern Spotted Owl protection regulations. There was a presentation of options to address Hills Emergency Forum requests regarding native species.

Resource Protection, Bruce Saito

George Gentry gave an update on the review of possible changes to the business process for General Plan Safety Element.
 George Gentry and Jana Lewis gave an update on the review of possible regulations pursuant to PRC 4290.
 George Gentry and Doug Wickizer did a review of the VTP EIR.
 Reviewed regulatory requirements for utility line clearance with PG&E. Discussed activities, suppression and prevention.

Management, Stan Dixon

Discussed Management Plan Review for LaTour Demonstration State Forest Lovelace
 Dr. Russ Henly gave an update on Stewardship Lands for Acquisition by the Department.
 Member Farber gave an update on the discussions and progress made on the Effectiveness Monitoring Committee Charter.

Report of Board's Advisory Committees

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

SODMAP mobile is a new app available for free at the Apple App Store. Developed by the UC Berkeley Forest Pathology and Mycology Lab, the app is intended for field use and allows the user to identify the locations of trees sampled for *P. ramorum* and determine the health of each tree at the time of sampling.

A Gilroy nursery (Santa Clara County) was confirmed positive for *P. ramorum* on April 18th. The positive *Loropetalum chinense* (5 g) plant was identified during a compliance agreement inspection. No high-risk host and associated host plants have been shipped interstate in the last six months.

Oregon had three *P. ramorum*-positive nurseries identified in April. A Clackamas County facility was found to have infected *Camellia*, *Gaultheria*, *Pieris*, *Rhododendron*, *Trachelospermum*, and *Viburnum* on April 11th. Soil sample tests are still pending.

Jack Marshall retired from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) as a Forest Pest Specialist on May 1st. Jack covered forest health for California’s northern and central coast and served on the front line of early detection and response to *P. ramorum* in Mendocino, Humboldt, and other counties.

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

MSG has not met since the last Board meeting. The next MSG meeting will be held June 12 at the BLM’s Ukiah Field Office. Agenda items include:

1. A presentation by Dr. Kate Sullivan titled “Trends in Sediment Related Water Quality after a Decade of Forest Management implementing an Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan.”
2. Presentation by Mr. Kirk Vodopals, MRC, titled “Suspended Sediment Loads in the South Fork of the Albion River, Mendocino County, California.”
3. Continued discussion on the revised, draft Effectiveness Monitoring committee Charter.

MSG is hoping that more people will register for the Caspar Creek 50 year celebration, being held on June 28th in Caspar. The title of the workshop is “The Caspar Creek Research Project: 50 Years of Discovery; What are the Implications for Forest Management.”

Richard Harris has begun the riparian function and management webinar series that are occurring every Wednesday in May (May 1st-May 29th) There will be 5 two-hour sessions on Wednesdays, starting at 11:00 a.m. The talks include background information of riparian functions, approaches for selecting sites for active riparian management, tools for assessment approaches, and active riparian management case studies.

Update on VTAC pilot projects: Campbell Timberland Management VTAC pilot project to add large wood to the Smith Creek channel I western Mendocino Co. Field pre-consultation held on April 4th: paan PHI to be held on May 30th. LaTour Demonstration State Forest VTAC pilot project to reduce fuel loading in the WLPZ field pre-consultation hopefully to be held either the week May 20th or May 27th. The Green Diamond Resource Company VTAC pilot project/research project, part of their adaptive management process under their HCP, remains under development by Dr. Lowell Diller. This project will test fish response to opening canopy gaps to increase light and alder development for increased nutrient input.

- **Research and Science Committee- George Gentry**

- **Committee on Criminal Trespass- George Gentry**
No report
- **Range Management Advisory Committee- George Gentry**
No report
- **Professional Foresters Examining Committee – Matt Dias**

SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS

STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA FOCUSED REVIEW 2013. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to adopt the proposed changes to the State Responsibility Area Maps after conducting a focused review. Focus areas were primarily identified as a result of inconsistencies brought to the Department's attention through the Fire Prevention Fee Petition process and calls received by CAL FIRE and the fee administrator. **Possible Action Item:** The Board may adopt, reject, or modify the recommendations.

05-13-02 Member Saito moved to approve the revisions as presented. Member Miles seconded the motion.

Chair Gilless called for a Roll Call vote

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|-----------------|------------|
| Saito | Yes |
| Britting | Yes |
| Andre | Yes |
| Wade | Yes |
| Dixon | Yes |
| Miles | Yes |
| Farber | Yes |
| Rickert | Yes |
| Gilless | Yes |

CONCLUSION

Public Forum

New and Unfinished business

None

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,



George D. Gentry
Executive Officer

ATTEST:



Keith Gilless
Chairman

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