

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

*-Meeting Held September 9, 2008-*

**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Committee Members Doug Piirto (Chair), Tom Walz, Pam Giacomini; Wayne Connor, Kimberley Sone, Helge Eng, Bill Snyder, Giny Chandler, Allen Robertson, Heather Montgomery (*CAL FIRE*); Arne Hultgren (Roseburg Resources); Richard Gienger (Humboldt Watershed Council); Bob Carey (Wm. Beaty & Associates); Bill Keye (CLFA); Paul Mason (Sierra Club).

**AGENDA ITEM 1: REVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT'S DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/CEQA CHECKLIST, MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE BOGGS MOUNTAIN DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE.**

Dr. Helge Eng, State Forest Program Manager led a review of the revised documents with the assistance of Deputy Director, Bill Snyder, Boggs Mountain Forest Manager, Wayne Connor, Assistant Forest Manager, Kim Sone, and Environmental Protection Chief, Allen Robertson. Review of the document focused upon changes made in accordance with the Committee's direction during the August meeting. In addition to those changes, Dr. Eng presented several edits provided by Mr. Robertson since the last Committee meeting.

Following lengthy discussion of the hazardous materials analysis and the aforementioned revisions, the Committee requested several minor edits be made prior to the conclusion of the meeting. The revisions were later presented to and received the concurrence of the Committee. Member Walz then moved that the Committee recommend full Board approval of the circulation of the documents through the state clearinghouse for 30-day public and agency review. Member Giacomini seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**BOARD ACTION ITEM**

- 1. The Committee recommends that the Board approve circulation of the Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study/CEQA Checklist and Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program through the State Clearinghouse for 30-day public and agency review.**

**AGENDA ITEM 2: DISCUSSION OF A MODIFIED TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN (MTHP) REGULATORY PROPOSAL FOR STREAMLINED PERMITTING OF LANDSCAPE FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION**

Staff presented a revised draft Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) and accompanying draft regulatory language for consideration by the Committee. Following extensive discussion amongst the assembly, staff was directed to revise the draft ISOR and regulatory language consistent with the suggestions of the assembly. Staff will then present a revised ISOR with regulatory language for further review and discussion at the October Committee meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: CONTINUING REVIEW OF THE STATUTE AND REGULATIONS FOR SUSTAINED YIELD PLANS (SYP)**

Staff reviewed the responses of Board Counsel, Teri Ashby to a series of questions directed at clarifying the Board's authority for possible modifications of the SYP regulations. Counsel Ashby concluded that regulatory revisions were possible so long as they are not in conflict with the statute. For example, regulatory changes to the ten-year effective period of an SYP are not possible because the statute clearly defines the effective period as no more than ten-years. However, regulatory modifications could include creation of an SYP "renewal" process and clarification on the existing amendment process.

**AGENDA ITEM 3 CONTINUED...**

Staff discussed a number of possible regulatory modifications and additional educational efforts proposed by John Munn and Dennis Hall of *CAL FIRE*. Following discussion, the Committee directed staff to produce a draft ISOR and regulatory language for consideration by the Committee beginning with the October meeting.

Giny Chandler, *CAL FIRE* Chief Counsel then concluded her analysis of the recent Supreme Court decision in the litigation concerning the former Pacific Lumber Company SYP. Following further questioning of Counsel Chandler, discussion was concluded with the Committee's request for a written summary of the Counselor's analysis and her continued participation in the Committee's ongoing review of the SYP regulation.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: INITIAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON THE PREPARATION AND FOREST PRACTICE PROGRAM REVIEW OF PROGRAM TIMBERLAND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORTS (PTEIRS)**

Allen Robertson, *CAL FIRE* Deputy Chief of Environmental Protection presented his draft PTEIR Guidance Document and provided a summary of the document's history and evolution to date. *CAL FIRE* Deputy Director Snyder noted that the Department had not completed its review of the draft document, but would work to finalize the draft in advance of the October meeting. Following brief discussion, the Committee directed staff to agendize this item for October in anticipation of a more thorough review.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No new or unfinished business. Staff noted that the Fuel Hazard Reduction Options Table had been circulated to RPFs and other interested parties, and that Committee Meeting Reports for 2008 would be posted on the Board's website. The Committee also reviewed its Work Tracking Table and directed staff to bring the table up to date for October.

**POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETING:**

1. Continuing Review of the statute and regulations for Sustained Yield Plans (SYP).
2. Discussion of a Modified Timber Harvest Plan (MTHP) Regulatory Proposal for Streamlined Permitting of Landscape Fuel Hazard Reduction.
3. Presentation and review of Draft PTEIR Guidance Document.
4. Update on Public Comment to Date on the Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest Mitigated Negative Declaration/Initial Study/CEQA Checklist and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.