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**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

**Santa Rosa, CA**  
**May 10, 2018**

**BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS PRESENT:**

J. Keith Gilles  
Mark Andre, Vice Chair  
Mike Miles  
Darcy Wheelles  
Susan Husari  
Marc Los Huertos  
Chris Chase  
Katie Delbar

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Rich Wade

**BOARD STAFF:**

Matthew Dias, Executive Officer  
Dan Stapleton, Licensing Officer  
Edith Hannigan, Land Use Planning Program Manager  
Conner Pompa, Forestry Assistant II  
Laura Alarcon-Stalians, AGPA  
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant  
Jeff Slaton, Board Counsel

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:**

Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director  
Helge Eng, Deputy Director, Resource Management  
Dennis Hall, Assistant Deputy Director  
Bill Solinsky, Forester III, THP Administration  
Eric Huff, Staff Chief, Forest Practice Program  
Daniel Berlant, Assistant Deputy Director  
John Melvin, Staff Chief Resource Management

**Natural Resources Agency:**

Russ Henly, Assistant Secretary of Forest Resources  
Management

## **Announcement of Actions Taken in Executive Session**

- The Board discussed the items on the agenda; there were no reportable actions taken.

## **Approval of April 2018 Board Meeting Minutes**

Deferred to the June Board Meeting

## **MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS**

### **Report of the Chairman, J. Keith Gilliss**

Chairman Gilliss stated that being in Santa Rosa as Board efforts are focused on fire prevention brings home the lessons learned from the 2017 fire season. While in Santa Rosa, he was given a tour of recent fire affected areas by former CAL FIRE employee Ethan Foote which made clear the challenges and the impact on people's lives, properties and communities that fire protection efforts can have. He expressed that the Board will keep these tragic events in mind when doing their work to ensure that California does not experience another fire season with the catastrophic consequences of 2017. He thanked all those involved for their efforts on the incidents of the North Bay and Thomas Fires and commended CAL FIRE Director Pimlott's efforts in getting the fire prevention and education message out during Wildfire Awareness Week.

### **Report of the Director/Department Janet Barentson**

Chief Barentson presented on the following matters while Director Pimlott worked with the Governor to finalize details of the Forest Management Task Force in Sacramento.

#### **Succession planning**

- Kurt McCray has been appointed the Unit Chief for Humboldt Del Norte Unit.
- Brennan Blue, Unit Chief in San Benito-Monterey announced his coming July retirement.
- Interviews for the Lassen Modoc Unit Chief were conducted the week of May 14-18. It is anticipated an announcement will be made shortly.

#### **Wildfire Awareness Week**

- Wildfire Awareness Week was May 7-11.
- The kickoff was at McClellan Park, Sacramento, with events held on Tuesday, May 8 in San Bernardino, and Wednesday, May 9, Redding and Santa Rosa, Thursday, May 10, in Santa Barbara and Fresno, and Friday, May 11, in San Diego. The Board's Executive Officer Matt Dias, spoke at the Santa Rosa event and represented the Board well.

#### **Upstaffing/Fuels Treatment**

- Units are staffing engines and completing rehire training academies
- A wind event was anticipated for the weekend of May 12.
- CAL FIRE has observed increase in initial attack operations.
- The Department will be focusing on fuels treatment and defensible space inspections in 2018 and are ahead of the pace set last year.

#### **Climate Investments**

- Forest Health Grants
  - Applicants successful through the concept proposal process were invited to submit full project proposals.
  - It is anticipated that final grant awards will be made the end of June.
- SRA grants have been announced with a press release issued on May 10.
- Both grant programs will reoccur this fall for the 2018-19 Cap and Trade funding appropriation so that the Department can be more sensitive to spring planting schedules.

## **Strategic Plan**

- Input meetings with Departmental leadership and contract county partners have concluded.
- A product is expected to be completed by end of summer.

## **Public Comment**

**Richard Gienger Forests Forever**, asked if progress was being made between CAL FIRE and Air Resources Board (ARB) with setting ground rules for Cap and Trade.

Janet Barentson responded that CAL FIRE and ARB have come to an agreement on how the matrices will be done for both the Forest Health Grants and SRA Fire Prevention grants. The Fire Prevention Grants are open to any landowner with the requirement that there must be a benefit to habitable structures in the state within Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The Forest Health Grants are watershed grants and broad landscape grants.

## **Report of the Executive Officer, Matt Dias:**

Executive Officer Dias reported on the following matters:

- Provided a legislative update on current bills that may affect the Board's programs; and
- Provided a staffing update.

## **Report of the Regulations Coordinator:**

Matt Dias, Executive Officer, reported on the following matters:

- Reviewed the Board's rulemaking matrix.

## **Report of the Standing Committees:**

### **Forest Practice Committee, Mike Miles, Chair**

Committee Chair Miles reported on the following matters:

- Provided an update on reporting to legislature on exemptions and emergency notices (PRC § 4589); and
- Provided an update on stocking standards revisions and the William Main Project Report – Dr. Bill Stewart; and
- Provided an update on use of exemptions and emergencies within the boundaries of an approved NTMP; and
- Discussed request from Blodgett Forest Research Station for designation as “Experimental Forest Land” (PRC § 4526) in support of the Board funded EMC-2017-006.
- Reviewed staff revisions to 14 CCR § 1038 – Exemption; Conner Pompa, Forestry Assistant II, provided an update on the revisions to the rule text; and

## **Agency Comment**

**Eric Huff, CAL FIRE, Staff Chief, Forest Practice Program**, CAL FIRE supports the changes to the rule text.

**05-18-01 Member Miles moved to approve the Initial Statement of Reasons as directed for the Exemption Amendments 2018. Member Los Huertos seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Husari	Aye
Miles	Aye
Delbar	Aye
Wheeles	Aye
Andre	Aye
Los Huertos	Aye
Chase	Aye
Gilless	Aye

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

**05-18-02 Member Miles moved to authorize distribution of the language for the Exemption Amendments 2018 for a 45-Day Notice.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Husari	Aye
Miles	Aye
Delbar	Aye
Wheeles	Aye
Andre	Aye
Los Huertos	Aye
Chase	Aye
Gilless	Aye

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

**Management Committee, Mark Andre, Chair**

Committee Chair Andre reported on the following matters:

- Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest Management Plan update; and
- Review of Board policies 0350 – 0350.10 as they pertain to the State Demonstration Forests; and
- Review of staff revisions to 14 CCR § 1104.1 – Conversion Exemptions.

**05-18-03 Member Andre moved to approve the Initial Statement of Reasons for Timber Conversion Exemptions 2018 14 CCR § 1104.1– Conversion Exemptions. Member Chase seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Husari	Aye
Miles	Aye
Delbar	Aye
Wheeles	Aye
Andre	Aye
Los Huertos	Aye
Chase	Aye
Gilless	Aye

The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.

**05-18-04 Member Andre moved to authorize a 45 Day Rule Plead for 14 CCR §**

**1104.1– Conversion Exemptions. Member Chase seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Husari</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Miles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Delbar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wheeles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Andre</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Los Huertos</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Chase</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gilless</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.**

**Resource Protection, Susan Husari, Chair**

Committee Chair Husari reported on the following matters:

- The Safety Element review has nothing reportable; and
- Discussed current legislation relating to the land use planning and prescribed fire programs; and
- Pending revision of existing Board policies commencing with 0340; and
- Discussed proposed 14 CCR § 1270 Fire Safe Development regulations revisions; and
- Provided updates to Board policies on fire safety and land use planning (Board Policy 0342); and
- Draft 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Report of Board’s Advisory Committees**

**Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC), Edith Hannigan**

- 1) Board consideration of appointment of Lance Criley to RMAC for a term of four years

**05-18-05 Member Delbar moved to approve Lance Kriley to RMAC for a term of four years. Member Andre seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Husari</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Miles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Delbar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wheeles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Andre</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Los Huertos</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Chase</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gilless</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.**

**SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS**

**Presentation: Update on the California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management Agreement (CFMA):** Don Gordon, Assistant Deputy Director, Cooperative Fire, CAL FIRE

**Presentation: Pacific Gas and Electric: Community Wildfire Safety Program:** Niel Fischer, Principal, Electric Operations Risk Management Program

**Public Comment**

Gary Rynearson Green Diamond Resource Company, shared his concerns with various maps and terminology being consistent across agencies.

**Initial Hearing: Class II-L Classification Sunset Amendments, 2018:** The Board proposes to amend 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956,9] for the purposes of extending the sunset date of regulations that clarify the applicable methods that apply to classification of Class II-L watercourses within watersheds where the Anadromous Salmonid Protection rules apply.

**05-18-06 Chair Gillless moved to approve “Class II Watercourses Classification Sunset Amendments, 2018” ASP Rules Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR). Member Wheelles seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Miles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wade</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Husari</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Delbar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wheelles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Los Huertos</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Andre</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Chase</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gillless</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.**

**05-18-07 Chair Gillless moved to adopt “Class II Watercourses Classification Sunset Amendments, 2018” proposed rule text as final text. Member Andre seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Miles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wade</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Husary</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Delbar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Wheelles</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Los Huertos</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Andre</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Chase</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gillless</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**The motion carried unanimously with one member absent.**

**CONCLUSION**

**Public Forum**

**Richard Gienger, Forests Forever**, encouraged the Board to watch a film by Shane Alexander, *A River’s Last Chance*, a documentary about the Eel River watershed. Stated that though the Planning Watershed Pilot Project TRFR report findings and recommendations were to available by the end of the year, that a scope of work had not yet been prepared. Identified that webinars (Northern Spotted Owl,

Smith Creek watershed, Campbell Creek Pilot Project webinar on the assessment of erosion risk and sediment sources) are available on the Resources Agency website relative to that pilot project determining the scope of work. Expressed concern over the quality of Smith Creek Watershed information related to geology and sedimentation. Relayed a message from Richard Wilson. Requested reaction from the Board on recent Legislative Analyst Report related to forest health.

**Larry Hanson, President, Forests Unlimited**, thanked the Board for coming to Sonoma County and shared his concerns with the CAL FIRE Resource Management program regarding adequately protecting natural resources during logging, especially industrial logging.

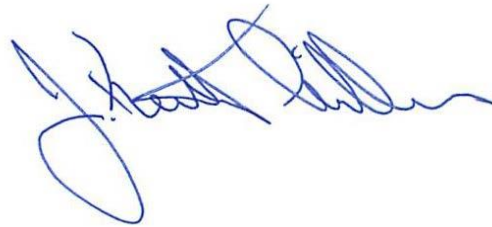
Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Dias", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Dias  
Executive Officer

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Gilles", with a large loop at the beginning and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Keith Gilles  
Chair