

County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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MANU KOENIG FIRST DISTRICT ZACH FRIEND SECOND DISTRICT RYAN COONERTY THIRD DISTRICT GREG CAPUT FOURTH DISTRICT BRUCE MCPHERSON FIFTH DISTRICT

February 22, 2022

Edith Hannigan Executive Officer California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection PO Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460 VIA EMAIL: edith.hannigan@bof.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Hannigan:

I write to you today on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to request an extension of the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's Emergency Forest Practice Rules to facilitate completion of ongoing fire remediation and recovery efforts associated with the CZU Lightning Complex fire.

The Emergency Forest Practice Rules for Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties put in place last June will expire in March, 2022. In order for fire remediation and recovery work associated with the CZU Lightning Complex fire to be completed, it is necessary to request an extension of the emergency regulations to September 22, 2022.

The Emergency Forest Practice Rules were very instrumental to salvage and cleanup operations during 2021 as they allowed extra days of work and full utilization of existing crews. It is anticipated that there is still extensive work to be done within the fire footprint to complete the needed salvage and cleanup. It should be noted that crews, equipment, and trucks remain in short supply, making the extension of time to complete the work even more imperative.

Fire remediation and recovery efforts require that the emergency regulations need to be extended to the last date possible, September 22, 2022, to facilitate completion of the ongoing cleanup work. This was requested by contractors doing the work and has been reviewed by the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works which is fully supportive of extending the expiration date. Page 2 RE: EMERGENCY FOREST PROTECTION RULES EXTENSION February 22, 2022

Given the devastating losses that our community has suffered due to the CZU Lightning Complex fire, it is imperative that we are able to move toward recovery as quickly as possible. Therefore, we respectfully request your assistance with granting an extension of the Emergency Forest Practice Rules through September 22, 2022.

Sincerely,

MANU KOENIG, Chair Board of Supervisors

MK:cs

CC: Eric Hedge David Van Lennep