

RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov
(916) 653-8007



Dear Secretaries D'Souza and Peer,

October 15, 2021

I am sending this letter on behalf of the Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC), an advisory body to the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The RMAC is responsible for advising on matters affecting the conservation, management, and use of grassland, oak woodland/savannah, brushland, and other grazed ecosystems in the State, and would like to develop open and constructive lines of communication with the CalEPA so that they may better fulfill their statutory duty of advising on rangeland issues under consideration by the CalEPA.

To accomplish this goal, we hope that the CalEPA will work collaboratively with the RMAC to develop a regular means of communication over the coming year so that the RMAC may stay informed and provide constructive feedback on the development or refinement of programs for which the CalEPA is responsible per PRC § 741: "... the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency... shall notify the advisory committee of, and [is] encouraged to consult with the advisory committee on, rangeland resource issues that are under consideration." We are particularly interested in receiving updates on non-point source permitting, and any other programs related to grazing, rangeland management, or rangeland health.

The RMAC seeks to ensure a future with healthy, productive rangelands in California and believes that collaborative efforts and communication between agencies is an important component in forwarding this goal. We respectfully request that your office contact administrative staff (below) before December 1, 2021 to begin discussions on methods of communication regarding these programs or any other relevant programs in development, as well as to review the CalEPA annual priorities to allow for investigation of potential synergies and areas that RMAC could support the CalEPA.

Kristina Wolf, Environmental Scientist
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Kristina.Wolf@bof.ca.gov
(916) 215-4947

We understand the time commitment required of this effort and appreciate that your staff is already taxed with the many programs and functions of CalEPA. The RMAC hopes to make a tangible contribution in promoting and assisting in furthering the goals and priorities of the CalEPA. Thank you for your assistance on this matter and I look forward to speaking more in the future.

Sincerely,

Marc R. Horney, Ph.D.
Chair, California Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC)
mhorney@calpoly.edu (805) 756-7543