

From: brueger@ocsnet.net
To: Public.Comments@BOF
Subject: Support for Emergency Drought Mortality Exemption
Date: Wednesday, December 02, 2015 3:40:34 PM

Mr. Chairman and Regulations Coordinator:

I support extending the Emergency Drought Mortality Exemption regulations beyond 2015, and perhaps considering permanent rule making for this exemption option.

This drought mortality option has certainly been useful for nonindustrial landowners affected by the insect epidemic in the central and southern Sierra Nevada region in 2015. Many landowners were able to salvage small volumes from their properties in a timely manner under this exemption. This allowed landowners to reduce their fuel load and eliminate safety hazards in a cost effective manner. Before the Drought Mortality Exemption was approved, several landowners I talked to were not interested in filing an Emergency Notice to remove salvagable trees due to the added RPF costs involved.

Please consider extending or making permanent the regulations for the Emergency Drought Mortality Exemption.

The ongoing insect epidemic is likely to continue well into 2016 and perhaps in 2017.

Thank you for your attention.

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