

BOARD OF FORESTRY

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THE  
*Buckeye*

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION



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February 26, 2016

Mr. J. Keith Gilles, Chair  
State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection  
P.O. Box 944246  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Dear Mr. Gilles,

The Buckeye is a non-profit organization with over 200 family, individual and commercial memberships, representing over 300,000 acres of forests and ranchland found on the California North Coast. We strive to promote sound resource management practices and policies that contribute to the ecological and economic health of our regions wildlands and open spaces. We work to maintain the economically viable working landscapes of rangelands and forest lands, most of which are owned by multigenerational families.

The Buckeye would like to express its strong support for oak woodland restoration and management options of our disappearing Oregon white and California black oak woodlands. However, our landowners are discouraged by the lack of options for restoration and management practices for these vital oak woodlands within the existing Forest Practice Rules.

The Buckeye supports the general direction that the Board of Forestry appears to be taking with this important issue and we look forward to the outcome of this effort for our landowners. Our working landscapes would greatly benefit from rule changes to the Forest Practice Rules proposed by the Board of Forestry. Timber harvest or invasive species stem density reductions within black and white oak woodlands, forests, and savannahs are necessary to restore and/or conserve the ecological, cultural, and economic values of these crucial oak woodlands.

The Buckeye appreciates the Board of Forestry working on rule changes to the Forest Practice Rules for Oak Woodlands restoration and management.

Sincerely,

Jim Able, Chairman  
The Buckeye

Cc: Matt Dias, Board Acting Executive Officer  
Mike Miles, Chair of BOF Forest Practices Committee