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**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

**Sacramento, CA**  
**April 12, 2017**

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:**

J. Keith Gilles, Chair  
Mark Andre  
Rich Wade  
Mike Miles  
Darcy Wheelles  
Katie Delbar

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Susan Husari  
Marc Los Huertos

**BOARD STAFF:**

Matthew Dias, Executive Officer  
Edith Hannigan, Associate Government Program Analyst  
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant  
Laura Alarcon-Stalians, Associate Government Program Analyst  
Ali Karaouni, Board Counsel

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:**

Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director  
Helge Eng, Deputy Director, Resource Management  
Bill Solinsky, Forester III, THP Administration  
Dennis Hall, Assistant Deputy Director, Forest Practice  
Pete Cafferata, Forest Practice/Forest Hydrologist  
Forester II  
Eric Huff, Staff Chief, Forest Practice Program  
Lynne Tolmachoff, Chief, Public Education  
Heather Williams, Information Officer

**NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY:**

Russ Henly, Assistant Secretary of Forest Resources Management

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

Executive Officer Dias announced that the Board permanently appointed Dan Stapleton to the position of Assistant Executive Officer.

## **Approval of March 2017 Meeting Minutes.**

Deferred

## **MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS**

### **Report of the Chairman J. Keith Gilles**

Reported on his trip to Washington D.C in March on behalf of UC Berkeley along with a delegation of representatives of agricultural collegiate programs. They met with members of Congress to discuss matters of future support through funding of the represented agricultural programs.

### **Report of the Director/Department. Janet Barentson and Lynne Tolmachoff**

- **Training**
  - The Department held the Supervision 5 Exceptional Leadership Class. Executive Officer Matt Dias was a student in this class. The training follows the Budget Change Proposal process from concept through a mock legislative budget hearing.
- **Activity:**
  - The Department has started early staffing on April 1 in preparation for the coming fire season. A second wave of seasonal hires will commence on April 15. Hires will complete their fire season rehire training and focus on fuels treatment work.
  - The Department is launching an automated defensible space inspection reporting process. Inspectors will utilize digital tablets to document the inspections. This system will allow the Department to standardize, store and readily analyze inspection data, and thereby focus educational efforts on those items that are more frequently identified as noncompliant.
  - Lynne Tolmachoff, Chief of Public Education, provided an overview of the new Ready for Wildfire app. This has been made available to the public and has upwards of 10,000 subscribers.
- **Tree Mortality**
  - The Governor has ended his drought declaration, but has stated that the Tree Mortality proclamation, and efforts which surround that, are still in full effect. Additionally, the Department will continue to work with the Department of Finance on augmented funding for drought related activities, such as tree removal, prescribed fire and fuels treatment.
- **Governor's Budget**
  - The Department is through the first budget hearings in each house. General Fund proposals, for the most part, are being deferred until the May Revise, when General Fund revenues will be clearer. Both Budget Sub-Committees have approved Department budget proposals for additional staffing.
- **Wildfire Awareness Week**
  - Wildfire Awareness Week begins on May 8, and will kick off at McClellan park, followed by 7 press conferences throughout the state the remainder of that week.

Member Andre inquired if the recent successful timber sales from Jackson Demonstration State Forest were stumpage sales. Helge Eng, Deputy Director Resources Management, acknowledged that the sales were stumpage sales.

Member Miles inquired if the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) is currently proposed for funding for the coming year. Russ Henly, Assistant Secretary Forest Resources, stated the CFIP is proposed for 5 million in funding for fiscal year 17/18 from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund.

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

- (a) The Board reviewed Rulemaking Calendar.
- (b) The Board considered the Final Statement of Reasons and Draft Regulatory Proposal for the Working Forest Management Plan.

**04-17-01 Chairman Gillless moved to approve the Final Statement of Reasons for the regulation entitled, "Working Forest Management Plan" (as provided in the Board Binder Materials identified as FULL 8.1) with the minor revisions offered by staff. Member Miles seconded the motion.**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Wade</b>        | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Husari</b>      | <b>Absent</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>Absent</b> |
| <b>Gillless</b>    | <b>Aye</b>    |

**The motion passed unanimously; two members absent.**

**04-17-02 Chairman Gillless moved to approve the 45-Day Noticed regulatory proposal for the regulation entitled, "Working Forest Management Plan" (as provided in the Board Binder Materials identified as FULL 8.2). Member Delbar seconded the motion.**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Wade</b>        | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Husari</b>      | <b>Absent</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>Absent</b> |
| <b>Gillless</b>    | <b>Aye</b>    |

**The motion passed unanimously; one seat vacant and two members absent.**

## **Public Comment**

Rob DiPerna, Environmental Protection Information Center, expressed his concerns with how the Board is proceeding with the regulatory proposal.

Alan Levine, Coast Action Group, expressed that there hasn't been adequate time given to review and respond to the public comments submitted to make a decision. He agrees with the intent of the legislation but objects to some of the language in the rules.

## **Report of Executive Officer. Matt Dias**

Reported Eric Hedge, Regulations Coordinator started Basic Wildland Firefighter training in Riverside. Conner Pompa, Forestry Assistant II, will be graduating from Fire Fighter Academy and Company Officer Academy on April 14. Board staff has been working on scanning all regulatory files so they can be made available online in the very near future as a means of public transparency. Board staff is also working on organizing all available versions of the Forest Practice Rules back to the early 1990's and will also be posting the various versions on the Board's website in the next week.

- a) Legislative Update: AB 211, SB 287, webcasts
- b) Tree Mortality Task Force – Member Wade. Member Rich Wade provided an update on the TMTF activities and items the committee has been working through. The white paper titled "Sierra Nevada Forest Health" was approved by the Forest Health and Resiliency Working Group.
- c) Reviewed the Lumber Assessment Regulations (14 CCR section 1667 et. al.) as required by PRC section 4629.04. The Board determined that no revisions to the regulations are necessary at this time.

## **Public Comment**

George Gentry, Calforests, commented and gave a brief review of AB 975. He expressed concern that if chaptered, the proposed revisions to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act could ultimately affect the application of the Forest Practice Rules.

## **Report of the Standing Committees**

Chair Gillless reported that the committees will be restructured with members being placed with other committees due to member vacancies.

The standing committees of the Board will be structured as follows:

### **Management Committee:**

Chair, Mark Andre  
Member, Gillless  
Vacant

### **Resource Protection Committee:**

Chair, Husari  
Member, Los Huertos  
Member, Wheelles

**Forest Practice Committee:**

Chair, Miles  
Member, Delbar  
Member, Wade

**Forest Practice Committee & Management Committee Joint Meeting, Co-Chair Miles**

- CAL FIRE provided an update on Legislative Reporting for Exemptions and Emergency Notices to the joint committee.
- RPF/LTO Responsibilities was revised and a copy of the draft regulations were recommended for distribution to the Board. Board staff is working on completing the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR). The draft regulatory text and draft ISOR will be brought before the Board at the May meeting for consideration of authorization of a 45 Day Notice.
- 14 CCR § 1038 Exemptions
  - a) A Section 100 has been submitted to the Office of Administrative Law to include the revisions to the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Pilot Project pursuant to AB 2029. The committee continues to work on a draft regulatory proposal to develop the necessary revision for Oregon white and California black oak management exemption pursuant to AB1958.

**Resource Protection Committee**

No Report

**Report of Board’s Advisory Committees**

**Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC) – Chair, Dr. Russ Henly**

Gave an update on the March 3 EMC meeting.

**Professional Foresters Examining Committee – Matt Dias**

- a) Considered the re-appointment of Chair, Otto van Emmerik, Gerald Jensen and Tom Osipowich.

**04-17-03      Member Andre moved to re-appoint Chair, Otto van Emmerik, Gerald Jensen and Tom Osipowich to the Professional Forester’s Examining Committee. Member Miles seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Wade</b>        | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Husari</b>      | <b>Absent</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>Absent</b> |
| <b>Gilless</b>     | <b>Aye</b>    |

**The motion passed unanimously; two members absent.**

- b) Board considered the authorization of 45-Day Notice for Draft Regulatory Proposal titled Professional Foresters Examining Committee Amendments, 2017 (14 CCR § 1122).

**04-17-04** Chairman Gilless moved to approve the Initial Statement of Reasons titled Professional Foresters Examining Committee Amendments, 2017 with minor edits offered by Board staff. Member Wheelles seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Wade</b>        | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Husari</b>      | <b>Absent</b> |
| <b>Miles</b>       | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Delbar</b>      | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Wheelles</b>    | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Andre</b>       | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Los Huertos</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
| <b>Gilless</b>     | <b>Aye</b>    |

The motion passed unanimously; one seat vacant and two members absent.

**04-17-05** Chairman Gilless moved to authorize the 45-Day Notice for Draft Regulatory proposal titled Professional Foresters Examining Committee Amendments, 2017. Member Andre seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Wade</b>        | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Husari</b>      | <b>Absent</b> |
| <b>Miles</b>       | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Delbar</b>      | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Wheelles</b>    | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Andre</b>       | <b>Aye</b>    |
| <b>Los Huertos</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
| <b>Gilless</b>     | <b>Aye</b>    |

The motion passed unanimously; one seat vacant and two members absent.

**Presentation:** 2016 California Forest Pest Conditions Report, Tom Smith, CAL FIRE Pest Management Specialist.

## **CONCLUSION**

### **Public Forum**

Barbara Highley, member of the public (El Dorado County), expressed her community's concerns regarding the SRA map boundaries and fees in the Lake Forest Village in the El Dorado Hills area. Helge Eng, Deputy Director Resource Management, responded that the Department and Board periodically reviews the SRA boundaries on a 5-year timeline and offered to look at their particular case.

Richard Geinger, Forests Forever, (online comment), Mr. Gienger asked for an update on the Campbell Creek Pilot Project. Russ Henly, California Natural Resources Agency, responded with an update.

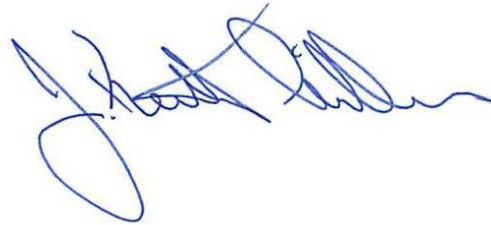
**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

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

Matthew Dias  
Acting Executive Officer

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Gilles", with a large, circular flourish at the beginning.

Keith Gilles  
Chair