

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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



**RANGE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**  
**Sacramento, CA**

<b>RMAC Members Present</b>	<b>RMAC Members Absent</b>
Co-chair, Lesa Osterholm John Van Duyn Cole Bush Bart Cremers Mary Rickert  <b>Via Conference:</b> Co-chair, Marc Horney Ed Anchordoguy Chuck Pritchard	Chris Marengo Sheryl Landrum Aaron Lazanoff Bill Burrows
<b>RMAC Staff</b>	<b>Department Staff</b>
Edith Hannigan	

Items appear in the order they were presented on the agenda.

**Approve March Minutes**

Member Pritchard issued a motion and Member Cremers seconded an approval of the March minutes. RMAC members approved the minutes via a unanimous voice vote.

**Administrative****a. Membership****i. CCA Representative**

Mr. Kirk Wilbur from the California Cattlemen's Association will discuss potential membership with CCA members at their mid-year meeting in June and have suggestions for qualified individuals by RMAC's meeting in July.

**b. Events****i. Southwest Climate Hub/SubHub Workshop**

Ms. Hannigan brought this event to members' attention in the event they are interested in attending personally or as RMAC representatives.

**Focus Group Updates****a. Rangeland Water Quality****i. GRAP Update**

Mr. Nick Kunz provided an update on the Water Board's progress with the Grazing Regulatory Action Program. The North Coast Water Board is having a hearing in May on their draft cannabis waiver.

Ms. Hannigan provided RMAC with list of Range Service Providers, an effort that came out of the Water Board's ranch tour in early April. Ms. Hannigan asked for RMAC's assistance in continuing to compile this list as a resource for ranchers and others looking for organizations supporting ranching and water quality.

**ii. Ranch Water Quality Planning Short Course Update**

Mr. Morgan Doran, UC Cooperative Extension, gave a history and current status of the Ranch Water Quality Planning Short Course. The course is still being held despite a loss of funding many years ago. The curriculum is being reworked to make it easier for the short course to be presented by other agencies and adding resource library and document templates for distribution among ranchers. The updated course will be online shortly.

RMAC members discussed ways to encourage ranchers to take this course – would offering it as some type of certification program make it more worthwhile?

**b. Land Management Tools**

**i. Approve final draft of prescribed herbivory for VMP white paper**

Member Anchordoguy put forward a motion to approve the white paper for Board review, with changes to the CEQA section on page 7. Member Cremers seconded the motion and it was approved with a unanimous voice vote.

**ii. Potential Pilot Project on Mountain Home or LaTour State Forests**

Mr. Conway was absent from this meeting but has no updates on this item.

**c. Rangeland Conversion/Forest & Resource Management**

Member Van Duyn alerted RMAC to post-fire grazing research on the Kings and Rim fire footprints. The research project is still being outlined but RMAC will continue to have updates on this project.

**d. Public Land Grazing**

**i. CAL FIRE/BOF policies for State Forests**

Member Cremers proposed RMAC provide assistance to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in updating Board policies regarding grazing on state lands. Ms. Hannigan will investigate the process for updating Board policies to provide direction to RMAC on how best to proceed.

Ms. Hannigan provided information to members on state park general plans in the process of being updated and is continuing to look into engagement with State Parks on this issue.

**e. VTP Program EIR**

RMAC staff have provided Member Landrum with the first round of the committee's comments on the VTP Program EIR. It is expected the draft EIR will be released in July for public comment.

**f. Drought**

Members discussed meteorologists' predictions for an El Niño year next year.

**Legislative Update**

Ms. Hannigan provided RMAC with list of relevant bills and their status in the Legislature and Ms. Noelle Cremers provided some additional context and up to date information.

**Updates from Partner Organizations**

California Cattlemen's Association – Mr. Kirk Wilbur updated RMAC on CCA's involvement with GRAP, including the work of the GRAP Advisory Committee and plans for continued involvement with the Water Board on this issue.

California Farm Bureau Federation – Ms. Noelle Cremers addressed issues that CFBF are currently following, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife State Wildlife Action Plan update currently out for public comment. The Fish and Game Commission are also looking into changes in their predator management policies, specifically introducing bag limits on coyotes. There will eventually be recommendations developed by the department and public hearings on the matter.

California Wool Grower's Association and California Association of Resource Conservation Districts were unavailable for this meeting.

California State Water Boards – Mr. Nick Kunz announced that the Water Board will release their 2016 319(h) guidelines on June 1 and priority areas will be released at their July Board meeting.

**New and Unfinished Business**

No updates under this agenda item.

**Member Updates**

Member Bush alerted RMAC to changes in federal H2A visas that would limit contract grazers' ability to utilize workers under this program. She encouraged members so inclined to write a public comment letter on this issue. Public comment closes on June 1.

Member Pritchard announced that the Rancher Sustainability Self Assessment Program will be part of a national presentation at the NAGLC meeting in Texas this year.

Member Van Duyn is renewing grazing permits and asking grazers if they had heard of GRAP – most had not.

**Meeting Adjourned.**