

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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**Resource Protection Committee Meeting Report**

**Note: agenda items appear below in the order in which they were discussed by the assembly.**

**RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE**  
**May 4, 2010**  
**Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Location: **Resources Bldg.**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1506-12**  
Sacramento, California

**Agenda #1: Fire Plan Update. Review of Edits based on Public Comment; Initial work priorities and performance standards.**

Chief Pimlott distributed to all Committee members the new version of the Fire Plan. It is a compilation from last month's public comments. There were significant edits to the introduction. He added that some additional word smithing was done throughout the document, but tried to capture main themes. Chief Pimlott said he received much help from Phyllis Banducci, Dean Cromwell and George Gentry. Additionally, Phyllis has worked on the priority objectives based on Cal Fire units and regions, and she has capsulated all of this feedback in one document. The Fire Plan and the Priority Objectives have been two separate documents.

Phyllis Banducci, Staff Chief, Fire Plan, announced that last month she had received feedback from 14 Units and at this time she has now received feedback from all of the Units on the priorities. She handed out a current summary of the Cal Fire Unit Priority Objectives of the comments on the priority goals from the units that are bolded. She went over these objectives with the Committee.

Board Member Walz had a question on number 1, section "H" of the handout on "engage and participate with local stakeholder groups to validate and prioritize the assets at risk". He stated that he wants to know if the liaison is prioritizing the assets at risk. What kind of metric is being used to prioritize assets at risk? Assets need to be identified. How do you access this information so you know the assets at risk are present. Chief Pimlott will look into this question to identify the assets at risk.

The strategic plan will be attached with the appendices work tasks, so that the strategic plan will be separate. The document with final edits will be distributed to the Fire Plan Steering Committee and brought back to RPC for final edits in June and then will be brought forward to the full Board in June. Agendize minor edits to the appendices for next months agenda.

**Agenda #2: 1270 SRA Fire Safe regulation review on local ordinances, inspection authority and exceptions.**

Board Staff, Chris Zimny went over the amendments to the 14 CCR 1270 regulations, covering local ordinances and how they are certified, the inspection authority, and exceptions to the regulations.

Terri Ashby, Board Counsel, did not change any of the wording or the scope and only made the changes in necessity language of the document.

Board Staff, Chris Zimny went over local ordinances and how they are certified, inspection authority and exceptions. The Board certifies local ordinances. The significant change is that once local ordinances are certified by the Board, if amendments have been made by local jurisdiction the previously certified ordinance would no longer be valid.

Chair Giacomini, suggested that this regulation be cleaned up and placed on next month's agenda. At that point it can be given to Melodie Durham, Staff Chief, to look over with the CAL FIRE Task Force Committee on revisions to PRC 4290.

Chair Giacomini, Teri Ashby and Chris zimny will clean up the current version and forward it to Melodie for her Committee's input. This will be on the agenda next month.

**Agenda #3: SRA Classification Guidelines Regulation update: Possible Action Item: Recommendation to Board to publish 45 day notice of regulatory action**

Phyllis Banducci, Staff Chief Fire Plan went over a revised version of the editorial changes that she made to the classification guidelines.

Chris Zimny, Board Staff stated that there are two parts of the proposed regulation: the regulatory text and the classification guidelines referenced in the regulation. Phyllis Banducci also made edits on and then to the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR).

**Board member Saito, moved that the Committee accept the editorial changes made and moved to approve for the Board to publish a 45 day notice of regulatory action for the classification guide amendments. Board Member Walz, seconded the motion. Action item will be set for tomorrows Board Meeting.**

**Agenda #4: Forest Legacy Program regulatory review.**

Chris Zimny, Board Staff gave an update on the Forest Legacy Program regulation proposal. Clean up still needs to be made on the document. Next month Jeff Calvert, Forest Stewardship Program, will go into further detail and explain different areas of the proposal.

**Agenda #5: Discussion of items for next month's agenda, review of 2010 Priorities**

1. Fire Plan update: discuss final edits and move forward to the Board for adoption
2. 1270 SRA Fire Safe regulations

3. Forest Legacy Program rule proposal update
4. Update on Defensible Space Guideline amendments by Cal Fire

**New Business:** Ken Zimmerman, RMAC, Chair, addressed the cost and losses on the Fire Plan. He felt this was not adequately addressed in the document.

## **ISSUES FOR 2010**

### **PRIORITY 1:**

1. **California Fire Plan:** Complete/Publish Review of 1996 Fire Plan, Initiate Update of CA Fire Plan: Review published, summer 2008. FPSC formed, update begun, target 2010 adoption. Public review draft being finalized. **Information to be evaluated:** Federal Fire Policy review and coordination, Cooperative Fire Review (§4141 et seq.), Unit Fire Plans, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, Contract County review, Blue Book (Staffing) Review, Climate change issues. **Objective/Status: Complete by end of 2010, in progress and on June 2010 agenda.**
2. **Safety Element Review (all counties, cities with VHFHSZ):** Review ongoing issue, general plans submitted. **Objective/Status: Completed and approved revision of GP recommendations at March 2010 RPC. Submission of GP recommendations to counties on going.**
3. **Local County ordinance certification of Title 14 CCR 1270 Regulations (Fire Safe), PRC 4290/4291:** Staff has begun review of statutes and regulations pertaining to fire safe regulations. **Objective/Status: Review of scope, inspection authority and, exceptions in 2010. This will be continued to be reviewed and placed on the RPC Committee meeting agenda for June 2010.**
4. **SRA 5 year review, balancing of DPA** Review to begin in 2010. Should consider SRA guidelines concurrently. **Objective/Status: Complete by end of 2010; Preparations of SRA map updates in progress at CAL FIRE Units and FRAP. Action taken to notice regulatory amendments to SRA classification guidelines in May 2010.**
5. **Utility Vegetation Clearing Standards** Tracking CALFIRE Monitoring of performance of major woody stem exemption. Also, engagement with CPUC on new vegetation clearing standards. **Objective/Status: Periodic updates in 2010;**

6.

### **PRIORITY 2:**

7. **Vegetation treatment plan EIR:** Administrative Draft being finalized, expect public review to begin first of 2010. Department should give an update ASAP to determine timelines. **Objective/Status: Complete when funding becomes available; Contract work currently suspended.**

**PRIORITY 3:**

8. **(D09 #11) Regulatory consistency with new PRC 4291 laws:** *Includes amendments to Technical Rule Addendum No. 4, Minimum Distances Required by Law. Diagram of required defensible space does not show the 30-to-100 foot zone around structures wherein fuels treatment are required per PRC § 4291(b) and 14 CCR § 1299(a)(2). Also potential amendments to 14 CCR 1299.* **Objective/Status: Update of regulatory guidelines in 2010. Revisions being prepared by CAL FIRE workgroup in progress.**
9. **Nursery Program Review:** *Begin review of Board Policies in light of current budget and Magalia closure, ramifications for climate change adaptation strategy.* **Objective/Status: No timelines or work progress established.**
10. **Sudden Oak Death Regulations and GSOB** *On going updates being provided by COMTF.* **Objective/Status: No timelines or work progress established.**
11. **Vegetation Treatment Program Review:** *Performance report of CAL FIRE programs to evaluate progress in fuel hazard reduction Review suspended. Issues regarding lack of resources and staffing.* **Objective/Status: No timelines or work progress established.**
12. **Fuel Hazard Reduction Emergency and Forest Fire Prevention Exemption (14 CCR §§ 895.1, 1052, 1052.1, 1052.4, 1038(e), and 1038(i))** *Rules allow fire-prone landscapes in fire-critical areas to be treated to lessen their fire threat. However, there is no provision to assure that such landscapes will be maintained. Consider restricting the future management allowed through the FPRs, i.e., even age management.* **Objective/Status: No timelines or work progress established.**
13. **Range Management Advisory Committee's white paper entitled, "State Owned Lands: A Discussion of their Acquisition and Recommendations for Sustaining Natural Resource Values."** *White paper prepared by RMAC for Resources Agency to establish a policy for providing maintenance to lands acquired or privately controlled via use of state funding.* **Objective/Status: Complete by mid-2010; policy paper submitted to Agency in late 2009.**

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