

REAUTHORIZED

1/10/07

POLICY NUMBER 6: RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS OF UNLICENSED PRACTICE OF FORESTRY OR A CERTIFIED SPECIALTY

Complaints involving non-licensed persons using the title of, or acting in the capacity of a "Professional Forester" or "Certified Specialist" (such as Certified Rangeland Manager) without being registered, or otherwise exempted, are acting illegally (Public Resources Code Section 766) and are handled in a manner consistent with Policy 8. The Executive Officer may hire expert witnesses to review investigation results and establish prudent standards of conduct.

If the investigation, expert witness, or Executive Officer's evaluation show sufficient cause, the appropriate District Attorney General's office may be asked to prosecute the case. Such prosecution may be based upon unfair or unlawful business practices, or false and misleading advertising. Action against a non-licensed person may include the Civil Code of Procedure, Section 1029.8 which governs cost recovery and punitive awards in the case of damages caused by an unlicensed person.