BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION UPDATE:

Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Program

January 23, 2019

California Natural Resources Agency
Departments of Conservation, Fish and Wildlife, Forestry and Fire Protection

California Environmental Protection Agency
State and Regional Water Boards
Presentation Outline

• AB 1492 Program Budget Overview (R. Henly)
• Campbell Creek Planning Watershed Pilot Project (E. Chasin)
• Ecological Performance Measures (L. Moreno)
• Training (JB Garcia)
• CalTREES (R. Bell, D. Hall, D. Craig)
• Permit Synchronizing (R. Henly)
• Questions/Discussion (All)
Budget Overview

• Russ Henly, Natural Resources Agency

The Department of Finance welcomes you to the
California Budget
2019-20
Gavin Newsom Governor
State of California
## TRFRF Fund Condition ($millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017/18</th>
<th>2018/19*</th>
<th>2019/20*</th>
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<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
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<td>46.0</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL RESOURCES</strong></td>
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<td>73.6</td>
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<td><strong>EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
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<td>Natural Resources Agency</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<td>28.7</td>
<td>25.1</td>
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<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
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<td>Department of Fish and Wildlife</td>
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<td>9.8</td>
<td>10.9</td>
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<td>State Water Resources Control Board</td>
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<td>6.4</td>
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<td>Sierra Nevada Conservancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>GO-BIZ</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Equalization/Dept. Tax and Fee Admin.</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<td>Pro Rata and Other Assessments</td>
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<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td>48.2</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>51.5</td>
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<td><strong>RESERVES</strong></td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>11.6</td>
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</table>

*2018/19 and 2019/20 numbers are projected.*
• Department of Fish and Wildlife—15 Positions
  • 11 positions ($2 million TRFRF) for preconsultation, review, permitting, and monitoring.
  • 4 positions ($1.5 million GF) for participation, coordination, and consultation related to fire prevention and vegetation management treatments and permits.

• State and Regional Water Boards—22 Positions
  • $4.4 million ($2.6 million GF, $1.8 million Waste Discharge Permit Fund) for Exemption Review and Utility Corridor Vegetation Planning.

• CAL FIRE/Board of Forestry and Fire Prevention—22/2 Positions
  • $10 million (GGRF) for implementing SB 901, SB 1260, AB 2518, AB 2911.
Campbell Creek Planning Watershed Pilot Project

- Elliot Chasin, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Goals of the Pilot Project

• Using existing data sources, identify opportunities and increase efficiencies for:
  • timber harvest planning and permitting processes
  • forest restoration
  • cumulative effects analysis
Background

• Long-running concept:
  • systematically evaluate cumulative effects and identify restoration opportunities at the planning watershed scale

• AB1492 staff developed a Concept Paper
  • Two public meetings to receive input
  • Two drafts and implementation version (May 2016)
  • Contents:
    • Seven “Critical Questions”
    • Deal with breadth and quality of information available in public sources (primarily THPs)
    • Structure of PPWG
    • Existing, publically-available data sources (except LiDAR)
Planning

- Campbell Creek Planning Watershed in Mendocino County
  - Lyme Redwood Forest Company is partner
- Formed Pilot Project Working Group (PPWG)
  - Members representing all RT agencies and a broad composition of public members
- Formed Pilot Project Interagency Interdisciplinary Team (PPIIT) to conduct analysis of project
- First public meeting of the PPWG: December 2016
- Three public meetings and three public webinars between May 2017 and January 2019 (tomorrow)
- Two websites to collaborate, present, and share information with the public, including significant spatial data with some analytical capacity.
Implementation

• Three-track process:
  • THP-focused data mining
  • Remote sensing rapid assessment
  • Modeling
Implementation

• THP mining
  • Time consuming
  • Agency staff searched through multiple voluminous THPs to find information that might be relevant to the goals of the pilot project
  • Quantitative, spatially-explicit data was often not available in the THPs
  • Most of the best information available was ultimately the result of watershed studies that were appended to or referenced in THPs.

• Rapid assessment
  • Fast and useful for determining wood-recruitment potential
  • Supplementation by LiDAR late in process resulted in even greater clarity
Implementation

• Modeling
  • Fast and also available from a desktop
  • Able to id specific areas of a watershed that are in need of restoration
  • Can narrow scope of fieldwork

• Webinars
  • Terrestrial habitat and NSO
  • Prototype of a synthesis of the 3 tracks; unfinished
  • Erosion risk and sediment sources
  • Webinars complemented 3 tracks
Implementation: Findings

- THPs have the potential to provide the site-specific information needed to identify restoration needs and opportunities; however, the THPs reviewed as a part of this project do not, by and large, contain this information on a systematic basis.
Process Challenges

- Examples include:
  - Concept led to some confusion
  - Managing expectations
  - Staffing and responsibilities
  - Terrestrial restoration in managed timberlands
DRAFT Recommendations

• Examples include:
  • Concept needs to be re-examined
    • Goals were too broad
    • More focused hypothesis
  • Shouldn’t just focus on THPs – other good sources of information
  • LiDAR is great! More LiDAR!
    • Statewide data sharing efforts (ex. CalMAIN) could be very helpful
  • Build on existing restoration efforts rather than inventing a new process
  • Future PP could evaluated Ecological Performance Measures (AB1492 product in-development)
  • CalTREES good for PP; PP good for CalTREES
Ecological Performance Measures

Developing a New Regionalized Monitoring and Assessment Effort

Loretta Moreno, Natural Resources Agency
AB 1492 Direction

“The Legislature further finds that the state’s forest practice regulatory program needs to develop adequate performance measures to provide transparency for both the regulated community and other stakeholders.” Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4629.1

“(8) In order to assess efficiencies in the program and the effectiveness of spending, a set of measures for, and a plan for collection of data on, the program, including, but not limited to:...

(F) Evaluating ecological performance.” PRC § 4629.9(a)
Scaling Ecological Performance Measures

Conceptualizing Levels of Environmental Performance Measurement for AB 1492

High-Level, Statewide Goals
- Example: CA Environmental Goals and Policy Report (indicators)

High-Level Indicators
- Example: Collaboratively Developed Sustainability Indicators for Forests, Water, and Wildlife [project of the California Biodiversity Council]

Sectorial Plans or Assessments
- Example: FRAP Assessment (indicators)
- Example: State Wildlife Action Plan (indicators)
- Example: State Water Plan (indicators)
- Example: Climate Adaptation Plan

Ecoregion or Watershed Assessments
- Example: Redwood Creek Watershed Assessments
- Example: Sierra Nevada Bio-Regional Assessment (US Forest Service)
- Example: North Coast Watershed Assessment Program
- Example: Basin Plans (RWQCBs)

Small-Scale Assessments
- Example: Planning Watershed Pilot Projects
- Example: Small Watershed Assessment
- Example: THP Cumulative Effects Analysis: Wildlife
- Example: THP Cumulative Effects Analysis: Watershed

Leading CNRA & CalEPA—TRFR Program

Lead: CNRA & CalEPA—TRFR Program

Forest Practice
- FP Rule A
- FP Rule B
- FP Rule C
- FP Rule 7

Effectiveness

Lead: BOF Effectiveness Monitoring Cmte.

Individual Harvesting Plans
- Plan 1
- Plan 2
- Plan 3...
- Plan n

Lead: Review Team Agencies

Zone of Concern for TRFR Program
Interagency Working Group

Lead
Loretta Moreno, CNRA

Members
Russ Henly, CNRA
Sandra Jacks, CDFW
Caroline Petersen, CDFW
Pete Ode, CDFW
Bill Short, DOC
Forest Schafer, Tahoe Conservancy
Adam Moreno, CARB
Michael Baker, CAL FIRE
Rich Walker, CAL FIRE
Jim Burke, SWRCB
Ali Dunn, SWRCB
Matt Dias, BOF
Pete Cafferata, CAL FIRE

Now soliciting several public stakeholder members.
Vision for EPM Program

Provide statewide, spatially explicit, consistent monitoring and assessment of timberland ecosystems at regional scale to track efficacy of existing regulations and programs.
Ecological Performance Measures

Used to evaluate ecosystem services against a suite of indicators and associated metrics to help determine an ecosystem’s state and level of function. Represents a method of ecological monitoring.
Ecological Performance Measures

Need to support consideration of not just standard commercial timber harvest, but also other forest management activities, such as restoration, biomass removal, fuels management, and carbon offset projects.

In addition to supporting backward-looking program evaluation, the ecological performance measures also can be useful in a forward-looking mode for project planning.
Data for Ecological Performance Measures

- Access existing datasets/leverage existing monitoring efforts

- While EPM program will use existing data/monitoring, program initiative may spawn expanded or new monitoring
Desired Outcomes for EPM Program

• Aggregate ecological data to inform regulatory program evaluation.

• Produce interactive dashboard/data story to display monitoring results, descriptions of indicators, geospatial maps, etc. in an intuitive format.

• Assessment results inform recommendations to support adaptive management.
Next Steps

- Comments on draft White Paper due February 15.
- Request nominations/applications for Working Group public stakeholder members by February 6.
- Next public workshop to be scheduled for March or April.

New EPM Website
http://resources.ca.gov/forestry/epm/
Training

Interagency and Cross-functional Training Team

JB Garcia, Department of Fish And Wildlife
WORKSHOPS

- Agency Roles & Responsibilities
- Water Drafting
- Forestry for Non-foresters
- Watercourse Crossing and Design

WEBSITE

Timber Harvest Training and Resources

http://timbertraining.resources.ca.gov/
Timber Harvest Training and Resources

The CALTREES Timber Harvest training, resources and information website is designed to be a one-stop shop for accessing documents, agency links and past/current training events related to timber harvest activities. The website contains a document library, PowerPoint presentations, videos and related material from a broad range of Review Team Agency resources. When training events/modules are available, either in-person or on-line, the website will be used to enroll for the event.

Resource categories
Over 250 attendees: State, Federal, Local agency staff, private/industry RPFs and LTOs.

*Rancho Cordova  *Redding (x2)  *Eureka  *Willits
Designing Watercourse Crossings for Passage of 100-Year Flood Flows, Wood and Sediment

- Hydrology for Watercourse Crossing Design
- Culverts, Bridges and Low Water Crossings
- Post Fire Crossing Design Considerations
- Biological Considerations/Fish Passage
LaTour Demonstration State Forest

July 26, 2018
Eureka/Korbel—Green Diamond Resource Company & Humboldt Redwood Company

October 25, 2018
Student Surveys

Survey responses – very positive!

“Unless this info will be integrated into Basic Forest Practice, I think an annual or bi-annual crossing workshop would be good as a refresher course or for new employees to get up to speed. Thanks!”

“Best workshop I can remember attending. Much appreciation to the organizers and presenters for the excellent show.”

“Well done!!”

“In this age of trying to reduce distracted driving, I thought it was unsafe to require drivers to eat their lunch while driving to the field site, because dedicated time for lunch was not allowed. Recommend including time in the schedule to eat one’s bag lunch onsite before leaving for field. Thank you.”
Per request, repeat the water drafting and watercourse crossing workshops bi-annually statewide AND provide venues farther south (Santa Cruz/Fresno).

Continue to coordinate with state, federal and local agencies and the timber community to assess training needs (storm water run-off and landslide stabilization, fuel hazard reduction opportunities, permit academy (CDFW & RWQCB), CALTREES THP submittal assistance, on-line workshops).
CalTREES

- Regina Bell, Natural Resources Agency
- Dennis Hall, CAL FIRE
- Dan Craig, CAL FIRE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CalTREES Live for CAL FIRE, CGS, CDFW, Waterboards</td>
<td>10/1/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CalTREES Search and Review Features released</td>
<td>12/1/2018</td>
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<td>CalTREES Information Portal released</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>(<a href="http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/CalTrees">http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/CalTrees</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTP THP Library will be retired - all PDF documents migrated to</td>
<td>1/31/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>CalTREES and available in the CalTREES library of documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working with George Gentry to obtain input on the new Timber</td>
<td>1/31/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvesting forms</td>
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<td>CalTREES demonstration at Sierra Cascade Logging Conference</td>
<td>2/8/2019</td>
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<td>Limited release of seven Online Emergencies and Exemptions</td>
<td>3/1/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>CalTREES demonstration at California Licensed Foresters Association</td>
<td>3/8/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submit Public Comments and Request Notification</td>
<td>4/1/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Go Live for Online Emergency and Exemptions</td>
<td>4/1/2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited release of Online THPs, NTMPs &amp; Substantial Deviations</td>
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Permitting Synchronizing

• Russ Henly, Natural Resources Agency
Permitting Synchronizing

- An option for THP submitter to improve the synchronization of review and approval of Department of Fish and Wildlife permits and Regional Water Quality permits with THP review and approval.
  - Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreements (LSAAs)
  - Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
-Submitter includes all information needed for LSAA and WDR in THP submission.
- CDFW and RWQCB conduct review for their permits at same time they review the THP.
Permitting Synchronizing

- Incorporate space for needed information elements into CalTREES THP forms.
- Program the required process steps into CalTREES.
- Goal: CDFW and RWQCB approve their permits within 5 working days of CAL FIRE approval of THP.

Outcomes:
- Faster, more efficient permit approvals for THP submitter.
- Efficiency of having all permitting information one place for reviewing agencies.
- More public transparency for the bundle of State permits typically required for a THP.
Questions and Discussion....

AB 1492 Leadership Team

Thank You!