US FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

REPORT TO CALIFORNIA BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

John Exline
Ecosystem Management Director
June 12, 2019
2018 Recap and 2019 update

- National Perspective
- Wildfire Suppression
- Tree Mortality Response (FMTF)
- Vegetation Management
- State & Private Forestry
- Agreements and Partnerships
National Leadership

Secretary Perdue

Chief Christiansen

7 Strategic Goals
One USDA

5 National Priorities
One Forest Service
Values and Services

- Over 50% of water supply
- $2.0 billion annual local wage & income contribution
- 43,000 local jobs
- 24.6 million annual visitors
Wildfire Suppression

965 fires on 728,895 acres

- Human-caused: 708 fires, 614,033 ac
- Lightning-caused: 257 fires, 114,863 ac
- Large Incidents: 24
- 97.7% of fires stayed small
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>USFS - Fires</th>
<th>USFS - Acres</th>
<th>All Jurisdictions - Fires</th>
<th>All Jurisdictions - Acres</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>965</td>
<td>728,895</td>
<td>8,054</td>
<td>1,823,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,526</td>
<td>644,640</td>
<td>9,562</td>
<td>1,268,321</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>356,954</td>
<td>7,349</td>
<td>560,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,656</td>
<td>537,446</td>
<td>8,745</td>
<td>893,362</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,460</td>
<td>399,713</td>
<td>7,865</td>
<td>555,044</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1,535</td>
<td>350,642</td>
<td>9,907</td>
<td>577,675</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>1,251</td>
<td>297,212</td>
<td>7,950</td>
<td>869,599</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,049</td>
<td>41,777</td>
<td>7,989</td>
<td>126,854</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,164</td>
<td>39,288</td>
<td>6,554</td>
<td>109,529</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1,548</td>
<td>305,371</td>
<td>9,159</td>
<td>405,585</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-19</td>
<td>1,299</td>
<td>533,530</td>
<td>8,315</td>
<td>1,020,139</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-21</td>
<td>1,304</td>
<td>370,194</td>
<td>8,313</td>
<td>718,994</td>
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</table>

*California Historical Fires and Acres*
AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY TO ASSESS CALIFORNIA FOREST HEALTH CONDITIONS

AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

- Surveyed ~ 137 million acres in 2018 across all lands
- 2019 surveys will begin in June
- ADS data informs Tier 1 & 2 designations; Farm Bill insect and Disease watershed designations; collaborative mapping efforts under the Forest Management Task Force; forest manager decisions
- Training CAL FIRE employee to assist with surveys
Tree Mortality – All Lands

Number of Dead Trees in California 2010 to 2018 (all lands)

- 2010-2014: 11,000,000
- 2015: 29,000,000
- 2016: 62,000,000
- 2017: 27,000,000
- 2018: 18,600,000

- Cumulative Number Dead Trees
- Dead Trees by Year

Survey Years:
- 2010-2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017
- 2018

Total: 147,600,000
Tree mortality response

**Tree Mortality Response Accomplishments**

As of January 2019

- **165** Communities
- **1,140** Miles of roads
- **363** Developed recreation sites
- **126** Miles of powerline corridors
- **653,000** Hazard trees
- **66,600** Acres
Tree Mortality - 2019

• Tree mortality is expected to continue to decline in 2019 as forested areas received above normal seasonal precipitation.

• Exception may be in tree mortality attributed to sudden oak death as the pathogen does better in wetter years.
Timber Volume

FY18 Target: 370,000 MBF
Attained 354,000 MBF (~97%)
FY19 Target: 370,000 MBF
• Fire Salvage – 100,000 MBF
• Green – 270,000 MBF
(Estimated Volumes in FY19)

Region 5 MBF Volume Sold, 2016-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td></td>
<td>145,192</td>
<td>213,890</td>
<td>311,557</td>
<td></td>
<td>353,937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salvage</td>
<td>218,365</td>
<td>363,557</td>
<td>41,791</td>
<td>42,380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>363,557</td>
<td>255,681</td>
<td>353,937</td>
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Fuels Reduction

Fuels Treatments (FY18 Target): 210,000 ac

- FY18 NFS Fuels Treatments
  Prescribed – 62,900 ac
  Mechanical – 158,900 ac
  Other – 90,100 ac
- Non-NFS Fuels Treatments – 5,900 ac
- TOTAL ALL LANDS: WUI=132,054; Non-WUI=186,298
  Exceeded Target by 101,352 ac
Fuels Reduction

Fuels Treatments (FY19 Target): 235,000 ac

Accomplishments-to-date

Prescribed – 26,000 ac
Mechanical – 51,000 ac
Other – 200 ac
Reforestation

FY18 Accomplishment – 10,500 acres
• Planting – 9,800 acres
• Natural Regen. – 700 acres

Reforestation Need: 266,000 acres
• Anticipated Planting: 84%
• Anticipated Natural Regeneration: 16%

USFS, CAL FIRE, USDA Climate Hub, Partner Collaboration
• FY18 – Completed Reforestation Needs Assessment
• FY19 – Hosted Reforestation Dialog and Symposium
Species Conservation Planning

- Habitat improved – 185,000 acres terrestrial, 750 acres lake, 490 miles stream
- CA Spotted Owl Conservation Strategy
- Sierra Meadows Partnership
- Transportation Infrastructure-Watershed
- Resilience Partnership with NFWF
### 2018 & 2019 - Project Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEPA TYPE</th>
<th>number of projects(^1)</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019-to-date(^2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROD/EIS</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DN/EA</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM/CE</td>
<td></td>
<td>48</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>76</td>
<td>93</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)For projects with purpose of forest products, vegetation management and/or fuels management.  
\(^2\)Signed or to be signed in 2019.
National Forest Planning

- Early Adopters
- Next Adopters
- National Monuments
- Northwest Forest Plan
- Forests

State Forest Action Plan

- Updated plan due June 2020
- FS working with CAL FIRE to integrate plans and priorities
Environmental Analysis and Decision Making

Goal – manage efficiently and inform decision making focusing on:

• Regulation and Policy
• Business Practices
• Training FS employees
Forest Products Modernization

Forest Products Modernization is a strategic effort designed to better align our culture, policies, and procedures with current and future forest restoration needs, in order to increase the pace and scale of restoration, improve forest conditions, and improve efficiency of product delivery.
Biomass and Infrastructure

- $1.0 M invested in 5 wood and biomass utilization projects
- Collaborating with others to supply biomass to facilities with BioRAM contracts
- Fully engaged in state utilization activities
Landowner Assistance

Forest Legacy
- FY18 – Rainbow Ridge completed; received ~$4.9 million for Mailliard and Grizzly Creek
- FY19 – expect 4 projects to close
- FY20 – submitted 3 projects for National consideration

Community Forest & Open Space Conservation
- FY19 – completed Arcata Community Forest acquisition

Emergency Forest Restoration Program
- Collaboration w/ CA Resource Conservation Districts to help private landowners recover from natural disasters
Urban & Community Forestry

- Tree inventory projects
- Stew-Map project and Urban Waters in Los Angeles
- Restoration support for fire-impacted communities
- Smokey Bear Art Exhibit at El Pueblo de Los Angeles
- L.A. Center for Urban Natural Resources Sustainability – strategic plan, research, outreach events, seminars
COOPERATIVE WORK WITH FS FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION AND CALFIRE FOREST HEALTH STAFF

- Annual joint CAL FIRE and USFS Pest Management Training
  June 3-7, 2019 – Redding, CA
- Jointly funding invasive species management position in southern California.
- CA Forest Pest Council and annual Forest Pest Conditions report
- Supporting numerous education and outreach events for goldspotted oak borer, sudden oak death, etc. with numerous partners (UC System, Counties, etc.)
- Co-leading development of Invasive Shot Hole Borer Statewide strategy with CDFA
- Cooperating across all lands to assist with forest pest issues
- Providing post-wildfire salvage marking guidelines support
- Funding sudden oak death surveys and management
Stewardship Agreements

- 10 Regional Master Stewardship Agreements
- 18 Stewardship Project Agreements with 10 distinct partners
  - ~15 projects involve CCI funds
- 6 Project Agreements signed 2012-2017
- 10 Project Agreements signed in 2018
- 2 Project Agreements signed-to-date in 2019
Shared Stewardship

Agreement between California and USDA (in draft*)

- Create & maintain safe, fire-adapted communities/landscapes
- Collaborate in planning
- Identify and implement joint projects
- Sustain and enhance forest management infrastructure, expertise and capacity
- Collaborate on advancing science and monitoring

* Governor and USDA Secretary expected to sign this summer
Farm Bill Tools

Healthy Forest Restoration Act – I&D Designations

- 10.7M acres, 610 watersheds-45% of NFS lands
- Expedited NEPA work
- Doubled the use of CE’s in the Region in FY18

Good Neighbor Authority

- 3 Master Agreements
- 5 Signed Project Agreements
- New project: CAL FIRE SPA on KNF
  - Craggy includes timber
- in discussion with CalTrans
California Climate Investment
Forest Health Grants

Working with partner organizations such as:
• Lassen Fire Safe Council
• Plumas Fire Safe Council
• Mid-Klamath Watershed Council
• The American River Conservancy
• Sierra Institute for Community and Environment
• several others

Have successfully competed for approximately $91 million dollars of which approximately $40+ million are slated directly for restoration work on forest service lands and the rest on private forest lands in California.
MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING

Designed to create efficiencies in how work gets planned, information is shared and accomplished across various jurisdictions and landownerships throughout the state.

Examples include:

• “The Purpose of Increasing the Use of Fire to Meet Ecological and Other Management Objectives - over 35 signatories”

• “Forest Fuels Reduction and Species Conservation in California; for the Northern and California spotted owls”

• “Sierra Nevada Strategic Investment Plan” to improve watershed conditions” - 12 signatories
Partnerships

• Board of Forestry
• CAL FIRE
• Tahoe Central Sierra Initiative (TCSI)
• Collaboratives, private, and many more
QUESTIONS?

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