BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION MEETING MINUTES

SACRAMENTO, CA

August 21, 2024

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION MEMBERS**

**Present:**

* Terrence O’Brien, Chair
* Elizabeth Forsburg-Pardi, Vice Chair
* Chris Chase
* Mike Jani
* J. Lopez
* Rich Wade
* Dawn Blake
* Ali Jahangiri

**Absent:**

* Katie Delbar

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:**

* Edith Hannigan, Executive Officer
* Dan Stapleton, Asst. Executive Officer, Foresters Registration
* Jeff Slaton, Senior Board Counsel
* Robert Roth, Board Counsel
* Dan Craig, Regulations Program Manager
* Jane Van Susteren, Regulations Coordinator
* Kristina Wolf, Senior Environmental Scientist
* Alexandra La Plante, Administrative Unit Manager
* Katie Harrell, Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation
* Marcie Yates, Land Use Planning Manager
* Alex Vest, Wildfire Planning Specialist
* Mazonika Kemp, Records Administrator
* Anna Castro, Executive Assistant

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF PRESENT:**

* Joe Tyler, Director/Fire Chief, CAL FIRE
* Anale Burlew, Chief Deputy Director, Forestry & Fire Protection, CAL FIRE
* Eric Huff, Assistant Deputy Director, Forest Practice, CAL FIRE

**Board Members Roll Call:**

Member Lopez Present

Member Wade Present

Member Jani Present

Member Chase Present

Member Blake Present

Member Delbar Absent

Member Forsburg-Pardi Present

Member Jahangiri Present

Chairman O’Brien Present

**Announcement of Action(s) Taken in Executive Session:**

Jeff Slaton, Senior Counsel for the Board reported that during executive closed session the Board considered the two litigation matters on the agenda. With respect to the two litigation matters the Board discussed and took no reportable actions.

**Consent Calendar Items:**

1. Review of Rulemaking Matrix
2. Approval of May and June 2024 minutes
3. Range Management Advisory Committee
   1. Appointment of Jeremy Walker to a four-year term in a seat nominated by the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego (i.e., an organization representing rangeland owners)
4. Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
   1. Reappointment of Sal Chinnici to a four-year term in a seat representing the Monitoring Community.
5. RPF-CRM Vital Statistics, Approval of license withdrawal requests.

**08-21-01 Member Lopez moves to accept items on the Consent Calendar as presented with the removal of the approval of May and June 2024 minutes. Member Wade seconds the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien: Aye**

**Motion passed.**

**Report of the Chairman, Terrence O’Brien:**

Chairman O’Brien mentioned that he went to Lassen National Forest and took a hike through the part of the park that had been burned by the Dixie fire. He also mentioned that the Superintendent of the Park had talked about some grant proposals were approved by the State and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy in terms of thinning operations. Stated that it made a visible and positive impact on limiting the amount of damage in those areas that had been treated. Chairman stated that since his drive there that area has been severely burned by the Park Fire. He stated that California is facing an incredible challenge. He thanked the fire fighters for their hard work. Chairman shared his view that the threat that we are facing in today’s forest require greater actions and greater sense of urgency. Particularly when coupled with climate change which is driving a lot of this.

**Report of the Director, Joe Tyler, Director/Fire Chief, CAL FIRE:**

Director Tyler updated Board on the Park, Lassen National Forest, Crozier, Borel, and Coffee Pot Fires.

Resource Management

Watershed Protection Program

* Staff completed Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) assessments on the French Fire and Lake Fire. WERT evaluations for the Borel Fire and Park Fire are in the planning and implementation phases.

Forest Practice Review Teams

* Emergency Notice Submissions for post-fire salvage are expected to increase due to wildfire impacts to private timberland.

Resource Protection and Improvement Program

Urban and Community Forestry

* Urban and Community Forestry grant applications funded by the United States Forest Services (USFS) through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are being reviewed and scored. A total of 125 applications were received requesting more than $146 million. $30.8 million is available to award. Recommendations for awards will be presented to the Director on August 22, 2024. Announcements will be made as soon as possible thereafter.
* A Statewide strategic plan to increase urban tree canopy will be developed as required by AB 2251 (2022) which amended the Urban Forestry Act (Public Resources Code 4799.10.2). And interagency agreement with the California Natural Resources Agency has provided $500,000 in funding as program funds were part of a General Fund solution. CAL FIRE is executing an interagency agreement with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to draft the plan and conduct stakeholder engagement. Concurrently, CAL FIRE and the USFS have executed an agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to conduct a statewide urban canopy cover analysis that will inform the plan.

Demonstration State Forests

Mountain Home

* CAL FIRE contributed information to a congressional report on past, current, and planned projects at Mountain Home as part of the Giant Sequioa Lands Coalition. This was a required report by the National Park Service (NPS) and USFS who wanted to show their activities were part of a comprehensive multiagency response for giant sequoia conservation.

Jackson

* The Jackson Advisory Group (JAG) held a field meeting on July 19, 2024, to review the proposed Coastal Adaptive Management Experiment (AMEX), use of post-harvest prescribed fire and meet Estelle Clifton (principal at Clifton Environmental) who was just awarded the contract to help CAL FIRE with reviewing the Jackson Forest Management Plan.
* The JAG held a teleconference meeting on August 14, 2024, to review and vote on compliance of the Coastal AMEX with the Forest Management Plan and New Vision. This was required due to the lack of a quorum at their July 19, 2024, meeting. The Coastal AMEX is a multi-decade study comparing how forest management practices may be used to mitigate or adopt to climate change scenarios.
* Removal of downed timber, cut in 2021 and 2022, is being conducted within the Soda Gulch Timber Harvesting Plan to improve forest health and reduce fire hazard. Most of the timber has no commercial value and will be staged along the road for a future firewood sale.

Prescribed Fire and Environmental Protection Program

Prescribed Fire Program

* The Prescribed Fire Liability Claims fund has reset for the new fiscal year (FY).
  + Currently four projects are enrolled for 2024-25, and they cover over 1,372 acres.
  + The program was successful last year. The Governor’s Office, the Administration, Legislature funded it continuing it into this year.

Tribal Affairs Program

* CAL FIRE will have a booth at the Capital on Friday, September 27, 2024, in celebration of Native American Day. The booth will be staffed by staff from Recruitment, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Office of Program Accountability and Resource Management to showcase CAL FIRE. All are invited to attend this event.

Cultural Resources Program

* The updated CAL FIRE Native American Contacts List was published on July 26, 2024.

Wildfire Resilience Program

Forest Legacy Program (FLP)

* The 2024 State funded grant solicitation has resumed with stage two review. Staff are currently conducting site visits. The Grant solicitation will close on September 6, 2024.
* Annual conservation easement monitoring inspections are ongoing.

Climate and Energy Program

Wood Products & Bioenergy

* On July 11, 2024, Wood Products staff hosted a new grantee orientation for the most recent Business and Workforce Development awards.

Forest Health

* Forest Health is preparing to close out over 60 grants by March 2025.
* The first pilot Forest Health Regional Landscape Grant with Humboldt County for the North Coast Resource Partnership has received applications for subawards and will be making award recommendation at the end of August.

Tribal Wildfire Resilience

* Grant agreements are moving forward after the General Fund freeze was lifted and grant agreement tribal sovereignty concerns were clarified. For the 2023 solicitation, 6 of 12 agreements are executed.

Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force

* The August edition of the Governor’s Monthly update is now available.
* The Task Force’s Sierra Regional Meeting will be hosted by the California Tahoe Conservancy and Tahoe Fund on October 10 at the Tahoe Blue Event Center in Stateline, NV. A $28 registration fee is required to cover lunch refreshments and facility costs. Topics to be highlighted on the agenda include: an update to interagency Treatment Tracker; issues of relevance in the Tahoe Basin; wildlife and water quality benefits of wildfire prevention/forest health projects in the Sierra; and the intersection of resilient landscapes, recreation and the economies of Serran communities. Field trips are being planned for both October 9 & 11, 2024.

Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

Forest Health Research Grants

* FRAP is in the process of updating grant guidelines for the next Forest Health Research Grant solicitation. We expect to release the next research grant solicitation October 9, 2024. Awards are expected to total $4.5 million. Typically, we receive 80 – 100 research proposals and make 15 – 20 awards.

Forest and Rangeland Assessment

* Progress continues the FRAP Assessment Report. Five of the thirteen chapters have either completed or are currently undergoing review by external subject matter experts. Remaining chapters are targeted to have a draft ready for review by the end of September.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Program

Fire Protection Operations

* In July, CAL FIRE owned or contracted remote sensing aircraft flew 211.73 hours on 147 missions, producing 696 products supporting 30 separate fires.
* Since June 16, 2024, CAL FIRE has had 12 incident Management Team deployments. At peak activity, CAL FIRE has four of six incident Management Teams deployed at the same time.
* Team 6 is currently still assigned doing fire suppression repair on the Park Fire.

Aviation Management Unit (AMU)/Tactical Air Operations (TAO)

* The Director was able to climb into our new S2 Airtanker and have staff climb into our C130. We flew over the Bockie Ranch, east of Coloma were our C130 successfully delivered 4,000 gallons of water on a simulated target. The first C130 will be in service for tactical operation on Monday.

Cooperative Fire Protection

Local Government Program

* For the FY 2024-25, four of 50 Cooperative Fire Protection agreements are currently in the process for renewal, while many are at the Unit level under board or council review.

State/Federal Programs

* The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Agreement was signed on July 23, 2024, by Chief Tyler and is posted to State and Federal intranet program page. Immediately following this approval, and activation of the agreement took place with the mobilization of 14 personnel to support our neighboring state. The assignment was set for 14 days with a possibility of extending additional seven days. The out of state deployment supported Oregon with the positions of Operational Branch Director and Division Group Supervisors, an Agency Administrators, and one certified purchaser.
* Program continues to assist all 21 Units as needed related to FMAG submittals to Cal OES, including recently approved application for the Borel Incident in Kern County and Park incident in Butte and Tehama Counties. Program recently attended applicant briefings for in Mariposa County for the French Incident and Butte County for the Thompson Incident for a total of four FMAG approvals in 2024 so far. To help improve FMAG applications as they are time sensitive, an email distribution group was established to notify both CAL FIRE and Cal OES administrative staff that an application is pending. This will help ensure a higher-level review takes place to allow follow-up as needed.
* Costa Rica Fire Protection is tentatively scheduled for August 25, through September 3, 2024. Program is currently waiting on the confirmation that Costa Rica has purchased plane tickets which will solidify dates. Program has maintained contact with the host units with the most current information when possible.

Hand Crew Program

* The Hand Crew Program continues to move forward with agreement renewals and updating policies for the California Conservation Corps and California Military Department. Continued efforts with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations agreement, Negotiations and meetings have started for all interagency hand crew agreements and are ongoing.
* Fire activity has ramped up with heavy crew commitments. On July 19, 2024, the California National Guard (CMD) activated three force packages to augment crew needs on various fires within California. This is included a total of 12 hand crews with 270 CMD personnel and over 75 CAL FIRE personnel attached to this effort.
* As of August 7, 2024, 142 of 236 Crews are Type I and available for statewide response.

Safety/EMS Program

Safety Program

* The new Cal/OSHA indoor heat regulations are now in effect and will have an impact on any warehouse type facilities.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Wildfire Risk Reduction

* Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee
  + Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee meeting was held yesterday August 20, 2024, where the Committee received a presentation from the Board of Forestry, as well as the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Update.
  + The next Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee meeting will be held on September 17, 2024.

Wildfire Preparedness

* Damage Inspection Process
  + Several DINS activations this summer – Collaboration with IMT 3 and 4 on the Park incident was successful.

Home Hardening

* CAL FIRE Staff continue to support wildfire home hardening in progress in Dulzura in San Diego County and Kelseyville Riviera in Lake County.

Utility Wildfire Mitigation Program

* Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)
  + Currently 8 PSPS events have occurred, which is a historical high for activated PSPS events for this early in fire season.

Wildfire Planning and Statistics

* Pre-Fire Planning:
  + Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Reporting (FTER) is underway with staff supporting Unit FTER Coordinators on report completion currently 88% have been completed. Continue to work with Communications on ideas to share FTER’s publicly.
    - As of August 1, 2024, three completed reports are publicly available on the CAL FIRE website. Highway 44 (SHU), Hay (SHU) and Peak (SCU).
* CalStats:
  + The 2023 Redbook has been compiled and is currently undergoing internal review within the Program, Region, and Communications before moving to the Green Sheet (CALFIRE 330) process.
* NFPA Firewise USA
  + Currently, there are 915 communities in good standing, with seven new applications in the portal for review.
  + We are in the planning phase for the 900th recognition in Dunsmuir. California boasts the most Firewise Communities in the country.
* Wildfire Prevention Grants
  + FY 2023-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants Award notifications are now complete.
    - All announcements have been posted on the Wildfire Prevention Grants Website and the CA State Library Grants Portal.

Communications

Statistics

* Total incident Responses for 2024 (as of August 14, 2024) 375,407.

Program and Project Messaging

* Heightened fire activity continues to drive up website traffic. In July, [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov) had over 13.5 million views and over 2.9 million new users.
* CAL FIRE will celebrate the readiness of the first of CAL FIRE’s C130H Airtankers. The Communications program will mark the milestone with digital content to be shared across state agencies and CAL FIRE platforms.

**Board Comments:**

* Member Chase thanked Chief Tyler for the report. Regarding fuel reduction work that was done, particularly in the east and northeast Park Fire, can the Director speak on the effectiveness of those and how you integrated the existence of those into your suppression tactics? Were the crews on the ground and the operations teams aware of exactly where those were and how to best take advantage of the existing full breaks?
  + Director Tyler stated there was and will be a lot of research done on that. Don Hankins oversees the ecological preserve for CSU Chico and the fire burned through his entire ecological preserve where they been doing a lot of work on traditional ecological knowledge and cultural burning in that area so it will be an important piece of land to really evaluate its successes. As you go up Highway 32 and around Highway 36 there was a lot of work by private timber owners on fuel breaks that were put on the edge of that incident and as you go from the Mill Creek drainage north into the Mineral area there is a lot of great work where the fire was holding on fuel breaks that were pre-existing and able to open those up even further. Some of our private landowners were able to exit out of the fire area utilizing fire roads. There has been a lot of great fuels work a lot of the work that is up in the timber that help protect the communities of Mill Creek and Mineral.
* Member Jahangiri commented on the grants that were given on how much of that grant go to fuel reduction? What do you think about the efficacy of using the grants for fuel reduction vs other uses?
  + Chief Tyler stated that it is part of effectiveness monitoring to look at the success and being more transparent. Other ways of being transparent is through the interagency viewer that is available so that the public can see whether it was hand thinning, mechanical thinning, prescribed fire or cultural fire. There is value in an all in approach of the types of grants that specifically CAL FIRE administers. Not all are specifically for fuels reduction.
* Member Jahangiri asked what percentage goes to fuel reduction if you had to guess?
  + Chief Tyler stated if he had to guess it would be at least 60 or 70% are going to fuels reduction but he would need to verify that.
* Member Jani would like more information on the Coastal AMEX. For example, who initiated it and what is it for? And how is the JAG looking at it for compliance issues?
  + Chief Tyler commented that he is not able to answer that question today.

**Public Comments:**

* Richard Gienger stated that he is amazed every month with the Director’s reports and the incredible scope and intensity of the work that CAL FIRE involved in across the State and beyond. Also, he stated that regarding the Biometrics Program that is continuing and seems to be doing important work. Regarding Jackson, he stated he is having a hard time with the degree and effort that is being made for revising, reforming the Jackson Management Plan which includes co-management. He also stated he hopes to see some real effects happen and that the Board of Forestry continues to be engaged in initiating the response to taking part in ensuring that there is adequate movement and reality in co-management.

**Executive Officer Report, Edith Hannigan, Executive Officer:**

Executive Officer Hannigan reported the following to the Board.

* Legislative Report
  + Several Bills of significance to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection are not going to be moving forward this session.
* September Board Meeting will be out at McClellan. It will be like a regular travel meeting but we will be traveling only 20-30 minutes away. Tuesday the committee meetings will be at the Air Base there and Wednesday will be a tour. Thursday the full Board Meeting will also be held at AMU, the Aviation Management Unit.
* Annual Call for Regulatory Review is open.

**Report of the Regulations Coordinator, Jane Van Susteren:**

* The Supplemental Statement of Reasons and amended rule text for Less Than 3-Acre Conversion Exemption.

**Public Comment:**

Eric Huff, CAL FIRE, supports with moving that rulemaking forward.

**08-21-02 Member Chase moved to authorize Board staff to submit the amended rulemaking entitled “Less Than 3-Acre Conversion Exemption Amendments, 2024” for noticing of the 15-day Comment Period and take all appropriate actions consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act for this purpose, including preparation and submission of the Supplemental Statement of Reasons. Member Jani seconds the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien: Aye**

**Motion passed.**

* Final Statement of Reasons and regulatory text for Drought Mortality and Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Amendments, 2024.

**Public Comment:**

Eric Huff, CAL FIRE, thanked the Board and Committees for all the work on these two rulemakings. CAL FIRE offers supports to this rulemaking.

**08-21-03 Member Jani moved to approve the Final Statement of Reasons for the Final Statement of Reasons for the rulemaking entitled “Drought Mortality and Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Amendments, 2024. Member Wade seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien: Aye**

**Motion passed.**

**08-21-04 Member Wade move to adopt the draft regulatory text for the rulemaking entitled “Drought Mortality and Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Amendments, 2024”, and authorize staff to take all actions reasonably necessary to have the adopted regulations go into effect, including making appropriate non-substantive changes and any changes to facilitate Office of Administrative Law review and approval. Member Jani seconds the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien: Aye**

**Motion passed.**

**Report of the Standing Committees:**

**Forest Practice Committee, Rich Wade, Chair**

Forest Practice Committee met yesterday and we discussed four agenda items.

* The first item was an update on less frequently used harvest documents. Board staff is preparing a survey to be working in coordination with Forester’s Licensing to be distributed to practitioners, RPF’s and landowners through organizations like COFA, Association of Consulting Foresters, California Forestry Association, etc. The hope is to illicit comments regarding specific elements of those harvest vehicles that might be inhibiting their use so that will be continuing agenda item.
* The second item was re-discussion of the Board’s effort to co-ordinate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide easier access to the California Natural Diversity Database for small landowners to help facilitate their environmental analysis of projects that they may be endeavoring to undertake for Forest Management Fuel Reduction and general Forest Management Forest Health. Our Executive Officer is working with the Forest Landowners of California to focus on specific concerns that organization may be able to provide to us and move forward from there.
* The third item was the committee’s continuing work on a section 916.13 of the rules that would provide for a standard rule to conduct heavy equipment operations within the WLPZs for the purpose of reducing fuels and improving resilience to fire and thereby protecting those beneficials use of water by monitoring fire behavior within the WLPZs. Committee had an excellent discussion on some of the outstanding issues that remain and feel we are getting closer to reaching consensus on rule package that is going to be useful to environmental protection. Staff will provide another revised rule package and the Committee will address that again in September.
* Lastly, the committee discussed an issue that was raised by CAL FIRE pertaining to the problems of having overlapping harvest documents, particularly the overlapping exemptions. Board staff came up with draft language that would prohibit that.

**Management Committee, Chris Chase, Chair**

The Management Committee met yesterday and discussed 3 items on the agenda:

* The first item discussed was an update from the Uneven Aged Working Group. This is being coordinated by George Gentry who is engaging practitioners and researchers in discuss on several different issues. One is the potential use of Point Count vs. Basal Area and stocking levels in previously harvested groups and even aged pockets within an uneven age stand. There are also discussions about the 75 square foot basal area retention standard particularly in site 2 and 3 lands in the northern region. We discussed integrating the stand density index concepts into both prescriptions and stocking levels for uneven aged management moving forward.
* The second item was an update on the issue of Mature Tanoak Recruitment. Member Blake has taken the lead on this on behalf of the Management Committee. She is working with Board staff and engaging researchers in the upcoming months.
* The final agenda item was Public Agency and Utility Right of Way Exemption Amendments. The committee modified the plead yesterday to require utilities to clearly mark hazard trees and adequately notify landowners of upcoming work to make it easier for the landowners to identify hazard trees outside of the right of way footprint that are proposed for removal. The committee crafted a good plead and they are hopefully close to being able to bring that before this full Board. The next step is to assess the economic impact of this plead. The utilities will be working with Board staff over the next 6 or 8 weeks to establish the cost associated with this regulatory package relative to the base line. This matter will not be discussed in our September meeting but we will revisit it in November.

**Public Comment:**

* Eric Huff, CAL FIRE shared his appreciation to the Management Committee for all the work on the Utility Right of Way Exemption. He agrees with Member Chase’s comments that the plead is in a great place. It is important to understand the economic consequences of rulemaking and is hopeful that the department can lend its support in asking these important questions about what the cost of rule compliance is. The Department is in support of the work that has been done so far.
* Member Chase thanked the Department for their support and offer in helping with the economic assessment and work with Board staff on crafting it.

**Resource Protection Committee Meeting, J. Lopez, Chair**

The Resource Protection Committee met yesterday. The following items were discussed:

* Updated from Deputy Chief Shane Vargas from the Land Use Planning Program. They are currently doing great work on being the link to local jurisdictions to programs like Safety Element, Local Hazard Mitigation Plans, Fire Safety Surveys, Fire Hazard Severity Zones, Fire Wise Communities and Land Use Planning Training.
* Subdivision Review Program Update. Had 7 Subdivisions reviews from Plumas County to Mono County.
* Also reviewed Safety Elements for 4 local governments. The City of San Leandro, City of Palm Springs, County of Contra Costa and City of Lompoc.
* Also, our Fire Risk Reduction Community List update and discussion was led by Marcie Yates and Alex Vest.

**Report of the Board’s Advisory Committees:**

**Effectiveness Monitoring Committee, Liz Forsburg-Pardi, co-Chair**

The Effectiveness Monitoring Committee will meet on Thursday, August 29, 2024.

* The EMC will review four full project proposals that were requested after reviewing seven initial concepts proposals reviewed at June’s Meeting. The EMC expects to forward its recommendations for funding to the Board at the September meeting. The EMC also expects to review two nominees to the EMC, approve the 2023 Annual Report and Work Plan, and review the proposed updates to the EMC Charter.

**Professional Foresters Examining Committee, Dan Stapleton, Assistant Executive Officer, Board of Forestry and Fire Protection**

* Proposed Licensing Renewal Fee Increase

Dan Stapleton gave an overview of the Professional Foresters Law. He stated that this program is self-funded through a renewal fees, late fees, reinstatement fees and other fees. In 2021 Professional Foresters had their first fee increase since 1991. The committee is proposing a $70.00 renewal fee across the board increase for RPF’s and Certified Rangeland Managers.

Board Comments:

* Member Chase asked are you only able to review your fee structure every 5 years? Is this in statue?
  + Dan Stapleton stated that it is not in statue, it is just what the Committee has put into regulation on the 2021 budget. It can be done more frequently but felt that at the time the PFPC felt that 5 years was a reasonable timeframe for reviewing fee increase.

**08-21-05 Member Wade move to authorize Board Staff to submit the rulemaking entitled “Licensing Fee Amendments, 2024” for noticing of the 45-day Comment Period and take all appropriate actions consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act for this purpose, including preparation and submission of the Notice of Proposed Action and Initial Statement of Reasons. Member Chase seconds the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien: Aye**

**Motion passed.**

* Approval of Applicant 7760 Exam Results.

**08-21-06 Member Jani move to approve the RPF exam results for Applicant 7760. Member Lopez seconds the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**Chase : Aye**

**Blake: Aye**

**Delbar: Absent**

**Forsburg-Pardi: Aye**

**Jahangiri: Aye**

**Lopez: Aye**

**Wade: Aye**

**Jani: Aye**

**O’Brien Aye**

**Motion passed.**

**CONCLUSION**

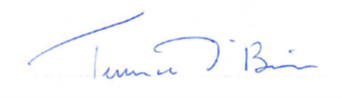
**Public Forum**

**Public Comments:**

* Robin Leler, Willits, California, shared that she lives close to the Jackson State Demonstration State Forest. She often visits the forest and attends JAG meetings regularly. She shared that she sees that there is a process that is turning the forest into a tree farm. She would like to explore ways to change that because to her the redwoods are very valuable. She shared that she sees a lot of problems to the health of the forest. She has seen older trees marked for harvest and it is concerning to her.
* Bruce Evan Hilboch-Barger commented on the Register Professionals Forestry process and feels that there are other ways of certifying and supporting practitioners and building the practice of traditional ecological knowledge. He feels that should be supported. He shared his concerns with how the forest is not taken care of when fighting a fire.
* Richard Gienger shared his thoughts on the AB1492 process. He commented on Forest Restoration and Watersheds. He hopes this new process brings out some things that need to be done that were brought out in the SRP report.

**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:



Edith Hannigan Terrence O’Brien

Executive Officer Chairman