

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)

	2017/18	2018/19*	2019/20*
BEGINNING BALANCE	32.3	27.6	17.0
REVENUES	43.5	46.0	46.0
TOTAL RESOURCES	75.8	73.6	63.0
EXPENDITURES			
Natural Resources Agency	0.8	1.8	1.5
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	23.2	28.7	25.1
Department of Conservation	4.2	4.4	4.4
Department of Fish and Wildlife	11.4	9.8	10.9
State Water Resources Control Board	5.5	6.4	5.4
Sierra Nevada Conservancy		1.0	
GO-BIZ		0.5	
Board of Equalization/Dept. Tax and Fee Admin.	0.9	1.3	1.3
Pro Rata and Other Assessments	2.3	2.6	2.9
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	48.2	56.6	51.5
RESERVES	27.6	17.0	11.6

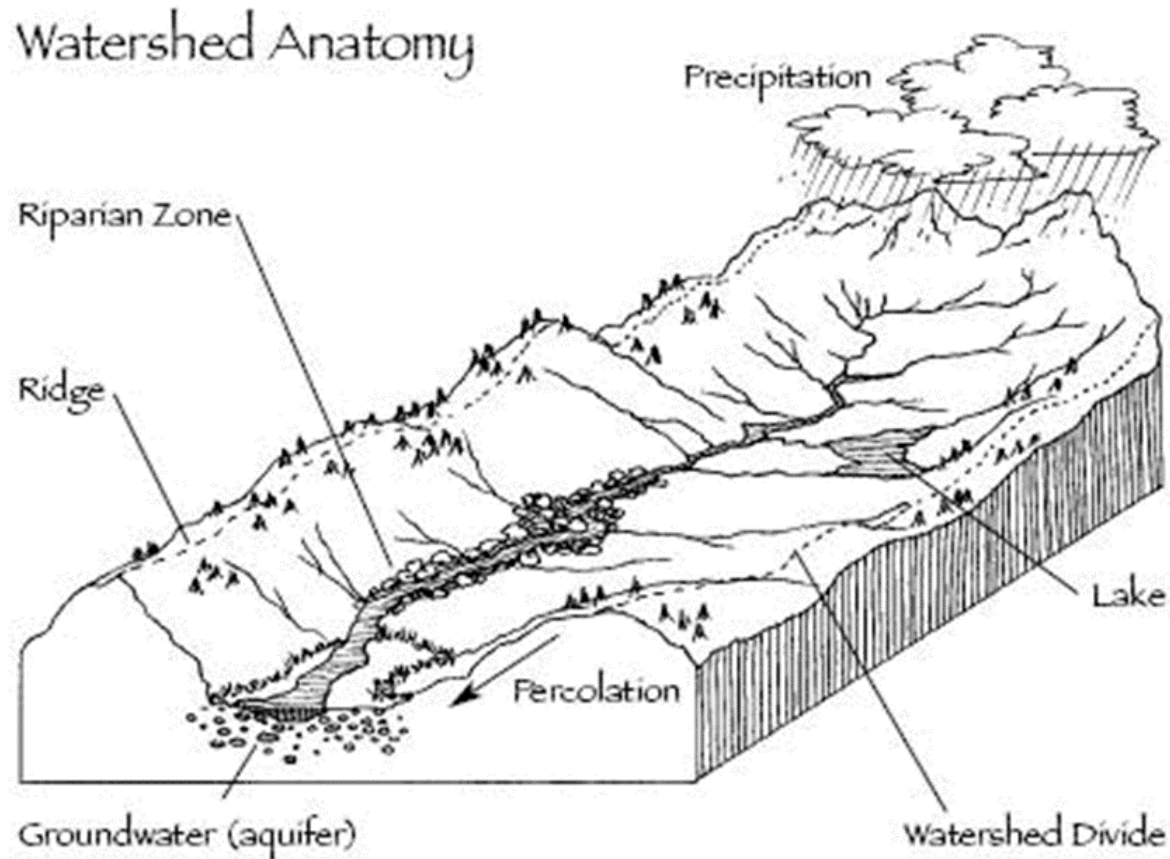
*2018/19 and 2019/20 numbers are projected.

2019-20 Wildfire Prevention and Recovery BCPs

- 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 evaluate Ecological Performance Measures (AB1492 product in-development)
 - CalTREES good for PP; PP good for CalTREES

Ecological Performance Measures



Timberland in Siskiyou County; CDFW photo by Robin Fallscheer.

Developing a New Regionalized Monitoring and Assessment Effort

Loretta Moreno, Natural Resources Agency

AB 1492 Direction

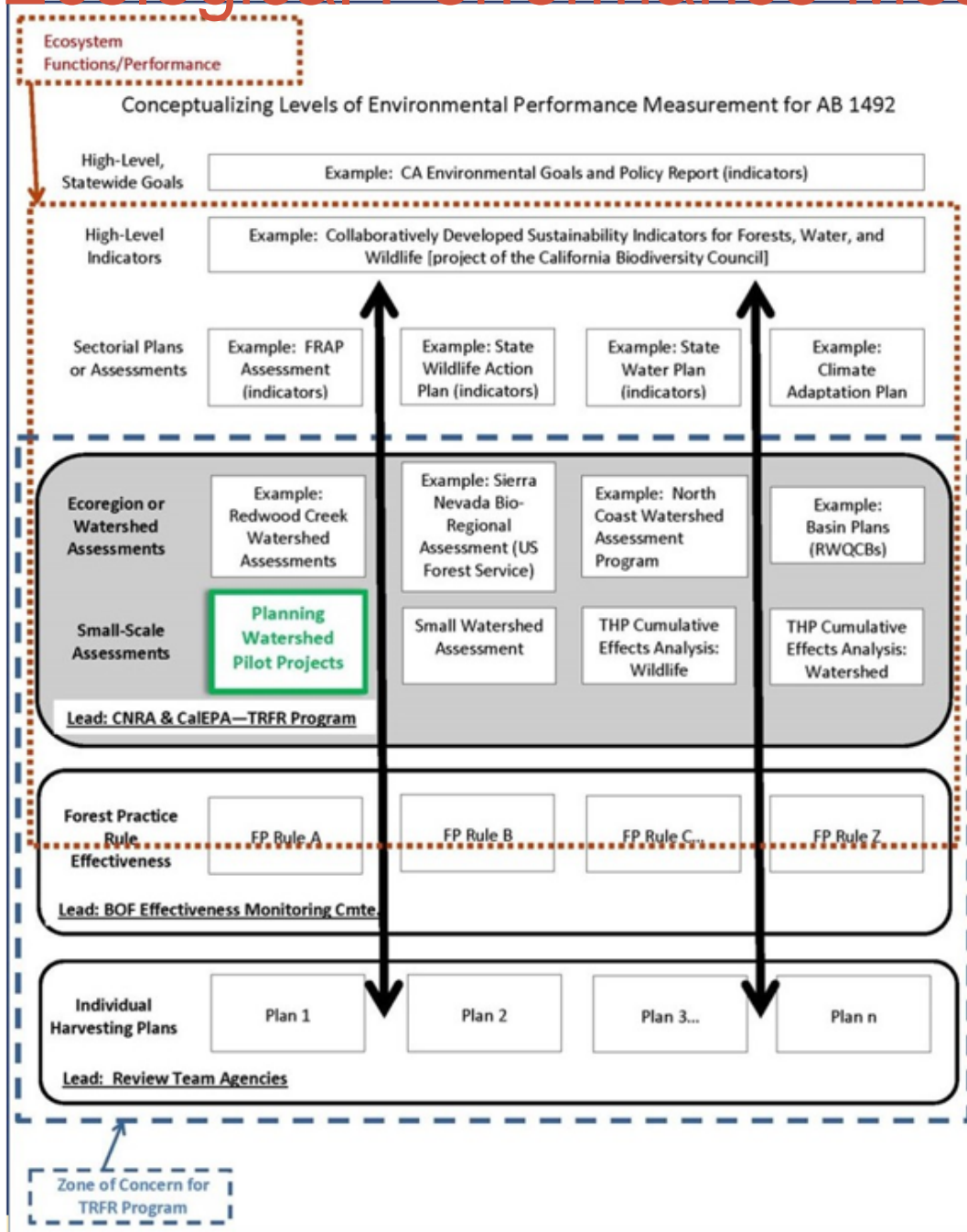
“The Legislature further finds that the state’s forest practice regulatory program needs to develop **adequate performance measures to provide transparency** for both the regulated community and other stakeholders.” Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4629.1

“ ...

(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



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

Drew Coe, 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.

Draft White Paper to Guide Work

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.

ECOLOGICAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Carbon Sequestration
Kg/ha/year net carbon flux

Water Quality
pH, temperature, flow,
suspended sediment



Fire Resilience

Fire severity, fire frequency,
vertical and horizontal
continuity, loading vegetation
fuels, insect and/or disease
patterns

Ecosystem Services

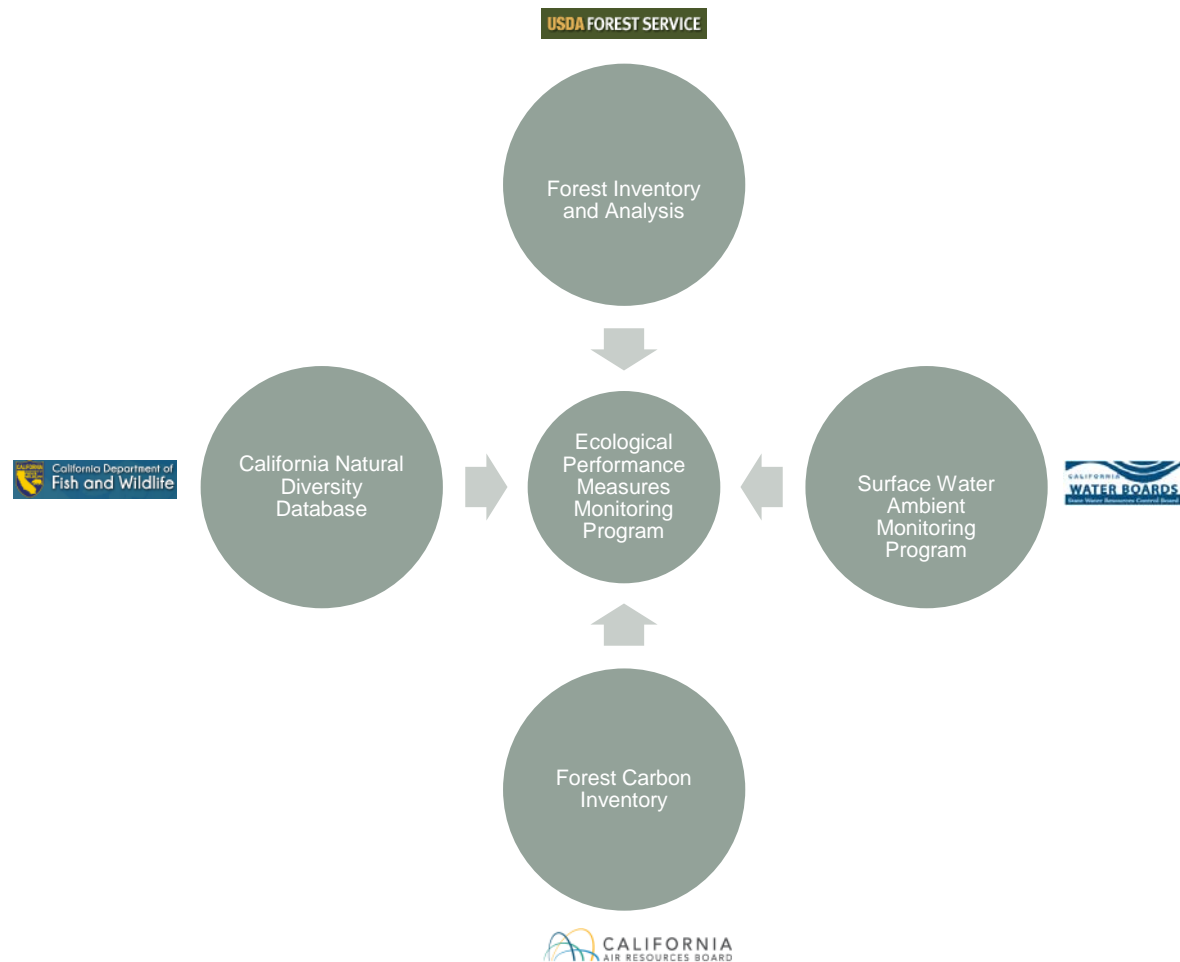
Indicators

Biodiversity

Species abundance, species'
habitat fragmentation

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/>

Website

AB 1492 Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Program



You are not logged in. (Log in)



Navigation

Home

- Search
- ▶ Resources

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

Agency Websites

- BOF
- CDFW
- CAL FIRE
- CGS
- CNRA
- CVRWQCB
- CCRWQCB
- LRWQCB
- NCRWQCB



Watercourse Crossing and Design Workshop - 2018



**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

State of California
California Natural Resources Agency
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Designing Watercourse Crossings for Passage of 100-Year Flood Flows, Wood, and Sediment (Updated 2017)

California Forestry
Report No. 1 (revised)

Peter Cafferata, Donald Lindsay, Thomas Spittler, Michael Wopat, Greg Bundros, Sam Flanagan, Drew Coe, and William Short

August 2017





**Blodgett Forest Research
Station July 19, 2018**



**LaTour
Demonstration State
Forest**

July 26, 2018



**Jackson
Demonstration State
Forest**

October 23, 2018



**Eureka/Korbel--
Green Diamond Resource Company
& Humboldt Redwood Company**

October 25, 2018



**Whiskeytown National Recreation
Area**

November 13, 2018

Student Surveys



Van Eck Creek, BBW photo

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.”

Future Training/Workshops



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).

CaITREES

- Regina Bell, Natural Resources Agency
- Dennis Hall, CAL FIRE
- Dan Craig, CAL FIRE

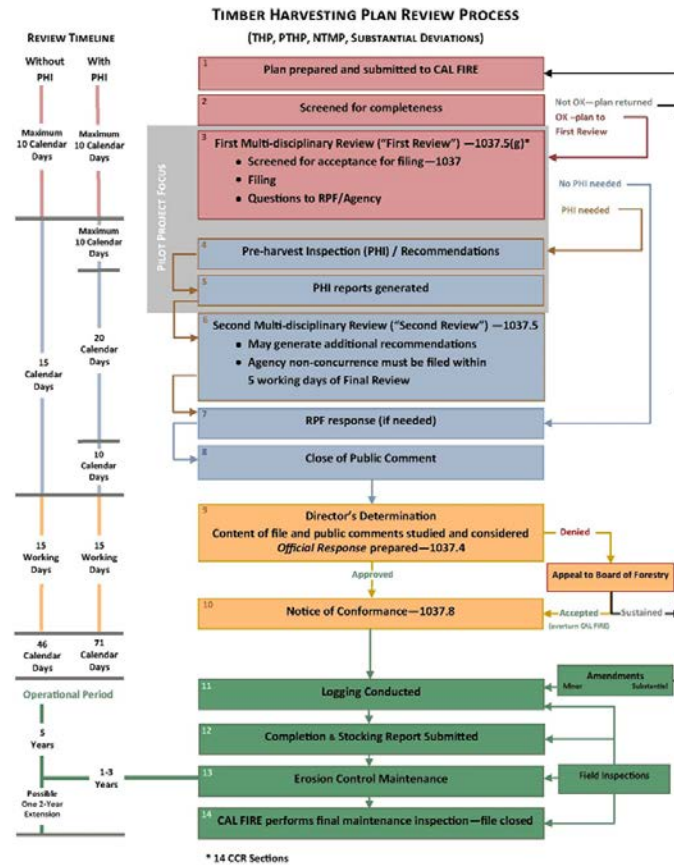


CalTREES Rollout Schedule

CalTREES Live for CAL FIRE, CGS, CDFW, Waterboards	10/1/2018
CalTREES Search and Review Features released	12/1/2018
CalTREES Information Portal released (http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/CalTrees)	1/1/2019
FTP THP Library will be retired - all PDF documents migrated to CalTREES and available in the CalTREES library of documents	1/31/2019
Working with George Gentry to obtain input on the new Timber Harvesting forms	1/31/2019
CalTREES demonstration at Sierra Cascade Logging Conference	2/8/2019
Limited release of seven Online Emergencies and Exemptions	3/1/2019
CalTREES demonstration at California Licensed Foresters Association Conference	3/8/2019
Submit Public Comments and Request Notification	4/1/2019
Go Live for Online Emergency and Exemptions	4/1/2019
Limited release of Online THPs, NTMPs & Substantial Deviations	5/1/2019
Go Live for all other Online Emergencies and Exemptions	6/30/2019
Go Live for Online THPs, NTMPs and Substantial Deviations	6/30/2019

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!