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From: nina Warner <nina.warner@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 7:51 AM
To: Public Comments@BOF; Office of the Secretary CNRA
Subject: Vegetation Treatment Program

Warning: this message is from an external user and should be treated with caution.

Dear Chairperson Gilless and Members of the Board,

As a resident of California and someone who has witnessed the devastation by our more recent fires in Paradise, Ventura, Santa Rosa, and so many others, we need to take the stewardship of our land much more thoughtfully. We should not strip out our native plants by CalFire because they are low burning, but also the fires are swept in by winds which moves the fire much more rapidly.

The VTP needs a ground-up, scientific and cost-benefit assessment. We ask you to have the courage to recognize a vastly over-scaled boondoggle when you see it. Please direct the Natural Resources Agency and CalFire to stop pause on the VTP and confer with fire ecologists, fire managers and stakeholders about how and where vegetation treatments can actually achieve benefit.

Keeping new development out of harm's way, hardening of existing structures, enforcing defensible space, highly strategic fuel breaks, and improving early warning and evacuation systems all make sense and are advised by fire scientists. But the grandiose VTP – by CalFire's own admission – *does not even address* the urgent problem of catastrophic wind-driven fires.

Please bring scientific and budgetary accountability to CalFire.

Sincerely,

Nina Warner

cc: Secretary of Natural Resources