

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

Report to the March 2020 Forest Practice & Management Joint Committee **Commercial Species Discussion**

Related to 14 CCR § 895.1

March 4, 2020

On February 19, 2020, Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) staff hosted a regulatory workshop in Sacramento, CA, to discuss issues related to the list of commercial species, by forest district, which is identified within 14 CCR § 895.1. Participants in the workshop included Board staff, various Agency representatives from CAL FIRE, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, and representatives from the regulated public, including industrial representatives, consultants, other organizations, and individuals.

During the workshop, attendees witnessed a presentation by RPF Nadia Hamey on eucalyptus removal in the Coastal Zone and other restoration forestry challenges, which included discussion of some of the challenges which are created by current Board definitions of commercial species. Following the presentation, discussion occurred on the issues identified by Nadia, as well as others, on the impacts of the Board's current commercial species definitions for Monterey pine, eucalyptus, and giant sequoia. Those discussions resulted in the following problem statement:

Current commercial species definitions do not provide for the appropriate management of forested landscapes under the Forest Practice Rules.

While there was some discussion of the northern district, the vast majority of those forested landscapes which were discussed exist relatively close to the coast, ranging from the county of Santa Cruz in the north, to the county of San Luis Obispo in the south.

Several potential approaches towards addressing this problem were discussed and are stated below:

- Re-classification of Monterey pine and eucalyptus to Group A and B species, respectively
- The creation of a new "Group C" commercial species to represent non-native species with a history of commercial use.
- The establishment of a special management district to address eucalyptus
- New silvicultural regulations to address restoration forestry

Board staff continues to evaluate potential approaches to provide information to the Management Committee upon its return in April 2020.