TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE

In Response to the State of Emergency Proclamation

Incident Action Plan

2016

Updated January 8, 2016

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE

The Tree Mortality Task Force is comprised of state and federal agencies, local governments, utilities, and various stakeholders that will coordinate emergency protective actions, and monitor ongoing conditions to address the tree mortality resulting from four years of unprecedented drought and the resulting bark beetle infestations across large regions of the State.

Management Objectives:

- Provide for public health and safety of persons and property in identified high hazard zones.
- Ensure efforts associated with implementation of the directives contained in the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation remain coordinated.
- Ensure continuous communication among state, federal, tribal and local governments, as well as with other non-governmental organizations assigned to the task force.
- Provide consistent and coordinated messaging between task force member agencies and the public.
- Manage projects and programs in a financially responsible and efficient manner.

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE

Working Group Objectives:

- Identify existing efforts to mitigate tree mortality in high hazard zones.
- Identify an organizational structure and plan of action.
- Establish working groups, as appropriate, to address various aspects identified in the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Facilitate the information flow between state, federal, tribal and local governments, utilities, and other non-governmental organizations on efforts towards meeting the items addressed in the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Ensure project activities and resources are coordinated.
- Identify potential funding sources.
- Coordinate with other state-level initiatives, such as the Forest Climate Action Team and California Forest Biomass Working Group.
- Identify and evaluate the availability of wood products markets, and determine whether expanded wood products markets can be developed.
- Develop and maintain a website for the dissemination of information.

ORGANIZATION ASSIGNMENT LIST

1. INCIDENT NAME

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE

2. Date	3. Time
01/01/16	0700

4. Operational Period

01/01/16-12/31/16

Position	Name
5. Multiagency Coordination Group	
Governor's Office	Wade Crowfoot
CAL FIRE	Ken Pimlott
Cal OES	Mark Ghilarducci
6. Task Force Leader and Staff	
Task Force Leader	Glenn Barley
Deputy	
Safety Officer	
Information Officer	Daniel Berlant
Liaison Officer	
Northern Region	
Southern Region	
7. Agency Representative	
8. Planning Section	
Chief	Chris Anthony
Deputy	
9. Logistics Section	
Chief	Whitney Bray
Deputy	
Equipment Tech Specialist	Jack Ogletree

10. Working Groups	
a. Group - Forest Health and Resilience	
Group Leader	Helge Eng
b. Group - Mapping and Monitoring	
Group Leader	Mark Rosenberg
c. Group - Prescribed Fire	
Group Leader	Nick Goulette
Group Leader	Craig Thomas
b. Group - Pubic Outreach	
Group Leader	Daniel Berlant
Group Leader	Staci Heaton
d. Group - Regulations	
Group Leader	Matt Reischman
Group Leader	TBD
e. Group - Resource Allocation	
Group Leader	Thom Porter
Group Leader	Tom Lutzenberger
f. Group - Utilization - Bioenergy	
Group Leader	Kim Carr
Group Leader	Angie Lottes
g. Group - Utilization - Market Development	
Group Leader	Evan Johnson
Group Leader	Kim Carr
11. Finance Section	
Chief	
Deputy	
Prepared by (Plans Section Chief)	
Chris Anthony	

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	FOREST HEALTH AND RESILIENCE GROUP

GROUP LEADER(S)			
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Group Objectives

1. Evaluate resource impacts associated with the removal of trees.
2. Monitor forest health and resilience as a result of tree removal efforts.
3. Evaluate and monitor overall forest health.
4. Provide guidelines for how to achieve long-term forest health and resilience.
5. Work cooperatively with landowners and agencies to implement forest health and resilience guidelines at a landscape level across ownership boundaries.
6. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

(Next Page)

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 2 and 19 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	Date Prepared
Chris Anthony	January 8, 2016

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	MAPPING AND MONITORING GROUP

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TBD	BLM		
TBD	NPS		
TBD	CA Energy Commission		

Group Objectives

1. Identify areas of the state that represent high hazard zones for wildfire and falling trees associated with elevated tree mortality and a corresponding threat to public safety, community assets and related infrastructure.
2. Work with CAL FIRE Units, USFS, and other stakeholders to validate, refine and finalize high hazard zones at the local level.
3. Provide a web viewer and other GIS tools as needed to support tracking tree mortality and tree removal projects. Coordinate the tracking of treatment projects through CAL MAPPER for CAL FIRE and other data entry systems used by agency partners. Explore the use of web-based data entry tools for local entities.
4. Gather geospatial data from Caltrans and DGS where wood chips can by utilized as mulch at state facilities as well as on highway and road corridors.
5. Coordinate with the Regulations Group to map storage/utilization locations for woody biomass.
6. Address monitoring needs to update information on changes in the extent of tree mortality.
7. Identify areas where additional research and development or new technologies are needed and make recommendation to full task force for appropriate delegation and action.
8. Provide maps and other needed updates at regular Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 1, 5 and 19 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	Date Prepared
Chris Anthony	January 8, 2016

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	PRESCRIBED FIRE GROUP

GROUP LEADER(S)

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TBD	BLM		
TBD	NPS		

Group Objectives

1. Work with appropriate federal, state and local agencies, as well other stakeholders, to expand the practice of prescribed burns and increase the number of allowable burn days on a temporary basis to burn tree waste removed from high hazard zones.
2. Review pertinent federal and state law that regulates control burns and burn days to identify efficiencies and develop streamlined processes. Coordinate with the Regulations Group as needed.
3. Conduct public meetings as appropriate on regulations and guidelines developed pursuant to the Directives in the Proclamation.
4. Coordinate public education messaging efforts with the Public Outreach Group on the ecological and other management benefits associated with prescribed fire.
5. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 7, 15 and 17 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Suspension of regulations are specific to high hazard zones.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	**Date Prepared**
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TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	PUBLIC OUTREACH

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Group Objectives

1. Provide for coordinated communications and public information program for the public, elected officials and involved entities.
2. Utilize social media (website, twitter, facebook, etc.) for information dispersal.
3. Distribute and post Guidelines, Frequently Asked Questions, etc.
4. Use existing public education materials and deveop new public education materials based on needs of the incident.
5. Assist local groups with messaging and communications to ensure a consistent message at the local level.
6. Act as clearinghouse for information.
7. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.
8. Coordinate communication and tours with legislative staff at the local, state and federal levels.

Special Instructions

- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	**Date Prepared**
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TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	REGULATIONS GROUP

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TBD	CARB		
TBD	Department of Insurance		

Group Objectives

1. Support local-level identification of community storage locations for removed trees by:
   a. Providing resources to assist local entities with regulations, agreements and policies associated with storage facilities.
   b. Developing guidelines to limit liability related to the use of storage facilities.
   c. Identifying applicable safety regulations associated with the use of such storage sites.
2. Encourage local entities to consider storage locations that can also act as utilization sites for various wood products and bioenergy production as appropriate.
3. Coordinate with the Resource Allocation Group and Bioenergy Group on distribution and location of portable equipment across high hazard zones.
4. Develop emergency guidelines setting forth the relevant criteria to remove dead and dying trees and incidental vegetation in high hazard zones (CAL FIRE).
5. Conduct public meetings as appropriate on regulations and guidelines developed pursuant to the Directives in the Proclamation.
6. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 2, 3, 7, 15 and 17 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Suspension of regulations are specific to high hazard zones.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

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TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	RESOURCE ALLOCATION

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TBD	BLM		
TBD	NPS		
TBD	GO-Biz		

Group Objectives

1. Coordinate efforts with local entities to remove dead or dying trees in high hazard zones that threaten power lines, roads and other evacuation corridors, critical community infrastructure, and other existing structures.
2. Work with impacted counties to distribute portable equipment based on local and regional priorities.
3. Encourage isolated communities to use portable equipment to remove and process wood waste locally.
4. Provide local government assistance as appropriate under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act (Cal OES).
5. Request immediate assistance through the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief Program to obtain federal assistance for removal of dead and dying trees adjacent to highways (Caltrans).
6. Develop and maintain an inter-agency funding matrix displaying all potential sources of funding and landowner assistance programs.
7. Engage impacted local communities with funding fairs.
8. Appropriately pursue, manage, utilize and distribute future funding sources consistent with the Directives within the Proclamation.
9. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 2, 4, 6, 16 and 18 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.
- Approval by the Department of Finance is required prior to execution of any contract entered into pursuant to the State of Emergency Proclamation Directives.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	**Date Prepared**
Chris Anthony	January 8, 2016

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	UTILIZATION- BIOENERGY GROUP

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TBD	GO-Biz		
TBD	CARB		

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Group Objectives

1. Extend contracts on existing forest bioenergy facilities receiving feedstock from high hazard zones (CPUC).
2. Ensure contracts for new forest bioenergy facilities that receive feedstock from high hazard zones can be executed within six months (CPUC).
3. Initiate targeted renewable auction mechanism and consideration of adjustments to the BioMat Program (CPUC).
4. No later than six months after the BioMat program begins, evaluate the need for revisions to the program to facilitate contracts for forest bioenergy facilities (CPUC).
5. Prioritize facilitation of interconnection agreements for forest bioenergy facilities in high hazard zones (CPUC).
6. Prioritize grant funding from the Electric Program Investment Charge for woody biomass-to-energy technology, consistent with direction from CPUC (CEC).
7. Work with bioenergy facilities that accept forest biomass from high hazard zones to identify potential funds to offset higher feedstock costs (CAL FIRE, CEC).
8. Work with land managers to estimate biomass feedstock availability, storage locations, and volumes that may be available for use as bioenergy feedstock at existing and new facilities.
9. Identify and develop new energy technologies for biomass (e.g. biofuels, etc).
10. Create and expand markets for bioenergy by-products (e.g. biochar, heat, etc).
11. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directives 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

Prepared By (Planning Section Chief)	**Date Prepared**
Chris Anthony	January 8, 2016

TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS	UTILIZATION- MARKET DEVELOPMENT GROUP

GROUP LEADER(S)			
Name	Agency	Contact Number	Email
Evan Johnson	CalRecycle	916-341-6310	Evan.johnson@calrecycle.ca.gov
Kim Carr	CAL FIRE	530-301-7516	kim.carr@fire.ca.gov

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ASSIGNED			
Name	Agency	Contact Number	Email
Eric Mandell	DGS	916-375-4501	Eric.mandell@dgs.ca.gov
Darold Heikens	Caltrans	916-531-5329	darold.heikens@dot.ca.gov
Debbie Franco	OPR	916-322-0553	Debbie.Davis@opr.ca.gov
Bob Kingman	SNC	530-823-4678	Bob.Kingman@sierranevada.ca.gov
Jerry Bird	USFS	916-498-5324	jkbird@fs.fed.us
Julia Levin	Bioenergy Assoc of CA	510-610-1733	jlevin@bioenergyca.org
Julee Malinowski-Ball	CA Biomass Energy Alliance	916-802-8400	Julee@ppallc.com
Claire Jahns	CA Natural Resources Agency	916-653-5608	Claire.Jahns@resources.ca.gov
Steve Brink	CFA	916-444-6592	steveb@calforests.org
Clayton Code	CLFA	916-913-9970	ccode@spi-ind.com
Charll Stoneman	Forest Landowners of CA	877-326-3778	stoneman_forestry@sbcglobal.net
Craig Thomas	Sierra Forest Legacy	916-708-9409	craig@sierraforestlegacy.org
Cedric Twight	SPI	530-378-8000	ctwight@spi-ind.com
Stephen Bakken	State Parks	916-654-9934	Stephen.bakken@parks.ca.gov
Matthew Plummer	PG&E	415-973-3477	M3Pu@pge.com
Matt Henigan	Cal Gov Ops Agency	916-651-9011	Matt.henigan@govops.ca.gov
Angie Lottes	CA Forest Biomass Working Group	314-610-2237	angie@thewatershedcenter.com
Jenny Moffitt	CDFA	916-403-6706	Jenny.LesterMoffitt@cdfa.ca.gov
Brian Nowicki	Center for Bio Diversity	916-201-6938	bnowicki@biologicaldiversity.org
TBD	GO-Biz		

Group Objectives

1. Work with affected counties and existing wood product markets to determine the feasibility for expanded wood product markets in California.
2. Provide for highest and best use of wood products.
3. Identify and develop new technologies for biomass products (laminated wood products, etc.)
4. Identify rules or regulations which may block the development of a utilization market.
5. Provide regular updates at Task Force meetings to ensure effective communication and geographic coordination among all task force groups and stakeholders.

Special Instructions

- Work assignments are consistent with Directive 14 of the State of Emergency Proclamation.
- Work with other federal, state, local, tribal, private and non-governmental entities as needed.

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Tree Mortality Task Force Meeting Schedules

FULL TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE MEETING

Second Monday of the month (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

WORKING GROUPS

Forest Health and Resilience
First Wednesday of the month (11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon)

Mapping and Monitoring
First Wednesday of the month (12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Prescribed Fire
TBD

Public Outreach
First Monday of the month (1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

Regulations
First Wednesday of the month (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

Resource Allocation
Fourth Thursday of the month (1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

Utilization - Bioenergy
TBD

Utilization - Market Development
TBD

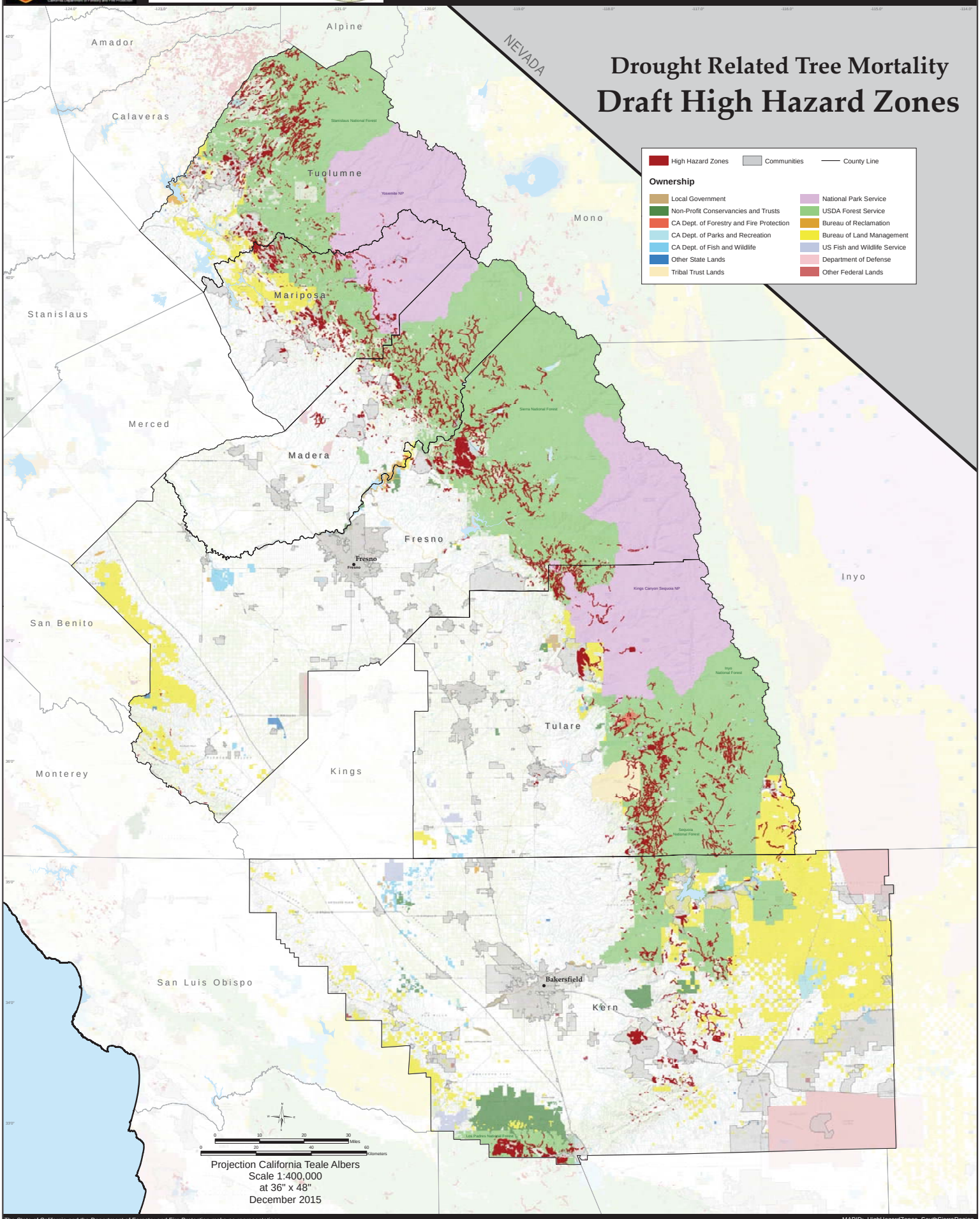
Note: Due to County Board of Supervisor meetings on Tuesdays, the Chairs have requested working groups avoid Tuesdays to allow for County participation.

These are standard meeting times only and may change based on working group needs.

www.treetaskforce.org

South Sierra Region

Drought Related Tree Mortality
Draft High Hazard Zones



The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Obtain FRAP maps, data, metadata and publications on the Internet at http://frap.cdf.ca.gov
For more information, contact CAL FIRE - FRAP, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460, (916) 327-3939.

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor, State of California
John Laird, Secretary for Resources, The Natural Resources Agency
Ken Pimlott, Director, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

MAPID: HighHazardZones_SouthSierraRegion

DATA SOURCES:
Communities (FRAP, v13_1)
Ownership (FRAP, v15 _1)
High Hazard Zones (FRAP, Dec 2015), utilizing:
Aerial Detection Survey (USFS, Dec 2015)
various asset layers (FRAP, Dec 2015)