



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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## Tree Mortality Task Force Public Outreach Working Group Agenda/Minutes

January 4, 2016

1:30 p.m.

- I. Welcome and Instructions by Working Group Leader
- II. Roll call of assigned Working Group Members
  - a. Attendees present:
    - i. CAL FIRE: Daniel Berlant
    - ii. Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Brittany Covich
    - iii. RCRC: Staci Heaton
    - iv. USFS: Sherry Reckler
    - v. CA Fire Safe Council: Jerry Davies
    - vi. CFA: Kristin Kolpitcke & Lindsay VanLaningham
    - vii. IHI Power Services Corp: Rick Spurlock
    - viii. PG&E: Lynsey Paulo & Joe Molica
    - ix. SMUD: Steve Sorey
    - x. CSAC: Matt Cate & Cara Martinson
- III. Review of Working Group Objectives from Incident Action Plan
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. New Business
  - a. **Dignitary Tour** – The group discussed a tour of the Bass Lake area in early February for invited dignitaries and staffers. Staci Heaton and Cara Martinson are coordinating the tour and will be holding a conference call later in the week with other working group members to plan the tour. The planning group at this point includes CAL FIRE, RCRC, CSAC and PG&E. Sherry Reckler requested to participate as well. Jerry Davies asked whether media be there. While some members may send out a release that they attended a tour, the focus is educating the legislature and staff so it is best that media not be invited to this tour. Sherry asked if the tour should be in Tuolumne or Calaveras rather than Bass Lake. Cara explained with the quick turnaround for this first tour, CAL FIRE's Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit has a tour schedule that is ready to go. Sherry asked if the tour would include any project work, in which Daniel explained it would. Anyone who wants to participate should let Cara know. **Action Item:** Cara and Staci to lead planning conference call this week.



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- b. **Website** – Daniel Berlant discussed the Task Force Website ([www.TreeTaskForce.org](http://www.TreeTaskForce.org)) and explained that the site is geared towards stakeholders and is a repository for documents related to the task force and working groups. Daniel mentioned that CAL FIRE launched last year a website focused on public education ([www.PrepareForBarkBeetle.org](http://www.PrepareForBarkBeetle.org)).
- c. **Self-Guided Tour** - Daniel Berlant reviewed an idea of creating a self-guided tour that would allow anyone to drive through an impacted area and see tree mortality and project work, without having to have a large formal tour. Cara Martinson expressed a minor concern over making sure a local contact has a certain level of input or notice of the tour. A follow up call or discussion will occur at future meeting.
- d. **Other** - Brittany Covich asked how often the working group would hold calls. The full working group will have a set call the first Monday of each month at 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be additional calls as needed for subgroups working on different projects.

Lynsey Paulo asked for a background piece with statistics. Daniel Berlant explained that CAL FIRE was finishing up a media kit with public FAQs and stats and would share it as soon as it was finished. **Action Item:** Daniel Berlant to send out FAQs and Stats.

- VI. Scheduling of next working group meeting: **February 1, 2016, 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**
- VII. Closing Comments/Adjournment: Daniel Berlant called for any new items for next month's agendas. Daniel brought up reviewing any member public outreach materials that currently exist so that the group can start to see what is out there.

*Note: Working Group Leaders to present current workgroup priorities and accomplishments at full Task Force Meetings.*