



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Tree Mortality Task Force

Tree Mortality Task Force Weekly Update March 18, 2016

1. Highlights

- High Hazard Zones (HHZ) – An updated version of the draft HHZs was completed for the entire state on the 16th of March. The updated HHZs will be posted to the TMTF website the first of next week.
- Federal Disaster Declaration – Information was provided by Cal OES on some of the requirements for a Federal disaster declaration which include reaching a \$52.5 million threshold statewide as well as counties also reaching a threshold based on a per capita basis.

2. Main Task Force Report

- Full Taskforce Meeting – A full TMTF meeting was held on March 14th with reports being provided by 5 counties and 7 Working Groups. Some highlights from those reports and discussion include:
 - Call for assistance on what to do with the logs once removed.
 - Call for a Federal Disaster declaration.
 - Explanation of the second iteration of the HHZs.
 - Report on the Regulations Guidance document.
 - Announcement of new information literature from the Public Outreach group and CAL FIRE.
 - Update on the Legislative tour scheduled for April 15th.
- CAL FIRE released a standardized resource ordering process for affected Units to request personnel, crews and equipment from other CAL FIRE Units, specific to tree mortality mitigation efforts.

3. Working Group Reports

Mapping and Monitoring (Mark Rosenberg/Chris Fischer)

- See development of High Hazard Zones above



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Public Outreach (Daniel Berlant/Staci Heaton)

- **Legislative Tour**
Plans for the April 15th Legislative Tour continues to be finalized and refined. The tour will include the option for an aerial circuit utilizing PG&E's helicopters to view the extent of the mortality on a landscape scale. A ground tour will also be conducted opposite the aerial tour for a firsthand look at the unprecedented mortality and its impacts to communities.

Regulations (Matthew Reischman/Sandy Goldberg)

- **Homeowner's Insurance**
A Facts Sheet for Homeowners has been developed by the Department of Insurance (DOI) which will provide DOI contacts for homeowners experiencing cancellations or non-renewals, Fair Plan information and other pertinent homeowner insurance material. The document is being vetted and is expected to be released next week.
- **Storage Sites**
The Regulations Working Group is establishing a sub-group to specifically address the issues surrounding storage on private, local, state and federal lands. Their first meeting/conference call was held this week with action items to be worked on.

Resource Allocation (Thom Porter/Tom Lutzenberger)

- **Equipment Allocation**
Delivery dates for CAL FIRE equipment are being updated and training schedules are being developed to deploy the equipment to county areas at the earliest possible date. Detailed request for equipment and resources are also being updated to facilitate allocation of limited equipment where it will be most effective.

Utilization – Bioenergy (Kim Carr/Angie Lottes)

- **Revised Renewable Auction Mechanism (RAM)**
RAM resolution was adopted on March 17th by CPUC Commissioners. Several Commissioners acknowledge this is a first step and more actions may need to be taken. Facilities remain concerned the fuel from HHZ requirement is too high to meet. Also, there is concern utilities will only purchase the 50 MW minimum requirement which would extend up to 3 existing facility power contracts but not add more MW capacity. Commissioners noted that an estimate of available biomass/feedstock for the next several years, has not been provided and therefore a 50 MW program is a logical start.



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- **Biomass Estimates**
CPUC, utilities, and other stakeholders have been asking for an estimate of available biomass for the next 5 years and beyond. CAL FIRE, CEC, USFS and other wood owners will be working to compile these estimates.
- **Bio MAT**
The CPUC ALJ is expected to release her decision on the Bio MAT program soon. This will outline the specific terms for new facilities participating in the auction. Interconnection remains a barrier for projects to remain in the auction queue. It is likely that the Governor's Office, CPUC, CAL FIRE and project developers will have further discussions on options to resolve this barrier.

Utilization – Market Development (Evan Johnson/Kim Carr)

- **Woody Biomass Markets**
Discussion are ongoing with the National Forest Foundation to potentially leverage work they have already completed on the California Assessment of Wood Business Innovation Opportunities and Markets, a comprehensive report analyzing potential wood business innovations and market within California. The ability to build on work already completed in developing this report may identify potential outlets for woody biomass.