



Tree Mortality Task Force Public Outreach Working Group Minutes

Date: Monday, December 5, 2016
Time Frame: 1:30-2:30 p.m.

RCRC Headquarters, 1215 K St., Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814

Conference Call Line: (916) 326-5821

- I. Roll call of Working Group Members and confirm new members
 - a. Staci Heaton, RCRC
 - b. Heather Williams, CAL FIRE
 - c. Lindsay VanLaningham, CalForests
 - d. Samantha Storms, Bureau of Land Management
 - e. Susie Kocher, UC Cooperative Extension
 - f. Stephanie Gomes, USFS Region 5
 - g. Brittany Covich, Sierra Nevada Conservancy
 - h. Lynsey Paulo, PG&E
 - i. Carrie Crane, County of Tulare
 - j. Elizabeth Merwin, Sagent Marketing
 - k. Joseph Bonner, Sagent Marketing

- II. Approval of Agenda

- III. Updates
 - a. Discussion of urban outreach and education regarding forest health (Heather Williams, CAL FIRE)
 - i. Ms Williams led a brainstorming session on ideas for the outreach efforts, including existing ideas, materials and information already being used by Task Force members. The discussion generated several areas of potential focus for outreach and education, including the importance of water quality/supply from the upper watershed, air quality, and recreational opportunities for urban residents. Ms Williams volunteered to draft talking points for the various Task Force participants to use to standardize the message as a next step.

- IV. New Business
 - a. Legislative tour—Outreach to the new Legislature in 2017. (Staci Heaton, RCRC)
 - i. Ms Heaton led a discussion on potential outreach opportunities to both state and federal legislative members in the New Year. County members of the Task Force have shared the idea of the counties organizing a series of small legislative tours focusing on different



aspects of the tree mortality disaster, with the Public Outreach Working Group acting as support to those efforts. The group was generally supportive of the idea, and strongly expressed the desire to remain involved in the planning to help craft the messaging.

b. Other business

- i. Ms VanLaningham discussed an educational video being produced by the California Forested Watershed Alliance, a group of organizations including CalForests, RCRC, the Association of California Water Agencies, The Nature Conservancy and the California Farm Bureau Federation. The focus of the video is the importance of managing the upper watersheds in the Sierra Nevada region for better health and resilience of the forests, and includes discussion of tree mortality. The video will be made available for sharing by working group members as soon as it is available to the public.

V. Closing Comments/Adjournment