



## **Tree Mortality Task Force Regulations Working Group Minutes Meeting: November 4, 2016**

### **Action Item Discussion:**

**Insurance:** The Regulations Working Group continues to work on insurance issues regarding the significant number of residential and commercial property owners suffering from insurance cancellations, non-renewals, or declines to issue insurance for recently purchased homes due to wildfire risk. The TMTF counties continue to provide the California Department of Insurance (DOI) with documentation of recent homeowner insurance issues (cancellations, non-renewals, etc.). The RWG discussed issues surrounding the higher cost of FAIR Plan and an interest to request information from FAIR Plan on the maximum premiums by county.

The RWG will continue to gather information on two commonly used insurance models that were developed by Verisk Analytics, ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC) program and Verisk Insurance Solutions' FireLine. The RWG and DOI are planning a workshop for the counties early next year to review the models, insurance regulation and the Fair Plan.

**Storage Sites:** The RWG discussed the process for storage site development; the counties are providing information on permitting to those interested in developing storage sites. The RWG discussed how to link storage sites to projects and the necessary chain of custody documentation that is being used. The counties are using forms to track projects, contractors and loads. Contractors and Licensed Timber Operators are certifying that loads are coming from HHZ.

**Mapping Sites:** The Mapping and Monitoring Working Group (MMWG) responded to a request from CAL FIRE's Madera-Mariposa Unit to analyze potential locations for log storage and processing facilities in Mariposa County. The model is based on parcel size, slope, distance to roads and other factors and resulted in over 90 potential properties that may be suitable. These locations are being evaluated by Unit and County personnel. The process is being documented in case other Units or Counties have similar needs.

**Air Quality:** The County Counsel Sub Group has reviewed the Equipment Use Agreement template developed for counties to use the CAL FIRE equipment (ACI, tracked chippers, etc.). The template was circulated and reviewed during the standing quarterly call with the county counsel offices, which happened in early November, comments were due back from the counties on November 16, 2016. Several of the county counsels had not received the template, so review during their quarterly call was very helpful. Christa will report back at the RWG call on 11/18.



Governor's ACI Letter of Exemption - The RWG has submitted the letter to the Governor's Office. The letter will request US EPA to authorize emergency use of air curtain incinerators without a Title V permit. Because of fire season, none of the air curtain incinerators have been used beyond testing, but CAL FIRE hopes to begin use soon. Once use begins, the letter to EPA asking to continue emergency use must be sent within 8 weeks (just sending the letter triggers an ability to continue use for another 8 weeks without a permit). To continue use for more than 16 weeks without a permit requires EPA authorization.

**Other:**

Mariposa is working on an issue involving a need to clarify which trees the local utility, PG&E, is responsible to remove versus trees the residents are responsible to remove. There is an interest to have the utilities meet with landowners prior to entering an area and briefly explain what trees are intended to be removed. PG&E will be contacted for more information. Sandy contacted PG&E regarding this issue and will forward the information she received.

Next working group call: Friday 11/18 9:00-11:00.