

The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent seal of the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. The seal is circular with a gold border. Inside the border, the words "BOARD OF FORESTRY" are at the top and "AND FIRE PROTECTION" are at the bottom, both in a dark, serif font. The center of the seal is red and contains a gold silhouette of a coniferous tree. Above the tree, the words "STATE OF CALIFORNIA" are written in a smaller, dark font.

# Responding to Wildfires in the Era of the 'New Abnormal'

CA BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

# Historical Fires

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- 281,360 Acres Burned (1985-1989 avg for all agency areas)
- 452,390 Acres Burned (1995-1999 avg for all agency areas)
- 917,159 Acres Burned (2006-2010 avg for all agency areas)



# Deadliest Fires in California

- 6 of the Top 20 in the Last 2 Years
  - 2018 (Nov) Camp Fire - Butte Co - 85 deaths



Camp Fire

# Deadliest Fires in California

- 2017 (Oct) Tubbs Fire - Napa & Sonoma Cos - 22 deaths
- 2017 (Dec) Thomas Fire - Ventura & Santa Barbara Cos  
23 deaths, 2 from the fire, 21 from associated Montecito  
mudslides
- 2017 (Oct) Redwood Valley Complex - Mendocino Co - 9 deaths
- 2018 (July) Carr Fire - Shasta & Trinity Cos - 8 deaths
- 2017 (Oct) Atlas Fire - Napa & Solano Cos - 6 deaths



# Most Destructive Fires in California

- 10 of the Top 20 in the Last 4 Years
  - 2018 (Nov) Camp Fire - Butte Co - 18,804 structures



Camp Fire



# Most Destructive Fires in California

- 2017 (Oct) Tubbs Fire - Napa & Sonoma Cos - 5,636 structures
- 2015 (Sept) Valley Fire - Lake, Napa, & Sonoma Cos  
1,955 structures



Valley Fire



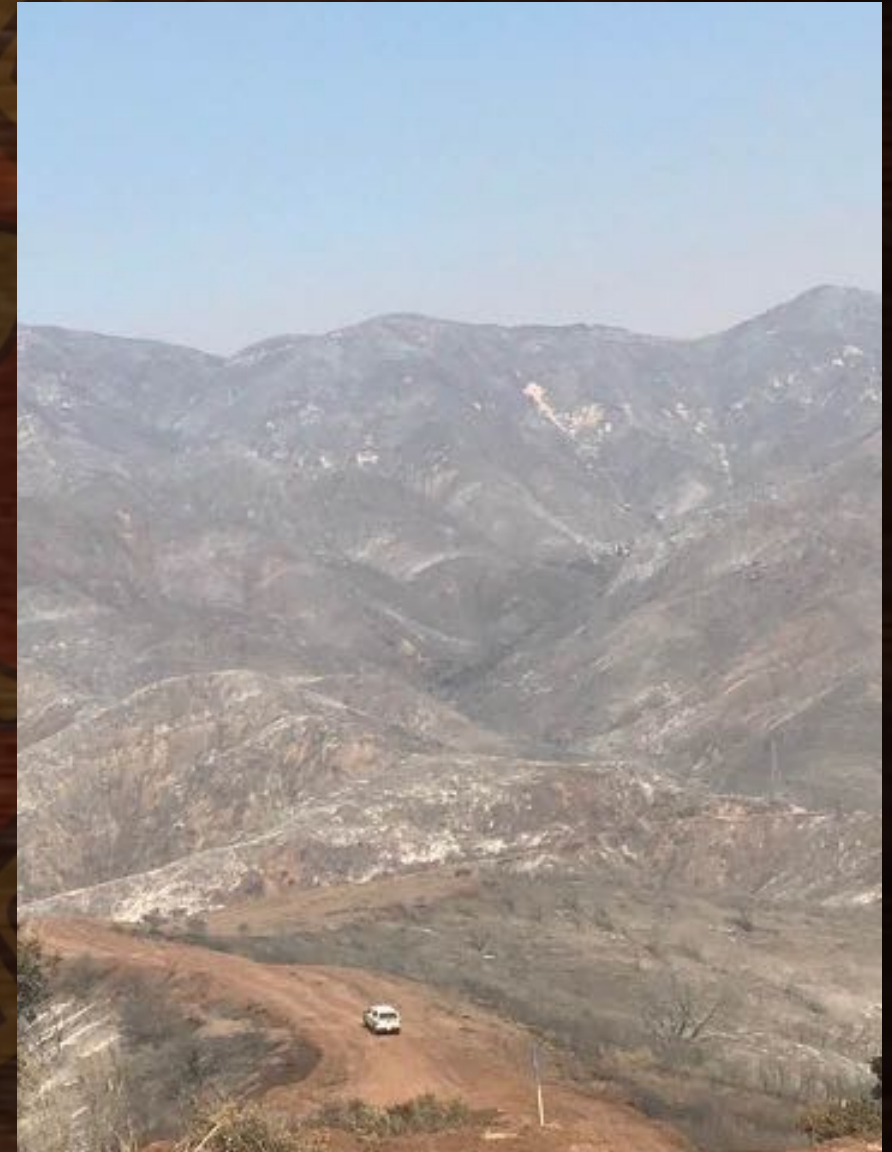
# Most Destructive Fires in California

- 2018 (Nov) Woolsey Fire - Ventura Co - 1,643 structures
- 2018 (July) Carr Fire - Shasta & Trinity Cos - 1,604 structures
- 2017 (Oct) Nuns Fire - Sonoma Co - 1,355 structures
- 2017 (Dec) Thomas Fire - Ventura & Santa Barbara Cos  
1,063 structures
- 2015 (Sept) Butte Fire - Amador & Calaveras Cos  
921 structures
- 2017 (Oct) Atlas Fire - Napa & Solano Cos - 783 structures
- 2017 (Oct) Redwood Valley Complex - Mendocino Co  
546 structures



# Largest Fires in California

- 4 of the Top 20 in the Last 2 Years
  - 2018 (July) Mendocino Complex  
Mendocino, Colusa, Lake, & Glenn Cos  
459,123 acres
  - 2017 (Dec) Thomas Fire  
Ventura & Santa Barbara Cos  
281,893 acres





# Largest Fires in California

- 2018 (July) Carr Fire  
Shasta & Trinity Cos  
229,651 acres
- 2018 (Nov) Camp Fire  
Butte Co  
153,336 acres





# 2018 Chaptered Legislation

- SB 901 Wildfires
- SB 1260 Fire Prevention & Protection: Prescribed Burns
- AB 2911 Fire Safety
- AB 2518 Innovative Forests & Mass Timber



# SB 901 - Wildfires

- Land Use Planning
  - Expands Board's existing regulatory framework for State Responsibility Area (SRA) to Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ) within Local Responsibility Areas (LRA)
  - Requires Board to update regulations for greenbelts & fuel breaks to increase community perimeters & protections from wildland fire
  - Requires Board to develop criteria for, & develop a list of, "Fire Risk Reduction Communities"



# SB 901

- Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP)
  - Clarifies that multiple landowners may participate in a single WFMP in a single watershed
  - Reduces the acreage of a single WFMP from 15,000 acres to 10,000 acres
  - Revises disclosure timing for certain types of erosion control sites



# SB 901

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- Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP)
  - Clarifies that multiple landowners may participate in a single NTMP
  - Clarifies that a single NTMP may not exceed 2,500 acres



# SB 901

- Exemptions
  - Increases the pace & scale of fuel hazard reduction efforts on state & private lands through statute revisions that provide regulatory relief to small timberland owners & revisions to the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption
  - Revises statute that may result in the consolidation of the number of, & regulatory standards for, all exemptions



# SB 1260 - Fire Prevention & Protection: Prescribed Burns

- Local Jurisdictions Required to Notify the Board
  - VHFHSZs are adopted via local ordinance
  - Begin safety element updates
  - Findings (2) are made on subdivision maps identifying it's compliant with PRC 4290 & 4291 & has fire protection services



# AB 2911 – Fire Safety

- Board Requirements
  - Survey local governments & fire districts to identify subdivisions without secondary egress routes at significant fire risk
  - Develop recommendations for subdivisions at significant fire risk, maintain a list of the subdivisions & their progress toward implementing recommendations
  - Consult with the Governor’s Office of Planning & Research, Cal Fire, & other fire experts to develop the “Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series”



# AB 2518 Innovative Forests & Mass Timber

- Board to Collaborate with Cal Fire & Other Parties to Identify Barriers to In-State Production of Mass Timber & Other Forest Products & Develop Solutions



Brock Commons, BC – Mass Timber Student Housing



Katerra – Mass Timber Structure



# 2018 Regulatory Accomplishments

- Emergency Rulemaking for Post-Fire Recovery Efforts
  - Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Siskiyou, Shasta, Trinity, & Butte Cos
  - Facilitates removal of hazardous materials, encourage rebuilding & recovery from catastrophic wildfires
- Cumulative Impacts Assessment Checklist, Technical Rule Addendum No 2 & Appendix Amendment
  - Aligns the Forest Practice Rules with CA Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding fire hazard impacts and greenhouse gas emissions
  - Updates 30-year-old guidance, including 14 CCR § 895, 895.1, 912.9 [932.9, 952.9], Technical Rule Addendum No 2, and Appendix



# 2018 Regulatory Accomplishments

- Exemption Amendments 14 CCR § 1038 & 1038.1, 2018
  - Clarifies the fuel treatment standards in 1038(j)
  - Extends the sunset date for Drought Mortality Amendments 3 years
  - Implements standardized notification procedures for operation commencement
- Timberland Conversion Amendments, 14 CCR § 1104.1, 2018
  - Amends Less than Three Acre Conversion Exemption, disallows use of Exception where prior conversion occurred on contiguous ownership parcel
  - Requires map in notification to adjacent landowners & Native Americans
  - Improves notification procedure for timber operation commencement



# 2018 Regulatory Accomplishments

- SRA Fire Safe Development Regulations Revisions  
14 CCR § 1270
  - Updates to maintain consistent with CA Fire Code & other statutes
  - Improves local jurisdictions process, providing clearer lines of authority and implementation
  - Creates standards that reflect modern firefighting apparatus dimensions and fire prevention policies



# 2018 Policy Accomplishments

- Strategic Fire Plan
  - Last updated in 2010
  - Updates to CA's fire regimes
- State Forest Regulations Update, 2018
  - Allows use fees to be charged at standardized rate
- State Forest Policy Update
  - Emphasis on effectiveness monitoring of management actions
  - Encourage expanding Demonstration State Forests (DSF) land base
  - Initial studies & management plans changed from 5 to 10 years
- Boggs Mountain DSF's Initial Study & Management Plan approved





# 2018 Policy Accomplishments

- Nursery
  - Update nursery policies that include changes reflecting current conditions & needs
- Local Government General Plan Safety Elements
  - Board established a standardized method to review safety element general plans



Nursery Fields



# CA Vegetation Treatment Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (CalVTP)

- Assists Cal Fire in Increasing Pace & Scale of Fire Prevention Activities
  - Prescribed burning
  - Mechanical treatment
  - Fuel breaks
- Maintains California's Diverse Vegetation & Habitats
  - Supports ecological restoration projects





# Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation

- Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation
  - Support long-term ecological & economic sustainability
  - Increase forest resilience, long-term carbon storage, & local economies
  - Serve as a center for analysis, testing, & outreach to support industry retention & development in CA



Mass Timber Building Shake Table Test, UCSD



# Registered Professional Foresters (RPF)

- 1,132 Active RPFs
- Registration Has Dropped Over 1/3 Over Last 27 Years
- 50% of RPFs Registered for 25-30 Years, Aging Population
- Need Greater Recruitment to Accomplish CA's Forest Management Needs





# Land Use Planning/Home Hardening

- Land Use Planning Program (2012)
  - Resource for local government land use planning
  - Improved prevention measures included in Safety Elements of local general plans
- Chapter 7A (2008) – Materials & Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure
  - Minimum building standards in State & Local Responsibility Areas VHFHSZ



# Land Use Planning/Home Hardening

- Retrofit Pre-2008 Homes
- Access Current WUI Building Materials & Products List at the Office of the State Fire Marshal
- Access Low-Cost Home Hardening Retrofit List – Available Through Cal Fire Soon
- Survey Community Ingress/Egress Routes



# Land Use Planning/Home Hardening

- Formulate Regulations for Fire Safe Development Standards for Roads in LRA VHFHSZs
- Formulate Regulations to Protect Ridgelines from Development
- Develop Fire Risk Reduction Communities List Criteria
- Develop 'Fire Hazard Planning' (Part of General Plan Tech Advice Series) Collaboratively with OPR



Thank You for Your Time

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**Assistant Executive Officer**

**California Board of Forestry and Fire  
Protection**

\*'New Abnormal' term coined by Governor Jerry Brown 11/11/18