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# MANAGING OUR FORESTS IN TODAY'S WORLD OF CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON, AND FIRE

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**Russ Henly**

**California Natural Resources Agency**

August 2, 2018



# Forest Carbon Plan—May 2018

- Called for in 2015 Climate Scoping Plan Update
- Developed by Forest Carbon Action Team
- Actions to achieve healthy, resilient forests
- Protect and enhance forest carbon and other resource benefits
- Significantly increase pace and scale of forest and watershed health improvements on federal and nonfederal forests
- Prevent conversion of forestland to other uses
- Innovate solutions for wood products and biomass use
- Work collaboratively at landscape/watershed scale

# Executive Order B-52-18

- Identifies forest management threats and needs and supports implementation of the Forest Carbon Plan.
- Calls for doubling forest improvement treatments on nonfederal lands from 250k acres/year to 500k acres.
- Seeks to reduce regulatory barriers to prescribed fire and other forest improvement activities.
- Supports wood product innovation, including a Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation.
- Requests CPUC to review and update its procurement program for small renewable bioenergy generators.

# Budget Items

- \$96 million in May Revise to support EO and Forest Carbon Plan:
  - Six year-round prescribed fire crews at CAL FIRE
  - \$50 million in Prop. 68 and CCI funds to support collaborative landscape-level forest restoration projects throughout the state
  - \$15 million in Prop. 68 funds to State Parks for forest restoration
  - Several million to support programs to encourage wood product markets, including a Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation
- An additional \$160 million CCI (\$220 million last FY) to CAL FIRE for forest health and fuel reduction projects.

# Governor's Forest Management Task Force

- Established to guide Forest Carbon Plan implementation and address barriers that may arise.
- First called out in January State of State Address.
- Morphing of Tree Mortality Task Force to support the broader Forest Carbon Plan goals.
- Broad composition of state, federal, local government, and members.
- Collection of 10 working groups to address specific issues and regions, plus Science Advisory Panel.
- First meeting on June 11; next August 13.