MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Wade Crowfoot  
Secretary for Natural Resources

FROM: Eric Hedge  
Regulations Program Manager  
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection


Attached, pursuant to section 1145 of title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, is a Notice of Decision by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board). On July 15, 2020, the Board adopted the rulemaking proposal entitled, “Licensed Timber Operator Education and Limited License Timber Operator”.

The project is intended to improve the clarity and consistency of the existing regulations surrounding timber operator licenses, including making educational requirements of applicants consistent across all types of timber operator licenses. The project also limits the activities permitted under a limited timber operator license to avoid excessive risk, given the lack of insurance obligations. Finally, the project clearly implements existing conditional requirements within PRC § 4572. Pending approval by the Office of Administrative Law, the Board looks forward to monitoring the implementation of the regulation beginning January 1, 2021.

Please make the attached Notice available for public inspection for a period of 30 days.
NOTICE OF DECISION

To: Honorable Wade Crowfoot  
Secretary of Resources  
Natural Resources Agency  
State of California  
Sacramento, CA  94244-2460  

From: Board of Forestry and Fire Protection  
P.O. Box 944246  
Sacramento, CA  94244-2460  

Contact: Eric Hedge, Regulations Program Manager, State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA  94244-2460  

Subject: Notice of Decision made pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the Public Resource Code (PRC), and Sections 1145 of Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR).  

Project Title: "Licensed Timber Operator Education and Limited License Timber Operator" [Regular Rulemaking]  

Project Type: Regulatory Action, adoption of amendments to California Code of Regulations, title 14: §§ 1022, 1022.1, 1023, 1024 & 1025  

Project Description: The project is intended to improve the clarity and consistency of the existing regulations surrounding timber operator licenses, including making educational requirements of applicants consistent across all types of timber operator licenses. The project also limits the activities permitted under a limited timber operator license to avoid excessive risk, given the lack of insurance obligations. Finally, the project clearly implements existing conditional requirements within PRC § 4572.  

Project Location: Those persons who possess, or who are seeking to possess, various licenses to conduct timber operations pursuant to the Z'Bergh-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 (PRC § 4511 et seq.).  

This is to advise that the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection adopted the above rulemaking on July 15, 2020 and made the following findings regarding the above action:  

1. The Board has considered adverse environmental effects from the action described above. Such consideration was conducted to meet California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for a project by using the functional equivalent certification to an EIR granted to the Board for its rulemaking process pursuant to PRC 21080.5.  

2. The Board has not identified any adverse environmental effects as a result of the adopted rules.  

3. The Board made other findings as part of its Final Statement of Reasons contained in the official administrative record.  

This to certify that the administrative regulatory file, prepared pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources, is available to the General Public at: State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Room 1506-14, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA.  

Signature: [Signature]  
Title: Regulations Program Manager  

File Date: July 23, 2020  
Posting Period: 30 days from file date