

17th Technical Training Series



April 3-6, 2017 · Long Beach Hyatt
200 South Pine Avenue · Long Beach, California, 90802



Tree Mortality

Kevin Taylor - CalRecycle

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Long Beach Hyatt

Long Beach, California

April 3, 2017

- Disease
- Fire
- Drought
- Closure of Biomass Plants

Executive Department

State of California

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS the State of California is experiencing record drought conditions, which have persisted for the last four years; and

WHEREAS on January 17, 2014, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout the State of California due to severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS a lack of precipitation over the last four years has made trees in many regions of California susceptible to epidemic infestations of native bark beetles, which are constrained under normal circumstances by the defense mechanisms of healthy trees; and

WHEREAS these drought conditions and resulting bark beetle infestations across broad areas have caused vast tree mortality in several regions of the state, with the United States Forest Service estimating that over 22 million trees are dead and that tens of millions more are likely to die by the end of this year; and

WHEREAS recent scientific measurements suggest that the scale of this tree die-off is unprecedented in modern history; and

WHEREAS this die-off is of such scale that it worsens wildfire risk across large regions of the State, presents life safety risks from falling trees to Californians living in impacted rural, forested communities, and worsens the threat of erosion across watersheds; and

WHEREAS such wildfires will release thousands of tons of greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollutants; and

WHEREAS the circumstances of the tree die-off, by reason of its magnitude, is or is likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

Affecting Counties in California

- Kern
- Fresno
- Madera
- Mariposa
- Tulare
- Tuolumne

Options

- Composting/Chip and Grind
- Biomass Plants
- Air Curtain Burners
- Legislation

Air Curtain Burner



Regulatory Guidance

Links

- <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LEA/Mail/2016/DeadTrees.htm>
- <http://www.fire.ca.gov/treetaskforce/>
- Governor's Proclamation:
https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/10.30.15_Tree_Mortality_State_of_Emergency.pdf