



State of California

LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2017

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Jack Flanigan

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Don Perata

Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Assemblymember

Richard Roth
Senator

Janna Sidley

Helen Torres

Carole D'Elia
Executive Director

For Additional Information Contact:

Carole D'Elia

Executive Director

(916) 445-2125

NOTICE OF MEETING

On **Thursday, April 27, 2017**, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on forest management in response to the tree mortality crisis that has killed 102 million trees in California. The hearing will begin at **9:30 a.m.** in **Room 437** of the **State Capitol** in Sacramento.

At the hearing, the Commission will first hear from county representatives who will discuss the challenges they face both in meeting the county's forest management obligations and in assisting residents, some of whom cannot afford to treat the trees on their property. Next, the Commission will hear from a water district general manager who will discuss the impact of the dead trees on water quality and quantity, as well as regional partnerships in which the district participates that could perhaps be a model for others dealing with tree mortality. Also present at the hearing will be a representative from the Department of Insurance who will address insurance concerns raised by county representatives. The hearing also will include representatives from Pacific Gas & Electric and Sierra Pacific Industries, who will discuss the challenges they face in responding to tree mortality on their land and the roles they can play in sustainable forest management. Finally, the Commission will hear from representatives from Sierra Forest Legacy and The Nature Conservancy about potential solutions and a discussion on who benefits from healthy forests, and how that should influence policymaking.

There will be an opportunity for public comment at the end of the hearing. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person. The Commission also encourages written comments.

The Commission will convene a business meeting in room 125 of the State Capitol at approximately 11:30 a.m. The public hearing will reconvene at approximately 12:45 p.m.

All public notices for meetings are on the Commission's website, www.lhc.ca.gov. If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Commission Executive Director Carole D'Elia at (916) 445-2125 or littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov by Thursday, April 20, 2017.



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Public Hearing on Forest Management

Thursday, April 27, 2017

State Capitol, Room 437

Sacramento, CA 95814

Public Hearing: 9:30 a.m.

The Cost of Forest Neglect: The Counties' Perspective

1. Mike Albrecht, RPF, Project Coordinator, Tuolumne County Tree Mortality Task Force; President & Co-owner, Sierra Resource Management, Inc.
2. Brittany Dyer, District Chief of Staff, Supervisor Tom Wheeler, District 5, County of Madera
3. Eric Coyne, Deputy County Administrative Officer, Economic Development, Film & Tourism, County of Tulare

The Impact of Unhealthy Forests on Water Supply and Quality

4. David Eggerton, General Manager, Calaveras County Water District

Insurance Availability and Affordability

5. Joel Laucher, Chief Deputy Commissioner, California Department of Insurance

BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCH – ROOM 125 (See next page for agenda)

On the Front Lines: Utilities

6. Jadwindar Singh, Director, Electric Compliance, Quality, and Vegetation Management, Pacific Gas & Electric Company

A View from the State's Largest Private Forest Owner

7. Cedric Twight, Manager, California Regulatory Affairs, Sierra Pacific Industries

Restoring the Ecosystem

8. Susan Britting, Executive Director, Sierra Forest Legacy
9. David Edelson, Sierra Nevada Project Director, The Nature Conservancy

Public Comments



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Business Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2017
State Capitol, Room 125
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Commission will consider agenda items I-VII at approximately 11:30 a.m. (The precise time will vary depending upon the testimony of witnesses and will be determined at the discretion of the chair). If the Commission is unable to complete all agenda items by 12:30 pm, the business meeting may be reconvened in the State Capitol, Room 437 at 12:45 pm. Members of the public will have an opportunity to make comments about Commission agenda items during the meeting.

- I. Business Meeting Minutes from March 23, 2017
- II. Kevin Hunting, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Fish & Wildlife – Update on resolution of the issue raised by Los Angeles County Department on Public Works at the February 23, 2017 public hearing
- III. State Permitting – Draft Report for Discussion
- IV. Special Districts – Next Steps & Agenda Building
- V. Subcommittee Reports and Project Selection
- VI. Implementation
- VII. Reports from the California State Auditor's Office