February 28, 2013

CAL FIRE
Resource Management
135 Ridgway Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

RE: Valencia NTMP, #1-01NTMP-018 SCR,
Minor Amendment to Update Botanical Survey Results, Minor Infrastructure Adjustments, and
SOD Regulations

Dear Forest Practice Program Manager,

Botanical Survey Results
A botanical survey of Unit 1 was recently completed in preparation for submittal of an NTO to harvest in Unit 1 this summer. The survey report and plant list are attached. Mitigation Points M29 and M30 were added to the Operations Map in locations where California Bottlebrush Grass (*Elymus californicus*) populations were found. During subsequent layout, more populations of *Elymus californicus* were found in the vicinity. A majority of the *Elymus californicus* will be avoided over the course of the upcoming logging operations. CNDDB forms were filled out for the two major patches of this species and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. A skid trail south of Bean Hill was also re-routed in the field to avoid a small patch of rein orchids (*Piperia transversa*).

Revised skid trail layout – one new dry Class III crossings proposed
During layout and marking for the upcoming NTO, several small, beneficial modifications to infrastructure were made. Skid trails were shortened in several locations to minimize disturbance, a landing in proximity to a Class III watercourse was eliminated, and a Class III skid trail crossing was added to minimize disturbance in the ELZ and facilitate efficient yarding. The minor crossing will all be dry at the time of operations, and will be dipped out and stabilized following operations with the approaches slash-packed. This crossing is shown as S16 on the attached Operations Map, and is located northwest of the major amendment area.

Sudden Oak Death Compliance Agreement
The California Oak Mortality Task Force monitors the distribution of Sudden Oak Death (SOD) in Santa Cruz County at ([www.suddenoakdeath.org](http://www.suddenoakdeath.org)).

This NTMP Amendment shall function as the compliance agreement to allow for the removal of hardwood for commercialization from the project area for one year. If hardwood removal is to occur as a part of this NTMP and SOD regulations have been revised, the RPF shall amend the plan to conform to current regulations. To function as the compliance agreement, the following information and mitigations are provided in this Amendment:

1. Counties regulated for Sudden Oak Death at the time of plan amendment include Alameda,
Contra Costa, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, San Francisco and Sonoma.

2. **Regulated Hosts:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associated Plant Species:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand fir (Abies grandis)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strawberry tree (Arbutus unedo)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mountain laurel (Kalmia latifolia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salmonberry (Rubus spectabilis)</td>
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<tr>
<td>California hazelnut (Corylus cornuta)</td>
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<tr>
<td>European yew (Taxus baccata)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cascara (Rhamnus purshiana)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victorian box (Pittosporum undulatum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poison oak (Toxicodendron diversilobum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>European yew (Taxus baccata)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lilac (Syringa spp.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. **Host Material:****

- Coast live oak (Quercus agrifolia)
- Black oak (Quercus kelloggii)
- Bigleaf maple (Acer macrophyllum)
- Canyon live oak (Quercus chrysolepis)
- Shreve’s oak (Quercus parvula var. shrevei)
- Japanese camellia (Camellia japonica)
- Western Maidenhair Fern (Adiantum aleuticum)
- Sasanqua camellia (Camellia sasanqua)
- Witch hazel (Hamamelis virginiana)
- Himalaya pieris (Pieris formosa)
- Forest flame andromeda (Pieris formosa x japonica)
- Pieris ‘brouwer’s beauty’ (Pieris floribunda x japonica)
- Japanese pieris (Pieris japonica)
- Wood rose (Rosa gymnocaarpa)
- Western starflower (Trientalis latifolia)
- Tan oak (Lithocarpus densiflora)
- Bodnant viburnum (Viburnum x bodnantense)
- Doublefire viburnum (Viburnum plicatum var. tomentosum)
- Laurustinus (Viburnum tinus)

4. Host material will not be moved outside of the regulated area.

5. The approved NTMP will function as the compliance agreement to allow for the movement of hardwood within the regulated area.

   a. Hardwood removed from the NTMP area will either go to Pacific Firewood in Corralitos (Santa Cruz County) or another distributor located in San Mateo or Santa Cruz County.

   b. No material from host plants less than four inches in diameter will be removed from the NTMP area.
c. The LTO will visually inspect all vehicles containing host material leaving the project area to insure that the vehicles are free of host plant debris (leaves, twigs, and branches).

Thank you for your review of this NTMP update. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at (831) 457-6383 or nadiah@big-creek.com.

Sincerely,

Nadia Hamey
RPF #2788

Attachments:
Unit 1 Botanical Survey Report
Plant List
Botanical Survey Route Map
Updated Unit 1 Operations Map