



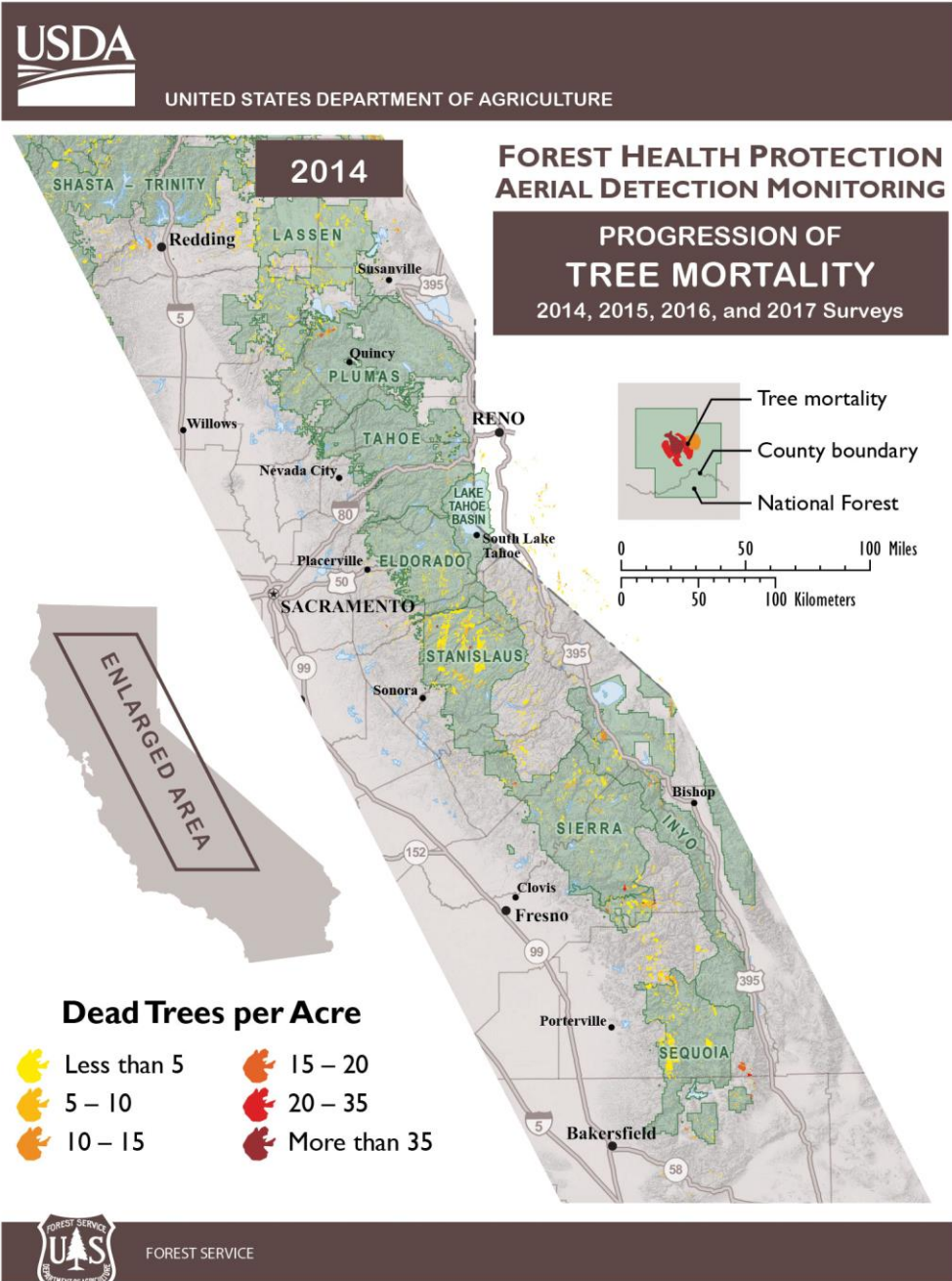
# California Forest Management Task Force

Coordinating the state's investments in forest management, wood utilization, and workforce development.

# Five Years of Drought

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# Explosive Tree Mortality



# TREE MORTALITY NORTHERN FRESNO COUNTY



MAY 2015



FEBRUARY 2016



# State of Emergency

## *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



## California Tree Mortality Task Force

- 2015-2018
- 7 Interdisciplinary Working Groups
- 19 Directives
- 80 Entities
- 10 Counties

# Consensus: The issue goes beyond tree mortality

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- *Fire on the Mountain: Rethinking Forest Management in the Sierra Nevada* – Little Hoover Commission
- *Improving the Health of California's Headwater Forests* – Public Policy Institute of California
- *Improving California's Forest and Watershed Management* – Legislative Analyst's Office
- *Forest Carbon Plan*





## The “New Normal”

*This is the new normal, and this could be something that happens every year or every few years.*

– Gov. Jerry Brown December 2017

# California Forest Carbon Plan

Managing Our Forest Landscapes in a Changing Climate



May 2018



CalEPA  
California Environmental  
Protection Agency

## Executive Order B-52-18 May 2018

*“WHEREAS the Forest Carbon Plan has been developed by state agencies to provide consensus forest practices that will achieve resilient forests that can withstand and adapt to wildfire, drought and a changing climate, safeguard the state's water supply, and ensure the state's forests operate as a carbon sink.”*



# CA Forest Management Task Force



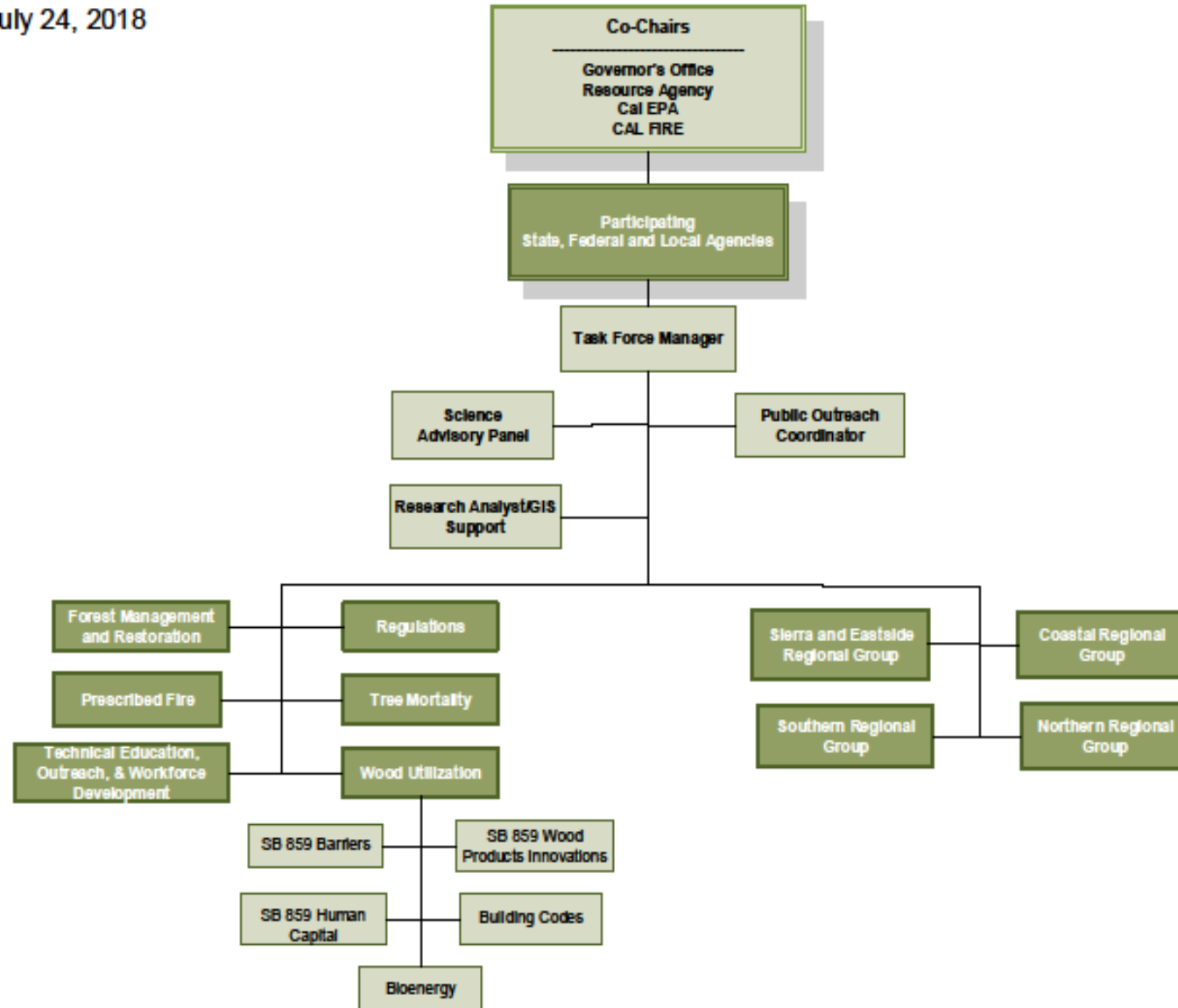
- Terry O'Brien – Governor's Senior Advisor on Forests
- Over 20 state, federal and local agencies and organizations
- Six subject area working groups
- Four regional prioritization groups
- First meeting June 2018



# Forest Management Task Force

## Forest Management Task Force

July 24, 2018



# Objectives of the FMTF



- Encourage coordination
- Facilitate forest health, prescribed fire, and fuel reduction activities
- Develop regional strategies
- Harmonize cross-jurisdictional regulatory & permitting requirements
- Provide consistent and coordinated messaging
- Measure progress and monitor outcomes

# Working Group Management Goals

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- Implement the Forest Carbon Plan
- Synchronize and expedite the regulatory review of timber harvesting permits
- Increase the opportunities for prescribed fire projects
- Continue to coordinate delivery of assistance for tree mortality projects

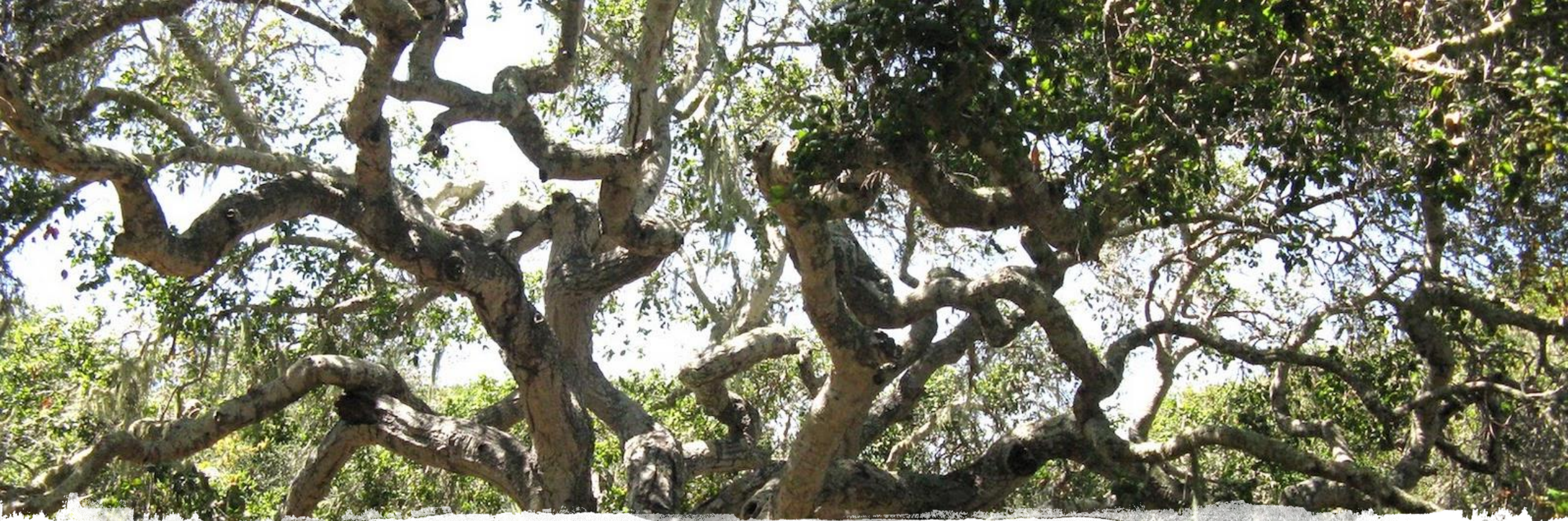


# Working Group Management Goals

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- Increase rural economic and work force development and encourage wood products innovation
- Build local capacity and expand regional forestry collaboratives
- Strategically coordinate the state's investment in forest health
- Double statewide rate of treatments within 5 years from 250,000 acres to 500,000 acres/year





Kevin Conway  
Forest Management Task Force Manager

[Kevin.Conway@fire.ca.gov](mailto:Kevin.Conway@fire.ca.gov)

(916) 653-8286

[www.caforestmanagement.org](http://www.caforestmanagement.org)

