

## **NEW DROUGHT MORTALITY EXEMPTION**

On June 17, 2015, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection adopted emergency regulations allowing specified forest management activities, including the cutting or removal of trees that are dead or dying as a result of the drought conditions across California. The new rules were adopted under 14 CCR § 1038 (k) and became effective on July 13, 2015. Areas to be treated that are larger than 20 acres cumulatively across an ownership require a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to prepare, sign, and submit a new exemption form\* to CAL FIRE. Areas less than 20 acres do not require an RPF, but can be submitted by the timberland owner, timber owner, Licensed Timber Operator or an RPF on the new form\*.

Final Rule language for the emergency regulation can be found at the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Web page:

[http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/regulations/approved\\_regulations/2015\\_/posted\\_071415\\_400\\_notice\\_of\\_approval\\_and\\_final\\_rule\\_text\\_2015-0701-02e\\_app.pdf](http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/regulations/approved_regulations/2015_/posted_071415_400_notice_of_approval_and_final_rule_text_2015-0701-02e_app.pdf)

\*A new exemption notice form "DROUGHT MORTALITY EXEMPTION (7/15)" has been created and can be found on the CAL FIRE Web page:

[http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestpractice\\_harvestingforms.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestpractice_harvestingforms.php)

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