



Tuolumne County Natural Resources Advisory Committee Minutes

For the Meeting on July 3, 2024

2024 Natural Resource Members (or assigned delegates)	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
Anaiah Kirk	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Kathleen Haff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Don Perkins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Pete Kampa		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Adam Mazurkiewicz		✓	✓	E	✓		E					
Dianna Beasley		✓	A	A	A		A					
Dick Gaiser	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Chris Trott		✓	✓	E	✓		✓					
Jim Maddox	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		E					
Jim Phelan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E												

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Kirk called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and confirmed a quorum was present.
- 2. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Anaiah Kirk, Vice-Chair Kathleen Haff, Jim Phelan, Dick Gaiser, Don Perkins, Pete Kampa, Chris Trott, Sean Hembree (staff)
- 3. PUBLIC FORUM:** The public may speak on any item not on the printed agenda. No action may be taken by the Committee. The amount of time allocated for the public forum is limited to 15 minutes. – None
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Consideration of approving the minutes of the meeting held on May 1, 2024 Jim Phelan made a motion to approve the minutes. Chris Trott seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously with correction noted.
- 5. CONSIDERATION OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR BOERE RANCE CONSERVATION EASEMENT:** There was a consensus from the committee to first determine if the Ranch has an active livestock production operation before considering support. Staff Sean Hembree will review and report back.

6. PARTNER AGENCIES UPDATES:

- a. USFS – Ben Cossel reported.
 - i. Sheering Fire: This lightning strike fire started June 25th. The fire has now exceeded 300 acres. 25 resources are currently assigned and as of last Sunday, the fire management intent has moved to full suppression status. The fire is burning adjacent to the Quarry Fire and Bone Fire burn scars. There are currently no road closures and containment is expected. No prescribed fire management is planned for this season in the Stanislaus Forest.
 - ii. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for SERAL is completed.
- b. CAL FIRE – Gary Whitson
 - i. Suspended projects – Due to fire conditions and potential for resource drawdown, all prescribed fire operations are suspended within the unit.
 - ii. Fuel breaks along the Highway 120 corridor on BLM parcels are still pending approval and delayed due to multiple BLM staffing vacancies. This remains a priority for Unit Forester Whitson

7. COMMITTEE BUSINESS:

- a. Staff reports and recommendations: CAO staff Sean Hembree gave update on status of Drought Resilience Plan development including scope and purpose. Hembree gave update on current pending and approved grant proposals submitted by County staff relevant to Natural Resources. Hembree noted reported the SWIFT Coordinator vacancy and gave an update regarding ongoing California Board of Forestry utility easement rule making changes.
- b. TUD: Abby Parcon provided an update on active projects and grant applications
- c. GCSD: Pete Kampa provided an update of active projects including fuel breaks adjacent to Pine Mountain Lake area, also adjacent to the BLM/CAL FIRE fuel break referenced by CAL FIRE Forester Whitson in his report.

8. DISCUSSION OF USDA PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR OLD GROTH FOREST:

- a. There was a consensus to be wary of centralized management of discrete conditions across all National Forests
- b. Ben Cossel stated that the SNF is looking at this but does not expect it to impact projects or management in a meaningful way. Ben will discuss with SNF staff and leadership and report back

9. ADJOURNED: Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 11:00 A.M.
The next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2024.