

# COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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June 6, 2017

Ken Pimlott  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 94244

**RE: EXEMPTION FROM CONTRACTORS LICENSE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSED TIMBER OPERATORS**

Dear Mr. Pimlott,

On behalf of El Dorado County, our board provides this letter to support the Associated California Loggers, in its request to allow both tree service contractors and licensed timber operators to work on the tree mortality crisis without having to obtain each other's license. This request is consistent with the Proclamation that Governor Gray Davis made for the tree mortality crisis in Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego counties in 2003. The Proclamation said the following:

"Extreme peril to the people, property and environment exists within the Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties due to imminent fire danger caused by the extraordinary number of dead, dying and diseased trees resulting from prolonged drought, overstocked forests and infestation by bark beetles and other decay organisms"

The Proclamation went on to state:

"IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that to expand the number of contractors available to perform services to property owners...the provisions of Public Resources Code section 4571(a) providing that only licensed timber operators may perform timber operations are hereby suspended. A licensed timber operator need not obtain a contractor's license under the Business and Professions Code in order to carry out work under this proclamation."

We find ourselves in exactly the same conditions today in El Dorado County and strongly urge a revision to the Governor's 2015 Emergency Proclamation on the Tree Mortality to include this language that will allow licensed timber operators to participate in doing the work that must be done to preserve the health and safety of our residents and forests.

Our forests are in a critical state of danger, and this proposal will go a long way toward helping to mitigate the tree mortality crisis.

For these reasons, El Dorado County is supporting the request of the Associated California Loggers.

Sincerely,

Chair, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc:  
Members, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Eric Carleson, Executive Director, Associated California Loggers  
Malcolm Dougherty, Director, California Department of Transportation