

## Calaveras County Butte Fire Recovery

## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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## **Calaveras County Assembles**

## **Tree Mortality Task Force and Website**

On October 30, 2015 Governor Jerry Brown declared a State of Emergency to address the vast tree mortality resulting from four years of unprecedented drought across the state and more specifically the numbers of trees affected by bark beetle infestations. As a result Calaveras County has assembled a Tree Mortality Task Force consisting of state, and federal agencies, local governments, utilities and various stakeholders in Calaveras County. They have been charged first to identify and prioritize areas where dead trees need to be removed to protect public infrastructure and then to develop a plan for removing and disposing of the hazard trees.

The Calaveras County Task Force meets once a month to discuss new information, progress on funding sources and grants that may be available. Cal Trans has begun hazard tree removal along State Highways and PG&E is removing trees that have the potential to fall on power lines.

Along with the Task Force, Calaveras County has developed a "Tree Mortality Webpage" with links to information and resources that will help to keep residents up to date on the problem locally and throughout the state. To learn more go to: <a href="www.calaverasgov.us">www.calaverasgov.us</a>. This page will be updated as new information becomes available.