

Webinar on Guidance for the Compliance Offset Protocol U.S. Forest Projects (June 25, 2015)

California Air Resources Board
September 14, 2016

Webinar Materials and Comment Submittal

- Presentation and Draft Guidance are posted at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/meetings/meetings.htm>
- Written comments may be viewed at:
<https://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm2/bccommlog.php?listname=forestprotocol15-ws>
- During the webinar, we will accept questions via the phone by raised hand or via chat

Resolution 15-19

- On June 25, 2015, the Air Resources Board approved an updated version of the U.S. Forest Protocol
- As part of the approval, the Board directed ARB staff to develop guidance on the implementation of the new protocol
- On July 27, 2015, ARB staff held a workshop to solicit stakeholder comment to assist with development of draft guidance

Guidance Development

- Stakeholder comments focused broadly on three main areas:
 - Minimum baseline/logical management unit
 - Even-aged management limits and verification
 - Common Practice values
- Based on these comments and those provided during the rulemaking process, ARB staff developed draft guidance

Guidance

- Describes and clarifies regulatory requirements in a reader-friendly format
- Is not intended to and cannot establish new mandatory requirements beyond those that are already in the Cap-and-Trade Regulation (Regulation)
- Cannot supplant, replace, or amend any of the legal requirements of the regulation
- Does not have the force of law

Regulatory Amendments

- Require a full regulatory development process
- Require Board approval
- Require review by the Office of Administrative Law
- Quantification methodologies identified in the protocol require a public review and Board adoption to make changes because of CEQA requirements

Basis for Guidance

- As directed by the Board, wherever possible, guidance is based on the California Forest Practice Rules
 - The protocol does not alter the CFPR and this webinar is not a forum for discussing changes to the CFPR
- Staff experience implementing the program for the past five years
- Comments from and conversations with stakeholders

Steps to Finalize Guidance

- Workshop on updated protocol July 27, 2015
- ARB staff will develop and share draft guidance document
- ARB webinar to discuss draft guidance with another informal comment period
- Release second draft of guidance with informal comment period
- Finalize guidance and post on ARB website

Questions & Comments

- What additional clarification to the topics addressed in the draft guidance would be helpful?
- Are there additional topics that are not included in the draft that would be helpful to include?

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