



27th August 2019

*Members of the Board,
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814*

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President
Forest Trends
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Re: Support for California Tropical Forest Standard

Dear Members of the California Air Resources Board,

Together with partners around the world, Forest Trends pioneers innovative finance for conservation - promoting healthy forests, sustainable agriculture, clean water, robust climate action, protected biodiversity, and strong communities. Our programs and initiatives publish timely research, bring together diverse actors, and apply these approaches to make a difference on the ground, often blazing trails for bold and far-reaching policies in the process. Our initiatives include Biodiversity, Coastal and Marine, Ecosystem Marketplace, Forest Policy, Trade and Finance, Public-Private Finance Initiative, Supply Change and Water.

Supporting the development of jurisdictional REDD+ programs has been central to our work in recent years (including with the Governors' Climate and Forest Taskforce, forest country national governments such as Brazil, Peru, Colombia, sub-national governments such as Mato Grosso, Acre, San Martin, international REDD+ donors such as Norway, Germany and the UK, as well as the World Bank Carbon Fund, UNEP and Global Environment Facility).

We strongly support California's Tropical Forest Standard and its adoption by the Air Resources Board. And we note that, since our last letter to you in November 2018, updates to the Tropical Forest Standard have helped to clarify and strengthen what was included in the original language. California has been blazing a trail for action on climate change and the Standard, with robust safeguards on environmental and social integrity, will play a very important role leveraging California's influence on the international community for urgent action to halt tropical deforestation.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Jenkins
President and CEO