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*Members of the Board,*

*California Air Resources Board*

*1001 I Street*

*Sacramento, CA 95814*

*12th November 2018*

**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. A major partner in our work are a network of Indigenous Communities in Brazil, across the Amazon and all of Latin America.

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. California has been blazing a trail for action on climate change and the Standard, with robust standards 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