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California State Senate

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Agenda August 15, 2012 9:30 a.m., Room 4203

<u>Bill</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Subject</u>
AB 1492	Committee on Budget	Timber Harvest Tax

INFORMATIONAL HEARING

- I. Special Fund Accounting and Oversight
 - A. Speakers
 1. Ana Matosantos, Director of Finance
 2. Jason Sisney, Deputy, Legislative Analyst's Office
 3. State Controller's Office

- II. Oversight: Department of Parks and Recreation
 - A. Speakers
 1. Janelle Beland, Acting Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
 2. Ana Matosantos, Director of Finance
 3. Lia Moore, Analyst, Legislative Analyst's Office

SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
Mark Leno, Chair

Bill No:	AB 1492
Author:	Committee on Budget
As Amended:	August 7, 2012
Consultant:	Catherine Freeman
Fiscal:	Yes
Hearing Date:	August 15, 2012

Subject: Timber Harvest Plan Trailer Bill

Summary: This bill makes various changes related to Timber Harvest Plans and revenues to implement the budget actions as part of the 2012-13 budget package.

Background: As part of the 2012-13 budget package, AB 1492 makes various statutory changes to implement the budget act.

Proposed Law: The bill includes the following changes:

1. Allows a timber harvest plan approved after July 31, 2012 to be in effect for a period of not more than five years with extensions authorized for a two-year period.
2. Establishes the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund in the State Treasury and imposes a new assessment on lumber as follows:
 - a. Imposes an assessment on lumber products and engineered wood products at a rate of one percent of gross receipts from the sale of those products.
 - b. Funds are required to be available upon appropriation for administrative costs, and for purposes relating to the regulatory activities of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and other state and local agencies involved in the management of forest lands.
 - c. Funds may be made available for management of forest lands, the cost of managing forest resource programs in the state, and for certain grants to state and local public agencies for fire protection, fire suppression and restoration activities.
 - d. Retailers may be reimbursed for costs to set up collection systems. The fee may be itemized on receipts.
3. Requires the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency annually to submit a report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee on the activities of all state departments, agencies and boards relating to forest and timberland regulation.
4. Allows civil action by a public agency to recover damages caused in a fire but limits the measure of damages for injuries to timber, trees, or underwood negligently cause by fire to the actual damages suffered.

Fiscal Effect: This bill should not result in any changes to the budget act in related budget actions.

Support: Unknown

Opposed: Unknown

Comments: This bill provides the necessary statutory references to enact the 2012-13 budget related to Timber Harvest Plans.