



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration • 966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-147

MEETING: March 26, 2019
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer
RE: Continue the Tree Mortality Local Emergency

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Resolution Continuing the Local Emergency Due to Extremely High Levels of Tree Mortality in Mariposa County.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The incidence of tree mortality due to drought and insect infestations in Mariposa County has been increasing at alarming rates. Estimates based on U.S. Forest Service aerial mapping and CalFire data indicate that over 70% of trees in the County are already dead and that the proportion of dead and dying trees will increase to approximately 98% regardless of future precipitation levels. Further projections suggest that 465,000 acres are now or will eventually be affected by tree mortality in Mariposa County-- a number equal to about half of the County's total land area.

A concentration of dead and dying trees creates an increased risk of wildfire. Many of the standing trees will fall, creating further threats to public safety. Although the County has sought to be as proactive as possible in its management of the risks associated with tree mortality, County resources are insufficient to address a disaster of this magnitude.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not continue the local emergency.

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor
SECONDER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey