

Management Committee

The mission of the Management Committee is to evaluate and promote long-term, landscape level planning approaches to support natural resource management on California's non-federal forest and rangelands.

COMPLETED OR SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED IN 2014:

1. Effectiveness Monitoring Committee (EMC)

Objective: *The Effectiveness Monitoring Committee acts as a technical advisory committee to, and receive oversight from, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to develop and implement an effectiveness monitoring program that will provide an active feedback loop to policymakers, managers, agencies, and the public. The EMC provides input to the Board to ensure a scientific-based monitoring effort is used to comply with the reporting requirements of AB 1492 and evaluate the effectiveness of the California Forest Practice Rules and other forestry-related laws and regulations related to water quality, aquatic habitat, and wildlife habitats. Also, the EMC provides input to the Board to a formal adaptive management approach to policy development and analysis.*

2. Working Forest Management Plan pursuant to Public Resources Code § 4597

3. Update of the Soquel Demonstration State Forest Management Plan

PRIORITY 1:

1. Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) for Carbon Sequestration and Fuel Reduction Program

Objective: *AB 862, chaptered by the Administration in 2014, directs the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop regulations, guidelines or publications to facilitate a grant program that allots funding for the development of PTEIRs that promote carbon sequestration and fuel hazard reduction on state or private lands. The grant program is to be administered by CAL FIRE.*

2. Small Landowner Options for Harvesting

Objective: *Find effective methods to facilitate small landowner harvest. Such approaches include 1) An NTMP approach for landowners of 320 acres or less that cannot utilize a regular NTMP and 2) Woodlots owners of less than 40 acres seeking minimal harvesting.*

3. Boggs Demonstration State Forest Management Plan

Objective: *Management Plan Update and CEQA coverage to be completed by 2015.*

Status: Management Plan and Initial Study is currently being worked upon by CAL FIRE staff and will be submitted to the Management Committee for review during 2014.

PRIORITY 2:

5. Research Plan (PRC 4789.6)

Objective: The board, assisted by the director, shall biennially determine state needs for forest management research and recommend the conduct of needed projects to the Governor and the Legislature.

Status: During review of Demonstration State Forest Management Plans the Committee has requested improvements in the documentation and distribution of forest management, wildlife, fisheries, botanical and watershed research conducted on each forest or by the Department. The Committee intends to continue to work with each state forest and the Department to better document and catalog results of these research efforts and seek improvements in the distribution of research reports through either the Department or Board internet website.

6. Regulatory amendments to 14 CCR § 1104(g)(2) - Definition of Timberland Conversion within THP Lands

Objective: Existing Board regulations are currently inconsistent with PRC § 4621 as it applies to conversion of timberland. Current Board regulations address proposed conversions in Timber Production Zone (TPZ) where an immediate re-zone out of TPZ has been approved. State law does not recognize zoning as a controlling factor in the conversion of timberland. The Department has requested that the Board bring the current definition of conversion into conformance with State law to recognize all timberland conversions regardless of zoning status.

7. Emergency Harvest of trees within wildfires

Objective: During the recent 2014 Boles Fire, attempts to salvage burned trees within a small rural community setting has identified several permitting issues. While an Emergency Notice is available to permit the harvest of burned trees, it might not be a practical permit process within a densely populated rural community. Committee will review performance of various permitting options currently available to landowners and determine if additional Board policy or rules and regulations are necessary.

Status: Initial review and discussions in 2015.

8. Maximum Sustained Production (MSP) 14 CCR § 913.11(a) [933.11(a), 953.11(a)].

Objective: Review performance of existing MSP rule over previous 15 years. Based on results of review, Board may consider forming a technical working group to consider changes to existing MSP rule to provide more concrete standards for the MSP demonstration per 14 CCR § 913.11(a) [933.11(a), 953.11(a)]. Consider implications for assuring AB 32 targets.

Status: Committee reviewed February of 2011 and found no further action necessary. The Department has resubmitted the issue in 2015, which may indicate that further investigation into this issue is necessary.

PRIORITY 3:

9. Site Index for major Young-Growth Forest Woodland Species in Northern California: Discussion of update to 14 CCR 1060 Site Classification.

Objective/Status: FPC completed initial review of topic in April-June of 2010 and deferred additional review until completion of the Road Rules. MGMT Committee will continue review of the issue when sufficient committee time is available.

10. Development of pilot programs for SERM/ Option v projects

Objective/Status: Department has formed a Technical Advisory Committee (VTAC) to develop and provide advice on pilot programs to implement option (v) projects under the Anadromous Salmonid Protection Rules (ASP).

11. Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council

Objective: Board approved Department effort to acquire lands in the Stewardship Council planning units of "Pit River," "Battle Creek," "Cow Creek," "Burney Gardens," "Lake Spaulding," "Bear River," "North Fork Mokelumne River," and "Lyons Reservoir" that would be suitable for inclusion in the Department's Demonstration. Board must approve management plans for these acquisitions when final.

Status: It is anticipated that the North Fork Mokelumne River final conservation easement and agreements will be brought back to the committee for discussion in 2015. The Battle Creek draft conservation easement and agreements may be available for review in 2015.

12. Jackson Demonstration State Forest:

Objective: Continued review management at Jackson

Status: Board has continued to liaison with the Jackson Advisory Committee (JAG). Interim period has concluded, and recommendations received from JAG. Board adopted these recommendations with some modifications.

13. Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) Review:

Objective: Ongoing review of issues with the regulatory standards associated with the NTMP, including the Department Draft NTMP Growth and Yield Guidelines document posted on Department website—currently in use by Department plan review personnel.

14. Progeny Sites

These sites are usually planted over a long period of time 3-10 year period to get various age classes and seed sources. Some of the land may sit fallow for a number of years and not meet a 5 year stocking requirement. Exempt up to 40 acres from meeting the required stocking standard if the property owner designates that area for a progeny plantation.