

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Policies 0335 and 0351.6  
Range Management Advisory Committee Suggested Change (red)  
Changes based on April 6 and June 14 Board meeting in blue

RANGE IMPROVEMENT 0335

The Board has adopted the following policy:

The wildlands of California are important as a source of water, timber, minerals, wildlife, recreation, and forage. ~~A portion of these wildlands consists of brush covered lands, some of which may be adaptable to conversion from a brush range type cover to a more suitable forage cover. This conversion of brush lands may be accomplished by a number of methods, including mechanical tools, herbicides, prescribed grazing, and fire, singly or in suitable combination, each being used in its appropriate place in the process.~~ The Director, in the development, management, and conservation of the natural resources, and in the interest of range improvement, ~~should~~ shall encourage ~~the following:~~ the use of plans in range improvement projects which are designed to enhance their value for fire hazard reduction and fire control; stabilization of soil; water conservation and production; and the improvement of rangeland, forestland, and habitat by incorporating the following, when possible:

- A. The use of livestock grazing to minimize fuel loads and maintain fuel reduction treatments understory vegetation;
- ~~A-~~ B. The development and improvement of brush-covered lands as an overall project involving site selection, ~~clearing the lands of~~ modification of undesirable vegetation, revegetation ~~following clearing~~, application of effective follow-up measures and use of appropriate range management practices;
- ~~B-~~ C. The practical application of methods in range improvement determined through experimentation, including the use of fire and its application in combination with other methods, and in revegetation of denuded wildland areas for soil erosion control;
- ~~C-~~ D. The use of plans in range improvement projects which are designed to enhance their value for fire hazard reduction and fire control, stabilization of soil, control of noxious weeds, water conservation and production, and the overall betterment of forestland, rangeland and wildlife game habitat.

SPECIAL USES OF STATE FORESTS 0351.6

Special uses of State forests will be permitted only when there is a clear benefit to the State and when such uses do not conflict with primary (uses) programs of timber management, demonstration, research, and recreation. Such concessions must be consistent with this policy and receive written permission of the Forest Manger. The Forest Manger may require mitigations to any concession to ameliorate potential impacts on the forest.

A. Use of State forests for mining, ~~grazing~~, and commercial concessions is discouraged without a clear management benefit. Concessions on State Forestlands means:

- ~~a-~~ The privilege of maintaining a subsidiary business within the forest, or
- ~~b-~~ The space allotted for such a business, or
- ~~c-~~ The business itself.

Examples of concessions that are discouraged:

- ~~1-~~ Those that require kiosks or other structures.

- ~~2-~~ Those that are commercial in nature, i.e. the operation is tied primarily to commercial revenue generation (e.g., vendors that sell souvenirs or food) instead of a symbiotic relationship with one of the mandated uses of the State Forests in which the main objective is not to make a profit but rather foster activities that are compatible with the mandated uses of the State Forests (youth recreation camps, recreation events).
- ~~3-~~ Mining
- ~~4. Grazing, except where such use has been traditionally recognized on the property, or an there is an existing agreement, or where necessary for research or management (e.g., herbivory to reduce hazardous fuels)~~
- ~~5-~~ Those that have no clear connection to the role of the state forest in forestland management, demonstration, research, and recreation.

B. Use of State forests for grazing or browsing by appropriate livestock species shall be allowed pursuant to PRC 4656. ~~Grazing shall~~ may be allowed on state forestlands with an approved permit when grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals). This may include grazing that is in conjunction with a research project where the potential management benefits of the project are undefined or unclear and may include existing grazing agreements on land that is transferred to or purchased by the State. Grazing shall be allowed in each State forest consistent with the Forest's management goals as outlined in the Forest Management Plan. in one or more of the following instances:

- ~~Grazing has been traditionally recognized on the property;~~
- ~~There is an existing grazing agreement on the property;~~
- ~~Grazing is in conjunction with a research project;~~
- ~~Grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals).~~

C. Although the State Land Commission has primary jurisdiction over geothermal resources on state forests, surface operations of geothermal developers will be strictly controlled by the department in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board contained in 14 CAC Section 1500-1503.

CALFIRE Policy Handbook 5022, 5024.2, 5052, and 5053 (proposed)  
Range Management Advisory Committee Suggested Change (red)  
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FUEL MANAGEMENT 5022 (May 1988)

The state forests present a prime opportunity for CDF to plan, implement, and demonstrate the effectiveness of a fuel management program. Fuel management is an integral and important part of fire protection and should be pursued as actively as fire prevention and fire suppression in the state forests. There is a need to manage and control accumulations of dead and living vegetation in the forests to decrease the probability of destructive, high-intensity wildfires and to plan, construct, and maintain strategically located fuelbreaks. Prescribed burning, as well as pile and burn, ~~and~~ mechanical methods, ~~and prescribed grazing~~ should be considered as a tool for accomplishing fuel management.

Slash abatement methods may vary from one forest to another, depending upon local conditions and hazards involved. Slash abatement requirements will equal or exceed the local forest practice rules and will be specified in timber sale agreements.

A program to fell snags in other than timber sale areas, especially along roads and other strategic locations, should be developed and implemented, using conservation camp and other CDF resources. Snags with wildlife value should be retained in accordance with applicable district forest practice rules.

STRAY ANIMAL TRESPASS 5024.2 (May 1988)

Livestock should not be permitted to range over state forestland except under some approved grazing permit. PRC §4656 provides that the use of state forestlands for grazing purposes will be permitted only under rules and regulations established by the board. ~~See Section 5053. Grazing has not been encouraged in conjunction with other uses, and no rules or regulations for grazing use have been adopted (see Section 5052).~~

~~GRAZING, MINING, WATER, ETC. 5052 (May 1988)~~

~~No person or party will be allowed to make use of state forestlands or products except as permitted by law. All persons making requests to use property or products in some manner not clearly prescribed will be courteously received and requested to address their request in writing to the forest manager or the region chief. Department officials will attach all available information pertinent to the request and transmit it with their recommendations to the Director. Requests for special uses of state forests must be reviewed for compatibility with other uses and purposes for which the forest was acquired. Any urgency in requests regarding ~~grazing and~~ mining should be discouraged inasmuch as such uses have to be governed by rules and regulations established by the Board. ~~It is unlikely that the board will adopt rules or regulations regarding grazing in accordance with PRC 4656 until there is a bona fide case pending which clearly demonstrates the need for developing such rules or regulations.~~~~

The use and development of water facilities for irrigation and power will be permitted on state forests as provided by law (see Section 5024).

### LIVESTOCK GRAZING 5053

Use of State forests for grazing or browsing by appropriate livestock species shall be allowed pursuant to PRC 4656. Grazing shall may be allowed on state forestlands with an approved permit when grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals). This may include grazing that is in conjunction with a research project where the potential management benefits of the project are undefined or unclear and may include existing grazing agreements on land that is transferred to or purchased by the State. Grazing shall be allowed in each State forest consistent with the Forest's management goals as outlined in the Forest Management Plan. in one or more of the following instances:

- Grazing has been traditionally recognized on the property;
- There is an existing grazing agreement on the property;
- Grazing is in conjunction with a research project;
- Grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals).