

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/>
(916) 653-8007

**Management Committee Meeting Report**

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
February 2, 2010
Time: 8:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: **Resources Building**
15th Floor, Room 1506-12
Sacramento, California

Meeting Attendance

Committee Members Pam Giacomini, Tom Walz, Dr. Doug Piirto (Chair); Stan Dixon (Board Chairman); Bill Snyder, Doug Wickizer, Dennis Hall, Allen Robertson, Chris Maranto, Jeff Leddy (Department of Forestry & Fire Protection); Doug Ferrier (Forest Slopes Management); Scott Carnegie (Wm. Beaty & Associates); Bill Keye (California Licensed Foresters Association); Rhianna Lee, Lorna Dobrovolny (Department of Fish & Game); Addie Jacobson (Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch); Charles Greenlaw (non-industrial forest landowner); Dan Weldon; Gary Rynearson (Green Diamond Resource Company); Richard Gienger (Humboldt Watershed Council).

Note: agenda items appear below in the order in which they were discussed by the assembly.

Agenda Item #1: Staff Presentation on the Regulations for Non-industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs)

Staff provided a brief PowerPoint overview of the existing statute and regulations for NTMPs, highlighting several other more exhaustive reviews of the NTMP regulations completed by the Buckeye Conservancy/Buckeye Forest Project and Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

The Committee identified a number of possible topics for further discussion including:

- NTMP acreage maximum
- NTMP resource data collection and synthesis
- NTMP numbers and demographics
- NTMP growth and yield methods

Staff was directed to include this item on the March agenda.

Agenda Item #2: Status Report on Implementation of the Sustained Yield Plan (SYP) Renewal Regulations

Scott Carnegie representing Wm. Beaty and Associates provided a detailed update on the status of their SYP Renewal implementation process. Mr. Carnegie provided a written summary to accompany his remarks and summarized the meetings thus far convened with the Departments of Forestry & Fire Protection and Fish & Game, and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Mr. Carnegie's report highlighted:

- The objectives of Beaty's SYP Renewal effort;
- Optional elements such as an archaeological resources records check valid for the duration of the SYP;

- Additional possible changes to the currently valid SYP including updated data and assessment, additional assessment areas and new land acquisitions, watershed modifications, use of an SYP checklist tiered to THPs, and development (with Cal Fire) of an SYP-specific THP;
- The process for SYP submission;
- Ongoing issues for resolution.

Staff was directed to include this item on the March agenda.

Agenda Item #3: Continuing Discussion of Modified Timber Harvesting Plan (MTHP) Regulatory Proposal for Streamlined Permitting of Fuel Hazard Reduction Projects. Presentation of Department’s Fuel Behavior Modeling Results.

Jeff Leddy representing the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection presented a compelling series of fuel behavior simulations using data collected from Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest. Mr Leddy’s simulations tested the effects of fire on low, moderate, and steep slopes under a variety of stocking and fuel loading parameters. The presentation stimulated considerable discussion and prompted the Committee to request that Mr. Leddy prepare additional simulations for presentation at the March Committee meeting.

Staff reviewed the addition of the Forest Practice Rules Section 912.9 cumulative impacts assessment checklist to the rule plead language as well as a list of eight elements/questions for further discussion.

Staff was directed to include this item on the March agenda.

Agenda Item #4: New and Unfinished Business.

a. Status Report on Comment Received to Date on Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

Staff reported that no comment had been received by the Board to date. It is anticipated that the Board will have an opportunity to adopt the Management Plan Update, accompanying Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program at the March meeting. Staff was directed to include this item for possible action by the Committee and full Board in March.

b. Status Report on Mendocino County Waste Authority Proposal for Parcel Swap with Jackson Demonstration State Forest

Further review of this item is pending.

Agenda Item #5: Discussion of Items for Next Month’s Agenda, Review of 2010 Priorities.

The assembly identified the following agenda items for inclusion on the March agenda:

Potential Agenda Items for March 2010:

1. Ongoing Review of NTMP Statute and Regulations.
2. SYP Renewal Update
3. Review of Comment on Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest Management Plan Update Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Possible Action Item: Committee recommendation for full Board certification of Mitigated Negative Declaration and adoption of Management Plan Update (full Board Agenda Item).

4. Ongoing Discussion of MTHP Regulatory Proposal. Cal Fire Presentation of Additional Fuel Behavior Simulations.
5. New and Unfinished Business:
 - a. Status Report on Mendocino County Waste Authority Proposal for Parcel Swap with Jackson Demonstration State Forest
 - b. Review of Committee Priorities for 2010.

Management Committee Priorities for 2010

PRIORITY 1:

Evaluation/Monitoring of Forest Practice Rules:

1. **Sustained Yield Plan (SYP) Review:** *Rules for SYP extension adopted. Comprehensive review of SYP and implementation of extension, 2010. Objective: Complete by end of 2010*
2. **Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) Review:** *Ongoing review of issues. Department Draft NTMP Growth and Yield Guidelines document posted on Department website—currently in use by Department plan review personnel. Review Guidelines, February 2010. Objective: Complete by mid 2010*
3. **(D09 #12)Modified THP for fuel reduction:** *The Board could make changes to increase the utility of an MTHP, e.g., expanding the allowable acreage, limiting the application to small timberland owners and modifying certain limitations, or, as is currently being considered, focus a category of MTHPs on fuels reduction. Phase 7. Stakeholder input. Discussion of monitoring, photo points. Objective: Complete by end of 2010*

Demonstration State Forests Management:

4. **Jackson (Liaison to JAG):** *Harvesting began in 2009. Nearing end of interim period; will need to consider revisions to management by end of 2010.*
5. **Mountain Home:** *Updated Management Plan under development. Review to occur in 2010. Initial Study being reviewed, possible mitigated negative declaration. Objective: Complete by mid-2010.*
6. **Soquel:** *Updated Management Plan under development. Objective: review to begin by mid-2010.*

PRIORITY 2:

7. **(D09 #15)14 CCR § 1092.04(d)** [in part]. *A Notice of Intent shall include the following information: (4) The acres proposed to be harvested. (5) The regeneration methods and intermediate treatments to be used. 14 CCR § 1092.04(d)(4) requires stating the acres proposed to be harvested. Board should amend this paragraph to include all acres where **timber operations** will occur. Board should consider the current definition of logging area and the lack of a definition of plan area. 14 CCR § 1092.04(d)(5) This paragraph may not capture all possible treatments that may occur under a plan (special prescriptions, road right-of-way, or fuelbreak.)*

8. **(D09 #14)14 CCR § 1090.7(e)**, NTOs shall contain identification of silvicultural prescriptions to be applied. *Board should amend this subdivision to require the number of acres of the silvicultural prescriptions to be applied in the NTO. (For tracking)*
9. **(D09 #4)14 CCR § 913.11(a) [933.11(a), 953.11(a)]**. *Board should 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.*

PRIORITY 3:

14 CCR § 912.9, Board of Forestry Technical Rule Addendum No. 2:

10. *Categories need to be expanded to include climate change and effect on fire threat from the proposed harvest. (To Policy Committee)*
11. *Maps need to show all the past, currently proposed, and likely future THPs layered into one map.(Phase III of ASP review)*
12. *Biological assessment areas and proportional mitigations, expansion of consideration of non-conifer resources..(Phase III of ASP review)*
13. *Is mitigation required proportional to the impacts? E.g., small harvest operations required to utilize the same mitigations as industrial operations. (Phase III of ASP review)*
14. *Consider adding adjacent watersheds for evaluating past, present and future projects..(Phase III of ASP review)*
15. *Assessment of impacts made project by project, need landscape approach. California State Wildlife Action Plan not being adhered to: "Using the best-available science, extent, pattern, and pace for timber-harvest in a forest watershed". <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WAP/>.(Phase III of ASP review)*
16. *CEQA case law states that where the environmental baseline demonstrates existing significant impacts, this heightens, rather than reduces, the scrutiny that must be applied in the resulting cumulative impact assessment. The Board of Forestry, Cal Fire, DFG, Water Boards, and the scientific community should begin to address CWEs by developing detailed guidance documents on the subject. (to Policy Committee discussion regarding WQ policy issues)*