

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.