

California Cooperative Forest Management Plan

(electronic)

(Version 7-5-2012)

Property Name: _____

Property Location Address: _____

Owner Name (s): _____

Plan Author:

Signature: _____

Phone: _____

RPF#: _____

This management plan outlines the conditions and capability of property resources, documents the landowner's objectives and decisions and identifies potential resource improvement projects. It is meant to be a flexible and educational document that considers a planning horizon of at least 5 years but may include objectives that require a much longer time period.

This management plan template meets management plan requirements for grant agreements and other provisions available through CAL FIRE, NRCS, USFS, and the American Tree Farm Association. Signature Pages are provided to document acceptance of this management plan in meeting those requirements.

This management plan is a tool for and belongs to the landowner. Signatures are only required for that entity providing funding as requested by the landowner.



SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

This Forest Management Plan is provided as a guide to help you accomplish the objectives that you have for your forest. This Forest Management Plan will guide you in achieving the benefits of managing your forest and forest related resources. With this Forest Management Plan, you are eligible to participate in the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protections California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP), US Forest Service's Forest Stewardship Program (USFS), the American Forest Foundation's American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs. This plan will need to be reviewed and approved by representatives for each of the programs that are providing funding.

I have reviewed this plan and approve its content.

Landowner (s) _____
Date

USFS Forest Stewardship Program

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the federal Forest Stewardship Program.

Plan Preparer _____
Date

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the federal Forest Stewardship Program.

Stewardship Forester _____
Date

Forest Stewardship Tracking Number: _____

NRCS Cost Share Programs including EQIP

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the USDA-NRCS Programs and/or the Quality Criteria for forest activity plans in Section III of the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Technical Service Provider _____
Date _____
RPF Number

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the USDA-NRCS Programs and/or the Quality Criteria for forest activity plans in Section III of the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

District Conservationist _____
Date

ATFS Program

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the American Forest Foundation's American Tree Farm System.

ATFS Inspecting Forester _____
Date _____
Number

Certified Tree Farm Number: (e.g. AL 1234) _____ Date of ATFS Certification: _____

CAL FIRE CFIP MANAGEMENT PLAN CERTIFICATION PAGE

California Registered Professional Forester (RPF) Certification: I certify that I, or my supervised designee, personally inspected this California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) plan area, and that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards. I further certify that this plan is based upon the best available site and landowner information, and if followed, will not be detrimental to the productivity of the natural resources associated with this property.

Name (print or type): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Organization or Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

RPF#: _____

CAL FIRE Unit Certification: I certify that I, or my supervised designee, personally inspected this California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) plan area, and that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards.

Name (print or type): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Unit: _____

Address: _____

CAL FIRE STATE OR REGION CFIP COORDINATOR: I certify that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards.

Name (print or type): _____

RPF#: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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This Multi-Agency Cooperative Forest Management Plan was developed for use in California by CAL FIRE, the US Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service using information from a national joint Forest Stewardship, American Tree Farm System, NRCS Planning Process and the California Forest Improvement Act.

Landowner Information

Landowner(s): _____

Mailing:

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Landowner's Representative (if applicable): _____

RPF# (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Management Plan History

Does a Management Plan exist for this property?: Yes _____ No _____

If Yes:

Type of Plan: (CFIP, EQIP, NTMP, FSP, CAP, Other): _____

Date of Original Plan Completion: _____

Revision Dates: _____

NOTE: Past Plans and Current Amendments are referred to in Appendix #3.

PROPERTY FACTS

Legal Property Description: _____

Nearest city or Town: _____

County: _____

Assessor's Parcel Number: _____

GPS Coordinates: _____

Total ownership acreage: _____

Total forested acreage: _____

Does Landowner reside on the property?: Yes _____ No _____

Describe the overall topography including slope, aspect and elevation:

Estimate percent of total acreage that is:

Simple topography (few ravines and changes of aspect) _____%

Percent of Land: Flat (<5% grade) _____ Gentle (< 20% grade) _____ Steep (> 35% grade) _____

Transportation System:

Vehicle Access (check): _____ Excellent (80% accessible) _____ Good (at least 50%)

_____ Fair (at least 25%) _____ Poor (less than 10%)

Estimated improved road length (rock surface): _____

Estimated unimproved road length: _____

Watershed Information:

CALWATER 2.2 planning watershed: _____ Acres within this watershed: _____

Is there a 303d listing on watershed?: _____ what are the factors?: _____

Tract and Farm number (if suitable): _____

NOTE: Use as much space as needed to answer the remainder of this document. A bullet point (●) is for the plan developer to use in understanding and writing the section intent and is not necessary to include with the final submitted plan.

PROPERTY HISTORY

- This section is based on personal knowledge from landowner, neighbors and others, property records, and local information sources as well as evidence seen on the ground; stumps, skid trails, etc.
- Discuss past management history including past timber harvests (include THP # after 1970s), conservation practices (include those completed under public incentive agreements) and catastrophic events.

CURRENT PROPERTY CONDITIONS

Property Infrastructure

- **Discuss existing improvements (including dwellings, roads and access, outbuildings, fencing, water improvements, tanks including stock ponds, wells, power lines, etc).**

Forest Infrastructure

- **Discuss overall forest structure, percent of productive forest soils, regeneration levels and current silvicultural practices.**
- **Note current conservation practices for forest lands, including insect or disease problems.**

Roads

- **Describe road system including major trails (see Road System in Map Section. Discuss stream crossings and drainage improvements. Are culverts and other crossings adequately sized for 100 year storm events?**
- **Describe current road maintenance for erosion reduction, road surface condition, weed control, and time-of-year (seasonal) use.**

Access and Security

- **Are property boundaries identified including fences, gates, and boundary or corner markers?**
- **Discuss trespass problems.**
- **Review how current property management interacts with neighboring properties.**

Recreation

- **Describe current recreational opportunities including supporting resources.**

Invasive Species

- **Discuss invasive species found and current eradication measures.**

Soils:

- **Describe and map (in map section) soil types, site class, estimated growth/acre/year, erosion hazard ratings, equipment limitations, known geological hazards and landslides. Place supporting soil data and any other available ecological site descriptions (ESDs) in Appendix 4.**

Streams, Wetlands, and Ponds

- **Describe water resources present including streams, wetlands and ponds. Show State and Federal classifications.**
-

Air Resources

- **Discuss how unwanted vegetation is currently treated or removed from property.**

Fish & Aquatic Species

- **Identify fish streams and note streams with anadromous fish or listed fish species as well as other significant aquatic species using the water resources and riparian area(s)**
- **Describe general condition of the fish habitat including large wood, pools, riparian cover, migration barriers and current or desired buffer widths.**

Upland Wildlife

- **Identify bird and animal species observed or known to be present**
- **Describe general condition of habitat and the habitat elements such as den sites, snag retention, downed wood, migration corridors and water sources.**

Threatened or Endangered Species - plants or animals

- **In Appendix #5, discuss T&E species observed or known and provide the results of the California Department of Fish and Game NDDB and BIOS information sites for three miles of the property.**

LANDOWNER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Desired Forest Condition:

Fire protection objectives

Forest Health objectives

- Insects and disease concerns
- Invasive plant and animal, concerns
- Trespass concerns.

Wildlife:

- Desired species habitat improvement
- R and E species habitat concerns:

Additional Objectives:

Aesthetics:

Income:

Family Legacy:

Livestock (optional):

Other (optional):

MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Constraints and Proposed Alternatives:

- List land use alternatives to current use and landowner objectives.
- Discuss the desired alternative including a cost/benefit analysis of property improvement investments
- Discuss the “no action” alternative.
- If Forest Vegetation Simulation (FVS) or CRPTOS is executed, the generated results of the alternative selection should be appended to help document the alternative decision.

Economic Sustainability:

- Discuss the value of a business plan and potential resource development.
- Discuss tax liability and tax saving opportunities (see appendix #2).

Soils:

- Discuss conservation practices for steep slopes, woody debris retention, nutrient cycling, vehicle travel, soil compaction, flood runoff, and livestock issues.

Desired Forest Condition (Reforestation and Afforestation):

- Discuss areas desired for regeneration practices with specifications for natural seedling recruitment, site preparation, planting and/or follow-up.
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Describe the area to be improved including practice specifications for fire protection, thinning pruning and regeneration.

Roads:

- Point out possible access and road location improvements including stream, wetland and pond issues. Map improvement areas including water crossings and other needed drainage improvements.
- Describe conservation practices for general maintenance, erosion reduction, road surface condition, drainage-dips, culverts, stream crossings, weed control, and time-of-year use. Size replacement culverts for 100 year storm events

Pests:

- Note known and/or potential insects, diseases, animals, weeds, and invasive species on property.
- Discuss prevention guidelines including how to inventory, control, and monitor infestations.
- Describe the range of integrated pest management tools, including mechanical, physical, biological, cultural or chemical management.

Fire Protection:

- Discuss fire protection practices and specifications for mechanical, hand work, herbicide application and/or broadcast burning for stand/habitat improvement, fuel reduction and fire-wise safety.

- Describe and discuss local fire history, potential sources of fire ignition, fuel hazards, and infrastructure for protection including access and evacuation routes.
- Discuss the values of shaded fuel breaks, fuel breaks in strategic locations, and potential to connect with neighbors or a community effort.

Security:

- Discuss fencing, gating, signing and other forms of trespass control.
- List local protection agencies for landowner contact.

Streams, Wetlands, and Ponds:

- Discuss conservation practices for riparian habitat, wetlands road crossings, and water protection zones.

Wildlife:

- Discuss potential fish and aquatic habitat improvement including water quality and quantity as well as riparian habitat. Include other wildlife and endangered species concerns and habitat improvement.
- Discuss potential habitat improvements such as access, nest boxes, hunting potential, water development and domestic animal control.

Recreation and Aesthetics:

- Discuss potential recreational opportunities including supporting resources. Discuss aesthetic qualities of property.

Air Resources:

- Discuss smoke management issues with prescribe fire or pile burning and unwanted biomass removal alternatives. List air quality entities and permit requirements.

Climate Considerations and Carbon Sequestration:

- Discuss practices for the possibility of implementing carbon sequestration and climate amelioration activities.

Family Legacy:

- Discuss opportunities for family legacy including conservation easements and other ways to keep property safe from development.

Livestock (optional):

- Discuss livestock plan(s) and issues.

Other (optional):

PLANNED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND REQUIRED PERMITS

Forest Management Unit Information:

- In the Forest Management Unit Information found on the following page(s) include discussion of project specifications, priorities, feasibility and alternatives. Provide a project map for each Unit in the map section.
- Include the Unit(s) as part of an orderly timeline
- Schedule proposed activities covering at least five years in the MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY DECISIONS, SCHEDULE AND TRACKING form below.
- Identify which management unit/stand you are describing for your activities with a symbol, letter or number on the Unit Information and on the Unit and Management Plan map. If a subset of the stand is being treated, the area can be also be described and/or identified on the project map.
- There are no CEQA/NEPA requirements for this Management Plan. However, if there are CEQA or NEPA documents available from past practices, they should be included in Appendix 5.
- **NOTE:** Once an on the ground practice or conservation project is funded, the site specific environmental/cultural (CEQA/NEPA) documentation will need to be completed with the schedule of activities, project map and project specifications.

Harvest Documents:

Most commercial biomass removal activities need a CAL FIRE permit or other entity permit. Identify needed or current CAL FIRE THP, NTMP and/or Categorical Exclusion for proposed timber management activities. Other agency permits may be necessary for proposed management activities related to other types of conservation projects such as but not limited to water drafting, ponds, road maintenance, crossing replacements and dust control.

Monitoring:

Discuss both proactive and required monitoring for regulatory compliance.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UNIT INFORMATION:

Add as many pages of this section as there are management units designed for the ownership

For each management unit, write management objectives and a brief description of the management unit and its condition. Further detailed inventory/plot data can be included if desired. Forest modeling outputs may be included with each unit description if available.

Name or Unit #: _____ **Acres:** _____

Location (describe and map):

Objectives: (Describe type of silvicultural treatment including pre/post harvest activities and slash management if pertinent).

Forest Description:

- **Stand history, age and desired rotation cycle:**
- **Tree species present, forest type and/or ecological site description (ESD):**
- **Site index, soil type, elevation, slope:**
- **DBH/size class, basal area, trees/acre, stocking, growth/yield potential:**
- **Regeneration and stand improvement needs:**

Discussion of Other Resources:

- **Riparian, meadows, aquatic habitat, stream and other watercourses:**
- **Understory, downed woody debris, snags, wildlife habitat:**

Unit Management Resource Concerns and Recommendations:

- **Erosion concerns:**
- **Domestic uses:**
- **Other conservation issues:**

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) information

Forest management activities including conservation practices may impact special environmental and/or cultural values such as threatened or endangered species and archaeological sites. Landowners need to know their locations and what they can do to protect them. Landowners also need to know that environmental and cultural reviews by regulatory agencies are required when a ground practice is proposed, and a permit and/or government assistance becomes part of the project.

- In this section the Plan Preparer should summarize, discuss, and show on a map those “known” historical, archaeological, and cultural sites. Furthermore there should be a discussion to inform the landowner about the process of “discovery” or survey for unknown sites and discuss possible mitigations that should occur if ground disturbing events are prescribed in the future. **(If available, please attach existing record checks or surveys in a Confidential Archaeological Report in Appendix #5)**
- Additionally, the Plan Preparer should summarize, discuss, and show on a map any threatened and/or endangered species that are known to exist. Furthermore there should be a discussion to inform the landowner about the process of “discovery” or survey for unknown species that have the potential to reside on the property and discuss possible mitigations that should occur if ground disturbing events are prescribed in the future.

For this management plan, the following confidential information is required in Appendix #5.

Environmental

- Map the location of **known** geological, biological or ecological values sites.
- Discuss T&E species observed or known and provide the results of the California Department of Fish and Game NDDDB and BIOS information sites for within three miles of the property boundaries.
- Provide guidelines on how proposed practices might effect or be affected by observed or known species.
- Provide possible mitigation practices to protect those species.

Archaeological

- Include landowner information about **known** archeological, cultural, or historical sites along with location maps.
- If available from the landowner, attach existing record checks, surveys, ,or Confidential Archaeological Report(s).
- Provide guidelines on how proposed practices might effect or be affected by observed or known sites.
- Provide possible mitigation practices to protect those sites.

ADDITIONAL CEQA/NEPA NOTIFICATION FOR GROUND PRACTICES

Any future ground practice to implement this plan using public entity reimbursement funds requires a signed CAL FIRE CFIP Environmental Checklist (CEQA) or an NRCS CPA-52 (NEPA) Checklist. Along with this checklist a process of “discovery” or survey for unknown values along with a discussion of possible mitigations is required. Additionally the checklist must be filled out by an RPF or Certified Planner. Archaeological values require an Archaeological Records Check, an entity Archaeologist review and Native American notification for the practice area.

PROVIDE A PROJECT NOTIFICATION TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES

- **County Clerk**
- **CA Department of Fish and Game**
- **Regional Water Quality Control Board**
- **If the project adjoins public land (for example, the US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, BLM, National, State, or local parks, etc.) notify that agency**
- **If the project adjoins a State Highway, contact CALTRANS**
- **If the project is in the Coastal Zone, contact the Coastal Commission**

FOR GROUND-DISTRUBING PROJECTS, PROVIDE A PROJECT NOTIFICATION TO

- **Native American Heritage Commission**
- **Tribal contacts**
- **Local Historical Society**

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE

Management Recommendations and Assistance for other lands or non-forested areas

List agencies and individuals that owner has or may consult for special sites, threatened and endangered species, desired species, livestock specialists, Native American cultural values, etc.

Community/Agency Cooperation Mechanisms

List agencies and NGOs such as the local office of CAL FIRE, NRCS, the local RCD, Fire-safe Council, and etc with current contact names and numbers the owner can contact for guidance and help.

MAPS

All management plan map(s) shall contain the following elements as a minimum:

- On a recent USGS Topographical or GIS map include property and management unit boundaries at a scale of 4 inches = 1 mile (1 inch = 1320 feet minimum).
- Title, north arrow, scale, legend (including road layout, water resources, infrastructure identification, timber land, other land uses, unit boundaries, and etc as necessary to show activities).

Maps Required:

1. **Property Location Map:** Delineate property boundaries, access roads, nearest town or well known land mark.
2. **Parcel Map** including property boundaries, road layout, water resources, infrastructure identification,
3. **Management Unit map** showing location of forest type and management unit boundaries.
4. **Soil Types Map:** Show name and location of soil types present. Soil maps are available from NRCS Web Soil Survey: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm> , or from your local NRCS office.
5. **Water Resources Map:** Show name, location and classification of streams and other water resources.
6. **Road Assessment Map:** Show locations of roads and major skid trails. Indicate map points where projects such as road rehabilitation and culvert replacement are proposed
7. **Project Map:** Show location of proposed management activities
8. **Other maps:** As needed, other areas, including threatened and endangered species and archeological sites may be noted on a separate, confidential map.

Aerial Photos are encouraged and may be used in addition to the Main Management Plan Map.

Appendix 1

Selected Standards and Specifications

- NRCS Standards are located in:
<http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
- CAL FIRE CFIP Guidelines

Appendix 2

Tax and Business Management

- **This section includes a series of statements related to tax and business management that should be included in plans.**

Property tax –

- **The forest management plan should document the current tax status of the property. Your state might have specific property tax programs that you may be eligible to participate in. Please be aware of the program rules and regulations.**

Income tax –

- **Include a statement that timber harvest and other revenue generating activities generally produce a federal and state income tax liability. Tax credits may be available for some management activities.**

Estate tax –

- **Include a statement that good estate planning can help to lessen tax liability when passing land to heirs and that landowners should seek good planning and tax advice.**

Record keeping –

- **Include a statement that good record keeping can help landowners manage their assets; increase their revenues; and minimize their tax liability.**

Land Use –

- **Document the land use classifications of the property from the county land use plan.**

Appendix 3

Past Plans, Amendments and Updates

Appendix 4

- **Supporting data and modeling outputs.**
- **Alternative Deduction References.**
- **Soil Survey Data and/or Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs)**
- **Other References**

Appendix 5

Confidential Addendums