

Trails on Jackson Demonstration State Forest

Hugh Scanlon 1/

With the arrival of summer, a growing number of adventure-seeking visitors and campers venture into the State Forest for a primitive camping experience. Many are return visitors who appreciate the special beauty of Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) year after year. We receive a number of inquiries about the facilities, availability, and recreational opportunities afforded on JDSF. Although very popular, camping is not the only activity which State Forest visitors can enjoy. We have many trails and backroads which provide opportunities for hiking, mountain-biking, and horseback riding throughout the forest. In addition to healthful exercise among the redwoods, many trails offer an opportunity to learn more about redwood ecology and forestry. These self-guided trails provide interpretive stops which help explain the ecological balance between members of the redwood forest community. There are also several working trails providing access to the many

research projects which are ongoing at JDSF.

The numerous trails on JDSF feature a wide range of experiences, from gently sloping walking trails to rugged routes which can provide a workout for the conditioned hiker. The following is a description of these trails with some basic information about them. Figure 1 illustrates the locations of each trail detailed in this article.

Self-guided Trails

These trails focus on redwood forest ecology and management, with each trail showing some unique aspect of the State Forest. Providing the public with information on forest resources is important to the mission of the state forest system. Self-guided trails can be a powerful communications tool for public education. The trail guides for these trails are located at each trailhead and are also available at the State Forest headquarters. The following is a description of each trail with directions to the trailheads.

Chamberlain Creek Demonstration Trail

This popular trail is located at Camp 20, halfway between Fort Bragg and Willits on Highway 20. The trailhead is located at the northwest part of the Camp 20 day use area. It is really two trails in one, consisting of a short loop on gentle ground and a longer loop for those with more time to spend. The Short Trail takes about fifteen minutes to walk and is a good place to stretch your legs after a long drive. Nine numbered posts combine with the trail guide to provide visitors an introduction to the redwood forest. Old-growth redwood are found along this trail as well as a number of common plant species labeled for easy recognition. If a visitor would like to learn a bit more about the history of the redwoods and get a bit more exercise, the Long Trail is the next step. This heads up the slope and presents an additional 18 informational stops. This trail is one of the most convenient hikes found in the State Forest.

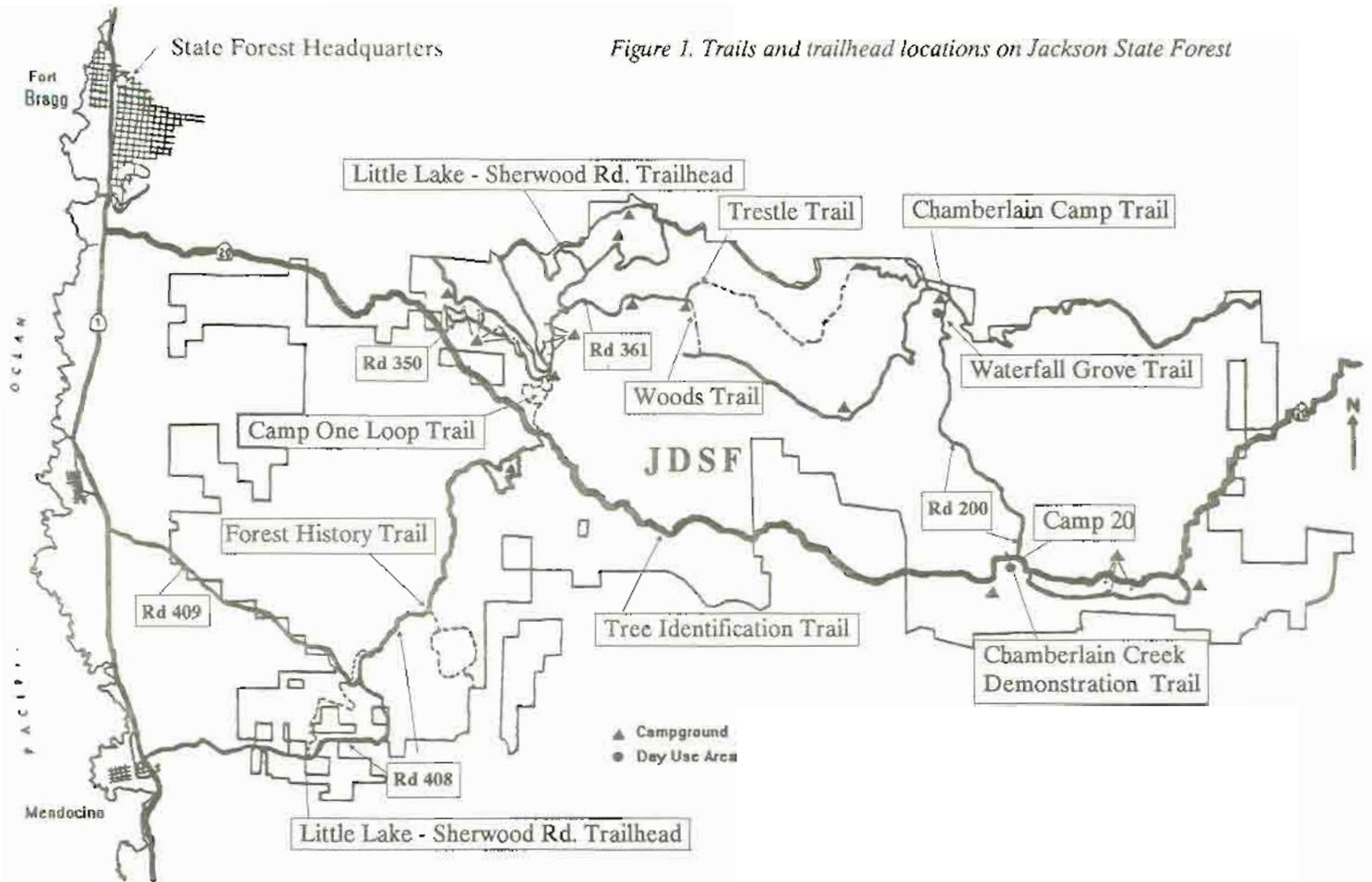
1/ Assistant Forester, Demonstrations & Experiments, Jackson Demonstration State Forest

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
Harold Walt, Director

Pete Wilson
Governor
State of California

Douglas P. Wheeler
Secretary of Resources
The Resources Agency

Figure 1. Trails and trailhead locations on Jackson State Forest



Tree Identification Trail

This is another quick and easy trail close to the highway. Located at mile marker 11 on Highway 20, the trailhead is found at a parking area on the south side of the road. This trail takes about ten minutes to walk and is designed to demonstrate a few key points for identifying some common plants and trees found in the redwood community. A short quiz is offered at the end of this trail to help visitors sharpen their newly aquired skills.

Forest History Trail

By far our most extensive and in-depth self-guided trail, the Forest History Trail is located in the southwestern area of the State Forest. It has two trailheads with the Upper Trailhead as the main access for public users. It is located at mile marker 6.85 on Little Lake Road (County Road 408) from Mendocino. The Lower Trailhead is near the beaver pond at the Mendocino Woodlands Camp and

provides access for Camp visitors. This trail features 47 stops and a view from Observation Point along its 4-mile length. This trail takes about four hours to complete and ranges in elevation from 275 to 995 feet. The guide presents five sections; each relating to a different part of the redwood forest. Redwood Ecology, Demonstration Forestry, the Native American Era, Early Logging Days, and the beginnings of Forest Management are discussed along the way. The guide for this trail is under revision and will soon be available at the trailhead. In the interim, the old trail guide is available from the State Forest headquarters upon request.

All of the self-guided trails have vehicle parking areas at the trailheads and the trail guides are offered free of charge.

Recreational Trails

These trails are located throughout the forest and each offer unique redwood forest experiences. Although they are not

as easy to find as the self-guided trails, they are well worth the extra time it may take to get there. The following is a description of each trail and directions to the trailheads.

Waterfall Grove Trail

This is probably the most popular trail in the State Forest. The Waterfall Grove is a reserve of virgin old-growth redwood graced by the 25 foot Chamberlain Creek waterfall. The trail is 0.2-miles in length, has some steep sections, and descends to the year-round waterfall and into the grove. This is a beautiful day-use area and an excellent spot for relaxation and reflection. The trailhead is located on Road 200, 4.5 miles north of Highway 20. Road 200 starts at Camp 20, just east of the Chamberlain Creek Highway bridge and is easy to stay on by following the signs toward the Noyo Scout Camp. The trailhead is marked by a wooden staircase on the left side of the road. An easy turn-around is located just ahead at the junction of Roads 200 and 1000.

Chamberlain Camp Trail

This trail leads into Waterfall Grove but starts from the Chamberlain Creek Campground, located at the intersection of Road 200 and Road 1000. This trail is 0.8-miles long and provides the opportunity to descend into the grove with a view the old-growth redwoods. This trail does have some steep sections but both trails are in good shape. A loop can be made by hiking both trails and returning to your starting point by walking along Road 200. The trailhead is easily located by following the directions to the Waterfall Grove Trail, going past the trailhead and parking at the campground 0.4 miles ahead. The trailhead is located in the southern part of the camping area.



Figure 2. The Upper Trailhead of the Forest History Trail.

Woods Trail

The Woods Trail crosses a lovely, open meadow of grasses and wildflowers (see Figure 3). This trail starts from the Camp 8 area and proceeds up the hill, along the ridge and into the Bob Wood's Opening. This is several acres of meadow surrounded by the redwood/Douglas-fir forest. The trail is 1.2-miles in length and connects to Road 330. This road is in poor condition and it is a long and difficult drive to the Road 330 trailhead. Although not an easy grade, this trail is good for hiking, mountain-biking, and

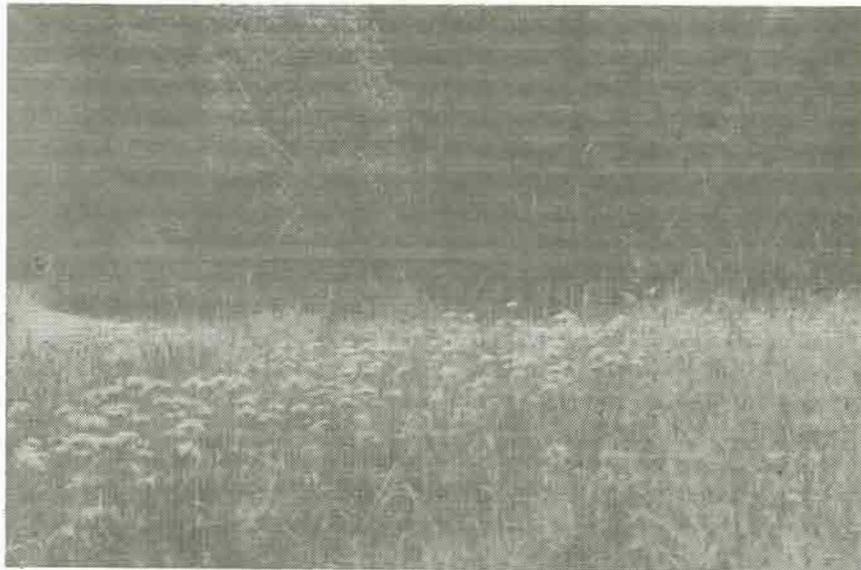


Figure 3. Crossing a large meadow on the Woods Trail.

equestrian traffic. The Camp 8 trailhead is accessed by traveling Highway 20 to mile marker 5.9 and turning north onto Road 350. Follow this road down to the Egg Taking Station and cross the Noyo River. Proceed up Road 360 (straight) until reaching the junction of Roads 360, 361, and 363. Follow Road 361 (right) up to the Trailhead located just before the Camp 8 campground. This trailhead has plenty of available parking. Accessing the Road 330 trailhead is not advised for vehicle traffic due to rough roads and limited parking.

Camp One Loop Trail

This trail leaves from Camp One and provides a short and a long loop. The short loop is 0.7-miles long and the long loop is 3 miles in length. These trails are newly constructed and designed to provide an easily accessible day hike for this popular camping area. The loops traverse bridges, steep terrain, and forested slopes. The trailhead is located directly across from the Egg Taking Station on Road 350 where there is plenty of parking. The Long Loop winds up the hill through stands of timber to Road 90. The trail travels east along the road through a select cut area and joins with the Little Lake - Sherwood Rd. Trail (see below). The trail then turns left and heads back down the old Camp One Road, eventually turning off the old road and leading back down to the Trailhead. The Short Loop uses the same starting point and veers left to the old Camp One Road. From there it follows the old road into the eastern end of Camp One and Road 350. This trail offers an easy day-hike.

TRAMWAY TIMBER SALE
awarded on July 30, 1991
High bidder - Georgia Pacific
\$375.00 /Mbf.

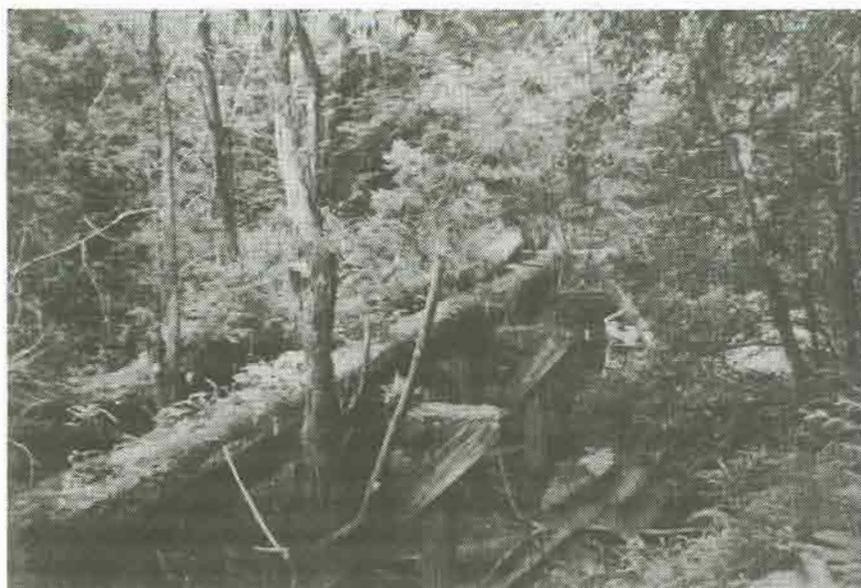


Figure 4. The Trestle Trail near Camp 8.

Trestle Trail (North Fork of the South Fork of the Noyo Trail)

This historic trail follows one of the old logging railroads and offers JDSF's most extensive group of standing trestles (see Figure 4). The trail is 4.0 miles in length. In addition to the trestles, the sites of two logging camps and a small waterfall may be seen along this route. The lower trailhead is located 0.3 miles past the Camp 8 campground (see the Woods Trail for access). Parking is limited at the trailhead so hiking in from Camp 8 is advised. The upper trailhead is located at the end of Road 1070. This road has limited maintenance and parking areas are small so vehicle access is not advised. There are numerous stream crossings and stunning stands of timber along the abandoned rail grade. This trail features some sections which are steep and have treacherous footing. Poison oak is abundant along the western 1.5-miles of the trail, it can be avoided. This trail can be combined with Road 1070 (1.9 miles), Road 330 (5.3 miles) and the Woods Trail to make a loop. With campgrounds at Chamberlain Camp (0.3 miles away from the route) and Indian Springs, this would make a good overnight backpack excursion. This trail is memorable and is the closest thing to a backcountry experience as can be found on JDSF.

Little Lake - Sherwood Rd. Trail

This route connects Little Lake Road in Mendocino to Sherwood Road east of Fort Bragg by following a series of logging roads which traverse through JDSF. It is acceptable for hiking, equestrians, and mountain biking for most of its length and provides users a look at the many aspects of a working forest. This route also ties into the Sherwood Rd. - Willits Trail. This trail is difficult to follow and is poorly maintained. The following is an attempt to provide directions to keep you moving along the route. Trail markers take the form of brown signs, concrete filled steel pipes with directional arrows, signs displaying a horseshoe and directional arrow, and wooden posts with directional arrows. A State Forest map (the more detailed the better) is strongly recommended to accompany these directions. The southern-most trailhead is found on the Little Lake Rd. (County Road 408) at mile marker 2.78. Follow the short trail until you reach Road 771, turn right, and proceed to the junction of Roads 771 and 770. Turn left onto 770 and follow the road as it winds through the Pygmy forest. Stay on Road 770 until you see the Little Lake - Sherwood Rd. Trail sign. Turn left and follow the trail down and across the creek. Head up the trail and turn left onto Road 760. This

road continues up and meets County Road 409. Cross 409 and follow the trail markers. Eventually you arrive at the junction of Road 700 and County Road 408. From this point you remain on County Road 408 until you reach the junction of 408 and Road 500 (4.5 miles). Turn right and follow Road 500 past Berry Flat campground. Stay on Road 500 until you reach Highway 20. Here the trail crosses the highway and travels west, paralleling the roadway. The trail opens onto Road 90 and stays on the road for 0.6 miles. Here the route turns right and follows the old Camp One road down to the Noyo River. **DETOUR** (due to active timber operations) - Cross the Noyo and head west on Road 300 to Road 380 (400 ft). Follow Road 380 up to Road 1000 and turn right. The standard route heads up Road 360 from the Noyo River to Road 362, and up 362 to Road 1000. The trail leaves the State Forest at the junction of Road 1000 and Road 362. There is currently an active timber sale in this area; hikers should be alert for logging traffic. From here, the trail crosses private land and eventually arrives at Sherwood Rd. Permission to cross the private land is extended for the trail only.

The trails on JDSF offer a wide variety of experiences to our forest visitors. In addition, many forest roads are suitable for mountain bikes and equestrians year-round. Trails are occasionally upgraded, re-routed for timber management operations, and improved. And plans for additional trails are in progress. We would like to encourage people to get out and discover this recreational resource available here on the State Forest.



<p>Fort Bragg Annual Rainfall for the year ending June 30, 1991 19.22 inches Normal - 37.07 inches 4th Driest Year on Record, Lowest 5 Year Total on Record!</p>

Demonstration Field Tours Given on Jackson State Forest

Norm Henry 1/

Over the years, the JDSF staff has given hundreds of tours to many diverse groups. We think that some mention of this part of the program area of the state forest is long overdue. We hope to inform our readership about the possibilities for future tours by describing the groups and tours which we have given in the past.

The demonstration and experimental program administrator (author), and program assistant, Hugh Scanlon, are now primarily responsible for coordinating and leading tours as requested by various groups. Public forestry education is an important purpose of the State Forests (see "Trails" article). Providing tours to interested groups is another effective way to get information out to our clientele.

The scope of tours given has ranged from one person "show-me" tours to groups of 100 or more. A "show-me" tour is typically given to a visiting scientist or other professional in some related forestry field. The Caspar watershed study, for example, is of great interest to many forest hydrologists and special tours can be arranged. We have had visiting scientists from many parts of the world visit the Caspar watershed study area. The project has received international exposure as a premier watershed study and cooperative effort between CDF and the US Forest Service's Redwood Sciences Lab. These scientists plus foresters and students from such countries as Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Britain, Turkey, Mexico and Germany have come to tour a variety of research projects on the state forest in past years.

On the national scene, this premier forest watershed study made Jackson Demonstration State Forest the site for a symposium in which 75 scientists from around the country toured the watershed as part of a national watershed and aquatic habitat workshop. Keeping the group size small at each presentation site was important because of limited space and viewing. To provide the most interactive exposure to the study, an intricate touring schedule was developed by the USFS project leader scientist. Stations were set up at various points in the watershed with project staff explaining a particular sub-study being conducted at that site. The scientists were divided into four groups, two scheduled for the morning and two for the afternoon. At each session, one staff person would lead a group from the bottom station up the watershed and another would simultaneously lead one group from the top to the bottom. The schedule was timed so that staff at each station would be talking to only one group at a time. This meant calculating an estimated presentation time at each stop plus travel times between stations. This tour involved staff from both the forest and from the field unit of the USFS who are stationed here.

Although the Caspar watershed study is an important part of many tours given on the forest, there are several other studies which round out the aspect of forest research. A number of silvicultural oriented studies in the coast redwood timber type have been installed and monitored for many years and are a valuable resource for those groups interested in observing and discussing these management activities. Included in this list would be a commercial thinning study done in a 40 year old stand installed over 20 years ago and an uneven-aged silvicultural

study using combinations of group and single tree selection. Another study, phased over several years, developed tree spacing relationships as part of redwood growth modeling effort which was then implemented in a small timber sale. One area harvested in 1987 is being used to evaluate the damage to standing timber and regeneration which may result when an area which was partial cut 20 years earlier is re-entered for the next cutting cycle. Many of these studies are complemented by publications which have been generated by the researcher and forest staff and are made available on the tour or can be mailed upon request. Because of the demonstrational nature of these sites, many have trail systems through them, both for research access and for tours.

In addition to the formal forestry research areas, there is an opportunity to see the sequence of managed forest development resulting from daily operations. Clearcut units ranging in age from 30 years old to newly harvested units effectively compresses the stand development time into a half-day viewing experience for the visitor. These plantation areas are a valuable demonstrational tool when discussing an even-aged silvicultural technique. There are many acres of stands thinned using different prescriptions in past years which can be viewed from roadside stops. Active timber sale harvesting operations are usually ongoing throughout the year so observing these operations is a preferred tour stop.

Being a publicly owned forest with a demonstrational mandate, the forest often gets involved in other large tours initiated by outside organizations like the Redwood Region Conservation Council. For many years, the council has funded

and organized teacher tours. The past groups have been from Mendocino County, the Southern California area, and the Sacramento area. These tours generally encompass several types of forest ownership, which may include small forest land owners to the large corporate ownerships and public ownerships such as the Jackson Demonstration State Forest. This works well in the local area as forestry operations on differing types and sizes of ownerships can be shown within a relatively short time span. If one property does not have the desired operation for demonstration then usually another does. While the state forest can show many kinds of silvicultural and harvesting systems along with a good variety of forest research projects, the forest does not have an active forest nursery nor is it a log processor. Several large industrial ownerships are adjacent to the state forest have milling facilities in Fort Bragg, one also having a nursery operation. With cooperative assistance, these facilities can often be included in the tour. The group can get a more complete grasp of the entire sequence of events occurring in a forestry operation ranging from the sowing, planting and growing operations to the harvesting, milling and marketing of the lumber product.

The Redwood Region Conservation Council has also sponsored a Junior Logging conference. Selected high school students, focusing on a forest or biology major, are given tours where redwood forest ecology and management are discussed.

Students compose many of the other large groups requesting forest tours. They are generally from colleges offering forestry or related natural resource curriculums. A number of community colleges such as American River, Sierra, and Santa Rosa usually receive tours annually as part of some forestry class curriculum. Several state universities such as Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo, Sonoma, Humboldt and Chico offer classes with a forestry, soils, biology or ecology emphasis and have scheduled one or two day tours in the local area with the state forest as a



Figure 1. Tours on Jackson State Forest provide interested visitors with information on operational forestry.

major part of their schedule. Some classes will make a week long trip visiting several sites in the northern part of the state with the state forest being one stop.

A typical tour agenda might start with a brief introductory presentation which is often done at either the State Forest headquarters, the first stop on the tour or, if the group is camping on the forest, at the campsite. The office presentation can be accompanied by a video presentation on state forests or one describing the watershed study on Jackson State forest. Usually the tour starts on the west end proceeding eastward along state forest roads into any of several coastal watershed areas, the Caspar watershed study area included. Almost all of the recent management activity and research sites are on the west and central portions of

the forest. Other program areas such as recreational use and facilities are often incorporated into the tour as this use is recognized as an increasingly important part of state forest operations. As we move towards the eastern boundary of the forest, various sites can be viewed while discussing the changes in vegetation, soils, topography and climate. The old-growth coast redwood is one dramatic vegetation type illustrated in several small groves on the east end and is also a popular stop for tours.

The highlights of the Jackson Demonstration State Forest can be seen in one day with a good variety of stops and relatively little mileage. If a group is interested in some type of tour, call the JDSF office at 707-964-5674 and ask for Norm or Hugh.



**FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION
INSPECTIONS FOR RURAL RESIDENCES
ARE IN PROGRESS ON THE
FORT BRAGG DISTRICT.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:
GLEN PINOLI - DISTRICT RANGER
AT (707) 964-5673**

Law Enforcement on JDSF - Protecting the Resource

Forest Tilley 1/ and
Tom Larsen 2/

Jackson Demonstration State Forest is a 50,000-acre demonstration forest owned by the State of California and managed by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). In addition to demonstrating the various aspects of economic timber management, Jackson State Forest has an active recreation program and a small sales program. The State Forest's natural resources attract a wide variety of people. Unfortunately, some of these people also bring problems when they come to visit.

Associated problems range from misuse and damage of the resources (soil, water, wildlife, and timber) to dumping rubbish, improper "campfires", use of firearms, outright vandalism, destruction of property, growing of marijuana, assault and attempted murder.

To cope with these problems JDSF has one full-time peace officer patrolman, two recreation technicians, and several other members of the staff who have peace officer or public officer training that may be called on for backup. Other CDF peace officers can be brought in for major emergencies.

The primary responsibility of the Department of Forestry is the enforcement of the Forest regulations and fire laws. The County Sheriff has primary responsibility for crimes against persons or property. In practice, the Forest patrol is faced with all of the listed problems and works with the Sheriff's Office on those which fall under their jurisdiction.

Much patrol time is spent supervising and monitoring the approximately 800 Class I (minor forest product) sale permits for firewood, poles, split products, mushrooms, and greens. Efforts here are

directed at protecting the resource and accountability. This is accomplished by keeping permittees in approved areas, accounting for the product purchased through load tags and keeping records. The patrol must see that only the appropriate material is taken and that purchasers follow applicable forest practice regulations.

A lot of patrol time is also spent enforcing camping regulations. These regulations cover the length of stay, conduct in campgrounds, fire use, littering and refuse, and location. Camping on the State Forest is allowed only in camp areas and requires a free permit. Overnight visits are limited to 14 days for any one visitation and 30 days in any calendar year. Rules of good conduct include limiting noise, controlling and picking up after pets, keeping a clean camp site, safe use of fire, and protecting State property. On recent weekend evenings, patrols have been aimed at curtailment of the "party" problem. Large groups of young adults and juveniles have been using the State Forest as a preferred site to "party" with a bonfire and "a keg or two." These parties almost invariably leave a large quantity of litter, have unsafe fires, are often outside of areas designated for campfires, and frequently result in destruction of State property (i.e., signs, outhouses, tables, etc.).

These evening "party" patrols, with support from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, appear to have reduced party activity on the forest over the past few months.

Another time-consuming problem for the patrol and recreation staff is refuse and litter cleanup. Illegal dumping of garbage refuse and vehicles is an ongoing problem. Dump piles are searched for clues to finding responsible parties and occasionally a positive identification

is made. Usually, staff clean up is necessary at State time and expense.

Abandoned vehicles are a major and expensive problem. As environmental regulations become stricter, fewer legal disposal sites or storage yards are available; none of them in the JDSF area. A recent County survey estimated that some 2,000 cars are abandoned on the Mendocino Coast. Many of these are on JDSF. Sometimes the last registered owner is located and the car removed at their expense, but more often JDSF must pay the bill for disposal of these abandoned vehicles. This problem is not unique to JDSF and will require some tough action to resolve.

Mushroom picking is part of the Class I sale permit program but is somewhat unique in that it attracts pickers from out of town who are not familiar with JDSF or the coastal area. The mushroom season is primarily in the winter or wet period when roads are susceptible to damage from indiscriminate use. Trying to keep track of pickers spread out over much of the 50,000 acres and keeping them off wet roads and out of closed areas becomes a major task immediately following a rain storm.

Many forest visitors use Off-Highway Vehicles (O.H.V.'s) and this use is not always easy on the resource. Most O.H.V. users enjoy a challenge and sometimes use our steep skid trails and muddy hillsides as their proving grounds. Such illegal use of these vehicles often destroys waterbars and promotes erosion. Although many JDSF roads are closed to motor vehicle traffic during the winter period, O.H.V.'s pass through gates with relative ease.

**PARLIN CREEK 1991
TIMBER SALE
Tentative Bid Opening
Sept. 17, 1991**

1/ State Forest Manager, Jackson Demonstration State Forest
2/ Recreation Patrol, Jackson Demonstration State Forest

Marijuana cultivation is another area requiring law enforcement effort. Aggressive removal of any marijuana gardens found on JDSF has curtailed but has not eliminated the problem. During the growing season the staff is always alert to signs of cultivation. Many reports also come from hunters, berry pickers, and other forest users. When gardens are located, the law enforcement staff works in cooperation with the Sheriff's Office to try and apprehend the growers and/or just remove the garden and associated paraphernalia. Over the years, two or three arrests and convictions have been made while the vast number of gardens are simply destroyed.



Figure 1. Destruction of property in camping areas can be expensive to repair.

Law abiding Forest users can be helpful in controlling some of these illegal and destructive activities by reporting observed incidents promptly and by providing as much identifying information as possible, i.e., license number, description of vehicle and driver, etc.

As recreational use of JDSF grows, providing interpretative services, up- more people visit and unfortunately bring associated problems with them. The additional work load on the Forest staff cuts into other activities such as grading campgrounds, resource management, and doing more research or demonstration projects.



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