



August 9, 2013

Dear Legislators and Stakeholders,

The attached report documents the findings of the Redding Timber Harvesting Review Pilot Project (Pilot Project).

In March 2012, the California Natural Resources Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency directed the state agencies located in Redding that review timber harvest plans to initiate a Pilot Project that would test cross-agency coordination, program management, and review strategies. The intent was to bring efficiencies to the state's review and permitting of timber harvesting on non-federal lands. The Pilot Project was conducted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 5), the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Region 1), and the Department of Conservation's California Geological Survey over a one-year period. The Pilot Project area covered all of Shasta and Tehama counties, and portions of Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen counties.

The primary goals of the Project were to significantly reduce processing time for timber harvest permits within the Pilot Project area, ensure appropriate and full agency participation in the review process, maintain a high level of environmental protection, and identify process improvements that could be expanded to other areas of the state.

The report highlights many efficiency measures that were identified by the pilot project that could potentially be applied to other regions of the state. Looking beyond the one-year period identified in the Pilot Project, staff from the agencies involved will continue to monitor the impact of these strategies and apply lessons learned to timber permitting processes statewide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John Laird'.

John Laird  
Secretary for California Natural Resources

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Matthew Rodriguez'.

Matthew Rodriguez  
Secretary for Environmental Protection



# Redding Timber Harvesting Review Pilot Project

July 2013



# Redding Timber Harvesting Review Pilot Project

**July, 2013**

Report prepared at the request of:

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA)

and

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)

by staff from

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

The Department of Conservation/California Geological Survey (DOC/CGS)

and

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) directed the Redding review team agencies comprised of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 5), the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Region 1), and the Department of Conservation's California Geological Survey to initiate a Pilot Project that would test cross-agency coordination, program management, and review strategies with the intent to bring efficiencies to the State review and permitting of timber harvesting on non-federal lands. The Pilot Project was conducted from March 22, 2012, to March 21, 2013, and covered the area of the State that is common to the jurisdictions of the Redding review team agencies, including all of Shasta and Tehama Counties, and portions of Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties.

The primary goals of the Pilot Project, as outlined by CNRA and CalEPA, were to:

(1) significantly reduce processing times for timber harvest permits within the Pilot Project area; (2) ensure agency participation in the timber harvesting plan review process; (3) maintain a high level of environmental protection; and (4) identify process improvements that could be expanded to other areas of the State.

The following interagency actions were implemented to meet these Pilot Project goals, among other things:

- Performed initial assessment (First Review) of all timber harvesting plans (Plans) [i.e. Timber Harvesting Plans, Programmatic Timber Harvesting Plans, Nonindustrial Timber Management Plans, and amendments to existing approved Timber Harvesting Plans].
- Placed a priority on initiating pre-harvest inspections (PHIs) within the legally mandated 10 calendar-day timeframe from the date of Plan filing.
- Provided, as part of the First Review, written justification as to why attendance on the PHI was desired or required.
- Assisted in the development of a single PHI report, submitted by the CAL FIRE inspector that included, as necessary, observations, comments, and recommendations.
- Performed regular (monthly) meetings amongst Redding review team agency managers to ensure coordination of staff resources, and that any professional disagreements between department professionals were resolved in an efficient manner.
- Assessed ways in which Pilot Project "lessons learned" could be applied in the future implementation of requirements mandated under Assembly Bill (AB) 1492 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 289, Statutes of 2012).
- Interagency collaboration to develop and publish this report.

Through the implementation of the Pilot Project, several advantages and disadvantages of the Plan review process were identified. They are discussed in this report as "lessons learned".

Overall, the Redding review team agencies concluded that they met the Pilot Project primary goals outlined by CNRA and CalEPA: the review team agencies performed First Review on all Plans submitted under the Pilot Project; the majority of PHIs unaffected by weather conditions (e.g. seasonal snow) were initiated within the mandated 10 calendar day timeframe; the involvement in the review process by all Redding review team agencies ensured a high level of environmental protection; and a few process efficiency improvements were identified. Despite meeting the Pilot Project goals, a more rigorous evaluation of the entire Plan review process could not be performed due to a low number of approved Plans at the end of the one-year pilot

period. Many Plans included in the Pilot Project were submitted in the latter half of the one year project period. Consequently, key process steps such as second review, evaluation of PHI responses, consideration of public comment, preparation of the Director's official response, and the Director's final decision could not be evaluated as part of this Report.

In order to provide a more comprehensive understanding of possible process improvements, the Redding review team agencies intend to continue tracking Plans submitted under the Pilot Project until all Plans have either been approved or denied in accordance with the State's Forest Practice Rules (steps 1-10 as shown on Figure 2). The pertinent data from the Pilot Project will then be compared with Plans submitted during the previous year, within the same geographic area, and this information will be provided in a supplemental report. Recognizing the effects of species listings on Plan content and review, and inclement weather effects on the timing of field inspections, a year to year comparison will provide a more complete picture of the review team process improvement opportunities beyond the scope of the Redding Pilot Project objectives.

The Redding Pilot Project managers developed the following recommendations which focus largely on the early stages of the Plan review process; the recommendations also partially address the requirements stipulated in AB 1492 in other regions of the State:

1. Evaluate the use of lessons learned from the Redding Pilot Project model in other geographic regions of the State (e.g. the Coast, Northern and Southern Forest Districts described in the Forest Practice Rules, Title 14, California Code of Regulations).
2. Consider establishing a framework, including duties for program managers, to allow CNRA and CalEPA to implement and oversee AB 1492 mandates. Oversight by CNRA and CalEPA would ensure that Statewide, consistent implementation of laws, regulations, and policies occur when and where appropriate.
3. Consider options to adjust the current legally mandated 10 calendar day First Review and PHI commencement timelines, and/or change statute and regulations to allow agencies to meter Plan review workload (i.e. set up a maximum number of plans accepted for review on a weekly basis), particularly during times of high workload.
4. Develop a centralized database shared by all review team agencies that would include the necessary information to accurately monitor Plan submittals plus reporting requirements of AB 1492. This database should be designed to allow each review team agency to input, manage, and monitor key data, and where appropriate, allow data to be shared with other agencies.
5. Encourage interagency communication through regular manager meetings sponsored by CNRA and CalEPA. These meetings should be focused on fostering interagency communication, addressing issues in a timely fashion, assessing procedures to increase efficiencies in Plan review while ensuring thorough and complete environmental review of projects. These meetings are intended to be staffed by local-level agency/department/board decision makers and attended by CNRA and CalEPA as appropriate.
6. Examine opportunities to cross train staff and encourage the effective use of staff to service more than one program, region, or unit where feasible.
7. Evaluate the utility of a centralized PHI calendar system (e.g. Doodle Poll or through Microsoft Outlook) to better facilitate the scheduling of PHIs between the Plan-preparing Registered Professional Forester (RPF) and review team agencies.
8. Consider adopting a common PHI report template used by all review team agencies.
9. Investigate software that would allow review team agency staff to directly write to a common PHI report in real time (e.g. *Microsoft SharePoint* software).

10. Consider editing the existing CAL FIRE PHI report template to incorporate agency-specific recommendations not under CAL FIRE jurisdiction and clarify responsibility for enforcement.
11. Explore the possible benefits of establishing agreements to share staff resources, office locations, and/or equipment amongst state agencies (via Memorandum of Understanding).

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and the California Environmental Protection Agency CalEPA) were requested to consider ways to further improve the environmental review and processing of harvest plans (Plans)<sup>1</sup> on non-federal timberlands. This direction stemmed from concerns and comments that the Plan review process had become unnecessarily slow, complicated, and costly. Environmental constituents voiced concerns, however, that a focus on improving Plan review efficiency should not be at the expense of conducting a thorough and detailed environmental review. With both primary viewpoints in mind, the CNRA and the CalEPA directed Plan review team agencies, comprised of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the Department of Conservation (DOC) to evaluate the Plan review process. Specifically, the CNRA and CalEPA directed the departments to initiate a Pilot Project that would use the existing multi-agency timber harvest review team to test interagency coordination, program management, and review strategies with the intent to bring efficiencies to the State review and permitting of Plans. (See Appendix A: Joint CNRA-CalEPA Memorandum dated March 22, 2012, [hereinafter referred to as Memo]).

The Pilot Project was implemented from March 22, 2012, to March 21, 2013, and was conducted by the Redding review team agencies using existing staff resources. The Redding review team agencies consist of: CAL FIRE; CDFW, Region 1; Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board); and the DOC's California Geological Survey (DOC/CGS). Since each Redding review team agency has different jurisdictional boundaries, the Pilot Project covered the area of the state that is common to all, which included all of Shasta and Tehama counties, and portions of Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties (See Figure 1).

The primary goals of the Pilot Project, as presented in the March 22, 2012 Memo, were to:

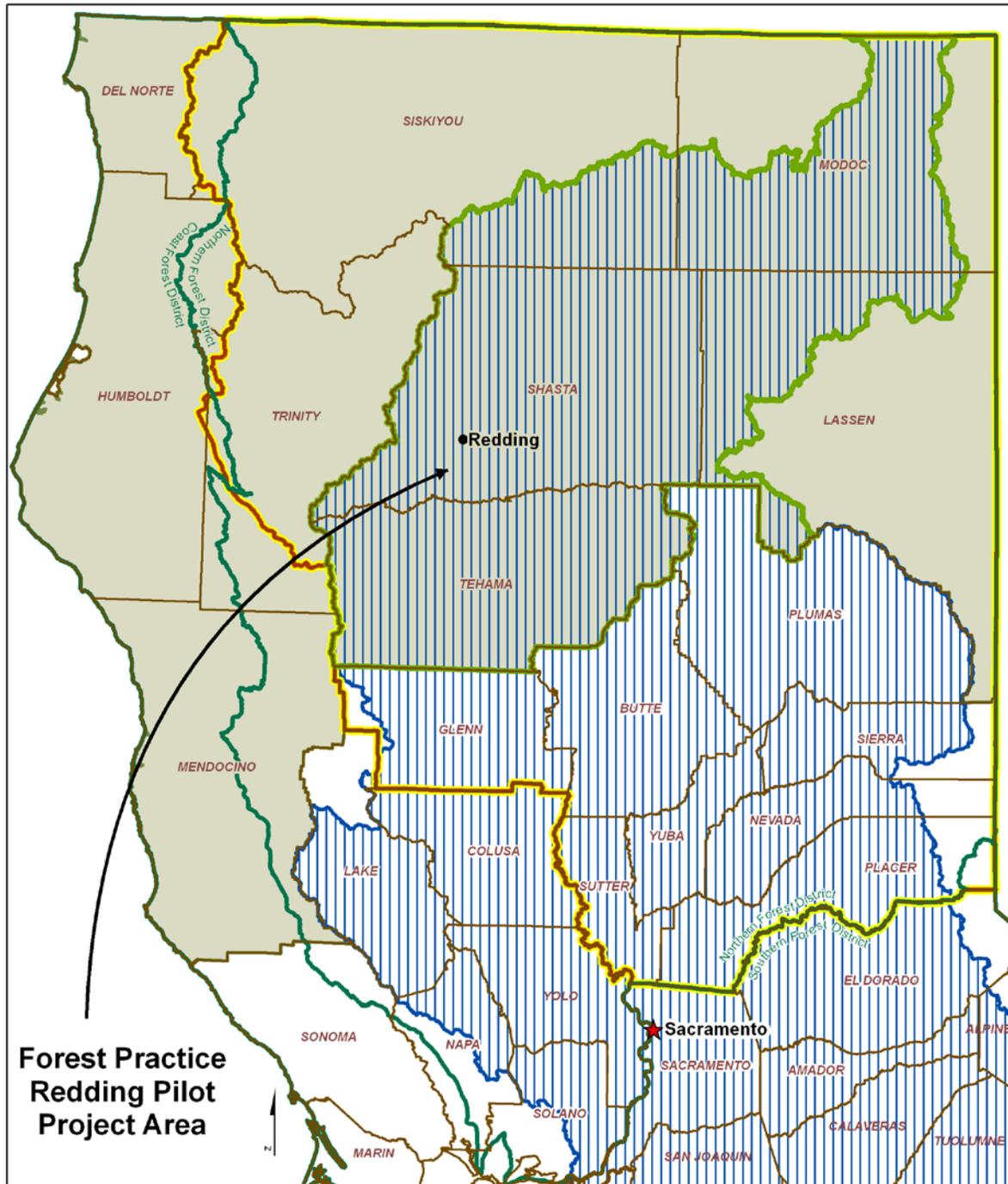
- Significantly reduce processing times for timber harvest permits within the Pilot Project area,
- Ensure agency participation in the Plan review process described above,
- Maintain a high level of environmental protection, and
- Identify process improvements that could be expanded to other areas of the State.

To meet the goals of the Pilot Project, the following six objectives (Objectives A through F) were identified in the March 22, 2012, Memo:

- A. Ensure initial assessment and review (i.e. First Review) of Plans is conducted by all State review team agencies.

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<sup>1</sup> The term "Plan" refers to a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP), Non- industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP), Programmatic Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP), or Substantial Deviations to a THP, NTMP or PTHP, as described in the California Forest Practice Rules (14 CCR §§ 1037.3-1037.5 or 1090.17-1090.19 ).



**Forest Practice  
Redding Pilot  
Project Area**

Shasta and Tehama Counties  
Portions of Siskiyou, Modoc,  
and Lassen Counties

-  Northern Review Team Pilot Area
-  CAL FIRE Northern Region,  
Cascade Area
-  Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 1

-  Forest District Boundaries
-  Central Valley Regional Water  
Quality Control Board - Region 5

Note: CGS does not have separate administrative or region boundaries.



The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of or arising from the use of data or maps.

July 2012

Figure 1 Pilot Project Area

- B. Coordinate pre-harvest inspection (PHI) participants through the CAL FIRE Forest Practice Manager to decrease the time between the PHI and Plan approval.
- C. Coordinate through the CAL FIRE field inspector the development of a single PHI report to include recommendations of all agencies who participated.
- D. Evaluate effects of the timing of the submission and review of CDFW Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Application on the overall approval within the Plan review time period.
- E. Designate an upper management resolution team consisting of a member from each review team agency that would meet monthly to evaluate the implementation of the Pilot Project and mediate and resolve issues that may arise.
- F. Develop a 'lessons learned' document for evaluation of the Pilot Project and potential future implementation in other areas across the state.

## 2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The California Forest Practice Rules<sup>2</sup> (14 CCR §§ 1037.3-1037.5; 1090.17-1090.19) establish interdisciplinary, interagency review teams to conduct environmental review of proposed timber operations on non-federal lands as described in a Plan prepared by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF). The review teams are made up of representatives from CAL FIRE, the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), CDFW, and DOC/CGS. CAL FIRE is the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and, when necessary, CAL FIRE may also request the participation of other local, State, and federal agencies to assist in the Plan review process. The review team structure and functionally equivalent<sup>3</sup> Plan review process is specified in the Forest Practice Act of 1973, and summarized further in Appendix B. Under the Plan review process (See Figure 2 and summary in Appendix B), the focus of the Redding Pilot Project included the initial multi-agency Plan review (First Review), the PHI, and the PHI report generation; the Pilot Project did not focus on the remaining steps outlined that include Second Review, Director's determination, or operational aspects of the process.

Over the past three decades, controversy surrounding timber harvesting activities has increased, as evidenced by a higher volume in public comment letters received by CAL FIRE on individual Plans. The increased public comment has, in part, brought to light additional environmental concerns (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions) that require the Plan-preparing RPF and the review team to broaden their evaluation of potential significant adverse impacts, including cumulative impacts. Furthermore, additional plant, animal, and fish species have been listed as *candidate*, *threatened*, or *endangered* under State and Federal Endangered Species Acts, requiring take avoidance and minimization measures, and additional review to ensure mitigation is consistent with authorized take.

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<sup>2</sup> California Forest Practice Rules (CFPR), 2013, available at:

[http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/downloads/2013\\_FP\\_Rulebook\\_with\\_Tech\\_RuleNo1.pdf](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/2013_FP_Rulebook_with_Tech_RuleNo1.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> An approved harvest Plan is considered "functionally equivalent" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), meaning timber harvesting consistent with an approved Plan (e.g. THP, NTMP, PTHP) is not subject to an additional environmental impact report under CEQA.

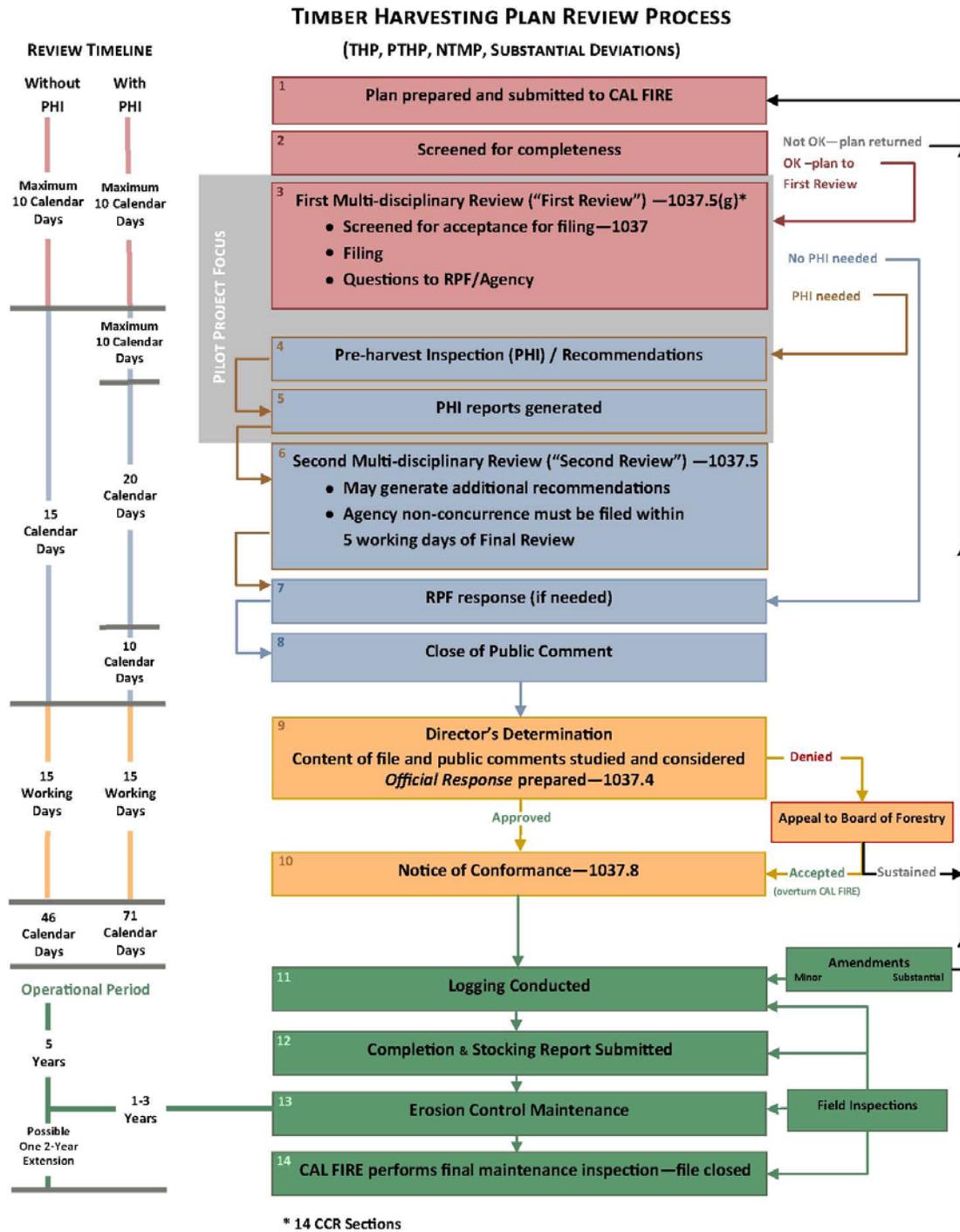


Figure 2 Flowchart of the Plan Review Process showing the Focus of the Pilot Project

Under this task, CAL FIRE has spent considerable time and effort over the past several years working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries to ensure that federally listed species (e.g. northern spotted owl, coho salmon) are adequately addressed and mitigated in approved Plans. Moreover, CAL FIRE must consider and evaluate potential for adverse cumulative impacts, and where necessary, include mitigations to address those impacts.

In addition to addressing increased environmental complexities, the Plan-preparing RPF and review team agencies must address requirements under agency-specific permits that have been adopted since the 1973 Forest Practice Act. For example, CAL FIRE issues and enforces the harvest Plan which governs all timber operations; CDFW issues Incidental Take Permits and Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements (1600 Permits<sup>4</sup>); and the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board enforces both the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and requires landowners to submit Reports of Waste Discharge<sup>5</sup> (WDRs) or enroll in categorical waivers of waste discharge requirements in connection with harvesting Plans.

With more scrutiny of environmentally complex issues and the adoption of additional agency-specific permit requirements, the Plan review process is increasingly complex to apply. Additionally, the Plan review process now requires increased evaluation time and effort by the Plan-preparing RPF and the review team agencies than it did in the past.

### **3.0 PILOT PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND DISCUSSION**

The following section addresses each of the Pilot Project Objectives listed in Section 1.0. Discussions are presented under each objective that includes: background information, the review team work performed, and the Pilot Project results.

#### **Objective A: Ensure initial assessment and review of Timber Harvesting Plans is conducted by all state review team agencies**

Pursuant to State regulation, and Pilot Project objectives, initial assessment (First Review) of Plans was required to be completed within 10 calendar days of CAL FIRE's receipt (14 CCR § 1037). The business processes used before and after the Pilot Project were the same; the Redding review team and Pilot Project participants used a standardized process consisting of: (1) Plans received each week by Friday noon were initially screened for obvious errors or incomplete documentation. During this "clerical screening" if a Plan was found to include obvious errors or determined to be incomplete, it was returned to the Plan submitter; Plans with no obvious clerical errors were entered into the First Review process; (2) Plans accepted into First Review process were processed electronically and posted on CAL FIRE's public File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site (<ftp://thp.fire.ca.gov/THPLibrary/>). CAL FIRE then notified the other review team agencies of the posted Plans scheduled for First Review each Friday afternoon; (3)

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<sup>4</sup> 1600 Permits refers to Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreements issued by CDFW issued pursuant to F&G Code §§ 1602 or 1611.

<sup>5</sup> California Water Code (CWC) § 13260(a) requires that any person discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste within any region that could affect the quality of the waters of the state...shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of waste discharge.

The review team agencies were instructed that they must then complete their First Review and respond back to CAL FIRE by the following Wednesday afternoon so CAL FIRE could compile all agency First Review comments and questions, and make a determination on whether the Plan should be filed. According to the regulations, CAL FIRE is to file a Plan no later than 10 calendar days after receipt. This allows the review team agencies 3 working days (Monday-Wednesday afternoon) to complete their First Review of the Plans. Consequently, the review team agencies dedicated staff at the beginning of each week to ensure that First Review was conducted within the designated timeframe.

Pilot Project participants conducted First Review of all plans in accordance with the law and regulations. The Pilot Project included the review of 66 harvest documents: 35 Timber Harvest Plans (THPs), 5 Programmatic Timber Harvest Plans (PTHPs), 2 Nonindustrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs), and 24 Substantial Deviations.<sup>6</sup> Of the 35 THPs, 2 were withdrawn by the RPF during the review process; and of the 24 Substantial Deviations, 12 were downgraded<sup>7</sup> to Minor Amendments at First Review, and 3 were withdrawn by the RPF during the review process.

Out of the 66 Plans accepted for filing, a total of 44 PHIs (30 THPs, 4 PTHPs, 2 NTMPs, and 8 Substantial Deviations) were requested by one or more of the review team agencies as part of the First Review process. One aspect introduced under the Pilot Project was that all review team agencies provided written justification as part of First Review describing why attendance on the PHI was desired or required. The justification information aided the CAL FIRE Forest Practice Manager in determining if a PHI was necessary.

To track Plans accepted for filing, CAL FIRE created a detailed workbook of spreadsheets with regular input from all the Redding review team agencies to specifically track and monitor details of the review process for Plans in the Pilot Project (See Appendix C).

### **Objective B: Coordinate PHI participants through the CAL FIRE forest practice manager to decrease the amount of time between the pre-harvest inspection and Plan approval.**

One of the outcomes of First Review was the decision whether a PHI would be necessary. When a PHI was scheduled, the Forest Practice Rules mandate that the PHI be initiated within 10 calendar days from the date the Plan was filed, which typically occurred on Fridays for the Plans in First Review earlier in the week (i.e. Monday through Wednesday). In scheduling the PHI date, the CAL FIRE inspector accommodated the schedules of the Plan submitting RPF and the agencies requesting attendance. Thus, after excluding Monday and Tuesday, allowing for agencies' staff to perform First Review, there was typically five or less working days to schedule the PHI within the mandated 10 calendar day timeframe.

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<sup>6</sup> A Substantial Deviation to a Plan is the equivalent of a supplement to an EIR, and requires agency review and full public comment period equivalent to a Plan for the issues contained in the amendment.

<sup>7</sup> Downgrading of a substantial deviation to a minor amendment means that the amendment can be accepted as a minor change to the approved Plan and does not require additional CEQA evaluation or public comment period; a minor amendment should be viewed as a notification to the Department of a legally permissible action not requiring an approval by the Director.

With more recent scrutiny of environmentally complex issues and additional agency-specific permit requirements, it has become more common for the review team agencies to identify potential environmental concerns that would necessitate their attendance on the PHI. Thus, as is common to the process, there were times during the Pilot Project that it was difficult to find a common PHI date that would work for the RPF and the four review team agencies, as well as the difficulty, on occasion, of scheduling and conducting the PHI within the mandated 10 calendar day timeframe. To help minimize the delay of Plan review when the PHI was scheduled beyond the 10-day timeframe, RPFs have been willing to conduct more than one PHI inspection to accommodate differences in agency staff availability. This approach, however, has proven to be inefficient and less effective for interagency communication and dialogue with the Plan-preparing RPF. Experience has proven that it is better to resolve issues and recommendations during and after a PHI where all pertinent agency representatives are engaged. Multi-day PHIs attended by different review agencies has resulted in an uncoordinated evaluation of the same issue, which then requires additional time for the RPF or CAL FIRE inspector to respond to different agency recommendations. This has created additional workload for the CAL FIRE inspector as the lead agency representative to schedule and coordinate more than one PHI.

Under the Pilot Project, the Redding review team agencies placed a priority on initiating PHI dates within the mandated 10 calendar day timeframe (See Figure 2 and Appendix B). It is important to recognize that CAL FIRE's Forest Practice Manager does not directly supervise CAL FIRE field personnel or any of the other participating agency staff involved in the PHIs. Thus, the ability to meet this objective required good cooperation amongst participating agency staff and the effective implementation by the participating managers.

However, for reasons related to availability of the RPF, staff limitations (e.g. other workload and staff vacancies), timing of Plan submittals, and natural influences such as weather and wildfires, there were times when the PHI was not initiated within the 10 calendar day timeframe. When a PHI could not be conducted within 10 calendar days from Plan filing, a "departure" from the mandated timeframe was said to occur and was documented in the CAL FIRE workbook (See Appendix C).

Of the 44 PHIs performed as part of the Pilot Project, there were a total of 19 departures that occurred; 10 were due to weather-related causes (e.g. snow limiting access or high winds creating a hazard of falling debris) and 9 were due to scheduling conflicts by either the Plan-submitting RPF or the CAL FIRE inspector. These scheduling conflicts generally stemmed from an increased workload during the summer and fall field seasons when most Plans are typically submitted and demands on the RPF and agency staff time are high.

The increased review team workload in the summer and fall months is largely a function of when Plan-submitting RPFs are able to submit their Plans after completing all their field work conducted earlier in the year. For example, most Plans under the Pilot Project are located at elevations that are influenced by snow or are less accessible during wet winter months; thus, weather greatly influences when both field work and Plan inspections can occur. Figure 3 illustrates the variability in Plan submittal throughout the year by plotting the number of Plans accepted into First Review per week during the Pilot Project timeframe. As shown in Figure 3, the number of Plans accepted into First Review is low in winter to early spring and increases in late summer and into the fall. Additional factors that vie for agency staff's time include conducting necessary compliance inspections during and after timber operations, PHIs held

over from the previous year, pre-consultation requests on future CEQA projects, inspections of Emergency and Exemption Notices (14 CCR§§ 1038, 1052, & 1104.1),<sup>8</sup> assignments to wildfires or other emergencies, other mandated agency-specific workload, and responses to public complaints.<sup>9</sup>

Examples of important forest practice work performed by agency staff and managers also tasked with conducting Plan review include responding to:

- Public concerns that clearcut logging activities within the Battle Creek Watershed (Shasta and Tehama Counties) would significantly impair publicly funded work to restore habitat for listed salmonid species. At the request of the Natural Resources Agency, Redding review team staff and managers assembled an interagency task force to evaluate sediment generation from clearcut harvesting units, the results of which were summarized in a November 2011, report,<sup>10</sup> titled “A Rapid Assessment of Sediment Delivery from Clearcut Timber Harvest Activities in the Battle Creek Watershed, Shasta and Tehama Counties, California.” The results of this report and ongoing public concerns generated additional follow-on activities by review team agencies during the Pilot Project.
- The Ponderosa and Bagley wildfires that started in August 2012, and together burned an excess of 73,000 acres<sup>11</sup> within the Pilot Project area. A significant amount of agencies’ staff time was spent addressing issues associated with the fires that included reviewing the burned areas, performing post-fire monitoring, and inspecting salvage-logging operations.
- Requests to present information on various issues related to forest practice. Examples include review team agencies staff presentations made to local groups (e.g. California Licensed Forester Association, Battle Creek Watershed Working Group, and Five-Counties roads workshops) and to policy makers (e.g., Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fish and Game Commission, Regional/State Water Boards).
- Public complaints leading to criminal or civil prosecutions. The response to law enforcement investigations and prosecutions often requires staff to temporarily suspend review team review and inspection work and redirect their attention to collecting time-sensitive evidence used as the basis for law enforcement work.

There has been, and always will be, the need for State experts tasked with Plan review to respond to special needs like the examples provided above. Consequently, it is important to keep the requirement of conducting a PHI within context of other legal mandates and response to other public inquiries. With this in mind, however, it is speculated that efficiencies in conducting PHIs in accordance with the mandated timeframes could benefit from: (1) having Plan submissions more evenly distributed (e.g. Plan submission metered on a weekly basis), (2)

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<sup>8</sup> In 2012 CAL FIRE Redding review team received 100 Emergencies (most related to wildfires that occurred in 2012) and 733 Exemptions.

<sup>9</sup> Each state agency has their own method of responding to and documenting public complaints; CAL FIRE has found that public complaints may be linked to forest practice violations and timely, aggressive response is often warranted.

<sup>10</sup> Interagency Report, titled: “A Rapid Assessment of Sediment Delivery from Clearcut Timber Harvest Activities in the Battle Creek Watershed, Shasta Tehama Counties, California”, dated November 2011, available at: [http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board\\_business/other\\_board\\_actions/battle\\_creek\\_report/final\\_battlecreek\\_taskforce\\_report.pdf](http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board_business/other_board_actions/battle_creek_report/final_battlecreek_taskforce_report.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Fire acreages based on information available at: <http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/incident>

having additional knowledgeable and experienced staff to draw from during periods of high workload, and (3) increasing the 10 calendar day timeframe to conduct the PHI.

The status of Plans after First Review and the PHI, and leading up to final Plan approval are discussed under Objective F below and in Section 4.0 – Summary of Plans under the Pilot Project.

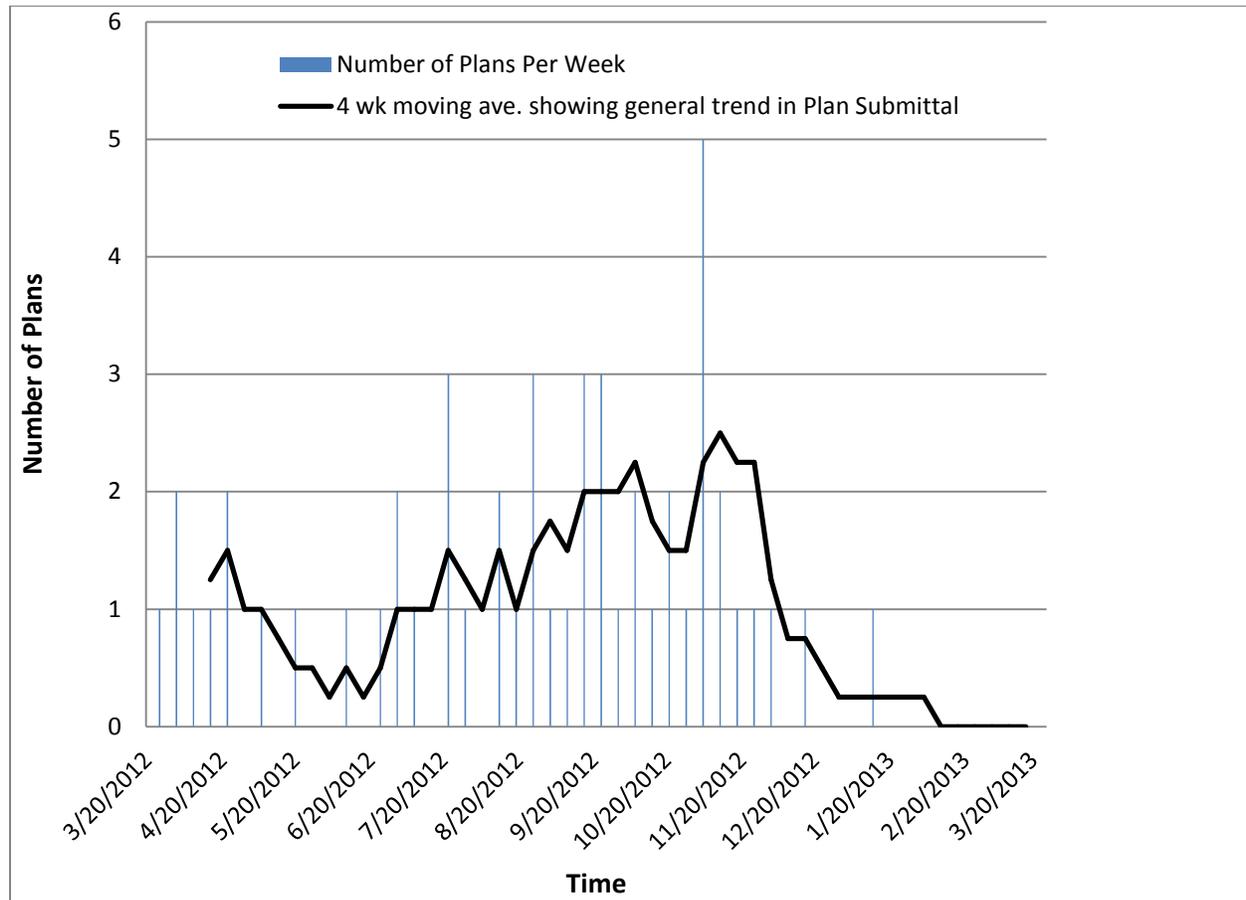


Figure 3 Graph showing Number of Plans accepted into the Pilot Project per week.

**Objective C: Coordinate through the CAL FIRE field inspector the development of a single pre-harvest inspection report to include recommendations of all agencies who participated.**

Typically, upon completion of each PHI, each review team agency would prepare an agency specific PHI report/memorandum which would include the agency’s findings and recommendations. These individual PHI reports were then forwarded to the Plan submitting RPF, and entered into CAL FIRE’s administrative record and posted on the department’s FTP website. Through this process, there were occasions where inconsistent and duplicative PHI recommendations were developed by one or more of the agencies, and tracking and addressing each agency’s recommendations was cumbersome for the RPF and the CAL FIRE Review

Team Chair. This can add to the Plan approval period as additional time is needed to communicate and resolve the differences.

During the Pilot Project, staff from all agencies included recommendations in a single PHI report that was submitted by the CAL FIRE inspector. Essentially, the CAL FIRE inspector's report was intended to document the major issues and recommendations shared by all agency staff attending the PHI. This was accomplished by face to face dialogue in the field at the end of the PHI, by telephone with the CAL FIRE inspector shortly after the PHI, or by email correspondence. When additional information or documentation was deemed necessary to support agency-specific recommendations in the CAL FIRE inspector's report, individual agency PHI reports/memoranda were submitted to the Review Team Chair to provide added documentation for the record.

This single PHI report benefited the RPF and the review team by eliminating the need to search for and respond to PHI questions found in multiple documents (e.g. reports and emails) or to resolve differences in recommendations from multiple agencies that addressed the same issue.

At times, however, there was reluctance by the CAL FIRE inspector to include agency-specific recommendations outside the requirements of the forest practice rules, such as regional conditions related to the Central Valley Water Board's Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements. This reluctance by the CAL FIRE inspector generally stemmed from concerns regarding enforceability because the recommendations were not enforced as part of the approved Plan, but instead tied to other agency authorities and permitting requirements. During the Pilot Project, the Redding review team agency managers determined that these types of concerns could be addressed by regular training and communication between the CAL FIRE inspectors and agency staff regarding enforceability of recommendations, and by altering the current CAL FIRE inspector PHI report template to provide language explaining how some agency-specific recommendations would be addressed (e.g. the Plan proponent shall comply with the recommendations, but in some cases enforcement responsibilities would fall on the individual agency making the recommendation).

#### **Objective D: Evaluate the effects of timing of the submission and review of Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Application on the overall approval within the Plan review time period.**

There are three regulatory paths a Plan submitter can utilize to obtain a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSA) under Fish and Game Code §1600-1616. These include Fish and Game Code §1602, a master agreement for timber operations (MATO), and Fish and Game Code §1611.

Fish and Game Code §1602 requires notification to CDFW to obtain an LSA separate from the Plan. Notification to obtain an LSA pursuant to §1602 is submitted at the discretion of the landowner; typically sometime after Plan approval.

A MATO is an agreement with a term of greater than five years that: (1) covers timber operations on timberland that are not exclusively projects to extract gravel, sand, or rock; not exclusively projects that are included in a timber harvesting plan approved by CAL FIRE; or not exclusively routine maintenance projects that the applicant will need to complete separately at different time periods during the term of the agreement; and (2) describes a procedure that the

Plan submitter must follow for construction, maintenance, or other projects covered under the agreement. Once a MATO is finalized and approved, the Plan submitter needs only notify CDFW and pay appropriate fees before work can begin.

Fish and Game Code §1611 is used by Plan submitters to obtain an agreement for timber operations and uses the Plan as notification to CDFW. Once the notification is complete and the appropriate fees are assessed, CDFW has 60 days to provide a draft LSA to the landowner. CDFW staff typically evaluates proposed activities during the PHI, and provides the draft LSA to the Plan submitter as soon as LSA conditions have been developed. The Plan submitter then must review, sign, and return the draft LSA to CDFW. Because the LSA utilizes the Plan to address CEQA requirements, CDFW must wait until Plan approval before it can provide a final executed Agreement. Fish and Game Code §1611 is designed to streamline the LSA process by reducing duplicative paperwork and the number of site visits. The intent is for the Plan review process and LSA process to run on parallel paths where much of the burden is placed on CDFW staff to minimize delays in project implementation.

Prior to 2004, LSAs were processed by Wardens in the CDFW Law Enforcement Division. In some instances, Wardens were processing LSAs on Plans that were concurrently under review by CDFW Environmental Scientists. Having both CDFW Wardens and Environmental Scientists evaluating the same Plan, and in some cases the same watercourse crossing, resulted in inefficiencies, such as the need for multiple site visits by CDFW staff, amendment of LSAs into approved Plans, enforcement of LSAs by CDFW Wardens less familiar with the entire Plan review process, and separate monitoring efforts between CDFW Environmental Scientists and CDFW Wardens. This also meant that CDFW Environmental Scientists were not hired or trained to process LSAs.

To rectify this situation, CDFW assigned Timber Program staff LSA processing tasks starting in 2004. Some CDFW Timber Program staff with expertise in aquatics were trained to process LSAs. Since 2004, hiring and training of new staff has placed an emphasis on the ability to process LSAs. Now, most existing CDFW staff that review Plans are able to process LSAs from notification to execution, or have access to other staff that can assist. Additionally, use of Fish and Game Code § 1611 starts the LSA process concurrent with Plan review, allowing permit processing to be more efficient by providing CDFW staff to incorporate LSA review during the PHI.

There were 66 Plans submitted to CAL FIRE during the Pilot Project. Of those Plans, 1 notified per §1602, 16 were covered under an existing MATO, 19 notified per §1611, and 30 did not have projects that the Plan-submitting RPF deemed would require a LSA. Within the Pilot Project, the use of §1611 was determined to have the greatest potential to delay Plan approval or project implementation. This is because CDFW does not direct the timing of notification, Plan processing and approval, or the receipt of required permit fees, all of which are necessary prior to issuing the final LSA.

Of the 19 Plans that notified using §1611, 7 have not yet been approved by the CAL FIRE Director, 2 were withdrawn by the Plan-submitting RPF, 1 was determined by CDFW not to need a LSA, and 3 have not yet had fees paid even though the Plans received Director approval. Of the 6 remaining Plans, the number of days from Plan approval to final LSA issuance ranged from 1 to 49 days, with an average of about 26 days.

**Objective E: Designate an upper management resolution team consisting of a member from each review team agency that would meet monthly to evaluate the implementation of the Pilot Project and mediate and resolve issues that may arise.**

Typically, review team agency meetings have been held a few times a year (typically quarterly to biannually). These meetings have fostered interagency communication, resolved specific issues, and have led to changes in business practices and suggested changes to Board of Forestry and Fire Protection regulations. While these meetings have been viewed as successful by all agencies within the area encompassed by the Pilot Project, they were not consistently scheduled and therefore, all the potential benefits were not realized.

Under the Pilot Project, meetings were held each month by the managers (and by appropriate staff when managers were not able to attend) from each review team agency. The status of Plans in the Pilot Project was continuously monitored and reported at each monthly manager meeting using the CAL FIRE Pilot Project workbook (Appendix C – CAL FIRE Workbook). The workbook enabled the review team managers to monitor the Plan type, the timing of Plan submittal, the results of First and Second Review, the results of the Director's determination period, and the occurrence and reason for any departures in the mandated review timeframe. Additionally, managers were able to discuss individual issues or concerns that they had and come to a consensus.

Participating managers noted that the monthly meetings contributed to their already favorable working relationship by promoting more regularly-occurring communication and instilling proactive collaboration. Despite this benefit, considerable time was required to continuously maintain and review the CAL FIRE workbook used to facilitate the meetings. The time spent proofreading, editing, and correcting spreadsheets within the workbook was significant and diverted time away from performing other tasks pertinent to forest practices (e.g. conducting PHIs, compliance inspections, and monitoring the effectiveness of best management practices) and, thereby, affected the overall efficiency of the Plan review process.

**Objective F: Develop a 'lessons learned' document for evaluation of the Pilot Project and potential future implementation in other areas across the state.**

As part of the Pilot Project, CAL FIRE developed and presented a letter requesting feedback from all stakeholders (individuals and companies) who submitted Plans under the Pilot Project. A total of 90 letters were sent out that resulted in 14 responses being returned to CAL FIRE, copies of which are provided in Appendix D. The respondents indicated that they were generally pleased with the performance of the review team agencies and their ability to meet the Pilot Project's Objectives, particularly in performing the PHI within the mandated timeframe and incorporating all PHI recommendations into a single PHI report prepared by the CAL FIRE inspector. However, several of the respondents voiced concerns in the processing of their Plans in Second Review, which included delays in the submission of Second Review questions, delays in the review of RPF responses to Second Review questions, and the occurrence of multiple iterations of Second Review questions and responses.

Second Review is under the direction of two Review Team Chairs in the Redding CAL FIRE office. There is no "back up" for these positions so any time either Chairperson is gone (e.g. illness, vacation or training) the system is easily overloaded. In recent years, the Redding and

Fresno Plan Review duties are managed and coordinated by one Forest Practice Manager; staff consolidation has occurred largely due to budget reductions. Consequently, because of limited staff, a Review Team Chair work prioritization schedule was set up as follows: First Review of plans received top priority, scheduled Second Review of Plans received second priority, and Plans in post Second Review were reviewed as time allowed. These prioritizations lead to a backlog of Plans that had outstanding issues at the conclusion of Second Review. As winter and early spring have fewer Plans submitted (i.e. least workload coming in), this backlog is presently being addressed.

Based on the feedback letter responses and the opinions shared by members of the review team agencies, there were notable advantages and disadvantages identified through the implementation of the Pilot Project that collectively make up the “lessons learned” which are presented below as Pilot Project Findings. Where applicable, individual ‘lessons learned’ are referenced back to the Pilot Project Objective(s) they apply to.

### **Pilot Project Findings:**

- Fostered a unified commitment amongst the review team agencies to provide First Review of all Plans submitted under the Pilot Project in accordance with the Forest Practice Rules and within the statutory timeframe **(Objectives A and B)**.
- Improved coordination through requirement for written justification why agency attendance on the PHI was desired or required, which also aided the CAL FIRE Forest Practice Manager in determining if a PHI was necessary **(Objectives A and B)**.
- Provided staff in CDFW, DOC/CGS, and Central Valley Water Board time savings by incorporating all PHI recommendations into a single CAL FIRE PHI report **(Objective C)**.
- Streamlined Plan-submitting RPF response and agency review of PHI recommendations by placing the recommendations in a single CAL FIRE PHI report instead of being spread between individual agency reports **(Objective C)**.
- Placed an emphasis on all CDFW Timber Program staff to have the ability to process LSAs; thus, requiring fewer staff to attend PHIs **(Objective D)**.
- Demonstrated that the processing of LSAs for THPs could be accomplished in an efficient manner, provided adequate staffing and strong interdepartmental coordination are provided, and CDFW staff are all trained to a common level of understanding of LSAs **(Objective D)**.
- Promoted review team managers’ communication, facilitated timely discussion and information sharing, identified Plan review efficiencies and inefficiencies, and improved an already favorable working relationship amongst the Redding review team agencies **(Objective E)**.
- Revealed that tracking the status of Plans in the Pilot Project using the CAL FIRE workbook was time consuming and burdensome for CAL FIRE’s Review Team Chair and review team agency staff. **(Objective E)**.
- Highlighted the benefits that would come with the development of a centralized database that could be accessed and populated by all participating State agencies involved in the Plan review process **(Objective E)**.
- Demonstrated that even where staffing levels were relatively robust, agency staff were challenged at times to conduct PHIs within the 10 calendar day timeframe due to conflicting work schedules between agencies, increases in overall workload (e.g. other mandated agency-specific workload, seasonal influx of plans late in the

- summer, competing demand for inspections), and shortened window of available days to conduct the PHIs due to First Review commitments and weekends, furloughs, and holidays **(Objective B)**.
- Increased focus to conduct the PHI within 10 calendar days of filing resulted in **(Objective B)**:
    - A reluctance by the CAL FIRE inspectors to seek a PHI extension from the RPF, which resulted in PHIs being forced to occur during inclement weather, making it more difficult to perform a thorough field review of the Plan area.
    - A reduction in available staff time to conduct pre-consultations and harvest inspections (e.g. on non-Pilot Project PHIs, and compliance and monitoring inspections) that are also important for regulation compliance and environmental assurances. For example, completion inspections are required by statute but are also important to ensure compliance with all pertinent operational forest practice rules that the logger must follow to ensure adequate resource protection.
    - Reduction in other mandated work such as monitoring and law enforcement activities.
  - Confirmed that adequate staffing levels are necessary to ensure success. For example, DOC/CGS had one staff vacancy (one of two staff) in Redding (due to retirement) for much of the Pilot Project duration, thus limiting the number of PHIs that DOC/CGS could attend, both within and outside the Pilot Project area. All of the Redding review team agencies are limited in available staff, and this particular case affecting DOC/CGS could have easily resulted in a similar issue for CAL FIRE, Central Valley Water Board, or CDFW **(Objective B)**.

The Objective of assessing the potential future implementation of the Pilot Project is addressed below in Section 6.0 – Findings and Recommendations for Potential Future Implementation.

#### 4.0 SUMMARY OF PLANS UNDER PILOT PROJECT

The Pilot Project covered only a portion of the CAL FIRE Northern Forest District<sup>12</sup> and therefore the Plans under the Pilot Project were a subset of the Plans submitted to the CAL FIRE Redding review team. Moreover, as discussed, the Pilot Project focused primarily on the early steps of the multi-agency Plan review process that included First Review, PHI scheduling, PHIs, and PHI report generation. Thus far, general statistics have been provided under each of these steps in Section 3.0. Table 1 provides context on the overall status of Plans within the Pilot Project relative to the total volume of Plans submitted to the Redding review team, and the entire range of steps involved in the Plan review process (i.e. from Plan acceptance to Plan approval). Additional information and statistics are located in Appendix C (CAL FIRE workbook).

Evaluation of Plan review process improvements include inherent limitations since the primary Pilot objectives focused on the early stages of THP review. The timing of Plan filing by RPFs (See Figure 3) played a part since many of the plans were submitted later in the Pilot Project window and therefore were not fully through the review process by the end of the one-year period. Thus, it was decided to continue tracking all Plans within the Pilot Project through Plan

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<sup>12</sup> See Appendix E map that shows the boundaries of the Pilot Project vs. entire CAL FIRE Northern Forest District

approval. This will allow for a supplemental report to be prepared and to expand the analysis to Plans reviewed in the same geographic area during the previous calendar year (March 2011 through March 2012). It is expected that a yearly comparison will reveal similar Plan review limiting factors, but also possibly some other unique influences (e.g. the listing of species under State and federal Endangered Species Acts and the extra time required to solicit technical assistance to address northern spotted owl). Understanding and evaluating these factors are an important part of examining opportunities for Plan processing improvements. Consequently, within the next year the Redding Pilot Project management team will prepare a supplemental report to evaluate the other review team process steps that affect the overall time required for Plan review (see Figure 2, process steps 6-10).

**Table 1 Summary of Plans in the Pilot Project**

|  | THP                 | PTHP              | NTMP              | Substantial Amendment | TOTAL      |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Number of Plans accepted for review into Pilot Project (% of total)  | 35<br>(53%)         | 5<br>(8%)         | 2<br>(3%)         | 24<br>(36%)           | 66         |
| Total number of Plans accepted to Redding Review Team (% of total)   | 89<br>(58%)         | 5<br>(3%)         | 4<br>(1%)         | 55<br>(36%)           | 153        |
| Percent number of Pilot Project Plans relative to the number of Plans accepted to Redding Review Team              | 39%                 | 100%              | 50%               | 44%                   | 43%        |
| Total acreage under Plan in the Pilot Project (% of total in Pilot Project Area)                                   | 45,330 ac.<br>(89%) | 3,775 ac.<br>(7%) | 1,874 ac.<br>(4%) | NA                    | 50,979 ac. |
| Total acreage under Plan submitted to Redding review team (% of total)   | 84,448 ac.<br>(92%) | 3,775 ac.<br>(4%) | 3,581 ac.<br>(4%) | NA                    | 91,804 ac. |
| Percent acreage under Plan in the Pilot Project relative to the acreage under Plan accepted to Redding Review Team | 54%                 | 100%              | 52%               | NA                    | 56%        |
| Number of PHIs conducted under Pilot Project   | 30                  | 4                 | 2                 | 8                     | 44         |
| Number of Plans where no PHIs was conducted *  | 5                   | 1                 | 0                 | 16                    | 22         |
| Plans withdrawn during review  | 2                   | 0                 | 0                 | 3                     | 5          |
| Plans Recirculated during review   | 11                  | 0                 | 0                 | 0                     | 11         |
| Plans Approved   | 11                  | 4                 | 0                 | 9                     | 24         |

\* Reasons include: No PHI required, PHI not scheduled yet, Plan withdrawn.

In summary, the Pilot Project included about 43% of the total number of Plans submitted to the Redding review team during the one year project period, the combined acreage of all Plans included in the Pilot Project was about 56% of the total acreage of all Plans submitted to the Redding review team, and the combination or mix of Plan types (i.e. THP, PTHP, NTMP, or Substantial Amendment) in the Pilot Project was similar to the mix of Plans submitted to the Redding review team.

Plans not approved to date include most THPs submitted after September 7, 2012, and includes 9 of the 11 Plans recirculated due to the Pacific Fisher's candidate status for potential listing under the California Endangered Species Act. The review team is also awaiting response from the RPF for a PTHP that is within the current range of the Pacific Fisher that will require recirculation when submitted. Additionally, 2 PHIs have not been scheduled to date because of

winter access issues, and 2 have not been scheduled because the Plans have been returned unfiled and have not been resubmitted. The need for updated growth and yield information is delaying the approval of a substantial deviation to an NTMP.

## 5.0 THE PILOT PROJECT AND HOW IT RELATES TO THE GOALS AND REPORTING STANDARDS AS STIPULATED IN ASSEMBLY BILL 1492

Assembly Bill (AB) 1492<sup>13</sup> (Committee on Budget, Chapter 289 of the Statutes of 2012) was signed on September 11, 2012, and partially required review team agencies to identify and implement efficiencies in the Plan review process and report on activities performed on an annual basis in conjunction with the State's regulation of timber harvesting. Out of recognition of AB 1492, the Redding review team agencies assessed ways in which work performed to comply with AB 1492 could be dovetailed with work performed under the Pilot Project. This assessment is summarized below by providing a synopsis of applicable requirements of AB 1492 followed by a discussion outlining recommendations on how best to implement future studies.

AB 1492, among other things, requires:

- Section 4629.2:
  - (f) Promote transparency in regulatory costs and programs through the creation of performance measures and accountability for the state's forest practice regulatory program and simplify the collection and use of critical data to ensure consistency with other pertinent laws and regulations.*
  - (g) Identify and implement efficiencies in the regulation of timber harvesting between state agencies.*
- Section 4629.9:
  - (a) On or before January 10, 2013, and on each January 10 thereafter in conjunction with the 2014–15 Governor's Budget and Governors' Budgets thereafter, the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, in consultation with the Secretary for Environmental Protection, shall submit to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee a report on the activities of all state departments, agencies, and boards relating to forest and timberland regulation. This report shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:*
    - (1) A listing, by organization, of the proposed total costs associated with the review, approval, and inspection of timber harvest Plans and associated permits.*
    - (2) The number of timber harvest Plans, and acreage covered by the Plans, reviewed in the 2011–12 fiscal year, or the most recent fiscal year.*
    - (3) To the extent feasible, a listing of activities, personnel, and funding, by department, for the forest practice program for 2012–13, or the most recent fiscal year, and the preceding 10 fiscal years.*
    - (4) The number of staff in each organization dedicated fully or partially to (A) review of timber harvest Plans, and (B) other forestry-related activities, by geographical location in the state.*

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<sup>13</sup> A copy of AB 1492 is available at: [http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/asm/ab\\_1451-1500/ab\\_1492\\_bill\\_20120911\\_chaptered.pdf](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/asm/ab_1451-1500/ab_1492_bill_20120911_chaptered.pdf)

- (5) The costs of other forestry-related activities undertaken.*
- (6) A summary of any process improvements identified by the administration as part of ongoing review of the timber harvest process, including data and technology improvement needs.*
- (7) Workload analysis for the forest practice program in each organization.*
- (8) In order to assess efficiencies in the program and the effectiveness of spending, a set of measures for, and a Plan for collection of data on, the program, including, but not limited to:*
  - (A) The number of timber harvest Plans reviewed.*
  - (B) Average time for Plan review.*
  - (C) Number of field inspections per inspector.*
  - (D) Number of acres under active Plans.*
  - (E) Number of violations.*
  - (F) Evaluating ecological performance.*

Due to the similarity in requirements under AB 1492 to the goals and objectives outlined under the Pilot Project, future implementation of any similar study should be tailored to comply with the objectives and requirements of AB 1492, particularly Sections 4629.2 and 4629.9 (above). This could be partly facilitated by creating a management structure to determine the best methods to implement AB1492 mandates and any future study requirements. Emphases under this management structure should be placed on the development and implementation of a central database that could be accessed by all review team agencies. This central database should be designed to allow individual agencies to input, manage, and monitor key data important to each agency, and where appropriate, allow data to be shared with other agencies. The database should at a minimum be designed to monitor the status of the review process, facilitate assessment of the need for more efficient processes and policies, and compile information necessary to construct the annual report required under Section 4629.99 (a). Additionally, an efficient mechanism of scheduling PHIs could be incorporated into this database function.

## **6.0 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POTENTIAL FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION**

The review team agency managers believe that the Pilot Project met the primary goals outlined in the joint CNRA-CalEPA Memorandum, dated March 22, 2012: the review team agencies performed First Review on all plans submitted under the Pilot Project; the majority of PHI's not affected by weather conditions (e.g. seasonal snow) were initiated under the Pilot Project inside the mandated 10 calendar day timeframe; the involvement by all Redding review team agencies ensured a high level of environmental protection; and process improvements were identified in the Pilot Project that could make the review of Plans more efficient.

The Pilot Project's success was in part due to the location in which it was cast. For example, the Pilot Project area encompasses timberlands that in many cases are less sensitive to disturbance when compared to other areas of the State, particularly the north coast where there are more Plans within watersheds containing listed species, regulatory thresholds (e.g. Total Maximum Daily Loads or TMDLs, 303(d) watersheds), and geologic instabilities. Of equal importance to the Pilot Project's success is the long cooperative working relationship amongst Redding review team managers and staff that has developed over time. Most of the managers involved in the Pilot Project have spent time together in the field evaluating timber harvesting projects, or have been involved together in interagency monitoring efforts earlier in their career.

Though it is acknowledged that variations in agency staffing, physical conditions (e.g. geomorphic, geologic, hydrologic), regulatory policies [e.g. 303(d), RWQCB Basin Plans, TMDLs, State and federal biological and wildlife issues], public comment, and Plan processing procedures would likely influence the ability of the efficiencies identified under the Pilot Project to be transferred/extrapolated to areas outside the Pilot Project, the following recommendations should be considered to improve efficiencies in the Plan review process, as well as to partially fulfill the requirements stipulated in AB 1492 in other regions of the State:

1. Evaluate the use of lessons learned from the Redding Pilot Project model to other geographic regions of the State (e.g. such as within each of the Forest Practice Forest Districts [Coast, Northern and Southern]).
2. Consider establishing a framework including duties for program managers involving CNRA and CalEPA to implement and oversee AB 1492 mandates. One of the key roles of CNRA and CalEPA would be to ensure that Statewide consistent implementation of laws, regulations and policies occur when and where appropriate.
3. Consider options to adjust the current legally mandated 10 calendar day First Review and PHI commencement timelines, and/or change the statute and regulations to allow agencies to meter Plan review workload (i.e. set up a maximum number of plans accepted for review on a weekly basis), particularly during times of high workload.
4. Develop a centralized database shared by all review team agencies that would include the necessary information to accurately monitor Plan submittals plus reporting requirements of AB 1492. This database should be designed to allow individual review team agencies to input, manage, and monitor key data important to each agency, and where appropriate, allow data to be shared with other agencies.
5. Encourage interagency communication through regular manager meetings sponsored and occasionally attended by CNRA and CalEPA. These meetings should be focused on fostering interagency communication, addressing issues in a timely fashion, assessing procedures to increase efficiencies in Plan review/departments while ensuring thorough and complete environmental review of projects. These meetings are intended to be staffed by local-level agency/department/board decision makers.
6. Examine opportunities to cross train staff and encourage the effective use of staff to service more than one Program, Region, or Unit where feasible.
7. Evaluate the utility of a centralized PHI calendar system (e.g. Doodle Poll or through Microsoft Outlook) to better facilitate the scheduling of PHIs between the RPF and review team agencies.
8. Consider adopting a common PHI report template used by all review team agencies.
9. Investigate software that would allow review team agency staff to directly write to a common PHI report in real time (e.g. Microsoft SharePoint software).
10. Consider editing the existing CAL FIRE PHI report template to incorporate agency-specific recommendations not under CAL FIRE jurisdiction and clarify responsibility for enforcement.
11. Explore the possible benefits of establishing agreements to share staff resources, office locations, and/or equipment amongst review team agencies (via Memorandum of Understanding).

**Appendix A – Joint CNRA-CalEPA Memorandum, dated March 22, 2012**

**Appendix B – Plan Review Process**

**Appendix C – CAL FIRECALFIRE workbook**

**Appendix D – Stakeholder feedback letter and Responses**

**Appendix E – Map of California showing review team agency jurisdictions.**

## **Appendix A**

**Joint CNRA-CAL/EPA Memorandum, dated March 22, 2012**



EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor  
JOHN LAIRD, Secretary for Natural Resources

MATTHEW RODRIQUEZ  
SECRETARY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**MEMORANDUM**

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 26 2012**

**DATE:** March 22, 2012

**TO:** Ken Pimlot, Director  
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

Charlton H. Bonham, Director  
Department of Fish and Game

Mark Nechodom, Director  
Department of Conservation

Tom Howard, Executive Officer  
State Water Resources Control Board

Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

**FROM:** John Laird, Secretary  
California Natural Resources Agency

Matthew Rodriguez, Secretary  
California Environmental Protection Agency

**SUBJECT:** Redding Timber Harvest Review Pilot Project

In the Governor's proposed budget, the administration made it a priority to bring efficiencies and reforms to the state government processes for reviewing and permitting timber harvesting on private lands in California. Our state personnel should be commended for maintaining the highest levels of environmental protection for timber harvesting in the nation all while facing unprecedented budget reductions. However, because the state's timber harvest review programs are inherently complex, crossing various agencies and multiple CEQA, CEQA equivalent and federal permits, we see

Active on  
Water Q

opportunities to bring efficiencies to the existing process through improved cross-agency coordination and implementation.

We are directing the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), the Department of Conservation (DOC), and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to initiate a pilot project that will create a multi-agency timber harvest group to test cross-agency coordination, program management, and review strategies. Over a one year period, the goal of the pilot is to significantly reduce processing times for timber harvest permits within the pilot area, ensure agency participation in Timber Harvest Plan (THP) review, maintain a high level of environmental protection, and to identify process improvements that could be expanded to other parts of the state. The pilot is to be accomplished within the existing resources of all of the departments.

This team will be located in Redding and will be overseen by CAL FIRE's and DFG's Redding offices to accomplish the following coordination and cooperation:

- 1) Build upon the already existing weekly CAL FIRE and DFG THP review meetings by including additional or extended review team meetings between all agencies at CAL FIRE's Redding office. The team will be tasked with the following priorities:
  - a) Ensure initial assessment by all relevant state agencies of all THPs that are submitted to the CAL FIRE Redding office.
  - b) Coordinate pre-harvest inspection participants through the CAL FIRE forest practice manager. The objective is to significantly decrease the amount of time between plan submittal and on the ground inspection. It is understood that timelines may vary due to weather related backlogs. DFG will evaluate the benefits of cross-training and consolidation of duties between THP and Lake and Streambed staff as a potential efficiency measure.
  - c) Coordinate, through the CAL FIRE field inspector, the development of a single pre-harvest inspection report to include recommendations of all agencies who participated. The objective is to significantly decrease the number of days to complete the report. Through this coordination a process for dealing with situations of non-agreement will need to be developed.

- d) Evaluate the effects of timing of the submission and review of Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement Applications on the overall approval within the THP review time period
- 2) Designation of an upper management resolution team consisting of a member from each department to evaluate implementation of the pilot and mediate and resolve issues that may arise. This team should meet at least monthly with the primary THP staff leads to discuss lessons learned and modifications to the program.
- 3) Upon the conclusion of the pilot project, the team will develop a lessons learned document for evaluation of the project and potential future implementation in other areas across the state.

Through these administrative measures, efficiencies will be achieved and THP review times will decrease. Most importantly the goals and missions of the departments affected will be upheld.

## **Appendix B**

### **Plan Review Process**

## **Summary of the Review Team Process**

The timber harvesting plan (Plan<sup>1</sup>) environmental review process involves resource professionals from CAL FIRE, California Department of Fish and Wildlife [CDFW], California Geological Survey [CGS], and the Regional Water Quality Control Board [RWQCB].

Initial assessment (First Review) of Plans is required to be completed within 10 calendar days of CALFIRE's receipt of a complete Plan (14 CCR §1037). The Redding review team Plan review process consists of the following steps:

- (1) Plans received each week by Noon each Friday are initially screened for obvious errors or incomplete documentation. If during this "clerical screening" a Plan is found to have obvious errors or is incomplete, it is returned to the Plan Submitter unfiled. Plans with no obvious clerical errors are scheduled for the upcoming week's First Review process.
- (2) Plans accepted for First Review are processed electronically and posted on CALFIRE's public File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site (<ftp://thp.fire.ca.gov/THPLibrary/>) for public viewing and distribution to the appropriate review team agencies.
- (3) First Review is scheduled for each Tuesday. Each participating agency must complete their first review and respond to CALFIRE the following day by close of business, Wednesday afternoon. This, in turn allows CALFIRE's Review Team Chair to complete the first review process and make a determination on whether the plan should be filed. Plan filing must occur within 10 calendar days of receipt. This 10 day window typically only allows agencies to have 2 working days (Monday and Tuesday) to complete their First Review. Consequently, CDFW, CGS, and Water Quality must have appropriate staff available (staff with an understanding of local issues and conditions relevant to their agency) dedicated to this work on Monday and Tuesday to ensure that First Review is complete within the regulatory timeframe; CALFIRE must also have appropriate staff available in their offices through Thursday.

At First Review, a Plan is either filed with a recommendation from the Review Team Chair to: (1) conduct a pre-harvest inspection (PHI) on a mutually agreeable date with all review team agency staff; (2) conduct a PHI, but notify review team agency staff of the PHI date so that if their schedules allow they can attend; or (3) schedule no PHI.

If the Plan does not include all the information required by law upon filing, the plan is returned to the Plan Submitter with a list of the issues that need to be addressed in order for the Plan to be accepted for filing. If the Plan is deemed to be complete and in proper order upon receipt and after First Review, the Plan is filed within 10 calendar days of receipt.

During First Review if it is determined that a pre-harvest inspection is needed to assist in the environmental evaluation process, a list of questions are often sent to the plan preparing RPF, Review Team field staff, and CAL FIRE Inspector. The PHI must be initiated within 10 calendar days from the date of filing or the Inspector needs to request an extension of the PHI date from the Plan Submitter

Second Review is scheduled for the first Tuesday, within 20 days after the last day of the PHI. This scheduling is to allow Second Review to occur, followed concurrently by 5 days for the review team agencies to file a Non-concurrence letter with CAL FIRE [14 CCR § 1037.5(e)] if for some reason they do not agree with the

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<sup>1</sup> The term "Plan" refers to a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP), Non- industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP), Programmatic Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP), or Substantial Deviations to a THP, NTMP, or PTHP, as described in the California Forest Practice Rules (14 CCR §§ 1037.3-1037.5 or 1090.17-1090.19 ).

Director's final decision to approve a Plan. Scheduling the Second Review within the 20 day window after the last PHI date also ensure that 10 days are allowed for public comment after final review (14 CCR 1037.4 and PRC 4582.7). The law states "The Director shall have 30 days from the date of initial inspection [PHI] is completed...to review the plan and take public comment."

The Plan, First Review Questions, RPF responses to First Review Questions, the CAL FIRE PHI report and other review team agencies' PHI reports including PHI recommendations, RPF responses to PHI recommendations, and any letters of concern from the public, are all posted to the plan subdirectory in the CAL FIRE THP Library (<ftp://thp.fire.ca.gov/THPLibrary/>). This is done when reports from the Inspector, review team staff, RPF, or member of the public are received by the Review Team Chair so that any interested party can view the information on line and at their convenience.

If all issues related to review of the plan are not resolved at Second Review, or if the RPF has not yet responded to the PHI recommendations, a letter is sent to the RPF describing the unresolved issue(s) and requesting the RPF to address the issue(s). A copy of this letter is then posted to the plan subdirectory in the THP library.

After receipt of the response from the RPF (again the RPF letter is posted to the THP Library upon receipt), and in consultation by e-mail or direct communication (via phone or face-to face) with responsible review team agency members, an additional review (post Second Review or 2<sup>nd</sup>-Second Review) of the plan is conducted. If the issue(s) is resolved, then a recommendation to the Director is made by the Review Team Chair to approve the Plan; if issues remain unresolved, another letter as described above is sent to the RPF seeking final resolution.

If information and changes which could be considered significant were added to the respective Plan's record prior to Plan approval, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) §21092.1, and Guidelines 14 CCR §15088.5; and the Forest Practice Act PRC §4582.7, and Rules 14 CCR §§ 898.1(d) and 1037.4, the public comment period for the Plan is extended for at least 30 calendar days (45 days for an NTMP). All changes to date will be incorporated into the Plan. The revised Plan, and all associated review documents may be reviewed and/or purchased for \$0.10 per page at the forest practice office identified in 14 CCR 1032. Alternatively, the revised Plan and major documents associated with the Plan review may be viewed on the CAL FIRE ftp site: <ftp://thp.fire.ca.gov/THPLibrary>

Following the end of the public comment period, the Director's representative has 15 working days to determine if the Plan is in conformance with the rules and CEQA. During this period the Director's representative reviews the Plan, the review documents including PHI reports and any public comments that may have been submitted. Prior to approval, an Official Response to Public Comments is written. The official response is signed with the Plan and posted onto the CAL FIRE ftp site and in the Plan file.

On occasion, there have been instances where environmental issues identified during Plan review cannot be fully mitigated or the RPF is unwilling to accept final recommendations by the Review Team. In such cases CAL FIRE has denied Plans, and have notified the Plan Submitter of their recourse to appeal the Director's decision to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

## **Appendix C**

**CALFIRE workbook**

## Explanation of CAL FIRE Pilot Project Workbook Nomenclature and Syntax

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Plan Number .....           | The Plan Number is broken into four parts, each separated by a hyphen (-): Example: 2-08-105-SHA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First number (2) indicates CAL FIRE Cascade Region (there are three geographic regions for Plan designation: (1) for the Coast, (2) for the Cascade, and (4) for Southern Sierras and Southern California)</li> <li>• Second number (08) indicates the year (e.g. 2008) the Plan was accepted into First Review</li> <li>• Third number (105<sup>th</sup> Plan received in the Redding Office) indicates the number the plan was received at the Plan filing office, and numbered consecutively starting at 01 after the first of the year.</li> <li>• Forth three letter code (SHA) indicates the County the Plan area mostly falls in. In this case, SHA indicates Shasta County.</li> </ul> |
| Plan Name .....             | The name the Plan is given by the Plan Submitter; there is no mandated naming convention and often a geographic location, landmark, or personal memory trigger is used by the Plan Submitter   |
| RPF .....                   | Registered Professional Forester.  |
| Date Received .....         | The date the Plan is received at the CAL FIRE Redding review team office (6105 Airport Road, Redding, CA).   |
| Filing Date .....           | The date the Director's representative determines that the Plan is complete, in order, and meets the basic information requirements according to the Forest Practice Rules.  |
| Substantial Deviation ..... | Significant change(s) to the Plan that could result in a significant adverse effect to the environment, requiring CEQA evaluation and the development of necessary and feasible mitigation measures.   |
| 1600 .....                  | Refers to Section 1600 et seq. of the CA Fish and Game Code pertaining to Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements (LSA) .   |
| PHI .....                   | Pre-harvest Inspection or Initial Inspection referenced in Public Resources Code Section 4604.   |
| WQ5 .....                   | Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  |
| DFG1 .....                  | Region 1 California Department of Fish and Wildlife  |
| CGS .....                   | California Geological Survey, Department of Conservation   |
| CDF .....                   | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)   |
| Mutually Agreeable .....    | An arranged PHI date purposely aimed to fit the schedules of all review team members who request to attend.  |
| Non-concurrence .....       | A non-concurrence is when one or more of the review team agencies do not agree with the recommendations or determinations of CAL FIRE's Review Team Chair.   |
| O.R. ....                   | CAL FIRE's written official response to environmental concerns raised by the public during the Plan review process.  |
| (Gross) .....               | Number of days from date of submission to date of approval.  |

- (Net) ..... Number of days from date of submission to date of approval, minus days waiting for the RPF's response to Review Team questions.
- Yellow Infill ..... Indicator of a "departure" from meeting one of the Redding Pilot Project objectives (most common, not meeting the 10 day timeframe for commencement of the PHI).
- Red Infill ..... Indicates the responsible party for the "departure" from meeting Pilot Project objective.
- Black Infill ..... Indicates the Plan was either returned, withdrawn by the RPF, or later determined to be a minor deviation to the Plan (i.e., one that does not pose significant threat to timber production or the environment).

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### Submission & 1st Review

| Plan Number                      | Plan Name           | Plan Acres<br>(new plans only) | Plan Submitter     | RPF           | Date Received | Filing Date | Plan Resubmitted | Total Times<br>Submitted | Substantial Deviation | 1600 Needed | 1600 Info in Plan |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <a href="#">2-08-105-SHA</a>     | Mearcat AM#8        | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Blackwell     | 3/23/2012     | 3/30/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-10-027-SHA</a>     | Lamoine AM#4        | N/A                            | SPI                | Kroencke      | 4/20/2012     | 4/27/2012   | Y                | 4                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-007-TEH</a>     | 2NAF                | 1722                           | Crane Mills        | Pritchard     | 3/29/2012     | 4/6/2012    | Y                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-013-SIS</a>     | Rainbow Flat        | 39                             | Kryzanowski        | Ostrowski     | 4/30/2012     | 5/11/2012   | Y                | 2                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-014-SHA</a>     | Highmark            | 364                            | Highmark           | Goodner       | 3/30/2012     | 4/6/2012    | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-015-SHA</a>     | Cole                | 57                             | Cole               | Webster       | 4/2/2012      | 4/16/2012   | Y                | 2                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-92NTMP-003</a>     | Coyote Flat AM#4    | N/A                            | Denny              | Chapin        | 4/3/2012      | 4/12/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-023-SHA</a>     | Bobcat AM#2         | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Blackwell     | 3/28/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12NTMP-001-SIS</a> | Mills Meadow        | 681                            | Mills Ranch        | Lindler       | 4/20/2012     | 4/27/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-088-TEH</a>     | Kline AM#5          | N/A                            | SPI                | Wayland       | 5/11/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-10-056-SHA</a>     | Tower AM#8          | N/A                            | WM Beaty           | Brazil        | 5/15/2012     | Withdrawn   |                  |                          |                       |             | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-026-SHA</a>     | Reynolds Flat       | 1197                           | SPI                | James         | 5/18/2012     | 5/25/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-031-SHA</a>     | Hendrickson         | 377                            | Hendrickson        | Caster        | 6/8/2012      | 6/15/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-10-015-MOD</a>     | Brooks Mill AM#9    | N/A                            | Flournoy           | Goodner       | 6/11/2012     | Withdrawn   |                  |                          |                       |             |                   |
| <a href="#">2-10-015-MOD</a>     | Brooks Mill AM#10   | N/A                            | Flournoy           | Goodner       | 6/18/2012     | Downgrade   | Y                | 2                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12NTMP-003-LAS</a> | 101 Ranch           | 1193                           | WS Keeler Trust    | Nemir         | 6/18/2012     | 6/28/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-033-SHA</a>     | Trough PTHP         | 170                            | Hearst Corp.       | Castaneta     | 6/22/2012     | 7/2/2012    | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-034-SHA</a>     | Skyway 2012 PTHP    | 612                            | Hearst Corp.       | Backes        | 6/29/2012     | 7/9/2012    | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-08-100-SHA</a>     | Boots AM#13         | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Blankenship   | 6/26/2012     | 7/6/2012    | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-07-069-SHA</a>     | Goose Vly Rnch AM#5 | N/A                            | Goose Vly Rnch LLC | Possehn       | 7/17/2012     | 7/27/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-11-012-SIS</a>     | North Fork AM#3     | N/A                            | James Dimick       | Goodner       | 7/18/2012     | 7/27/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-10-043-TEH</a>     | Mineral AM#3        | N/A                            | David Beresford    | Brummer       | 7/19/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-036-SHA</a>     | Taylor              | 60                             | Sharon Taylor      | Pete Feller   | 7/19/2012     | 7/27/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-038-MOD</a>     | Big Bell            | 7014                           | WM Beaty           | Brazil        | 7/25/2012     | 8/3/2012    | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-110-SHA</a>     | Soda Pop AM#8       | N/A                            | SPI                | Wertz         | 8/7/2012      | 8/24/2012   | Y                | 2                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-11-012-SIS</a>     | North Fork AM#4     | N/A                            | James Dimick       | Goodner       | 8/2/2012      | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-052-SHA</a>     | Walking Bear AM#10  | N/A                            | Campbell Timberlar | Ederer        | 8/9/2012      | 8/17/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-052-SHA</a>     | Walking Bear AM#9   | N/A                            | Campbell Timberlar | Ederer        | 8/6/2012      | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-073-SIS</a>     | Whaler AM#8         | N/A                            | MCTC               | Amesbury      | 8/6/2012      | 8/16/2012   | N                | 1                        | y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-044-SHA</a>     | Miller Time         | 1623                           | WM Beaty           | Knipe         | 8/20/2012     | 8/30/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-050-SHA</a>     | Bunya Lane MTHP     | 12                             | Possehn            | Possehn       | 8/24/2012     |             |                  |                          |                       |             |                   |
| <a href="#">2-12-051-SHA</a>     | Gap Creek PTHP      | 306                            | Hearst Corp.       | Backes        | 8/24/2012     | 8/31/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-049-SIS</a>     | Dry Wash            | 2929                           | John Hancock       | Carnegeie     | 8/22/2012     | 8/31/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-07-137-TEH</a>     | Onion Butte AM#12   | N/A                            | Maribeth Collins   | O'Kelley      | 8/31/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-08-048-SHA</a>     | Ridge AM#4          | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Lindler       | 8/31/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-097-SIS</a>     | Cub AM#16           | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Blackwell     | 8/31/2012     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-053-SIS</a>     | North Blackberry    | 252                            | Roseburg           | Lindler       | 8/31/2012     | 9/7/2012    | N                | 1                        | Y                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-054-SHA</a>     | Drivecat            | 419                            | Roseburg           | Robbins       | 9/7/2012      | 9/14/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-10-069-SHA</a>     | Flume AM#2          | N/A                            | Roseburg           | Scott         | 9/14/2012     | 9/21/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-11-087-SHA</a>     | Redway AM#7         | N/A                            | WM Beaty           | Knipe         | 9/5/2012      | 9/19/2012   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-056-SHA</a>     | Oak                 | 316                            | Roseburg           | Webster       | 9/12/2012     | 9/21/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-057-SHA</a>     | Rimrock PTHP        | 626                            | Hearst Corp.       | Castaneta     | 9/19/2012     | 9/28/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-058-LAS</a>     | Calzone             | 428                            | SPI                | Pustejovsky   | 9/20/2012     | 9/28/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-059-SIS</a>     | Snowman's Soda      | 490                            | Roseburg           | Dugay         | 9/21/2012     | 9/28/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-061-SHA</a>     | Cabled Cow          | 670                            | CAL FIRE           | Whitson       | 9/27/2012     | 10/5/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-062-TEH</a>     | Ike                 | 585                            | SPI                | Roberts       | 10/1/2012     | 10/12/2012  | N                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-063-SIS</a>     | Western Front PTHP  | 2061                           | Wyntoon Timberlan  | Bowles        | 10/1/2012     | 10/12/2012  | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-065-SIS</a>     | Pilgrims Camp       | 1492                           | John Hancock       | Duguay        | 10/19/2012    | 10/26/2012  | Y                | 2                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-067-SHA</a>     | Bender              | 485                            | WM Beaty           | Oldson        | 10/8/2012     | 10/19/2012  | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-069-TRI</a>     | Malletes            | 315                            | SPI                | Proburko      | 10/30/2012    | 11/9/2012   | Y                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-073-SHA</a>     | West Hunt           | 140                            | Roseburg           | Webster       | 10/19/2012    | 10/26/2012  | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-09-078-LAS</a>     | Big Widow AM#7      | N/A                            | SPI                | Caster, Jayne | 10/22/2012    | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-075-TEH</a>     | 2NAF                | 1694                           | Crane Mills        | Prichard      | 11/8/2012     | 11/16/2012  | Y                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-076-SHA</a>     | Pipeline            | 3679                           | FGS                | Kessler       | 10/25/2012    | 11/2/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-078-SHA</a>     | Morton              | 1830                           | FGS                | Goodner       | 11/15/2012    | 11/20/2012  | N                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-079-LAS</a>     | East End            | 1533                           | Dyer Mngmnt LLC    | Webster       | 10/31/2012    | 11/9/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | ?           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-081-SHA</a>     | Dairy Cabin         | 1143                           | John Hancock Life  | Feller        | 11/1/2012     | 11/9/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-082-TEH</a>     | Bull Johnson        | 1201                           | Crane Mills        | Haas          | 11/20/2012    | 11/30/2012  | N                | 2                        | N                     |             |                   |
| <a href="#">2-12-083-SHA</a>     | Milkbone            | 204                            | SPI                | Jan Caster    | 11/2/2012     | 11/9/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-084-SHA</a>     | Buckhorn Lava       | 380                            | Roseburg           | Webster       | 11/2/2012     | 11/9/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     |             |                   |
| <a href="#">2-12-085-MOD</a>     | Cottonwood          | 3621                           | WM Beaty           | Stephenson    | 11/8/2012     | 11/16/2012  | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-091-SHA</a>     | Hard Rock           | 4189                           | WM Beaty           | Brazil        | 11/28/2012    | 12/7/2012   | N                | 1                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-12-093-SIS</a>     | Deadeye             | 2549                           | Campbell Timberlar | Kennedy       | 12/10/2012    | 12/20/2012  | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-13-003-SIS</a>     | Smith Two           | 153                            | Smith Living Trust | Lindler       | 1/10/2013     | 1/18/2013   | N                | 1                        | N                     | N           | N                 |
| <a href="#">2-13-005-TEH</a>     | Crony Creek         | 2168                           | Crane Mills        | Haas          | 2/15/2013     | Returned    | Y                | 2                        | N                     | Y           | Y                 |
| <a href="#">2-06-173-TEH</a>     | Lookout AM#19       | N/A                            | SPI                | DeBonis       | 2/21/2013     | Downgrade   | N                | 1                        | Y                     | N           | N                 |

| First Review     |                       |            |                  | Results of First Review |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
|------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|---|------------|
| Plan Number      | Plan Name             | PHI Due By | Extension of PHI | CAL FIRE                |                    |                | WQ5                   |                         |                    | DFG1           |                       |                         | CGS                |                |                       | RPF responded to First Review |   |  |   |            |
|                  |                       |            |                  | Questions at 1st review | Mutually Agreeable | Notify for PHI | Do Not Notify for PHI | Questions at 1st review | Mutually Agreeable | Notify for PHI | Do Not Notify for PHI | Questions at 1st review | Mutually Agreeable | Notify for PHI | Do Not Notify for PHI |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-08-105-SHA     | Mearcat AM#8          | 4/9/2012   | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 4/6/2012   |
| 2-10-027-SHA     | Lamoine AM#4          | 5/7/2012   | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 4/27/2012  |
| 2-12-007-TEH     | 2NAF                  | 4/16/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | Withdrawn  |
| 2-12-013-SIS     | Rainbow Flat          | 5/21/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 5/31/2012  |
| 2-12-014-SHA     | Highmark              | 4/16/2012  | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 4/20/2012  |
| 2-12-015-SHA     | Cole                  | 5/7/2012   | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 5/4/2012   |
| 2-92NTMP-003     | Coyote Flat AM#4      | 4/22/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 5/3/2012   |
| 2-09-023-SHA     | Bobcat AM#2           | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-12NTMP-001-SIS | Mills Meadow          | 5/7/2012   | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 5/17/2012  |
| 2-09-088-TEH     | Kline AM#5            | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-10-056-SHA     | Tower AM#8            |            |                  |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-12-026-SHA     | Reynolds Flat         | 6/4/2012   | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 5/31/2012  |
| 2-12-031-SHA     | Hendrickson           | 6/25/2012  |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 6/29/2012  |
| 2-10-015-MOD     | Brooks Mill AM#9      | Withdrawn  |                  |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-10-015-MOD     | Brooks Mill AM#10     | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-12NTMP-003-LAS | 101 Ranch             | 7/8/2012   |                  | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 7/18/2012  |
| 2-12-033-SHA     | Trough PTHP           | 7/12/2012  |                  | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 7/11/2012  |
| 2-12-034-SHA     | Skyway 2012 PTHP      | 7/19/2012  |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             |   |  | X | 7/13/2012  |
| 2-08-100-SHA     | Boots AM#13           | 7/16/2012  |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 10/11/2012 |
| 2-07-069-SHA     | Goose Villy Rnch AM#5 | 8/6/2012   |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 7/27/2012  |
| 2-11-012-SIS     | North Fork AM#3       | 8/6/2012   |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    | X              | Y                     |                         |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Withdrawn  |
| 2-10-043-TEH     | Mineral AM#3          | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-12-036-SHA     | Taylor                | 8/6/2012   | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    | X              |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 9/19/2012  |
| 2-12-038-MOD     | Big Bell              | 8/13/2012  | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 8/13/2012  |
| 2-09-110-SHA     | Soda Pop AM#8         | No PHI     | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 9/7/2012   |
| 2-11-012-SIS     | North Fork AM#4       | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-09-052-SHA     | Walking Bear AM#10    | 8/27/2012  |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 8/14/2012  |
| 2-09-052-SHA     | Walking Bear AM#9     | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-09-073-SIS     | Whaler AM#8           | No PHI     |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 8/16/2012  |
| 2-12-044-SHA     | Miller Time           | 9/7/2012   | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 9/24/2012  |
| 2-12-050-SHA     | Bunya Lane MTHP       | Returned   |                  |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-12-051-SHA     | Gap Creek PTHP        | 9/10/2012  |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 9/6/2012   |
| 2-12-049-SIS     | Dry Wash              | 9/10/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 10/5/2012  |
| 2-07-137-TEH     | Onion Butte AM#12     | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-08-048-SHA     | Ridge AM#4            | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-09-097-SIS     | Cub AM#16             | Downgrade  |                  | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |
| 2-12-053-SIS     | North Blackberry      | 9/17/2012  | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 10/5/2012  |
| 2-12-054-SHA     | Drivecat              | 9/24/2012  |                  | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 11/8/2012  |
| 2-10-069-SHA     | Flume AM#2            | 10/1/2012  | Y                | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 9/21/2012  |
| 2-11-087-SHA     | Redway AM#7           | No PHI     | N                | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             |   |  | X | 10/4/2012  |
| 2-12-056-SHA     | Oak                   | 10/1/2012  | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 9/28/2012  |
| 2-12-057-SHA     | Rimrock PTHP          | 10/8/2012  | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    | X              |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 10/2/2012  |
| 2-12-058-LAS     | Calzone               | 10/8/2012  | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 10/2/2012  |
| 2-12-059-SIS     | Snowman's Soda        | 10/8/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 10/2/2012  |
| 2-12-061-SHA     | Cabled Cow            | 10/15/2012 | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 10/23/2012 |
| 2-12-062-TEH     | Ike                   | 10/22/2012 | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | X                       | Y                  | X              |                       |                         | Y                  | X              |                       |                               |   |  | X | 11/5/2012  |
| 2-12-063-SIS     | Western Front PTHP    | Optional   | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 10/24/2012 |
| 2-12-065-SIS     | Pilgrims Camp         | 11/5/2012  | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 11/20/2012 |
| 2-12-067-SHA     | Bender                | 10/29/2012 | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 12/13/2012 |
| 2-12-069-TRI     | Malletes              | 11/19/2012 | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 11/27/2012 |
| 2-12-073-SHA     | West Hunt             | 11/5/2012  | N                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 11/6/2012  |
| 2-09-078-LAS     | Big Widow AM#7        | Downgrade  |                  |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-12-075-TEH     | 2NAF                  | 11/26/2012 | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   |            |
| 2-12-076-SHA     | Pipeline              | 11/12/2012 | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | Y                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 11/15/2012 |
| 2-12-078-SHA     | Morton                | 11/30/2012 | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | Y                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 12/3/2012  |
| 2-12-079-LAS     | East End              | 11/19/2012 | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 11/20/2012 |
| 2-12-081-SHA     | Dairy Cabin           | 11/19/2012 | Y                | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 1/25/2013  |
| 2-12-082-TEH     | Bull Johnson          | 12/10/2012 |                  |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                         |                    |                |                       |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-12-083-SHA     | Milkbone              | 11/19/2012 | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                             | X |  |   | 2/13/2013  |
| 2-12-084-SHA     | Buckhorn Lava         | 11/19/2012 | N                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | X                       | N                  |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | 11/15/2012 |
| 2-12-085-MOD     | Cottonwood            | 11/26/2012 | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 12/3/2012  |
| 2-12-091-SHA     | Hard Rock             | 12/17/2012 | Y                | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | Y                             | X |  |   | 12/13/2012 |
| 2-12-093-SIS     | Deadeye               | 12/31/2012 |                  | Y                       | X                  |                |                       | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X |            |
| 2-13-003-SIS     | Smith Two             |            |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    | X              |                       | N                             |   |  | X | 1/16/2013  |
| 2-13-005-TEH     | Crony Creek           |            |                  | Y                       |                    |                | X                     | Y                       |                    |                | Y                     |                         |                    |                | Y                     |                               |   |  |   |            |
| 2-06-173-TEH     | Lookout AM#19         | Downgrade  | N                | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                       |                    |                | X                     | N                             |   |  | X | Downgrade  |





| Directors Determination Period |                     | Determination Period |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Plan Number                    | Plan Name           | Non-concurrence      | Non-concurrence Date | End of Directors Determination Period | OR Required | Staff Time for Official Response | Extend Determination Period | Date of Approval |
| 2-08-105-SHA                   | Mearcat AM#8        | N                    |                      | 5/18/2012                             | N           | 0                                | N                           | 5/1/2012         |
| 2-10-027-SHA                   | Lamoine AM#4        | N                    |                      | 6/22/2012                             | N           | 0                                | N                           | 6/4/2012         |
| 2-12-007-TEH                   | 2NAF                |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-013-SIS                   | Rainbow Flat        | N                    |                      | 10/12/2012                            | N           | 0                                | N                           | 9/25/2012        |
| 2-12-014-SHA                   | Highmark            | N                    | 5/12/2012            | 6/8/2012                              | N           | 0                                | N                           | 5/18/2012        |
| 2-12-015-SHA                   | Cole                | N                    |                      | 7/10/2012                             | N           | 0                                | N                           | 6/19/2012        |
| 2-92NTMP-003                   | Coyote Flat AM#4    |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-023-SHA                   | Bobcat AM#2         |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12NTMP-001-SIS               | Mills Meadow        |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-088-TEH                   | Kline AM#5          |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-10-056-SHA                   | Tower AM#8          |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-026-SHA                   | Reynolds Flat       | N                    |                      | 8/20/2012                             | Y           |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-031-SHA                   | Hendrickson         | N                    |                      | 8/16/2012                             | Y           | 3                                |                             | Withdrawn        |
| 2-10-015-MOD                   | Brooks Mill AM#9    |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-10-015-MOD                   | Brooks Mill AM#10   |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12NTMP-003-LAS               | 101 Ranch           |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-033-SHA                   | Trough PTHP         | N                    |                      | 8/31/2012                             | Y           | 3                                | NO                          | 9/4/2012         |
| 2-12-034-SHA                   | Skyway 2012 PTHP    | N                    |                      | 9/24/2012                             | Y           | 2                                | NO                          | 9/4/2012         |
| 2-08-100-SHA                   | Boots AM#13         | N                    |                      | 11/29/2012                            | N           |                                  | NO                          | 11/16/2012       |
| 2-07-069-SHA                   | Goose Vly Rnch AM#5 | N                    |                      | 9/24/2012                             | N           |                                  | NO                          | 9/4/2012         |
| 2-11-012-SIS                   | North Fork AM#3     |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-10-043-TEH                   | Mineral AM#3        |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-036-SHA                   | Taylor              | N                    | N                    | 11/28/2012                            | Y           |                                  | NO                          | 11/5/2012        |
| 2-12-038-MOD                   | Big Bell            | N                    | N                    | 11/5/2012                             | N           |                                  | NO                          | 11/6/2012        |
| 2-09-110-SHA                   | Soda Pop AM#8       | N                    |                      | 10/19/2012                            | N           |                                  |                             | 10/2/2012        |
| 2-11-012-SIS                   | North Fork AM#4     |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-052-SHA                   | Walking Bear AM#10  | N                    |                      | 10/15/2012                            | N           |                                  | NO                          | 9/25/2012        |
| 2-09-052-SHA                   | Walking Bear AM#9   |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-073-SIS                   | Whaler AM#8         | N                    |                      | 9/28/2012                             | N           |                                  | NO                          | 9/10/2012        |
| 2-12-044-SHA                   | Miller Time         | N                    |                      | 11/5/2012                             | Y           |                                  |                             | 10/18/2012       |
| 2-12-050-SHA                   | Bunya Lane MTHP     |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-051-SHA                   | Gap Creek PTHP      | N                    |                      | 12/6/2012                             | Y           | 3                                | NO                          | 11/14/2012       |
| 2-12-049-SIS                   | Dry Wash            |                      |                      | 2/25/2013                             | Y           |                                  | Yes                         | 3/22/2013        |
| 2-07-137-TEH                   | Onion Butte AM#12   |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-08-048-SHA                   | Ridge AM#4          |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-097-SIS                   | Cub AM#16           |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-053-SIS                   | North Blackberry    |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-054-SHA                   | Drivecat            |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-10-069-SHA                   | Flume AM#2          | N                    |                      | 11/19/2012                            | N           |                                  | NO                          | 10/30/2012       |
| 2-11-087-SHA                   | Redway AM#7         | N                    |                      | 11/5/2012                             | N           | 0                                | NO                          | 10/16/2012       |
| 2-12-056-SHA                   | Oak                 | N                    |                      | 12/12/2012                            | Y           | 4                                | NO                          | 11/27/2012       |
| 2-12-057-SHA                   | Rimrock PTHP        |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-058-LAS                   | Calzone             |                      |                      | 12/12/2012                            | Y           | 4                                | NO                          | 11/28/2012       |
| 2-12-059-SIS                   | Snowman's Soda      |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-061-SHA                   | Cabled Cow          |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-062-TEH                   | Ike                 | N                    |                      | 3/22/2013                             | Y           | 4                                | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-063-SIS                   | Western Front PTHP  | N                    |                      | 12/6/2012                             | N           | 0                                | NO                          | 11/19/2012       |
| 2-12-065-SIS                   | Pilgrims Camp       |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-067-SHA                   | Bender              |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-069-TRI                   | Malletes            |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-073-SHA                   | West Hunt           |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-09-078-LAS                   | Big Widow AM#7      |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-075-TEH                   | 2NAF                |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-076-SHA                   | Pipeline            | N                    |                      | 4/23/2013                             | Y           |                                  | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-078-SHA                   | Morton              | N                    |                      | 5/3/2013                              | Y           | 6                                | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-079-LAS                   | East End            |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-081-SHA                   | Dairy Cabin         |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-082-TEH                   | Bull Johnson        |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-083-SHA                   | Milkbone            |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-084-SHA                   | Buckhorn Lava       | N                    |                      | 5/9/2013                              | Y           | 6                                | Yes                         |                  |
| 2-12-085-MOD                   | Cottonwood          |                      |                      | 2/15/2013                             | Y           |                                  | NO                          | 1/28/2013        |
| 2-12-091-SHA                   | Hard Rock           |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-12-093-SIS                   | Deadeye             |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-13-003-SIS                   | Smith Two           |                      |                      | 4/16/2013                             | N           |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-13-005-TEH                   | Crony Creek         |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |
| 2-06-173-TEH                   | Lookout AM#19       |                      |                      |                                       |             |                                  |                             |                  |



**Redding Pilot Project update March.22.12 to March.21.13**

- total THPs submitted to Redding Forest Practice since January.1.12 =104
- total # of THPs submitted in the pilot project area since January.1.12 =43
- total THPs submitted to Redding Forest Practice since March.22.12 =94
  - o # of THPs submitted in pilot project area March.22.12 to March.21.13 =35
  - o # of PTHPs submitted in pilot project area March.22.12 to March.21.13 =5
    - o # of THPs recirculated (due to fisher listing) to March.22.13 in pilot project area =9
    - o # of THPs approved to March.22.13 in pilot project area =10
    - o # of PTHPs approved to March.22.13 in pilot project area =4
    - o # of THPs withdrawn to March.22.13 in pilot project area =2
- total NTMPs submitted to Redding Forest Practice since January.1.12 =4
- plans submitted (total # of NTMPs submitted in the pilot project area since January.1.12 =2
  - o # of NTMPs submitted in pilot project area March.22.12 to March.21.13 = 2
  - o # of NTMPs approved to March.22.13 in pilot project area = 0
- total substantial deviations submitted to Redding Forest Practice since January.1.12 =55
  - o # of substantial amendments submitted in pilot project area March.22.12 to March.21.13 =24
    - o # downgraded as of March.22.13 to minor amendment at first review = 11
    - o # of substantial amendments approved to March.22.13 = 9
    - o # of substantial amendments withdrawn to March.22.13 = 2
- PHI conducted March.22.12 to March.21.13 = 36
  - o THPs =27 (attendance CAL FIRE=27, DFG=10, CVWQCB=14, CGS=7)
    - o 10 departures due to weather
    - o 9 departures (in excess of legal mandated timeline) These are highlighted with a red cell indicating who caused the departure
      - o 5 RPF 2-12-013-SIS, 2-12-036-SHA, 2-12-049-SIS, 2-12-053-SIS, 2-12-057-SIS
      - o 4 CAL FIRE 2-12-015-SHA, 2-12-031-TEH, 2-12-038-MOD, 2-12-085-MOD
  - o NTMPs =2 (attendance CAL FIRE=2, DFG=1, CVWQCB=2, CGS=0)
    - o no departures
  - o substantial amendments =7 (attendance CAL FIRE=7, DFG=2, CVWQCB=3, CGS=5)
    - o no departures
- Agency Managers (CAL FIRE, DFW, CGS and WQ) have been meeting monthly - next meeting scheduled for March 21, 2013

## **Appendix D**

### **Stakeholder feedback letter and Responses**



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**  
 NORTHERN REGION HEADQUARTERS-REDDING  
 6105 Airport Road  
 Redding, CA 96002  
 (530) 224-2445  
 Website: [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)



Date: March 29, 2013

XXXX XXXXXX  
 PO Box XXXX  
 Corning, CA 96021

**- EXAMPLE -**

**RE: 2-XX-XXX TEH**

Solicitation of input regarding the review team process – Redding Pilot Project

Dear Plan Submitter, and/or RPF:

As you may or may not know, the current Administration has requested that state agencies involved in Timber Harvesting Plan review participate in a Pilot Project to test the efficiency of the multi-agency THP review team process. The Pilot Project covers areas of the state that are under the jurisdiction of all of the following agencies: CAL FIRE, Department of Fish Wildlife, Region 1 (CDFW); Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB) (WQ Region V); and California Geological Survey (CGS); the area is shown on the attached map in blue-gray and covers all of Shasta and Tehama Counties and portions of Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties. Your Plan (THP, NTMP, PTHP, or Substantial Deviation) is located within this Pilot Project area. The official start date of the Pilot Project was March 22, 2012 and it is scheduled to end on March 21, 2013.

The goals of the pilot study, as determined by the California Natural Resources Agency were to:

- A. Ensure initial assessment and review (*i.e. First Review*) of Plans is conducted by all state review team agencies [CAL FIRE, CDFW, CVRWQCB, and CGS].
- B. Reduce the amount of time that elapses from Plan submission and the initial on-the-ground inspection (preharvest inspection or PHI)
- C. Generate a single PHI report that would include the observations, comments, and recommendations from all review-team agencies; rather than separate PHI reports from CAL FIRE, CDFW, CGS and Water Quality. The objective is to decrease the number of PHI reports, the time required to complete and distribute the PHI report, and better coordination and resolution of issues as part of the Plan review process.
- D. All CDFW timber staff were trained to process Lake and Streambed Alteration information submitted as part of the plan. The intent was to make sure all CDFW timber staff attending a PHI could also take care of 1600 permits. Coordination was predicted to lead to more timely processing and approval of Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements by CDFW, coinciding with the Plan review and approval process.

As a plan submitter or RPF involved with the aforementioned Plan(s), I would like to solicit your input to provide feedback on how the multi-agency review team has accomplished their goals as stated above in the review of your Plan,

Please provide responses to the above goals, or any other comments you may have on the Pilot Project, to me by March 25, 2013. You can respond in writing or send me your comments via email:

[Mike.Bacca@fire.ca.gov](mailto:Mike.Bacca@fire.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bacca RPF #2236  
Forester III, Cascade, Sierra & Southern Regions  
Forest Practice Manager  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA. 96002  
Phone (530) 224-2481  
Fax (530) 224-4841  
Cell (530) 941-7179  
[mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov](mailto:mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov)

March 4, 2013

Mr. Michael Bacca  
Forest Practice Manager  
CA Department of Forestry & Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA 96002

RE: Redding Pilot Project – Review Team Process

Mr. Bacca,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Redding Pilot Project for the review team process. This letter is in regard to my experiences with review of THP #2-12-076-SHA, the Pipeline THP. My experience was that all of the listed goals were met, except the archaeological report was delayed. When the archaeologist was contacted, it turned out that he had sent the report in a timely manner but had selected the wrong email address. Otherwise, everything from first review through the PHI went as it should.

The part of the process that seems to have issues is the second and subsequent reviews. There needs to be a time limit attached to this portion of the process as it seems to add unending circles of review with no information given to the RPF or plan submitter as to the need. This is an area where Cal Fire could significantly improve the process and likely reduce review costs.

Thank you for your consideration.

John S. Kessler, RPF #2494  
John Kessler Forestry  
602 Glen Mar Dr.  
Mount Shasta, CA 96067  
530-859-0883  
jkforestry@snowcrest.net



5 Mar 2013

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Northern Region Headquarters  
6105 Airport Rd.  
Redding, CA 96002

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MAR 22 2013

REDDING  
FOREST PRACTICE

RE: 2-09-052 SHA; Input regarding the review team process for Amd #9 &10

Dear Review Team Staff,

Per your request for input dated February 28<sup>th</sup>, I am submitting the following comments regarding the review team process for the above referenced THP amendments.

In general I thought the first review process for this major amendment went fairly smoothly for the following reasons:

- Amendment submittal RPF familiarity with the plan area and issues needing clarification. The amendment writing RPF became extensively familiar with the THP area though monitoring the LTO and field preparation (flagging, marking) in advance of logging operations. During recon in advance of THP operations, the RPF recognized situations that needed identification and clarification in accordance with the forest practice rules. Extensive discussions with the CALFIRE inspector focused on which issues would need additional clarification in an amendment and which were adequately addressed in the original THP
- On site preconsultation with CALFIRE, Water Quality, Fish & Wildlife and Geologic Survey. The onsite preconsult was invaluable as proposed practices were reviewed and solutions to issues were discussed, evaluated and agreed upon in the field by all regulators and the RPF without delays/ surprises associated with remote communications. Oftentimes the interagency/RPF effort towards solutions was beneficial as alternate practices were developed that may not have been obvious to any one individual.

As can be seen from the first review questions, the result of the advanced collaboration was a minimization of 1<sup>st</sup> RTQs and limiting these questions to minor fixits or additional clarifications.

The single PHI report is beneficial as there is no repetition of background information, and no loss, delay or misplacement of additional reports.

Sincerely,

Paul Ederer  
RPF# 2509



5 Mar 2013

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FOREST PRACTICE

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Northern Region Headquarters  
6105 Airport Rd.  
Redding, CA 96002

RE: 2-12-093 SIS 'Deadeye'; Input regarding the review team process

Dear Review Team Staff,

Per your request for input dated February 28<sup>th</sup>, I am submitting the following comments regarding the review team process for the above referenced THP amendments.

In general I thought the review process for this THP went fairly smoothly for the following reasons:

- Simplicity of the THP area. This THP has no watercourses, is all flat ground, is minimally influenced by the NSO and the THP preparing RPF had written a THP immediately adjacent in 2006 with similar silviculture.

First review team questions were generally 'fixit' in nature to correct minor errors in THP wording.

As of this date, this THP has not been subject to a PHI due to excessive snowpack.

Sincerely,

Paul Ederer  
RPF# 2509



1229 SOUTH STREET, REDDING, CA 96001  
(530) 225-8900 • FAX (530) 225-8909  
[www.foresters.com](http://www.foresters.com)

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MAR 12 2013

REDDING  
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March 11, 2013

Michael J. Bacca  
Forest Practice Manager  
Cal-Fire  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, Ca. 96002

Subject; Redding Pilot Project-NTMP Amendment 2-92NTMP-003, Amendment 4

This amendment was to revise and update the sustained yield harvest for the plan based on a current timber inventory cruise on the property. The inventory was done in 2009 and showed more than double the volume per acre on the NTMP since 1992 when the NTMP was approved. The volume increased from 4500 board feet per acre to 10,000 board feet per acre.

Through good forest management and stocking control the merchantable volume, growth rate, and sub-merchantable pine plantations have increase on the property in the past 20 years. The landowner wished to update the 1992 NTMP to show the current conditions. There is no requirement in the NTMP that a new inventory must be done at any period of time. This was a voluntary effort on the part of the landowner.

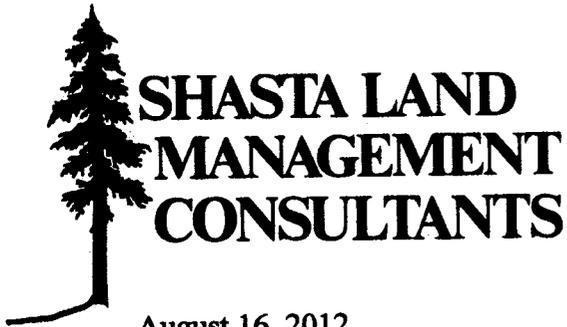
Due to the onerous questions and requirements from the PHI by the review team and the requirement of recommendation #8 that a new inventory be required every ten years has caused the landowner to stop the amendment process. The cost of providing the required information and the cost of future inventories is not justified or economically feasible to the landowner. The purpose of the NTMP rules was to protect the landowner from future new regulations and costs.

I have submitted other NTMP amendments in the past with similar inventory and growth information which have been routinely approved to amend the NTMP sustained yield harvest volumes. This property is a well managed forest property with increased growth and volume due to pre-commercial thinning, stocking control harvesting, and conversion of 65 acres of brush to pine plantations. There is no reason that the process needs to be so burdensome and expensive to the landowner to bring the NTMP growth and yield up to date. See my letter of August 16, 2012 attached on the issue.

The landowners and the RPF will continue to manage the property to assure increasing volume, full stocking, and uneven-aged management under the present NTMP approved in September 1992.

Sincerely,

*Jim Chapin*  
James D. Chapin, RPF



1229 SOUTH STREET, REDDING, CA 96001  
(530) 225-8900 • FAX (530) 225-8909  
[www.foresters.com](http://www.foresters.com)

August 16, 2012

Mr. Michael Bacca  
Forest Practice Manager  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, Ca. 96002

**Subject: NTMP No. 2-92-NTMP-003 SHA Amendment, Response to Cal-Fire PHI Report**

This NTMP was prepared and approved in September, 1992. Now twenty years later the landowners and the RPF have conducted a current timber inventory and made an effort to update the volume and growth information to have a current and accurate sustained yield harvest projection for the next 20 years on the NTMP.

During the pre-harvest inspection the Cal-Fire foresters all agreed that the stand as well managed, well stocked, and moving into a true un-even aged management forest. The current inventory cruise shows present volume of 7 million board feet, or over 10,000 BF per acre on the NTMP. Over 65 acres of non-stocked brush field have been cleared and planted with conifers. These plantations are now well stocked, young, fast growing pine. When this NTMP was approved in 1992 the volume was 4,500 BF per acre, and most areas were over stocked with suppressed trees, and brush.

Clearly the property is well managed and increasing in volume of merchantable trees and young plantation conifer. These plantation trees and natural regeneration in the selection harvest units will provide for future crop trees in the next 60 to 70 years.

At this time the landowners, (Denny Family Trust) wish to cancel this amendment to update this NTMP. They will continue to harvest and manage the property under the existing NTMP and Forest Practice Rules present in 1992. Please see the letter attached from Mrs. Ann Denny. The landowners cannot see a need to spend another \$4000.00 on RPF fees to meet all of the PHI recommendations and requirements. The existing plantations will not be merchantable for another 30 years. The existing stand is well stocked with all sizes and ages of conifers to assure future crop trees. I have never inventoried trees less than 10 inches dbh for a new NTMP or for an undated NTMP inventory.

The most objectionable to the landowners besides the cost of these recommendations is recommendation #8 which requires a new inventory cruise every ten years. This is not required in the existing NTMP and the landowners will never agree to such a requirement in their NTMP. This is unnecessary and expensive for a small forest landowner.

I will answer your questions A through D as follows:

- A. The amendment was submitted on April 3, 2012. The first review was April 10, 2012. This is a reasonable time period.
- B. The PHI was done on May 15, 2012. I am not sure why there was a delay of 35 days to do the PHI. There was no coordination with other agencies since none wished to attend the PHI.
- C. There was one PHI field inspection conducted by only Cal-Fire Foresters. They included Dave Loveless, Bruce Beck, and Adam Deem. No other agency people attended the PHI. The PHI report was prepared on May 30<sup>th</sup>. No comments were included by other agencies. I am not sure why three Cal-Fire Forester needed to attend.
- D. No CDFW staff was involved. No stream crossings or road issues were involved.

The objective of this amendment was only to update the inventory and sustained yield harvest section of the NTMP. This should have been very simple and straight forward based on the inventory information and the field review of the plan area. Due to unneccary and costly requirements and recommendations of the PHI, and the requirement to require a new inventory every ten years, the landowner choose not to complete the amendment process. The NTMP will continue to be managed under the 1992 inventory information.

Sincerely,



James D. Chapin, RPF 914

**August 1, 2012**

**Ann Denny  
Coyote Flat Tree Farm  
8627 Ritts Mill Road  
Shingletown, CA 96088**

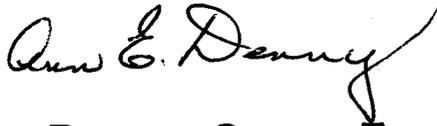
**Jim Chapin  
Shasta Land Management Consultants  
1229 South Street  
Redding, CA 96001**

**Dear Jim:**

**With regard to your letter of estimated costs for the amendment process for our #2-92NTMP-003, we have decided not to pursue finishing the process. Our reasoning is that it is too costly when there is no income in this market from our holdings, and the stipulation that the information be updated every ten or fifteen years. The latter will cause additional expenses in an uncertain market.**

**Thank you for all you do for me. I apologize for the slow reply.**

**Appreciatively,**



**Ann Denny, Owner, Trustee**

**aed**



Growing Forests For Our Future

# Sierra Pacific Industries

Lassen District • P.O. Box 7 • Susanville, California 96130 • (530) 257-2150

Michael Bacca  
Forest Practice Manager, Coast-Cascade Region  
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, California 96002

March 15, 2013

**RE: Redding Pilot Project  
THP #2-12-058-LAS**

Dear Mr. Bacca,

The following information is being provided in response to your letter dated February 28, 2013 regarding solicitation of input on the review team process Pilot Project. The goals you stated for the Pilot Project are paraphrased below.

Goal A: Ensure initial assessment and review is conducted by all state review team agencies.

Goal B: Reduce the amount of time that elapses from Plan submission and the initial on-the-ground inspection (PHI).

Goal C: Generate a single PHI report that includes the input from all agencies rather than separate PHI reports.

Goal D: Ensure that CDFW timber staff are trained so that 1600 permits can be reviewed during the PHI, and permit approval can coincide with the THP review and approval.

These are commendable goals as my experience on other THP's is that timeframes for review and PHI's have sometimes been extended or ignored due to late submission by agency reviewers. While a legitimate issue or concern may be raised, these delays make the process needlessly burdensome and complex.

It should be noted that THP 2-12-058 LAS did not contain some of the elements that would require extensive input from multiple agencies, particularly relating to watercourses. However, the following comments are provided on the relevant portions of each goal.

Goal A: Review was conducted by all affected agencies as determined from review team questions, which were received by RPF in a timely fashion.

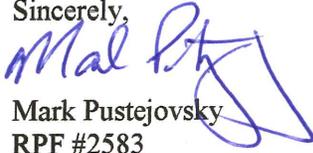
Goal B: There were no delays or requests for extension in scheduling and conducting the PHI. Timeframes met.

Goal C: A single PHI report was received in a timely fashion, with no pending issues.

Goal D: Not applicable to this plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the review team process Pilot Project. I welcome any effort to insure the THP review process is a smooth multi-agency effort, where legitimate issues and concerns can be raised and addressed, and a concise document trail exists to record the actions taken to resolve them.

Sincerely,



Mark Pustejovsky  
RPF #2583

## Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE

---

**From:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2013 10:33 AM  
**To:** Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE  
**Subject:** FW: Pilot Project

Don,

Additional Pilot Project comment

Michael J. Bacca, RPF #2236  
Forester III, Cascade, Sierra & Southern Regions  
Forest Practice Manager

**CAL FIRE**

California Department of  
Forestry and Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA. 96002  
Phone (530) 224-2481  
Fax (530) 224-4841  
Cell (530) 941-7179  
[mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov](mailto:mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov)

---

**From:** Jan Caster [<mailto:JCaster@spi-ind.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2013 9:42 AM  
**To:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Cc:** Herb Baldwin  
**Subject:** Pilot Project

Hi Mike,

I received your letter dated 2/28/13 regarding my THP #2-12-083 and the Redding Pilot Project. I would like to offer the following comments:

- Upon submission, it appeared the process was working as expected: I received a timely e-mail from my inspector and a Preharvest Inspection was scheduled as soon as everyone was available. As I remember, we had a few folks wishing to attend, so it was a little more difficult to schedule everyone. Mr. Gabe Shultz did a very good job finding a date that worked for everyone, and even securing an Inspector to attend in his absence.
- Due to pending language changes for the Pacific fisher, I held my THP after the Preharvest Inspection until language could be agreed upon by CDF and others involved. The day after I was given the new Pacific fisher language, I submitted my response to the First Review Questions and the PHI recommendations, which included this new fisher language. This submission was dated 2/11/13.
- I received my Second Review Questions on March 12, 2013 via e-mail, and dropped off my reply to Second Review by March 15, 2013. (These dates illustrate that the second review questions were submitted to me a full month after I submitted my first review and PHI responses.)
- I am currently waiting for my second review responses to be processed, a possible re-circulated due to the new fisher language, and the plan to be approved as soon as possible.

As a general comment, I will say that the lag between submission of the responses to First Review/Pre-harvest Inspection recommendations and Second Review Questions appears to be quite lengthy. As shown above, it was a month between when I submitted my responses and when I received my Second Review Questions.

Also, as a general observation in recent years, we don't just receive one set of Second Review Questions, but often one, two or even three more sets of questions after Second Review. These questions weren't necessarily asking for additional information/clarification about our response to Second Review Questions, a request for more information due to a new

plant/animal listing, or a rule change that occurred while the plan was still in process. They just appeared to be additional questions very similar to those posed in Second Review. These constant “additional review” questions just postpone plan approval and potentially leave it open for additional public comment and further delay. In the past, unless there was a question regarding our response to the Second Review questions (basically asking for more clarification), we would not receive any more questions. Currently, this does not appear to be the case. Is the review process supposed to be open-ended like this?

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the effectiveness of the Redding Pilot Project.

Sincerely,

**Jan Caster**

**Redding District Forester**  
**Registered Professional Forester #2338**



**P.O. Box 496014**  
**Redding, CA 96049**  
**[jcaster@spi-ind.com](mailto:jcaster@spi-ind.com)**  
**Office: 530.378.8145**  
**Cell: 530.410.2045**  
**Fax: 530.378.8139**



## Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE

---

**From:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:16 PM  
**To:** Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE  
**Subject:** FW: Redding Pilot Project comments on 2-07-137-TEH(5) AM#12

Don,

FYI

Michael J. Bacca, RPF #2236  
Forester III, Cascade, Sierra & Southern Regions  
Forest Practice Manager

**CAL FIRE**

California Department of  
Forestry and Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA. 96002  
Phone (530) 224-2481  
Fax (530) 224-4841  
Cell (530) 941-7179  
[mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov](mailto:mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov)

---

**From:** O'Kelley, Eric [<mailto:EOKelley@collinsco.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:12 PM  
**To:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Subject:** RE: 2-07-137-TEH(5) AM#12

### RE: Solicitation of input regarding the review process – Redding Pilot Project

Mike,

The substantial deviation to THP # 2-07-137-TEH(5) concerning an amendment to socking requirements was in response to the "Mill Fire" that significantly damaged 85 acres of Collins Pine Company property.

With many private landowners filing various emergencies after multiple fires during the summer of 2012 my amendment (sited above) was reviewed by all the resource agencies in a very timely manner. After my amendment was routed I was asked to clarify one point with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) (Region 1). This was done over the phone and I added some language to the original amendment to address said concern. Within the week of receiving my written response to the DFW concern (sent via email to Redding Review) my amendment was signed.

I know that I speak for the rest of the forestry staff here at Collins Pine Company when I say that we are very satisfied with the speed and efficiency in regards to the multi-agency THP review team process that is channeled through the Cal Fire Redding office. Although we may not always agree with every request asked by the various agencies during the THP review process - we have been happy with our working relationship with each of them.

Sincerely,



Eric O'Kelley  
RPF #2802

## Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE

---

**From:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 1:04 PM  
**To:** Lindsay, Don@CALFIRE  
**Subject:** FW: Redding Pilot Project comments

Don,

FYI

Michael J. Bacca, RPF #2236  
Forester III, Cascade, Sierra & Southern Regions  
Forest Practice Manager

*CAL FIRE*

California Department of  
Forestry and Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA. 96002  
Phone (530) 224-2481  
Fax (530) 224-4841  
Cell (530) 941-7179  
[mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov](mailto:mike.bacca@fire.ca.gov)

---

**From:** Dustin Lindler [<mailto:dlindler@jeffersonresource.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 1:02 PM  
**To:** Bacca, Mike@CALFIRE  
**Subject:** Redding Pilot Project comments

Mike,

In response to your letters on the Redding pilot project for THP 2-12-053SIS, THP 2-13-003SIS and 2-12NTMP-001, I can offer the following comments:

For THP 2-12-053, a single consolidated PHI report was not generated as CGS provided one in addition to CAL FIRE. I do not believe this resulted in any significant delay from my end as I recall Inspector Miller's PHI report captured the CGS recommendations. As for THP 2-12-053SIS, I do not believe WQ provided any questions at 1<sup>st</sup> review but given the benign nature of the plan I cannot take this to mean that they did not participate in the review. Please let me know if you need anything else.



Dustin Lindler  
Jefferson Resource Company INC  
(w) 530.938.3785  
(m) 530.925.1599



# Sierra Pacific Industries

2849 Northgate Dr • Chico, California 95973 • (530) 345-0025

March 20, 2013

Mike Bacca  
CAL FIRE  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding Ca. 96002

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MAR 25 2013

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Ike THP  
2-12-062-TEH

Dear Mike:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback pertaining to the multi-agency review of IKE THP 2-12-062-TEH.

This plan was submitted on 10-01-2012, and filed on 10-12-2012.

The PHI was held on 10-23-2012. This PHI was attended by CDF, Fish & Wildlife and Water Quality.

First review questions and PHI field review questions were submitted to CDF Redding by 11-02-2012. Second review was completed and answered by 11-09-2012.

Final review was completed and answered by 11-26-2012. This plan was scheduled for signature in December, but additional information regarding the Pacific Fisher was requested, and Sierra Pacific Industries agreed to extend the period of determination.

The additional Pacific Fisher information was provided by Sierra Pacific Industries and this information was added to the THP and submitted on 2-18-2013. This plan is scheduled for signature on 3-22-2013.

All time lines for this plan were met. The review process took 60 days from the original assessment to the original planned signature date. The PHI and additional issue review was completed in a timely fashion. As related to past experiences with this process, this plan review was completed promptly.

Sincerely,

Steve Roberts  
Sierra Pacific Industries  
RPF #2279



# Sierra Pacific Industries

2849 Northgate Dr. • Chico, California 95973 • (530) 345-0025

March 20, 2013

Michael J. Bacca  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA 96002

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Re: 2-09-088TEH AM#5

Mr. Bacca,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the efficiency of the multi-agency review team process. You specifically requested I comment on Amendment Number 5, Crossing #6 of the Kline THP, 2-09-088TEH. The plan as approved allowed for a dry rocked ford crossing along a Class IIS watercourse in an ASP watershed. At the time of operations water was present and access to one unit was excluded creating an operational hardship and the need for amendment.

The timeline for amendment approval was as follows:

- I contacted Adam Wyman, Unit Forester Tehama Glen Unit, for a field review of Crossing 6. Mr. Wyman promptly met with me on May 9, 2012 to review field conditions and provide inspection notice #3 to support our meeting.
- Amendment #5 was submitted to CDF on May 10, 2012 with a request for minor deviation status. That request was granted and the amendment approved on May 17, 2012.
- The CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement amendment was requested on May 10, 2012 and approved June 12, 2012.

This amendment was processed without delay and each agency was receptive to my desire to expedite approval.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Brian Wayland, RPF 2396  
Stirling District Forester

Philip E. Nemir  
Forestry & Appraisal Services  
P.O. Box 1717  
Susanville, CA 96130  
(530-257-2294)  
philnemir@hotmail.com

March 25, 2013

Mike Baca  
Review Team  
California Department of Forestry  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA 96002

**SUBJECT: Redding Pilot Project Comments – 2-12NTMP-003LAS**

Dear Mike:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Review process for the above-referenced plan. As you will see from my comments below, I believe that the Pilot Project should be expanded to include all phases of the THP/NTMP review process.

**Goals of the Pilot Project -**

Goal A – It appears that all agencies participated in the initial assessment and review.

Goal B - It was clear that the agencies made a concerted effort to accelerate the time between approved Plan submission and the initial on-the-ground PHI. It was so fast that I barely had time to prepare to respond to the pre-PHI questions. Ivan Houser did a good job in that respect.

Goal C – One PHI report was issued and that was appreciated. Later in the process, however, the Water Quality reviewer provided a separate email response for second review.

Goal D – Both CDFW and Water Quality representatives were present and provided valuable input regarding the 1600 permit.

### **Pilot Project Goals Too Limited –**

I have been practicing forestry in California for nearly 40 years, and have witnessed the evolution of the THP/NTMP review process, and find that the least of the time delays is caused in scheduling a PHI. The local CDF foresters in this area have always tried to schedule PHIs timely, and slow scheduling has never been an issue. Multiple post-PHI reports from different agencies have been somewhat of a problem, but again, not major.

On the other hand, the review process after the PHI and post-PHI report is where things have gotten bogged down. It is my observation that the intent, requirements and spirit of 14 CCR 1090.18 have been neglected by CDF. For many years, the review process entailed clear steps. The first set of questions from CDF, pre-PHI, covered all aspects of the THP/NTMP, and I provided responses at the PHI. We had the PHI, and any new field issues were raised by agencies present at the PHI. CDF produced a post-PHI report that included any unresolved issues from their first set of questions and the PHI review. There were no new post-PHI issues raised. Unless there were very complicated issues to resolve, it was not a time-consuming process to respond and plans were approved within a reasonable timeframe.

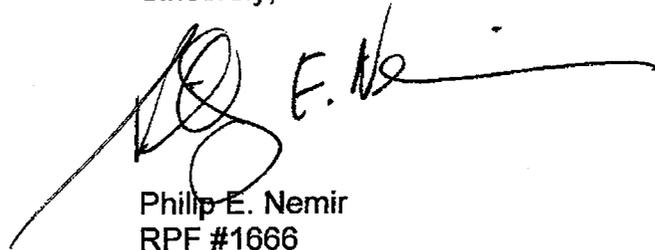
Now, however, delays on CDF's part seem to be the norm. Significantly, 14 CCR 1090.18 specifies that the "Director shall have "45 days from the date the initial inspection is completed...or such longer period as may be mutually agreed upon by the Director, and the person submitting the plan, to determine if the plan is in conformance with the applicable rules adopted by the Board" (emphasis added). CDF has not conformed to the requirement of requesting extensions of time. Interestingly, the June 27, 2012 letter from CDF reiterates this requirement. For the NTMP referenced above, the second review letter from CDF was provided exactly 45 days after the PHI (see the attached timeline) without a request for an extension of time, and no time extensions have ever been requested since then.

Also disturbing is that reviewers have raised brand new issues, after the first review and the PHI, that should have been found during the initial review. This has elevated the review process to a new level of inefficiency and frustration for both myself and other RPFs in similar situations, as well as generating additional unnecessary costs to landowners and foresters alike. As I pointed out in a letter response to CDF dated September 28, 2013, the reviewer raised 22 new issues in what was called "additional review" on September 22, 2013, far past the 45-day period. And significantly for this NTMP, without adequate explanation or justification, the CDF reviewer objected to a landowner typical request (previously honored for eight other approved NTMPs) to protect "trade secret" quantitative data from public disclosure. This raises another issue of the "moving bar" when new review issues seem to develop over time.

In summary, the goals of improving the process for setting up PHIs and providing for CDF being the central voice for PHI responses seems to have been met, and that is a favorable development. On the other hand, I believe that the Pilot Project needs to be expanded to examine the remainder of the review process, for that is where the substantive time delays are occurring.

Thank you again for requesting my input. Please do not hesitate to call if should wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. E. Nemir", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Philip E. Nemir  
RPF #1666

cc. William S. Keeler, Kathi Sauers  
CLFA – William Keye

**101 Ranch NTMP - 2-12NTMP-003LAS**  
**Timeline of Review**

| <u>Date</u>        | <u>Agency</u>             | <u>Action</u>   |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| June 15, 2012      | RPF                       | NTMP mailed to Redding  |
| June 18, 2012      | CDF                       | NTMP received in Redding  |
| June 27, 2012      | CDF                       | Letter to RPF indicating filing date with first review & questions  |
| June 28, 2012      | CDF                       | NTMP accepted for filing  |
| July 3, 2012       | CDF/RPF<br>CVWQCB<br>CDFG | PHI on-site   |
| July 5, 2012       | CDF                       | PHI report sent to RPF  |
| July 16, 2012      | RPF                       | Letter responding to PHI report   |
| August 17, 2012    | CDF                       | Second review letter to RPF with 2 new issues including issue of "trade secret" data                              |
| August 22, 2012    | RPF                       | Letter response to second review  |
| September 20, 2012 | CVWQCB                    | Email to RPF re: use of straw   |
| September 22, 2012 | CDF                       | Letter to RPF re: "additional review" with 22 new issues  |
| September 28, 2012 | RPF                       | Letter to CDF responding to "additional review"   |
| October 23, 2012   | CDF                       | Letter to RPF re: 9/28/13 letter  |
| January 8, 2013    | RPF                       | RPF response to 10/23/letter - included 5+ page justification of trade secret & requested 5 business day response |
| January 31, 2013   | RPF                       | email to CDF re: review status  |
| January 31, 2013   | CDF                       | CDF advised of request for additional review by Sustained Yield Forester Muranto                                  |
| February 6, 2013   | CDF                       | Letter to RPF re: 1/8/13 letter   |
| March 11-15, 2013  | RPF                       | Phone msgs left for M. Baca - he was on vacation  |
| March 19, 2013     | RPF                       | Phone conversation to resolve remaining issues  |
| March 21, 2013     | RPF                       | Letter to CDF with changes per remaining issues   |

Frank Barron  
Crane Mills  
P. O. Box 318  
Corning, CA 96021  
March 25, 2013

Mike Bacca, Forest Practice Manager  
Calif. Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection  
6105 Airport Road  
Redding, CA 96002

Dear Mike:

At the last CLFA meeting and via a letter to Plan Submitters dated 2/28/13, you requested feedback on the Redding Pilot Project particularly with respect to the four goals that the Resources Agency set out for your THP Review Team. I am responding to you on behalf of Crane Mills based upon our limited experience with three plans that were submitted and/or reviewed during the project period—THP #2-12-075-TEH(5), THP #2-12-082-TEH(5), and THP #2-13-005-TEH(5). None of plans have been approved because the PHIs have not been completed due to snow preventing access to the plan areas in early December 2012. Our comments on each goal follow.

A. Ensure initial assessment and review by all review team agencies

A review of the first review questions for all three plans seems to indicate that all pertinent agencies participated in first review. Our concerns with the process actually stem from the initial review by CDFFP prior to the acceptance for filing of each plan. It was extremely frustrating for us to have plans not accepted for filing for what we would term rather minor edits and/or changes in rule interpretation since the last time we had submitted plans. In the past, these kinds of filing “issues” would have been taken care of in first review and/or the PHI. In the end, we don’t think that any review time was saved, it was simply shifted to a different point in the process. While we understand why you wanted “perfect” plans up front due to the Pilot Project, we thought your reviewers were needlessly nit-picking.

B. Reduce the amount of time between Plan submission and the PHI

We did not see any change in the amount of time between plan submission and the PHI owing to the fact that it is difficult to mesh schedules for 4-5 different people, and sometimes more. Weather also interferes with that process especially in the late Fall.

C. Generate a single PHI report instead of multiple reports by each agency

We have no comment on this question because we have not completed PHIs for either plan submitted during the Pilot Project period.

D. All CDFW staff trained to complete 1600 permits at same time as PHI

This goal had been met over the last several years, predating the Pilot Project, insofar as we had Stacy Stanish. Now that Stacy is changing offices to a different region, we can only hope that her replacement(s) will be trained accordingly.

There are some general comments we would like to make about the review process. These take on the form of several needs going forward into the future:

1. Maintenance of continuity in review team personnel;
2. Continuity in rule interpretation over long periods of time (5-7 years +);
3. Development of field experience and knowledge of review team personnel, especially for the “other” (non-CDF) agencies when it comes to logging, roads, and watercourse crossings;
4. Moderation of “every wind of change” that comes from Sacramento by the review team supervisors so that RPF’s and Plan Submitters are buffered from unrealistic and unfeasible rules;
5. Recognition by the reviewing agencies of the poor economy that the forest products industry is in, i.e. we cannot afford what the state wants;
6. Recognition by the reviewing agencies of regional differences in the feasibility of various mitigation measures.

We do appreciate the Resources Agency’s interest in making the review process more efficient, timely, and prompt since it should reduce everyone’s costs. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (530) 824-5427.

Sincerely,

Frank Barron, RPF #2007  
Chief Forester

FORESTLAND  
MANAGEMENT

RECEIVED

MAR 28 2013

REDDING  
FOREST PRACTICE

March 27, 2013



W. M. BEATY &  
ASSOCIATES, INC.

845 BUTTE ST. / P.O. BOX 990898  
REDDING, CALIFORNIA 96099-0898  
530-243-2783 / FAX 530-243-2900  
[www.wmbeaty.com](http://www.wmbeaty.com)

Mr. Michael J. Bacca  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION  
6105 Airport Rd  
Redding CA 96002-9422

Re: Redding Pilot Project

Dear Mr. Bacca:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the Redding Review Team Pilot Project. The following are the W. M. Beaty & Associates, Inc. responses to the goals of the Pilot Project associated with Timber Harvesting Plans (THP) 2-11-087-SHA, 2-12-038-MOD, 2-12-044-SHA, 2-12-049-SIS, 2-12-067-SHA, 2-12-085-MOD, and 2-12-091-SHA along with comments for these and other recent harvest documents.

Responses to Pilot Project Goals

A. Initial assessment and review. The initial assessment and review was effectively conducted by all state agencies and within the California Forest Practice Rule (Rules) timeframes. However, our perception is that the review team may be overly critical when identifying issues warranting the return of a THP. Reasons for returns are sometimes for ministerial typographical or clarification issues that could easily be resolved more efficiently through direct contact with the Registered Professional Forester (RPF) upon submission or during first review without returning a THP. We realize that the timeframes do not always permit this type of process; however, it does not always preclude it either. Returning THPs results in many review questions being addressed outside of and before entering the formal review period. Although this process expedites the formal review process once a THP is accepted for filing due to the reduced number of issues to be addressed, it delays the overall process merely to ensure that the formal review process will more easily comply with THP review timelines.

B. PHI scheduling. There has been good effort to conduct preharvest inspections (PHI) within the mandated timeframe. Some delays in conducting PHIs have continued to occur due to scheduling conflicts with agencies and non responsive inspectors. Scheduling PHIs within the 10-day timeframe and accepting that not all agency inspectors will always be able to participate during this period would be an efficient solution. Agencies not able to attend the PHI could request other agency inspectors attending the PHI review specific areas in which they have questions on their behalf. If an agency knows they have a non-responsive inspector it would expedite the process if they immediately direct the PHI to a more appropriate inspector to ensure that the timeframes are met rather than letting the process work itself through for the purpose of creating a paper trail at the timber and timberland owners expense.

The fact that RPFs must grant PHI extensions as requested by Cal Fire or face denial and return of a THP due to scheduling issues in which the RPF has no control is disconcerting.

C. Single PHI report: The use of a single PHI report has resulted in better wrap up at the end of the PHI during the tailgate session and provides clarity and consistency to the RPF. Receipt of the PHI report from the Cal Fire inspector via email when the report is submitted to the review team, and occasionally for proofreading prior to submittal, provides more time for the RPF to prepare responses to meet the second review timeframe. The single PHI report has generally worked well for all THPs involved in the Pilot Project with the exceptions being a separate archaeological report from Cal Fire that was delayed due to a computer crash, a redundant and unnecessary Cal Fire archaeological report, a PHI report with errors that had to be resubmitted, and a late botanical report from the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

D. Lake and Streambed Alterations. The review of 1600 permits during the PHI is effective and efficient to enable this process to be completed in a timely manner during THP review and eliminates the need for a separate site visit.

#### Comments

1. Scope: The Pilot Project appears to be limited to THPs and amendments filed in 2012 and excludes NTMPs filed in 2012. Inclusion of NTMPs that have similar review timeframes would have provided useful information.

2. Compliance with Rules: The irony of the Pilot Project is that it was a test to see if the agencies could comply with the review timeframes in the Rules, the same Rules that plan submitters, RPFs, Licensed Timber Operators (LTOs), timber owners, and timberland owners are compelled to adhere to.

3. Review questions. It appears that for each review event the review team either does a cursory review, reviews only selected sections, or different reviewers conduct each review event. Questions are sometimes redundant or conflicting of previous review questions causing RPFs to respond with "see response to question X above". Review questions should be more thoroughly evaluated for redundancy and conflicts prior to mailing.

4. PHI determination. The review team should determine whether a PHI is required based on whether there are questions that can best be answered through a field inspection. The default should be "No PHI". The next level should be a "Focused PHI" that is truly limited to the portion of the THP that must be reviewed to answer the question. The use of "PHI optional" or "PHI required" should be limited and justified. Participation in PHIs by agency inspectors, timber and timberland owners, RPFs, and LTOs is time consuming and costly. Agencies sometimes attend a PHI merely because they "wanted to get out of the office" and do not bring a copy of the THP to the PHI and/or do not have any specific questions that require a field inspection.

5. Second review. Second review questions and additional review questions are often not limited to clarification of RPF responses to first review questions and PHI responses. It appears that a different reviewer sometimes generates an entirely new set of questions that were not generated during first review but easily could have been. This situation delays the review process and results in the RPF having to revise the same THP pages that were revised during previous responses for items that were not a concern previously or were missed by the review team. Second review should be limited to review of the RPF responses to first review questions and PHI recommendations. The use of "additional review" should be limited rather than what has become routine. There seems to be a high threshold for the number of times the review team will provide new questions to the RPF.

The pilot project and THP review timeframes do not address the "second review black hole". Although THPs generally get filed, go through first review, receive PHIs, and "go through" (start) second review within the timeframes, the duration of second review and additional review is a huge delay. It appears that if the RPF responses are not received prior to second review the THP goes to the bottom of the pile. It would be helpful that in situations where responses from the RPF are not available for second review, the THP should be rescheduled for second review the following week rather than just going into a backlog pile.

Delays in second review are perceived to be unlimited with no consequences for the review team or certainty for the THP submitter, RPF, Timber and Timberland owner, or LTO as to when a THP will be reviewed. This second review or "additional review" delay has a detrimental effect on the timber industry. Staffing augmentation during periods of increased THP review and

prioritization of timely review are necessary. Prudent use of first in first out prioritization and rapid review of simple THP issues is necessary to provide certainty and efficiency to the process.

6. THP Status. Repeated calls to the review team inquiring about THP status are often met with a multitude of responses such as: "it is the holiday season, I've been on vacation, I've been at training, we have been short-handed, we have been swamped, your plan is X number of plans deep in the pile, we may get to it towards the end of next week, or the more time I spend informing RPFs where their plan is in review the less time I have to review them". The THP Status Table on the Cal Fire website should be updated by a disclosed consistent time each day and/or updates could be provided to RPFs by email from the review team.

7. Director's determination. Although letters stating that a THP has been recommended for approval are generated, this has sometimes merely been a notice that additional questions from the Regional Forest Practice Manager (Manager) will be prepared. The Manager often identifies issues that are warranted for revision and should have been identified during first or second review. Sometimes these issues result in a THP being recirculated after recommendation for approval. Situations such as these cause further delay, increased costs, and reduced certainty regarding THP approval.

#### Summary

We hope our response to the request for input on the Pilot Project and comments are helpful and we welcome the opportunity to discuss our input and comments further with you.

Sincerely,

W.M. BEATY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

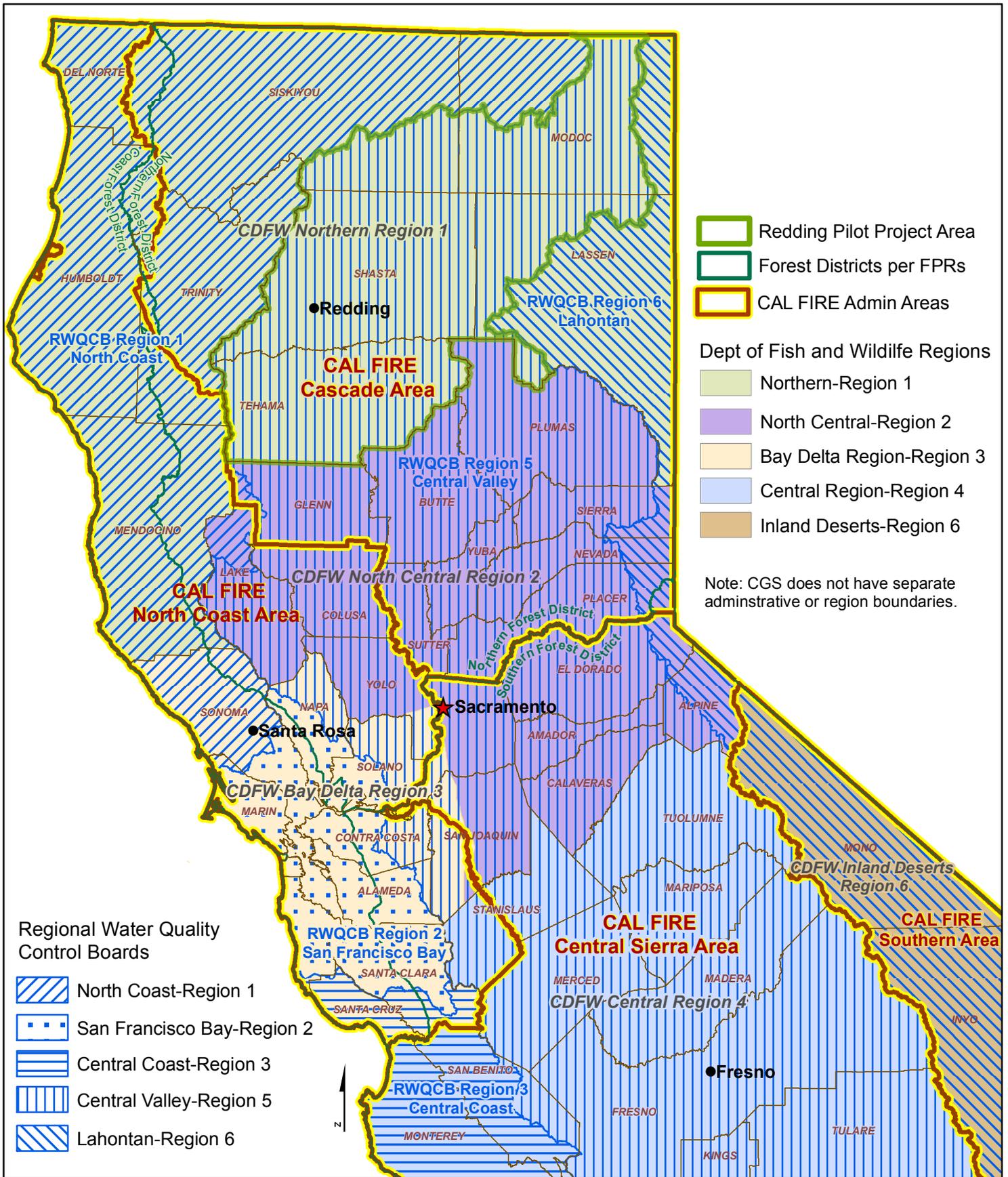


Scott P. Carnegie  
Project Forester, RPF No. 2540  
(530) 524-9071  
[scottc@wmbeaty.com](mailto:scottc@wmbeaty.com)

SPC:klh

## **Appendix E**

**Map of California showing review team agency jurisdictions.**



July 2012

## Forest Practice Review Team Agency Administrative Boundaries