

Memorandum

To: Matt Dias, Acting Executive Officer,
Board of Forestry
Gabriel Schultz, Northern Region Staff Chief
Scott Upton, LNU Chief

Date: July 15, 2015

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From: Dave Loveless, State Forest Program Manager
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Subject: 2015 Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest Management Plan – A Synopsis of Planned Changes and Updates

Board of Forestry (Board) Policy, Section 0351.10, regarding Demonstration State Forest management plans states:

“Management plans for Boggs Mountain, Jackson, Latour, Mountain Home and Soquel Demonstration State Forests shall be prepared by the Department, with appropriate public review, for approval by the Board. The Department shall present to the Board a thorough review of each existing plan at least every five years. After each review, the Board may direct the Department either to continue management under the existing plan, to prepare amendments to the plan, or to prepare a new plan for public review and Board approval. The Department shall submit the requested amendments or plan to the Board within one year after each request. The Department shall continue management under existing plans with appropriate consideration for changes in law or regulation, until amendments or new plans are approved by the Board.”

The management plan for Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest (BMDSF) was last approved by the Board in 2008, and is therefore past-due for Board review this year (2015). While no dramatic changes are proposed in the overall management direction, goals or objectives for the Forest, there are some key elements within the plan that will be updated either to propose procedural modifications, provide additional clarity to a specific area or simply to update sections with current or new information. The following is a synopsis of proposed changes to the Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest management plan to date:

1. A new estimate of standing inventory and growth will be provided, based on the remeasurement of the Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) plots in 2011.
2. A general statement will be added to the management plan to reaffirm the concept that, as a Demonstration State Forest, all silvicultural prescriptions allowed under the Forest Practice Rules are available for use on BMDSF.
3. There are areas on BMDSF that are exclusively or predominantly comprised of brush that

are capable of being successfully converted to timber production. Past management plans for BMDSF did not specifically address the issue of brush conversion. CEQA review for these rehabilitation projects will be addressed in the initial study and (presumed) resulting Negative Declaration (ND) prepared for the updated management plan for BMDSF. Language will be added to the management plan clarifying that brush conversion is in fact covered under the existing management plan ND, in order to confirm that these types of projects may be undertaken without additional CEQA review.

4. The road management plan for BMDSF, included in the current management plan, will be updated to address road related projects undertaken in the last five years. The new management plan will include both narrative and map updates.
5. The management plan will provide an update for recent events, such as educational tours, research, timber sales, and other projects and contracts that have taken place on the Forest.
6. The following item will be addressed in the initial study and (presumed) resulting Negative Declaration (ND) prepared for the updated management plan for BMDSF:

To prevent the spread of the fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (Bd) and other diseases, all gear used in the water or mud by contractors or permittees (dip nets, waders, booties, boots, calipers, etc.) shall be disinfected before moving from one body of water to another. They shall be disinfected in a 0.1 percent solution of Quat 128 and soak all items for five minutes. The disinfectant shall be disposed of > 100 M from the water on a trail or in thick duff where it is quickly broken down by particulate carbon. In addition, wash hands with a hand sanitizer or replace gloves and rinse equipment after contact with each animal.

7. Due to the four year drought and resulting increase in mortality from bark beetles several exemptions and THPs will be addressed in the management plan designed to salvage dead trees and reduce fuel hazards. A drought mortality exemption¹⁴ CCR 1038(k) will be filed on the forest for salvage logging numerous pockets of bark beetle infestations. To reduce fuel hazards along main trending ridges and create a viable fuel break a Forest Fire Prevention exemption¹⁴ CCR 1038(i) and an Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction ¹⁴ CCR 1052.4 will be filed on portions of the forest. Modified THPs for Fuel Hazard Reduction ¹⁴CCR 1051.3 will be filed on portions of the forest for improving forest health and reducing fuel hazards.
8. Other changes requested by the Board.