

A. Include in recommended research programs (1) studies designed to monitor and assess the long-term effects of various regimes of forest management on timber site fertility; (2) studies to develop optimum treatment regimes for representative timber stands; (3) studies to determine optimal stocking; and (4) surveys of size class distributions of public and private lands;

B. Encourage public agencies and private concerns engaged in forest products research to study timber quality characteristics, to assess trends in timber demand as they may affect needs for wood of varying qualities, and to develop new harvesting and processing technologies suited to utilizing available wood supplies effectively in the light of market needs;

C. Develop and encourage adoption by private timberland owners of forest management standards designed to maintain or improve site productivity, timber growth, and utilization;

D. Encourage adoption, by both public and private owners, of forest management standards designed to optimize the growth in volume or quality of timber on those forest lands designated for timber growing;

E. Promote reforestation of unstocked and understocked lands;

F. Encourage, by service forestry and other methods, recognition by small timberland owners of their importance to continuity of timber supply in California and of the benefits to be derived from actively managing their timbered property.

TIMBER SUPPLY INFORMATION, RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

0334.5

Although past research and analysis have provided a significant body of information about forests and forestland in California, maintenance of an adequate timber supply policy requires continuing research and analysis. Environmental, economic, and social data must be updated continually if policies are to be kept current. As human pressures on resources increase and as more is learned about the nature of resources, new areas of investigation must be studied. Information and research related to timber supply policy are continually being developed by numerous organizations. Such data needs to be brought together and analyzed in ways that are significant for public policy formation. It is the policy of the Board, in the discharge of its responsibilities for research and information programs, to encourage cooperative and coordinated efforts by the several research, information, and operating agencies within the State to develop a strong and continuing system of forest resource research and analysis as an integral part of the State's policy for maintenance of the timber supply. Further, the Board recognizes the need to develop, organize, and publish this information on a regular basis for the benefit of timber growers and for the people of the State.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT

0335

The Board has adopted the following policy:

The wildlands of California are important as a source of water, timber, minerals, wildlife, recreation, and forage. A portion of these wildlands consists of brush-covered lands, some of which may be adaptable to conversion from a brush range type cover to a more

suitable forage cover. This conversion of brush lands may be accomplished by a number of methods, including mechanical tools, herbicides, and fire, singly or in suitable combination, each being used in its appropriate place in the process.

The Director, in the development, management, and conservation of the natural resources, and in the interest of range improvement, should encourage the following:

- A. The development and improvement of brush-covered lands as an overall project involving site selection, clearing the lands of undesirable vegetation, revegetation following clearing, application of effective follow-up measures and use of appropriate range management practices;
- B. The practical application of methods in range improvement determined through experimentation, including the use of fire and its application in combination with other methods, and in revegetation of denuded wildlands areas for soil erosion control;
- C. The use of plans in range improvement projects which are designed to enhance their value for fire hazard reduction and fire control, stabilization of soil, water conservation and production, and betterment of range land and game habitat.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT STUDIES

0335.1

Sections 4771-4788 of the Public Resources Code provide for certain range improvement projects for experimental controlled land clearance and revegetation, and research by the Department to determine the value of methods used. The Board has adopted the following policy for the guidance of the Director:

- A. Studies should be conducted on a cooperative basis with the University of California and other research agencies and coordinated with other related research to avoid unnecessary duplication;
- B. The location of experimental studies should be selected to represent conditions occurring over relatively large areas so that findings may be widely applicable;
- C. All such activities will be in accordance with a plan previously adopted;
- D. The Director will report to the Board periodically upon the progress of range improvement research and experimental projects, and make such information available to interested persons and to the public in the form of reports, bulletins, pamphlets and new releases, or such other media as may be appropriate.

FOREST TAXATION

0336

GENERAL

0336.1

Consistent with its policy on maintenance of timber supply and pursuant to its responsibility to determine, establish, and maintain adequate forest policies, the Board has found that:

F. The State forests will remain open for public hunting and fishing in accordance with State Fish and Game regulations except for specified closures required for public safety and forest protection as authorized by law.

SPECIAL USES OF STATE FORESTS

0351.6

Special uses of State forests will be permitted only when there is a clear benefit to the State and when such uses do not conflict with primary (uses) programs of timber management, demonstration, research, and recreation.

A. Use of State forests for mining, grazing, and commercial concessions is discouraged.

B. Although the state Lands commission has primary jurisdiction over geothermal resources on state forests, surface operations of geothermal developers will be strictly controlled by the department in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board contained in 14 CAC Section 1500-1503.

GRANTING TEMPORARY PERMITS FOR PASSAGE

0351.7

It is desirable to grant temporary permits for passage across State forests to forest products operators or other parties having need of them in the course of their operations where such permits do not interfere with the primary uses of State forests by the State. Applications for temporary permits for passage may be made to the Director who will be guided by the following principles in submitting applications to the Director of General services for approval.

A. Temporary permits for passage will be granted on a reciprocal basis where practicable.

B. The State will have free use of all lands and routes over which permits for passage have been granted.

C. The State will reserve the right to cross, recross, and parallel any such lands or routes with its own roads or utilities.

D. Temporary permits for passage will be limited to a minimum economical width, but in no case shall exceed 60 feet except for needed cuts and fills.

E. The grantee of any temporary permits for passage will pay the State the current market value of timber necessarily cut or damaged in clearing and construction on State lands, provided that the price and volume will be determined by the Director, and such timber when paid for will belong to the operator.

F. Temporary permits for passage will be of such duration as to meet the reasonable needs of the grantee. Three years' non-use of any permit for passage for the purpose granted will constitute an abandonment forfeiture thereof unless the period of non-use is otherwise agreed upon.

G. The State will be reimbursed for any damage caused to State property in the construction and/or maintenance of such, provided that the grantee will hold the State harmless from any and all liability arising from the construction, maintenance and/or use of areas covered by such permits for passage.

H. Where it appears that benefit will result to the State, any charge for such permit for passage may be reduced accordingly.

I. All slash and snags on the area covered by a permit for passage will be disposed of by the grantee. The grantee will have the same responsibility for fire protection on any such area as is required by the Board for fire protection on a timber operating area.

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Policies 0335 and 0351.6
Range Management Advisory Committee Suggested Change (red)

Changes based on April 6 Board meeting in blue

RANGE IMPROVEMENT 0335

The Board has adopted the following policy:

The wildlands of California are important as a source of water, timber, minerals, wildlife, recreation, and forage. A portion of these wildlands consists of brush-covered lands, some of which may be adaptable to conversion from a brush range type cover to a more suitable forage cover. This conversion of brush lands may be accomplished by a number of methods, including mechanical tools, herbicides, **prescribed grazing**, and fire, singly or in suitable combination, each being used in its appropriate place in the process.

The Director, in the development, management, and conservation of the natural resources, and in the interest of range improvement, ~~should~~ **shall** encourage ~~the following:~~ **the use of plans in range improvement projects which are designed to enhance their value for fire hazard reduction and fire control; stabilization of soil; water conservation and production; and improvement of rangeland, forestland, and habitat by incorporating the following, when possible:**

- A.** The use of livestock grazing to minimize fuel loads and maintain understory vegetation;
- ~~A-~~ **B.** The development and improvement of brush-covered lands as an overall project involving site selection, ~~clearing the lands of~~ **modification of** undesirable vegetation, revegetation ~~following clearing~~, application of effective follow-up measures and use of appropriate range management practices;
- ~~B-~~ **C.** The practical application of methods in range improvement determined through experimentation, including the use of fire and its application in combination with other methods, and in revegetation of denuded wildland areas for soil erosion control;
- C. D.** The use of plans in range improvement projects which are designed to enhance their value for fire hazard reduction and fire control, stabilization of soil, water conservation and production, and betterment of range land and game habitat.

SPECIAL USES OF STATE FORESTS 0351.6

Special uses of State forests will be permitted only when there is a clear benefit to the State and when such uses do not conflict with primary (uses) programs of timber management, demonstration, research, and recreation. Such concessions must be consistent with this policy and receive written permission of the Forest Manger. The Forest Manger may require mitigations to any concession to ameliorate potential impacts on the forest.

A. Use of State forests for mining, ~~grazing~~, and commercial concessions is discouraged without a clear management benefit. Concessions on State Forestlands means:

- ~~a-~~ The privilege of maintaining a subsidiary business within the forest, or
- ~~b-~~ The space allotted for such a business, or
- ~~c-~~ The business itself.

Examples of concessions that are discouraged:

- ~~1-~~ Those that require kiosks or other structures.

- ~~2.~~ Those that are commercial in nature, i.e. the operation is tied primarily to commercial revenue generation (e.g., vendors that sell souvenirs or food) instead of a symbiotic relationship with one of the mandated uses of the State Forests in which the main objective is not to make a profit but rather foster activities that are compatible with the mandated uses of the State Forests (youth recreation camps, recreation events).
- ~~3.~~ Mining
- ~~4. Grazing, except where such use has been traditionally recognized on the property, or an there is an existing agreement, or where necessary for research or management (e.g., herbivory to reduce hazardous fuels)~~
- ~~5.~~ Those that have no clear connection to the role of the state forest in forestland management, demonstration, research, and recreation.

B. Use of State forests for grazing or browsing by appropriate livestock species shall be allowed pursuant to PRC 4656. Grazing shall be allowed on state forestlands with an approved permit in one or more of the following instances:

- Grazing has been traditionally recognized on the property;
- There is an existing grazing agreement on the property;
- Grazing is in conjunction with a research project;
- Grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals).

C. Although the State Land Commission has primary jurisdiction over geothermal resources on state forests, surface operations of geothermal developers will be strictly controlled by the department in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board contained in 14 CAC Section 1500-1503.

FUEL MANAGEMENT

5022

(May 1988)

The state forests present a prime opportunity for CDF to plan, implement, and demonstrate the effectiveness of a fuel management program.

Fuel management is an integral and important part of fire protection and should be pursued as actively as fire prevention and fire suppression in the state forests. There is a need to manage and control accumulations of dead and living vegetation in the forests to decrease the probability of destructive, high-intensity wildfires and to plan, construct, and maintain strategically located fuelbreaks. Prescribed burning, as well as pile and burn and mechanical methods, should be considered as a tool for accomplishing fuel management.

Slash abatement methods may vary from one forest to another, depending upon local conditions and hazards involved. Slash abatement requirements will equal or exceed the local forest practice rules and will be specified in timber sale agreements.

A program to fell snags in other than timber sale areas, especially along roads and other strategic locations, should be developed and implemented, using conservation camp and other CDF resources. Snags with wildlife value should be retained in accordance with applicable district forest practice rules.

FORMS AND/OR FORMS SAMPLES: RETURN TO ISSUANCE HOME PAGE FOR FORMS/FORMS SAMPLES SITE LINK.

[\(See next section\)](#)

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CUSTODY AND TRESPASS

5024

(May 1988)

As the custodian of the state forests, the department has the responsibility to protect such properties from damage and nuisance.

In general, a trespass is the unauthorized entry upon property or its destruction or use in some manner not consented to by the owner. A nuisance is anything that is injurious to health, offensive to the senses, or interferes with complete enjoyment of life or property by any considerable number of persons. A public nuisance, which may become the state's responsibility to abate, may be the result of trespass committed by users of forestland, e.g., garbage scattered around campgrounds by campers. Laws pertaining to trespass, damage, and nuisance include CC §3346 and 3480; CCP §733; PC §370, 384a, 487b and c, 602 and 605; and PRC §4726. Any case of trespass resulting in wrongful injuries to timber, trees or underwood, or any other trespass of a substantial nature will be brought to the attention of the director, in complete detail, without delay (see Section 5024.1). This instruction is not intended to supersede criminal law enforcement procedures but is in addition thereto.

TIMBER TRESPASS

5024.1

(May 1988)

In cases of timber trespass, CC §3346 provides for treble damage except under certain circumstances when double or single damages are appropriate. Under this, the state is bound to collect damages as specified therein. Department employees cannot forgive any indebtedness due to state.

Reports to the director of timber trespass should include who committed the trespass, the time of trespass, the disposition of the material taken, the volume and stumpage value of the forest products involved, and any other pertinent information or action initiated.

Settlement or disposal of damaged property cannot be arranged in the field without approval of the director because timber trespass cases will in most instances involve other state agencies such as the Department of General Services and the Attorney General's office.

STRAY ANIMAL TRESPASS

5024.2

(May 1988)

Livestock should not be permitted to range over state forestland except under some approved grazing permit. PRC §4656 provides that the use of state forestlands for grazing purposes will be permitted only under rules and regulations established by the board. Grazing has not been encouraged in conjunction with other uses, and no rules or regulations for grazing use have been adopted ([see Section 5052](#)).

Lawful Fence

According to Agriculture Code §17121, a lawful fence is any fence which, by reliable evidence, is good, strong, substantial, and sufficient to prevent the ingress and egress of livestock. A good and substantial wire fence must have at least three tightly stretched barbed wires securely fastened to posts of reasonable strength firmly set in the ground not more than one rod apart. One of the wires will be at least four feet above the surface of the ground. A lawful fence may include cattle guards of such width, depth, rail spacing, and construction as will, by reliable evidence, effectively turn livestock.

Corrective Action

Stray animals can be herded off state property if it will accomplish any good; however, it would not be wise to be the person responsible for putting them free upon a public highway.

Corrective Action

Another proper step would be a friendly notification (continued) to the owner to keep them off (except that in the "no-fence counties" of Shasta, Trinity, Modoc, Lassen, or Siskiyou, the department would have no legal support if it came to a test).

Actual damages resulting from stray livestock may be claimed through court action.

Other than in the "no fence counties," livestock of unknown ownership may be impounded and the cost of their care recovered by the Director of Food and Agriculture in accordance with §17041-17045 Agriculture Code. Notice of impoundment must be made to the Director of Food and Agriculture within five days.

Promptly notify the owner if any stock of known ownership is impounded for safekeeping or self-protection.

The best advice for handling an aggravated situation is to consult with a local hide and brand inspector of the State Department of Food and Agriculture and seek legal and other assistance from the director's office as needed.

FORMS AND/OR FORMS SAMPLES: RETURN TO ISSUANCE HOME PAGE FOR FORMS/FORMS SAMPLES SITE LINK.

[\(See next section\)](#)

[\(See Table of Contents\)](#)

GRAZING, MINING, WATER, ETC.

5052

(May 1988)

No person or party will be allowed to make use of state forestlands or products except as permitted by law. All persons making requests to use property or products in some manner not clearly prescribed will be courteously received and requested to address their request in writing to the forest manager or the region chief. Department officials will attach all available information pertinent to the request and transmit it with their recommendations to the Director. Requests for special uses of state forests must be reviewed for compatibility with other uses and purposes for which the forest was acquired. Any urgency in requests regarding grazing and mining should be discouraged, inasmuch as such uses have to be governed by rules and regulations established by the board. It is unlikely that the board will adopt rules or regulations regarding grazing and mining in accordance with PRC §4656 until there is a bona fide case pending which clearly demonstrates the need for developing such rules or regulations.

The use and development of water facilities for irrigation and power will be permitted on state forests as provided by law ([see Section 5024](#)).

GEOHERMAL PROSPECTING PERMITS

5052.1

(May 1988)

Requests for geothermal prospecting permits on state forests are filed with the State Lands Commission. The State Lands Commission can issue a geothermal prospecting permit on state forests with the consent of the Director in accordance with 14 CCR §1500-1503. Reasonable terms and conditions that are necessary to ensure that geothermal operations will be compatible with PRC Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 4 and with due regard to the protection of life, property, quality of the environment, and natural resources will be required as conditions of consent by the Director.

FORMS AND/OR FORMS SAMPLES: RETURN TO ISSUANCE HOME PAGE FOR FORMS/FORMS SAMPLES SITE LINK.

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CALFIRE Policy Handbook 5022, 5024.2, 5052, and 5053 (proposed)
Range Management Advisory Committee Suggested Change (red)
Changes based on April 6 Board meeting in blue

FUEL MANAGEMENT 5022 (May 1988)

The state forests present a prime opportunity for CDF to plan, implement, and demonstrate the effectiveness of a fuel management program. Fuel management is an integral and important part of fire protection and should be pursued as actively as fire prevention and fire suppression in the state forests. There is a need to manage and control accumulations of dead and living vegetation in the forests to decrease the probability of destructive, high-intensity wildfires and to plan, construct, and maintain strategically located fuelbreaks. Prescribed burning, as well as pile and burn, ~~and~~ mechanical methods, ~~and prescribed grazing~~ should be considered as a tool for accomplishing fuel management.

Slash abatement methods may vary from one forest to another, depending upon local conditions and hazards involved. Slash abatement requirements will equal or exceed the local forest practice rules and will be specified in timber sale agreements.

A program to fell snags in other than timber sale areas, especially along roads and other strategic locations, should be developed and implemented, using conservation camp and other CDF resources. Snags with wildlife value should be retained in accordance with applicable district forest practice rules.

STRAY ANIMAL TRESPASS 5024.2 (May 1988)

Livestock should not be permitted to range over state forestland except under some approved grazing permit. PRC §4656 provides that the use of state forestlands for grazing purposes will be permitted only under rules and regulations established by the board. ~~See Section 5053. Grazing has not been encouraged in conjunction with other uses, and no rules or regulations for grazing use have been adopted (see Section 5052).~~

~~GRAZING, MINING, WATER, ETC.~~ 5052 (May 1988)

No person or party will be allowed to make use of state forestlands or products except as permitted by law. All persons making requests to use property or products in some manner not clearly prescribed will be courteously received and requested to address their request in writing to the forest manager or the region chief. Department officials will attach all available information pertinent to the request and transmit it with their recommendations to the Director. Requests for special uses of state forests must be reviewed for compatibility with other uses and purposes for which the forest was acquired. Any urgency in requests regarding ~~grazing and~~ mining should be discouraged inasmuch as such uses have to be governed by rules and regulations established by the Board. ~~It is unlikely that the board will adopt rules or regulations regarding grazing in accordance with PRC 4656 until there is a bona fide case pending which clearly demonstrates the need for developing such rules or regulations.~~

The use and development of water facilities for irrigation and power will be permitted on state forests as provided by law (see Section 5024).

LIVESTOCK GRAZING 5053

Use of State forests for grazing or browsing by appropriate livestock species shall be allowed pursuant to PRC 4656. Grazing shall be allowed on state forestlands with an approved permit in one or more of the following instances:

- Grazing has been traditionally recognized on the property;
- There is an existing grazing agreement on the property;
- Grazing is in conjunction with a research project;
- Grazing provides a management benefit to the property (e.g. prescribed herbivory to manage vegetation, improve soil health, and/or achieve other ecological goals).