



Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Action Plan

CRITERIA 7: GOVERNANCE

Goal:

Create a policy and regulatory system that encourages prudent management to serve the public needs.

Objectives:

- 1. Insure the continued productivity of timberlands.**
- 2. Provide the public with a regulatory system that is accountable and logical.**
- 3. Move the focus of the policy and regulatory system to outcomes, not process.**

Strategies:

Policy options for levels of regulatory oversight and policy integration

- A. Conduct an analysis of the impact of overlapping mandates and review processes to create an efficient structure.**

Actions:

1. CDF will review each aspect of the timber harvest planning process with particular focus on the additional requirements imposed upon proponents by other involved agencies, i.e. regional water board waste discharge reporting, DFG streambed alteration agreements, federal and state listed species consultations, etc.
2. Board Staff/CDF in coordination with the Resources Agency will meet with other involved agencies to discuss opportunities for greater integration of respective requirements.

Work Product: CDF's written progress report to the BOF Policy Committee due by April 3, 2007.

3. Board staff will continue investigation of alternative regulatory approaches focused upon performance outcomes rather than paper processes.

Work Product: Board staff's written progress report due to the BOF Policy Committee by January 1, 2007.

B. Connect policies for investment in energy and carbon sequestration to landowner incentives.

Actions:

1. Board staff will discuss possible yield tax deductions with State Board of Equalization Timber Advisory Committee (BOE TAC) for landowners participating in California Climate Action Registry.
2. Board staff will discuss possible yield tax deductions with State Board of Equalization Timber Advisory Committee (BOE TAC) for landowners contributing biomass generated through timber operations for energy production.

Work Product: written BOF staff report on outcomes of discussions with BOE TAC due to Board by March 5, 2008.

3. CDF will investigate possibility of programmatic incidental take coverage/safe harbor agreements through state and federal agencies for those landowners participating in the California Climate Action Registry and managing stands for longer rotations and larger diameter leave trees.

Work Product: written progress report due to BOF Policy Committee by August 2006.

C. Strengthen ability to use long-term plans and forest certification to meet rules.

Actions:

1. Board staff will review Board rulemaking files and enacting legislation (as appropriate) for SYP, PTEIR, and NTMP to determine specific intent of each long-term planning regulation.
2. CDF shall review the extent of SYP, PTEIR and NTMP use by and efficacy to the regulated public.
3. Board staff shall solicit the input of the affected regulated public as well as the general public relative to C.1. & C.2. through meetings of the BOF Management Committee.

Work Product: written reports by Board staff and CDF due to BOF Management Committee by August 2006.

4. Board staff with the assistance of CDF-FRAP shall review third-party certification utility towards regulatory compliance in other states and countries.

Work Product: written report by Board staff with assistance of CDF-FRAP due to BOF Management Committee by September 2006.

- D. Examine use of system of environmental management that depends on verified, insured and guaranteed operations rather than a permit with civil enforcement.**

Actions:

1. CDF will investigate other states' and countries' regulatory programs for timber and vegetation management (with particular focus on those that use the system identified in D. above) and provide a comparison with California's program.
2. CDF will identify potential barriers to and opportunities for an alternative to the state's current program that relies upon financial surety rather than permit and enforcement.

Work Product: written report by CDF due to BOF Policy Committee by January 1, 2007.

Policy options for conflicts over forest and rangeland management practices

- E. Focus on achieving agreement on desired landscape goals and then address potential practices and conflicts.**

Actions:

1. Board staff will continue to seek opportunities for public dialogue on resource management topics through committees
- 2.

Work Product:

- F. Learn from the experiences of The Nature Conservancy, other non-profits, and regional parks on how to explain management needs.**

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

- G. Review role of environmental certification in providing for broader acceptance of management tools.**

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

H. Provide for public input in decision-making and monitoring.

Actions:

1. The Board will continue to allow for public participation in publicly noticed meetings and hearings pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act.

I. Strengthen skills of resource professionals regarding public involvement and values.

Actions:

1. The Professional Foresters Examining Committee (PFEC) will review the curriculum offerings of California's university forestry programs for evidence of coursework in public interaction and value systems.
2. The PFEC will investigate opportunities for continuing education on the topics of public relations and values assessment through professional associations.

Work Product: the PFEC will provide a written report to the Board due by January 1, 2050.

J. Continue strong support for focused management practices, such as fuel reduction and control of exotics and pests.

Actions:

1. CDF-FRAP will research trends in pre-suppression fuels treatment versus active fire suppression with comparison of costs, efficacy, and impacts; and monitor statewide efforts to detect and control invasive exotic and/or pestilent flora and fauna.

Work Product: CDF-FRAP will provide a periodic Fire and Resource Assessment for the benefit of the public pursuant to its stated mission. This Assessment will form the basis for a new Board Policy Statement or refinement of the most current Board Policy Statement.

2. The Board will continue to request and hear reports from the California Oak Mortality Task Force, California Forest Pest Council, Pitch Canker Task Force and other related organizations.

Work Product: the Board will continue to provide time on its monthly meeting agenda for the delivery of reports by the aforementioned entities and other interested parties.

Policy options for limited coordination in research and information sharing

K. Develop overall forest and rangeland research plan for California.

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

L. Increase use of web-based portals for public access.

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

M. Maintain the forest and rangeland extension functions at University of California and applied programs at California State University.

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

N. Continue to hold research symposia to share results.

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

O. Increase foundation support for research.

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

Policy options for standardized, comprehensive information systems

- P. Develop and maintain a system of recording easement boundaries and purposes in a central database.**

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product:

- Q. Continue to develop interagency agreements that set standards for information sharing and use.**

Actions:

- 1.
- 2.

Work Product: