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Forest Carbon Plan Vision

Taken from website: FCAT.CALFIRE.C.GOV

Draft February, 2015

The Forest Carbon Plan will provide forest carbon targets for private lands and an array of strategies to promote healthy forests that protect biodiversity and enhance forest carbon sequestration and the broader range of forest resource environmental services/values for all forests in California. Our vision of forest protection and enhancement includes:

- Sustainable forests that are net sinks of carbon.
- Healthy forests that are resilient to anticipated climate change effects, including volatile weather and changing precipitation regimes; increased forest insect and disease threats; and higher wildland fire risks.
- Protection of watersheds and water supplies (quality, quantity, and infrastructure).
- Forests that provide management opportunities that generate long-term-sustainable economic benefits for landowners, workers, and communities.
- Working forests that produce wood products and biomass for energy and are managed to maintain forest health and biodiversity.
- Forests that are protected from fragmentation and conversion, and that provide a diversity of quality, interconnected habitat types for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife species, including listed and non-listed species.
- Forests that provide an abundance of outdoor recreational and tourism opportunities.

Comment [JL1]: This is a weak word. Perhaps foster. Climate change is not about "promoting" a sustainable world. Actions must create or ensure. If we are not sure if the strategies will ensure a sustainable environment then somewhere in the document we must indicate its limitations.

Comment [JL2]: What is a "forest". How many trees of what species per acre at what elevation constitute a forest?

Comment [JL3]: This word makes it a first person document and is probably not appropriate. The entire document should be written in 3rd person.

Additional Comments:

For the committees working on the Forest Carbon Plan, persons outside state government should be invited to be members and writers of the Plan. This should include university scientific people, ecologists, planners, environmental groups, industry, hydrologists, biologists, and should include a wide diversity of race and gender. This will result in a Plan that is supported by all groups. It is only by being much more inclusive in the committee composition that new paradigms will evolve that lead to effective actions.

Forest Carbon Plan outline dated February 9, 2015:

The title needs to be: Forest Carbon Plan. California Forests and Climate Change. The words "Enhancing Carbon Storage through Forest Health" implies that the current forests are not healthy and the Plan is about much more than "Enhancing" carbon storage.

Section V.a Targets and Goals. There must be immediate, short, and long term actions that will sequester more carbon and in each category range from inexpensive to expensive. What is the difference between a target and a goal? The subsequent parts of Section V do not contain the word "goals".