

California Cooperative Forest Management Plan

Property Name: _____

Property Location Address: _____

Owner Name (s): _____

Plan Author: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____ RPF# _____

This management plan outlines the conditions and capability of property resources, documents the landowner's objectives and decisions, and identifies potential resource improvement projects. It is meant to be a flexible and educational document that considers a planning horizon of at least 5 years but may include objectives that require a much longer time period.

This management plan template meets management plan requirements for grant agreements and other provisions available through CAL FIRE, NRCS, USFS and the American Tree Farm Association. Signature Pages are provided to document acceptance of this management plan in meeting those requirements.

This management plan is a tool for and belongs to the landowner. Signatures are only required for that entity providing funding as requested by the landowner.



SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

This Forest Management Plan is provided as a guide to help you accomplish the objectives that you have for your forest. This Forest Management Plan will guide you in achieving the benefits of managing your forest and forest related resources. With this Forest Management Plan, you are eligible to participate in the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protections California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP), US Forest Service's Forest Stewardship Program (USFS), the American Forest Foundation's American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) programs. This plan will need to be reviewed and approved by representatives for each of the programs that are providing funding.

I have reviewed this plan and approve its content.

Landowner (s) _____
Date

USFS Forest Stewardship Program

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the federal Forest Stewardship Program.

Plan Preparer _____
Date

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the federal Forest Stewardship Program.

Stewardship Forester _____
Date

Forest Stewardship Tracking Number: _____

NRCS Cost Share Programs including EQIP

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the USDA-NRCS Programs and/or the Quality Criteria for forest activity plans in Section III of the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Technical Service Provider _____
RPF Number _____
Date

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the USDA-NRCS Programs and/or the Quality Criteria for forest activity plans in Section III of the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

District Conservationist _____
Date

ATFS Program

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the American Forest Foundation's American Tree Farm System.

ATFS Inspecting Forester _____
Number _____
Date

Certified Tree Farm Number: (e.g. AL 1234) _____ Date of ATFS Certification: _____

CAL FIRE CFIP MANAGEMENT PLAN CERTIFICATION PAGE

California Registered Professional Forester (RPF) Certification: I certify that I, or my supervised designee, personally inspected this California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) plan area, and that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards. I further certify that this plan is based upon the best available site and landowner information, and if followed, will not be detrimental to the productivity of the natural resources associated with this property.

Name (Print or type): _____

Signature: _____

date

Organization/Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

RPF _____

CAL FIRE Unit Certification: I certify that I, or my supervised designee, personally inspected this California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) plan area, and that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards.

Name (Print or type): _____

RPF _____

Signature: _____

date

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Unit: _____

Address: _____

CAL FIRE STATE OR REGION CFIP COORDINATOR: I certify that the plan fully complies with the CFIP and Professional Foresters Law, and meets Federal Forest Stewardship Management Plan Standards.

Name (Print or type): _____

RPF _____

Signature: _____

date

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Signature Pages.....	1-3
Property Ownership.....	5
Management Plan History.....	5
Property Description.....	6
Property History	7
Current Property Conditions.....	8
Landowner Management Objectives.....	10
Management Plan Implementation	11
Forest Management Unit Information	12
Management Activity Schedule and Tracking	13
Planned Management Activities and Required Permits	14
California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Protection Act information	15
Additional Professional Assistance	16
Property and Plan Maps	17
Appendix 1 – Selected Conservation Standards and Specifications	18
Appendix 2 -Tax and Business Management	19
Appendix 3 – Past Plans, Amendments and Updates	20
Appendix 4 – Confidential Addendum	21
Appendix 5 – Supporting Data (soil descriptions, growth model outputs, references, etc).....	22

This Multi-Agency Cooperative Forest Management Plan was developed for use in California by CAL FIRE, the US Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service using information from a national joint Forest Stewardship, American Tree Farm System, NRCS Planning Process and the California Forest Improvement Act.

Landowner Information

Landowner(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Landowner's Representative (if applicable) _____

_____ RPF# (if applicable) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Management Plan History

Does a Management Plan exist for this property? Yes _____ No _____

If Yes:

Type of Plan: (CFIP, EQIP, NTMP, FSP, CAP, Other) _____

Date of Original Plan Completion _____ Revision Dates _____

NOTE: Past Plans and Current Amendments are appended to this Document.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Legal Property Description _____

Nearest city or Town _____ County _____

Assessor's Parcel Number _____

GPS Coordinates _____

Total ownership acreage _____ Total forested acreage _____

Does Landowner reside on the property?
Yes No

Describe the overall topography including slope, aspect and elevation:

Estimate percent of total acreage that is:

Complex topography (many steep ravines and aspects) _____ %
Simple topography (few ravines and changes of aspect) _____ %
Percent of Land: Flat (<5% grade) ___ Gentle (< 20% grade ___ Steep (> 35% grade) ___

Transportation System:

Vehicle Access (check): Excellent (80% accessible) Good (at least 50%)

Fair (at least 25%) Poor (less than 10%)

Estimated improved road length (rock surface) _____

Estimated unimproved road length _____

Watershed Information:

CALWATER 2.2 planning watershed: _____ Acres within this watershed: _____

Is there a 303d listing on watershed? _____ what are the factors? _____

Tract and Farm number (if suitable): _____

NOTE: Use as much space as needed to answer the remainder of this document

PROPERTY HISTORY

- This section is based on personal knowledge from landowner, neighbors and others, property records, and local information sources as well as evidence seen on the ground; stumps, skid trails, etc.
- Discuss past management history including past timber harvests (include THP # after 1970s), conservation practices (include those completed under public incentive agreements) and catastrophic events.

CURRENT PROPERTY CONDITIONS

Property Infrastructure

- Discuss existing improvements (including dwellings, roads and access, outbuildings, fencing, water improvements, wells, power lines, etc).
- Note property security measures including trespass and fire protection.

Forest Infrastructure

- Discuss overall forest structure, percent of productive forest soils, regeneration levels and current silvicultural practices.
- Note current conservation practices for plant, water, wildlife and air resources as well as insect and /or disease problems.
- Discuss current recreational uses, and aesthetic values.
- Discuss current markets.

Roads

- Assess and map roads system and major trails; depict stream crossings and/or culvert conditions and needed drainage improvements. Are they sized for 100 year storm events?
- Describe conservation practices for general maintenance, erosion reduction, road surface condition and Runoff, drainage-dips, culverts, stream crossings, weed control, and time-of-year use.

Access and Security

- Are property boundaries identified including fences, gates, and boundary/corner markers?
- Are unwanted trespass activities known?

Recreation

- Describe and plan for recreational opportunities and identify supporting resources.

Invasive Species

- Discuss invasive species found and designed eradication measures.

Climate Considerations and Carbon Sequestration

- Discuss practices for the possibility of implementing carbon sequestration activities.

Adjacent Ownership Concerns

- Review aesthetic quality, wildfire, privacy, wildlife movement and habitat, noxious weeds, and other concerns and how the property management interacts with neighboring properties.

Economic Sustainability

- Discuss the value of a business plan and potential resource development.
- Discuss tax liability and opportunities.

Soil Description, Site Description and Protection Measures (Include a soil map)

- Describe soil types, site class, potential growth/acre/year, erosion hazard ratings, equipment limitations, known geological hazards and landslides.
- Append the soil description and, if available, the ecological site description (ESD).
- Discuss conservation practices for steep slopes, woody debris retention, nutrient cycling, vehicle travel, soil compaction, flood runoff, and livestock issues.

Streams, Wetlands, and Ponds

- Describe water resources present including streams, wetlands, ponds, etc and their FPA classifications, and note their 303(d) status and/or aquatic based T&E species concerns.
- Discuss conservation practices for riparian habitat, wetlands, fish and wildlife concerns, endangered species protection, road crossings, and water protection zones.

Air Resources

- Discuss smoke management issues with prescribe fire or pile burning and unwanted biomass removal alternatives
- Note the climate values of this forest with climate amelioration and carbon sequestration.

Fish & Aquatic Species

- Identify fish streams and note streams with anadromous fish or listed fish species as well as other significant aquatic species using the water resources and riparian area(s)
- Describe general condition of the fish habitat including large wood, pools, riparian cover, migration barriers and current or desired buffer widths.
- Describe potential habitat improvements.

Upland Wildlife

- Identify bird and animal species observed or known to be present
- Describe general condition of habitat and the habitat elements such as den sites, snag retention, downed wood, migration corridors and water sources.
- Describe potential habitat improvements such as access, nest boxes, hunting, water development, and domestic animal control.

List State and Federal threatened or endangered species - plants or animals

- Discuss T&E species observed or known and provide the results of the California Department of Fish and Game NDDB and BIOS information sites for three miles of the property.

LANDOWNER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Silvics (growing and tending of forests)

Desired Forest Condition:

Pest/Fire

Fire protection objectives.

Forest Health objectives including insects and disease

Invasive species, plant and animal, concerns

Trespass concerns.

Wildlife

Desired species habitat improvement:

Additional Objectives For:

Livestock:

Aesthetics:

Income:

Family Legacy:

Other:

MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Constraints and Proposed Alternatives

- Discuss the desired alternative and have a cost/benefit analysis of property improvement investments and a no action alternative.
- If Forest Vegetation Simulation (FVS) or CRPTOS is executed, the generated results of the alternative selection should be appended to help document the alternative decision.

Silvics (Desired Forest Condition: Reforestation and Afforestation)

- Describe desired areas for regeneration practices with specifications for natural seedling recruitment, site preparation, planting and/or follow-up.
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Describe the area to be improved and the practice specifications for thinning and /or pruning.

Pests

- Problems and Protection from Pests
- Note known and/or potential insects, diseases, animals, weeds, and invasive species on property.
- Discuss prevention guidelines including how to inventory, control, and monitor infestations.
- Describe the range of integrated pest management tools, including mechanical, physical, biological, cultural or chemical management.

Fire Protection

- Discuss fire protection practices for mechanical, hand work, herbicide application and/or broadcast burning for stand/habitat improvement, fuel reduction and fire-wise safety.
- Describe and discuss local fire history, potential sources of fire ignition, fuel hazards, and infrastructure for protection including access and evacuation routes.
- Discuss the values of shaded fuel breaks, fuel breaks in strategic locations, and potential to connect with neighbors or a community effort.

Trespass concerns

Wildlife

- Desired species habitat improvement:

Additional Objectives For:

Livestock:

Aesthetics:

Income:

Family Legacy:

Recreation:

Other:

FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT INFORMATION:

Add as many pages of this section as there are management units designed for the ownership

For each forest management unit, write management objectives and a brief description of the management unit and its condition. Further detailed inventory/plot data can be included if desired. FVS or CRPTO forest modeling outputs can be appended to each unit description.

Name or Unit # _____ Acres _____

Location (describe and map id): _____

Objectives:

Describe type of silvicultural treatment including pre/post harvest activities and slash management.

Description:

Stand history, age and desired rotation cycle:

Tree species present, forest type and/or ecological site description (ESD):

Site index, soil type, elevation, slope:

DBH/size class, basal area, trees/acre, stocking, growth/yield potential:

Regeneration and stand improvement needs:

Riparian, meadows, aquatic habitat, stream and other watercourses:

Understory, downed woody debris, snags, wildlife habitat:

Erosion concerns, domestic uses and other conservation issues:

Unit Management Resource Concerns and Recommendations

PLANNED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND REQUIRED PERMITS

Management recommendations:

Include discussion of project specifications, priorities, feasibility and alternatives as well as a project map and a schedule of proposed activities covering at least five years. Identify which management unit/stand you are describing for your activities. If a subset of the stand is being treated, the area can be described and/or identified on a project map. Design an orderly timeline using the Management Activity and Tracking Form below.

If /once a conservation project is selected, the site specific environmental/cultural (CEQA/NEPA) documentation will need to be completed with the schedule of activities, project map and project specifications.

Harvest Documents:

Most commercial biomass removal activities need a CAL FIRE permit. Identify needed or current Cal Fire THP, NTMP and/or Categorical Exclusion for proposed management activities.

Identify other agency permits necessary for proposed activities related to harvesting activities.

Conservation Project Permits:

Identify a list of permits for which may be need for specific conservation practices.

Water Quality Best Management Practices or Agency Waiver

Note there may be permit requirements for dust control, water pickups, ponds, road maintenance, crossing replacements depending on property location in the State.

Monitoring

Discuss both proactive and required monitoring for regulatory compliance.

California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Protection Act information

Forest management activities including conservation practices may impact special environmental and/or cultural values. These values are often kept private for protection. Landowners need to know where they are and what they can do to protect them. When a project is proposed and a permit and/or government assistance is part of the project, environmental and cultural reviews by concerned agencies are necessary. Conservation projects using public incentives will require the following environmental and archaeological documentation and should be added as an addendum.

Environmental

- **Map the location of known geological, biological or ecological values sites. See Sections above.**
- **With any project a signed CAL FIRE CFIP Environmental Checklist (CEQA) or NRCS CPA-52 (NEPA). Checklist must be filled out by an RPF or certified planner.**

Archaeology

- **On a map note the location of known archeological, cultural, or historical sites and with it, attach existing record checks or surveys in a separate addendum entitled Confidential Archaeological Report.**
- **With any project, an Archaeological Report must be requested by an RPF or Archaeologist.**

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE

Management Recommendations and Assistance for other lands or non-forested areas

List agencies and individuals that owner has or may consult for special sites, threatened and endangered species, desired species, livestock specialists, Native American cultural values, etc.

Community/Agency Cooperation Mechanisms

List agencies and NGOs such as the local office of CAL FIRE, NRCS, the local RCD, Fire-safe Council, and etc with current contact names and numbers the owner can contact for guidance and help.

PROPERTY AND PLAN MAPS

The map(s) shall contain the following elements as a minimum:

- On a recent USGS Topographical or GIS map include property and management unit boundaries at a scale of 4 inches = 1 mile (1 inch = 1320 feet minimum).
- Title, north arrow, scale, legend (including road layout, water resources, infrastructure identification, timber land, other land uses, unit boundaries, and etc as necessary to show activities).

Maps Required:

1. **Property Location Map:** Delineate property boundaries, access roads, nearest town or well known land mark.
2. **Parcel Map** including property boundaries, road layout, water resources, infrastructure identification,
3. **Management Unit map** showing location of forest type and management unit boundaries.
4. **Soil Types Map:** Show name and location of soil types present. Soil maps are available from NRCS Web Soil Survey: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm> , or from your local NRCS office.
5. **Water Resources Map:** Show name, location and classification of streams and other water resources.
6. **Road Assessment Map:** Show locations of roads and major skid trails. Indicate map points where projects such as road rehabilitation and culvert replacement are proposed
7. **Project Map:** Show location of proposed management activities
8. **Other maps:** As needed, other areas, including threatened and endangered species and archeological sites may be noted on a separate, confidential map.

Aerial Photos may be used in addition to the Main Management Plan Map.

Appendix 1

Selected Standards and Specifications

Appendix 2

Tax and Business Management

This section includes a series of statements related to tax and business management that should be included in plans.

Property tax – The forest management plan should document the current tax status of the property. Your state might have specific property tax programs that you may be eligible to participate in. Please be aware of the program rules and regulations.

Income tax – Include a statement that timber harvest and other revenue generating activities generally produce a federal and state income tax liability. Tax credits may be available for some management activities.

Estate tax – Include a statement that good estate planning can help to lessen tax liability when passing land to heirs and that landowners should seek good planning and tax advice.

Record keeping – Include a statement that good record keeping can help landowners manage their assets; increase their revenues; and minimize their tax liability.

Land Use – Document the land use classifications of the property from the county land use plan.

Appendix 3

Past Plans, Amendments and Updates

Appendix 4

Confidential Addendums

Appendix 5

Supporting data and modeling outputs.
References