Board of Forestry and Fire Protection

"Forest Resiliency Amendments, 2022"

Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR),

Division 1.5, Chapter 4:

Subchapters 4, 5, 6, Article 2

Subchapters 4, 5, 6, Article 3

Amend:

§ 912.7, 932.7, 952.7 Resource Conservation Standards for Minimum Stocking [All Districts]

The following resource conservation standards constitute minimum acceptable stocking in the Coast [Northern, Southern] Forest District after Timber Operations have been completed.

- (a) Rock outcroppings, meadows, wet areas, or other areas not normally bearing commercial species shall not be considered as requiring stocking and are exempt from such provisions.
- (b) An area on which Timber Operations have taken place shall be classified as acceptably stocked if either of the standards set forth in (1) or (2) below are met within five (5) years after completion of Timber Operations unless otherwise specified in the Rules*****

***** (3) To the extent basal area standards are specified in the Rules in excess of 14 CCR § 912.7(b)(2) [932.7(b)(2), 952.7(b)(2)], up to fifteen (15) square feet of basal area of those standards higher than the minimum may be met by counting snags, and decadent or deformed trees of value to wildlife. in the following sizes:

- (A) Thirty (30) inches or greater d.b.h. and fifty (50) feet or greater in height on Site I and II lands;
- (B) Twenty-four (24) inches or greater d.b.h. and thirty (30) feet or greater in height on Site III lands; and
- (C) The minimum size shall be twenty (20) inches or greater d.b.h. and twenty (20) feet or greater in height on Site IV and V lands.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4553, 4561.1 and 4561.2, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4561, 4561.1 and 4561.2, Public Resources Code.

913.2 , 933.2, 953.2 Regeneration Methods Used in Unevenaged Management [All Districts]

Unevenaged management is utilized to establish and maintain an unevenaged stand structure. Unevenaged management attributes include the establishment and/or maintenance of a multi-aged, balanced stand structure, promotion of growth on leave trees throughout a broad range of Diameter classes, and encouragement of natural Reproduction.

- (a) Selection Under the selection regeneration method, the trees are removed individually or in small groups sized from one-quarter (.25) acres to two and one-half (2.5) acres.
- (1) Trees to be harvested or trees to be retained shall be Marked by or under the supervision of the RPF prior to felling operations. When openings greater than one-quarter (.25) acres will be created, the boundaries of the Small Group(s) may be designated in lieu of Marking individual trees within the Small Group areas. A sample area must be Marked prior to a preharvest inspection for evaluation. The sample area

shall include at least ten (10) percent of the Harvest Area up to a maximum of twenty (20) acres per stand type which is representative of the range of conditions present in the area.

- (2) Post-harvest stand stocking levels shall be stated in the THP. The level of residual stocking shall be consistent with maximum sustained production of high quality timber products. In no case shall stocking be reduced below the following standards:
 - (A) Selection System.
- [Coast] On Site I lands at least one hundred twenty-five
 (125) square feet per acre of basal area shall be retained.
- [Northern, Southern] On Site I lands at least one hundred
 (100) square feet per acre of basal area shall be retained.
- 2. On Site II and III lands at least seventy-five (75) square feet per acre of basal area shall be retained.
- 3. On Site IV and V lands at least fifty (50) square feet per acre of basal area shall be retained.
- 4. Unless the plan submitter demonstrates how the proposed harvest will achieve MSP pursuant to 14 CCR § 913.11 [933.11, 953.11] (a) or (b), the residual stand shall contain sufficient trees that to meet at least the basal area, size, and are representative of the best phenotypic quality of the preharvest stand tree requirements specified under the seed tree method.
 - (B) Group Selection.
- 1. At least eighty (80) percent two thirds of the stocked plots must meet the Basal Area Stocking Standards of 14 CCR § 913.2(a)(2)(A), [933.2(a)(2)(A); 953.2(a)(2)(A)].

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- 2. Not more than 20% one third of the stocked plots may meet Stocking Standards utilizing the standards of 14 CCR § 912.7(b)(1), [932.7(b)(1); 952.7(b)(1)] with trees that are at least ten (10) seventeen (17) years old.
- 3. An RPF or Supervised Designee may offset up to eight (8) thirteen (13) plots per forty (40) plots where those plot centers are initially placed within Small Group clearings created during the current harvest. Unless substantially damaged by fire, the RPF or supervised designee shall not exclude Small Group clearings created by previous timber harvesting from the stocking survey.
- 4. Unless the plan submitter demonstrates how the proposed harvest will achieve MSP pursuant to 14 CCR § 913.11 [933.11, 953.11] (a) or (b), the residual stand shall contain sufficient trees that to meet at least the basal area, size, and are representative of the best phenotypic quality of the preharvest stand tree requirements specified under the seed tree method.
- (3) Within any THP, Small Group clearings under the selection method shall be separated by a logical logging area.
- (4) Following completion of Timber Operations (including Site Preparation) not more than twenty(20) percent one third of the THP area harvested by this method shall be covered by Small Group clearings.
- (5) Exceptions to stocking standards in 14 CCR § 913.2(a)(2), [933.2(a)(2), 953.2(a)(2)] above may be granted only when proposed by the RPF and explained and justified in the plan, but in no case will the exceptions be less than specified in 14 CCR § 912.7 (b)(2), [932.7(b)(2), 952.7(b)(2)]. Exceptions may only be granted when the RPF clearly demonstrates that the existing stand will grow substantially less than both the potential site productive capacity and the proposed post-harvest stand.

Products

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551 and 4561, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4561, 4582(h) and 4587, Public Resources Code.

913.11, 933.11, 953.11 Maximum Sustained Production of High Quality Timber

The goal of this section is to achieve Maximum Sustained Production of High Quality Timber Products (MSP). MSP is achieved by meeting the requirements of either (a) or (b) or (c) in a THP, SYP, NTMP, or WFMP, or as otherwise provided in Article 6.8, Subchapter 7, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, Division 1.5, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations*****

- (c) In a THP, NTMP, or WFMP, MSP is achieved by:
 - (1) For evenage management, meeting the minimum stand age standards of 14 CCR § 913.1(a)(1), meeting minimum stocking and basal area standards for the selected silvicultural methods as contained in these Rules only with group A species, and protecting the soil, air, fish and wildlife, water resources and other public trust resources through the application of these Rules; or
 - (2) For unevenaged management, complying with the seed tree retention standards pursuant to 14 CCR § 913.1(c)(1)(A) [933.1(c)(1)(A), 953.1(c)(1)(A)] or 913.2(b)(6) [933.2(b)(6), 953.2(b)(6)], meeting minimum stocking and basal area standards for the selected silvicultural methods as contained in these Rules only with group A species, and protecting the soil, air, fish and wildlife, water resources and other public trust resources through the application of these Rules.
 - (3) for Intermediate Treatments and special prescriptions, complying with the Stocking requirements of the individual treatment or prescription.

(4) Timberland ov	wnerships totaling	g 50,000 acre	s or less may	use subsecti	on (c)
to show MSP.					

- (5) Timberland ownerships of 50,000 acres or more may use subsection (c) through December 31, 1999. Thereafter they may use subsection (c) if an SYP or demonstration of achievement of MSP pursuant to 14 CCR § 913.11(a) has been filed with the Department and has not been returned unfiled or approved.
- (6) For Scattered Parcels on Timberlands ownerships of 50,000 acres or more, subsection (c) may be used to show MSP.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4553, 4561, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4513, 4551.5, 4561, 4597 and 21080.5, Public Resources Code