

FOREST PRACTICE TIMBER HARVESTING DOCUMENTS MATRIX GUIDE (2026)

Note: Harvest Documents May Be Subject to Additional Requirements, Please See the Referenced Forest Practice Regulation for the Entire Rule.

	Notices of Exemption										Emergency Notices		Timber Harvesting Plans (THP)				Timber Management Plans		
Harvest Document	Christmas Tree 14 CCR § 1038(a)	10% Dead, Dying, or Diseased Trees 14 CCR § 1038(b)	0 - 150 ft. Structure Protection 14 CCR § 1038(c)(1)	150 - 300 ft Structure Protection 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)	Drought or Unmerch on Substantially Damaged Timberland 14 CCR § 1038(d)	Oak Woodland Management 14 CCR § 1038(e) California Black Oak = CABO Oregon White Oak = ORWO	Post Fire Recovery 14 CCR § 1038(g)	Forest Resilience 14 CCR § 1038.3	Utility Right of Way 14 CCR § 1104.1(b)(c)	Less Than 3 Acre Conversion 14 CCR § 1104.1	Emergency Timber Operations 14 CCR § 1052.1	Fuel Hazard Reduction 14 CCR § 1052.4	Timber Harvesting Plan Article 2, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1034	Modified Timber Harvesting Plan 14 CCR §§ 1051.1-1051.2	Modified Timber Harvesting Plan for Fuel Hazard Reduction 14 CCR §§ 1051.3-1051.6	Program Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP) Article 6.8, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1092	Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) Article 6.5, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1090	Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP) Article 6.95, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR 1094	Harvest Document
RPF Required?	No	No (Yes, if harvesting within standard width of WLPZ) 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(2)	No	Yes 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)(D)	Yes 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)	Yes 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(3)(A)&(B)	No, if within the scope of a Gubernatorial state of emergency or executive order 14 CCR § 1038(g)(2)	Yes 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)	No	Yes 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(1)	Yes 14 CCR § 1052(e)	Yes 14 CCR § 1052(e)	Yes 14 CCR 1034(f)	Yes 14 CCR 1034(f)	Yes 14 CCR 1034(f)	Yes 14 CCR 1092.09(b)	Yes 14 CCR 1090.6(c)	Yes 14 CCR 1094.4(d)	RPF Required?
Area, Acreage, or Harvest Limitations	None	None	Only trees within 150' of an Approved and Legally Permitted Structure 14 CCR § 1038(c)(1)	Only trees within 150' - 300' of an Approved and Legally Permitted Habitable Structure 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)	Not to exceed 500 acres 14 CCR § 1038(c)(1) Removed trees shall meet one or more of the conditions in 14 CCR § 1038.4(a)(2) (A - C)	Not to exceed 300 acres per ownership in a Planning Watershed (cumulatively during any 5 year period) 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(1)	Only trees which are dead or dying as a result of wildfire within 300' of a habitable structure 14 CCR § 1038(g)(1)	Not to exceed 500 acres 14 CCR § 1038.3(c) See tree crown canopy restrictions 14 CCR § 1038.3(f)(4)(2)	Right-of-way widths as specified in 14 CCR § 1104.1 (d) - (g)	Less than 3 Acres & "Once per contiguous" & "Once every 5 years" restrictions 14 CCR § 1104.1(a) See exceptions 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(1)-(13)	None	Permitted from 1/4 mile of structures. See additional restrictions per 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)	None	Ownership of 160 acres, or a 1/4 section or less of Timberland 14 CCR § 1051.2	Project area not to exceed 2,800 acres 14 CCR § 1051.4(a) (160 acre limit of an MHP does not apply)	Limited to an area with similar timber geology, soil, topography, climate, and stream characteristics that would constitute a logical harvesting unit and which Timber Operations would be completed in 1-5 years. 14 CCR § 1092.01(e)	Not to exceed 2,900 acres PRC 4593.2(e)	Not to exceed 10,000 acres of Timberland 14 CCR 1094.2(j) &	Area, Acreage, or Harvest Limitations
Silviculture and Stocking	None	None	Prohibits clearcutting, seed tree removal and shelterwood removal 14 CCR § 1038(c)(2)	Post-harvest stand stocking shall primarily comprise of healthy Dominant and Codominant trees consistent with 14 CCR § 913.2 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)(A)	None	80% of the CABO or ORWO, or both, shall be retained 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(1)(A) Conifer Stocking shall represent <25% percent of the total onsite Stocking of all trees 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(4)(C)	None	Minimum 100 TPA 2" dbh site I, II, III, & IV Maximum 200 TPA 2" dbh over 80% of the harvest area. 14 CCR § 1038.3(f) & (4)(2)	None	None	None	Target codominant & understorey trees. Stocking consistent with site IV minimum standards. 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(4)(2) The % stocking for Group A species not < 5% of dbh prior to harvest 14 CCR § 1052.4(f)	See available Silviculture and Regeneration Methods 14 CCR § 913	No clearcutting or shelterwood removal (except for ROW easements) 14 CCR § 1051.0(2) Stocking must be met immediately after harvest 14 CCR § 1051.0(3)	No clear cutting. Only commercial thinning, rehabilitation, and fuel break, defensible space methods allowed. 14 CCR § 1051.4(a)(2)	See available Silviculture and Regeneration Methods 14 CCR § 913	Unleveraged management only, meeting the requirements of 14 CCR § 4593.3 Unleveraged post-harvest stocking levels must be provided, including Site Class variations 14 CCR § 913.2	Unleveraged management only 14 CCR 1094.2(j)	Silviculture and Stocking
Diameter Limit	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5) For Substantially Damaged Lands, must be unmerchantable as saw-log size timber 14 CCR § 1038(d)	No trees > 30" dbh may be removed, see exceptions 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(3)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	Only trees < 30" dbh may be removed, except for dead or dying trees, up to 30" dbh, see limitations 14 CCR § 1038.3(f) No oak trees > 22" dbh can be removed. 14 CCR § 1038.3(f)	Maximum 60" SH for Redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(5)	No trees that existed prior to 1800 AD and are a 60" SH for redwood and 48" SH for other species 14 CCR § 1104.1 See exceptions 14 CCR § 1104.1(f)	None	Only trees < 30" stump diameter can be removed. Exceptions may apply. 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(1)(2) No oak trees > 28" stump diameter 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(1)(a)	None	None	None	None	None	Diameter Limit	
Quadratic Mean Diameter (QMD) Requirements	None	None	None	QMD of trees > 8" dbh shall be increased in the post-harvest stand 14 CCR § 1038(c)(4)(B) Include an estimate of pre- and post-harvest QMD 14 CCR § 1038(c)(4)(D)	None	A minimum of 35 sq ft BA / acre shall be occupied by CABO and or ORWO in the proposed treatment area 14 CCR § 1038(d)	None	QMD of trees > 8" dbh shall be increased in the post-harvest stand 14 CCR § 1038.3(g)	None	None	None	None	None	None	Yes - QMD must increase post-harvest 14 CCR § 1051.5(e)	None	None	An analysis of the QMD of trees >12" must be required for Long Term Sustained Yield assessment. 14 CCR 1094.4(g)	Quadratic Mean Diameter (QMD) Requirements
Surface or Ladder Fuels Treatment	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Surface fuels created during harvest exceeding 1" in diameter shall be chipped, burned, or removed in 45 days and be consistent with Technical Addendum 84 within 1 year. 14 CCR § 1038(c)(3)(A)	Maximum 18" depth, removed, chipped or otherwise treated within 45 days of creation, except burning. 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)	Maximum depth of 30" and must be treated within one year of the Director's receipt of the notice, except burning. 14 CCR § 1038.14(a)	Slash shall be configured to minimize the risk of fire related mortality to all retained CABO and ORWO 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(4)(E)	All slash within 150' of a structure shall be treated or removed and a maximum depth of 18" in the rest of the harvest area, completed within 45 days, except burning. 14 CCR § 1038.3(g)(4)(5)	Slash within 150' of a structure shall be treated or removed within 45 days and maximum depth of 18" in the rest of the harvest area, completed within 1 year, except burning. 14 CCR § 1038.3(g)(1)-(4)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Slash and Woody Debris >1" diameter and > 2' long, shall be treated within 45 days from the start of Timber Operations, except burning. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(5)(D)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Fuels shall be removed or treated 150' around structures within 45 days from the start of timber operations 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(1)(a)(2) Slash shall be no more than 4" deep post harvest. 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(4)(A)(2)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	RPF shall develop a fuels treatment plan 14 CCR §§ 1051.3 - 1051.5 Fuel treatment total surface fuel loading shall not exceed 25 bone dry tons per acre. 14 CCR § 1051.4(a)(3)(A)	Mitigation and fuel treatment for resource protection and hazard reduction as addressed in the Program Timber Environmental Report (PTER) 14 CCR § 1092.01(c)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Compliance with fuel hazard reduction requirements per 14 CCR § 917 (937, 957)	Surface or Ladder Fuels Treatment
Archaeology Requirements	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	RPF shall submit a confidential archaeological letter (CAL). No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions apply. 14 CCR § 1038.3(e) & (g)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	No timber operations in a significant archaeological or historical site; exceptions may apply 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(3)	RPF shall submit a Confidential Archaeological Letter (CAL) for Timber Operations > 3 acres 14 CCR § 1050.6(f)(5)	RPF shall submit a Confidential Archaeological Letter (CAL) for Timber Operations > 3 acres 14 CCR § 1050.6(f)(5)	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR § 929.1	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR § 1051.0(a)(1)(2)	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR § 929.1	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR § 1092.09(f)(1)	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR § 929.1	RPF shall submit a CAA 14 CCR 1094.4(g)	Archaeology Requirements
Approval Timeline	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.1(c)(1)(3)	5 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1038.3(c)	10 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice 14 CCR § 1038.3(c)	15 days from the Director's receipt of the notice 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)	15 working days from the Director's receipt of the notice 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(5)(A)	5 working days working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1050.6	15 working days working days from the Director's receipt of the notice. 14 CCR § 1050.6	Typically 45-60 working days. Could be longer if environmental concerns are identified or the Plan is not in conformance PRC § 4592.7 14 CCR § 896.1	Potentially sooner than 45 working days. An alternative to cumulative impacts assessment is available 14 CCR § 1051.0(a) Review may be simplified. PRC § 4592.7 14 CCR § 896.1	Potentially sooner than 45 working days. The cumulative impacts assessment is certified 14 CCR § 1051.0(a) Review may be simplified. PRC § 4592.7 14 CCR § 896.1	15 days from receipt of the PTHP and 30 days if a pre-harvest inspection is required, except in counties with different rules where approved by a minimum of 45 days. 14 CCR § 1092.04(b)(6)&(8)	45 days from the date the initial inspection is completed or 45 days from the date of filing if no inspection is needed to determine conformance 14 CCR § 1090.18	Typically 45-60 working days. Could be longer if environmental concerns are identified or the Plan is not in conformance 14 CCR 1094.17(b)(1)-(5)	Approval Timeline
Effective Period	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of receipt 14 CCR § 1038	1 year from date of acceptance 14 CCR § 1104.1	1 year from date of acceptance 14 CCR § 1104.1(b)(1)(4)	1 year from date of acceptance except for fuel treatment per 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(4) and (5). 14 CCR § 1052(e)	1 year fuel treatment, except by burning, to be completed within 2 years from receipt of notice. 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(4)(2) 45-day fuel treatment around structures 14 CCR § 1052.4(e)(6)(2)(a)	5 years from the approval of the THP with a 2 year extension option PRC § 4590	5 years from the approval of the THP with a 2 year extension option PRC § 4590	5 years from the approval of the THP with a 2 year extension option PRC § 4590	5 years from the approval of the PTHP with a 2 year extension option. PRC § 4590	NTMPs do not expire. A Notice of Timber Operations (NTO) is required prior to Timber Operations, and valid for 1 year from acceptance. 14 CCR § 1090.6	WFMPs do not expire. A Working Forest Harvest Notice (WFHN) is required prior to Timber Operations, and valid for 1 year from filing. 14 CCR § 1094.2 14 CCR §§ 1094.7 & 1094.8	Effective Period
Public Notification	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes - neighborhood notification posted on ownership visible to public at least 5 days prior to the postmark date of submission of the notice 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(4)	No	No	No	Yes - Notice of Intent (NOI) required to landowners 300' from Plan. Domestic Water Supply notification required for all landowners 1,000 ft down stream of Plan. 14 CCR § 1032.10	Yes - Notice of Intent (NOI) required to landowners 300' from Plan. Domestic Water Supply notification required for all landowners 1,000 ft down stream of Plan. 14 CCR § 1032.10	Yes - Notice of Intent (NOI) required to landowners 300' from Plan. Domestic Water Supply notification required for all landowners 1,000 ft down stream of Plan. 14 CCR § 1032.10	Yes - Notice of Intent (NOI) required to landowners 300' from Plan. Domestic Water Supply notification required for all landowners 1,000 ft down stream of Plan. 14 CCR § 1092.04(d)	Yes - Notice of Preparation (NOP) required to landowners 300' from Plan and 1,000' downstream from the Plan prior submission to any future Timber Operations. 14 CCR § 1094.3(c)	Yes - Notice of Preparation (NOP) required to landowners 300' from Plan and 1,000' downstream from the Plan prior submission to any future Timber Operations. 14 CCR § 1094.3(c)	Public Notification
Other Information	None	Harvest amounts shall be <10% of the average volume per acre. 14 CCR § 1038(b)	None	RPF to certify post-harvest slash treatment and stand conditions will lead to more moderate fire behavior. 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)(D)	RPF to certify that designated harvest trees are likely to die within 1 year. 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(2)(C)	All harvested conifers shall be within 300' of CABO or ORWO that are > 4" dbh 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(4)(D) A minimum of 35 sq ft BA per acre shall be occupied by CABO and or ORWO in the treatment area 14 CCR § 1038.3(e)(2)(C)(1)	The gubernatorial proclamation of the state of emergency or executive order is required with the exemption submitted. 14 CCR § 1038(g)(2)(A) Exemption submitted shall be < 3 years of the state of emergency 14 CCR § 1038(g)(2)(B)	Construction or Reconstruction of Temporary Roads allowed with the specified conditions 14 CCR § 1038.3(f) The 4 trees with largest dbh per acre shall not be harvested. 14 CCR § 1038.3(f)	None	A THP and a Timberland Conversion Permit (TCP) may be needed instead, if the < 3 Acre Exemption does not qualify 14 CCR § 1104.1	Watercourse crossings proposed by construction or reconstruction, the RPF shall certify compliance and notify CAL per 14 CCR § 1052(e)(1)(2) (14)	Watercourse crossings proposed by construction or reconstruction, the RPF shall certify compliance and notify CAL per 14 CCR § 1052(e)(1)(2) (14)	MSP requirements for ownerships > 60,000 acres 14 CCR § 913.1 (a) or (b)	To qualify must meet the criteria in 14 CCR § 1051.0(a)(1)-(4)	An average of at least 40% of the existing overstorey tree canopy shall be retained 14 CCR 1051.4(a)(5) Rehabilitation up to 250 acres total, not to exceed 10% of harvest acreage. 14 CCR 1051.4(a)(6)	A Program Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP) may be filed for ownerships with a certified PTER 14 CCR §§ 1092.01 - 1092.02	Demonstrate a balance of growth and harvest over a time period, including periodic inventory updates PRC Article 7.5 & 4593.3(b) 14 CCR § 1090.5(b)	WFMP landowners shall not be primarily engaged in the manufacture of wood products. 14 CCR 1094.2 (j) Long Term Sustained Yield must be met 14 CCR 1094.4(g)(1)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)	Other Information
Harvest Document	Christmas Tree 14 CCR § 1038(a)	10% Dead, Dying, or Diseased Trees 14 CCR § 1038(b)	0 - 150 ft. Structure Protection 14 CCR § 1038(c)(1)	150 - 300 ft Structure Protection 14 CCR § 1038(c)(6)	Drought or Unmerch on Substantially Damaged Timberland 14 CCR § 1038(d)	Oak Woodland Management 14 CCR § 1038(e) California Black Oak = CABO Oregon White Oak = ORWO	Post Fire Recovery 14 CCR § 1038(g)	Forest Resilience 14 CCR § 1038.3	Utility Right of Way 14 CCR § 1104.1(b)(c)	Less Than 3 Acre Conversion 14 CCR § 1104.1	Emergency Timber Operations 14 CCR § 1052.1	Fuel Hazard Reduction 14 CCR § 1052.4	Timber Harvesting Plan Article 2, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1034	Modified Timber Harvesting Plan 14 CCR §§ 1051.1-1051.2	Modified Timber Harvesting Plan for Fuel Hazard Reduction 14 CCR §§ 1051.3-1051.6	Program Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP) Article 6.8, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1092	Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) Article 6.5, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR § 1090	Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP) Article 6.95, Subchapter 7, Chapter 4, 14 CCR 1094	Harvest Document

Abbreviations
14 CCR Title 14 California Code of Regulations
BA Basal Area
CAA Confidential Archaeological Addendum
CDFW California Department of Fish & Wildlife
dbh Diameter at Breast Height
FFR Forest Practice Rules
LTO Licensed Timber Operator
MSP Maximum Sustained Production of High Quality Timber Products
NTO Notice of Timber Operations
PRC Public Resources Code
ROW Right of Way
RPF Registered Professional Forester
SH Stump Height (Measured 8" Above the Ground)
THP Timber Harvesting Plan
TPA Trees Per Acre
WLPZ Watercourse Lake Protection Zone
Visit the [CAL FIRE Forest Practice](#) and [Board of Forestry and Fire Protection](#) webpages for more Forest Practice resource support.

This table is guidance per AB 2881 / PRC § 4592.5