

1 **Board of Forestry and Fire Protection**

2 **Noticing Processes and Rules Specific to the Southern Subdistrict and Santa**

3 **Cruz County, 2026**

4 **Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations**

5 **Division 1.5, Chapter 4,**

6 **Subchapter 4 & 7**

7

8 **§ 913.8. Special Harvesting Methods for Southern Subdistrict**

9 (a) Only the following Regeneration Methods and Stocking requirements, those
10 described in 14 CCR § 913.4(a), (c), (e), or (f), and those described in Article 6 of
11 Subchapter 7 of this Chapter, shall apply in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest
12 District. Timber Operations shall be conducted in accordance with paragraphs (1a),
13 (2b), or (3c) below. If the provisions of more than one subsection will be used within any
14 individual timber operation or Logging Area, a line separating the areas to be cut under
15 provisions of each shall be shown in the Plan and clearly defined on the ground by paint
16 or other means prior to filing the Plan and so as to be readily identifiable during and
17 after completion of logging.

18 Trees to be harvested or trees to be retained shall be Marked by or under the
19 supervision of an RPF prior to felling operations. A sample area must be Marked prior to
20 a preharvest inspection for evaluation. The sample area shall include at least ten (10)
21 percent of the area, up to a maximum of twenty (20) acres per stand type, whichever is
22 less, which is representative of the range of conditions present in the area. The Director
23 may waive the Marking requirement for the remainder of the THP area when explained
24 and justified in the THP.

1 (1) Leave uncut a well-distributed timber stand after Timber Operations have
2 been completed on the Logging Area that is at least forty (40) percent by number
3 of those trees eighteen (18) inches and more d.b.h. present prior to
4 commencement of current Timber Operations. Leave trees shall be thrifty
5 coniferous trees which were dominant or co-dominant in crown class prior to
6 timber harvesting or which have crowns typical of such dominant or co-dominant
7 trees. They shall be free from significant damage caused by the Timber
8 Operations. No conifer shall be cut which is more than seventy-five (75) feet from
9 the nearest leave tree twelve (12) inches d.b.h. or larger located within the
10 Logging Area. No area may be cut in excess of the leave tree standards of this
11 rule in any ten (10) year period. Upon completion of Timber Operations one of
12 the following Stocking Standards for coniferous trees shall be met:

13 (A) Basal Area. The average residual basal area, measured in stems one
14 (1) inch or larger in Diameter at least one hundred twenty (120) square
15 feet per acre on Site I lands, and at least one hundred (100) square feet
16 per acre on Site II lands, and seventy-five (75) square feet per acre on
17 Site III lands, and fifty (50) square feet per acre on Sites IV and V lands.

18 (B) Countable Trees. The area contains a well-distributed stand of trees
19 with an average Countable Tree point count of at least two hundred (200)
20 per acre on Site I and II lands, one hundred twenty-five (125) per acre on
21 Site III lands, or one hundred (100) per acre on Site IV and V lands. The
22 point count to be computed as follows:

1. Each Countable Tree which is not more than four (4) inches d.b.h. counts one (1) point.
2. Each Countable Tree over four (4) inches and not more than twelve (12) inches d.b.h. counts two (2) points.
3. Each Countable Tree over twelve (12) inches d.b.h. counts as four (4) points.
4. Redwood root crown sprouts over one (1) foot in height will be counted using the average stump diameter one (1) foot above average ground level of the original stump from which the redwood root crown sprouts originate counting one (1) sprout for each one (1) foot of stump diameter to a maximum of six (6) per stump. Any countable redwood root crown sprout over one (1) foot in height but less than four (4) inches d.b.h. shall count as one (1) toward meeting Stocking requirements.

(2) An alternative Regeneration Method may be approved only if all of the following are met:

- (A) The Regeneration Method described in subsection (a) above is not silviculturally appropriate or Feasible in the professional judgment of the Director and the RPF who prepared the Plan.
- (B) Cutting Methods prescribed under the provisions of this section must maintain a well-distributed tree crown cover of at least fifty (50) percent of the pre-existing tree crown Canopy. At no time shall the crown cover be reduced to a level where the productivity of the land is jeopardized or to a

1 level which would create a threat to soil and/or water resources. Provided
2 the required crown cover can be maintained, the removal of all trees in
3 Small Groups not exceeding one-half (0.5) acre in size may be approved
4 as part of the overall cutting prescription.

5 (C) The alternative method shall provide overall protection at least equal to
6 that of the standard provided by subsection (a) for watershed, wildlife, soil,
7 and aesthetic resources considering the Silvicultural Method, conditions
8 necessary for regeneration, tree growth rate, annual rainfall, summer
9 temperature and length of dry season, critical problems of erodible soils,
10 Unstable Areas, need for high water quality, increased fire potential, and
11 exposure to more intensive use.

12 (D) A Plan agreed upon between the RPF and the Director is prepared
13 which gives timber stand information concerning Stocking levels, cutting
14 goals, timber stand growth and future harvest timing expectations.

15 (E) The Timber Operator is responsible for carrying out Timber Operations
16 as described in the Plan. The Plan submitter is responsible for retaining an
17 RPF to provide professional advice to the Timber Operator and
18 Timberlands owner on a continuing basis throughout the Timber
19 Operations. The RPF or the designee of the RPF works closely with the
20 Timber Operator to help assure compliance with the approved Alternative
21 Prescription and the terms and specifications of the approved Plan. The
22 RPF or the designee of the RPF is present on the Harvest Area sufficient
23 hours each week to know the operations' progress and advise the Timber

Operator. The RPF informs the Timber Operator of potential environmental impacts and the mitigation measures to be taken to minimize such impacts. The Timber Operator shall sign the Plan and major amendments thereto, or shall sign and file with the Director a facsimile thereof, prior to commencement or continuation of operation thereunder agreeing to abide by the terms and specifications of the Plan. An RPF may be responsible for the conduct of Timber Operations under contractual arrangements with the Timber Owner.

(F) The Logging Area shall meet the Stocking Standards described in 14 CCR § 913.8(a)(1) within five (5) years following completion of Timber Operations.

(G) Group B species designated for management may be counted for Stocking, consistent with 14 CCR § 912.7(d).

(3) The harvest of dead, Dying or deteriorating trees resulting from fire, wind, insect, disease, flood, or other injurious agents as provided in 14 CCR § 913.3(b) shall be exempt from 14 CCR § 913.8(a)(1) and (2) except for Stocking under 14 CCR § 913.8(a)(2) provided there has been a preharvest inspection and a Plan has been approved.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4553, 4561.1 and 4562.5, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 4551.5, 4561, 4561.1, 4562.5 and 4562.7, Public Resources Code.

1 **§ 926.3. Plan Submittal and Notice of Intent. Santa Cruz County**

2 14 CCR § 1032.7, subsections (c), (e), (f), and (g), shall not apply in Santa Cruz County.

3 In lieu of those subsections, the following shall apply:

4 *****

5 (d) The Plan submitter shall have the Notice of Intent published in a newspaper of
6 general circulation in the area, ~~concurrently with~~ prior to the submission of the Plan to
7 the Director. Proof of publication of notice shall be provided to the Director prior to
8 his/her determination made pursuant to 14 CCR § 1037.4.

9 *****

10 Note: Authority cited: Section 4516.5, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section
11 4516.5, Public Resources Code.

12
13 **§ 926.25. Special Harvesting Methods. [Santa Cruz County]**

14 In addition to 14 CCR § 913.8 subsection (a)(1), the harvesting limitation, re-entry
15 period and leave tree standards shall be modified as follows:

16 (a) The cutting standards are as follows:

17 (1) For areas where the proposed harvest rate is fifty-one to sixty (51-60) percent of the
18 trees greater than eighteen (18) inches d.b.h., the minimum re-entry period shall be
19 fourteen (14) years.

20 (2) For areas where the proposed harvest is fifty (50) percent or less of the trees greater
21 than eighteen (18) inches d.b.h., a ten (10)-year re-entry period shall apply.

22 ~~(3) Regardless of re-entry period, no more than forty (40) percent of the trees greater~~
23 ~~than fourteen (14) inches and less than eighteen (18) inches d.b.h. shall be harvested.~~

Note: Authority cited: Section 4516.5, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4516.5, Public Resources Code.

§ 1032.7. Plan Submittal and Notice of Intent.

(c) The RPF preparing the Plan shall submit to the Director, with the Plan, a Notice of Intent to Harvest Timber (Notice of Intent) if:

(1) any proposed Plan boundary lies within three-hundred (300) feet of any property not owned by the Timberland owner, or

(2) any Plan amendment that changes a Plan boundary so that the new boundary lies within three-hundred (300) feet of property not owned by the Timberland owner, or

(3) any Plan amendment changes the silvicultural method if a Notice of Intent was required for the Plan by condition (1) or (2) above or,

(4) any overhead electrical power line, except a line from a transformer to a service panel, is present within the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area or within two-hundred (200) feet outside the Harvest Area ~~Plan~~ boundary, or

(5) any Plan amendment changes a Plan boundary so that any overhead electrical power line, except a line from a transformer to a service panel, is within the new boundary or is within two-hundred (200) feet outside the new Plan boundary.

(d) A Notice of Intent shall include the following information:

(1) The names of the Timberland owner, RPF who prepared the Plan, and the Plan submitter.

(2) The location of the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area by county, section, township, and range, and the approximate direction and distance to the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area from the nearest community or well-known landmark.

(3) The name of and distance from the nearest perennial Stream and major water course flowing through or downstream from the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area .

(4) The acres proposed to be harvested.

(5) The Silvicultural Systems to be used, including Regeneration Methods, Intermediate Treatments, Special Prescriptions, and Alternative Prescriptions.

(6) The estimated earliest date that the Director may approve the Plan. This is fifteen (15) days from receipt of the Plan by the Department, except in counties for which Rules and regulations have been adopted pursuant to §§ 4516.5 or 4516.8 of the Public Resources Code where the earliest date the Director may approve the Plan is forty-five (45) days after receipt of the Plan by the Department.

(7) A statement that the public may review the Plan at the appropriate CAL FIRE Review Team Office and that a copy of the Plan may be obtained from the Department upon payment of the applicable charge.

(8) A map which provides the approximate boundary of the ~~THP-area~~ Harvest Area, a map legend, and a scale. This map shall be posted with the Notice of Intent.

(9) A statement that questions or concerns regarding the specific Plan should be directed to the applicable CAL FIRE Review Team Office for public input incorporation into an Official Response Document.

(10) A statement of whether there is a known overhead electric power line within the proposed ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area except a line from a transformer to a service panel.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551 and 4582.3, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4551, 4581, 4582.3, 21080 and 21092, Public Resources Code.

§ 1090.2. NTMP Submittal and Notice of Preparation.

(d) A notice of preparation shall include the following information:

(1) The name of the plan submitter.

(2) The location of the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area by county, section, township, and range, and the approximate direction and distance to the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area from the nearest community or well-known landmark.

(3) The name of the nearest perennial blue line Stream flowing through or downstream from the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest Area.

(4) The acreage of the area to be included in the Plan.

(5) The Silvicultural Method(s) proposed.

(6) The estimated earliest date that the Director may approve the Plan.

(7) A statement that the public may review the Plan at the specified CAL FIRE Review Team Office and a reasonable per page copy fee may be set by the Director for additional copies.

Note: Authority cited: Stats. 1989, Ch. 1290, Sec. 13; and Sections 4551, 4593.4 and 21092, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4551, 4593 and 4593.4, Public Resources Code.

§ 1092.04 Program Timber Harvesting Plan (PTHP) Submittal.

(d) A Notice of Intent shall include the following information:

(1) The names of the Timberland Owner, the RPF who prepared the PTHP, and the PTHP submitter.

(2) The location of the ~~PTHP-area~~ Harvest area by county, section, township, and range, and the approximate direction and distance to the ~~PTHP-area~~ Harvest area from the nearest community or well-known landmark.

(3) The name of and distance from the nearest perennial Watercourse flowing through or downstream from the ~~PTHP-area~~ Harvest area.

(4) The acres proposed to be harvested.

(5) The Silvicultural Systems to be used, including Regeneration Methods, Intermediate Treatments Special Prescriptions, and Alternative Prescriptions.

(6) The estimated earliest date that the Director may approve the PTHP. This is 15 days from receipt of the PTHP by the Department, except in counties for

1 which Rules and regulations have been adopted pursuant to Section 4516.5 and
2 4516.8 of the PRC where the earliest date the Director may approve the PTHP is
3 45 days after the receipt of the PTHP by the Department.

4 (7) A statement that the public may review the PTHP at the appropriate CAL
5 FIRE Review Team Office and that a copy of the PTHP may be obtained from the
6 Department upon payment of the applicable charge.

7 (8) A map which provides the approximate boundary of the ~~PTHP~~area Harvest
8 area, a map legend, and a scale.

9 (9) A statement that questions or concerns regarding the specific PTHP should
10 be directed to the appropriate CAL FIRE Review Team Office.

11 *****

12 (h) A statement of whether there is a known overhead electric power line on the
13 proposed ~~plan~~area Harvest Area except lines from transformers to service panels.

14
15 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4551 and 4552, Public Resources Code. Reference:
16 Sections 4581, Public Resources Code.

17
18 **§ 1094.3 WFMP Submittal and Notice of Preparation to Harvest Timber.**

19 A WFMP may be submitted to the Department in writing by a person who intends to
20 become a Working Forest Landowner(s) with the long-term objectives of promoting
21 forestland stewardship, uneven aged timber stand(s) and sustained yield through the
22 implementation of a WFMP. The WFMP shall be prepared by a RPF, shall be a public

1 record, shall include all of the specified information pursuant to 14 CCR § 1094.6, and
2 the following conditions shall be met:

3 *****

4 (d) A Notice of Preparation to Harvest Timber shall include the following information:

5 (1) The name(s) of the plan submitter(s).

6 (2) The location of the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest area by county, section, township, and
7 range, and the approximate direction and distance to the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest area
8 from the nearest community or well-known landmark.

9 (3) The name of the nearest perennial blue line Stream flowing through or
10 downstream from the ~~Plan-area~~ Harvest area.

11 (4) The acreage of the ~~WFMP-area~~ Harvest area and the acreage of the Working
12 Forest Timberlands within which Timber Operations under the WFMP are to be
13 conducted.

14 (5) The silvicultural method(s) proposed.

15 (6) The estimated earliest date that the Director may approve the Plan pursuant
16 to 14 CCR § 1094.17.

17 (7) A statement that the public may review the Plan at the specified CAL FIRE
18 Review Team Office and a reasonable per page copy fee may be set by the
19 Director for additional copies.

20 *****

21 NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5, 4552 and 4553, Public Resources Code.

22 Reference: Sections 4597.2 and 4597.3, Public Resources Code.