

March 6, 2007

Ruben Grijalva, Director
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Dear Ruben:

Thank you for facilitating the very productive and collaborative meeting on March 1, 2007.

Below we set down our understanding of important observations and agreements that were reached in the meeting. If you have a different understanding, perhaps via a call we could clarify your position. We also lay out some points that we believe flow from these agreements. In doing this, we are not trying to tie your hands in future decisions, only to record our understanding of the outcome of the meeting.

1. No harvesting will be possible in 2007 because of the need to prepare and file a revised Option A.
2. We agree that if necessary to implement harvests in 2008, JDSF could plan harvests in the THP areas denoted as Parlin and Northfork Spur, modified to conform to the interim harvest principles of the Mendocino Working Group (MWG).
We also identified several plans on the east side of the forest that are outside of the areas of high concern for all parties and two that are on the southern part of the central area of the forest that have high redwood stocking levels. The last two plans, although not as fully developed, would be less controversial than any of those with "substantial work completed" (those in the first section of Russ Henly's spreadsheet). These plans are South Whiskey Springs and 14 Gulch North.
3. We agreed to the use of basal area rather than board-foot volume to measure the before and after conditions of the stand. After harvest 70% of the initial basal area of stands outside of streamside buffers would remain. streamside buffers would have the protections provided in the DFMP and DEIR. Average tree diameter in stands outside of streamside buffers would maintained or increased.
4. You agreed with a statement that Vince Taylor made, "The most important goal for our initial harvests is that people seeing them will say, 'This is great [or words to that effect]'."
5. There was considerable discussion about the use of and the size of group and cluster selection. Mike Jani said, at one point, that even a .25-acre cluster opening in some locations would look bad to people. We thought an unspoken conclusion of the meeting was that the initial harvests would not include group selection but that limited cluster selection would be OK when necessary for regeneration or removal of multiple defective/undesirable trees. . This should be explicitly clarified.

6. One item that did not come up for discussion but that was a part of the MWG's interim harvesting criteria, was the submission of THPs in areas of high concern for review by an advisory group. All of the plans outside of the east side of the forest are in the area of high concern developed by Russ Henly. Given that harvest will not occur until 2008, the Jackson Advisory Group will be in a position to review the proposed THPs. Such a review will assist in ensuring that the plans are designed to maximize public satisfaction with the outcome. The review of plans as outlined in the MWG's "Interim Harvesting Criteria" should be explicitly clarified.
7. Vince Taylor stated that in return for agreeing on the harvesting of THPs in areas of high concern, if necessary, he expected a commitment on the part of CDF to mobilize resources to develop other, less sensitive THPs to the extent possible for whatever interim harvesting is necessary to get the forest up and operational. There was agreement to this commitment with recognition that you have other managerial considerations to keep in mind..
8. You stated that you would do your best to have CDF honor the consensus recommendations of the Mendocino Working Group contained in our submissions to the Board of Forestry dated November 30, 2006 and February 21, 2007. You also clarified that you could not necessarily agree to concerns expressed individually by members of the working group. As well, you made clear that ultimately the Board of Forestry will be making the final decisions on the management plan and the EIR and that we all should expect other input from other interested parties.

If we have misconstrued our agreements or I have omitted points, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued efforts to reach consensus among all parties on a plan for getting Jackson Forest back into operation.

Sincerely,

Mike Jani

Vince Taylor