

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

135 Ridgeway Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
(707) 576-2959
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



Date: September 21, 2020
Ref: 1-20-00093-HUM-MEN

Jasmine Finley
Jasyfin99@gmail.com

Dear Jasmine Finley:

You submitted an email to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) on June 4, 2020 regarding Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) 1-20-00093-HUM-MEN, located on the property of Patrick Drewry. Below is your public comment, your main concerns, and Department's response to your concerns.

Public Comment # 20PC-00163:

Hello,

I am trying to review a THP document in my neighborhood and only find some information and no actual document to review. Please, let me know how I should access the online copy of the Full THP or if I need to request one. The cost for requested documents was not placed on the public notice so if I am required to request a paper copy I also need to know the cost... I would like to see it before making public comment.

I find it a crazy idea that I would need to drive 3 hours one direction from the logging site to the Santa Rosa Region Office to receive a copy of the records. I would like to avoid that if at all possible.

I also would like to encourage you to please allow more time for public comment (stay open longer than 15 days) since the public does not have immediate access to this plan for review and I have people asking me where to find it so that they can make comment. I was born and raised on the Chamise Creek. The tributary to the Eel that will likely be affected most by this proposed operation. I hope that every feasible conservation method for protecting the water of our community is taken during this process. The logging plan is on the headwaters of the year round stream I grew up on. I would like the stream to still have fish when my grandchildren are around. To achieve that and allow logging, logging needs to be done in the cleanest possible way and in my opinion some good things for the creek should be included like perhaps a water recharge pond near both streams that the applicant wishes to log adjacent to. I need to see the full plan to fully decide what my comments should include.

Please let me know how to access or when it will be online if the full plan has not been uploaded yet. I see no attachments in the cal tree's system.

Thanks in advance
Jasmine

[Jasmine Finley; June 4, 2020]

A list of abbreviations is provided for your benefit in understanding the Department’s responses.

Forest Practice Terms

AHCP	Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan	LTO	Licensed Timber Operator
BAA	Biological Assessment Area	MSP	Maximum Sustained Production of High Quality Timber Products
CAL FIRE	Calif. Department of Forestry & Fire Protection	MSMA	Marten Special Management Area
CCR	California Code of Regulations	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	NCRWQCB	North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act	NSO	Northern Spotted Owl
CESA	California Endangered Species Act	PHI	Pre-Harvest Inspection
CGS	California Geological Survey	PRC	Public Resources Code
DBH/dbh	Diameter Breast Height	RPF	Registered Professional Forester
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council	RMZ	Riparian Management Zone
GDRCo	Green Diamond Resource Company	THP	Timber Harvesting Plan
HRA	Habitat Retention Area	WLPZ	Watercourse & Lake Protection Zone
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan	LWD	Large woody debris
MSMA	Marten Special Management Area		

[sic] Word used verbatim as originally printed in another document. May indicate a misspelling or incorrect word usage

Concern 1: Access to the timber harvest plan in CalTrees.

To access an online copy of the plan, please visit

<https://caltreesplans.resources.ca.gov/caltrees/caltrees.aspx>

Once in the site, select “Search”, then click on the “Document Number” dropdown and query for:

1-20-00093%

Select the document number correlating with the type “Timber Harvest Plan”. Navigate to the various attachments associated with the plan. The Public Comments are labeled under status type and are in pdf format. The plan is composed of five public sections and a sixth section that is confidential. These sections were uploaded and have been available on CalTrees since July 10, 2020.

This website was provided on the Notice of Intent (NOI) which was posted near the plan area on or before July 9, 2020. The cost of receiving a copy of the plan from the CAL FIRE Review Team Office is also provided on the NOI. The price is 37 cents for each page, \$2.50 minimum and \$64.75 for the entire plan. This plan was submitted on June 4, 2020 and returned for confidential reasons. It was resubmitted on June 18, 2020 and returned for confidential reasons. It was lastly submitted on July 9, 2020 and found acceptable for filing. If you need assistance with the CalTrees interface, the phone number provided on the Notice of Intent is (707) 576-2959 and will connect you appropriately.

Concern 2: More time for the public comment period.

This THP was submitted on June 4, 2020 (returned); resubmitted on June 18, 2020 (returned); and resubmitted a third time on July 9, 2020 before it was found to be acceptable for filing on

July 16, 2020. On July 30, 2020 a preharvest inspection was conducted. A final interagency review was conducted (2nd Review) on August 13, 2020.

As per the Forest Practice Rules (14 CCR 1037.4), the public comment period officially begins once the plan is found to be acceptable for filing (July 16, 2020) and concludes 30 days from the date the initial inspection is completed (July 30, 2020) with ten of those days occurring after the final interagency review (August 13, 2020). The public comment period closed on August 31, 2020 (30 days after July 30, 2020, with 10 of those days being after August 13, 2020) in accordance with the rules. The review timelines of this THP meet the requirements of the FPRs, including the length of the public comment period.

Concern 3: Watercourse protection measures and fish protection measures.

Most watercourse protection measures in the Forest Practice Rules are for fish and associated aquatic habitat. Also considered are human needs such as domestic water supply. There are numerous enforceable protection measures regarding watercourse and fish protection within this THP.

To protect downstream landowners, letters were sent to all downstream landowners within 1,000 feet of timber operations, a public notice was sent to the Times Standard, all in accordance with 14 CCR 1032.10 of the FPRs. There were no responses from any downstream landowners. These documents can be found in Section V of the THP on CalTrees and the plan is in conformance.

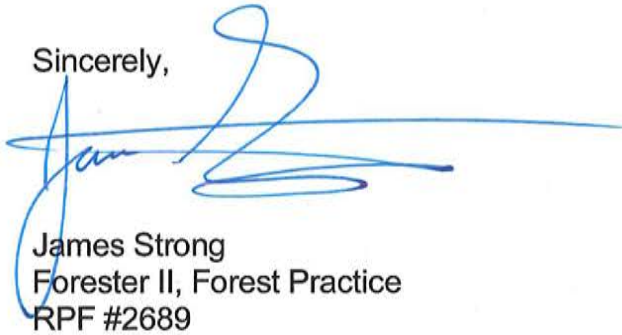
Regarding watercourse protection measures; the plan proposes no exceptions to Item 18, Soil Stabilization which require the landowner ensure that all logging roads and landings are hydrologically disconnected from the landscape. This is usually done through the use of well-engineered watercourse crossings, soil stabilization treatments and properly engineered logging roads. The forest practice rules also have extensive restrictions and limitations on how ground based equipment can be used in the winter period, on steep slopes and around watercourses. All these rules and restrictions are outlined and addressed in Items 19- 23 of Section II of the THP on CalTrees, and the plan is in conformance.

Item 24 and 25 of Section II discuss roads and landings. This plan proposes no new construction of logging roads but does propose many repairs to existing watercourse crossings and ditch relief culverts. No new watercourse crossings are proposed for construction or reconstruction in this THP. It is likely that this timber harvest plan will improve the health of the hydrologic landscape considering repairs are proposed to 28 existing road and skid trail crossings.

Lastly, Item 26 of Section II specifically deals with watercourse protection measures. This THP has no new or existing fish bearing watercourse crossings. This THP proposes no operations within watercourse protection zones adjacent to restorable class I watercourses. This THP will not have any timber operations within any channel zone of any watercourse. All the watercourses in this THP have been classified and afforded the appropriate protection measures based on their classification. Unstable areas near these watercourses have been evaluated and mapped and appropriate protection measures have been outlined, reviewed and agreed upon by multiple State Agencies.

Please consider this letter as the Department's "Official Response" to Significant Environmental Points Raised during Public Review of THP 1-20-00163-HUM-MEN. The concerns brought up by your public comment letter have been addressed. The Plan was found in conformance with the Forest Practice Act on September 21, 2020

Sincerely,



James Strong
Forester II, Forest Practice
RPF #2689



cc: RPF, Unit, File; Timber Owner, Timberland Owner, and/or Submitter
CP, CDFW, DPR, & RWB through <https://caltreesplans.resources.ca.gov/caltrees/caltrees.aspx>