

APPENDIX 11

MINING THP SECTIONS I, II, III, SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (THP SECTION V)

The contents of THP Sections I, II, III and V are not specific to cumulative effect characterization and while some information of use to the identification of potential restoration opportunities may be present it is often qualitative in nature and may reside in different places in different THPs. Below is an attempt to provide those unfamiliar with the contents of a THP some idea of where information may be found.

The review of THP Section contents is followed by an alternative approach to “data mining” that does not rely on THP contents. There are statewide information sources that could be combined to provide maps/databases for the state that could be useful. Starting with some of these sources has the potential to be much easier than trying to tease the information out of THPs/NTMPs (see the Coastal Commission Special Treatment Area example at the end of this document). Also, combining agency produced and maintained sources of information would be a logical approach to providing information that would aid in preparation and review of THPs/NTMPs.

Overview of THP Sections I, II, III and V

The summary below suggests where to look for information that may have potential to assist in the identification of restoration opportunities (including information required per code sections 14 CCR 916.4(a), 936.4(a), 956.4(a) of the Forest Practice Rules). Note: beginning January 1, 2019 the THP format will change, most of the items below will still be on the form but may not have the same numbering or exact same wording – regardless of landowner. THP forms were also revised in 2000 and 2015. The primary changes to the THP form in 2015 involved the required level of disclosure and discussion regarding roads and landings and watercourse and lake protection zone measures (Items 24, 26 and 27).

THP Section I is primarily where legal information (names, addresses, responsible parties, locations, acreages, associated permits, responsibilities ...) are disclosed. There are no physical descriptions or operational plans in this section and only a general statement regarding adverse cumulative impacts (Item 13(e)):

“e. After considering the rules of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and the mitigation measures incorporated in this THP, I (the Registered Professional Forester) have determined that the timber operation (**mark all that apply**):

will have a significant adverse impact on the environment. (Statement of reasons for overriding considerations should be contained in Section III).

will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.”

There is probably no reason to visit THP Section I when looking for potential restoration opportunities.

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THP Section II has many subsections, some may be of some use, many can easily be skipped when looking for information that may have potential to assist in the identification of restoration opportunities (including information required per code sections 14 CCR 916.4(a), 936.4(a), 956.4(a) of the Forest Practice Rules). Remember, beginning January 1, 2019 THPs will be submitted on different forms, the item numbers may not match the list below on these new forms. Parts of Section II that may be useful are highlighted with bold type in the list below:

- **Item 14** – silviculture, tells number of acres by silvicultural type
- Item 15 – Pests
- Item 16 – Harvesting Practices and Erosion Control
- Item 17 – Erosion Hazard Ratings (EHRs) (for areas 10 acres and larger)
- **Item 18** – Soil Stabilization (2015 THP form mentions erosion sites; reader is directed to item 38 in Section II, Section III, the Erosion Control Plan and/or the Certified Engineering Geologist report in Section V of the THP for details and “significant or potential erosion sites”)
- Item 19 – layouts
- Item 20 – yarding
- **Item 21** – use of ground based equipment (asks if ground based equipment will be used on unstable areas; refers the reader to the Geologist’s map and item 38 for information)
- Item 22 – alternative harvesting or erosion control (answer was “no” in THP 1-15-107 MEN)
- **Item 23** – winter operations (unstable areas may be mentioned but not described, ground based operations have seasonal restrictions.)
- **Item 24** – roads and landings (discloses whether logging roads will: cross unstable areas or connected headwall swales, be constructed within a WLPZ. A question about significant erosion sites may refer the reader to a Map Point Table and/or Operators Table in Section II Item 38)
- **Item 25** – questions from item 24 that were answered “yes” are discussed in greater detail.
- **Item 26** – Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone – Some information may be present in plans submitted in 2015 or later: if “... a significant volume of sediment stored upstream from any crossing proposed to be reconstructed or removed” (subitem l), if “erosion control features historically have a high failure rate” (subitem m) or if “... current crossing conditions may be adversely affecting fish passage” on Class I or restorable Class I watercourses (subitem q). These subitems were not added to the THP form until 2015, as the result of a significant change to the Forest Practice Rules, Article 12 of Subchapters 4, 5, and 6. The THP forms were changed again at the end of 2018 but not evaluated as part of the Pilot Project. Discussion of restoration opportunities or code section 14 CCR 916.4(a), 936.4(a), 956.4(a) not specifically required to be discussed in this item.
- **Item 27** – Alternative or in-lieu practices associated with watercourses. Such practices are required to provide protection of the beneficial uses of water equal to the standard rule.
- Item 28 – Domestic Water noticing, asking for input from neighbors
- Item 29 – Is the THP in a Sensitive Watershed, Ten Mile River is not a Sensitive Watershed per Forest Practice Rules code section 14 CCR 916.8
- Item 30 – Hazard Reduction, refers to fire protection
- Item 31 – Piling and burning for hazard reduction, refers to fire protection.
- **Item 32** – Biological Resources, except for a possible mention of aquatic species this section usually doesn’t address watercourse function. Acknowledges presence/absence of listed and sensitive species.
- Item 33 – Snags which must be felled for fire protection or safety reasons.
- Item 34 – Late succession forest stands proposed for harvest. Late Succession Forest Stands defined in rules as having certain characteristics and being at least 20 acres in size.

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- **Item 35** – Are any other provisions for wildlife protection required by the rules?
- Item 36 – Archaeology
- Item 37 – “Trade Secret” information, usually growth and yield stuff
- **Item 38** - instructions or constraints not listed elsewhere in Section II. Usually color of flagging. In the THPs reviewed this section also contained standardized diagrams and the Operators Table (which could contain descriptions of points needing treatment – however, they would all be treated as described on the table as part of the THP.)
- **THP maps** – show location of harvest units, roads, watercourses, erosion hazard ratings, road points, etc.

THP Section III – if anything of interest is found in Sections I or II go to the same Item number in Section III for additional information, if any. At the beginning of Section III there is usually a **General Site Description** (per code section 14 CCR 1034[gg]) that may describe: soils, topography, elevation, EHR, vegetation and stand conditions, watershed and stream conditions. This discussion is usually less than a page long. Section III is generally where a discussion of alternatives is located (required by CEQA).

THP Section IV – this is the Cumulative Impacts Assessment part of a THP. See Appendices 2 and 3 regarding the contents of this section of the recent THPs in the Pilot Project Planning Watershed.

THP Section V – Supporting Documentation. There are no formatting requirements for this section of a THP. It is up to the discretion of the RPF preparing the plan whether some information will be included as parts of Sections II, III and/or IV or whether it will be included in Section V as supporting documentation. For the submitter of the THPs in the Pilot Project Planning Watershed certain documents are routinely found in this section, not all documents are found in every THP:

- EHR Worksheets and Map
 - Erosion Control Plan
 - Focused Engineering Geologic Review
 - Botanical Assessment and/or Survey
 - Aquatic Habitat Assessment (See Appendices 4 and 12)
 - Copy of Notice of Intent
 - Domestic Water Supply letter
 - Support Documentation for Approved CDFW 1600 Water Drafting Permits
 - CDFW consultation reports (i.e., Marbled Murrelet Preconsultation, Marbled Murrelet Post Survey Consultation)
 - Pre-consultation package for “Accelerated Wood Recruitment” per code section 14 CCR 916.9(v) (only found in THP 1-13-031 MEN)
 - Additional Information Concerning Northern Spotted Owl
- Rate of Harvest Issue reports and Memoranda (these are: specific to THPs in the Ten Mile drainage, specific to this timber/timberland owner, and only found in the 2014 and 2015 THPs reviewed)