

VI. Oral Testimony

This section of the JDSF FEIR contains a summary of public comments received at four public hearings for the project. Two public hearings were held during the Public Comment Period for the Draft EIR, one in Ukiah on February 2, 2006, and one in Sacramento on February 9, 2006. Two additional public hearings were held during the Public Comment Period for the Recirculated Draft EIR, one in Ukiah on June 20, 2007, and one in Fort Bragg on June 7, 2007. Comments were transcribed from recordings and numbered by the Board to facilitate response. Because the comments were transcribed from audio recordings and comments were not always entirely intelligible, some errors in transcription may have occurred.

Draft EIR Public Hearing, Ukiah, February 2, 2006

George Hollister:

Comment 1

I am from Comptche. I'm a commercial forest owner for the past 30 years. I know that human enterprise can make the forest a better place. And commercial forest management based on science can meet the needs of people better than that which excludes people and ignores science.

Jackson Demonstration State Forest is an excellent demonstration of commercial forestry based on science to achieve its managerial goals. It is an example of management that is capable of meeting the diverse challenges of today as well as the many challenges we will face as fiscal years challenges.

The draft EIR and Management Plan that while is not perfect, it is beyond adequate. It investigates the issues of humanitarian significance. Alternative B is preferred option for management. This is the most flexible choice to meet the needs of the most people.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The Board has determined that Alternative G balances operational flexibility, timber production, recreation, and environmental protection, and that Alternative G is in keeping with Board policy and existing state forest legislation.

Els Cooperider:

Comment 1

I was appointed by Richard Wilson to serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee. Back in 1997-8, along with 15 members on the Citizen's Advisory Committee and I think that what came out of the advisory committee is a good document. I think it was printed in April, 1998 and quickly discarded by CDF after taking almost two years time of 16 people to work on an action plan and I'm still upset about it.

Comment 2

In the meantime, can you guys come up with some other ideas about what you'd like to see on the forest and not forgetting that this forest belongs to the people? I know we can get hung up and get caught up with a lot of details that can make us forget the big picture. The big picture is that Jackson State Forest does not only have to meet the needs of the people, but for all the critters that live there. We have critical habitat for marbled murrelet and endangered threatened coho salmon. And the only

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viable option at this time is Option F, and if you can't do that, I would go for the Citizens Advisory option C1.

Comment 3

I also what I really would like to say that if you really wanted input on Jackson State Forest, this meeting should have been held in Fort Bragg, at the Fort Bragg Town Hall. I have talked to a lot of people who would have come to this meeting that live on the coast they could not take off a whole day to come to Ukiah so I request that you will set another meeting in Fort Bragg and give a chance for the people who live close to the forest to submit their comments.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. An examination of the ADFMP, the RDEIR, and the report of the CAC indicates that a number of the recommendations of the committee were incorporated into the management plan for JDSF, while others were not. The committee was advisory to the Department, but did not have oversight authority. The Board and the Department appreciate the efforts of the CAC.

Response to Comment 2

The DEIR and RDEIR thoroughly evaluate the effects of future management upon fish and wildlife resources. Please see DEIR Section VII.6 for the assessment that was conducted. Also, please see the FEIR for the allocation of lands to various forms of timber and habitat management. Support for Alternative F is noted by the Board. The management plan incorporates provisions from several of the alternatives that were considered.

Response to Comment 3

JDSF is a state resource, so hearings were conducted in various locations, including Fort Bragg.

Bill Heil: I took the day to talk about Jackson State Forest in general. Things I think we might have missed.

Comment 1

One is that the situation has changed a lot in Mendocino County. Mills have been sold and closed. I live on the coast, as far as I can tell, there is nothing in the management of Jackson State that affects anyone on the coast anymore. All the logs are shipped out. The thing that is done locally is the logging. I am not a logger. I am a sawmiller along with at least fourteen hundred other sawmillers that live along the coast who have small sawmills. We would love to have access to the logs coming out of Jackson State Forest. We don't. In the past, the nearest we've come to being able to access Jackson State is that they decided to have small sales. They do not care if the sale is small and the trees are standing. I don't have a logger. I do not want to be a logger; I want to buy logs from Jackson, and so do my friends, and so do the other micromillers. We want to be able to get them fairly at a fair price on the ground. And to be able to load them on the truck. In terms of the way we view it economically on the coast that would be helpful, that would help a lot of people. There are a lot of smart people on the coast. They can figure what products they need to make in order to make it pay and then they can figure out how to hire other people. This has happened. There are no longer big mills but lots of little mills. You have to take that into account somewhere. I don't know if it is in the EIR, but it has 1500 pages. You might have perfect vision but I haven't, but I can get through 1200 pages of the Apostile.

Comment 2

I said right upfront that when I saw an E and F Options with an exclamation mark after it, that is the options I want to see done because we need to let the trees grow. I think we need to figure out how to take advantage of the fact that some of the nicest forests that are left in Mendocino County are under the preview of CDF, who facilitated letting all the forests to be cut down except Jackson State. Now that we got that, we've got to look at it differently. We have to protect it. It can be resource but it has to be managed on a much sensitive scale than the way it has been managed so far.

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Response to Comment 1

JDSF is a valuable and important resource to the people on the Mendocino coast and elsewhere throughout the region and the State. Please see the economic assessment in the DEIR for an estimate of the values associated with the local economy. The size of log sales is not an environmental issue. The Board wishes to emphasize that small sales would be a valuable demonstration that should be considered, while also recognizing that small sales are much more difficult to administer in total, due to potentially high number of sales necessary to produce a given level of revenue.

Response to Comment 2

The preferred management alternative for JDSF incorporates a very high level of forest growth and habitat development, including the dedication of a significant portion of JDSF to development of late seral and older forest structure. The Board recognizes that a significant acreage of forest has been managed within the assessment area, but also recognizes that the forests in this area remain highly productive, and contribute valuable habitats and forest products to the region. The Board does not agree that the Department has facilitated letting all of the forests surrounding JDSF be cut down. The resources within JDSF will be protected.

Louis Bigfoot: I have been following the issues since 1989.

Comment 1

What's right is right for the forest. What's right for the forest is to maintain the integrity and to grow the trees so grow old over time because they are all dying. We need to the old trees for our kids, we need strong rivers, and we need to bring the opportunity to bring back the fish. The question in my mind is not the EIR, it is the amount of money requested by the state that out of the forest is what needs to be managed. If they want millions of dollars, how are we going to stop them? I can't stop them, can you stop them? My wife says, "what are we going to do?" The people who want to control a person, they want money. If you apply that to Jackson State Forest, you will get a different answer.

Comment 2

The answer is that it is the only area of all the forested land near it. It has 500,000 acres of forest and G-P and L-P sold out. The environmentalists said you are over-cutting, over-logging, Chris Rowney says no, we are doing a great job! We are saying, "heh, you are crazy." Get up in airplane and take a look. We're seeing that this is a disaster. "Oh, no, no," says Chris Rowney. LP and GP says, "Oh, no problem." There's the bet. Where's Chris Rowney today? He's on the Board of Forestry. The guy who wrote all the timber harvest plans for LP and a lot of clearcuts from hell and back. That's the problem. It's the management people who have been inundated by the people who have worked their way up the ladder to the point where [they're the ones] who makes the decisions. Can you trust the foresters? I do not know.

Comment 3

Herbicides? You have a committee for them. Willful intelligent people, together and the committee says, "hey, we do not want any herbicides. Hey we want to hold the fort" ...What did CDF decide to do? Aggravate the problem. If they would have agreed with the forest committee, we wouldn't be here today. We could have harvest a few trees and they would have their employment. So my recommendation is let the committee finish their job. Wilson appointed them, so let them continue on. I think it will bring a good result. Take away the professional foresters, because they have been around too long. So let them retire; let the young people who have vision. We need people who have a vision, not control the amount of money. Make sure Mr. Gentry that we reduce the amount of money that is demanded upon you. We do not need to go back.

Response to Comment 1

The comments are somewhat unclear. There is no indication that the trees are all dying. The Board recognizes the need for habitats consisting of older forests and structural elements of older forests. The management plan will dedicate a significant portion of JDSF to the maintenance or development

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of late seral forest and older forest structure. The streams will be well protected, with the stream zones being managed to develop late seral forest. Significant impacts to streams and wildlife are not expected to occur.

The Forest will be managed as a demonstration of sustainable forest management. The amount of revenue ultimately produced will be determined by forest growth and development in consideration of management constraints.

Response to Comment 2

The comment is unclear. The Board has considered past, current, and probable future projects within the assessment area, and has concluded that significant cumulative impacts are not expected to occur. The record suggests that the level of harvest within the assessment area has declined substantially.

Response to Comment 3

The Board is aware of the recommendations made by the CAC. The committee recommended a temporary moratorium on the use of herbicides. The Board and the Department will maintain or establish three separate advisory committees to review JDSF management and the potential for research and demonstration, and these committees will report back to the Department and/or the Board with recommendations.

Mr. Vanderhoorst: The letter that Mark read or delivered this morning from CLFA pretty much covers every point I intended to make. I'll save a bit of time by ratifying and supporting the comments made in his letter. I too am a member of the California Licensed Foresters Association.

Comment 1

I would support the C1 alternative. I think in order to have something management regime that is relevant as a demonstration ground for private timberlands throughout redwood counties, you need some kind of management that emulates what properties would be right to. Given the good management that is going on, Alternative C1 does that. It probably is the best balance between alternative values and all the inherently conflicting with one another. It is not a zero sum game. One thing does not preclude other things turning out well. You can have timber production and recreation, watershed protection. save large quantities of old growth managed at near park status, for example around the Mendocino Woodlands and probably save a large variety of public needs doing that than some of the other alternative

Response to Comment 1

Support for Alternative C1 noted. The Board agrees that elements of JDSF management should serve as a demonstration for private landowners within the region, and should incorporate forms of management that are common in the region. The management plan will implement these forms of management, and will also strive to demonstrate a broad range of conservation and habitat development techniques.

Kathy Bailey: Because I intend to take other opportunities to talk to the Board, I just want to highlight a couple of things here. I represent the Sierra Club.

Comment 1

Alternative F was developed from comments that we submitted as part of the scoping process, along with features of the Chesbro bill two years ago, which we sponsored. And so alternative F represents some of our ideas, and one thing I wanted to hear and flush out a little bit more is about what we have in mind with alternative F. The C1 and C2 CDF goal for making consideration of non-timber goals equivalent to the goal of the timber management program is a great goal, but I think it needs improvement and have it effectively implemented.

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Comment 2

One of the key features of alternative F has been to identify high priority areas in the forest that we think are important for habitat value and public use value.

Comment 3

The description of Alternative F in section 6 of the EIR is more complete than in the Executive Summary but it misses (from my point) some of the key points. I just wanted to make sure that when you all think of alternative F that you have a sense of how it was presented in the scoping comments because I think that there were some features that were not adequately conveyed in the EIR. There were key features in the forest that were identified. The channel of all trust for Alternative F is to provide continuity between these key features.

Comment 4

For instance, CDF has identified all identified all the old growth groves and demarcated the late seral development area around several of them, but under the C1 and C2 alternatives, those late seral development areas will become islands over time. In a couple of places including where the joint timber harvest plans are in the Camp 1 and Camp 3 areas cover 2,000 acres, as far I can tell, of contiguous forestland that hasn't been logged since 1925, which stretches from the Camp 1 and Camp 3, over to the designated late seral development area in the North Fork/South Fork of the Noyo. One of the logging plans in the 10 year logging plan will cut into that and one of the joint timber harvest plans is adjacent to the CDF designated late seral development area. So, instead of taking up timber that we do have and maintaining contiguous habitat where it exists, the harvest proposal for the C1/C2 plan will cut into that existing forest which is a really scarce resource in Mendocino County, and the redwood region in general. The EIR does not overtly identify the fact that there are between 10 and 12,000 acres of forests that has not been logged since 1925, or in some cases, much earlier. So there is a significant part of the forest that has a stand age of 80 to 120 years old and it is not all necessarily contiguous. There is some in some places, and others in other places, but I was hoping that the EIR would overtly identify those areas so that we could plan for the best uses for those areas.

Comment 5

Now for some areas, some of it, timber harvest is the best use might be. Maybe they might not be healthy habitat areas significantly. Other areas, particularly where they are adjacent to the old growth areas that exist. I would seriously consider it for habitat value because we simply are not going to get anymore of this 80 to 120 year age class.

Comment 6

Another feature of the EIR is there is an elaborate analysis on how to create late seral forest that I believe was originated by Gail Hornberg from the Appendix of the previous EIR. It doesn't state about the work at the outset, but it talks about how to this in the course of the 100 year planning horizon of the EIR. Well at the end of this planning process, we won't be getting late seral forest. Well, if you look at the very end, you realize it appears that the very assumption is that we're starting with a 50 year old forest. The fact of the matter is that Jackson has 100 year old forests.

If your are talking about growing late seral forest, we certainly should be looking at how to grow the oldest forest component that there is now, and figure how to build on that, develop truly the old forest features of the decadence, and the downed wood and old growth features that everybody knows is important to wildlife, but that we have not focused on clearly. I'm much less focused on late seral development than I am with maintaining the late seral or near late seral that we actually have there now and how we manage that we maximize that to habitat continuity.

Comment 7

Some of that has been has been identified, for instance, in the proposed the marbled murrelet area in the headwaters of Jug Handle Creek. So it has been identified in the EIR, something that's part of it is an interesting key feature for wildlife but I really do think that the EIR has missed something here too. Not mapped or clearly identified in some other way where this oldest forest is because when you get right down it, going to the trouble to litigate the timber harvest plans as Vince Taylor has done, it's

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about a specific place. Those timber harvest plans were in Camp 1 and Camp 2, they were in this older forest component. They were in this high visitor use place.

They were in area that was potentially contiguous with a CDF designated late seral area. And additionally, the area that was specifically litigated, has a road that goes along the North Fork/South Fork of the Noyo that provides a very unusual feature for forest visitors in this county. It has a relatively flattish road, along the realty, along the watercourse that is far, far away from the highway. Although as crazy as it sounds, that situation is very hard to find in Mendocino County in the redwood region. And even though it might seem that litigation happens because someone has decided something randomly, these things happen because very specific concerns about very specific areas.

Comment 8

So I would suggest that you take to heart your goals of making the timber management program equivalent with the habitat and the multiple use goals of the forest and think clearly a little more about how to maintain habitat we do have, make sure it is continuous with other habitat that would be a benefit to species and to people, visitors, and for recreation. Take a careful look at some of the proposals for Alternative F that have tended towards to identifying some of these key features and how they can be managed. Again I want to reiterate something I said in the scoping comments, don't think this not a logging area, this area is to be managed for specific values like building out from the old growth areas, and maintaining connectivity. It could be managed, timber management carefully in some of the right places. It does not have to be in a logging area.

Comment 9

As to demonstrations of the future of the logging industry, I think some of the most interesting demonstrations that Jackson could do is to try to figure out to do logging in such a way that the public is okay with. It can be done. There are timberland owners who are doing it. And as the area inevitably becomes more populated, with more and more interface with commercial forestlands, it has to be really important to notice the sorts of things that can be done that making logging feasible to the general public and stop being so confrontational. That's something I'd like to see Jackson doing. In terms of its demonstration, habitat and figure out how to sustain logging that the public can tolerate and embrace.

General Response

Please see also responses to letters of concern from Ms. Bailey elsewhere within this FEIR, which include many of the same or similar comments and concerns.

Response to Comment 1

Support for Alternative F noted. The management plan alternative selected by the Board incorporates elements of Alternative F.

Response to Comment 2

The Board has thoroughly assessed habitat values found within the Forest, and has adopted an alternative that includes a significant area of interconnected forest that will be managed toward a late seral forest or older forest structure. Potential recreational use and development has also been thoroughly considered for the alternatives presented in the DEIR.

Response to Comment 3

Alternative F is one of several alternatives assessed by the Board. The construct of Alternative F was established by the Board in consideration of public and agency input, including comments by Kathy Bailey and the Sierra Club. A description and analysis of the alternatives can be found within the various subject areas of the DEIR and RDEIR. The Board recognizes that Alternative F, as assessed in the EIR, may not incorporate all provisions that each individual believes should be included as part of the alternative.

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Response to Comment 4

Neither alternative C1 or C2 proposed to create islands of the old growth groves. In both instances, the majority of the groves are adjacent to late seral development areas, stream protection zones, and areas to be managed on an uneven-aged basis. These conditions preclude the groves becoming islands, due to the maintenance of continuous forest and a general absence of abrupt edges. Selective harvest does not preclude valuable habitat, and may actually improve conditions for many species, including those that prefer older forests. This is due to the fact that selective harvest accelerates the growth of the larger trees, provides light to the understory, promotes the development of various age classes and near-ground vegetation, and generally increases habitat diversity. There is no evidence to suggest that uncut second-growth presents a more valuable habitat than stands with more than one age class present. In fact, late seral and older forests are commonly characterized as being uneven-aged.

The DEIR identifies the habitats present within JDSF. While Ms. Bailey suggests that specific young forest types within JDSF are regionally rare based upon their logging history, this has not been demonstrated. The reader is referred to the habitat maps provided in the DEIR. The reader is also referred to the logging history maps and Map Figure 2 of the RDEIR, which depicts the estimated number of large trees present on a per-acre basis across JDSF.

As approved, the management plan will incorporate an older forest structure zone, which provides additional linking habitat across JDSF, including a significant area within or near the North Fork of the South Fork of the Noyo River, and area for which Ms. Bailey expresses concern. The vast majority of JDSF is linked by either late seral development area, watercourse protection zone, older forest structure zone, or uneven-aged forest management area.

Response to Comment 5

Future habitat availability has been thoroughly considered. Significant impacts to wildlife are not expected to occur. Contrary to the stated concern, the management plan provides for a vast increase in older trees across much of JDSF. Where even-aged management is proposed, stand rotations will be as high as 150 years, resulting in stand ages between 60 and 150 years at the time of harvest. Uneven-aged management will continue to promote multiple age classes within stands, and most of these stands will incorporate trees in excess of 80 years of age. In addition, the management plan provides for the recruitment of snags and down logs, and the protection of old trees with structural characteristics of value to wildlife. The plan provides forest habitat connectivity through management of the old growth groves, late seral development areas, the older forest structure zone, and the watercourse protection zone. This is in addition to the continuous forest habitat provided in areas managed on an uneven-aged basis.

Response to Comment 6

The stated concern is somewhat unclear and speculative. The Board recognizes that the majority of JDSF stands include a substantial element in excess of 50 years of age. The general logging history of JDSF is known, and stands with a significant component of trees in excess of 60 to 90 years are relatively common. The Board also recognizes that forest development is dynamic, and that late seral forest will not be created in most areas within a 100-year period. However, the period of time since an area was last clearcut is not a viable indicator of the amount of time needed to develop late seral forest in the absence of stand management. In fact, it is likely that the areas of JDSF where second-growth stands have been selectively harvested may have potential to develop late seral characteristics over a shorter time frame than those that are even-aged. Current stand age differences of a few decades have little bearing on the eventual development of late seral forest, which may take many decades to hundreds of years to develop, depending upon both natural and management factors.

Response to Comment 7

The concern is somewhat unclear. The area of Jughandle Creek is composed primarily of young stands that have been selectively harvested on at least one occasion in the past. This area is included for consideration as part of the marbled murrelet special management measure. The Board

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is aware of the fact that the current civil suit concerns timber harvest proposals in specific areas, as well as the management planning and EIR process in general. However, the Board does not agree that roads near streams in public forest areas is a rare resource. In fact, locations near streams are quite common throughout the regional redwood parks and reserves, as well as within JDSF. The Board recognizes the recreational value of the roads and trails throughout JDSF. Please see the DEIR for the assessment of potential impacts to recreational resources.

Response to Comment 8

Comment note. The Board believes that an appropriate level of consideration has been given to future management for timber and habitat values. Recreational values will be maintained or enhanced by implementation of the management plan. It is expected that recreational values will be specifically enhanced by provisions for late seral development area, older forest structure zone, and watercourse protection zones. The comments related to "logging area" are not clear.

Response to Comment 9

The Board agrees that the compatibility of recreation and stand management should be explored and demonstrated. This is particularly true in specific areas of the Forest, for example, near campgrounds, recreational trails, rural residential neighborhoods, and public highways. The potential for impacts to recreational and aesthetic resources has been thoroughly considered.

Pete Passof: I live here in Ukiah. I am a Registered Professional Forester. I have lived in Mendocino County for 40 years. I was the extension forester advisor for U.C. Cooperative Extension here in Mendocino for about 30 years. For 10 or so years I have been retired. From a matter of perspective, I was a member of the team that was led by John Helms back in the late 70's and the early 80's and actually prepared the forest management plan which became Jackson's plan for many years. It was subsequently attacked for not being up to date. From the perspective of having to deal with forest management plans, I remember those early days which I fondly remember as the good old days. The good old days being those when you put together the plan with a team of 15 or so individuals and not having to go through five iterations of an EIR which I think is reflected today in a set of problems. This county has been concerned with sustained yield and with good management for a good long time. In the late 80's, concern was building up about the amount of cutting that was going on in the County, and particularly, on the industrial lands. The concern was, and that everybody knew but didn't want to admit, that we were facing a timber cap and that some changes or modifications that was going to happen in this county were necessary or we would be simply closing down mills or be quickly going out of business. The Board of Supervisors appointed the Forest Advisory Committee in 1989 on which I served as the Staff Secretary on behalf of the Board. That committee, there are several here that were on it, it was about 18 or so individuals that were on it, a cross section of the community, professional foresters, environmental activists, technicians in the areas of specialties of wildlife and fisheries and so forth. One of the drivers of getting this committee formed, was a gentleman named Dr. Hans Burkhart who had a lot of insight into what he thought the problems were and how they might be taken care of.

Hans was the type that liked to look at what he thought that were conditions he described as "models," that one would go to that would point to the idea that this the way we liked to see the ideal conditions. I was always struck because of his activism. He was obviously trying to get some changes done. The thing that comes to mind at this point in the conversation is that he viewed back in 1989/91 when the committee was activated. He viewed Jackson State Forest at that time, at that point, as being an ideal situation to be used as a model from trying to draw-up changes in regulations or ordinances or whatever in Mendocino County. Using the volumes that they had, the growth, the amount of cut, and all of that young logging, Dr. Berkoff has passed on but I think he provided a legacy for thinking about what Jackson was all about, how successful in his mind it has come to be and in spite of people did not believe him, he did favored logging, cutting and managing the forest down the line. Well some time went on, as I remember the situation for many people out of the Advisory Committee, it became the Citizens Advisory Committee. That Committee struggled with

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some ideas, some viewed at that time as radical ideas on how Jackson should be managed. I don't know, and history is not terribly important, the future is what we need to talk about.

Comment 1

After many, many months and many, many meetings of that Advisory Committee, they were dismissed and far as I can see, there were entire elements of their recommendations, from a diverse crew very much like our original Forest Advisory Committee. They were essentially dismissed; it was probably not being workable. That being as a part of history. Then we had a series of our conflicts, which has led to the fact for five years maybe six or seven years, essentially harvesting in Jackson has come to a halt. I guess I'm of the opinion when I look back how things have changed in the county, from the good old days to where we are going now, where we are going in the future, we have to do a little give and take. A little politicking here and there, "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours." I recognize I can't have it all, but we have to come up with a plan to block this future stalemate that seems to be on the Jackson. So in summary, I'm suggesting from my particular viewpoint as Professional Forester, a resident in the County, as one who has been actively involved with the conflicts for long time, that the success for the forest, the Jackson Demonstration State Forest, is going to rest with the Citizens Advisory Committee recommendations which I believe is Alternative D. That's the one I think that has the best chance.

Comment 2

I would like to think that more heavier cutting on the forest might be useful for shortening the long rotation age that has talked about as a concern. But at the same time, if those plans (if that can count as the plan) of record I think we are back to Day 1 and to more lawsuits. I just think this is a tragedy in this county. That Jackson State Demonstration Forest is one of the best examples of what forest management is all about. Maybe the timber industry has not followed their recommendations, but that is not a reason to turn Jackson State Forest into a park. We need to have for the record a state forest that is actively working in demonstrating for not only the people in this room, but for our kids and grandkids. I think that maybe the best solution. If it is not, then it results in more lawsuits, more conflicts, and more stalemates. I might regret my offering as this recommendation, but I think it is the best opportunity.

Response to Comment 1

Support for Alternative D noted. The Department has indicated that many of the recommendations made by the CAC in the late 1990s were either totally or partially adopted, while others were not. The Department has indicated that Alternative G, as adopted, incorporates many provisions that are similar to recommendations made by the CAC. The Department will appoint a JDSF advisory committee, and will maintain a separate advisory group for the state forest system as a whole.

Response to Comment 2

The management plan will make provision for the demonstration of various rotation ages. However, the majority of the Forest will be managed on an uneven-aged basis. The Board agrees that JDSF should remain a demonstration of sustainable forest management.

Linda Perkins: I am a member of the Albion River Watershed Protection Association, Sierra Club, and I am not speaking on behalf for either of these organizations. I got involved in forestry activism in 1992. I've stood by logging roads holding a sign with grand kids in tow saying "LP EQUALS LOCAL PROPERTY" and "LP OUT OF MENDOCINO COUNTY", both of those were prophetic. LP did leave and sold. I'm still involved. This morning I was at CDF in Santa Rosa. At least 14 years later, I think what has happened with our forests. I think that here one of the issues, and I do not know if it is in one of the 1600 pages, is that people of Mendocino County are intensely involved with our forests.

Comment 1

I do not know if anything is going to work that doesn't have a regular feedback system for the people in the group. I would suggest that there would be a local Citizens Advisory Committee that was made of a cross section of people. In the count, I think those venues work. I was part of the Richard Wilson-

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appointed Citizens Advisory Committee in 1997/98. That was a cross section of people in the county I think we worked well together and I think we came up with some good ideas. Unfortunately, they were shelved. I think it works. I think CDF would be very afraid of that because they'd feel that it would limit them. I don't think such a selection of people would be so unreasonable that if CDF came up with something they needed to do on the forest in terms of a demonstration, and that they would not be able to do such a thing, that it would be in the public interest that this could not be done. So I think we are going to have conflict unless somehow the local people are brought into the picture.

Comment 2

And I guess my final comment I really do not think that the California Department of Forestry should be Jackson State. I think there is an inherent conflict if they are having to review timber harvest plans on national timberland and I think there is too big a disconnect between on what's allowed on industrial/commercial timberlands and what the public is expecting on Jackson State Forest in terms of innovation etc. I think it would be good to see combined, to play both rules. Although I think I that most of the people in this room would end-up laughing if I said I am not necessarily against logging because I review several timber plans every year and have a coastal representative and....my proposal writing has gone on line.

Response to Comment 1

The Board agrees that local input is valuable. The Department will establish a JDSF advisory committee, and will maintain a state-wide committee to make recommendations for the entire state forest system. The Department has indicated that some of the recommendations of the former CAC, of which Ms. Perkins was a member, were implemented in whole or in part, while others were not.

Response to Comment 2

Comment noted. Existing legislation provides the authority for management of the state forests by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The Board believes that the Department is imminently capable of implementing the management plan for JDSF. The Department has managed JDSF since its inception in 1947, decades before the enactment of the current Forest Practices Act. JDSF can play a significant role in testing and demonstrating the effects of proposed forest practice regulation.

Jimmy Smith: I am a resident of Mendocino County. I am currently going to school at Humboldt State. I plan to become a teacher. I recently graduated from San Francisco State.

Comment 1

I am currently working on educational projects that involve Jackson State Forest and some of the other Californian rain forests. I think that Jackson State Forest is an excellent example of what rain forests should be and gives an fantastic opportunity to do research on environmental science and learn more about nature about what we are dealing with and what kind of factors are involved for things like sustainability, to ensure biodiversity, and so I was in the process of writing this educational course when I was starting to review the Draft EIR/EIS.

Comment 2

Upon my review of this draft management document, I was very seriously concerned because I think Jackson State Forest is at a very high risk as far as fire danger. The reason for this is that it is primarily a second growth forest that has been allowed to go uncut for the last four or five decades. So we have 40 or 50 years worth of second growth, small trees and undergrowth and things like that, combustible materials, litter, things that need to be removed from the forest. I think that this forest management plan needs to be more comprehensive in that it needs to include plans for tree thinning and to remove other hazards like combustible materials. This would [be applicable] for the entire forest, so that there are tens of thousands of acres that needs to go through this process. In just thinking about this, I did a little research I learned there is new machinery and new equipment that would do this tree thinning and create all new forest products. These forest products could include poles like telephone poles and redwood bark that sells at a premium like \$160 per ton. A lot of this

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woody debris that I would like to see removed can also be sold to raise revenue and I think they're a really good price for this so you can get thousands of dollars per acre in addition to doing the fire prevention for this. What needs to be done is to remove the undergrowth and small trees first.

Comment 3

So what I'd like to see in the next five or ten years is developing a long-term comprehensive management plan for Jackson State Forest and in the interim time period while working on this comprehensive management plan to do this tree thinning for the entire forest in a short period of time, say 2-3 years. That will do your fire protection so the forest would be safe from things like lightning strikes, internal combustion, and weather. Dry, hot days with extremely high winds in the late summer could really prove disaster for Jackson State Forest.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted.

Response to Comment 2

Significant impacts related to fire hazard are not expected to occur. Please see DEIR Section VII.8 for the assessment of hazards. Numerous factors will contribute to help prevent significant wildfires within JDSF, including maintenance of access for fire control apparatus, proximity to fire protection resources, and continued thinning and natural development of forest stands. The management plan includes provisions to consider biomass thinnings and controlled understory burns in the future, in an effort to demonstrate and better understand the role that these stand manipulations have upon wildfire occurrence and behavior. However, the Board does not agree that the entire Forest should be thinned over a very short period of time, due to the potential for this form of stand manipulation, on a vast scale, to result in significant impacts to watershed, fishery, recreation, timber, and wildlife resources.

Draft EIR Public Hearing, Sacramento, February 9, 2006

Board Executive Officer George Gentry: Thank you very much for your attendance here today to comment on this very important issue. Before we begin I would like to make an announcement of a board action taken yesterday. The public comment period which was due to be closed on February 14th has been extended and will now close on March 1st at five o'clock. Secondly, the purpose here today is not necessarily for board interaction, the board does not want to appear to be predetermined or predecisional. Our purpose here today is to hear comment from the public and their thoughts on the Jackson Draft Environmental Impact Report and management plans. The comment is important to us; it is an important part of the boards' process. I also want to reiterate something that I reiterate at every hearing and every possibility. Although there is a "preferred" alternative to this plan all alternatives are available to the board, any combination of alternatives are available to the board, any combinations post mitigation are available to the board. There has been no determination of how the board will move from this point forward.

After the close of public comment, so you are all aware, there will be a special meeting called by the board once responses to comments have been drafted for the discussion of the draft environmental impact report. Normally, I would impose time limits, but, give that not a lot of people have signed up at this point; I see no need to impose time limits at this point. I only ask that you be reasonable in the length of your comments. I also ask that you be respectful of others and you listen carefully to what people have to say. Do the board members have any questions for me before I begin calling speakers? Okay then, with that the first speaker today will be the honorable Senator Wesley Chesbro. Senator.

Senator Wesley Chesbro: Thank you very much Mister Gentry and Stan Dixon, my old friend, and other members of the board. I really appreciate your efforts and your work with regards to Jackson State forest and I appreciate the opportunity to talk with you this morning. Today I would like to offer

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my comment and observations on the boards' obligations both to the EIR and the management plan for Jackson Demonstration State Forest in Mendocino County. For those board members who may not have been on the ground there, Jackson is a fifty thousand acre parcel of timber land in Mendocino county and was purchased by the state in the 1930's, were it had been badly cut over, and I think it was a great day for Mendocino county and the forest when the state stepped in. The goal at that time was to demonstrate that we could manage a forest and bring it back. I think that has certainly happened historically. The board of forestry is responsible for establishing day to day the states forestry policies for the states forests. We have tried to make it clear that the state of California should be managing the states forests to be a producing forest and demonstrate the best management practices for the forest, one that would provide timber for local mills and the jobs and support for the local economy, local governments that goes along with that. But also one that would value the wide range of resource values that this forest offers and of course as with all our forest lands, you deal with it at every one of your meetings, that's the rub, that's the challenge of finding that combination, that balance, where we concern our self with as many other values as well as trying to have product forest lands and try and support the economy.

Comment 1

We have a serious management problem at the Jackson State forest, for the past four years no timber has been harvested and that has been devastating for the local economy, the mills and the works who have depended on that forest for their livelihood. In 2004, I think you are all aware, I assume you are all aware, I attempted to bring all the parties together in Mendocino County, the timber industry, the environmental community and local officials to develop a comprehensive plan to help unstuck the deadlock that the forest has gotten stuck in. I introduced legislation, SB 1648, to implement that plan and quite frankly the initial reaction from many of the parties reminded me of why so many of my predecessors in the legislator decided that bills regarding forest lands ought to be done by legislation and the state, because its so politically difficult to negotiate these compromises. This bill was approved, in the end, by the end of the session by the Mendocino timber mills, community groups of Mendocino and local governments. It was approved by both houses of the legislator after a long and difficult process, but was opposed by the department of forestry, I think, as a result of the attitudes on the ground amongst the folks who work in Mendocino county for the Department of Forestry, they convinced the department to appose the bill and consistently described it as a bill that was intended to shut down the forest and create a park, which was absolutely untrue, but none the less it was sufficiently to apparently convince the governor to veto the bill.

So here we are again, I'm starting to feel a little like groundhog day, the movie that is, I know we just passed the real groundhog day, but I am referring to that wonderful movie were we keep waking up to that same reality and not seeing progress.

Comment 2

The board of forestry and fire protection must now find a management plan that will move the Jackson State Forest into the twenty first century and you have the opportunity, through this process to accomplish what I tried to accomplish with my bill, which is to move us off dead center and accomplish that balance and hopefully forgo the kind of litigation that has kept the forest stuck in the position that its been in.

Comment 3

The key elements that should be reflected in the EIR preferred alternative and then incorporated in the management plan are: a commitment to the original goal of the demonstration forest of reforestation and restoration of the land. This goal is consistent with the overall legal requirements of the statues that guide state management of the state forests. Public resources code sections 4651 provides broad authority for the management of the demonstration forests in a way that values timber production as well as other resource uses such as recreation and restoration. Jackson State Demonstration Forest has a unique opportunity for habitat protection for threatened and endangered species, including the Coho salmon. The management plan must place a high value on these unique habitat needs. We have put all this burden on private land owners to help us recover the fishery, the

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state should be doing the best job, the very best job, of any land owner in demonstrating on how to recover these species.

Comment 4

A part of the discussion on the future of Jackson forest has been a new recognition that this is a unique opportunity to grow an old growth forest, or at least a forest that has old growth characteristics, by managing the older second growth on the land in a manner that allows the forest to continue to mature. That doesn't mean no logging, it means finding a distinction between those forests that have the old characteristics and those that do not.

Comment 5

I would take exception to the draft EIR document when it addresses alternatives like those included in SB 1648 and proposed by the Mendocino county citizens' advisory group. The draft document inaccurately characterizes the legal management requirements of section 4651 that I referred to. The statute gives the Board broad authority to establish management principles in the forest and I encourage you to exercise those. I hope the board members that use this broad authority to create a plan that will reflect the wishes of the community to create a demonstration of the best possible integrated management of our forest lands that incorporates these various values, we need to demonstrate that it can be done so we can hopefully inspire better forest practices else where.

Comment 6

Finally, I am pleased to see a growing local consensus that the management of Jackson forest needs to take a longer view than the one that is based on a strictly industrial model. While there was a lot of conflict early in the year that I pursued my legislation, by the end of the year, there was not complete unanimity, but certainly a much broader consensus and since that time, I think the middle, there is a growing middle on this topic. I see general agreement that a much higher priority be placed on habitat restoration and protection as well as recreation. The Mendocino county supervisors are supporting this new type of management and I would as well, I recommend that.

I assume you have in your packets a letter from my friend Art Harwood, I urge you to read his comments very carefully, they reflect the growing consensus that we can find a way to have both habitat and recreation values in a productive forest that supports the local economy. This is good news, I have never accepted that the old joke made by colleges, and I've said it too, that my constituents love trees, the only trouble is that half of them like them standing up and the other half like them laying down. I've always believed that there was a type of forestry that could bring these two points of view together and I think you have the opportunity to help us demonstrate that with this environmental document and subsequent plan for managing the forest. So, I hope you will join with that broad consensus and help us move the Jackson forest along, but in the process also move the forest practices in general along by demonstrating what is possible. Thank you so much.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The Board is familiar with the history of SB1648.

Response to Comment 2

The Board concurs with this statement.

Response to Comment 3

The Board concurs with these statements. The original intent of the Legislature when adopting legislation authorizing state forests was to promote the creation and maintenance of productive timberlands as a demonstration of sustainable forest management, given the recognition that timber supplies were waning (PRC 4631).

Response to Comment 4

The Board concurs with this statement. The ADFMP will allocate a significant portion of the land area of JDSF to the development of later seral forest and older forest structure.

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Response to Comment 5

The Board believes that the ADFMP appropriately implements the intent of PRC 4651. The Board has determined that specific elements of some of the alternatives may not comply with the provisions of PRC 4651.

Response to Comment 6

While the Board does not agree with the opinion that JDSF has been a purely industrial forestry model in the past, the Board concurs that JDSF should provide a balanced approach to forest management, by achieving a high level of timber growth and production while also demonstrating a high degree of forest and habitat recovery.

Richard Gienger: I could make a joke there I guess, but forget it. Richard Gienger, chair of the board. Seeing how Kathy isn't here right now, I am going to read into the record what I think is a really import key context, and this comes from several paragraphs in page two of Kathy Baileys comments on scoping session that was dated March 15th 2004, from Kathy.

Comment 1

"Compared to other regions of the state, there is an extreme deterrent to public forest land from the redwood region between San Francisco Bay and Humboldt County, in particular, Mendocino County. Jackson forest is the only opportunity to protect and restore the regions depleted biological heritage and provide forest based recreation with public. Jackson is trying to reconcile the largest industrial largest timber land ownerships in the county, for intensive management has led these lands to be virtually stripped of trees and access of about forty years old. The land from the East of Jackson Demonstration State Forest is even worse shape."

Stocking volumes and yield tables of comparisons were provided in some information she submitted earlier.

Comment 2

"What everyone believes about the silviculture practiced on these adjacent timber lands, one must acknowledge that they will not be late seral forest anytime soon. Logging, agriculture, and development have virtually eliminated late seral forest in the region."

So, in her writing, and others, have explained some of the reasons why late seral forests are ecologically important.

Comment 3

"California Department of Forestry has been intimately involved in enabling the loss of late seral habitat and other cumulative impacts that have occurred on the landscape. Jackson's management is rightfully proud to point out that Jackson's stocking levels are quadruple, or more, than what exist on the surrounding lands. That everyone of the timber harvest plans that resulted in the low level of stocking on the surrounding lands, not to mention, the radical change in the regions environment, had been approved by another part of CDF. In every instance, CDF approves registered professional foresters RPF certification that the THP "will not have a significant adverse impact in the environment." We could argue forever about the rules, CDF's application of them and the causes that have led the multiple federal and state species and water quality listings in the region. However, it boils down to this, virtually everyone, except CDF and the timber industry, believes there has been an adverse cumulative impact on the environment in this region from the intensity of the timber harvesting that has occurred here in the distant past. In the past 20 years, in the last 10 years, and yesterday. When the public ask that management measures at Jackson make up for some of this by preserving and developing habitat, CDF prefers not to consider the regional context, even though CDF is directly responsible for it being the way it is. This is one of the sectional disconnects between the environmentally oriented public and CDF managers. Jackson is not only a unique opportunity, we believe CDF has a responsibility to Jackson to provide strong protection and consideration for wildlife,

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fish, plants, water quality, the whole forest characteristics and native species diversity to provide some sort of mitigation for the immensely impaired conditions of our regions forest. Additionally, as the largest publicly owned forest in the area, Jackson also has a responsibility to accommodate the publics' desire for recreational opportunities."

So this is from Kathy's, page two, of her scoping comments from March 2004. I think it really sets the context for a lot of this.

One thing I appreciate, I'm not sure of course it is off the paper, but the immense amount of information CDF has compiled, it's a wealth of information, specifically, about Jackson, about the north coast, Mendocino County in particular. I, speaking for myself, someone representing, skill recovery coalition, but I will be giving comments in writing to you on behalf of myself, and a lot of the smaller people, before the deadline.

Comment 4

In general, what I think is important is that you have meld some of the most positive aspects of several of your alternatives that you have in front of you. In specifically I refer to C1, C2, D and F. I am especially concerned, and I am sure Kathy will articulate this a little more closely, but the approach of alternative F, were by some structure given to what the old growth characteristics are, structure in terms of corridors, in terms of murrelet habitat, structures that make some sense.

Comment 5

I would also like to endorse Kathy's call for CDF to map seral stage of 80 to 100 years old, so that context of this large second growth is understood spatially in actually making the plan.

Comment 6

Also, further types of stands of old growth, some more specific regard perhaps is there needs to be a real program of recovery in riparian area. Let's actually assess the riparian areas and institute replanting programs, as appropriate. I know that in more areas tolls, there is a lot of areas, even though they do have cover a lot of it is older and regeneration of redwoods is often not that good in some of these riparian areas. There really needs to be a real focus on recovery in Jackson Demonstration State Forest, its role, central role, the ability to head a higher stand, full recovery of fisheries and the resources available there, especially of cove are valuable and need to be treated as such. So that is all I have for now, thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Please see response to comments by Kathy Bailey below.

Response to Comment 2

Please see response to comments by Kathy Bailey below.

Response to Comment 3:

The Board acknowledges that significant impacts to local forest resources have occurred over the past 100 years or more. Please see the DEIR for the assessment of impacts to biological and watershed resources. The ADFMP will make a significant contribution to recovery of forest, watershed, fish, and wildlife habitat. Significant impacts are not expected to occur.

Response to Comment 4

The ADFMP represent a combination of provisions from many of the alternatives, and incorporates the concepts of habitat structure, connectivity, and species recovery.

Response to Comment 5

See response to comments by Kathy Bailey below.

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Response to Comment 6

The ADFMP will provide for management of the riparian zones towards recovery of a later seral condition. The vast majority of streams within JDSF is bordered by a significant component of redwood and Douglas-fir. Please see DEIR Section VII.6.1 for the assessment of aquatic resources.

Kathy Bailey: Well, thank you. I had no idea I was, sort of, going to be following myself here in terms of my comments from two years ago. I guess it will be interesting and I am taking advantage of the fact that we don't have a huge audience and I may go on at length likely and so I think in retrospect what I am almost doing is the executive summary of the non-regulated public's EIR here. So, quite a few of you have heard me go on about this, at length, and some of you have not at all and so I hope it is still interesting even though some of you have heard it before.

So, good morning, my name is Kathy Bailey and for around a decade, more or less, I was forest conservation chair for the Sierra Club, California. I retired from my volunteer position a few years ago. But, I just can't quite let go of Jackson forest. So, here I am. Previous to my work with Sierra Club I had been engaged in issues regarding the state regulated forests off and on since 1976. I have lived in Anderson valley, Mendocino County since 1971. The valley is virtually surrounded by state regulated forestland, including tens of thousands of acres now held by the Mendocino redwood company. Which previously was owned by Louisiana Pacific, and prior to that, at the time I moved to area, by the Masonite Corporation.

I am going to try and provide some background information for the public perspective on the issues surrounding the management of Jackson Demonstration State Forest. The key to why Jackson is so controversial is the old realist adage "Location, Location, Location." Jackson is by far the largest public redwood forest in the region. Jackson is in the middle of the coast redwood region, a relatively narrow strip of land that runs barely into Oregon and down into Monterey county and Big Sur. The bulk of the region is in about 30 miles of the coast. As one moves toward the East, Douglas fir become a larger portion of the forest. Except for a few hundred acres up in Humboldt County, there is no coast redwood in the National Forest system. Of course there are some state and federal parks, but these are not evenly distributed. According to a study published by the Save the Redwoods league, in the year 2000, in the central region around Jackson, including Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin counties redwoods are preserved at the lowest rate of their entire range. In that area only 1.36% of redwoods are protected in parks and reserves. If this were not the case, the discussion about Jackson would be completely different.

Comment 1

From both the public use and the ecological perspective, Jackson is a unique and irreplaceable public resource. It is our areas only large public redwood forest.

Comment 2

The ecological importance of Jackson in the region is greatly magnified by the diminished condition of the regions forest land. Going back to the European settlement of California, the redwood stands North of San Francisco were the first to be harvested for timber, because they were close and the coast allowed for boat transport. Later in the twentieth century, taxes on standing timber provided and tremendous disincentive to maintain valuable old growth redwoods. This taxation situation did not change until the 1970's. The result is not only a region that does not have much old growth redwood parks, the region has very little old redwood anywhere. In my community we have two of the largest old growth stands in Mendocino County at Hendy Woods State Park. One grove is 20 acres and the other less than 40 acres. As far as I can tell, Jackson's 11 groves of old growth total more than 459 acres, is probably the largest concentration of old growth redwood groves in the county.

Comment 3

Directly around Jackson, both North and South are broad strips of land formerly owned by Georgia Pacific and Louisiana Pacific. On the East are more commercial timber holdings. Combine these

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properties total about a half a million acres are Mendocino County's redwood region. The old growth has long been gone so the primary timber base for commercial timber company in the county would have to be second growth forest. It probably won't come as a surprise when I say that overwhelming the older larger second growth trees on those industrial forest lands have been virtually logged out already.

What are some of the ecological consequences of this history? Older redwood forests have unique characteristics that develop over time. They are moist and cool and support mosses, lichens, banana slugs, incredible mushrooms and brightly colored frogs and salamanders and much more. Along with the loss of the big old trees themselves, some of the more obvious losses have marble murrelets, experts believe today, and this is new data, that the population that this highly dependent old growth cedar big is at most 300, more likely close to 200 individual birds in the region from the north of Mendocino county line to the South of San Francisco bay. Some of those few Murrelets nest directly adjacent to Jackson. There is the Pacific Fisher, this lovely brown, dark brown fur bearer that can range up to around 13 pounds, once roamed the region, eating everything from porcupine to truffles, except fish, which they don't eat. The elimination of the wide spots of old growth they need, eliminated the fisher. They struggle to survive in a few isolated parts of the state. The Humboldt martin, a small furry mammal has not been seen in Mendocino County since the 1950's, it too needs spots of large or older forest. Salmon, Coho and King salmon, were once plentiful, but are now in dire straits for a number of reasons, including the loss of the old forest habitat that helps keep streams cool and clear. Steelhead trout, not quite so fussy about water temperature and water speed, there populations have never the less plummeted.

Water quality, most of the streams and coasts of Mendocino County are listed as impaired under section 303D of the clean water act, because of sediment temperature or both, with logging being the significant factor being identified by listing. These are just a few specifics to remind us once again that rich natural resources associated with forested areas of the region have suffered dramatic people induced declines.

Comment 4

It is in this environment that you have to make decisions about management of Jackson Demonstration State Forest. Particularly, you must decide how to interpret the legislative mandate for "maximum sustain product for high quality forest products while given considerations to values to recreation, watershed, wildlife range and forage, fisheries and esthetic enjoyment." You the board, have the authority and the duty to interpret how you want to apply this mandate.

Comment 5

There has been so much controversy, particularly in the last ten years about Jackson's management that we occasionally forget to acknowledge that the reason people worry about Jackson is there is still something there to care about. We recognize that, but because of the historical diminishment of forest resources in the region and the lack of public access to other public redwood forests. The non-regulated public has become adamant about time that Jackson should be maintained as a place that looks like and functions as much like a natural system as possible, given the understanding that a significant level of timber harvest will happen because of the legislative mandate.

I want to give you just the briefest of reminders about some of the ways the Jackson controversy has manifested in the last ten years. In 1966, launched among concerns regarding management erupted. The flash points included: one, a timber harvest plan mushed in corners area, an often used recreation site near Mendocino village and rural residential parcels. Two, a plan to spray 70 miles of Jackson's roadsides with herbicides and three, the cutting of some isolated and relatively smaller diameter old growth trees. There were several large demonstrations and a few people were arrested.

In 1997, CDF director Richard Wilson appointed a citizens advisory committee the, CAC, that included broad representation of community interest, including a lumber mill owner, in fact our hardwood, that Senator Chesbro mentioned, two foresters, several small timberland owners, representatives from several communities and environmentally oriented participants. The CAC met

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regularly for 18 months. In 1998, in December, the CAC issued a report and made recommendations to Direct Wilson that were approved by a near unanimous vote, but most of the recommendations were not implemented and at that point there was a turnover in the administration, I think also had something to do with their failure to implement there. In 1999, there were three timber harvest plans submitted for Jackson that were not consistent with the recommendations of the CAC. Although the CAC had recommended the increase consideration for the recreation potential at Jackson, the new THPs included two selection harvests in an area of old second growth immediately adjacent to the principle camp grounds. A third THP was a plan for a clearcutting, a technique the CAC specifically recommended be eliminated at Jackson. In 2000, the 1999 THPs were approved and Mister Taylor's group, sought and received a preliminary injunction to halt their implantation until a current management plan was in place. The forest had been operating under a management plan approved in 1983, prior to the endangered species and water quality listings. The injunction halted logging at Jackson.

In 2001, a new draft management plan was published, that was virtually identical to a 1999 draft habitat conservation plan that had never been released for public view. Neither the old draft HCP nor the new draft management plan was consistent with CAC recommendations and despite the fact that the CAC made its recommendations at the same time the HCP was being put together. In 2002, the management plan was released for public comment along with the draft EIR. CDF received approximately 100 comments against adoption of the plan for every comment received in favor of it. Never the less, in November of 2002, CDF director Andrea Tuttle certified the EIR and the board of forestry adopted the new management plan. The 2002 management plan, which is virtually the same as the current EIR preferred alternative C1, did not include most of the provisions recommended by the CAC. In 2003, in July, the court ruled the EIR was deficient and further that the lead agency regarding the EIR should properly be the board of forestry, congratulations, rather than CDF.

Except for a very brief period, logging has continued to be conjoined been since 2000. In 2004, the board of forestry rescinded the approval of the 2002 management plan and contracted with CDF to prepare a new EIR under the board as the lead agency. In 2005, in December, the board of forestry published a notice of availability and proposed seven alternatives, C1 is the preferred Alternative, A is the no action plan, the baseline at which alternatives are measured. B is the 1983 management plan, hardly appeasable alternative. Alternative D is the citizens' advisory committee. Alternative E is a late seral emphasis, which is segues interpretation of Mr. Taylors wishes. Alternative F, is older forest emphasis, Sierra Club has been deeply involved in the development of Alternative F. In 2006, the other day, February 7th, in a 2:3 vote, as you know, the Mendocino County board of supervisors, passed a motion to support Alternative D, the recommendations of the CAC, first purposed in December 1998, roughly seven years ago. The three yes votes are the three supervisors who have Jackson forest in their districts and here we are two days later.

Comment 6

There are three key points I want to convey about the EIR and the situation. One, which is ironic, seeing Richard just read my remarks here, the EIR has still not acknowledged or mapped the ten thousand to twelve thousand acres of old second growth forest at Jackson that has not been logged since, 1925, or earlier. As I have mentioned, this is a regionally scarce resource. In spite of excessive lip service about ecological importance of older forest and supposed a commitment of having 20 to 29 percent of the forest in so called late seral development areas, new people I guess you have probably picked up that late seral is forestry amongst the older forest. The key piece of knowledge about the location and extent of forest stands at Jackson remains unmapped and unacknowledged. I care about how much the forest, of the forest, will eventually be allowed to grow into older age classes over the hypothetical 100 year plan horizon. But, given the context of Mendocino county, people care more about maintaining as many stands of 100 year second growth as possible and doing so in a way that maximizes continuous old forest habitat, to help recover what we have so thoroughly lost.

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Comment 7

Two, the EIR states that the Jackson management plan Alternative C1 proposes to put the non-timber considerations, outlined in the legislative mandate, on an equal footing of sustained production of timber. This is a terrific goal, one that we support. However, if you look at the spatial allocation of the CDF designation of the late seral, that is older forest development areas, and then also look at the 10 year timber harvest schedule, you will see that logging in the first decade is going to make the old forest development areas into islands. This contradicts the basic tenets of conservation biology and seems to contradict the notion that fisheries and wildlife are being elevated to equal status with timber harvest.

Comment 8

Additionally, despite the fact that it is a no brainer to identify key areas of public interest in recreation on the forest, the EIR defers identifying these places, or making significant accommodations among the barest of buffer zones, generally speaking a couple of hundred feet. The injunctions on the THP's that have brought us here today occurred because Mister Taylor, along with a lot of other people, had a deep love for the peaceful and beautiful forested area among the main camp grounds and the lovely walks along the river there. These were not the worst THPs in the world but, they would have greatly compromised people's enjoyment of the area. These THPs were simply located in an area that should have been set aside for recreation use if the plan truly did consider recreation on equal footing with timber production, that this area is also a part of this old forest not logged since 1925, or earlier, is also an issue and one of the THPs in the campground area is also adjacent to a designated old forest development area to its East. Operating that THP will cut into the existing continuous older forest. Forest managers get a two-for out of this area if they acknowledge the existence of the old forest stands and then try to design a management plan that maintain old forest stands for both recreation and habitat purposes. It would not be that difficult if one just decided to do it. In fact, that is what we have attempted to do with Alternative F.

Comment 9

Three, we talk a lot about the coming crisis in forest ownership were more and more people move into the forested countryside and have conflicts with forest managers. That is exactly the situation we have on our hands right now at Jackson. Big chunks of Jackson are adjacent to a whole bunch of people, by country standards, at Mendocino Village, Caspar and Fort Bragg, in addition to the tens of thousands of visitors we see each year. If you are truly dedicated to avoiding the continued fragmentation of forest land ownerships, it is important to figure out a way to do logging that is does not diminish public trust resources, like wildlife and water quality, and does not make people gasp when they see it. Jackson is the perfect laboratory to figure out how to do this. You have a preexisting skeptical neighbor base, the best forest inventory in the county and a current opportunity to think this through, forced onto you.

Comment 10

Finally, I urge you to take this opportunity and run with it. Your not here yet, but you have the elements of a solution laid out in the various EIR alternatives. While we have always supported Alternative D, CAC recommendations, we have applied information we have learned about the forest subsequent to the era of the CAC to create Alternative F. We view the portions of Alternative F that were encompassed in the EIR scoping comments as completely consistent with the current long and believe that Alternative F is a creative way to melt recreation and timber harvest needs of the forest. Remember, location, location, location. From the timber production point of view, Alternative D, the CAC recommendations, yields 81 percent of the C1 preferred Alternative and Alternative F yields some what more than 60 percent according to your EIR. These reductions in yield do not seem like an unreasonable price to pay for taking Jackson off the hot potato list and making it what it ought to be, the beloved crown jewel of the state forest system. Thank you very much.

Response to Comment 1

The Board agrees that JDSF has both ecological and public use values that are substantial. In addition, given the forest resources, size, and location of JDSF, it is a unique resource. Within the

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redwood region, there are approximately 300,000 acres in parks and reserves. JDSF is the largest area of public forest available for research and demonstration.

Response to Comment 2

The old growth forest within JDSF will be preserved, and many of the groves will be augmented by late seral development areas. The Board is aware of the regional availability of old forest, and has provided a detailed description of the assessment area within the DEIR (Sections III and V).

Response to Comment 3

The Board agrees that there has been a substantial level of timber harvest in much of the area surrounding JDSF within the past several decades (DEIR Map Figure G). Please see DEIR Section VII.6 and Map Figures J and K for the estimated vegetative habitat distribution, which serves as an estimate of habitat values and is used in the wildlife analysis. No regional or assessment area inventory of young trees exists, especially one that would include detail as to the age of second-growth trees. The DEIR assesses the potential for impacts to wildlife primarily by examining current and future habitat quality and availability. The age of trees is but one of many factors that contribute to habitat.

While JDSF can and will contribute to the continued survival or recovery of species, it is incapable of providing for full recovery in and of itself. Species populations rely upon a vast area in most instances, and JDSF comprises a relatively small portion of the range of most listed species or species of concern.

Response to Comment 4

The Board agrees that historic timber management has contributed to the decline in population levels of some species within the region.

The Board is aware of a responsibility to interpret legislative, regulatory, and policy direction for the state forest management planning process.

Response to Comment 5

The ADFMP provides for sustainable forest management while maintaining or producing a forest that also maintains proper ecological function.

Response to Comment 6

While the general logging history of JDSF is known, there is no complete historic cutting record for the Forest, since harvesting began decades before detailed records were kept. Staff have made unofficial estimates in the past, but these have not been used for habitat assessment purposes.

While the commenter has stated that "older second-growth" is a regionally scarce resource, there is no such resource that is either quantified or officially recognized.

The Board has approved the plan to manage a significant area of JDSF toward a late seral or older forest structure. Habitat value and ecological function depend upon a host of factors, including tree size distribution, crown density and crown characteristics, mortality rates, canopy diversity, species diversity, unique structural elements, understory vegetation, and others. Stands have been identified for late seral or older forest management based largely upon proximity and connectivity to existing old growth groves, watercourse zones, and occupied murrelet habitat, recognizing that it may require many decades or even centuries for late seral forest to develop.

Response to Comment 7

The Short-term Harvest Schedule has been amended for Alternative G. Neither the harvest outlined in Alternative C1 or Alternative G would create islands of the late seral or older forest development areas. In fact, most of the proposed harvest in the short-term in these areas would be selective in nature, producing a thinned, yet continuous forest canopy contiguous to late seral development areas. Ms. Bailey does not explain the assertion that the islands will be created, nor how the

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proposed harvest contradicts the basic tenets of conservation biology, not how it may contradict the notion that fisheries and wildlife are being elevated to equal status with timber harvest. Please see DEIR Section VII.6 for the assessment of potential impacts to wildlife and fishery resources.

Response to Comment 8

The Board's policy for JDSF establishes recreation as an important, but secondary use. The DEIR includes an assessment of potential impacts upon recreational values (DEIR Section VII.2, 12, and 14). The management plan involves a much greater level of mitigation to protect recreational resources than Ms. Bailey suggests. Included in this consideration is the location of recreational resources, surrounding forms of forest management, adjacent buffer zones, noise production, aesthetics, and other factors. It is the intent of the Board to prevent significant impacts to recreational resources. The Board believes that timber harvesting can be compatible with recreation in the Forest, and should not be precluded in order to produce zero effect. In fact, the demonstration of the compatibility between timber harvesting and recreational use is encouraged by the Board.

Response to Comment 9

Comments noted.

Response to Comment 10

Support for Alternative F noted.

Paul Mason: Good morning, Chairman Dixon, members of the board, Paul Mason on behalf of the Sierra Club California, with the umbrella group that represents the 200 thousand members with in the state of California. Given that Kathy has already laid out much of the historical context I will be much briefer.

Comment 1

Really, much of what is driving much our concern with Jackson is the regional context, the fact that Mendocino County is the poster child for previous failures of forest practice rules, to really mitigate adverse impacts to the resource base. Mendocino county has been largely liquidated, for those of you who haven't spent time up there, the over all stocking of the forest in Mendocino county is low teens, maybe thirteen thousand, fourteen thousand board feet to the acre, which for an area, that was previously some of the most productive forest lands in the world, is very sad.

Comment 2

Jackson forest on the other hand, has fairly significant stocking and is some of the only public land in the area. Another thing you should be aware of, and we will go into more detail in our written comments, is that over the last several years situations have changed. Marbled murrelets continues to be a state listed endangered species and a federally listed threatened species, their population is in serious decline. The Coho salmon was recently proposed a state listed threatened species and when national marine fisheries service recently did a review of all the salmon populations on the West coast, for the central California coast region, which includes Mendocino county, upon review, they changed its status from threatened to endangered. Again, the Coho salmon is in extremely dire straits in that part of the state and Jackson forest is the significant chunk of public land that has the opportunity to recover it.

Comment 3

In addition to it being, logical, that we can use the land that the public already owns, to contribute to recovery of public trust resources, it is also pretty clearly the mandate of the state to contribute to recovery under the state and federal endangered species acts. Where as the private land owner has a lower burden to contribute to the recovery. Looking at the various ranges of alternatives, I think it's pretty clear that continuing the status quo laws logging, the C1 or C2 alternative, does not alleviate the on going controversy. We've been spending a lot of time, the Sierra Club has been spending a lot of time, trying to lay out a road map for how we can move beyond the conflict surrounding Jackson, continue to do significant amounts of logging there, do excellent research and demonstrations there,

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while providing for recreation and recovery of endangered species, the whole suite of opportunities at Jackson forest. I'll say it again, we are not advocating the no logging alternative.

Comment 4

The alternative, as Kathy said, is a combination of issues raised in Sierra Club scoping comments, as well as aspects of the bill that Senator Chesbo carried a couple of years ago and some more input from the Sierra Club during the development of that alternative. It's a plan that allows logging roughly twenty million board feet a year. The previous CDF proposal has been roughly thirty million board feet a year, I'm not sure the last time, clearly they haven't done any logging in the last four years, and prior to that they have not often reached that target, largely because of the controversy that surround the management there. If we can lay out an approach that gets to twenty million board feet annually, without the controversy, while getting areas where we can develop good habitat protection for endangered species that seems like a really good deal. We are trying to provide a road map for how we can get out of this "controversy".

Comment 5

So a couple of the aspects of Alternative F, and I still haven't had a chance to go through the EIR in some detail, prior to meeting a couple of months to make some choices about this topic, are of course, it is a logging alternative, it does designate large areas for development of older forest conditions, but even those areas are not off limits to logging, those need to be logged in a way to promote those older forest values. Even the even aged management, clearcutting in the similar form is restricted to research purposes. That is something that the citizens advisory committee, and virtually everyone involved in Mendocino County, is supportive of. We are not saying that you can never use even aged management, but you should only be using even aged management if it is part of a launchable research purpose, otherwise it is not compatible with the public's desire for high levels of conservation at Jackson forest. Alternative F also provides opportunity to demonstrate other riparian protective measures, other than the forest practice rules, or the T and I rules as we talk about quite a bit in forest practice committee would allow us to demonstrate the national fisheries service the key guide lines and other strategies for riparian conservation and place a thirty-five hundred acre marbled murrelet area.

Comment 6

As Kathy pointed out the marbled murrelet is in extremely bad shape in that part of its range. There are murrelets nesting in that region to the extent that the state and the public's own habitat develop into murrelet habitat and certainly Jackson is going to become murrelet habitat far before anything on private land is likely to, we should be making that contribution to their recovery.

Comment 7

It would prioritize protecting and improving the infrastructure, the roads, the current investment in our road there at Jackson, which has historically been a source of frustration, that bunch of infrastructure, historically, at Jackson has deteriorate in condition. So again I would note that the timber harvesting under alternative F is roughly two thirds of what CDF has previously proposed while balancing these competing ecological and recreational values and ending the ongoing controversy and allowing us to move forward.

Comment 8

We believe this is a good compromise, even though many of our members and that vast majority of Californians, would prefer to see our state owned redwoods not managed at all, or managed for park like purposes. We recognize the opportunities for research and demonstration at Jackson, but we believe that since this is public land owned by all Californians, to use the advantage for a high standard of recovery of endanger species and research purposes. So I urge you take is opportunity to move Jackson into the twenty-first century and end controversy. Thank you very much.

Response to Comment 1

Please see the regional setting provided in the DEIR (Sections III and V).

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Response to Comment 2

The Board is aware of the legal status of the marbled murrelet and the coho salmon. Please see DEIR Section VII.6 for the environmental assessment of biological resources. JDSF will make a significant contribution to the recovery of listed species.

Response to Comment 3

Comments noted.

Response to Comment 4

Support for Alternative F noted.

Response to Comment 5

Support for specific elements of Alternative F noted. The ADFMP incorporates elements of this alternative.

Response to Comment 6

JDSF is expected to make a significant contribution to the recovery of the marbled murrelet. A substantial area of JDSF will be dedicated to the development of late seral habitat, including the area of upper Russian Gulch, lower Big River, and most of the Mendocino Woodlands STA. In addition, the WLPZ will be managed toward a late seral condition, and all identified old growth groves will be preserved. Significant impacts to the species are not expected to occur as the result of the planned management of JDSF.

Response to Comment 7

Comments noted. The implementation of the Road Management Plan is expected to increase the level of protection and the rate of recovery of aquatic and watershed resources.

Response to Comment 8

Comments noted.

Mike Anderson: My name is Mike Anderson, I'm a LTO and RPF, in forest trade. I'd like to tell you a lot of consensus has been seen in the last few weeks, in Fort Bragg, revolving around Jackson State forest. We have had citizens' advisory committee meetings, which advise the board of supervisors on forestry issues, which they discuss at the board of supervisors meeting, and it is a welcome change. There used to be a lot more animosity at these meetings and it seems as though they have disappeared or mellowed, I don't know which is which.

Comment 1

There seems to be unanimous consensus on the resumption of harvesting, on old growth protection, on the need for added recreation, the need for research.

Comment 2

Something that is not addressed in the EIR is a stable funding source for Jackson, that we are all in favor of, and also the restoration work.

Comment 3

There are a couple issues that did not reach consensus and that's herbicides and clearcutting. The citizens' advisory committee was evenly split three and three on C1 versus D as preferred alternative and the board of supervisors voted 3:2 in favor of D. Frankly, I'm not sure that C or D is a real answer, I think it is up to the board of forestry to come up with something in between.

Comment 4

What I want on Jackson state forest is the opportunity for managers to manage the forest in such a way that they can perform meaningful research, provided timber resource for Mendocino county that

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would need jobs, recreation, all the important attributes that we have come to expect from that forest. I would hope this would carry on for another five years.

Comment 5

I'm afraid option D ties in land managers to the point where they can do future research is almost impossible.

My written comments will be coming in the next couple weeks but there are a couple things I would like to mention from comments that were made and one thing is this concept of timber wars. Timber wars are over in Mendocino county, and that's my words, not one of the speakers, but it was brought forward that there seemed to be a lot of conflict. There is much more consensus than there is conflict in Mendocino county right now.

Comment 6

A comment was made about timberlands around Jackson state forest being virtually stripped. I've logged around Mendocino County my whole life and I've logged a lot of the ground around Jackson state forest. In 1973, when forest practice rule came in, that part, we protected streams above everything. Those harvest plans were all completed, with the most stringent forest practice rules in the nation and what you have outside Jackson state forest is young growth timber, cutover timberland that is also thriving young growth stands. The road systems are maintained, but it is not an ulcer.

Comment 7

Senator Chesbro made comments about 1648 and said that CDF personnel lead the charge against 1648, well that's not quite true. There were a lot of us in the industry that had real serious problems with 1648, it was not just CDF, but we were pleased to have CDF join us in the same problems that we felt 1648 would bring forward. That's really about all I have, the diversity of opinion in Mendocino county hasn't changed, but there are two issues that really seem to bring it to the forefront and that's herbicide use and clearcutting.

Comment 8

Personally, I would like to see the board doing something to get Jackson state forest moving forward and in my opinion, if herbicide use and even aged management are necessary tools I would think that when the time comes to use those techniques there should be public hearings in our county and frankly that the staff of Jackson state forest relay the need for those uses, those herbicide uses, those even aged management uses to the general public to some reasonable consensus that maybe they should back off of it. But I believe that they should have them as an option to use, but they need to develop support from the community in order to go forward with them.

Response to Comment 1

Also see response to P-193. Comments noted. These are elements of the ADFMP.

Response to Comment 2

The DEIR considers the budget for JDSF, but the Board cannot guarantee funding. The budget is allocated by the Legislature on an annual basis. Restoration is an important element of the ADFMP, and the Board anticipates that a significant level of funding will be provided for these activities.

Response to Comment 3

The ADFMP incorporates elements from many of the alternatives. The Board agrees that clearcutting and the use of herbicides are controversial issues.

Response to Comment 4

The Board agrees with these comments.

Response to Comment 5

Comments noted.

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Response to Comment 6

Comments noted. The Board is aware of the condition of resources within the assessment area surrounding JDSF.

Response to Comment 7

Comments noted.

Response to Comment 8

Comments noted. While the Board will not require public hearings prior to the use of herbicides or the practice of clearcutting, the Board and the Department will jointly formulate a JDSF advisory committee capable of considering a broad range of both implementation and policy matters concerning the management of JDSF, including the use of herbicides and the practice of clearcutting.

Bill Keye: I was hoping you wouldn't call me quite so soon George. My name is Bill Keye and I am a government affairs specialist for the California Licensed Foresters Association. I want to thank the board members that are here to listen to the comments that are being made. It is encouraging to hear, following Mike, and this will probably end up in our next CLFA newsletter, but one of his quotes were "the timber wars are over in Mendocino County". I think that many of us as professional foresters are still kind of stuck in that mode and we need to realize that things are changing and the old paradigms are giving way.

With all due respect to Senator Chesbro, since I am down here in Sacramento, and I have my tie on I have to use the term "with all due respect", I would also recall what Mike said, we work very hard as California Licensed Foresters and I know that the Society of American Foresters, in Northern California work very hard on this issue of SB 1648 and characterizing it as just CDF versus the world is not entirely accurate. What we are doing in CLFA and in general, is constantly trying to get our arms around a whole range of complex issues and I can get right into specifics at JDSF, but I would prefer to set the table in the world that we are in here in 2005 and the many changes that some of the previous speakers have spoken about.

The white papers that we produce, and I have got copies of course, I will go ahead and pitch our website at CLFA.org, and the white pages are posted on a hyperlink that says white papers and also our comments to your board, which I have distributed additional copies, on this particular issue, they are also under CLFA.org posted under what's new. White papers come out of the effort that the board is on going on policy and arrange statement based on forestry assessment 2003. The profession took it upon ourselves to take that report and look at all the changes and try and come up with some of our best points. With regard to the difficulty of practicing forestry in California, I will just go other some of these quick bullets.

Despite vast natural resources California has some of the highest proportion of urban residents, 94%, the highest in the United States, so we have tremendous reservation set aside, national forest, national parks, but the fact of the matter is that most of us Californians live in urban environments as categorized by the census bureau. What we identify, and we didn't coin the phrase, but we are certainly happy to promote the phrase because we feel it is certainly important, we identify these demographics as aggravating the problem, agricultural illiteracy, and it is not just forestry illiteracy, it is agriculture illiteracy. This is a big issue for those of us in the agriculture, forestry is related to agriculture, it is a specific part, it is not exactly agriculture but in some aspects it is. Most folks, if you have got 94% of us living in cities, watching TV, maybe getting out of the city on summer vacation, maybe going to a state park and that's our view of wildlife, of wilderness, it is a tough boat.

I think I was not the only person in the room impressed with Kathy Bailey's comments earlier, articulating the values of the wildlife and some of the non-commodity values, which is gross characterization, but those are very compelling and very valuable insights. Forestry kind of straddles that because we manage land with a multitude of objectives and when you have 94% of the population that may not know too much about what you are up to. Whether it is even or uneven aged management it makes it more difficult to, a friend of mine from Truckee sent me a mailing and in

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some ways this is why it is difficult for us to have a coherent forest policy in California, this is a photograph of a large redwood tree. It is part of a Sierra Club mailer, and it was passed on to me, on the back it says "The mighty sequoias have lasted for over 35000 years. Don't let them be destroyed in just two terms of the George W. Bush administration. Please join the fight and the Sierra Club today." and there is other material.

Now, as a professional forester, working with other professional land managers, I can look at that and I can say, that's not true, that's not possible for what's being trotted out there to happen. However, this organization, two hundred thousand members would not use this as a fundraising tool unless it was considered to be an appropriate thing, passed a moral hurdle rate and probably is also quite successful in achieving both money influence and what have you.

Our white papers also talked about, one of them was "Natural resources illiteracy and public policy of expanded role of the California Board of Forestry" and again these are all on the website. We also got into the issue of governments and this is where the Board of Forestry comes in, I think all our challenges, and to this board to not be a defensive board. I think in a context of timber wars that we are coming out of, the board is dealing with so many issues defensively in recent decades, maybe this is a time for the state to have a board of forestry that can exercise some leadership, some positive initiatives and of course the focus on positive, is one way that we have been trying to make a contribution.

The other white paper "natural resource governments sustainability: balancing economic, environmental and social values", and finally "California national forest act: a management key to sustainable forestry in the golden state". For the sake of new members, one very quick sound bite is this state used to produce most of its timber, up till recent years. We used to harvest 4 billion board feet of timber a year, we were the second or third timber producing state in the United States. We are down to about 2 billion, about half that now, maybe slightly less. Most of that reduction is due to forest policy, where national forests went to close to 2 billion board feet to close to zero.

Along the lines of Jackson, again taking the very broad view, a lot of these controversies do seem to come out of the timber wars paradigm in that, I would voice, a duly cynical view, that once folks shut down logging on national forests and there was no log trucks coming off of national forests anymore, in a way, and I am doing this with a distance outside Mendocino county, in a way and this organization, Sierra Club has an official position on it, no commercial logging on national forest is, maybe that is where Jackson Demonstration State Forest really achieves some attention. There was no more logging to shut down on public forest, and my god we've got a public forest right here in Mendocino County and there is actually logging going on. We are trying to get our arms around all this stuff and to come in and talk about the Jackson issue kind of on the narrow side of the DEIR, I think that is a disservice to how important these issues are.

We are happy to engage in the competition of ideas, I think that is, again I don't think this should be a polarizing exercise and been through the polarity and hopefully good ideas will come and are going to be what is going to carry us forward.

Comment 1

Couple of quick comments on even aged management and herbicides, I don't know that much about herbicides, I would just simply say they are very powerful, very effective chemicals at controlling certain species, they are extensively tested, they are used quite commonly in many aspects of our world, urban areas, agriculture. I think they carry environmental burdens, but they are pretty well documented and perhaps the objection to herbicide and forestry may go back to how compelling images can play, we may accept the use of herbicides to control weeds in our yard, it is something we can accept. But the notion of a forest undisturbed, a natural system being assaulted with these chemicals is a different area, and that may explain things. I would just simply say they are very effective in controlling vegetation and this includes cost effectiveness.

California has about 20 million acres of good commercial timberland, much of that is very high sight, and when there is an kind of disturbance to the forest the competition is very intense between timber species and non timber species. Now, if your objective is to control timber species it is effective to control the brush and other methods are more expensive and sometimes less effective.

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Comment 2

On clearcutting, a college of mine had open heart surgery about a year ago and I visited him in the hospital, this is a gentleman with a huge scar right down the middle of his chest and really pretty disturbing to look at and yet I had to recall to myself, what an ugly and amazing and repulsive to look at, this fresh assault on this persons body, what an amazing, as it has turned out things have gone well as with most patients, what an amazing procedure with the recovery and renewed health and possibly another couple of decades of life. Clearcutting, I don't want to take the analogy too far, but clearcutting is ugly. It is ugly especially if it is presented in a context that takes full advantage of the lack of understanding of why anybody would do such a thing. I guess I would just simply say that if surgeons had to explain and justify every ugly procedure that they did it might affect the health of patients. Anyways, I don't want to take that too far because I don't want to say that clearcutting is what we need to do on every acre and what have you so, but it is a great way to grow wood fiber to control competing vegetation, to control stocking as well and there is that economic part of all other issues.

What I want to do, my previous research on Jackson, I went to one of the state libraries here and I have a letter here I want to read and this is on the University of California letterhead, college of agriculture, department of forestry, Berkeley, California. This signature is Emanuel Fritz, associate professor of forestry. The data is April 13th, 1945 so we are talking about something 61 years ago. This is addressed to Honorable Earl Warren, who went on to become the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

"My dear Governor, by the time this letter reaches you, you will probably have signed SB 647, a bill assigned to regulated forest cutting practices. Foresters will hail this bill as the most important step California has yet taken to make its commercial forest continually productive and I am glad for the faith in your administration. This bill will materially reduce the possibility of more "problem" cutting of lands. There will be some conservationists who will criticize the law because it has no teeth. Knowing of many lumberman personally and knowing of their changed sentiment of timber management, I feel not only certain that they will abide by the new law, but they will exceed its requirements and thus prove to the critics of the public enterprise system that self regulation is not only desirable, but quite possible in this country. In my capacity as a teacher of forester at the University of California, as a consulting forester I shall immediately take steps to make the new law work and put California, so far behind other timber states, in the lead in forestry matters. There still remain two more basic steps in order to get forests restored to those old cut over lands that were cut too close for natural restocking, you must embark on a general reforestation program. In this, the state must set the pattern in leadership and we must buy up some cut over forest lands and hope, by example, show the way for private landowners to do like wise. Show the way for reforestation will be very short of timber after the way this matter present supplies are almost exhausted. We have temporized this matter for too long.

Then he goes on to refer to a couple of additional bills he is supporting. One of which would become the bill that authorized Jackson Demonstration State Forest. It is kind of humorous to note a lot of the themes that we deal with today, as far as the differences of opinion that you see and hear in this letter written 61 years ago, so it is interesting to see some of the same things. One of the things that makes me very proud is the fact that this gentleman, he went on to become Mr. Redwood it was kind of his mantra, was taking the leadership role and he was a forester. Foresters hailed this bill. He was trying to effect change, trying to get involved and he had enough impression with in his group that he felt confident saying foresters would hail it.

Comment 3

So we have Jackson Demonstration State Forest that was set aside in a different world, a different paradigm, and the concern wasn't some of the "non-commodity" assets that we have become more

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concerned about, but scarcity always drives natural resources, perceived or real, drives issues. The perceived scarcity, or the real scarcity, at that time was previous industrial forest practices without any forestry. You could say industrial logging practices, another way of putting it, mining timber, getting out there, cutting down the trees, getting them to a mill and then we have allowed these cut over lands and in Richards comments earlier he mentioned Mattole River, that is a good example of some old logging without any real forestry. Jackson was, the idea was, we need to get a piece of ground and we need to show these people that this is a doable thing. Well Jackson has done very well on that, and one of the intellectual arguments that I have heard in recent years is well we don't need it anymore. We know how to clear-cut, and spray and plant trees. We know how to log. We know how to make sure the regeneration is done. That really brings me to the crux of our letter and our issues.

What we really believe is that if you can take, we really think that we are at a second time frame of very momentous decisions that need to be made on forest policy and instead of the scarcity that concerns us, the issue of reforestation, this issue is are we really going to have a timber industry, sustainable forestry, or not, in California. I know that I could quote my letter, but I have probably overstayed my welcome. We really think that there is a legitimate issue of rural economic development and stability and all this and we can go into the letter of broken promises of rural prosperity, in regards to taking lands and making them into non-extravagant reservations.

Comment 4

Hopefully, a piece of ground on Jackson can help lead the way to new ways of doing things and do not swing to either extremes. In our letter we went into quite a bit of documentation as far as the trends facing the timber industry in California and the United States and the real practice mentality of owning timber. Now we as a profession are not going to be able to stop land owners in the path of development from converting their lands of forest, excuse me to converting the forest to other uses. What we can do, however, is try to incentives land owners as much as possible not to do that. We are dealing, and I did mention that timber harvest has come down 50 percent, well some of that is also on private lands too because of community changes and regulatory issues and costs.

So, we think of Jackson as kind of an anchor that we need to build off of the new challenges, a new paradigm that we are facing. Instead of Jackson being less relevant because of its past accomplishments we will suggest that it is more relevant and I will conclude with our final paragraph "Sustainable forestry may be counter intuitive to some, in that it embraces social and economic considerations along with the ecological. We recognize that it is easier sometimes to bypass conservation to meet ideological demands for preservation. But JDSF is not a park and should not become one, parks answers many profound questions, but are silent on others." Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The ADFMP makes provision for the judicious use of herbicides when necessary.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted. The use of clearcutting will be allowed, primarily for research purposes, and for very difficult regeneration situations. However, the use of the system will be strictly limited, due to concerns related to aesthetics, watershed, and wildlife resources. Other forms of even-aged management will also be available for use on up to 26 percent of the land base.

Response to Comment 3

Comments noted. JDSF will continue to make a significant contribution to the local economy, and is expected to provide a valuable demonstration of sustainable forest management for the benefit of timberland owners and the general public.

Response to Comment 4

Comments noted.

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Pamela Flick: Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the board.

Comment 1

My name is Pamela Flick and on behalf of Defenders of Wildlife and our more than ninety thousand members of California, I hear to urge you to adopt Alternative F the older forest and specific plan for management at Jackson Demonstration State Forest. While we understand that logging will take place at the Jackson State forest, clearcutting is not an acceptable practice for an area of such ecological importance. As Kathy noted, there is less than 2 percent of redwood forest in the protected redwood region encompassing Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin counties. The public is not going to tolerate clearcutting of our largest redwood forest. CDF needs to focus on demonstrating restoration forestry and habitat, recreational opportunities, and doing meaningful scientific research. Jackson is a critical resource for the region.

Comment 2

As Paul mentioned, upon review of current conditions and updated information the National Fisheries Marine Service recently upgraded the central coast Coho from threatened to endangered, under the federal endangered species act. Jackson is the only large chunk of land in the region that can manage to aid in Coho recovery. Alternative F applies strong water course protection and will help Jackson maintain habitat so crucial to the health of the regions salmon. This alternative also designates areas for enhanced protection of endangered marbled murrelet, a small seabird closely associated with old growth forests, known to be nesting near by.

Comment 3

Additionally, emphasis on maintaining and creating conductivity between old growth and old second growth providing much needed corridors for many wildlife species. This issue is of statewide concern and the public is looking to the board to provide clear direction of CDF to resolve this long running controversy. We believe that by adopting Alternative F you will strike balance between producing high quality forest products, while also protecting other key forest values such as protection of water quality, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. For all these reasons we urge you to adopt Alternative F. Thank you for your consideration.

Response to Comment 1

Comments and support for Alternative F noted. Please see also response to comments by Kathy Bailey above. The use of clearcutting on JDSF will be limited, and used primarily for research purposes. The ADFMP incorporates a goal of forest restoration.

Response to Comment 2

Please see response to comments by Kathy Bailey and Paul Mason above. JDSF will contribute to the recovery of the coho salmon and the marbled murrelet. Significant cumulative impacts to these species are not expected to occur as the result of the management of JDSF.

Response to Comment 3

Support for Alternative F. The ADFMP provides for connectivity between existing old growth groves, late seral development areas, and second growth forest. This connectivity provides vast corridors for the movement of terrestrial species. Significant impacts to wildlife are not expected to occur.

Board Executive Officer Gentry: At this time we have no one else signed up to address the board. Is there someone who wishes to address the board? Seeing none, we will hold this hearing in recess until such time that we have adequate to commenter's. We will stand in recess at least until 11 o'clock. Thank you.

Recirculated Draft EIR Public Hearing, Fort Bragg, June 7, 2007

BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER GENTRY: A couple of Items first. The first thing I wanted to cover was this is the first hearing. We actually have a hearing scheduled for June 20th, which is dedicated

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for public comment, so there is another opportunity for you to address your comments orally. The public comment period closes July 16th. So with that out of the way, what we have today is about 14 of you who that wish to comment on Alternative G. We are going to keep you to 3 minutes in order to get through this as efficiently as we can. On the podium there is a light, when it is green, you're free to go. When it goes yellow you're inside a minute, when it is red please stop, so we can move on to the next speaker. We'd appreciate it. So with that I will begin calling names and this first name we start with today is David Turn.

David Turner: Well welcome to Fort Bragg. The council has not had the opportunity to review the June 1 EIR of the draft management plan. But I would just like to make a few comments and remind the board of our past statements and we will be, Councilman Melo and I have been appointed to put together a response, bring it to the council work it out and we will have a council response to your latest draft plan. The February 2006 Fort Bragg resolution 2923-2006 resolution, where as the legislative directed to the chief "maximum stated production of high quality forest products, while giving consideration to values relating to recreation, watershed, wildlife range for fisheries and esthetic enjoyment" by the board direct from the decision makers.

Comment 1

And where as our area has historically been a high in production if high quality timber and we believe that Jackson can help maintain that tradition, by focusing most if its timber management on maximizing the sustainable production of mature saw logs, roughly speaking, those from 80 to 120 year old redwood trees.

Lumber from these older trees has a superior characteristic that make redwoods famous; the beautiful red color, the relatively straight grain, the low variability from thick and live beams, the rot resistance, characteristics that demand a higher price at the lumber yard. And where as maximizing this unique resource of high quality timber, for timber production and maintenance of the natural surroundings of the region, is both important to our local economy, and where as immense community concern over even aged management and the application of herbicides has existed for a very long time.

Comment 2

Further more, the Fort Bragg city council also wishes to address the strong recommendation that an emphasis is placed on sustainable harvest of mature high quality redwood in the 80 to 120 year class making sure it is measured correctly, the forest wide inventory of redwood stands, in more than 120 years old, is gradually increased to the point reached when a sustainable continuous yield of that mature timber can be regularly be harvest.

Comment 3

In another letter on May 26th said "Our citizens strongly support the management approach on JDSF that balances research, recreation, restoration, habitat enrichment and leadership needed to sustain a healthy forest products infrastructure. In particular, Fort Bragg would like to encourage an emphasis on sustainable harvest," and I will say it again, "the mature high quality redwood in the 80 to 100 year range and see that class gradually increased until the of sustainable yield of that mature timber can regularly be harvested."

Comment 4

I encourage the board to keep these concerns in mind, as they give direction to the advisory committee. I believe we can minimize even aged management and maximize sustainable harvest of mature high quality redwood.

Comment 5

This is the right balance, and on the subject of the advisory committee, I wish to make a workable group, too large become unwillingly and in the end counter productive. So thank you very much for all the hard work you are doing on this and thanks for coming.

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Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The growth and production of large redwood trees will be a prominent component of the future management of JDSF. The Board recognizes the value of this form of forest resource. While the Board is aware of long-standing controversy over the uses of even-aged management and herbicides, JDSF is a demonstration forest that should demonstrate a broad range of viable forest management tools and techniques. However, the majority of JDSF will be managed on an uneven-aged basis, and the use of herbicides will be judicious.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted. The JDSF forest inventory is state-of-the-art for a large timberland ownership. The inventory of large trees is expected to represent a substantial part of the future condition within JDSF.

Response to Comment 3

The Board concurs with these statements, and believes that they represent the management approach that has been selected for JDSF.

Response to Comment 4

Comment noted. It is not the Board's intention to minimize the use of even-aged management. However, the use of clearcutting will be heavily restricted, and even-aged management will be confined to specific areas of the Forest. The Board intends to maintain a mix of even-aged management in order to produce a mix of forest conditions available for future research. In addition, the Board recognizes that even-aged management is a useful and productive form of redwood forest management.

Response to Comment 5

The Board appreciates the recommendations of the City of Fort Bragg in the effort to formulate a viable and workable advisory committee for the Forest.

Jere Melo: Thank you mister chairman, and members of the board, my name is Jere Melo and I'm a city council member here in Fort Bragg and I am speaking for myself, as our vice chair indicated you will be getting comments from us in letter format. But I would like to back up one day, as I just told you as an individual, I would like to raise, perhaps another matter for your consideration.

Comment 1

And that is the new thing about this time around with the Jackson forest management plan, is your desire or emphasis on the research, and we have had some precomments about this, without having your document before us. But I want to inform you that our city council has been part of the redevelopment of this part of this mill site which is the west portion of town. It is interesting and we have gone a long way down the road to create something that we're currently calling the Noyo Center for Science and Education. Okay, and so in this Alternative G, you have a lot to do with demonstration and education and research and so you need to know that we're interested in your program. So far, we have a couple documents prepared by folks who are used to establishing field stations and our emphasis so far has been on the marine research and development. I can assure you that we would like to have your program incorporated into that science and education center, so that we have the terrestrial aspect and the marine aspect that will follow up on our own. In addition to that if you, I believe it's in your demonstration portion, if you need a marshalling point for conducting tours and what not, we will have that available. So we really encourage the collaboration with our city to carry out this plan. Stand by for Tom. Thank you so much for coming to Fort Bragg.

Response to Comment 1

The Board appreciates these comments and is hopeful that the Department can become an active participant in this effort to promote public education in the realm of resource management and forest ecology.

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Tom Lisle: Hi, I'm Tom Lisle I'm research hydrologist for the Pacific Southwest station in Arcata.

Comment 1

Our unit has cooperated with CDF since 1962 in research of Caspar Creek, and I want to speak in general on the value of maintaining the flexibility of science to design and administer research, in general and particularly Caspar Creek. As many of you know, Caspar Creek has been highly valuable for educating and learning new things about the effects of forest practices, particularly on watershed concepts. There are over 150 publications that have come out of Caspar Creek, from ourselves and also from university cooperators. All sides of the forest practice issues have used our information.

This has come, I believe, from careful planning and execution of large scale experiments. First in the South Fork of Caspar Creek, where the selective logging, and yearly subsidies, and then clear-cut logging currently in the North Fork conducted in the early 1990's. We're now in the stage of planning a third experiment in the South Fork. Again, it was slightly logged and tractor-logged in the early 60's. We wanted to reenter the South Fork and conduct another series of experiments by using a range of intensities of selective logging, to discover the effects, in this case, where by you, cause and effects that overlap existing effects. Because of the carving of the landscape with tractor-logging in the first go around, that forest has not recovered in terms of sediment, erosion and transport. We're still seeing sediment.

This condition is typical of many areas of the redwood region, where reentry is compounding effects that occurred for previous cycles of logging. We want to figure what those effects are and how we might reiterate those, by conducting this experiment on South Fork.

Comment 2

And so, again we would like to use a range of treatments. There will be some control, some watersheds, where no logging or anything will occur. There will be some watersheds where we will do selective logging to promote late seral stage conditions and there will be others where we'll do more sort of commercial selective logging. We'll also like to, in one sub watershed, that most I can recollect is under 30 acres, do clear-cut logging in order to cover the full gamut of effects. Our philosophy here is, according to one of my professors, is that if you want to study the physics of sound, you need to hit the bell hard. And so this is one example where what we would like to do here is hit the bell hard.

We're now, through 10 years of calibration of South Fork conditions, with North Fork, we're now ready to start treatments the of South Fork, and delaying these treatments is costly for ourselves and for CDF, in the sense that we need to keep the measurements going. We cannot withdraw from this and go to sleep and come back some other time between treatments, ongoing monitoring of conditions that are involved. And so there is urgency in promoting and starting this experiment.

Comment 3

Lastly, I'd like to comment on the roll of the advisory committee. We at PSW, in coordination with CDF seek input from all groups on what kinds of research we should be conducting at Caspar Creek, and we thought that this information is very valuable to us, but when it comes to, and that it involves what kinds of research we should do. But how we conduct research is basically a scientific problem. It involves coordinating treatments, measurement and analysis of data that needs to fit the gamut and so we would like maintain treatment to determine what these treatments are. Many of us in science use scientific advisory committees to look at our proposals and give advice on how good those are scientifically, and that certainly has value, but from other groups, comment on research can be problematic, and I'll use the example of the Boeing Corporation. They seek advice from air passengers and what kind of features they like on the airplane, but they've never asked passengers to design and build the airplane. Thank you.

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Response to Comment 1

The Board agrees that the Caspar Watershed Research Project has produced valuable information for land managers, resource professionals, and the general public. The Board supports a continuation of this research, including the next phase in the South Fork.

Response to Comment 2

The Board concurs that the South Fork treatment should represent a range of management intensity, and should proceed on a timely basis.

Response to Comment 3

It is the Board's desire that the Department receive advice on a broad range of management proposals, including research projects. There is an appropriate role, yet a limitation to the degree of specificity to the range of advice that is provided, depending upon the make-up of the group providing the advice. It is the Board's intention that the specific design criteria for research projects be created by those with the appropriate level of knowledge.

Garland Mason: Hi again, I'm Garland Mason. I am the deputy director of the Pacific Southwest Research Station and I wanted to comment very broadly and very quickly and very generally and leave the details to Tom Lisle. Well since Tom just gave you some details, I will make me faster and quicker.

Comment 1

I just want to say that we Forest Research support the proposal from CAL Fire for Jackson Demonstration Forest primarily to keep it for the uses that it was designed. That is for experimentation for demonstration and to provide a place where we can have long term access to answer these questions. We all want to do a better job in forest management and over the thirty-five years or so that the work has been going on here at Caspar Creek, these results have been applied throughout California in both the forest practice rules that you are responsible for, but also than have been interpreted and applied to other states throughout the west and there have been considerable extension of results to these projects to international activities. So, we would support continuation of these kinds of opportunities supporting research and we feel that the proposal is capable of doing that, so we encourage your support of the proposal. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

The Board concurs with this comment.

Kathy Bailey: Good morning, Chairman Dixon, members of the board, my name is Kathy Bailey and I represent Sierra Club regarding Jackson Demonstration State Forest. I want to begin by thanking the board members and CDF staff who have spent many long hours, and many cases, many long years on trying to figure out how to help people on Jackson and move us into a new era of productive discussion and management.

Comment 1

I believe you have come up with a workable formulation by redirecting your focus back to Jackson's fundamental research and demonstration mission.

The goals articulated by the new Alternative G are outstanding. They have put a clear direction on issues we think are key to success to both ecologically sensitive management at Jackson. There is also a definite movement to an inclusion of issues that Sierra Club has been particularly interested in. The new older forest structure zone acknowledges the need for maintaining habitat and a continuous configuration.

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Comment 2

It does appear however, there are a number of locations where adjacent old second growth should be considered for inclusion in this zone or perhaps designated for later seral development. We are also happy to see the designation of long term forest structure goals, even though they are still very rough estimates. Knowing where we are trying to go really helps plan the management plan process. Creation of a map provides baseline information on creation of old forest stands is something we have long asked for and we are happy to finally see it in print. Establishment of some interim harvest limitations for up to three years to allow advising entities to make recommendations is also a step in the right direction.

Comment 3

These advising entities however, are giving serious concern, and I strongly recommend that this be more carefully thought through. According to the document, Alternative G the director on the board about receiving advice about the possible modifications in the management plan from three entities. One directly appointed from Jackson specific advisory committee, two a currently demonstration state forest advisory group, which I ask you be rethought and reassessed. This group has a chart that includes all state forests and is also appointed by the director and three the board is planning to reestablish the committee on research, which has been dormant for some time and has been in charge of anything and everything to do with research. Alternative G includes a interim hearing to allow time for a detailed, information based look at specific issues that potentially may be recommendations, modifications and refinements to the broad outlines set up by Alternative G.

However, with three entities designated and the interaction, or potential lack of interaction, may leave this critical feature, at best, unwieldy, or at worst, unworkable in its current vague configuration. We consider the advisory function of this interim period and beyond to be the key to the long term goals of Jackson's management plan. The advisors need to have a clear consistent charge and close communication that can really only come from a single group. Use of three advisory groups, each with a separate charge will result in advice that is like a proverbial blind trio describing an elephant from one touch each. You will get the trunk, the tail and the maybe the foot, but you won't get a coherent picture of the whole elephant.

I am at the end of my three minutes; I did have something else to say. Would it be okay to precede chairman Dixon? Thank you.

Comment 4

My initial reading of Alternative G suggests that while there are significant items that need to be fixed, like the West Chamberlain THP needs to come off of the THP list and the residual old growth policy still needs revision, the advisory committee situation is signally the most potentially difficult long-term weakness in the proposal.

Comment 5

I would like to close by reminding you of something I have pointed out on a number of past occasions. Here is the map of the 2001 management plan entitled regional forest land ownership of northern California. It shows California's forest lands from Monterey bay north to the Oregon boarder and the Pacific Ocean over to Nevada. The green is federal forest land, the orange is parks, purple is private forest land yellow hear by Fort Bragg and a small bit in Santa Cruz is state forest. The green to the far East of Fort Bragg is across highway 101, Mendocino national forest is mostly Douglas fir. This coastal belt is overwhelmingly purple. In other words, private, and it is the coast redwood region.

Comment 6

We had an interesting fieldtrip the other day to some of that private forest land. Although, there are certain variations in management between the predominant lands visited and Mendocino Redwood Company lands make up the other predominant private forestry lands in this county and no matter what you think about how these other industry lands have been managed in the last 150 years. I think we can all agree that those landscapes are overwhelmingly missing large old trees, and the types of environment that large old trees help to create.

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Comment 7

So, remember that when people get worked up about Jackson. Remember the extent that this coast redwood region is not public land, and remember in your minds what must have been here once and for the most part, is no longer here and realize it is true, not matter how much the Board and CDF don't want it to be true, it is true that Jackson forest is our regions only large public redwood forest and it is the principal refuge of the forested landscape that still bears, in some places, some resemblance to what has once covered two million acres here and is now for the most part gone. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The Board appreciates the support for Alternative G.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted.

Response to Comment 3

Comments noted. The Board believes that there is merit to reinstating the Board's technical advisory committee, while having a committee specifically charged with consideration of the JDSF management, including a significant level of local involvement.

Response to Comment 4

Comments and requests noted. As the comments are stated, a reasoned response is not possible. The Board believes that the short-term harvest schedule is appropriate, as is the old tree retention policy.

Response to Comment 5

The Board is aware of the current forest ownership pattern in the region. The large acreage of private land in the region emphasizes the need for an on-going research and demonstration program at JDSF, as well as the maintenance and creation of valuable habitats, and the continuation of the recreation program.

Response to Comment 6

The EIR includes an assessment of habitat availability for various species within the assessment area. The Board is aware of the fact that most of the local lands have been managed for timber production for over a century, and that the former old forest is largely gone.

Response to Comment 7

Comments noted. Please see the DEIR for an overview of the environmental setting and an assessment of potential impacts associated with the future management of JDSF.

Vince Taylor: I'm Vince Taylor and I represent the Campaign to Restore Jackson State Forest and I have prepared remarks that I hope were circulated to you. I plan to speak a little over two minutes, but not much. Firstly, because I want to compliment people on all that they have achieved, I think it is the time to do that. I think we are now really close to negotiating what's been now a seven year rogue, as far as finding a way to get Jackson state back into operation in a stable way that it will not continue to generate more controversy. We are very close, and I congratulate, commend the board on its willingness to work with the department of forestry, they have really opened up an inclusive process by developing Alternative G. I especially want to give compliment and appreciation to Director Grijalva, who invited me to meet with him and his staff a year ago and committed himself to seek a consensus and I think that really opened the door to a working group here in Mendocino county that has people from the timber industry, myself and Kathy Bailey that worked hard to get a settled recommendation that we could all buy into.

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Comment 1

In November of last year we published that set of recommendations that was signed by all but one member of our working group.

I think that this set of recommendations has been really recognized by people as the only way to really get Jackson forest back into operation, a goal we all share. The Board has indorsed that process, the town has now worked on it, we now have a plan before us, I think, a plan to incorporate all the important features of the solution that the board came up with, except in one area. I really want to bring this to the attention of the board, you have a chance to change it here, and I think it is really questionable language, but the language is very important and it has to do with even-aged management.

Everybody on the working committee, working group, myself included, believes that the primary purpose of this forest is research and research will include the necessity of even-aged management, but we also believe that it needs to be tolerant and justified to a specific research program. Right now the language is very permissive it just says, we are going to manage the forest for a broad range of future conditions and that has been interpreted by CDF to mean to do a lot of clearcutting, and its variations, in order to create possible future opportunities for research. Nearly 26% of the forest has even-aged management on it, nearly 2,700 acres can be harvested with even-aged management without regard to any specific research program and this is a completely unacceptable way of determining this.

Comment 2

This allows a lot of controversy, I think the appropriate way is to say it really needs to be tied to specific research appropriate and planned so that the advisory committee, people here can prepare and evaluate it. Plus we can propose and say, alright, if we do it in a different way, what would you give up and what we need in terms of environment effects and recreational benefits.

So, that is the only major outstanding issue and I hope that the Board will direct and staff the interim, hearing and both the working group and come up with language that we in the research committees, no one wants to halt the research committee, but also to satisfy the people who are concerned that even-aged management not be used indiscretly. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. The Board believes very strongly that even-aged management should be maintained at a significant level, in order to create variable conditions available for future research and demonstration. Most of the research that has been conducted within JDSF and elsewhere has targeted and has been dependent upon a specific starting condition or set of conditions. To limit forest stand management unnecessarily to those instances where a specific research project has been proposed would represent a significant limit to the range of potential research and the level of information that could be collected. Clearcutting is but one unique form of even-aged management. It is incorrect to state that other forms of even-aged management are variants of clearcutting. While up to 26% of JDSF may be managed on an uneven-aged basis, the actual application of even-aged harvesting will occur incrementally over many decades, with rotation ages up to 150 years, which will create young stands that are older than any young stands currently found within JDSF.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted. The Board expects even-aged management to be utilized in an appropriate manner.

Mike Jani: Mike Jani, Mendocino Redwood Company, member of the small community group that got together to provide you some comments earlier. The main reason I am standing here is to let it be known that I personally am very appreciative of the time that the staff, CDF staff, put into this and particularly Russ. I think he tried very hard to take the comments that we gave him and put it into this new alternative.

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Comment 1

I also agree with what Vince said, was probably the biggest gap in what has been presented in Alternative G and from what came from our local groups recommendations and so I would ask the Board to spend some time focusing on that one issue. If you look at the letter than Vince sent you the last couple of paragraphs, very clear in detail what the issue is. I think our group's recommendations were unambiguous. It was very easy to tell, in our recommendations, hopefully, that is was our hope that when we gave those recommendations to the board and CDF it would go the necessary distance to end the controversy that is surrounding Jackson State Forest. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. While putting an end to local controversy concerning the management of JDSF may be desirable, the Board also believes that the management of JDSF should reflect the Board's policies and the intent of the enabling legislation. A broad range of management is intended.

Linda Perkins: Thank you with this opportunity to speak. My name is Linda Perkins. I am representing the watershed protection association. I was a member of the citizen's advisory committee appointed by Richard Wilson; it was a cross section of people here in Mendocino County. We made some recommendations very similar to those that had been made by the current Mendocino working group.

Comment 1

My concerns, based on what happened to our recommendations, are that the advisory committee groups that will be appointed will not assure that input will be heard. In other words, I think we need some assurance as to the specifics of how these advisory groups input will be received so they don't ill apparent position making recommendations that will then be shelved.

Comment 2

I also think there need to be sidebars put on the even-aged management; I think we are in agreement with that. Our citizen's advisory committee recommended individual tree selection, as a primary way of managing a forest. I think the current level of even-aged management is probably high, particularly incense, in more specifics, as to research of what they needed with that management.

Comment 3

I am also concerned about connectivity to adjacent lands, I am glad that you are, the department, is in touch with conservation of other parts and obviously there is a connection to Mendocino Redwood Company, through the Mendocino working group. I'm concerned that the forest plan some how we got what is happening on adjacent lands, on those plans, on the edge of the forest connect this place. Thank you very much I have appreciated all the work that has gone into this, we are looking forward to a time when the forest can meet production and be extremely constructive. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. It appears as though the former committee's recommendations were implemented in large part, but not in total. The Board does not believe that there should be a guarantee that recommendations will be accepted and implemented. The committees appropriately advise the Department and the Board, but it is the Department's responsibility to manage the state forests.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted. The use of even-aged management has been limited to specific sub-watershed areas, and clearcutting has been significantly limited. Significant impacts associated with the use of even-aged management are not expected to occur.

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Response to Comment 3

Comments noted. The management plan provides forest habitat connectivity to adjacent lands. The older forest structure zone lies adjacent to lands managed by the major private timberland ownerships found within the assessment area.

Bill Keye: Chairman Dixon, members, Bill Keye California Licensed Foresters Association. We haven't had a chance to review this and so this is not our formal comment, I just wanted to take the opportunity to make a couple of points. I think we all recognize that this plan represents not just Alternative G but the entire effort represents the paradigm shift from a previous management regime on Jackson and I think that most of my members agree that's probably an appropriate and good thing.

Comment 1

There is concern about the harvest level of 20 billion board feet that would tie into the concern about varies to research and also the additional economy and the ability to, you know lets face it, deriving revenue from the natural resource used that can be used for the research and the demonstration.

Obviously, the harvest level is so much below growth, how many opportunities of foreclosing, that is concern.

Comment 2

I heard a reference earlier about, we have heard multiple references about, even-aged management and it is one of those glass half full, glass half empty things. Twenty-four percent to twenty-six percent of the forest is available for even-aged management, that also means that three quarters of the forest is not available and also even-aged management does not necessarily mean clearcutting that is dealt with separately. So I wanted to throw out some words dynamism, resilience, and also environmental ethics. That we mention we are all consumers of intrinsic of commodity resources and so it is good to see this coming together in terms of some resolution past where we have been.

Comment 3

The emerging issues of carbon sequestration and the concern about global warming as well as the concern of the issue make Jackson that much more important that we get this right. The board doesn't have to pick any particular alternative, we have a new alternative that has surfaced and can work and it is now up to you all to chose and make the decision. I just want to conclude with a statement contributed to Abe Lincoln "you can please some of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time."

Response to Comment 1

Comments noted. Alternative G is expected to produce an average annual harvest between 20 and 25 million board feet. This level is expected to rise significantly over a 100-year planning period.

Response to Comment 2

Comments noted. Even-aged management will continue to be an important component of the management plan.

Response to Comment 3

Comment noted. The management of JDSF will progress in consideration of the global warming phenomenon and the need for carbon sequestration.

Lynce Hepburn: Good afternoon, I hope your not getting too hungry or too cranky. I am speaking as a member of the public who lives by a watershed and also enjoy recreational opportunities on the state forest, especially the easy access I got to Hare Creek by foot path outside of the property by my land. I am also a hydrologist that participated in watershed research on the state forest for twenty years.

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Comment 1

I am in general support of Alternative G, although I haven't read the full detail, because it promotes the research role in Jackson Demonstration Forest, one that will maintain ecological processes and recreational opportunities. JDSF is unique in the redwood region in that it serves as the only publicly owned redwood, Doug fir forest that is managed for the public good while serving as a place for long term applied research can be performed. Neither industrial forest lands, nor state parks serve this function. The research opportunities that exist here are not available in other ownerships and redwood regions. The location and geography of JDSF make it particularly well suited for research related to the effects of climate change. A role that is sure to take on great accomplishments in the coming years. I am concerned that the limitations to harvest made be appropriate for JDSF, there should be alternative harvest prescriptions subject to research proposals for external peer review, and in the cases of experimental watersheds, interim harvests may impede in the most appropriate science based study site, thus compromising the potential to maximizing the new knowledge in this long-term, expensive watershed study. Am I okay for time? I believe creative none productive silviculture may be necessary to promote late seral forest development and I hope that such creativity will not be overly expunged by over rigid management guidelines. Forest management needs to be responsive to new information.

Comment 2

And two final things, increased road maintenance and road erosion control are very important and needed on the forest.

Comment 3

And finally, there is a proposal for signing of a waste management station on JDSF and I think this is an inappropriate use of forest resources and should not be permitted. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

The Board concurs with these statements, and believes that the management plan is appropriately responsive to these concerns.

Response to Comment 2

The Board concurs and believes that these are important elements of the management plan.

Response to Comment 3

The siting of a waste management facility is speculative at this time.

Richard Mayer: Thank you. Richard Mayer. I'd like to get a hard copy of this Alternative G. Where might that be available?

Board Executive Officer Gentry: There is a notice of availability that is posted on the website that lists all the places that it is available.

Richard Mayer: Is there a copy I can take home with me or do I have to sit in a library?

Board Executive Officer Gentry: No, I will discuss it with you later.

Comment 1

My computer won't do these huge fast downloads and I would also like to add my thanks to all the people involved in this, especially Russ. There have been some great comments spoken by the people so far and I support Kathy Bailey's concept which I think is the interim period, is to combine the advisory groups into one of science and citizen's labor but the important concept of one advisory committee at least through the interim period. While important, the responses are going on and it looks pretty incredible that a consensus has been reached. I suggest you take Kathy and Vince Taylor's suggestions to heart. Thank you.

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Response to Comment 1

Comments noted.

Bill Heil: Has the mic stopped working for a reason? My name is Bill Heil. I was a member of Mister Wilson's advisory committee. I was also involved in the campaign to restore Jackson Forest and I don't belong to the forest land owners association, but I am a member of the Jackson State Owners Association and as are all public citizens. I want to get a chance to talk to you about this new Alternative G. I like B at best, but I don't think you are going to go for that. It real exciting, it has been seven years working and we finally feel like we've got the ear of somebody who can do something about our concerns and that they have taken them seriously. That is really a break through, and it is really appreciated. I would like to thank the people who have been involved in that. If I said it was what I wanted, there have been a lot of people who have gone way too far, I wouldn't say that even if it were true. I wouldn't go into my criticisms; I would like to point out a few things that we sometimes forget.

Comment 1

I would like to use the analogy of the fellow who was talking about ringing the bell, that bell has been whacked way too hard, and it is probably broken. The research that we need isn't what happens when we do more clearcuts, it's what happens when the clearcuts that we have and the damage that was done and how can we best restore it and how can we get these forests back for productivity. I am really glad that you have a new land owner and next to you and we have a land from the conservation fund that is whacked pretty heavy and would be great place to do some research in what to do in those situations and I hope that the board of forestry and CDF will be involved in that.

Comment 2

Concluding, I want to say that money that is generated from Jackson state is first priority and needs to come back to Jackson state.

Comment 3

The other thing that I want to say is, it seems to me, from the beginning that one of the biggest threats to Jackson state is that it become Jackson State Park and the best way to keep that from happening is to get a really credible management system in there that allows for the recreation that people want here and that people feel good about what's going on here and that we can all be proud of. Thank you very much.

Response to Comment 1

The management plan proposes to conduct research on a broad range of management-related effects, including restoration and the impacts associated with a range of traditional stand management treatments, including clearcutting. The Board believes that there is much more to learn concerning the regeneration effects, as well as the watershed and habitat effects of clearcutting.

Response to Comment 2

The Board agrees that revenue generated at JDSF should be utilized for the future management of the Forest, however, the allocation of funding to various State programs and functions is determined by the Legislature. The Board is confident that funding for the management of JDSF will be sufficient to enable full implementation of the management plan.

Response to Comment 3

Comments noted.

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Ailene Moorehead: My name is Ailene Moorehead and I am a recent member to Mendocino and I am representing myself.

Concern 1

As you can see from the photo being passed around my concern is with the recreation and health and safety of the people using Jackson State Forest. Specifically, there is target shooting constantly at the quarry on road 408. In my estimation it is really jeopardizing public health and safety. There are hikers being constantly being passed that, there is a Park is down there, people use it all summer long. The quarry in question is 6.2 miles East of Highway 1 and road 408. The quarry shooting site shows the road is directly adjacent to where they are shooting and is taking place in two directions. There is daily shooting early morning up until around, I would say, 7 pm of assault and automatic riffles. People have to wear head gear to protect their hearing. I have never been so threatened, as last week I went by there, and there was automatic weapon fire like World War III. An objective of Jackson state forest is to provide the study on conservation, protection and utilization of natural resources. It is an obligation of the Board of Forestry to maintain safe conditions in Jackson forest. This is not being done with regards to that situation at the quarry. The photo shows the sight is littered with thousands, and I am telling you, thousands of empty shells, casing, broken beer bottles, and pottery used for targets. The sight is littered with two newspaper boxes used as targets, old hot water heaters, and discarded ammunition boxes. The boxes clearly state the ammunition being used contains lead. The photo shows the direction of the shooting, as you can see, right in front of the path of the shooting. Some of the automatic weapons are shot directly towards the forest. Hikers of bikers may take the path and be directly in the line of fire. There are statues limiting use of state forest and one of them quotes "where it is necessary for public peace or safety the director with consent of the governor may order close of trapping, hunting, camping, the use of firearms any area, in any state park or state forest. The director shall post and enforce such closure and borders in such area." In the interest in public safety and public protection the quarry should be closed to target shooting and thank you for your attention and all your hard work.

Response to Comment 1

The comment concerns the historic use of a rock pit adjacent to County Road 408 as a target shooting site. Shooting is an activity that is allowed in state forests under statute and the Department is limited in its ability to prohibit this use. The management plan recognizes that illegal use of the site is an issue, and will evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with illegal shooting.

Recirculated Draft EIR Public Hearing, Ukiah, June 20, 2007

Bill Smith: My friends say that I am outspoken, but not by many, I've been a forester since 1943. As a teenager I worked for the forest service in the sierras on blister rust control and fire fighting. I've spent all but a few years as a forester, I've been retired for 22 years, but I have been a tree farmer up until about a week ago. I signed the escrow papers on my tree farm because I have been unable to take care of my old age with a timber harvest under the current forest practice rules and other agency controls. I have some notes here, maybe I'll. Basically, I've been an SAF member, Society of American Foresters, for 50 years and I have purchased timber sales off of Jackson State Forest and watched the progress of the changes in the harvesting methods and the management methods over the years to the point were they have been doing a great job in leading the forest products harvesting industry until they were cut off by mistaken legal ramifications.

Comment 1

As a small timber owner we needed all the information we could get from Jackson forest, but it is unavailable now, and the idea of Jackson Forest being a tourist draw like some of the proponents of locking up the forest. The road situation up at the bypass at Willits is a perfect example, it was 40 odd years before they finally came up with a 2 lane bypass and Jackson Forest is going to be the like the rest of this area, it's a beautiful place that you can't get there from here from the general population of California.

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Comment 2

I'd like to have the board of Forestry tell me that legislative myopia, bureaucratic inertia, legal dysfunction and environmental purity don't trump common sense, economic and social needs. Mendocino county and the north coast is California's Appalachia right now. Somebody in one of the papers said that the end product of our area in marijuana is something like 5 billion dollars, it seems to me they have got too many zeros in there but it very well could be and we have a pot and methamphetamine problem here and you cannot take away any part of your additional economic benefits for this area without having negative social and economic results. Our county does not get the taxes anymore, the industry isn't here and the people that could be out there harvesting can't go out and buy the seven hundred and fifty thousand dollar tractors they need to run from time to time. This is sort of a disorganized presentation but we do need more than 20 million feet a year cut over there. The original purpose of that demonstration forest when it was purchased from Caspar lumber company was as demonstration forest and not a park.

Response to Comment 1

The Board agrees that JDSF should return to full demonstration function as soon as possible, in part to fulfill the informational needs of small timberland owners.

Response to Comment 2

The Board's intention for future management of JDSF is as a research and demonstration facility, and also as a recreational resource, while recognizing the value of JDSF for habitat and fishery values. The short-term harvest level is expected to fall within a range of 20 to 25 million board feet per year, but not to exceed 35 million board feet per year. It is expected that the future harvest level will increase, due to forest growth and intensive forest management efforts.

George Rau: I have been on Jackson State Forest when it first started and prior to that time, it was during the acquisition, Sill Barbolla and Swede Welling, were assigned there and they were there for a few months. It was strictly something new for the state to take over, for the division of forestry, to take over something like that and they had no preparation for doing so in a business like manor. The Mendocino woodlands recreation outfit was in operation there in the San Francisco clubs countered on that, they had some kind of an option on it to keep their recreation in tack and running and the first winter that I was there in 1948-49, all the toilets froze up and broke, it was the coldest winter in Mendocino county for I don't know how many years, and that was part of the project.

So, eventually, within a year or so, they dig up some more money to hire a caretaker down there and watch the place so there was some kind of maintenance to it and that took us a way from there to do a little timber cruising. We did check cruising on some of Goldie, a man by the name Goldsmith from the forest service, did a lot of the cruising and did the basic part of the cruising for the board to determine how much timber there was on the property. Caspar lumber company held in reserve about, possibly 3 or 4 years, I can't remember how many years of logging, to keep their mill at Caspar running even after the state owned the land. We were supposed to supervise that to a certain extent, not to hinder their logging, but we were required to burn the slash and I remember one of the first things we did, we burned up a main line that belonged to a logger and he was pretty much heated up about it, so I wasn't too popular. But anyway, we got along good with them after that and they were logging along Chamberlain creek and also in the north fork of big river below Highway 20 and Barry Gulch which was adjacent to Boyles camp and Boyles camp was the recreation area, it had never been logged, it was tied off. In some places it was tied off pretty heavy and some places they had quite a bit of timber left.

Anyway, I had one man as a helper and we did check some lines and ran some people off here and there that were in there cutting poles and cutting fish poles as well as some bigger poles too and also they were shaking the area down for all the stuff that they could find to sell to the tourists who came in Fort Bragg, like burls and anything that was an oddity and they had a free hand in it. So they were quite a problem to get rid of them and also the Finnish colony at Swansa La Gulch had quite an

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option on the property, they thought, and they set fire when they wanted too and grazed their stock it was the little north fork of south fork, and I don't know what the name is, or what they call it now, but they had some fires there for quite a while and Emry O'Scolla was in charge of this area, he was the assistant ranger in charge of this area, and he was quite busy for a while. He was Finnish himself and he got along with them eventually and they cooperated pretty well after that.

There were no roads in the area that was North of the south fork and west of Kelly McGuire's. It was all railroad logged, they had a couple of inclines to get the stuff on higher elevation, but it was all railroad logged. So when the prison camp came in we got organized there and we had a little more help, we had all the help we could use and in fact, our responsibility was to find work for them and to keep them busy and so we did. We built the first road around Rylle Ridge, which is connected, that's on the ridge between little north fork Nile and the main river and parallels the railroad. That was one of the first roads we built in there. We also improved some of the roads like 3 chalk road and open the country up a little bit for fire access. The railroad at that time when through camp 19 and ended at camp 20 and it was right along side the county road from camp 19, or just beyond camp 19, it was parallel to the county road, if you can imagine that, and went over Dunlap summit and down into camp 20. They did the repairs on the locomotives and all the repairs on the railroad equipment there.

When they finished logging we were somewhat prepared by then, there were 3 of us, and it was about the second or third year, and so we had one man that worked kind of on the west side and two of us were marking timber and trying to make up a logging sale and decide what was going to be done and keep within a reasonable operation. I say reasonable because it was different than anything that was being done in the county at that time, and we took, I forgot the footage on the first sale we had, it may have been around 6 million feet of old growth timber in Chamberlain creek and so we extended the road up there, designated where it went. We didn't fool with how it was logged, I mean it was logged with wheels and the logger, let's see Union Lumber company did the first year, Caspar took it the second year and I forgot who took it the third year, it was Union I guess. Anyways, that was all marked timber and we wood scaled that right behind the falling crew and that's how it was done. There was two of us, and we were busy, we were plenty busy. Then the third year we put in a scaling shed at the forks of Chamberlain Creek and the logging went on from there and that was my experience there.

The second growth at that time was considered to be a cull product and Kelly McGuire was doing the best he could to get his land opened up for sheep pasture and he had all kinds of ways to get Camp 19 to get rid of those stumps that were around Camp 19. There was more interest in his operation there than there was in the timber end of it. At that time, around 1953 or something, there was a kind of a depression in the timber business and they were fussy about the logs they got and there were also, not like second growth and second growth fir was not even considered as a product at all. I have had no experience logging second growth and Hank Land was my assistant there and came into the job as a forester, went to the University of Idaho and he had some experience in private forestry, somewhere over in the pine country and it worked out real well with the type of land that we had and the logging worked real well and he went right out into the second growth logging.

I kept in touch with him, I left and went to work for Union Lumber company in 1955, they took their railroad out and they were going to go to truck logging and I did mostly engineering for them. I laid out probably 100 miles of road on their property. They owned probably 250,000 acres at that time. I also built a couple of bridges on 10 mile and put in repairs on them and the main bridge that is still on the Noyo river, which is the first prestressed concrete bridge that I had ever heard of. It was used to log, practically all the timber that was logged off of Jackson State Forest.

I said I had no experience in second growth logging, I happen to own 60 acres of second growth logging close to Mendocino just East of town there and it had never been logged, it had been tied off and I logged that twice I guess and I used to take somebody around there and show them, what was happening. This was after second growth became a product and it was worth two dollars an acre if I remember what stumpage price was then. We had a neighbor there who was the general manager, no not general manager, he was the advertising manager for Homes and Gardens and he owned

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some property there on the hill just East of Mendocino and we became like good friends and he was interested in what I did and he was interested in timber and old growth timber there on the hill and he thought of logging it at one time. So, I said "Well, you can come over and look at my place. I've logged this once and its not completed, but you can see what happens when a person logs. Its not a pretty sight for people that are not acquainted with the operation." So, he and his wife came over there to look at it and he said "We don't want anything like this, you'll knock the ferns down." They just couldn't stand it. So, anyway we were still good friends and they didn't end up coming over and shooting me so. But anyway, I did end up logging it twice and sold that to Fred Nicky and Fred Nicky logged it two more times and I don't know who owns it now, but that's the only experience that I've had.

I would just like to say this, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that second growth logging is a big mess, it makes a terrible mess for probably the first five year and its really a mess and it looks terrible, but also, it doesn't take the same rocket scientist to see that you are putting the growth on a bunch of material that will never be worth anything. You may have five thousand stems per acre, out of which, maybe few hundred will ever develop. So, what your doing is just raising a crop that is just going to be on the ground and its not necessarily wasted, but its not a good source of humus and it's a fire danger for the first five years after logging. After that, second growth logging can be a real nice looking job and there are some jobs around Mendocino county, one of which I helped get started, is the Drinkwater ranch, that's over there near Mendocino, and the Drinkwater's, I quit Union Lumber company after about 7 years and went to work for myself as a forester and I had my surveyors license by that time and so I was working as a surveyor and licensed forester, and anyway, the Drinkwater's are very happy with the way that that property is set up and seems very successful as a young growth operation. I would like to recommend that, if anything, if anybody wants to see what timber looks like its been logged and well treated. I guess that's about all that I have to say.

Response

No environmental concerns were expressed relative to JDSF management plan or EIR.

Jerry Garvie: I'm currently working as a forestry manager for Redwood Empire Sawmills, a mill located in Cloverdale, we've bought logs off the state forest in the past, I've lived in Mendocino county for about the last 15 years, I've had my RPF license since 1976, I've been a forester since I graduated from Iowa State University in 1969.

Comment 1

As a representative of a company that uses products off of the state forest, obviously we would like to see resumption of the harvesting levels. Personally, as a log buyer I would like to see more than the twenty million feet that we have talked about for this proposition, but I think that the goal of increasing the research and the efforts towards developing that part of the program is a good goal.

Comment 2

My fears are that the research is done, but the information never gets out to the people who really need to use it, the members of the forestry community as well as the other land managers and I hope that there will be some provision for making the information available on a more timely basis than perhaps what has gone on in the past.

Comment 3

Besides the low harvest level portion of this option another thing that concerns me personally is the possibility of the whole thing tilting towards more of a forest service model where there's what you call an analysis paralysis, where there is so much research going on that nothing ever gets done. I've worked for the forest service in the past and I've seen it kind of evolve into a none land management entity, its just a holding cell for a lot of people. Other concerns revolve around just the fate of the industry itself and Mendocino county and Northern California, were really close to the whole thing collapsing as happened in the Riverside, San Bernardino area back in the 50's when the last mills went out. LP mill and the Irmulco, I think, was the last mill down there and that disappeared in the

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70's. One or two mills going down and it will pretty much be the end of it and anything that is done as R and D on the state forest will be for no purpose because there won't be anybody around that can use it. That pretty much sums up my thoughts and feelings today anyway, so thank you.

Response to Comment 1

The desire to see more than 20 million board feet per year harvested from JDSF is noted. The Board concurs with the desire to have harvesting resume, and increasing research and demonstration efforts.

Response to Comment 2

The Board and the Department are committed to making research and demonstration information available on a timely basis.

Response to Comment 3

The ADFMP provides for a robust research and demonstration program coincident to a viable long-term forest and timber management program. The Board is confident that JDSF will make a significant contribution to a viable timber industry in Mendocino County.

Mike Jani: Chief forester for Mendocino Redwood Company. Our group of residents, and interested people, have gotten together and will be providing the board yet another letter, which should go out today or tomorrow to clarify a few things that came up in the meeting in Fort Bragg, some questions, so my comments are not about that, my comments are not attached to the group that I have been participating with but are just my own and mostly in the form of a question. Is it, in an alternative, the appropriate place to look at some of these issues that have come up today in regards to the economic benefits to Mendocino county and to provide the public with examples of the type of research and demonstration that can be considered within the alternative?

Comment 1

I have to admit I haven't read the entire EIR and if in fact there are those things included in it I apologize for my question, but I think it would be of some benefit, if in fact, in the alternative portion of the EIR its appropriate to give members of the public some idea as to the types of research and demonstration and its impacts economically on the county. So, I pose it as a question because I don't know the appropriateness of it, or is that in fact something that will be more clearly vetted in the management plan. Thanks.

Response to Comment 1

The ADFMP (Chapter 4) and the DEIR provide an overview of the types of research and demonstration that may be conducted on JDSF. The potential forms of research and demonstration will be subject to adjustment in the future, as the recognized needs for research and demonstration change and develop. Advisory entities will also make recommendations for desired research and demonstration.

Estimating the direct economic benefits of potential research and demonstration would be highly speculative, depending upon specifics of the projects and the individual or entity in receipt of the research. However, it is anticipated that several of the individual research projects and demonstrations will provide potential for economic benefit to landowners.

Julie Bawcom: I work on contract to CAL Fire, and I am an engineering geologist, but these comments are all basically my own and not representative of any body but myself. I was so happy that these gentlemen gave us a historical perspective, I think that we have lost our historical perspective in this process and its very important to see where we came from on Jackson State Forest. I'm relatively new to Jackson State forest, I've worked and reviewed timber harvesting for 21 years, compared to these gentlemen here. But, I have a unique perspective, because I have watched, and I was there before all this process began and I've seen several managers, forest managers work, and harvest timber out there. Jackson State forest has always been held to a

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greater standard than the industry forestry, the private industry forestry and this was done by the forest managers, they were always held to a higher standard than the forest practice rules it was just standard of practice that the forest has always been maintained and I think we kind of forget that as we are going through this process.

I'm sorry that I haven't kept up with all the management plans and I have worked solely on the forest for the last seven years and I have done research projects and I just wanted to kind of mention a few of those, I helped write part of the management plan but I haven't kept up on all of this because it's kind of frustrating and you kind of have to remove yourself and just do your work, so I'm not up on option G as well as I should be but there are a couple of comments that I want to make personally.

Comment 1

It appears to me that this, with the advisory board that wants to be formed all and the restriction it appears that we are taking away the science of the, the choices that the scientists, that the foresters and the other professionals have to make, with so many restrictions on harvesting and the type of harvesting. Those are even-aged and uneven-aged management and those are only 30% removal and this, that and there. There are reasons why foresters make those decisions in the health of the stand and fire hazard and all kinds of other things that I don't know, because I'm not a forester but it appears to me that we are taking away the options for the scientist to provide for a healthy forest when you put too many restrictions on.

Comment 2

It seems to me that this forest, it's the largest state forest in the state of California, and that means that we all work for the tax payers and the state of California and there are very few special interest in Mendocino County. People who are new to this area that think that it's their own little project and they don't represent the whole state of California and I notice that the board of forestry there's are a lot of new members, so the learning curve for the new members of the board of forestry, it frightens me that they haven't seen enough of the forest, they haven't seen enough of the past management and how well it's been managed in the past so I would encourage the new board members to spend more time with the forest manager and educating them selves about what was done in the past and have a look at the forest, and I know they took a tour recently but one day I don't think is enough.

Comment 3

My comment on the twenty million board feet per year which is fifty percent below growth, that bothers me because some years ago we got a road forester and I was going to be working with the road forester to survey all the road and I think we have about 500 miles of roads and as George spoke, a lot of them were built in the 60's, the 50's 60's and 70's, when our road practices weren't up to standard practices now and we have a lot of legacy problems. That's a lot of roads and that's going to take a lot of work and I did a research project and I mapped all the clearcuts on Jackson State Forest, which averaged less than 3, 4, 5 percent of the watersheds. There wasn't much in clear cutting even when there were no restrictions, except for Caspar Creek which is a research project. What I found was that all the landslides that occurred in and around all the clearcuts, all but one or two were all associated with old legacy roads and it is well documented in the literature that legacy roads are damaging our watershed health the most, more than anything else. Yet, we are only going to log fifty percent of what we grow on the forest and to manage a 50,000 acre forest takes a lot of money and to do a road inventory and to get our road forester back, to survey, prioritize, repair, decommission roads costs a lot of money and that's what we should be trying to do and that should be our priority on this state forest and to do that we need money and to do that we need to log and log, and log in a healthy way, like we always have. So that bothers me a little bit

Comment 4

So, I just think that management by popular opinion by a few special interest people, is wrong because the state of California owns it and that's all the tax payers and so I would hope that the board think about this when they are making these decisions and they are giving away more and more concessions to a small population of people who think they know what is good for the forest. Thank you.

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Response to Comment 1

While the ADFMP will incorporate restrictions upon management of the forest, the forest will remain available for a very broad range of management forms and options. It is anticipated that forest health will be maintained. The commenter is not specific and the Board will not speculate as to the forest health issues that may arise as a direct result of management restrictions. However, the Department and the Board are capable of addressing new issues, and considering amendment of the management plan if and when considered necessary.

Response to Comment 2

The Board agrees that JDSF is a state-wide resource. The Board has had ample opportunity to become familiar with the management plan and EIR.

Response to Comment 3

The ADFMP provides for an average annual harvest within a range of 20 to 25 million board feet per year during the first decade. This level is expected to rise in future decades, toward the long term sustained yield level in excess of 50 million board feet per year. The Board agrees that forest management, and road management in particular, will require sufficient funding to maintain, improve, and decommission roadways. The Board and Department are dedicated to achieving an annual funding level to enable this valuable work to proceed. Please see the Road Management Plan in the ADFMP for more information on the management of the road system.

Response to Comment 4

The ADFMP reflects existing legislation, Board policy, and regulation, and was prepared by the Department in consideration of a very broad range on input from concerned citizens and public agencies. The Board agrees that JDSF is a public resource for the benefit of the entire state population.

Ike Heinzsturingor: This is in regarding to the Jackson State Demonstration Forest management draft plan. My response is to the amendment of the draft management plan to include:

Comment 1

One, to protect the ambient temperature in the forest to ensure the equilibrium between the body of trees and the water. There is a hot and cold pulsation going on day and night.

Comment 2

Two, protect mother trees for natural regeneration. Understory trees need shade cover to moderate influence, [this] leads to the uniform structure through out the whole period of tree growth.

Comment 3

Three, avoid small or large clearcuts, but rather individual select cut.

Comment 4

Four, reorient forest management towards protection of carbon sink. The state has the opportunity for reorientation of the construction sector more to steel and cable and glass away from the excess use of wood. There is other methods to do earthquake proof structures, in fact sky scrapers are not built out of wood.

Comment 5

Then five, the environmental effects such as noise, traffic, pollution and costs as esthetic degeneration, changes in fish and wildlife habitat, soil disturbances, reduction in water quality and flow are unacceptable, and that's from your own letter.

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Comment 6

Six, citizens use the state demonstration forest recreationally and are aware of fire danger created by logging without a management plan. We can afford to protect our state treasure forest lands from fire.

Comment 7

To the adequacy of the additional DEIR of mitigating the environmental effects of timber management of the state, we are entering into a new era, no longer are the practice of the past to slash and burn are accepted.

Comment 8

The demonstration of timber managed alive is to be emphasized, live forest, not in some warehouse in form of boards. I live in an East slope mixed redwood forest myself in Redwood valley and through observance I know how fragile the forest is in our regularly dry climate.

Comment 9

All future predictions confirm that a local and global warming trend causes stress on our forest ecosystem. Plant protective tree covers, corridors for wildlife, you know plant protective tree cover. To emphasize my point I want to quote from Victor Shalvavors book, The Fertile Earth, in the chapter titled "Influence of Temperature and Water Movement", he states on page 55 "Under the protection of mother trees, natural regeneration and moderate heat influence, direct sunlight, leads to the formation and the close knit and uniform structure throughout the whole period of growth. Quality timber can thus thrive only in the way the nature intended, in the sheltered environment of mother trees. The earlier the young shade loving plants are exposed to direct sunlight, and the greater the frequency of exposure, the sooner its structural formation must deteriorate qualitatively as a result of unnatural growth." That's why they have bark, bark protects the tree from the sunlight, this is why all variety of light demanding timber protects their initial growth process from the sun by forming a thick layer of bark, which is not the case of shade demanding species.

Comment 10

The pine therefore will be the first to perish at the hands of a contemporary forest management.

Comment 11

The intent of Jackson State Forest in Mendocino county is to be protected from fire and the burning desire of pay back individuals connected to the state to taking trees with greed, guidance and directions from the public is available, lets hope that we are heard. Thank you.

Response to Comment 1

A reasoned response would call for speculation. The ambient temperature within a forest, and an equilibrium between the body of trees and the water, are both dynamic relationships, and constantly changing. The Board is unable to determine what the commenter is referring to with regard to an equilibrium between the body of trees and the water.

Response to Comment 2

The commenter requests that mother trees need to be protected for natural regeneration, and that understory trees require shade to moderate influence, which leads to uniform structure throughout the period of tree growth. This concern is not clear, and the Board will not speculate as to the nature of the concern. However, the Board can state that most trees found within JDSF are able to successfully regenerate and develop under a very broad range of shade conditions, although most tree species grow more rapidly when exposed to greater amounts of sunlight. The growth of trees is quite variable, not uniform, across the life span. This is due to variable influences of intra tree competition, forest canopy gaps, and species variability.

Response to Comment 3

The commenter's desire to avoid small or large clearcuts, and a desire to have individual tree selection is noted. No environmental concern was expressed by the commenter.

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Response to Comment 4

The commenter requests that forest management be reoriented towards protection of carbon sink. The meaning of the comment is not clear. The Forest represents a very large carbon sink, and the level of carbon in storage is expected to increase in future decades. No environmental concern is expressed by the commenter.

From a greenhouse gas perspective, the sustainable use of wood in construction is vastly preferable to the use of steel, the production of which results in a very high level of energy consumption and carbon dioxide emission relative to the use of wood. In addition, wood is sequestered for several decades in structures, as more wood is grown in the forest.

Response to Comment 5

The Board agrees that significant impacts associated with noise, traffic, pollution, aesthetic degradation, changes in fish and wildlife habitat, soil disturbances, reduction in water quality and flow. The potential for significant impacts to these resources has been thoroughly considered, and no significant impacts are expected to occur (see DEIR Section VII for the analysis).

Response to Comment 6

No logging has or will occur in the absence of a management plan. The ADFMP includes multiple provisions to protect the state forest from fire damage.

Response to Comment 7

The ADFMP does not propose "slash and burn" management. However, it is possible that some harvest units may be burned on occasion, as part of a research or demonstration project designed to evaluate forest health or forest growth. This practice is not anticipated to occur frequently. No environmental concern is expressed by the commenter.

Response to Comment 8

While harvesting will occur as part of the management process, the management of the forest is intended primarily toward development of stands of live trees. The forest is very resilient and dynamic, having developed under a very broad range of natural and man-made disturbances.

Response to Comment 9

The forest products of this general area, and from the state forest, are quite valuable and in demand. The state forest will manage stands in many different ways as part of the research and demonstration program, in an effort to determine the effects of various forms of stand management upon tree growth, product values, habitat, watershed processes, and forest health. There is no evidence to suggest that individual tree growth must be uniform throughout the life of a tree in order to produce quality wood products.

The Board recognizes that there is potential for the global warming phenomenon to affect forest health. The state forest will remain a forested resource, with highly variable, yet abundant shade and cover for development of regeneration, and ample sunlight availability for individual tree growth. Please see DEIR Section VII.16 for an assessment of potential climate change effects. Significant impacts are not expected to occur.

Response to Comment 10

The concern is not clearly stated. The commenter suggests that pine will be the first to perish at the hands of contemporary forest management. Pine is normally referred to as a relatively shade intolerant species. This is due to the fact that many pine species do not regenerate or grow well under shade canopy. Most pine species develop a relatively thick bark, which tends to protect the tree from influences of both sunlight and fire.

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Response to Comment 11

The concern is not clear. The commenter appears to express a desire that the Board take guidance from the public, and to avoid "pay back" of individuals connected to the state to take trees with greed. The Board fully considers public comment during the process of review of the management plan. JDSF is a public resource, intended by the legislature to serve as a demonstration of sustainable forest management.