

3.2

Forest Management

Strategic Directive:

District owned forest lands will be managed with a goal of establishing a variety of age-classes and replicating a more natural variety of stand densities. Restoration and enhancement are the primary tools to mitigate the impact of past activity. The District will work toward restoration of the forest ecosystem to a level of health, and stand density so that prescribed burning and other less-intrusive forest management tools will preclude the need to use heavy equipment for future maintenance, to the extent that it is financially feasible.

Objective 1

For District-owned forest lands, the primary objective is to improve forest health and reduce the risk of catastrophic fires while preserving and/or enhancing wildlife habitat, protecting cultural resources and maintaining water quality. The District forest management plans and practices will honor the terms of any conservation easements agreed to, and will be in compliance with relevant governmental regulations (primarily California Forest Practices Act / Cal-Fire, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the governing Air Quality Management District).

Objective 2

Use forest resources whenever possible to mitigate costs through competitive utilization on the open market when it supports the mission of good stewardship.

Objective 3

The District's Forest Management strategy will be to identify areas which require special treatment to mitigate previous water quality impacts, and areas which are sensitive archeological sites.