
FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

July 7, 2010

Adopted Objective

For District-owned forest lands, our primary objective is to improve forest health and reduce the risk of catastrophic fires while preserving wildlife habitat, protecting cultural resources and maintaining water quality. Our forest management plans and practices will honor the terms of any conservation easements we have 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).

Adopted Strategy

We will restore our 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. The forest will be managed with a goal of establishing a variety of age-classes and replicating a more natural variety of stand densities. We will take care to identify areas which require special treatment to mitigate previous water quality impacts and areas which are sensitive archeological sites.

Forest lands requiring management:

- Waddle Ranch
- 18 acres
- Sloped North 40 behind bus barn

Adopted Key initiatives

Active multi-year initiatives

- Ongoing evaluation of forest health and fire danger

Active initiatives

- Access road rehabilitation
- 60 acres continuation of prescribed thinning and fuels reduction treatment (completion of 2010 maintenance).
- Update of forest management plan to achieve this objective and strategies for all forested lands, in consultation with sustainable forest professionals.

Potential key initiatives

Evaluation of Waddle Ranch management cost and lessons learned for planning potential open space acquisitions.