

## P.O. Box 733, Hydesville, CA 95547 . (707) 768-3743 . (707) 768-3747 fax

January 23, 2025

Peggy L Satterlee 6020 Fort Seward Rd. Garberville, CA 95542

Re: Fort Seward Ranch - Timber Management Guide

Dear Mrs. Satterlee:

Enclosed is the Fort Seward Ranch Timber Management Guide for parcels proposed for Timber Production Zone (TPZ) adjustment. The guide provides a basic path for the management of timber under TPZ classification over the next 30-year period. This guide meets the minimum standards of C.G.C. 51004(t) and shall be used for all parcels within the Fort Seward ownership.

#### **Legal Description:**

The parcels proposed for rezone are in portions of Sections 3, 4 & 5; T3S:R4E; Sections 17,18,19,20, 28, 30 & 33; T3S:R4E; Section 5; T3S:R5E; HB&M. There are 18 parcel numbers and 15 legal parcels (see attached maps) that will have areas rezoned to Timberland Production from Agriculture Exclusive, Unclassified and Agriculture General. These parcels consist of Assessor Parcel Numbers 214-113-003, 214-254-004, 214-254-002, 214-253-002, 214-116-003 & 214-116-004, 214-111-003, 214-221-001 & 214-221-008, 214-153-003, 214-155-001, 214-245-005, 214-245-004 & 214-245-003, 214-246-002, 216-301-006, 216-301-005, 216-301-011. Parcel numbers 214-116-003 & 214-116-004 are legally one parcel proposed changes made to both parts. Parcel numbers 214-221-001 & 214-221-008 are legally one parcel proposed changes made to 214-221-001 only. Parcel numbers 214-245-004 & 214-245-003 are legally one parcel proposed changes made to 214-245-003 only. Please see the attached "Current Zoning" and "Proposed Zoning" maps for reference.

#### **Proposed TPZ Adjustment:**

Combined, the current parcels have a total county GIS acreage of 1652 acres. This is composed of 334.8 TPZ acres, 278.5 Unclassified (U) acres, 939.0 Agriculture Exclusive (AE) acres, 93.5 Agriculture General (AG) acres and 6.2 acres of Flood plain (FP). The rezone proposes to increase TPZ by 1,235.3 acres over the 18 parcels (15 legal parcels). The final acreages after rezoning will be 1,570.1 acres of "TPZ", 18.7 acres of "U", 57 18.7 acres of AE, and 6.2 acres of FP. Please see individual break down by parcel listed below and the "Current & Proposed Zoning Map(s)" attached.

# **Current Zoning:**

APN#	Timber Production Zone ac.	Unclassified ac.	Agriculture Exclusive ac.	Agriculture General ac.	Flood Plain ac.	Total Parcel ac.
214-113-003	0	241.8	0	0	0	241.8
214-254-004	0	0	161.6	0	0	161.6
214-254-002	0	0	36.9	0	0	36.9
214-253-002	0	0	111.2	0	0	111.2
214-116-003	0	0	152.5	0	1.1	153.6
214-116-004	0	0	0	93.5	0	93.5
214-111-003	0	0	74.1	0	0	74.1
214-221-001	0	0	101.2	0	0	101.2
214-221-008	0	0	0	0	5.1	5.1
214-153-003	0	0	81.2	0	0	81.2
214-155-001	107	0	5.8	0	0	112.8
214-245-005	0	0	179.8	0	0	179.8
214-245-003	87	0	9.8	0	0	96.8
214-245-004	64.4	0	0	0	0	64.4
214-246-002	23.4	0	10.1	0	0	33.5
216-301-006	0	25.1	0	0	0	25.1
216-301-005	0	11.6	0	0	0	11.6
216-301-011	53	0	14.8	0	0	67.8
Totals	334.8	278.5	939.0	93.5	6.2	1652

# **Proposed Zoning:**

APN#	Timber Production Zone ac.	Unclassified ac.	Agriculture Exclusive ac.	Agriculture General ac.	Flood Plain ac.	Total Parcel ac.
214-113-003	241.8	0	0	0	0	241.8
214-254-004	148.3	0	13.3	0	0	161.6
214-254-002	26	0	10.9	0	0	36.9
214-253-002	111.2	0	0	0	0	111.2
214-116-003	152.5	0	0	0	1.1	153.6
214-116-004	93.5	0	0	0	0	93.5
214-111-003	74.1	0	0	0	0	74.1
214-221-001	82.7	0	18.5	0	0	101.2
214-221-008*	0	0	0	0	5.1	5.1
214-153-003	72.7	0	8.5	0	0	81.2
214-155-001	112.8	0	0	0	0	112.8
214-245-005	179.8	0	0	0	0	179.8
214-245-003	96.8	0	0	0	0	96.8
214-245-003*	64.4	0	0	0	0	64.4
214-246-002	33.5	0	0	0	0	33.5
216-301-006	6.4	18.7	0	0	0	25.1
216-301-005	11.6	0	0	0	0	11.6
216-301-011	62	0	5.8	0	0	67.8
Totals	1570.1	18.7	57.0	0	6.2	1652

<sup>\*</sup> Parcel is legally part of the adjacent parcel in the row above. No zoning changes within this part (APN) are proposed.

## **Timber Site and Production:**

The site class of the non-TPZ timberlands is considered to be site III. This is based on California soil/vegetation maps of the area, as well as height and growth measurements of the timber present on the parcels. Trees were measured (Diameter at Breast Height and Total Height) and increment bored to determine ring count. Diameters ranged from 16 inches to 34 inches Diameter Breast Height, with ring counts averaging 7 rings per inch. Growth in relation to height was measured and ranged from 2 ½ to 3 feet per year. Measurements of diameter, height and age for the Douglas-fir on the areas to be rezoned, indicated a Site Index of 150+/-. These measurements correspond to a site class of site III Douglas-fir land.

Measurements indicated an average Basal Area of approximately 200 square feet per acre of commercial species as per the California Forest Practice Rules. Approximately 85% of the basal area is made up of Douglas-fir, with the remaining balance being made up of hardwood species.

The growth potential for these parcels, as indicated by published yield table (Bulletin 201), is well in excess of 15 cubic feet of conifer growth per acre per year according to published yield tables for site III Douglas- fir land. Based on estimates from the published tables, the growth should be at a rate of at least 600 board feet per acre per year (70 to 110 cubic feet), or better. The present board foot growth rate for parcels is approximately 1050 board feet per acre per year. This exceeds the minimum calculated tables.

#### Soil Type:

The web soil survey (https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/) was queried and generated a soils report. There were 8 soil series listed throughout the parcels. The two primary series, covering over 80% of the parcels, are listed below.

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name
405	Tannin-Wohly-
	Rockyglen
	Complex, 50 to
	75% slopes-
451	Burgsblock-
	Coolyork-Tannin
	Complex, 15 to
	30 percent slopes

The soils are of relatively similar parent material; colluvium and residuum derived from sandstone, mudstone, and conglomerate. These soils are characterized as a well-drained gravelly loam, depth of more than 80 inches with moderate permeability, good drainage capacity, and having a moderate to high erosion hazard when completely cleared of vegetation.

Referring to the 1947 Vegetation-Soil map, the area lies within Site Class III. Species composition identified in order of abundance is Douglas-fir, Black oak, White oak, tanoak and madrone.

### Management History:

Portions of the parcels have been harvested periodically from late 1950's up to present. Past timber harvest plans on file include1-98-167-HUM, 1-99-193-HUM, 1-99-424-HUM, 1-01-350-HUM, 1-12-008-HUM, 1-16-017 HUM and 1-23-00087 HUM. The main private road system has been utilized within the last ten years installing new drainage structures and maintaining a solid road base

## **Recommended Silviculture:**

The parcels have a mix of gentle to moderate slopes. The northern to eastern aspects and generally site class III, along with the present stands, are best managed under unevenaged management. This type of silviculture would utilize single tree and group selection. Removing the hardwood as it became merchantable while increasing the conifer component until it reached merchantability. Management would utilize artificial conifer regeneration, if natural regeneration did not become established. This would ensure adequate stocking levels of conifers to occupy the site. Group selection units can be no larger than 2.5 acres in size and must be separated by areas of like size. This would mean that only a portion of the area would be harvested at any one time. The use of unevenaged management on these parcels will mean that merchantable volume could be harvested periodically, while maintaining a forested component.

#### Cutting Cycle, Stand Regulation and Regeneration, and Intermediate Treatments:

Due to the current species composition within the property and the size of the current stand, the initial entry will be a combination of single tree and group selection. This type of harvest would remove about one third of the Douglas-fir and approximately half of the merchantable hardwood, replacing it with conifer regeneration. Artificial regeneration will be used if necessary (conifer seedlings, Douglas-fir and redwood). This harvest will most likely take place within approximately ten years (by year 2031). If artificial regeneration is used the seedlings will be planted to approximately 300 seedlings per acre.

The second entry would occur approximately 10 to 15 years after the first entry. A single tree or group selection will be used to harvest Douglas-fir and merchantable hardwood. In areas where seedlings are planted approximately 300 trees will be planted per acre.

The third entry would occur approximately ten years following the second entry. This entry will be a single tree and/or group selection removing merchantable Douglas-fir and hardwood. After this entry most of the merchantable hardwood on the parcel should have been harvested. In areas where seedlings are planted approximately 300 trees will be planted per acre.

The fourth entry would-be in approximately ten years following the third entry. This harvest would be a single tree selection and/or thinning on the first area harvested, favoring the best growing and most wind firm trees as leave trees. Approximately 30% of the basal area would be removed. The scattered residual conifers in the harvest area would also be removed in conjunction with the thinning of the new age class.

The fifth entry would be in approximately ten years following the fourth entry. The harvest would be a single tree selection and/or thinning on the second area harvested, favoring the best growing most wind firm trees as leave trees. Approximately 30% of the basal area would be removed. The scattered residual conifers associated with the second selection area would also be removed in conjunction with this harvest.

This type of harvesting would allow for an area to be entered while still maintaining growth and a forested component. The entries would be staggered due to the initial harvest dates. The initial thinning harvests would occur on any single area over a possible ten -year period at age 35 - 45 years with group selections occurring at approximately age 80.

## Condition of Access System:

The appurtenant roads are permanent and seasonal. Non appurtenant roads include Avenue of the Giants, Fort Seward County Road, Dyerville Loop Road and Alderpoint Road. Future owners of the property will have the right to access the parcels from any point along these roads. The permanent roads have a rocked surface that is in very good condition allowing for year-round access. The parcels contain several seasonal roads. These roads are in good condition and useable for vehicular traffic at this time, with minor blading and brush removal.

### **Harvesting System:**

The slopes on the parcel range from 10% to 90% with an average of 35%. There are numerous existing skid trails and truck roads that allow access to the property. The recommended yarding system is a combination of tractor within the gentler to moderate slopes with a minor amount of yarder across the steep slopes scattered through the property.

The area for rezone to Timber Production Zoned lands on the parcels are shown on the attached maps. These parcels combined have an increase of 1,235.3 acres. The areas are currently timbered with predominantly Douglas-fir with lesser amounts of white fir, Ponderosa Pine and hardwoods. These areas currently have a stand of conifer and hardwoods and would be stocked as defined by the California Forest Practice Rules. In summary, all the areas have the capability of growing well in excess of 15 cubic feet per acre per year and should be placed within the Timber Production zone.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Stephen Hohman

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