



December 4, 2019

Elevated Farms, LLC Attention: Paul Dubiel 971 Knights Lane Garberville, CA 95542

Dear Paul,

Re: APN 524-114-007 Application #13169

The following is an evaluation of potential timberland conversion on cannabis cultivation sites and associated areas included in the Humboldt County Cannabis Permit Application (CUP 16-1020) for APN 524-114-007. Please accept this letter as the RPF's written report required by Humboldt County Code, Ordinance No. 2559 (Commercial Medical Marijuana Land Use), Section 55.4.10 (j), sited below.

"Alternately, for existing operations occupying sites created through prior unauthorized conversion of timberland, if the landowner has not completed a civil or criminal process and/or entered into a negotiated settlement with CALFIRE, the applicant shall secure the services of a registered professional forester (RPF) to evaluate site conditions and conversion history for the property and provide a written report to the Planning Division containing the RPF's recommendation as to remedial actions necessary to bring the conversion area into compliance with provisions of the Forest Practices Act. The Planning Division shall provide CAL-FIRE written Notice of Availability of the RPF's report. If CAL-FIRE takes no action within ten (10) days of the notice of availability, the report recommendations shall become final."

Timberland Resource Consultants (TRC) inspected and evaluated the cultivation sites contained within the application on December 2, 2019. The RPF exercised due diligence in reviewing all sites and available resources to fully assess potential timberland conversion and consequential impacts. This report evaluates the cultivation sites for timber operations only. The scope of this report does not include: all other land alteration (such as grading, construction, and other permit-regulated activities), all property features and sites unrelated to cultivation activities, or any proposed, planned, or absent cultivation-related project sites. All findings are summarized in the report below.

## **Project Location**

APN: <u>524-114-007</u> Acreage: 143 acres

Legal Description: SW 1/4 of Section 35,

Township 6 North, Range 5 East,

Humboldt Base & Meridian, Humboldt County

Located on USGS 7.5' Quadrangle: <u>Hennessy Peak</u> Humboldt County Zoning: <u>Timber Production</u>

Site Address: None

Landowner/Timber Owner: Jolly Acres, LLC

# **Project Location (Cont.)**

The project is located in eastern Humboldt County, approximately 3 air miles south-southeast from the confluence of the South Fork Trinity River and Trinity River. Access to the property is via Friday Ridge Road to Forest Service Route 6N06 to Forest Service Route 6N06R.

Parcel Description & Timber Harvest History

Note: The property background has been summarized using personal accounts of the current landowner, digital orthographic quadrangle (DOQ) imagery, Humboldt County Web GIS, CAL FIRE Watershed Mapper v2, and Historic Aerials. To avoid speculation and maintain relevancy, the property background focuses mainly on the past 10-15 years.

The property consists of second growth timber stands dominated by tanoak with a minor component of madrone and Douglas-fir. Review of aerial imagery (https://www.historicaerials.com/) reveals that the subject property and surrounding privately-owned parcels were harvested between 1947 and 1972 as evidenced by truck roads, skid roads, landings, and distinct timber/vegetation type changes. Review of 1947 imagery shows a dense stand of old growth Douglas-fir. Review of 1972 imagery reveals signs of a past clearcut, which likely occurred in the late 1950's/early 1960's. Subsequent historic imagery from 1972 to 2018 reveals no signs of more recent timber harvesting except for the converted areas. Moreover, no harvesting plans have been recorded by Cal Fire (Watershed http://egis.fire.ca.gov/watershed mapper/). The current landowner purchased the property from Ryan Holcomb on May 31, 2018.

#### Discussion of Conversion Exemption 1-12EX-226-HUM

The past owner of the property (Ryan Holcomb @ Mahala Creek, LLC) submitted a Conversion Exemption (1-12EX-226-HUM) to Cal Fire in 2012 prepared by RPF Chris Carroll. Per Conversion Exemption 1-12EX-226-HUM, the project "proposes to convert timberland into agricultural grow sites. The three conversions areas were constructed in late 2009/early 2010 but not by the listed LTO of record. The purpose of this conversion exemption is to document that a change in land use has occurred, and to ensure compliance with the Forest Practice Act and Rules with regards to road drainage, erosion control on existing roads, and slash treatment. Vegetation removal and site preparation have already occurred prior to the submission of this conversion exemption. There appears to be some slash that is either partially buried or deposited on the grow-site fill slopes that may require removal and treatment."

Timber operations, as described above, occurred at three locations as shown on the Conversion Exemption Map attached to 1-12EX-226-HUM. These are the same sites currently being utilized for cannabis cultivation. On February 4, 2014 Cal Fire deemed the operation complete with no violations observed.

# **Project Description**

Three cultivation sites were inspected during the field assessment within APN 524-114-007. The following table lists the inspected site and its acreage; see detailed site descriptions below.

Cultivation Site/Associated Area	Total Acreage 2019	Conversion Acreage 1-12EX-226-HUM	Converted Acreage Post 2012 0.44 0.00 0.00	
Cultivation Site 1	0.76	0.32		
Cultivation Site 2	0.69	0.98		
Cultivation Site 3	0.15	0.30		
TOTAL	1.60	1.60	0.44	

# **Project Description (Cont.)**

#### **Cultivation Site 1**

Review of Google and NAIP aerial imagery reveals that the northern portion of Site 1 was initially developed between 2009 and 2010. In 2012, timber operations occurred in association with 1-12EX-226-HUM and the northern portion of the site was legally converted as described above. Per Terra Server imagery, Site 1 was expanded to its present size and configuration between November 2015 and May 2016. The site was expanded from approximately 0.32 acres (1-12EX-226-HUM) to 0.76 acres. The cultivation activities observed within the expanded area (0.44 acres) impede the use of this space for current timber growth and harvesting; in this way, the landowner has effectively converted the single use of this space from timber production to cannabis cultivation.

#### **Cultivation Site 2**

Review of Google and NAIP aerial imagery reveals that the Site 2 was initially developed between 2009 and 2010. In 2012, timber operations occurred in association with 1-12EX-226-HUM and the site was legally converted as described above. Site 2 was not converted to the total size proposed in the Conversion Exemption, which was approximately 0.98 acres. The difference in acreage is attributed to cut-bank and fill-slope areas that are regenerating with conifer and hardwood seedlings, which are not presently part of the cultivation site and converted area. These areas were previously included in 1-12EX-226-HUM to allow for timber operations to occur for the removal of downed trees intermixed in the fill and the grading and shaping of cut-banks. There is also a small degree of measurement error associated with RPF's GPS device used in 2012 to map the conversion areas. Site 2 occupies the eastern-portion of 1-12EX-226-HUM and therefore has not been enlarged since 2012 per the Conversion Exemption Map and the RPF's familiarity of the site.

#### **Cultivation Site 3**

Review of Google and NAIP aerial imagery reveals that the Site 3 was initially developed between 2009 and 2010. In 2012, timber operations occurred in association with 1-12EX-226-HUM and the site was legally converted as described above. Site 3 was not converted to the total size proposed in the Conversion Exemption, which was approximately 0.30 acres. The difference in acreage is attributed to cut-bank and fill-slope areas that are regenerating with conifer and hardwood seedlings, which are not presently part of the cultivation site and converted area. These areas were previously included in 1-12EX-226-HUM to allow for timber operations to occur for the removal of downed trees intermixed in the fill and the grading and shaping of cut-banks. There is also a small degree of measurement error associated with RPF's GPS device used in 2012 to map the conversion areas. Site 3 occupies the same footprint of 1-12EX-226-HUM and therefore has not been enlarged since 2012 per the Conversion Exemption Map and the RPF's familiarity of the site.

### **Timberland Conversion Summary**

TRC observed approximately 0.44 acres of timberland conversion for cultivation-related purposes, which occurred post 2012 following the legal conversion of the three sites. This total does not exceed the three-acre conversion exemption maximum.

## Limitations and Considerations for Timberland Conversion Activities

#### Watercourses and Water Resources

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(F): "No timber operations are allowed within a watercourse and lake protection zone unless specifically approved by local permit (e.g., county, city)."

No conversion areas exist within a Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ). The RPF inspected all areas within a minimum 100-foot buffer surrounding the three conversion sites with no watercourses or streams per 14CCR 895.1 were observed.

#### Slash, Woody Debris, and Refuse Treatment

14 CCR 914.5(b): "Non-biodegradable refuse, litter, trash, and debris resulting from timber operations, and other activity in connection with the operations shall be disposed of concurrently with the conduct of timber operations."

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(D) - Treatment of Slash and Woody Debris

- 1) Unless otherwise required, slash greater than one inch in diameter and greater than two feet long, and woody debris, except pine, shall receive full treatment no later than April 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- 2) All pine slash three inches and greater in diameter and longer than four feet must receive initial treatment if it is still on the parcel, within 7 days of its creation.
- 3) All pine woody debris longer than four feet must receive an initial treatment prior to full treatment,
- 4) Initial treatment shall include limbing woody debris and cutting slash and woody debris into lengths of less than four feet, and leaving the pieces exposed to solar radiation to aid in rapid drying.
- 5) Full treatment of all pine slash and woody debris must be completed by March 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- 6) Full slash and woody debris treatment may include any of the following:
  - a) Burying;
  - b) Chipping and spreading:
  - c) Piling and burning; or
  - d) Removing slash and woody debris from the site for treatment in compliance with (a)-(b). Slash and woody debris may not be burned by open outdoor fires except under permit from the appropriate fire protection agency, if required, the local air pollution control district or air quality management district. The burning must occur on the property where the slash and woody debris originated
- 7) Slash and woody debris, except for pine, which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying by April 1 of the year following its creation. Pine slash and woody debris which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying within seven days of its creation.
- 8) Any treatment which involves burning of slash or woody debris shall comply with all state and local fire and air quality rules.

Slash, woody debris, and/or logs requiring treatment were observed at Cultivation Site 1 and 2 as shown on the attached maps and photographs.

## Limitations and Considerations for Timberland Conversion Activities (Cont.)

## **Biological Resources and Forest Stand Health**

14 CCR 1104.1 (2)(H): "No sites of rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals shall be disturbed, threatened or damaged and no timber operations shall occur within the buffer zone of a sensitive species as defined in 14 CCR 895.1"

Cultivation Sites 1-3 were converted via Cal Fire Conversion Exemption 1-12EX-226-HUM. During the permitting process, CDFW did not identify sites of rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals, which could potentially be impacted by the proposed operation.

A query of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) on December 3, 2019 showed numerous observations of sensitive, rare, threatened, or endangered species or species of special concern within a 1.3-mile radius biological assessment area (BAA) surrounding the three cultivation sites. See attached CNDDB Map. None of the species (Fisher, yellow-legged frog, Western pond turtle) have suitable habitat in or nearby the cultivation sites. A Biological Assessment for the proposed cannabis cultivation operation is being prepared by TRC to be submitted to the county, which shall address potential impact to sensitive species in more detail.

The query of the CNDDB-NSO Database revealed one Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) Activity Center within a 1.3-mile radius BAA surrounding the three cultivation sites. See attached CNDDB Map. Activity Center HUM 0065 is located approximately 2,000 feet from the closest cultivation site. Consequently, the 100-acre Core Area and conventional ¼-mile disturbance buffer does not overlap the conversion sites. Lastly, based upon the amount of mature and old growth timber located on adjacent Forest Service lands; there appears to be an abundance of NSO habitat for this NSO Activity Center per Revised USFWS Attachment B Northern Spotted Owl Take Avoidance Analysis – Interior (2/27/08). A Biological Assessment for the proposed cannabis cultivation operation is being prepared by TRC to be submitted to the county, which shall address potential impact to the NSO in more detail.

No major forest health issues were observed during the field assessment. The property is located within Humboldt County, a Zone of Infestation (ZOI) for Sudden Oak Death (SOD) but the RPF observed no symptoms, signs, and evidence of oak mortality within the property. The conversion areas did not appear to include late successional stands, late seral stage forests, or old growth trees. The conversion areas did not include any trees that existed before 1800 A.D. and are greater than sixty (60) inches in diameter at stump height for Sierra or Coastal Redwoods, and forty-eight (48) inches in diameter at stump height for all other tree species.

#### **Cultural Resources**

14 CCR 1104.1 (2)(I): "No timber operations are allowed on significant historical or archeological sites."

No archeological sites were observed during the TRC field assessment. The RPF conducted pre-field research for the project's geographic location and closely surveyed the converted sites and surrounding undisturbed areas for presence or evidence of prehistoric or historic sites. The archaeological survey was conducted by Chris Carroll, a certified archaeological surveyor with current CALFIRE Archeological Training (Archaeological Training Course #575). The survey consisted of examining boot scrapes, rodent disturbances, natural and manmade areas of exposed soils, and road and cultivation site surfaces.

Per 14 CCR 1104.2(2)(I), all required Native American tribes and organizations have been notified of the project location and are encouraged to respond with any information regarding archaeological sites, cultural sites, and/or tribal cultural resources within or adjacent to the project area.

#### Recommendations

In summary, a total of 0.44 acres of unauthorized timberland conversion occurred post 2012 following the legal conversion of the three sites. This total does not exceed the three-acre conversion exemption maximum. The conversion activities conducted on the property do not comply with the California Forest Practice Act and the California Forest Practice Rules.

1. The RPF recommends treating logs, slash, and woody debris at Cultivation Sites 1 and 2 per the specifications stated in 14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(D) – Treatment of Slash and Woody Debris.

Sincerely,



Chris Carroll, RPF #2628 Timberland Resource Consultants



Picture 1: Cultivation Site 1. Photo date 12-2-2019



Picture 2: Cultivation Site 1. Photo date 12-2-2019



Picture 3: Cultivation Site 1. Photo date 12-2-2019



Picture 4: Cultivation Site 2. Photo date 12-2-2019



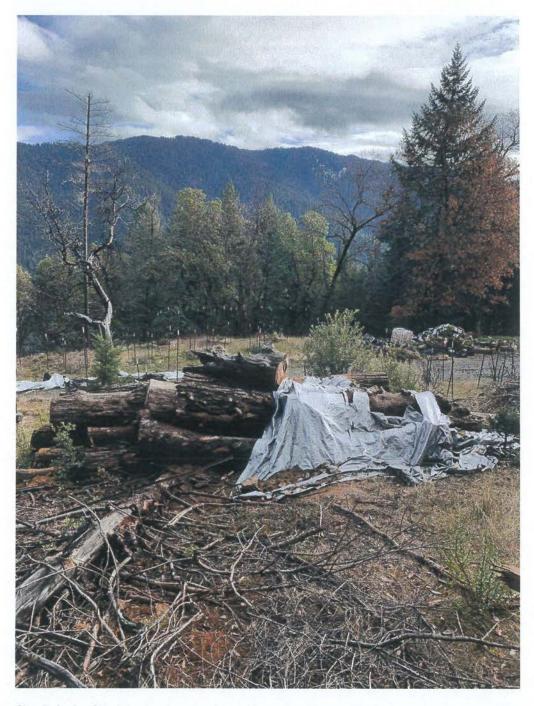
Picture 5: Cultivation Site 2. Photo date 12-2-2019



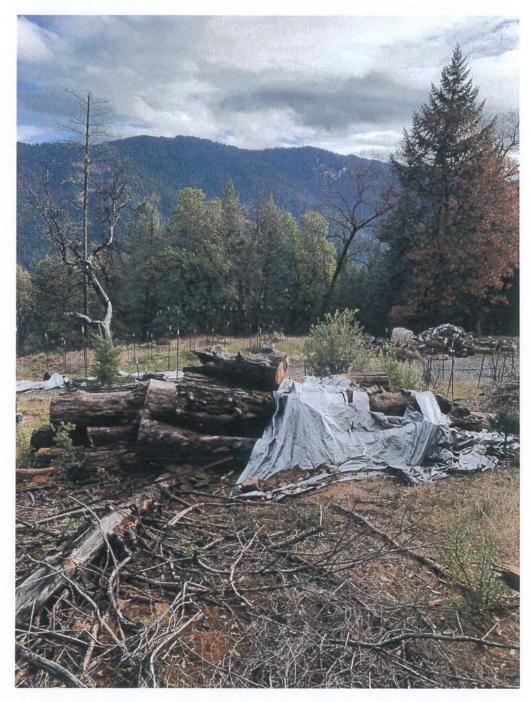
Picture 6: Cultivation Site 3. Photo date 12-2-2019



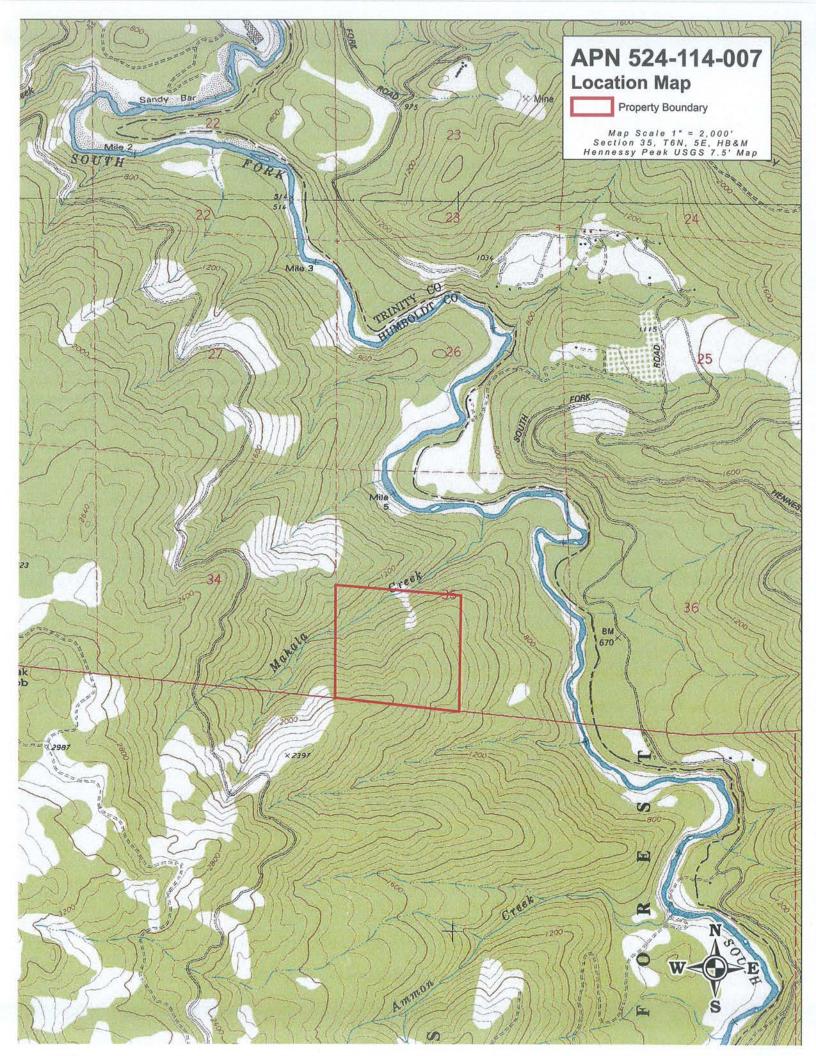
Picture 7: Cultivation Site 3. Photo date 12-2-2019

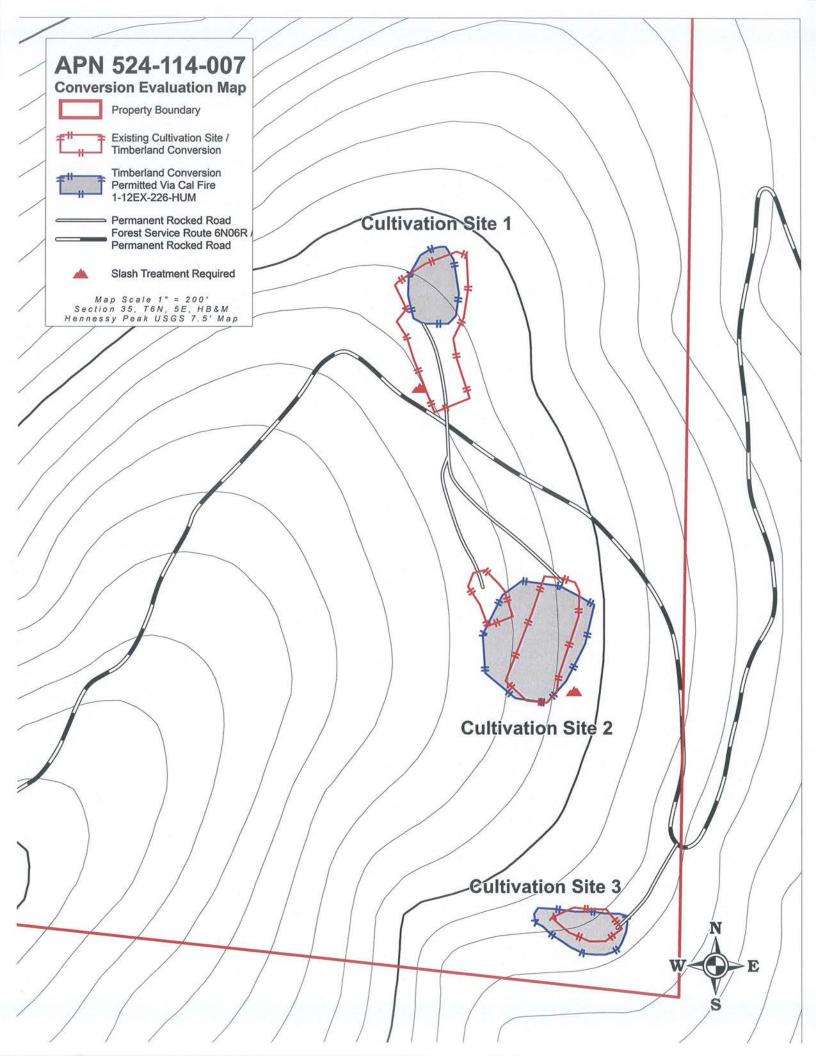


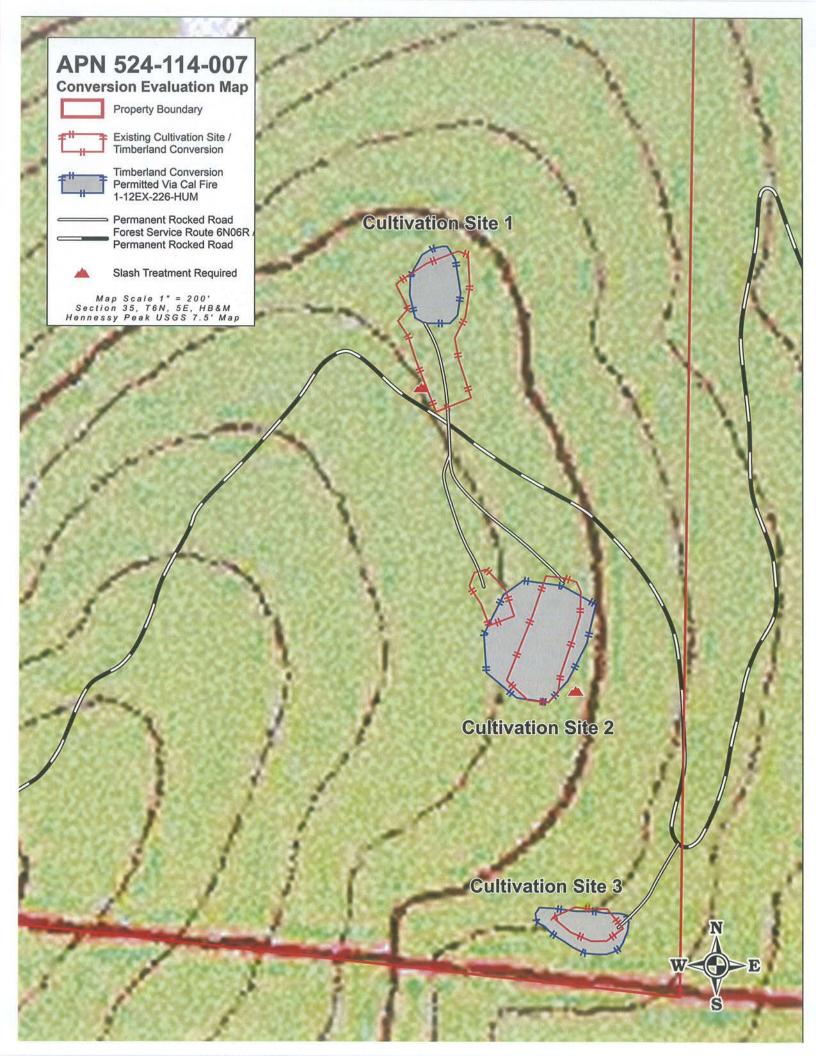
Picture 8: Small deck of logs located on southwestern edge of Cultivation Site 1. Photo date 12-2-2019

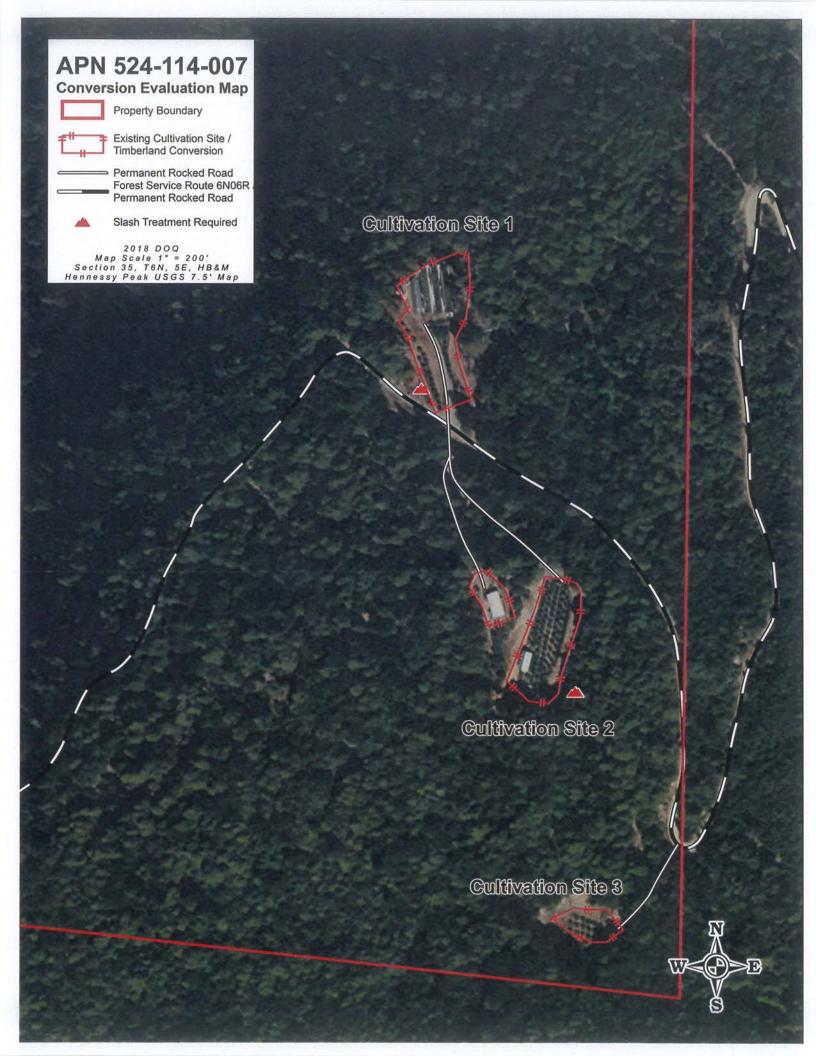


Picture 9: Downed trees and slash located on southeastern edge of Cultivation Site 1. Photo date 12-2-2019

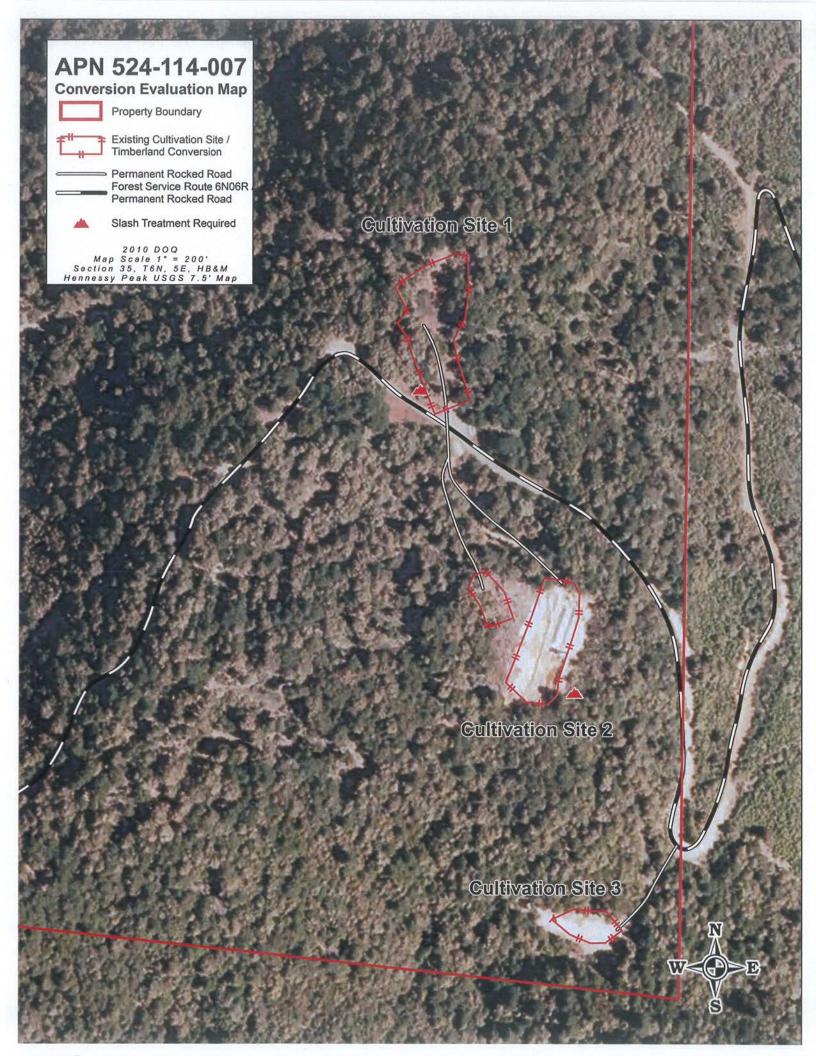


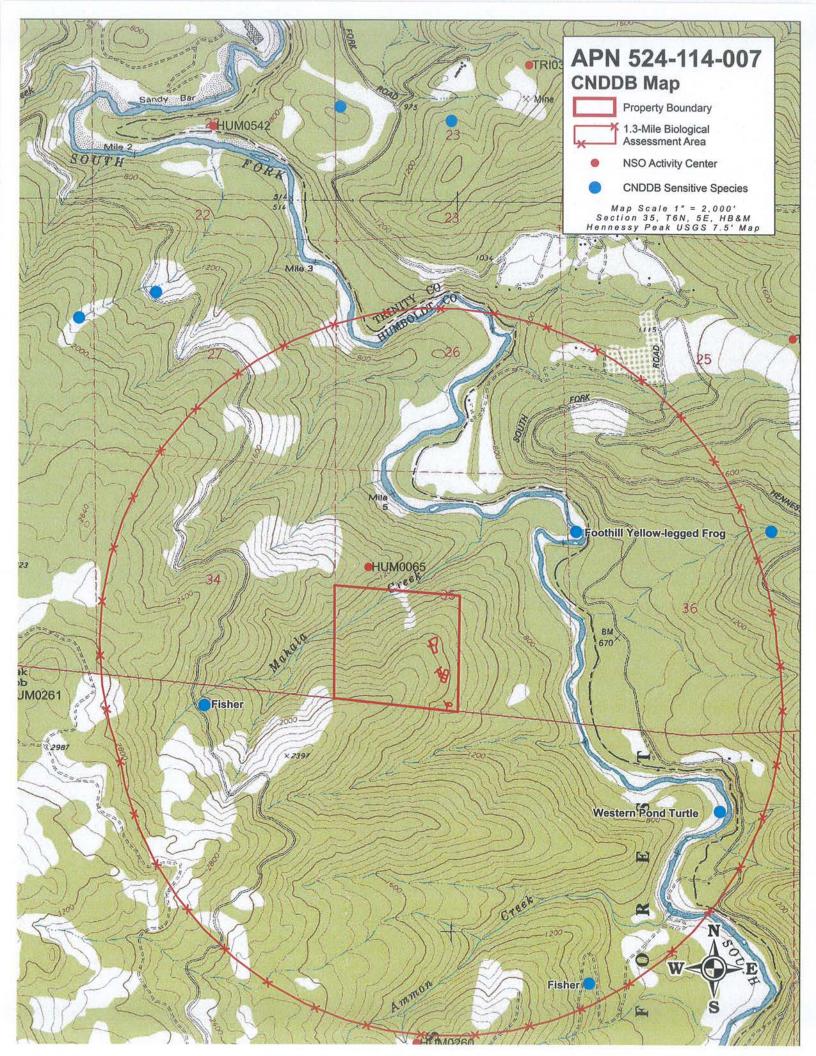












# Conversion Exemption 1-12EX-226-HUM



#### DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

135 Ridgway Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Website: www.fire.ca.gov (707) 576-2959



Date: August 24, 2012 Ref.: 1-12EX-226-HUM

CHRISTOPHER CARROLL 165 S FORTUNA BLVD STE 4 FORTUNA, CA 95540

Dear Mr. Carroll:

This is to acknowledge that your **Less Than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption** was accepted on <u>August 22, 2012</u>. It has been assigned the above listed Exemption number. All timber operations must be complete within one year. All conversion activities must be complete within two years, unless under permit by local jurisdiction.

\*\*\*Please read the enclosed notice regarding Listed Anadromous Salmonids, Slash Clean-up, Sudden Oak Death, Pitch Canker, and Operations between October 15 – May 1.\*\*\*

In addition, please note the requirement for submittal of the Timber Operations Work Completion and/or Stocking Report (blue form) upon completion of the project.

Compliance with all provisions of the Forest Practice Act, rules pursuant to Section 1104.1(a)--Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, will be determined by future inspection(s).

If you have any questions you may contact your local CDF Forest Practice Inspector or me at (707) 576-2959.

Sincerely,

Donald Morse

Deputy Chief, Forest Practice

RPF #2158

Enclosure

c: Unit

Fish & Game Water Quality

County Planning

Board of Equalization

**NMFS** 

TLO - Mahala Creek, LLC

LTO - Fred Wallace Ohanen

Mm

File

## LESS THAN 3-ACRE CONVERSION EXEMPTION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
NOTICE OF TIMBER OPERATIONS THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM
CONVERSION AND TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN REQUIREMENTS
RM-73(1104.1a) (9/99)

VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE OF RECEIPT BY CDF TIMBER OPERATIONS CANNOT START UNTIL VALID COPY OF A NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE IS RECEIVED FROM CDF

	DMIN. USE ONLY
Ex.# 1-12	EX-350 Min
Date of Receipt A	UG 2 2 2012
Date Accepted	8-22-2012
Date Expires	8-21-2013

The Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is hereby notified of timber operations under the requirements of 14 CCR 1104.1(a). Harvesting of trees which is a single conversion to a non-timber growing use of timberland of less than three acres. (See 14 CCR 1104.1(a) for a description of the conditions on the conduct of this type of timber operation, and additional information that is *required* to be submitted.) Complete Items 1. through 8. on both pages of this notice.

TIMBER OWNER OF	RECORD: Mahala	Creek, LLC			
Address P.O. Box 209	<u>05</u>			501 51.7	
City McKinleyville		State CA	Zip <u>95519</u>	Phone 707-498-322	20
IGNATURE R	the			Date	8-16-12
de sec. 38116)Some s es not exceed \$3,000 wi s exemption, please con il the state Board of Eq acramento, California 942	mall or low value ha thin a quarter, accor- nplete items A and <b>ualization, 1-800-4</b> 79-0060; or contact	arvests may be exempt rding to BOE Harvest \ B below. For timber to 00-7115, or write: Timb the BOE Web Page on	from timber yield tax /alue Schedules, Rul /ield tax information er Tax Section, MIC: the Internet a http://	nless the harvest is exemple: Timber removed from a te 1024. If you believe you nor for further assistant 60, State Board of Equality www.boe.ca.gov.	n operation whose value ir harvest may qualify for the with these questions zation, P.O. Box 942879,
short log):	phon that most dide	ory dodinated the total t	ordino for the narros		
Under 8	<u>mbf</u> 8-1	5 mbf 16-2	5 mbf Ove	er 25 mbf	
B. Estimate w	hat percentage of tir	mber will be removed d	uring this harvest Tan	oak 75% & Douglas-fir 2	5%
TIMBERLAND OWNE	R OF RECORD: M	ahala Creek, LLC			
Address P.O. Box 20					
City McKinleyville	-	State <u>CA</u>	Zip <u>95519</u>	Phone <b>707-498-32</b>	<u>20</u>
IGNATURE 12	Ku			Date	8-16-12
100 (b) to convert to A	gricultural Grow S.	ites and that I have n	nailed a letter of no	nd use, that there is a "b tice of intent to harvest undaries of the exemptio	timber, prepared by the
GIGNATURE R	16			Date _	8-16-1
8			D 0 D-10-1		au to complete
age 1. NOTE: This form	nas two pages. Co	ntinue on and complete	rage z. Read the i	nstructions before attemption	ig to complete.

RECEVED

AUG 2 2 2012

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3. LICENSE	ED TIMBER OF	PERATOR O	F RECORD	: Fred Wal	lace Ohanen	Lic. No. <u>A-96</u>	95			
Address:	P.O. Box 130	4								
City: Bl	ue Lake	0	Stale:	ga zi	p: <u>95525</u>	Phone	530-62	9-2070		
SIGNATURE	7	1			16.00000000		Data	8-11	-12	
BIGNATURE	87	-					Date_			E .
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Timber ope ordinances, http://www.f	and any imple	omply with a menting ord	l other appl nances; cop	icable provi ples of the s	sions of the Fo tate rules and r	erest Practice Act and regulations may be found or	lations, co on CDF's V	unty genera Veb Page o	al plans, zoning n the Internet a	l t
B. All conve jurisdiction	ersion activities	s shall be c	omplete wit	hin two year	rs from the da	ceptance by the Director. te of acceptance by the l stocking standards and st	Director un ocking rep	less under ort requiren	permit by loca nents of the Ac	l t
C. The timb owner n	per operator sh may assume r bility at the time	esponsibility e of submiss	for the ski	ash treatme	ent, provided to specific require	in accordance with 14 CC the landowner acknowled ments shall be included wi	ges in wr th the ackn	iting to the owledgeme	<ul> <li>Director such ent.</li> </ul>	1
D. Timber of	operations shall regulations are	I not be con	ducted duri	ng the winte	er period unles lotice.	s a winter operation plan	or in lieu p	ractices rec	quired by Fores	t
E. No timb	er operations	are allowed	within a W	atercourse	and Lake Prot	ection Zone unless speci	fically appr	roved by lo	ocal permit (e.g	
F. No timber	er operations sl	nall be condi	icted until th	ne Director's	notice of acce	ptance is received and a v	alid copy of	f this Notice	and the	
Director'	s acceptance s	hall be kept	on site durin	ng timber op	erations.	special concern shall be o	isturhed th	reatened (	or damaged	
H. No timbe	er operations a	re allowed or	significant	historical or	archeological	sites.				
	ne month of the the Director.	completion	of timber of	perations, in	cluding slash d	isposal, the timberland ow	ner shall si	ubmit a Wo	rk Completion	
A Ve U				doal	ara an tha quith	orized designee of the Co	inty Board	of Cunonile	age that this	
6. I, conversion ex designee this	emption is in c	onformance e complete	with all cour	nty regulato	ry requirements	s, including public notice. (	If the cour	nty has aut	thorized a	
SIGNATURE_							Date			_
7. Registered	d Professional	Forester pre	paring Notic	e: Name <u>C</u>	hris Carroll	Number <u>2628</u>				
Address <u>Tim</u>	berland Resou	ırce Consul	tants, 165	South Forti	ına Blvd, Suite	<u>a 4</u>			AUG 2	2 2012
City Fortuna	State 9	CA Zip <u>955</u>	40	Phone 70	07-725-1897	_ = 8		3	COAST AR ESOURCE N	EA OFFICE
conversion exe and that a copy of Conversion I	mption, applicab of the notice wa	le WLPZ's and is posted and hat if the Coul	d equipment i dated on the nty Board of S	limitation zon ownership, v Supervisors h	es; prepared a n isible to the publ as not designate	n Timber Operations; visited to otice according to 14 CCR 11 ic, at least 5 days prior to the d a representative authorized s.	04.1(a)(3) to oostmark da	flagged the b b be mailed it ate of submis	noundaries of the by the landowner sion of the Notice	
SIGNATURE o	fRPF	mis	Ca	nall	/	-	Date	8-2	10-12	

#### 8. NOTICE SUBMITTER: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

SIGNATURE

R HL

Date 8-16-12

FILE THIS NOTICE WITH THE NEAREST CDF OFFICE BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE OPERATION WILL OCCUR:

Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino, Sonoma, Marin, Lake, Napa, Colusa, Solano, Alameda,

San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, and western Trinity Counties.

Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, eastern Trinity, Lassen, Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Sutter, Plumas, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, and Placer Counties.

El Dorado, Amador, Alpine, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern, Stanislaus, San Benito, Monterey, King, San Joaquin and Sacramento Counties.

Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernadino, Orange, Riverside, Inyo, Mono, San Diego and Imperial Counties.

=> 135 Ridgway Avenue

=> Santa Rosa, CA 95401

=> 6105 Airport Road

=> Redding, CA 96002

=> 1234 East Shaw Avenue

=> Fresno, CA 93710

=> 2524 Mulberry Street

=> Riverside, CA 92501

RECENTED

AUG 2 2 2012

COAST AREA OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

## **Project Description**

This Conversion Exemption proposes to convert timberland into agricultural grow sites. The three conversions areas were constructed in late 2009/early 2010 but not by the listed LTO of record. The purpose of this conversion exemption is to document that a change in land use has occurred, and to ensure compliance with the Forest Practice Act and Rules with regards to road drainage, erosion control on existing roads, and slash treatment. Per the Humboldt County General Plan, the conversion exemption area is presently zoned Timber Production (TPZ). Humboldt County's Grading and Open Space Ordinance does not apply to this project because the conversion exemption area is zoned TPZ, and the property is greater than 3 acres in size. Consequently, Item 6 is not signed by the County's designee. The RPF has attached an e-mail from Humboldt County Planning, which states that no County review is required for Less Than 3-Acre Conversion Exemptions on TPZ lands.

## Addendum 14CCR 1104.1(a)(1)(E)(1-4)

The timberland owner has certified via his signature, under penalty of perjury, that this is a one-time conversion to General Agriculture. The timberland owner understands that a "Bona Fide Intention or bona fide intent" is a present, sincere intention of the applicant to conform with and successfully execute the conversion plan, as determined by the Director in accordance with provisions of Sec. 1105.2 (Ref.: Sec. 4623, PRC). The timberland owner, acting as an individual, acting as a member of a partnership, or acting as an officer or employee of a corporation or other legal entity, has not obtained an exemption pursuant to this section in the last five years.

## Addendum 14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(F)

The conversion area is not located within a WLPZ or Class III ELZ and no watercourses occur within the project area.

# Addendum 14CCR 1104.1(a)(6)

The extent of the vegetation removal and site preparation required for the conversion;

Vegetation removal and site preparation have already occurred prior to the submission of this conversion exemption. There appears to be some slash that is either partially buried or deposited on the grow-site fill slopes that may require removal and treatment.

The suitability of soils, slope, aspect, and microclimate for the stated non-timber use;

The previously constructed grow sites are located on moderate to steep slopes. Fill-slopes are steep and have over-wintered several years with no signs of mass-movement. The soils are 266 Clallam-Hugo-Holland families association. These soils are gravelly loams with a parent material of metasedimentary and metaigneous rock. These soils have a high erosion hazard rating. The soils are inadequate for agriculture but grow medium is imported and therefore not a limiting factor. The slope, aspect and micro-climate are all suitable for the non-timbered use.



# Addendum 14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(D) - Treatment of Logging Slash and Woody Debris.

- Unless otherwise required, slash greater than one inch in diameter and greater than two feet long, and woody debris, except pine, shall receive full treatment no later than April 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- 2. All pine slash three inches and greater in diameter and longer than four feet must receive initial treatment if it is still on the parcel, within 7 days of its creation.
- 3. All pine woody debris longer than four feet must receive an initial treatment prior to full treatment.
- 4. Initial treatment shall include limbing woody debris and cutting slash and woody debris into lengths of less than four feet, and leaving the pieces exposed to solar radiation to aid in rapid drying.
- Full treatment of all pine slash and woody debris must be completed by March 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- 6. Full slash and woody debris treatment may include any of the following:
  - a. Burying;
  - b. Chipping and spreading;
  - c. Piling and burning; or
  - d. Removing slash and woody debris from the site for treatment in compliance with (a)-(b). Slash and woody debris may not be burned by open outdoor fires except under permit from the appropriate fire protection agency, if required, the local air pollution control district or air quality management district. The burning must occur on the property where the slash and woody debris originated.
- 7. Slash and woody debris, except for pine, which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying by April 1 of the year following its creation. Pine slash and woody debris which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying within seven days of its creation.
- 8. Any treatment which involves burning of slash or woody debris shall comply with all state and local fire and air quality rules.



AUG 2 2 2012

COAST AREA OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

# WINTER OPERATING PLAN

- 1. The erosion hazard rating for the conversion exemption area is high.
- 2. Mechanical site preparation is proposed.
- 3. The yarding system for the exemption is ground based.
- 4. This Winter Operating Plan is for all timber operations occurring from October 15 to May 1.
- 5. No watercourses or WLPZs occur within or nearby the conversion exemption area.
- 6. Use of logging roads, tractor roads, or landings shall not take place at any location where "Saturated Soil Conditions" exist, where a "Stable Operating Surface" does not exist, or when visibly turbid water from the road, landing, or skid trail surface or inside ditch may reach a watercourse or lake.
- 7. No unstable areas occur within or nearby the conversion exemption area.
- 8. Winter Operations Restrictions:
  - a. Logging roads, landings or tractor roads shall not be used when visibly turbid water from the road, landing or tractor road (skid trail) or an inside ditch associated with the logging road, landing or tractor road may reach a watercourse or lake in amounts sufficient to cause a turbidity increase in Class I, II, III or IV waters.
  - **b.** Log hauling on logging roads and landings shall be limited to those which are hydrologically disconnected from watercourses to the extent feasible, and exhibit a stable operating surface.
  - c. Concurrent with use for log hauling, approaches to logging road watercourse crossings shall be treated for erosion control as needed to minimize soil erosion and sediment transport and to prevent the discharge of sediment into watercourses and lakes in quantities deleterious to the beneficial uses of water.
  - d. Concurrent with use for log hauling, all traveled surfaces of logging roads in a WLPZ or within any ELZ or EEZ designated for watercourse or lake protection shall be treated for erosion control as needed to minimize soil erosion and sediment transport and to prevent the discharge of sediment into watercourses and lakes in quantities deleterious to the beneficial uses of water.
  - Grading to obtain a drier running surface more than one time before reincorporation of any resulting berms back into the road surface is prohibited.
  - f. Unless the winter period operating plan proposes operations during an extended wet weather period with low antecedent soil wetness, no tractor roads shall be constructed, reconstructed, or used on slopes that are over 40 percent and within 200 feet of a Class I, II, or III watercourse, as measured from the watercourse or lake transition line during the extended wet weather period.
  - g. Logging roads, landings and tractor roads shall not be used when sediment from the logging road, landing or tractor road surface is transported to a watercourse or a drainage facility that discharges into a watercourse in amounts sufficient to cause a visible increase in turbidity in Class I, II, III, or IV waters.
  - h. Logging roads and landings shall not be used for log hauling when saturated soil conditions result in the visible increase in turbidity specified in Class I, II, III, or IV waters.



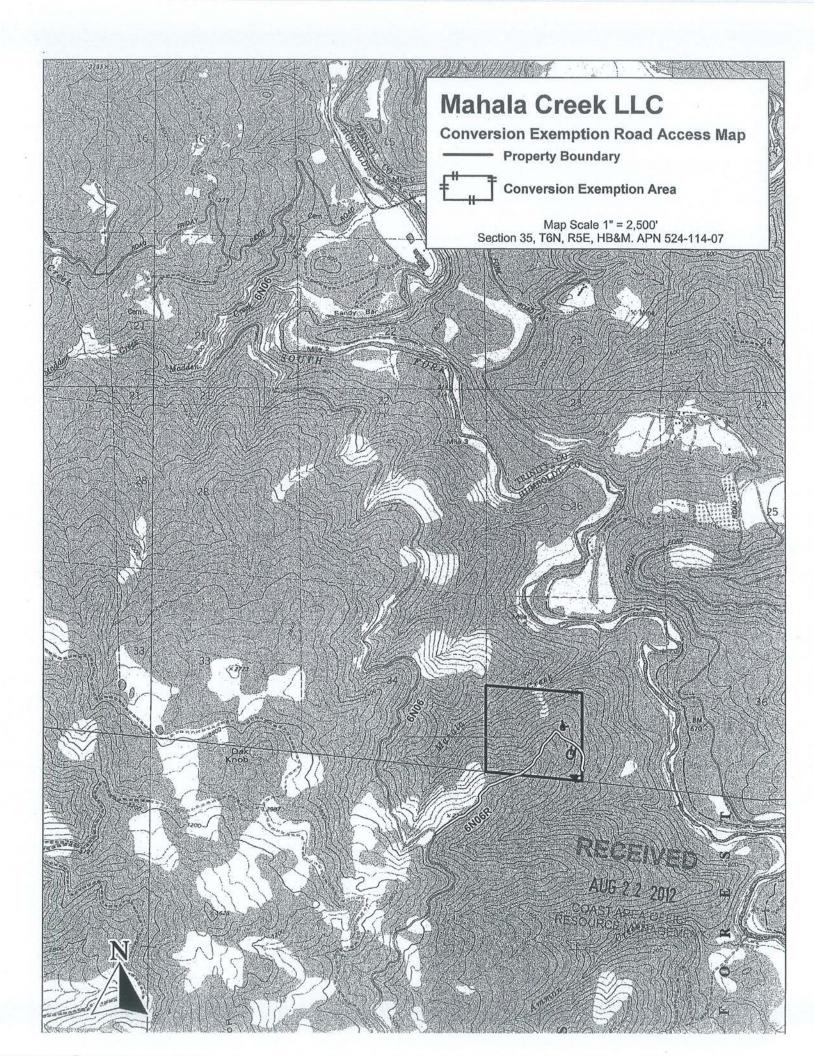
# WINTER OPERATING PLAN

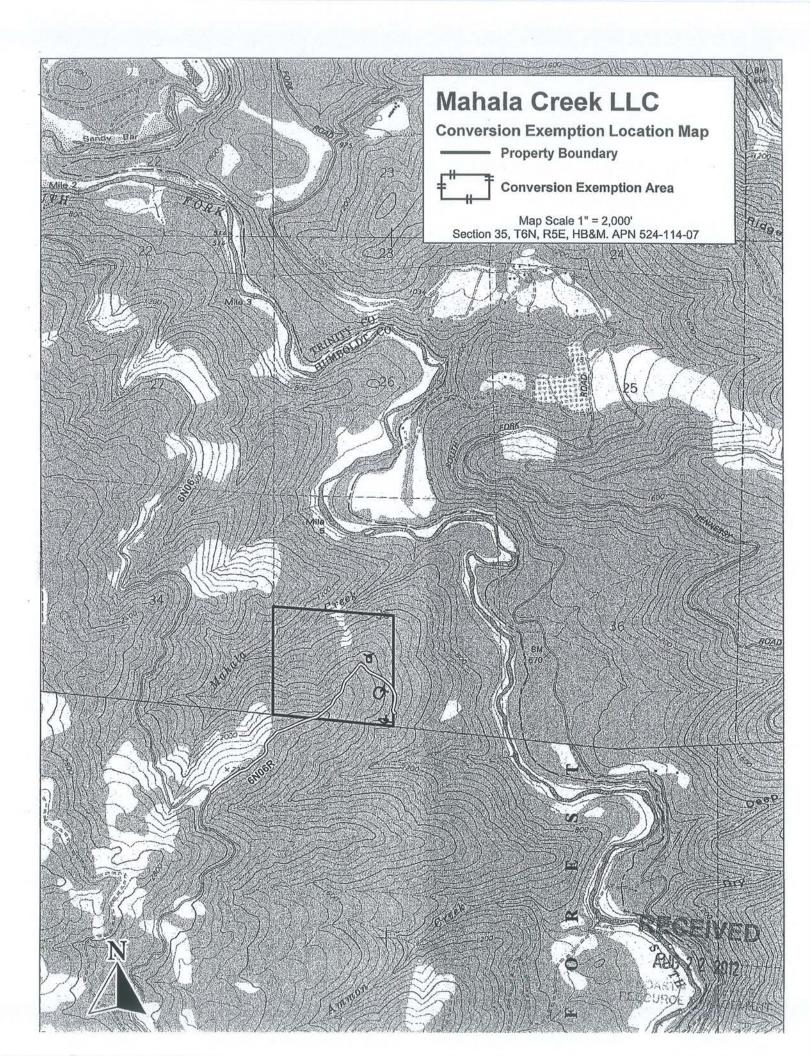
- i. SATURATED SOIL CONDITIONS: means that soil and/or surface material pore spaces are filled with water to such an extent that runoff is likely to occur. Indicators of saturated soil conditions may include, but are not limited to: (1) areas of ponded water, (2) pumping of fines from the soil or road surfacing material during timber operations, (3) loss of bearing strength resulting in the deflection of soil or road surfaces under a load, such as the creation of wheel ruts, (4) spinning or churning of wheels or tracks that produces a wet slurry, or (5) inadequate traction without blading wet soil or surfacing materials.
- j. STABLE OPERATING SURFACE: means a road or landing surface that can support vehicular traffic and has a structurally sound road base appropriate for the type, intensity and timing of intended use.

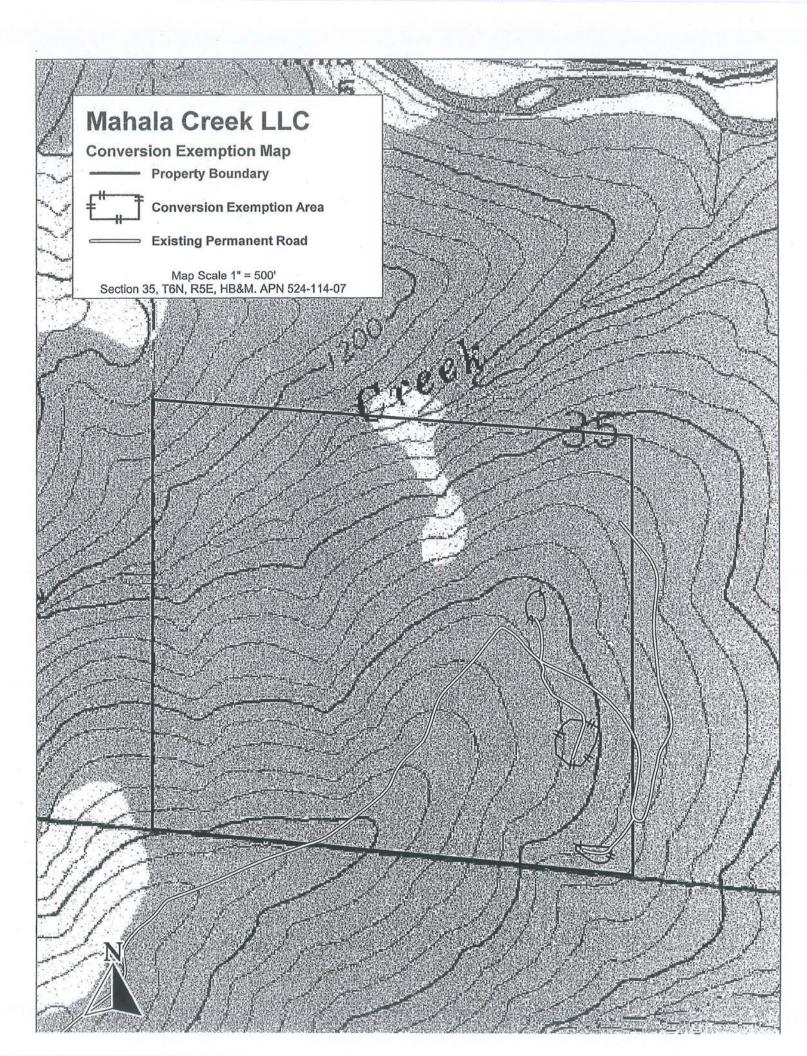
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COAST AREA OFFICE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT







# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Message Page 1 of 1

From: Estlow, Trevor [TEstlow@co.humboldt.ca.us]

Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2009 10:18 AM To: distefano@timberlandresource.com

Subject: Re: Less than 3-acre Conversion Exemptions

Mark-

Anita asked me to follow up on an email you had sent her regarding Less Than 3-Acre Conversion Exemptions. For non-TPZ lands, the County requires a Building Inspector to verify that there are no Streamside Management Areas or other sensitive habitat in order to sign off the exemption. In residential areas, it may require a Special Permit from the Planning Division. On TPZ lands, no County review is required for Less Than 3-Acre Conversion Exemptions or 150-foot Fire Hazard Exemptions. Hope this answers your questions. Please contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

## Trevor Estlow, Senior Planner

County of Humboldt, Planning Division

3015 H Street

Eureka, CA 95501

Phone: (707) 268-3740

Fax: (707) 445-7446

Email: testlow@co.humboldt.ca.us

From:

TRC [trc@timberlandresource.com] Monday, July 30, 2012 9:38 AM

Sent: To:

Chris Carroll

Subject:

FW: Blue Lake Rancheria THPO comment on timber Conversion Exemptions for

Mahala Creek, LLC and for Supply Creek, LLC

Laurie Kepon Timberland Resource Consultants

From: Janet Eidsness [mailto:JEidsness@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 9:31 AM **To:** trc@timberlandresource.com

Subject: Blue Lake Rancheria THPO comment on timber Conversion Exemptions for Mahala Creek, LLC and for

Supply Creek, LLC

Dear Mr. Carroll,

Thank you for sending the subject notices dated 7/17/12 and 7/12/12, respectively.

Both of these are located outside the Tribe's mapped area of concern for cultural resources. No need to consult further with us on these projects.

Regards,

Janet P. Eidsness, M.A., RPA
Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer (THPO)
Blue Lake Rancheria
P.O. Box 428 (428 Chartin Road)
Blue Lake, CA 95525
Office (707) 668-5101 ext. 1037
Fax (707) 668-4272
jeidsness@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov
cell (530) 623-0663 jpeidsness@yahoo.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail and attachment(s), if any, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential business information protected by the trade secret privilege, the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), and/or other legal bases as may apply. If you are not an intended recipient, please take notice that disclosure of the information contained herein is inadvertent, expressly lacks the consent of the sender, and your receipt of this e-mail does not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege(s). In this event, please notify the sender immediately, do not disseminate any of the information contained herein to any third party, and cause all electronic and/or paper copies of this e-mail to be promptly destroyed. Thank you.

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COAST AREA OFFIC PESCURCE MANAGEN



July 17, 2012

Six Rivers National Forest 1330 Bayshore Way Eureka CA, 95503

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all adjacent landowners of this proposed operation with the following information:

1. TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State: CA

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA

Zip 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salyer in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.
- TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely

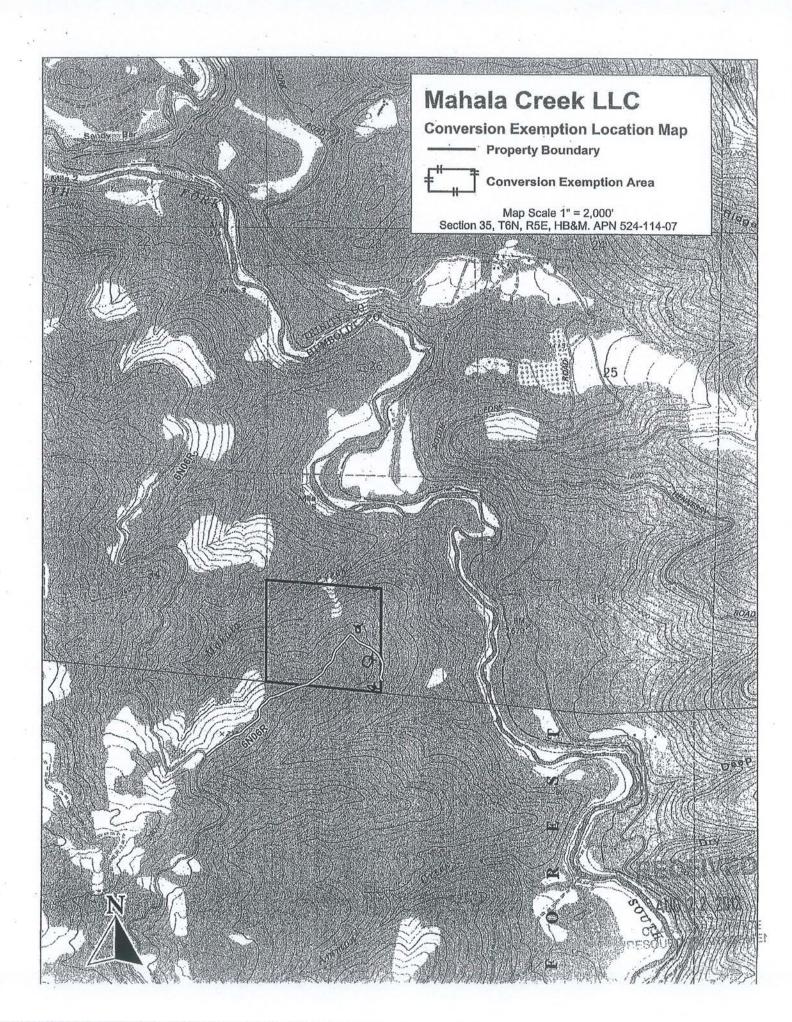
Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

**Timberland Resource Consultants** 

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AUG 2 2 2012

COAST AREA OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEME





July 17, 2012

Yurok Tribe P.O. Box 1027 Klamath, CA 95548

Dear Yurok Tribe:

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all Native Americans of this proposed operation with the following information:

1. TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State: CA

95525 Zip:

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA

Zip 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salyer in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.
- TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely,

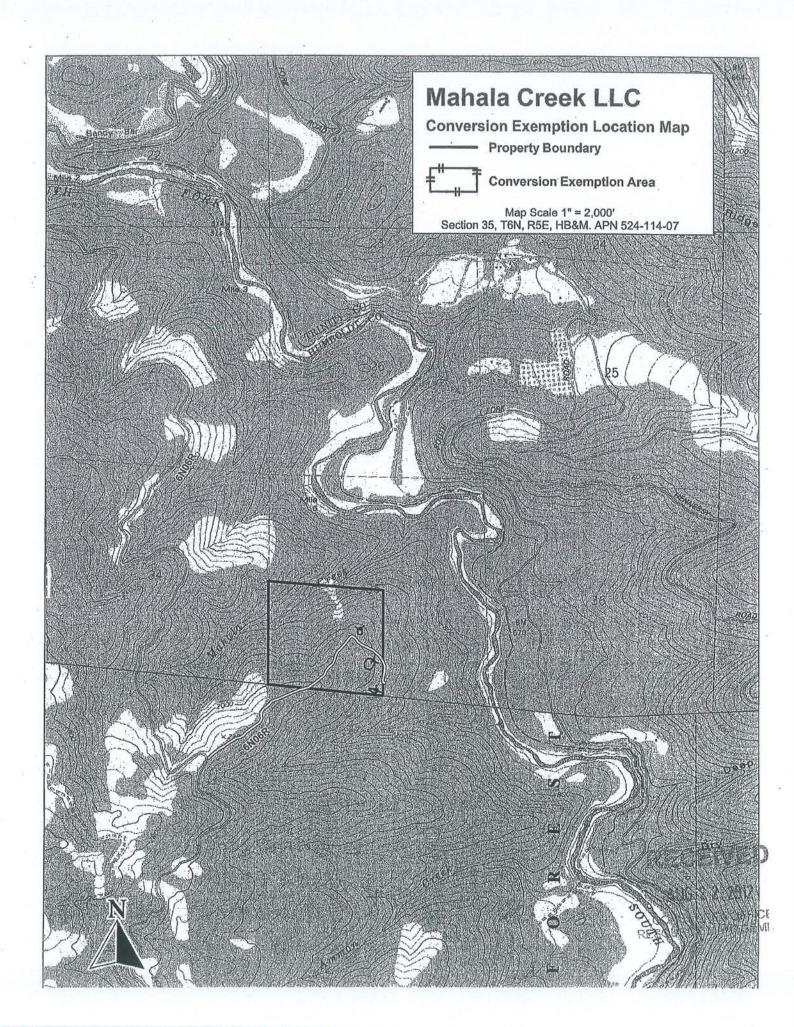
Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

Timberland Resource Consultants

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COAST AREA OFFICE DESOURCE MANAGEMENT





July 17, 2012

Wiyot Tribe 1000 Wiyot Drive Loleta, CA 95551

Dear Wiyot Tribe:

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all Native Americans of this proposed operation with the following information:

TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State: CA

95525 Zip:

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA

Zlp 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salver in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.
- TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely

Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

Chris Carroll, KPF #2020 Timberland Resource Consultants

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CLIAS! AREA OFFICE THOS MANAGEMENT



July 17, 2012

Blue Lake Rancheria P.O. Box 428 Blue Lake, CA 95525

Dear Blue Lake Rancheria:

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all Native Americans of this proposed operation with the following information:

TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

CA

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State:

Zip: 95525

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA Zip 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salver in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.
- TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely.

Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

**Timberland Resource Consultants** 

Charles Color

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CUADI ANCA OFFICE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



July 17, 2012

Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria 27 Bear River Drive Loleta, CA 95551

Dear Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria:

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all Native Americans of this proposed operation with the following information:

1. TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip <u>95519</u>

Phone 707-498-3220

2. TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

3. LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State: CA

Zip: 95525

4. REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA

Zip 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: <u>Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salyer in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.</u>
- 7. TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely,

Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

Timberland Resource Consultants

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AUG 2 2 2012

COAST AREA OFFICE DESOURCE MANAGEMENT



July 17, 2012

Native American Heritage Commission 915 Capitol Mall, Room #364 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Native American Heritage Commission:

As the Registered Professional Forester preparing a Conversion Exemption per 14CCR 1104.1 for Mahala Creek LLC, I am required by the California Forest Practice Rules to notify all Native Americans of this proposed operation with the following Information:

1. TIMBER OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zlp 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

2. TIMBERLAND OWNER OF RECORD: Mahala Creek, LLC

Address P.O. Box 2095

City McKinleyville

State CA

Zip 95519

Phone 707-498-3220

3. LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR: Fred Wallace Ohanen

Address: P.O. Box 1304

City: Blue Lake

State: CA

Zip: 95525

4. REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER PREPARING NOTICE: Name Chris Carroll Number 2628

Address Timberland Resource Consultants, 165 South Fortuna Blvd, Suite 4

City Fortuna State CA

Zip 95540

Phone (707) 725-1897

- 5. AGENCY OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND USE CHANGES: Humboldt County Planning Department
- PROJECT LOCATION: <u>Located approximately 2.75 miles south of Salyer in Section 35; Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt County, HB&M. Direct access to the conversion exemption area is from Forest Service Road 6N06R, which is located off of Forest Service Road 6N06.
  </u>
- 7. TYPE OF CONVERSION: This is a conversion from timberland to agricultural grow sites.

Sincerely,

Chris Carroll, RPF #2628

Timberland Resource Consultants

AUG 2 2 2012

PRESCHOOL CHARGE MENT

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION P.O. Box 513 Salyer, CA 95563 (530) 629-3242

Date: February 04, 2014

CHRISTOPHER VICTOR CARROLL 165 S FORTUNA BLVD STE 4 FORTUNA, CA 95540

Re: THP Number: 1-12EX-226-HUM, Inspection Date: February 04, 2014

Inspection Number: 1

## NOTICE OF INSPECTION

Section 4604 of the Public resources Code (PRC) requires the Department to inspect timber operations for compliance with the Forest Practice Act and rules of the Board of Forestry.

## CONVERSION EXEMPTION COMPLETION INSPECTION REPORT

Timber operations are complete. No further timber harvesting under a minor conversion exemption may occur within the conversion area.

signature

Kurt McCray Forester I, RPF #2618

12 MC C-

cc: CDF Santa Rosa CDF Fortuna CDF Willow Creek

Timberland Owner: Mahala Creek, LLC

Timber Operator: McKnight

RPF: Carroll