

## **Appendix 1. Forest Practice Rule definitions of silvicultural prescriptions.**

The Forest Practice Rules differentiate silvicultural methods into four silvicultural categories. These silvicultural categories include even-aged management, uneven-aged management, intermediate treatments, and special prescriptions.

An Alternative silvicultural prescription can be included in a timber harvest plan when an alternative regeneration method or intermediate treatment is more effective or more feasible than any of the standard silvicultural methods.

### **Even-aged Management**

Section 913.1 – Even-aged management are methods designed to replace a harvestable stand with well-spaced growing trees of commercial species.

#### Clearcutting

Section 913.1(b) – Clearcutting regeneration method involves the removal of a stand in one harvest.

#### Seed Tree

Section 913.1(c) – The seed tree regeneration method involves the removal of a stand in one harvest except for well distributed seed trees of desired species which are left singly or in groups to restock the harvested area.

#### Seed Tree Seed Step

Section 913.1(c)(1) – Seed Tree Seed Step: The seed tree seed step is the regeneration step and shall meet the following requirements:

- (A) Retention of at least the following basal area of seed trees per acre which are 18 inches dbh or greater:
  1. Fifteen square feet basal area on site I, II and III lands and
  2. Twelve square feet basal area on site IV and V lands.

The seed trees must be of full crown, capable of seed production and representative of the best phenotypes available in the preharvest stand.

- (B) No point within the logged area shall be more than 150 feet from a seed tree.
- (C) Seed tree species and site preparation measures shall be specified in the plan by the RPF.
- (D) Seed trees shall be marked by or under the supervision of an RPF prior to felling operations.
- (E) If natural regeneration is inadequate within two years after the first August following completion of timber operations, seed trees may be harvested and artificial regeneration shall be used to meet the requirements of Section 912.7(b)(1) [932.7(b)(1), 952.7(b)(1)].

#### Seed Tree Removal Step

Section 913.1(c)(2) – No more than 15 predominant trees per acre may be removed in the seed tree removal step. Not more than 50 sq. ft. of basal area of predominant trees per acre may be removed in the seed tree removal step. The seed tree removal step

may be utilized when the regeneration present exceeds the minimum stocking requirements set forth in Section 912.7(b)(1)(932.7(b)(1), 952.7(b)(1).

### Shelterwood

Section 913.1(d) – The shelterwood regeneration method reproduces a stand via a series of harvests (preparatory, seed, and removal). The preparatory step is utilized to improve the crown development, seed production capacity and wind firmness of designated seed trees. The seed step is utilized to promote natural reproduction from seed. The removal step is utilized when a fully stocked stand of reproduction has become established, and this step includes the removal of the protective overstory trees. The shelterwood regeneration method is normally utilized when some shade canopy is considered desirable for the establishment of regeneration.

### Shelterwood Preparatory Step

Section 913.1(d)(1) – The shelterwood preparatory step shall meet the following minimum standards:

- (A) At least the following basal area of seed trees per acre which are 18 inches dbh or greater shall be retained.
  - 1. Thirty square feet basal area on site I, II and III lands and
  - 2. Twenty four square feet basal area on site IV and V lands.

The seed trees must be of full crown, capable of seed production and representative of the best phenotypes available in the preharvest stand.

- (B) No point within the logged area shall be more than 100 ft. from a seed tree.
- (C) Seed tree species shall be specified in the plan by the RPF.
- (D) At least 125 sq. ft. of basal area per acre on Site I lands, and 75 sq. ft. of basal area per acre on Site II and III lands and 50 sq. ft. of basal area per acre on site IV and V lands shall be retained.
- (E) The minimum stocking standards of 14 CCR § 912.7(b)(1) [932.7(b)(1), 952.7(b)(1)] shall be met immediately upon completion of operations.

### Shelterwood Seed Step

Section 913.1(d)(2) – The shelterwood seed step is the regeneration step and shall meet the following standards:

- (A) At least the following basal area of seed trees per acre which are 18 inches dbh or greater shall be retained.
  - 1. Thirty square feet basal area on site I, II and III lands and
  - 2. Twenty four square feet basal area on site IV and V lands.

The seed trees must be of full crown, capable of seed production and representative of the best phenotypes available in the preharvest stand.

- (B) No point within the logged area shall be more than 100 ft. from a seed tree.
- (C) Seed tree species and site preparation measures shall be specified in the plan by the RPF.
- (D) Seed trees shall be marked by or under the supervision of an RPF prior to felling operations.
- (E) If natural regeneration is inadequate within two years after the first August following completion of timber operations, seed trees may be harvested and artificial regeneration shall be used to meet the requirements of 14 CCR § 912.7(b)(1), [932.7(b)(1), 952.7(b)(1)].

- (F) In the absence of a Sustained Yield Plan, to maintain and improve tree species diversity, genetic material and seed production, trees of each native commercial species where present at the time of harvest shall be retained after harvest. These leave trees shall be representative of the best phenotypes available in the preharvest stand. The RPF may propose and the Director may agree to a species specific plan in the THP which protects existing regeneration or provides for regeneration in-lieu of retaining trees.

Shelterwood Removal Step [Coast only]

Section 933.1(d)(3) - The shelterwood removal step may be utilized when the regeneration present exceeds the minimum stocking requirements set forth in Section 912.7(b)(1). Unless otherwise agreed to by the Director, the Shelterwood removal shall only be used once in the life of the stand. Regeneration shall not be harvested during the shelterwood removal step unless the trees are dead, dying or diseased or substantially damaged by timber operations. The minimum stocking standards of Section 912.7(b)(1) shall be met immediately upon completion of operations. The size limitations, and separation (spacing) by logical logging unit requirements, of Section 913.1(a) are applicable unless the post-harvest stand, regardless of average diameter, meets the stocking standards of Section 913.3(a)(1)(A) or (B)]. Not more than 32 predominant trees per acre may be removed in the shelterwood removal step. Not more than 100 square feet of basal area of predominant trees per acre may be removed in the shelterwood removal step.

Shelterwood Removal Step [Northern and Southern]

The shelterwood removal step may be utilized when the regeneration present exceeds the minimum stocking requirements set forth in Section 932.7(b)(1) [952.7(b)(1)]. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Director, the Shelterwood removal shall only be used once in the life of the stand. Regeneration shall not be harvested during the shelterwood removal step unless the trees are dead, dying or diseased or substantially damaged by timber operations. The minimum stocking standards of Section 932.7(b)(1) [952.7(b)(1)] shall be met immediately upon completion of operations. If the extent and intensity of the ground disturbance caused by the harvest is essentially the same as would have been caused by a clearcut or will cause adverse cumulative effects on wildlife as determined by the RPF or Director, the size limitations, and separation (spacing) by logical logging unit requirements of Section 933.1(a) [953.1(a)] are applicable unless the post-harvest stand, regardless of average diameter, meets area stocking standards of Section 933.3(a)(1)(A) or (B) [953.3(a)(1)(A) or (B)].

**Uneven-aged Management**

Sections 895.1 and 4593.2(c) – Uneven-aged management means the management of a specific forest, with the goal of establishing a well-stocked stand of various age classes and which permits the periodic harvest of individual or small groups of trees to realize the yield and continually establish a new crop. Also defined in the SAF Dictionary of Forestry as “a stand of trees of three or more distinct age classes, either intimately mixed or in small groups”.

Selection/Group Selection

Section 913.2(a) – Under the selection regeneration method, the trees are removed individually or in small groups sized from 0.25 to 2.5 acres.

#### Transition

Section 913.2(b) – The transition method may be used to develop an unevenaged stand from a stand that currently has an unbalanced irregular or evenaged structure. The transition method involves the removal of trees individually or in small groups from irregular or evenaged stands to create a balanced stand structure and to obtain natural reproduction.

### **Intermediate Treatments**

Section 895.1 – Intermediate treatments means harvests conducted to modify or guide the development of an existing stand of trees, but not to replace (regenerate) the stand with a new one. The treatments involve the removal of trees to allow expansion of the crowns and root systems.

#### Commercial Thinning

Section 913.3(a) – Commercial thinning is the removal of trees in a young-growth stand maintain or increase average stand diameter of the residual crop trees, promote timber growth and/or improve forest health.

#### Sanitation-Salvage

Section 913.3(b) – Sanitation is the removal of insect attacked or diseased trees in order to maintain or improve the health of the stand. Salvage is the removal of only those trees which are dead, dying, or deteriorating, because of damage from fire, wind, insects, disease, flood or other injurious agent.

### **Special Prescriptions**

Section 913.4 – Special Prescriptions are special harvesting methods which are appropriate under certain conditions.

#### Special Treatment Area

Sections 895.1 – Special Treatment Areas are specific locations which contain one or more of the following significant resource features which may be at risk during timber operations:

- a. Within 200 feet of the watercourse transition line of federal or state designated wild and scenic rivers;
- b. Within 200 feet of national, state, regional, county or municipal park boundaries;
- c. Key habitat areas of federal or state designated threatened, rare or endangered species;
- d. Coastal Commission special treatment areas;
- e. Within 200 feet of state designated scenic highways or within scenic corridors established pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 260) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 and Section 154 of Chap. 1 of Div. 1 of the Streets and Highways Code.

Section 913.4(a) – Special consideration in Special Treatment Areas shall be given to selection of a regeneration method or intermediate treatment compatible with the objectives for which the special area was established. Such areas shall be identified in the plan. To assure the integrity of legally designated historical and archaeological sites and legally designated ecological reserves, and that the objectives of the special treatment areas are met, the RPF and the Director may agree, after on-the-ground inspection, if requested by either party, on specific silvicultural and

logging practices to protect such areas. The Director shall notify affected agencies or groups with expertise in the resource involved in the special treatment area of any such areas located during the THP review process.

#### Rehabilitation

Section 913.4(b) – For the purposes of restoring and enhancing the productivity of commercial timberlands which do not meet the stocking standards defined in Section 912.7(932.7, 952.7) prior to any timber operations on such lands, an area may be harvested provided it is restocked in accordance with Subsections (1) or (2). To facilitate stocking, a regeneration plan must be included in the THP. The regeneration plan shall include site preparation, method of regeneration, and other information appropriate to evaluate the plan.

#### Fuelbreak/Defensible Space

Section 913.4(c) – Where some trees and other vegetation and fuels are removed to create a shaded fuel break or defensible space in an area to reduce the potential for wildfires and the damage they might cause.

#### Variable Retention

Section 913.4(d) - Variable retention is an approach to harvesting based on the retention of structural elements or biological legacies (trees, snags, logs, etc.) from the pre-harvest stand for integration into the post-harvest stand to achieve various ecological, social and geomorphic objectives.

#### Conversion

Section 1100 – within non-timberland production zone (TPZ) timberland, transforming timberland to a nontimber growing use through timber operations.

### **Alternative Prescription**

A written analysis of preharvest and postharvest timber stand conditions and a description of the silvicultural practices and systems to be used in lieu of the standard methods. An Alternative silvicultural prescription can be included in a timber harvest plan when an alternative regeneration method or intermediate treatment is more effective or more feasible than any of the standard silvicultural methods.

Section 913.6 – When an Alternative method is used, the plan must include a statement of which silvicultural method in the current District rules is most nearly appropriate or feasible and an explanation of why it is not appropriate or feasible. The plan must also provide an explanation of how the proposed alternative prescription will differ from the most nearly feasible method in terms of securing regeneration; protection of soil, water quality, wildlife habitat, and visual appearance; and in terms of fire, insect and disease protection.

#### NonTimberland Area

Anything Not Timberland (e.g.) as defined in 895.1 and 4526. Timberland as defined in 4526, is land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the board as experimental forest land, which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees of a commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees.

*Status Review of the Northern Spotted Owl in California*  
*Appendix 1*  
*January 27, 2016*

Road Right of Way  
No strict definition