

Appendix A: Forest Review Committee Issues

At their November 15, 2000 meeting the Humboldt County Forest Review Committee identified the following timberland issues.

PUBLIC SERVICE ISSUES

- Law enforcement needs to address public safety, vandalism, trespass, theft, toxic dumping, and public and private costs associated with protests in timberland areas.
- A Fire Safe Element needs to be prepared which uses the State fire safe standards as a model.
- Recreation opportunities on timberlands need to be reviewed for compatibility with timber production.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT ISSUES

- Public roads need to be improved to reduce hauling costs and address traffic safety. Costs of maintaining public roads in timberland areas should be apportioned based on use.
- Drainage facilities need to be maintained on public and private roads to protect roads and water quality.
- Public water systems need to be developed to minimize water withdrawals from sensitive habitats and land use conflicts between timber producers and residential users who are concerned about erosion and water quality.
- Public roads need to be improved to minimize erosion and water quality problems.
- Materials for road building from quarries and surface mining need to remain available in adequate quantities to keep construction costs down.
- Utility companies should support timber production on adjacent timberlands.

PUBLIC POWERS/LAND USE CONFLICTS

- Dwellings on residential lots are not compatible with timber production on adjacent or nearby lots because residential landowners have concerns about: traffic safety, dust, erosion control, slope stability, noise, smoke, water quality, sensitive habitats, views and aesthetic values. Litigation costs increase in the interface between timberland and residential lots.
- Utility companies manage their easements in ways that are not always compatible with timber production on adjacent lands. They have concerns about impacts to utility lines.
- Subdivisions to create small lots in or adjacent to timberlands increase the land use conflicts between timberland and non-timberland property owners.

*Humboldt County General Plan Update
Natural Resources and Hazards*

- Allowing small lots into TPZ may discourage timber production because these lots are purchased and used primarily for residential purposes and adjacent to small parcels with landowners who may object to timber harvesting activities. These lots would also benefit from tax relief that could encourage excessive harvesting rotation periods. Note: the Humboldt Watershed Council may support including smaller lots into TPZ to discourage timber harvesting driven by increased taxes.