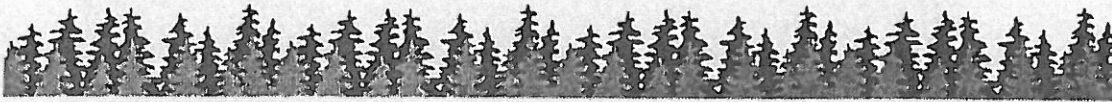


**HUMBOLDT COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

Joint Timber Management Plan

**PLANNING DIVISION
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OVERVIEW



The California Forest Taxation Reform Act of 1976 sets forth procedures for Counties to protect viable timberlands and offers a tax break to property owners for keeping their property in timber production. The mechanism used by local governments for this process is zoning.

The Timber Production Zone (TPZ) was established for property assessed for the growing and harvesting of trees; and contains regulations for the use of timber property, including divisions.

State law provides specific regulations for the division of timberlands, including the need for property owners to submit a Joint Timber Management Plan for project approval. The purpose of the Joint Timber Management Plan (JTMP) is to provide a management guide for the harvesting of timber for all parcels directly affected by subdivision of land.

WHEN ARE JTMP's NECESSARY?

State law requires property owners to submit a JTMP for all land divisions which reduces parcels zoned TPZ below 160 acres (this includes Lot Line Adjustments). The County must then review and approve the JTMP before the subdivision of land can be approved. If you are unsure whether your project will require a JTMP, please contact Planning staff for a preliminary project review.

WHO PREPARES A JTMP?

A JTMP must be prepared by a Registered Professional Forester (a list of qualified foresters is available at the front counter in the Planning Division upon request).





CONTENTS OF A JTMP

The JTMP includes both a Management Plan and a Management Guide.

The Management Plan is the legal document that is recorded with the deed. This document identifies access, rights-of-ways, and stocking requirements as regulated by State law.

The Management Guide is the descriptive document that describes the property and outlines the management opportunities to the land owner. The Management Guide includes information such as: a description of the property, existing and proposed access, a timber inventory and stocking plan, and the proposed Timber Management Plan. This document can be a vital educational tool that introduces the landowner to intensive forest management.

Standards for a JTMP have been documented and are available at the Planning Division upon request.

WHO REVIEWS AND APPROVES THE JTMP?

The Forestry Review Committee reviews and approves recommendations to the Board of Supervisors who make the final decision on the JTMP.

The Forestry Review Committee consists of seven Registered Professional Foresters who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and two non-voting members (the Director of Community Development Services and the Assessor or their designees). The Committee meets once a month and the registered forester who prepared the JTMP and the property owner are encouraged to attend.



APPEAL PROCESS

Once the Forestry Review Committee has reviewed for the JTMP conformance with State law, the item will be scheduled for a public hearing before the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors considers the recommendations of the Forestry Review Committee and the public testimony received before taking action on the JTMP. The Board of Supervisors' decisions are final.

PLEASE NOTE: Once a JTMP is received by staff, the processing time is approximately 2-3 months prior to a decision being made on the project.