



## DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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August 13, 2008

John Helms, Chairman  
Jackson Demonstration State Forest Advisory Group  
222 Hall Drive  
Orinda, CA 94563

Dear Chairman Helms:

I have received and reviewed the Jackson Demonstration State Forest Advisory Group (JAG) report, "Recommended Late Seral Forest Development Prescription for Brandon Gulch". I am grateful to the JAG members for their timely completion of this report, which was called for in the Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) Settlement Agreement

I support of the report's harvest prescription recommendations, as well as the demonstration, interpretation, and education purposes specified for Brandon Gulch. The timber harvest prescription to be applied to the Brandon Gulch THP appears to provide an approach to timber management that accelerates the development of late seral forest conditions, while addressing the area's important recreation values. I find that the JAG's recommendations provide for an exploration of the degree of compatibility between recreation and management for accelerating late seral forest conditions. Finally, I believe that the JAG's recommendations are consistent with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and that they are consistent with the mission of JDSF.

I am directing CAL FIRE staff to further develop the details and take the necessary steps to implement the JAG's recommendations, including amendment of the THP. Staff will report regularly to the JAG on their progress in completing this work and will consult with the JAG if further clarification of the JAG's intent is needed.

I particularly want to thank you and the other members of the Late Seral Forest Development Committee for the dedication you have shown in completing this task and moving forward on the related task for the Camp 3 Timber Harvesting Plan (THP). I want to specifically thank you for your leadership and dedicated work in completing this task and continuing to make good progress on the many other responsibilities of the JAG.

Sincerely,

  
RUBEN GRIJALVA  
Director

cc: JAG Members  
Board Chairman Stan Dixon