

Mission statement of McKinleyville Community Services District:
"McKinleyville Community Services District provides authorized services fundamental to the health and well-being of the community."

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST COMMITTEE
WILL BE HELD
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 AT 5:30pm**

**LOCATION: AZALEA HALL
1620 Pickett Road
McKinleyville, California**

Or

**TELECONFERENCE Via ZOOM & TELEPHONE:
Use ZOOM MEETING ID: 848 9634 6527 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896346527>) or DIAL
IN TOLL FREE: 1-888-788-0099 (No Password Required!)**

To participate in person, please come to Azalea Hall.

To participate by teleconference, please use the toll free number listed above, or join through the internet at the Zoom App with weblink and ID number listed above.

AGENDA
5:30 p.m.

- I. a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Flag Salute

- II. Approval of the Agenda

- III. Approval of the August 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes **P. 3**

- IV. Public Comment
- Attachment 1 - Written Comment from James Vance **P. 7**

- V. Presentation from Staff on Overview of Progress to Date **P. 9**
 (Information)

VI.	Consider Appointment of Public Member Applicants to Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee (Action)	P. 13
VII.	Consider Appointment of Public Member Applicants to Trails, Infrastructure, and Security Subcommittee (Action)	P. 15
	Attachment 1 – Nicolette Amman MCFC Subcommittee Application	P. 17
	Attachment 2 – Kenneth Burton MCFC Subcommittee Application	P. 21
	Attachment 3 – Nancy Morelli MCFC Subcommittee Application	P. 37
	Attachment 4 – Lauren West MCFC Subcommittee Application	P. 41
VIII.	Consider Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee Meeting Schedule (Action)	P. 43
IX.	Consider Trails, Infrastructure, and Security Subcommittee Meeting Schedule (Action)	P. 45
X.	Consider Future Agenda Items for Committee and Subcommittees (Discussion)	P. 47
	Attachment 1 – Outline of Recommendations and Goals Set Forth in the McKinleyville Community Forest Framework Plan provided by BBW and Associates	
XI.	Adjournment (Estimated 7:00 p.m.)	

Posted 5:00 pm on September 13, 2024

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.5, this agenda and complete packet are available for public inspection on the web at <https://mckinleyvillecsd.ca.gov/mckinleyville-community-forest-committee> or upon request at the MCSD office, 1656 Sutter Road, McKinleyville. If you would like to receive the complete packet via email, free of charge, contact the Board Secretary at (707)839-3251 to be added to the mailing list.

McKinleyville Community Services District will, on request, make agendas available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Board Secretary at (707) 839-3251. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements for accommodations.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY
FOREST COMMITTEE (MCFC) HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.
IN PERSON AT AZALEA HALL – 1620 PICKETT ROAD, MCKINLEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA**

and

TELECONFERENCE Via ZOOM & TELEPHONE:

**ZOOM MEETING ID: 848 9634 6527 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896346527>) or DIAL IN TOLL FREE:
1-888-788-0099**

Item I

a. Call To Order & Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with following committee members and staff in attendance in person at Azalea Hall.

Gregory Orsini, Chair, MCSD Board Director
James Biteman, MCSD Board Director
Joseph Blaine, MCSD Board Secretary
James Henry, MCSD Operations Director
Kirsten Messmer, MCSD Parks and Recreation Director
Jens Andersen, MCSD Recreation Coordinator
Maya Conrad
Jennifer Ortega
Joey Rink
Tyler Brown
Desiree Early Dorvall
Michele Stephens
Todd Truesdell
Kevin Creed

Absent: Pat Kaspari, MCSD General Manager

Alternates:

Mersadies Cambell
Christopher Collier
Nicole West

Absent: Kevin Dreyer

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Biteman.

b. Approval of Agenda

Motion: It was moved to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Conrad **Second:** Creed

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Messmer, Andersen, Conrad, Ortega, Rink, Brown, Dorvall, Stephens, Truesdell, Creed, Campbell

Nays: None

Absent: Kaspari

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

c. Approval of July 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Michele Stephens asked for the spelling of her name to be corrected.

Motion: It was moved to approve the July 16, 2024 meeting minutes.

Motion by: Stephens **Second:** Campbell

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Messmer, Andersen, Conrad, Ortega, Rink, Brown, Dorvall, Stephens, Truesdell, Creed, Campbell

Nays: None

Absent: Kaspari

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

Item II – Hybrid Meeting Etiquette (Information)

Board Secretary Blaine presented information regarding best practices for hybrid meetings.

There was no public comment.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

Item III – Public Comment

Public comment was given by the following individuals:

Alyssa Alvarez, Arcata Fire District
Tracy Antonsen, McKinleyville resident
Karen Dorman, McKinleyville resident
Lauren West, California State Horsemen's Association
Karen Brooks, Redwood Empire Endurance Riders
Shaun Fyfe, Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance
Julia Peterson, Local Equestrian
Charlie Caldwell, Humboldt Skate Park Collective
Billy Moore, Backcountry Horsemen
Joan Clark, Northern California Horsemen Association

Item IV – Framework Plan Presentation by BBW

Parks and Recreation Director Messmer presented the item and introduced Greg Bloomstrom and Mark Andre from BBW & Associates.

BBW & Associates provided the committee and the public with a presentation of the McKinleyville Community Forest Framework Plan.

The committee asked clarifying questions.

There were no comments from the public.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

Item V – Presentation of MCFC Budget (Information)

Parks and Recreation Director Messmer presented the item.

Committee members asked clarifying questions.

Public comment was given by John Williams, McKinleyville resident.

This was an information only item. No action was taken.

Item VI – Consider Establishment of Subcommittees (Action)

Parks and Recreation Director Messmer gave a summary of the item.

Committee discussion ensued.

Public comment was given the following individuals:

Karen Brooks, Redwood Empire Endurance Riders
Julia Peterson, Local Equestrian
Charlie Caldwell, Humboldt Skatepark Collective
Shaun Fyfe, Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance

Motion: It was moved to create two subcommittees. A subcommittee for Trails, Infrastructure, and Security and another for the McKinleyville Community Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget

Motion by: Conrad **Second:** Creed

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Messmer, Andersen, Conrad, Ortega, Rink, Brown, Dorvall, Stephens, Truesdell, Creed, Campbell

Nays: None

Absent: Kaspari

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

Appointments to the subcommittees were as follows:

Trails, Infrastructure, and Security Subcommittee

James Henry, MCSD Operations Director
Jens Andersen, MCSD Recreation Coordinator
Desiree Early Dorvall
Tyler Brown
Michele Stephens
Nicole West (Alternate)

McKinleyville Community Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee

Pat Kaspari, MCSD General Manager
Kirsten Messmer, MCSD Parks and Recreation Director
Joel Rink
Jennifer Ortega
Kevin Creed

Parks and Recreation Director Messmer noted that an advertisement for 0 to 5 public member seats will go out in the coming weeks and the public appointees would be selected by the respective subcommittees.

Item VII – Discuss Agenda Topics for Next Meeting (Action)

Tyler Brown requested an overview of work done regarding the Community Forest by staff to date. Director Biteman and Maya Conrad concurred.

Public comment was given by the following individuals:

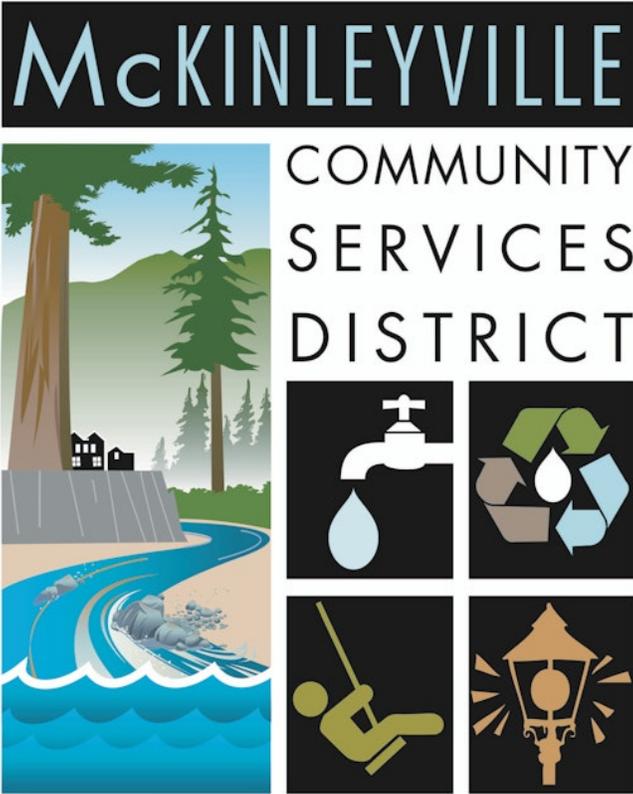
Donna Biteman, McKinleyville resident
Shaun Fyfe, Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance

Agenda Item VIII - ADJOURNMENT
Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Joseph Blaine, Board Secretary

Joey Blaine

From: Streamline <noreply@specialdistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:35 PM
To: MCSD
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New form submission received: Contact Us



Contact Us

Attachment:	
Message:	<p>My Name is James Vance I am a longtime resident With the freedom coalition of McKinleyville We would like to encourage our community forest committee to vote to leave our community forest open to everyone That includes horses motorcycles golfing walking and bicycles it should be open to everyone because we are all paying for it we should be able to use it Something you might not know is that motorcycles are more friendly to horses than bicycles because the horses can hear the motorcycles coming. As for the few medical calls that we've had in our community forest we get medical calls all over Humboldt County all the time including the</p>

	<p>North jetty South jetty and all along the beach the calls we get on the North jetty are most of time fatal and we don't close the jetty's. This community forest has been open to everyone for decades and it's been working just fine However we are becoming somewhat concerned due to the homeless population living in there and starting fires With first and second road being blocked by homeowners with only one access road in and out " D Ave" for hundreds of families in that area fires are a big concern. Thank you for your concern and thank you for all you do. The Freedom coalition of McKinleyville</p>
Subject:	Community forest
Your email:	████████████████████
Your name:	James B Vance

[Reply / Manage](#)

Powered by [Streamline](#).

additional fee to come let them out when they call the emergency number. The new gate will allow the gate to close at a programmed time and still allow cars to exit after hours. The automatic gate will likely be installed before the end of October.

4. Trail Maps - Staff has GPS located the existing main trails and has transferred that data onto a map. Staff then assigned a QR Code to the map to allow for a direct link to the interactive map. This map is available on the District website, along with a form that will allow the Public to report and locate any issues within the Forest.
5. Signage - Location signs were developed to put at major trail crossings to educate users of their current location and which direction to go to reach their destination. The "You are Here" signs are in process of being installed. "No Camping, No Motorized Vehicles, etc." and other "Rules" signs were also installed at the Murray Road parking lot and have been ordered to install at other entrance points to the Forest. The Mountain Bike Tribal Trails Alliance (MBTTA) has also been working on obtaining signage for mountain bike and multiuse trails.
6. Urban & Community Forest Grant - MCSD Staff has submitted a \$373k Urban & Community Forest Grant to CalFire to assist with the development of the Forest Management and Trails Plans and to plant 3,000 trees. We hope to hear by the end of October whether this will be funded.
7. CalVTP Grant - MCSD is working with Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) and the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (HCRCD) on a Vegetation Treatment Project (CalVTP) grant for Green Diamond and Community Forest land. A Technical Assistance grant was obtained from CalFire to have Ascent, a consulting firm, assist with the development of the Project Specific Assessment (PSA). The PSA will then be used to develop the CEQA documents. HCRCD will be the lead agency for CEQA. Green Diamond and MCSD will then pursue additional grant funding from CalFire to implement the VTP, which will consist of establishing firebreaks on the boundaries of the forest and thinning vegetation at points within the forest.
8. Helipad and Fire Access – GDRC has been working on establishing a helipad in the area. They have identified a location and MCSD will work with them to develop the area as necessary. We have also provided the trail maps to Arcata Fire District Staff and Fire District Staff took their side-by-side out to get familiar with the roads/trails they can access with it.
9. MOU with Mountain Bike Groups - The Redwood Mountain Bike Association (RCMBA) had already had a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with GDRC for permission to build trails and access GD land and future Community Forest land, prior to MCSD acquiring the Forest. District Staff had met with RCMBA members prior to the land acquisition and agreed that we would need to renegotiate that MOU when we acquired the land, but that

we were willing to discuss. After acquiring the land, MCSD Staff and District Counsel revised the MOU and provided it to RCMBA to execute, which they did. GDRC and MCSD were also approached by MBTTA during the land acquisition. GDRC had not negotiated an MOU with MBTTA and told them to just discuss it with MCSD. The District was not/is not in a position to exclude a group, and since we had an MOU with RCMBA, we executed the same MOU with MBTTA.

Alternatives:

Not applicable.

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable.

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable.

Exhibits/Attachments:

None

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- Attachment 4 – Lauren West MCFC Subcommittee Application

Item 7 Attachment 1

Name *

Nicolette Amann

Home Phone *

[REDACTED]

Cell Phone *

[REDACTED]

Mailing Address *

[REDACTED]

Mckinleyville CA 95519

Permanent Address *

[REDACTED]

McKinleyville CA 95519

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Please select the subcommittee you are interested in applying for: *

- Forest Management Plan/Funding/Budget Subcommittee
- Trails Plan/Security/Clean Ups/Infrastructure Subcommittee

Can you commit to 8-10 hours of volunteer time per month? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to attending regularly scheduled monthly meetings? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to a term of 1 years? *

- Yes
- No

I am available to attend the regular monthly committee meetings the following times: *
(please keep in mind subcommittee meetings can be on zoom or hybrid)

	During the workday (9am-5pm)	Evenings (5:30pm)	I am not available any of these times
Monday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you selected "During the workday" above, please list 1.5 hour blocks that you are available on those days. *

Mon & Wed 10-4 Fri 12-5

Please list any recurring days/times you are NOT available (i.e. monthly meeting for your work or other boards you may sit on). *

Mon & Wed 4-6pm Fri 9-12

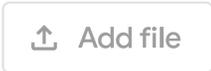
What knowledge, skills and experience will you bring to the Community Forest Committee? (You may attach a resume or additional page if necessary). *

I have lived in McKinleyville for nearly 30 years. My husband and I bought a lot and built a home is Sutter Ranch specifically so that we would have access to the adjacent forest land. I have decades of experience running, hiking, and mtn biking in the McK forest, but also have extensive experience using the ACF trails as well as traveling to other area to prepare for and participate in trail races. As an owner of property adjacent to the forest, I have had an ongoing relationship with Green Diamond around security , and I am, unfortunately, well aware of the many challenges with access and security involved with this project.

Please describe why you want to participate as a member of the Community Forest Committee. *

As a regular user of the forest, owner of adjacent property, and community member who believes this area has great potential, I am deeply invested in this project, and would value the opportunity to contribute.

Resume Attachment (PDF File Only)



This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Item 7 Attachment 2

Name *

Kenneth Burton

Home Phone *

N/A

Cell Phone *

[REDACTED]

Mailing Address *

[REDACTED]

McKinleyville

Permanent Address *

same as above

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Please select the subcommittee you are interested in applying for: *

- Forest Management Plan/Funding/Budget Subcommittee
- Trails Plan/Security/Clean Ups/Infrastructure Subcommittee

Can you commit to 8-10 hours of volunteer time per month? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to attending regularly scheduled monthly meetings? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to a term of 1 years? *

- Yes
- No

I am available to attend the regular monthly committee meetings the following times: *
(please keep in mind subcommittee meetings can be on zoom or hybrid)

	During the workday (9am-5pm)	Evenings (5:30pm)	I am not available any of these times
Monday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If you selected "During the workday" above, please list 1.5 hour blocks that you are available on those days. *

Mondays ending by 4, any time the other days. Afternoons preferred.

Please list any recurring days/times you are NOT available (i.e. monthly meeting for your work or other boards you may sit on). *

Third Tuesday evenings

What knowledge, skills and experience will you bring to the Community Forest Committee? (You may attach a resume or additional page if necessary). *

Avid trail user. Humboldt Trails Council board member, Six Rivers Hikers organizer, Fortuna Senior Hiking Group member, author of Hiking Humboldt vol. 1.

Please describe why you want to participate as a member of the Community Forest Committee. *

The MCF has great potential for the community and I'd like to be involved in its development.

Resume Attachment (PDF File Only)

 CV - Burton - Ken...

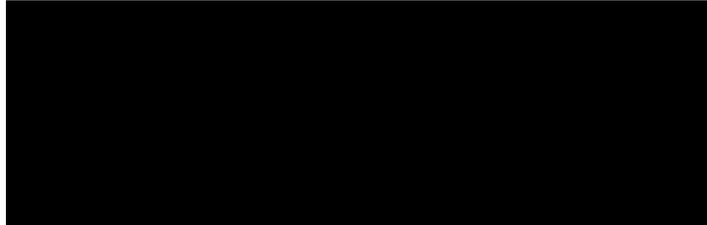
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Google Forms

KENNETH M. BURTON

Naturalist/Wildlife Biologist



www.norca1nature.com

- **Field Research**
- **Surveys**
- **Monitoring**
- **Training**
- **Guiding**
- **Project Management**
- **Program Administration**
- **Data Analysis**
- **Writing and Editing**
- **Impact Assessment**

EDUCATION

M.A. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 1990, Indiana University, Bloomington
Thesis: The Breeding Biology of the Loggerhead Shrike in Indiana.

B.A. Biology and Natural History, 1984, University of California, Santa Cruz
Honors Thesis: An Inventory of the Flora and Fauna of Scott Park, Corralitos Lagoon, and Vicinity.

CERTIFICATIONS/TRAININGS

Marbled Murrelet Surveyor Certification, 2017

Wilderness First Aid, 2015

Standard First Aid/CPR, 2014

Oil Sands Safety Association Orientation, 2014

Imperial Oil Fundamentals of Safety, 2014

Imperial Oil Risk Tolerance, 2014

Life Saving Actions, 2014

Fire Extinguisher Training, 2014

Staying Safe in Bear Country/Large Mammal Awareness/Use of Bear Spray, 2014

Pipeline Construction Safety Training, 2014

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System Training, 2014

Construction Safety Training, 2014
Argo Safe Operation, 2014
Hydrogen Sulfide Safety, 2014
Wilderness and Remote First Aid, 2013
Introductory Surveying, 2013
Introductory GPS, 2013
Introductory GIS, 2012
Rare Pond Species Survey Techniques, 2012
Desert Tortoise Surveying, Monitoring, and Handling Techniques, 2011
California Driver's License, 2015
CDFG HAZWOPER 24-hour Training, 2010
NABCEP Photovoltaic Entry Level Exam, 2010
Canadian Safety Council ATV Training, 2007
USFWS Endangered Species Permit for Coastal California Gnatcatcher and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, 2001 (TE039571, renewed 2014)
North American Banding Council Bander and Trainer Certifications, 1999 (renewed 2005)
Medic First Aid Care Initiator Certification, 1999
FCC Radiotelephone Operator's Permit, 1991
Federal Bird Marking and Salvage Permit, 1988 (22261)
Advanced SCUBA Certification, 1979
University of California Research Diving Certification, 1979

AWARDS

2017 May eBirder of the Month, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
2011 Glen Woolfenden Award, North American Banding Council
2010 Volunteer of the Year Award, Friends of the Arcata Marsh

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Employment:

- Bander – Bird Conservancy of the Rockies. 2018. Ran a spring migration bird-banding station in Colorado. Supervised volunteers and provided banding demonstrations to school groups and visitors. Colin Woolley, 503-329-1911, colin.woolley@birdconservancy.org
- Wildlife Biologist – Yurok Tribe. 2016-2017. Oversaw, designed, and assisted in various wildlife-related projects, including writing grant proposals, supervising other employees, updating social media, designing field studies, collecting and managing field data, and evaluating management plans.
- Ecological Technician – Integral Ecology Research Center. 2016. Collected field data for various projects related to trespass marijuana grows. Work included small mammal trapping, remote camera maintenance, water quality monitoring, collecting

soil samples, and searching for evidence of grows, all on national forest lands. Greta Wengert, 707-845-7848, gwengert@ierceecology.org

- Tour Program Director – Redwood Parks Lodge Company. 2015. Developed, managed, promoted, and evaluated a program of tours focused on the human and natural histories of the Redwood National and State Parks and vicinity. Led most of the tours; trained and supervised other guides; scheduled and planned all tours; developed Web and Facebook content. Also supported vacation rental operation, including overseeing and assisting housekeeping and maintenance staff and assisting guests with vacation planning. Donna Hufford, 707-488-2602, donna@teamredwood.us
- Field Biologist - Crescent Coastal Research. 2010, 2015. Conducted at-sea and land-based surveys of marine birds and mammals. Included boat operation. Craig Strong, 707-487-0246, cstrong.ccr@charter.net
- Wildlife Biologist – Golder Associates. 2014. Duties included frog, Horned Grebe, breeding bird, Common Nighthawk, Yellow Rail, bat, aerial waterfowl, and aerial beaver and muskrat surveys; remote camera maintenance and photo analysis; bird nest sweeps; mammal tracking; raven management consultation; and impact assessment. Collen Middleton, 403-299-5600, cmiddleton@golder.com
- Crew Leader – Bird Studies Canada. 2013. Conducted point counts in New Brunswick focusing on high-elevation species, especially Bicknell's Thrush. Conducted Chimney Swift roost counts. Programmed, deployed, and retrieved song meters. Becky Stewart, 888-448-2473 Ext 123, bstewart@birdscanada.org
- Wildlife Biologist – Forde Biological Consultants. 2011-2012. Construction monitoring, nesting bird surveys, and pre-construction clearance surveys for transmission-line construction in southern California. Authorized for burrowing owl, California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, nesting birds, and riparian birds.
- Crew Leader – John Muir Institute of the Environment. 2011. Conducted avian point counts, sage-grouse transects, and vegetation sampling in central Nevada.
- Field Biologist - O'Brien Biological Consultants. 2010-2011. Conducted Marbled Murrelet surveys in forest habitats. Brit O'Brien, 707-497-6692, obrien_biological@yahoo.com
- Substitute Teacher – Northern Humboldt Unified High School District & Eureka Unified School District. 2009-2011. Taught science and many other subjects.
- Bander in Charge – Mackenzie Nature Observatory. 2008-2009. Supervised operation of migration monitoring station in northeast British Columbia. Ran banding

station; conducted bird censuses; recorded and computerized effort, results, and weather; wrote summary report; and trained and supervised volunteers.

- Research Assistant/Supervisor – Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation. 2008-2009. Operated MAPS stations, trained and supervised banding volunteers and interns, and created a guide to age determination of common species. Dr. Luke George, 707-499-4053, tlg2@humboldt.edu
- Associate Faculty - College of the Redwoods. 2009. Taught Introduction to Environmental Science. David Bazard, 707-476-4224, Dave-Bazard@Redwoods.edu
- Surveyor's Assistant – Sousa Land Surveys. 2008. Assisted in surveying river bars for flood management and gravel extraction. Justin Sousa, 707-668-5639, justin@sousasurveys.com
- Field Biologist – Oregon Wildlife Institute. 2008. Conducted Burrowing Owl surveys and nest monitoring.
- Field Biologist – Klamath Wildlife Resources. 2008. Conducted Spotted Owl calling surveys. Required use of ATV and snowmobile.
- Wildlife Biologist – Mad River Biologists. 2007. Assisted in writing the wildlife section of the revised PEIR for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's proposed Vegetation Treatment Program. Examined direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of pyrotechnic, mechanical, manual, and biological fuel reduction treatments on wildlife. Jessica Stauffer, 707-442-4302, jessica@madriverbio.com
- Assistant Project Manager – Northwest Wildlife Consultants. 2006. Designed and conducted pre-construction wildlife surveys for proposed wind-power development in Nevada. Techniques included aerial reconnaissance, pedestrian transects, and diurnal and nocturnal point counts. Required ATV operation and coordination of other surveyors. Assisted in report generation. Karen Kronner, 541-278-2987, kronner@oregontrail.net
- Ornithologist - LBJ Enterprises. 2005-2006. Designed, directed, and conducted various wildlife studies related to natural resource use. Target species included American Peregrine Falcon, Western Snowy Plover, Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Willow Flycatcher, and Northern Spotted Owl. Conducted point counts in many habitats, especially riparian. Robert Hewitt, 707-601-8581, rwhbirdman@googlegmail.com

- Wildlife Ecologist - Garcia and Associates. 2000-2002, 2005. Training-program development, biological assessment and evaluation, sensitive-species (including willow flycatcher, California gnatcatcher, great gray owl, California spotted owl, desert tortoise, foothill yellow-legged frog, mountain yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle, western snowy plover, and California red-legged frog) surveys, nest searching, environmental compliance monitoring, and mitigation planning. Joe Drennan, 415-642-8969, jed@silcon.com
- Training and Outreach Program Director, MAPS Program Coordinator, MAPS Biologist - The Institute for Bird Populations. 1992-1998, 2004. Developed bander-training materials and curricula; designed, scheduled, advertised, conducted, and evaluated bird-banding classes nationwide. Experience in grant-proposal writing. Coordinated nearly 500 bird-banding stations continent-wide for the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship Program. Developed program protocols and materials; managed data; conducted regional analyses; wrote reports; hired, trained, and supervised field interns to conduct banding, point counts, and vegetation analysis in Kansas, Missouri, California, Virginia, North Carolina, Indiana, and Kentucky; presented program results at scientific meetings; editorial assistant for *Bird Populations*; editor of *MAPS Chat*. Dr. David DeSante, 415-663-2052, ddeSante@birdpop.org
- Wildlife Biologist - LSA Associates. 2003. Developed the protocol for Migratory Bird Treaty Act compliance on a transmission-line construction project in Nevada. Searched for bird nests in Great Basin habitats. Roger Harris, 510-236-6810, roger.harris@lsa-assoc.com
- Tour Guide/Interpretive Naturalist - St. Paul Island Tour. 1999. Presented interpretive information on flora and fauna, geology, history, and culture to diverse visitors from many nations. Compiled promotional packets for travel agents, created database of bird sightings, and summarized seasonal bird information.
- Ornithologist/Mammalogist - Montana State University. 1996. Censused birds and mammals in Antarctica as part of a long-term ecological research project. Conducted research on Adélie penguin nesting and foraging ecology, including tracking foraging groups by Zodiac, analyzing stomach contents, and collecting fledging weights.
- Wildlife Technician - USDA Forest Service, Alaska. 1991-1992. Conducted field research on wildlife populations and communities, particularly concerning habitat relationships. Work included aerial, marine, and terrestrial wildlife surveys (including northern goshawk, bald eagle, and marbled murrelet); radio telemetry; pro- and retroactive environmental impact assessment; and development of a bird-banding program. Conducted point counts and associated vegetation analyses. Chris Iverson, 202-273-4698, civerson@fs.fed.us

- Site Consultant - Indiana University Computing Services. 1990-1991. Provided assistance to students, faculty, and staff in public computing sites. Required knowledge of word-processing, spreadsheet, database, educational, and communications software on IBM-PCs, Macs, and mainframe computers.
- Research Assistant - Dept. of Forest Science, Oregon State University. 1990. Conducted point counts in Oregon Coast Range.
- Associate Biology Instructor - Indiana University. 1987-1989. Courses taught: Evolution and Diversity, Laboratory and Field Ecology, and Man and the Biological World.
- Biological Technician - USDA Forest Service, California. 1987. Collected field data for use in developing methods and guidelines for monitoring wildlife populations; primary fieldwork was point-counting and spot-mapping studies of Sierra Nevada bird communities.

Contract Work:

- As an independent contractor for many years, I have done contract work ranging from conducting research and monitoring to teaching workshops, writing for Web sites, leading tours and hikes, organizing events, and playing music. Clients have included Aleutian Goose Festival/California Redwoods Bird and Nature Festival, Audubon Canyon Ranch, Betchart Expeditions, Blue Waters Kayaking, Canadian Wildlife Service/Environment Canada, College of Marin, Crescent Coastal Research, Ecotours International, EduQuest, Elderhostel, eNature.com, Godwit Days Spring Migration Bird Festival, Humboldt State University, Inland Bird Banding Association, Klamath Bird Observatory, LBJ Enterprises, Marin County Open Space District, North Coast Adventure Centers, Parks Canada, Redwood Parks Lodge Company, Redwood Region Audubon Society, SHN Consulting Engineers and Geologists, San Francisco Tour Guide Guild, Sierra Pacific Educational Adventures, Siskiyou Field Institute, The Institute for Bird Populations, UCSC Alumni Association, and US Forest Service.

Volunteer Work:

- Migratory Bird Counter – Pronatura Veracruz River of Raptors Project, Mexico.
- Research Assistant – Monash University Eastern Yellow Robin Project, Australia. Assisted with nest finding, color banding, blood sampling, and radio telemetry. Lana Austin, lanamaustin@gmail.com
- Bird Bander – Operation Wallacea, Romania. Introduced dozens of university and high school students to bird banding. Toby Farman, toby.farman@opwall.com

- Member – Sequoia Park Zoo Conservation Advisory Committee.
- Organizer – Six Rivers Hikers, northwest California’s largest Meetup group.
- Bird Bander – Asociacion Calidris, University of Utah, and International Birding and Research Center. Assisted at bird-banding stations in Colombia, Turkey, Israel, and Ethiopia.
- Volunteer – Humboldt Wildlife Care Center, WildCare, and Native Animal Rescue, California. Clinic worker and bird-bander.
- Lead Bander - University of Utah's Rio Mesa Center. Established and operated a migration-monitoring station, overseeing three assistants and seven short-term volunteers. Dr. Cagan Sekercioglu, c.s@utah.edu
- Field Trip Coordinator, Programs Committee Chair, Nominating Committee Chair, and President – Redwood Region Audubon Society.
- Board Member – Northcoast Environmental Center. Redwood Region Audubon Society Representative.
- Docent, Board Member, and Chairman of Habitat Concerns Committee – Friends of the Arcata Marsh. Lead tours at Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary, staff interpretive center, help plan and implement restoration projects.
- Membership Coordinator, President, and Treasurer – Western Bird Banding Association.
- Research Assistant - Point Reyes Bird Observatory, California. Assisted in studies of bird, mammal, and fish populations.
- Ornithologist – Düsternbrook Guest Farm, Namibia. Took guests on birding outings, conducted an inventory of birdlife on the ranch, developed a photographic guide to common birds, trained guides, and assisted in wildlife censuses. Johann Vaatz, dbrook@mweb.com.na
- MAPS Station Operator – The Institute for Bird Populations/Audubon Canyon Ranch, California. Established and oversaw the operation of a MAPS station.
- Research and Teaching Assistant – Cercopan, Nigeria. Conducted a bird inventory, assisted in the teaching of a university-level tropical biology field course, mapped trails, assisted in field-camp construction, and trained and evaluated staff members. Zena Tooze, CERCOPAN@compuserve.com

- Research Assistant - Tortuguero Bird Monitoring Program, Costa Rica. Operated five bird-banding stations and conducted standardized migration counts. CJ Ralph, 707-825-2992, cjralph@humboldt1.com
- Interpretive Naturalist – Lotus Bird Lodge, Australia. Served as resident naturalist at remote eco-tourism and hunting lodge. Planned and implemented sightseeing, birding, and natural-history outings for guests. Maintained database of bird sightings.
- Intern - The Institute for Bird Populations, California. Worked on statewide Burrowing Owl census, including GIS habitat analysis, mapping, proofing field data, designing data forms, editing manuscripts, and presenting results of study to Audubon members.
- Research Assistant - The Xerces Society, Madagascar. Assisted in biodiversity surveys of birds and butterflies.
- Atlaser - Indiana Breeding Bird Atlas project. Collected field data for use in compilation of atlas.
- Bander/Photographer/Rehabilitator - The Wildlife Center, California.
- Consultant - The Green Indonesia Foundation, Indonesia. Served as English-language resource person, helped develop environmental education and fundraising programs, and organized reference library.
- Ornithologist/Interpreter - Project Barito Ulu reconnaissance survey, Indonesia. Conducted a baseline survey preparatory to long-term studies of the ecology of frugivores and forest regeneration.
- English Teacher – Volunteers in Asia. Taught at an Indonesian university.
- Bird-banding Program Assistant Coordinator - University of California, Santa Cruz.
- Participant - Marine Birds of Baja California project, Mexico. Under University of California Research Expeditions Program. Collected field data on nesting and migration of brown pelicans and on occurrence and density of other species in relation to environmental variables.
- Assistant - A study of chameleon ecology and compilation of A Bird Atlas of Kenya.

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Item 7 Attachment 3

Name *

Nancy Morelli

Home Phone *

[REDACTED]

Cell Phone *

[REDACTED]

Mailing Address *

[REDACTED]

McKinleyville CA 95519

Permanent Address *

[REDACTED]

McKinleyville CA 95519

Email Address *

[REDACTED]

Please select the subcommittee you are interested in applying for: *

- Forest Management Plan/Funding/Budget Subcommittee
- Trails Plan/Security/Clean Ups/Infrastructure Subcommittee

Can you commit to 8-10 hours of volunteer time per month? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to attending regularly scheduled monthly meetings? *

- Yes
- No

Can you commit to a term of 1 years? *

- Yes
- No

I am available to attend the regular monthly committee meetings the following times: *
(please keep in mind subcommittee meetings can be on zoom or hybrid)

	During the workday (9am-5pm)	Evenings (5:30pm)	I am not available any of these times
Monday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you selected "During the workday" above, please list 1.5 hour blocks that you are available on those days. *

n/a

Please list any recurring days/times you are NOT available (i.e. monthly meeting for your work or other boards you may sit on). *

3rd Monday of each month/Northern CA horseman assoc. meeting

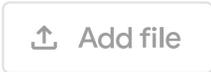
What knowledge, skills and experience will you bring to the Community Forest Committee? (You may attach a resume or additional page if necessary). *

I am a trail rider, equestrian and also have volunteered with Humboldt Trail Stewards for many years

Please describe why you want to participate as a member of the Community Forest Committee. *

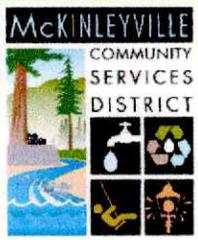
I live nearby and would love to explore the new forest, hiking with my dog and family and also on horseback.

Resume Attachment (PDF File Only)



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Google Forms



McKinleyville Community Services District Community Forest Subcommittee Application

Name Lauren West Date 9/10/24
 Home Phone [REDACTED] Cell Phone [REDACTED]
 Mailing Address [REDACTED] McKinleyville, Ca. 95519
 Permanent Address same
 Email Address [REDACTED]

Which of the following subcommittees would you like to apply to volunteer for:

- Forest Management Plan/Funding/Budget
- Trails Plan/Security/Clean Ups/Infrastructure

Can you commit to 8-10 hours of volunteer time per month? Yes No

Can you commit to attending regularly scheduled monthly meetings? Yes No

Can you commit to a term of 1 year? Yes No

Please fill in your availability for Meeting Days/Times (subcommittee meetings can be held hybrid):

	During the workday (9am-5pm) <i>*Please list 1.5 hr blocks you are available.</i>	Evenings (5:30-7:00pm)	I am not available any of these times.
Monday	I'm retired		
Tuesday			
Wednesday	Consistently the most open day of the week	evenings are open too	
Thursday			
Friday			

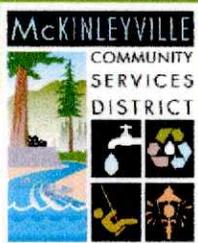
Please list any recurring days/times you are NOT available (i.e. monthly meeting for your work or other boards you may sit on).

Monthly meetings

- 2nd Tuesday of the month California State Horsemen's Assoc. (CSHA) meeting 6 - 7pm
- 2nd Thursday of the month Blue Lake Saddle Club meeting 6-7pm

Yearly commitment

- Monday - following Monday over the 2nd weekend of Oct. CSHA gymkhana finals
- Friday - Monday over the 3rd weekend of Oct. CSHA obstacle challenge finals
- Friday - Monday over the 2nd weekend of Nov. CSHA convention



McKinleyville Community Services District Community Forest Subcommittee Application

What knowledge, skills and experience will you bring to the Community Forest subcommittee? (You may attach a resume or additional page if necessary).

I have been riding horses since I was 10 and train all my own horses including my 3 mustangs. ~~I have~~
I have been a member of California State Horsemen's Association (CSHA)
since 1986. I am the current ~~Chair~~ of the CSHA state patrol and
the current chair for the CSHA obstacle challenge program.

Please describe why you want to participate as a member of the Community Forest subcommittee.
The Green Diamond property that the new community forest is connected to backup to my property
in Fieldbrook. I have been riding the trails in this area for years and would like to see a proper trail
system in this area. A shared system is great with proper safety measures implemented. Adequate
staging areas are important as well as some designated use trails.

I simply want to be sure horses are represented in the planning process. I want to see a fair mixed
use park with safety in mind.

I am a retired business owner (I built a mini storage from the ground up starting in 1984) Our
children run it now. It is very large and successful. Cement Hill Storage in Fairfield, Ca.

Although it is not a requirement, it is highly recommended to attach your resume to your application.

McKinleyville Community Services District

McKinleyville Community Forest Committee

September 17, 2024

TYPE OF ITEM: **ACTION**

ITEM: VIII **Consider Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee Meeting Schedule**

PRESENTED BY: **Kirsten Messmer, Parks & Recreation Director**

TYPE OF ACTION: **Roll Call**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Committee review the material provided, discuss, take public comment, and establish the Forest Management Plan and Funding/Budget Subcommittee Meeting Schedule for the rest of 2024.

Discussion:

Staff reached out to the current Subcommittee Member and received their availability, listed below:

Forest Management Plan/Funding/Budget Subcommittee Availability

- Patrick Kaspari, MCSD General Manager
 - M-F afternoons
 - M, T, Th evenings
- Kirsten Messmer, Parks & Recreation Director
 - M-Th afternoons
 - M, Th evenings
- Maya Conrad, McKMAC Appointee Member
- Jennifer Ortega, PARC Appointee Member
 - M, W, T Evenings (No W 9/4-10/23)
- Joel Rink, Forester/RPF Member
- Kevin Creed, At-Large Member
 - M-F 10am-3pm
 - M-F Evenings

Already Scheduled Regular Meetings

- MCSD Board Meeting – 1st Wednesday of the Month
- MCFC Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of the Month
- PARC Meeting – 3rd Wednesday of the Month
- McK Chamber Board Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of the Month
- McKMAC – 4th Wednesday of the Month
- MIESC – 3rd Wednesday of the Month

- MCSD/County/McKMAC 2x2 Meeting – 4th Monday of the Month

Alternatives:

Take No Action and do not establish the subcommittee meeting schedule

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Not applicable

- MCSD Board Meeting – 1st Wednesday of the Month
- MCFC Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of the Month
- PARC Meeting – 3rd Wednesday of the Month
- McK Chamber Board Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of the Month
- McKMAC – 4th Wednesday of the Month
- MIESC – 3rd Wednesday of the Month
- MCSD/County/McKMAC 2x2 Meeting – 4th Monday of the Month

Alternatives:

Take No Action and do not establish the subcommittee meeting schedule

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Not applicable

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McKinleyville Community Forest
Framework Plan:
RECOMMENDATIONS & GOALS

BBW and Associates, Inc.

Executive Summary

This Forest Management Framework Plan (FMP) is intended to be a concise, revisable, technical document describing the McKinleyville Community Services District's (MCSD) long-term goals and objectives for managing the McKinleyville Community Forest (MCF). We distinguish this Framework Plan from a Forest Management Plan for the reason there currently is no property specific inventory on which to quantify with certainty the Community Forest's condition. However, this Plan does describe the baseline conditions, provides management recommendations, and addresses how silviculture, fire risk reduction, recreational use, wildlife habitat restoration, carbon sequestration and monitoring will be implemented. The FMP also addresses how forest management goals and objectives will be integrated with the existing and likely future conditions of the property and how the MCSD intends to strive for compatibility with the neighborhoods bordering the McKinleyville Community Forest.

BBW and the McKinleyville Community Services District both express gratitude to the North Coast Resource Partnership, which provided technical assistance funding support for this project. North Coast Resource Partnership projects include integrated local and regional solutions to water and wastewater infrastructure, stream and watershed enhancement, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, energy independence, forest health and local economic development.

2.2. History of Project and Property

RECOMMENDATION 2.2.1: The MCSD should conduct a preliminary title search of the MCF lands sooner - rather than waiting for the transfer of ownership - in order to anticipate any potential title issues or constraints and to gain a clearer understanding of the history of the lands.

3.3. Property Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION 3.3.1: There is an opportunity to hydrologically disconnect the road system from watercourses and eliminate some active sediment sources associated with the road network. Additionally, much of the road system will require rock surfacing for recreational use and light duty year-round vehicular access for public safety, field trips and maintenance staff access. These should be moved to section 5 as recommendations and in the roads section. An additional recommendation for property infrastructure is many new gates will need to be installed, and the ownership of the road figured out.

3.6. Recreation

The MCSD recreational trail use plan and management can be guided and informed by local examples such as the Arcata Community Forest, Redwood National and State Parks and the emerging recreational use plan on the McKay Community Forest.

Recreational use and trail development is described in Chapter 5, Section 5.10.

Recreational use goals pertaining to trails on the MCF include:

- Provide an integrated trail system for a diversity of trail users.
- Promote a safe and secure environment for visitors of all ages and abilities.
- Protect the Community Forest's natural and cultural resources.
- Provide a trail information system.
- The recreational infrastructure on the MCF will emphasize dispersed, day-use opportunities.
- Foster community partnerships to assist with trail development and maintenance.
- Promote trail-oriented tourism and special events.
- Pursue linkages with other trails and recreational facilities.

3.7. Cultural Resources

RECOMMENDATION 3.7.1: The MCF be made available to the Wiyot and other local tribes for their access and use for cultural purposes, including for collection of culturally important plant material. A permit system should be developed for plant collection and other cultural purposes. In addition, the MCSD should facilitate the respectful inclusion of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) for on-the-ground ecosystem stewardship. TEK refers to the evolving knowledge acquired by indigenous and local peoples over hundreds or thousands of years through direct contact with the environment. This knowledge is specific to a location and includes the relationships between plants, animals, natural phenomena, landscapes and timing of events that are used for lifeways, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, trapping, agriculture, and forestry.

Archaeological Resources

Any Timber Harvest Plan (or a Non-Industrial Timber Management Plan [NTMP]) that is prepared for the McKinleyville Community Forest will include a Confidential Archaeological Addendum (CAA), prepared per 14 CCR § 929.1. The CAA would include, among other things: (1) an archaeological records check; (2) evidence of written notification to Native Americans of the preparation of a plan; (3) results of a field survey for archaeological and historical sites within the site survey area; (4) documentation of pre-field research; (5) a description of all archaeological or historical sites identified within the site survey area; and (6) a description of any specific enforceable protection measures to be implemented both within the site boundaries and within 100 feet of the site boundaries.

3.8.2 Special Status Plants

RECOMMENDATION 3.8.2.1: The MCSD will engage in a project-specific scoping process to identify those special status species likely to occur in the affected environment of a project area such as a trail project or area proposed for timber harvest, and the potential habitat impact from the activity either individually or cumulatively. A variety of sources of information will typically be consulted, including the California Natural Diversity Database, the MCF GIS database, as well as a variety of completed survey and focused species inventories (e.g., those conducted by GDRC), and research efforts. The scoping process will evaluate likelihood of species presence, habitat availability, survey methodology and timing, and possible mitigation or opportunities for habitat enhancement. Population density and detectability of the special status species, habitats occupied, and the level of habitat disturbance expected from the land management action will guide survey intensity.

Surveys will coincide with the known flowering periods of listed species and be floristic in nature. If an NTMP is prepared for the MCF a Botanical Survey Report will be amended to Section V of the NTMP prior to harvest operations. Any observed population of a California listed or CRPR rank 1 or 2 species (prior to or during operations) will receive a 50-foot no-operations buffer or have specific mitigations developed in consultation with and/or CDFW to be amended to the plan. If any occurrence is observed during harvest operations the Registered Professional Forester (RPF), CAL FIRE, and CDFW shall be notified immediately. The silvicultural techniques implemented on the MCF are designed to be relatively low-impact (i.e., single tree and group selection, retention of the larger conifers, WLPZ buffers, etc.) and are designed to result in a reduction, if not elimination, of potential impacts to species of concern.

3.9. Terrestrial Wildlife

RECOMMENDATION 3.9.1: Hunting is not permitted in the community forest.

RECOMMENDATION 3.9.2: As the MCSD begins to manage the MCF, it should work to maintain the conservation elements conserved by GDRC, while elevating development of a variety of wildlife habitats to a primary rather than secondary goal of forest management; and, where appropriate, work to conserve the existing (and to develop additional) overstory canopy structure. Initiation of selection silviculture, as opposed to a program of clearcutting, will provide habitat for wildlife species that may not now be present, or as abundant, on adjacent GDRC forests and urbanized areas.

3.10. Threatened or Endangered Animal Species

RECOMMENDATION for Special Wildlife Species Management 3.10.1:

The MCSD will engage in a project-specific scoping process to identify those special status wildlife status species likely to occur in the affected environment of a project area, including proposed timber harvest, and the potential impact to wildlife habitat from the activity, either individually or cumulatively. A variety of sources of information will typically be consulted. These include the California Natural Diversity Database and the McKinleyville Community Forest GIS database, as well as a variety of general surveys and focused species inventories and research efforts. The scoping process will evaluate likelihood of species presence, habitat availability, survey methodology and timing, and possible mitigation or opportunities for habitat enhancement. Wildlife survey intensity will be driven by population density and detectability of special status species, habitats occupied by them, and the level of habitat disturbance expected from the land management action.

The presence of deadwood structures (fallen logs, snags) is a key factor in survival of many animal species such as the Pileated woodpecker and clouded salamander. Thus, species diversity depends on the presence or absence of these deadwood structures in the managed landscape, as well as vertical and horizontal spatial complexity. Snag densities in the forest are low due to past cutting practices and the slow rate of natural recruitment. However, accumulations of large down woody debris such as fallen logs are abundant due to the debris accumulated from industrial harvest over the last 20 years.

During the next ten to twenty years, the overall acreages of most habitat types on the MCF are not expected to change very much. However, there may be a shift in the mosaic of habitat areas due to the transition of early successional stages into more mature stands, and the application of silvicultural management activities, such as selection timber harvesting, which foregoes clearcutting in favor of retention of a persistent overstory canopy.

According to direct observations and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB), these rare, threatened, or species of special concern have been documented as occurring on or adjacent to the McKinleyville Community Forest:

- Pacific fisher
- coho salmon
- coastal cutthroat trout
- Northern red-legged frog
- northern spotted owl
- great blue heron
- southern torrent salamander

In addition, several rare, endangered or species of special concern whose ranges may overlap the McKinleyville Community Forest include:

- bald eagle
- northern goshawk
- Cooper's hawk
- tailed frog
- marbled murrelet
- golden eagle
- osprey
- Sonoma tree vole

- sharp shinned hawk
- great egret
- steelhead trout
- white-footed vole
- Vaux's swift
- western pond turtle
- foothill yellow-legged frog

3.12. Invasive Species and Native Pests

Invasive species on the MCF include pampas grass, Scotch broom, English ivy, Canadian thistle and other species that have been introduced and grow vigorously outside their natural habitat. These species have little or no food value for wildlife and can compete with planted conifer seedlings. Other plants of concern include:

- French broom (*Genista monspessulana*)
- Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*)
- Himalayan Black berry (*Rubus armeniacus*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca major*)
- Spanish broom (*Spartium junceum*)

These unwanted plants may be controlled to a limited extent by hand cutting and removal, especially if found and removed early before they can spread. For erosion control work on the MCF weed-free rice straw is recommended.

RECOMMENDATION 3.11.1: Pesticides are not expected to be needed for invasive plant control on this public forest.

Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*) is a non-native conifer found on the MCF and should be controlled as it is can seed in rapidly to open areas.

RECOMMENDATION 3.11.2: When markets are available for Monterey and Monterey-knobcone pines, these trees should be removed as much as it feasibly can be done, to reduce its presence in the forest.

RECOMMENDATION 3.11.3: landowners, private organizations (e.g., Pacific Gas and Electric Company) and public organizations [California Native Plants Society, California Invasive Plant Council and the Humboldt County Weed Management (Humboldt County is a signatory member of the latter group)] agree to work towards control of invasive exotic weeds.

Animals which could be considered pests include:

- black-tailed deer that browse on unprotected leaders of conifer seedlings
- wood rats that can girdle small trees
- Black bears that can strip the bark from young pole sized trees to access the phloem layer where sugars are stored and transported.

Girdling or stripping of bark on young conifers (mainly redwood) by black bear is the only significant animal pest issue on the forest. Bear damage is noticeable in many areas of the forest, and although it can lead to mortality and increased tree defect, it is not currently at a level that will impact merchantable timber values.

RECOMMENDATION 3.11.4: Bear damage should be monitored as thinning of stands in the future and increased growth rates and sugar production can amplify bear damage (Perry et al.).

Other efforts to reduce pest damage or predisposition will include:

- Minimization of injuries to residual trees during forest management activities
- Reuse of old skid trails where available to reduce soil compaction
- Retention of a diverse species composition in or adjacent to stands following forest management activities and within or nearby to future regeneration units
- Removal of non-native tree species that may be predisposed to pests
- Use of CAL FIRE or other forest pest management specialists to train employees in forest pest recognition and management.

3.13. Water Resources

RECOMMENDATION 3.13.1: Water quality is managed by implementing watershed improvement projects and by applying management practices which minimize erosion, sedimentation and flooding. In general, roads should be outsloped and rocked, with ditches and road widths kept to a minimum. Restrictions to limit landing size, skid trail density and soil compaction are written into all operational plans including timber harvest plans.

3.16. Air Quality and Noise Resources

RECOMMENDATION 3.15.1: The MCSD should consider using only single tree selection silviculture along the urban interface to help filter noise and dust. Also, the MCSD should use dust abatement such as watering on haul roads and landings to maintain air quality.

4.2. Issues, Concerns and Opportunities

Management of the MCF should be guided by developing goals and objectives that respond to some or all of the following issues, concerns and opportunities (ICOs). Issues are those activities tied to people behavior. Concerns are the adverse condition of a particular natural resource that may or may not be connected directly to a people-oriented behavior. Opportunities are the favorable juncture of circumstances often with a favorable outcome.

Issues

- Trespass by motorcycles and ATVs, particularly during the wet season
- Trash dumping, particularly at the lower Murray Road gate and at the several access points on the west side of the property.
- Establishment of homeless encampments and associated trash and fire risk issues
- Trespassing across neighboring properties to access MCF
- Lack of parking at access points in neighborhoods
- Target shooting

- Hunting
- Overnight camping (except by permit)

Concerns

- Impacts to water quality, particularly at the un-culverted Mill Creek crossing
- Excessive soil erosion to the skid trail approaches to the un-culverted Mill Creek crossing due to motorcycle and mountain bike use
- The property is likely not large enough to enact an ARB-compliant cost efficient carbon project
- The property is heavy to spruce which is a low value species
- Logs cannot be exported from publicly held lands which limits what can be done with the spruce
- There are large expanses of pampas grass which is a designated invasive species
- Budget for management
- Possible constraints to ingress/egress on title reports
- Neighbors may object to increased use of streets and cul-de-sacs at the access points located in neighborhoods.

Opportunities

- Provide recreational opportunities to McKinleyville and other local residents, especially since McKinleyville is a disadvantaged and park poor location.
- Potentially generate revenue from timber harvest for long term maintenance and sustainability of the property
- Work with the Wiyot Tribe and other local tribes to enhance cultural awareness about the Wiyot ancestral lands and Wiyot way of life.
- Quantify carbon stocks to track emissions and sequestration from existing and future McKinleyville land uses
- Reduce invasive species
- Provide a green belt on the east side of McKinleyville

4.3. Management Goals and Objectives

RECOMMENDATION 4.3.1: Given the non-exhaustive list of issues, concerns and opportunities above, we recommend the MCSD adopt some or all of the following goals and objectives for the community forest:

Goal 1: Forest Stewardship

- 4.3.1.1 Utilize a sustainable forestry model and conservation-based forest structure
- 4.3.1.2 Increase standing timber volume and terrestrial carbon over time
- 4.3.1.3 Favor the growth of larger trees, especially redwood and Douglas-fir
- 4.3.1.4 Create a climate resilient forest and reduce the risk of high intensity, damaging wildfires
- 4.3.1.5 Balance ecological, social and economic values and acknowledge that these values are connected

4.3.1.6 Utilize the Forest as an outdoor laboratory for local schools and for the university to foster research and other academic studies

Goal 2: Environmental Values

- 4.3.2.1 Recognize the value of and maintain the diversity of species (including hardwoods)
- 4.3.2.2 Protect and enhance aquatic and wetland habitat values on the forest as well as within the downstream watersheds.
- 4.3.2.3 Help to mitigate storm-event flows in Mill Creek and Widow White Creek which will limit flooding in the 100-year floodplain
- 4.3.2.4 Manage to develop un-even aged stands, maintain snags, coarse woody debris and landscape-level biological legacies.
- 4.3.2.5 Seek grants and other opportunities to implement projects that improve the quality of fish and wildlife habitat
- 4.3.2.6 Cooperatively work with federal, state and county agencies and non-government organizations for control of non-native invasive species

Goal 3: Working Forest

Add value to the property through application of single tree selection silviculture which allows for development of mature forest conditions over time and into perpetuity

- 4.3.3.2 Provide regular future income from sale of forest products
- 4.3.3.3 Provide for a well-designed and maintained system of roads that are co- used as recreational trails
- 4.3.3.4 Deliver conservation co-benefits including fish and wildlife habitat and water quality
- 4.3.3.5 Provide educational, research and recreational opportunities. Timber harvest operations provide a unique opportunity to provide education in the field regarding the ecological intention of the operations.
- 4.3.3.6 Generate sufficient revenue from timber harvest and grant funding to cover forest, management and maintenance costs and upgrades.
- 4.3.3.7 Seek a partnership between the MCSD and the Wiyot and other tribes to increase opportunities for Wiyot tribal members to gather traditional materials.

Goal 4: Public Access and Recreation

Provide a large public open space area with a well-developed and maintained trail network

- 4.3.4.2 Provide amenities to support public access such as trailhead parking, restrooms, interpretive signs, picnic tables, benches and horse watering troughs.
- 4.3.4.3 Provide maps, signboards, kiosks, Avenza smartphone map application, trail names/numbers.
- 4.3.4.4 Implement a network of trails and access points.
- 4.3.4.5 Encourage public events that promote public access and recreation, e.g., equestrian, bike or running, including races.

- 4.3.4.6 Leverage forest management activities to improve public access and recreation, for example include trail or road improvements in forest harvest operations.
- 4.3.4.7 Support and work to expand volunteer programs to enhance recreation, interpretation and patrol while building a cadre of volunteer stewards.
- 4.3.4.8 Conduct periodic user surveys and needs assessments of forest users for future planning efforts and to understand the demographics of the users.
- 4.3.4.9 Public access points and trails will be developed incrementally in a logical sequence over the course of several years. The timeframe will depend on fundraising and grant opportunities, volunteer interest, and working through the appropriate planning and permitting processes. The best short-term opportunities for access points are both located at the two Murray Road gates.
- 4.3.4.10 Connect the two Murray Road gates via a trail so that there can be an easy round trip opportunity for hikers and recreationists

Goal 5: Community and Tribal Involvement

- 4.3.5.1 Encourage Volunteerism: Volunteer groups associated with the MCF can be instrumental in maintaining recreational trails, removing litter, removing invasive plants, and planting trees and providing specialized interpretive programs.
- 4.3.5.2 Increase awareness and understanding of community-based forestry
- 4.3.5.3 Engage with local Native tribes and groups (such as the Native American Club at Arcata High School) to assist in management of the forest
- 4.3.5.4 Seek partnerships with local schools/community groups for vocational training opportunities.
- 4.3.5.5 Cooperate with individuals and organizations, and local, state, tribal, and federal governments to promote ecosystem health and sustainability
- 4.3.5.6 Develop a volunteer program including a trail maintenance program to build community in the forest
- 4.3.5.7 Through management efforts, attempt to resolve any trail user conflicts through education, re-designation of trails, maintenance and construction of rolling dips for use as speed control, and periodic trail patrol. The emphasis will be on education so that trail users adopt appropriate trail etiquette and self-police the trail system.

Goal 6: Public Safety

Post directional maps and maps that display “you are here” locations.

Cooperatively work with federal, state and county agencies and non-governmental organizations to integrate fire prevention and suppression resources and develop and implement hazardous fuel reduction projects to reduce risk of wildfire

4.3.6.2 The District and County will enforce applicable county rules and regulations such as illegal dumping, camping, no hunting, leash law and litter.

4.3.6.3 Develop evacuation routes/plans, emergency access for fire trucks, helicopters, ambulances, litters, etc.

4.3.6.4 Provide education and plan for wildfire safety and evacuation

4.3.6.5 Provide specific safety plans for trail closures or detours around active timber harvests or other operations where heavy equipment is in use

4.3.6.6 Create yield signs for recreational users to minimize trail conflicts

Goal 7: Education

Provide opportunities for involvement with local schools, colleges, universities and the McKinleyville Land Trust.

4.3.7.2 Utilize docents and naturalist guided walks to provide opportunities for people to enjoy the forest

4.3.7.3 Increase awareness and appreciation of cultural heritage by working with the local tribes to increase cultural awareness of the forest.

5.1. Timber Harvest

RECOMMENDATION 5.1.1: Assuming the MCSD expects to manage the timber resources on the MCF, the MCSD should hire a consulting forestry firm/RPF to complete an NTMP consistent with the recommendations found throughout this document. An NTMP is a long-term permit that requires periodic updating of forest inventories; botanical surveys; erosion sites; wildlife habitat and use and cumulative effects to watersheds including Widow White/Norton Creek and Mill Creek watersheds.

5.2. Growth and Yield

RECOMMENDATION 5.2.1: Hire a consulting forestry firm/RPF to conduct an inventory at the property and stand level that provides estimates of volume and growth by species accurate to within $\pm 15\%$ at the 66% confidence level which will aid in growth and yield modeling at the stand level. Ensure that all modeling and reporting of growth and yield includes estimates of carbon stocking in metric tons per acre in order to provide the MCSD with estimates of the amount of carbon being sequestered on the MCF.

RECOMMENDATION 5.2.2: Establish a conifer board foot stocking goal somewhere above baseline (e.g. ~ 30 MBF/ac) as a floor not to go below, and restrict harvest to less than 25% of growth until the goal is reached. Once reached, restrict harvest of growth to approximately 50% of growth until the upper goal is reached.

RECOMMENDATION 5.2.3: Establish a conifer board foot stocking goal “soft ceiling” at approximately 100 MBF/ac at which point all or most of growth can be harvested.

5.5. Aesthetic Considerations

Recommendation: The use of uneven-aged silviculture, which is the silvicultural method recommended for use on the MCF, would reduce potential visual impacts associated with timber harvesting. Trees retained for late-successional wildlife habitat, future crop trees, and growing stock will provide continuous forest cover after harvest operations. Harvested stands are, by their very nature, more open than natural stands, but should be well-stocked and composed of various age classes displaying distinct layers of tree crowns. Some management-created group selection gaps will mimic natural forest openings created by natural disturbances such as windthrow. Slash can be packed on skid trails after use, “camouflaging” the bare, disturbed ground appearance and providing cover for erosion control.

Recommendation: To minimize aesthetic impacts of timber harvest, slash can be chipped along high use roads and trails or burned or trucked to a biomass facility or to other less visible areas. Lopping and scattering slash from recent timber harvests to a depth of less than 24” can hasten and cycle nutrients back into the soil. In coastal redwoods forests, slash and bare ground from timber harvesting is typically obscured by vegetation regrowth in a couple of years. Treating slash by burning, removing or lopping and scattering to a depth of 24” or less should be standard operating procedure for each timber harvest operation.

Within the harvest units, additional measures will be taken beyond “business as usual” to clean up debris after harvest. Trees damaged during logging (broken tops, missing bark, etc.) will be minimized in single tree harvest, but when they do occur will generally be removed, especially near roads and trails. Logging slash will be removed from roads and trails. Slash can be chipped adjacent to high use trails and multi-use forest roads to improve aesthetics. Log landings, which will be kept to as small of size as possible and “naturalized”- meaning that leaf litter and native plants (huckleberry, ferns) will be planted on landing surfaces after harvest. Over the long-term as the dense young stands are pre-commercially or commercially thinned, the volume of unmerchantable tops and slash material will decline as the tree stem density decreases and the stand ages increase. Log yarding (whether cable or tractor based) will periodically impact existing recreational trails. Following timber operations, recreational trails should be re-constructed and, in many cases, upgraded. Timber harvest operations provide an opportunity to upgrade trails because roads will be opened up for access, and dump truck loads of rock may be brought to the site for trail surfacing. Also, having heavy equipment on site may lead to an opportunity to reshape or add to an existing trail.

To improve visual aesthetics, most trees damaged by logging will be removed. In areas of high recreational use minor logging damage to retained trees can be mitigated using black or brown tree paint. Additionally, trees that were marked with blue paint for harvest but for some reason not cut should have the paint marks “blacked out” to improve the visual appearance of the forests. All operational related flagging should be removed from logging areas, post-harvest.

Recommendation: The overall management effort will strive to maintain a visually pleasing forest setting that serves to enhance the recreational experience, local tourism and provide an attractive visual backdrop to the surrounding community.

5.7. Road System

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.1: Even though there is and will be an extensive road system on the MCF, much of which is intended to be rocky, motorized public access (e.g., ATVs, motorcycles, etc.) to any road or trail will not be allowed outside of entry points and parking lots. Roads will be utilized for management and administrative purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.2: Proper road, landing, and crossing design is the key to minimizing both the costs of construction and maintenance and environmental impacts. In general, the principles and practices described in Weaver and Hagans (2015) and Board of Forestry Technical Addendum #5, (which is a requirement of the Forest Practice Rules), which contain guidance on hydrologic disconnection, road drainage, minimization of diversion potential and high-risk crossings) will be followed in the MCF. The following represents a summary of design principles for roads, landings and watercourse crossings that will be followed for work in the MCF:

- New and reconstructed roads and landings will generally be outsloped for surface drainage and inboard ditches will be avoided except where unavoidable. Where such ditches exist and are determined to be significant sediment sources, they will be eliminated over time if possible.
- Compared to waterbars, rolling dips are more resistant to traffic induced failures and will be used where possible for surface drainage. Rolling dips also allow for traffic to flow without stopping to cross an abrupt edge. Other road drainage structures will be used in some situations, such as existing crowned main-line roads with acceptable numbers of cross drains. On temporary roads that are “put to bed” and will not be driven on for several decades, except in very rare cases, all culverts will be removed when they are abandoned and all drainage facilities will be substantial enough to not require maintenance.
- On slopes over 50 percent, road design for hillslope stability will depend on site specific conditions.
- Roads intended for year-round log hauling use will be surfaced to reduce erosion potential. Surfacing agents include, but are not limited to: rock, chip seal, and asphalt paving.
- Watercourse crossings will be designed to accommodate a 100-year runoff event, as well as for wood and sediment passage.
- Watercourse crossings will be designed to minimize diversion potential. Fill volume will be minimized over crossings, while providing sufficient depth of fill to protect a culvert from crushing under truck traffic.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.3: Watercourse crossings using culverts with diameters of 60 inches or more will have armored entrances and outflows if they are necessary to avoid substantial loss of fill material.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.4: Crossings of class I streams will be designed to provide for fish passage (all life stages). Where it is possible, bridges or pipe arches will be used to facilitate fish passage on both forks of Mill Creek.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.5: Rock-lined ford crossings will be used for class II and III watercourse crossings where appropriate, since their failure rate is much lower than for culverts (Spittler 1992). Approaches to fords will be rocked to prevent sediment delivery to watercourse channels. It is only possible to use rock-reinforced fords in locations where channel gradients and slopes are moderate to low. This type of structure is most applicable to channels that flow only in direct response to rainfall. For each proposed rock-lined dry ford, the NTMP and Notice of Timber Operation (NTO) will identify the construction design needed to minimize the potential for contributing sediment to watercourse.

Another aspect of road design that is specific to community forests is integration with recreational use. In general, recreational use is anticipated to occur year-round, thus roads and trails that are part of the designated trail network need to be designed to accommodate wet weather use. Due to the fine-grained nature of soils in MCF and high rainfall rates, it will generally be necessary to apply rock surfacing to most recreational use roads and trails. For trails that occupy former or current logging skid trails it will be necessary to construct robust drainage features on steep segments, beyond typical waterbars on skid trails, which are not designed to handle year-round traffic by mountain bikes and/or horses. In contrast to "normal" skid trails it may be necessary to construct rolling dips rather than water bars on skid trails that are part of the trail network.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.6: Roads that are used for recreational use trails should be surfaced with durable rock for logging road use and also topped with less coarse finer grain sized rock to allow for a more optimal surface for equestrians, hikers, runners and mountain bikes. Typical logging road rocking (loose, coarse sized) is not compatible with recreational use of the multi-purpose road system. Rocking the surface of roads and trails is key for allowing year-round use of the road and trail system.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.7: At all stream crossings, recreational trails will be required to use structures that pass the 100-year flood flow.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.8: Traffic control will be required whenever recreational users could interact with ongoing forest operations such as logging or road construction.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.9: Trail or road segments affected by logging operations will be returned to pre-logging condition after operations are complete.

Since the entire MCF will likely be within the boundaries of an NTMP, all treatment of Controllable Sediment Discharge Sites (CSDS) will need to meet the requirements of the Forest Practice Rules. While CAL FIRE does not have legal jurisdiction over trail construction techniques, CAL FIRE and the RCRWQB does have jurisdiction over sediment sources - this means that trails may not contribute sediment to watercourses, and stream crossings need to meet CAL FIRE requirements on culvert/crossing sizing. For example, trails that occupy roads used by skidding equipment (skid roads) will be designed to maintain erosion control structures such as water bars and outsloped drainage.

Proper maintenance is a key to reducing long-term contribution of road related sediment.

RECOMMENDATION 5.7.10: Permanent and seasonal roads will be inspected at least once annually to ensure that drainage facilities and structures are functioning properly. Three types of inspections will be used: (1) formal inspections, (2) rapid ad hoc inspections, and (3) storm patrol inspections. During formal inspections, all crossings and roads will be carefully observed every two years, and problem sites will be recorded on road/crossing inventory forms. To cover the period between detailed inspections, a rapid ad hoc inspection will be made by MCSD staff and foresters during normal activities. "Storm patrol inspections" of known or anticipated problem facilities will be triggered by large winter storm events. Abandoned roads will be inspected at least twice following the completion of the decommissioning process, including at least one inspection following a large hydrologic event. Erosion Control Plans (ECP) will be submitted with every Notice of Timber Operations. The ECP details erosion control actions, sediment source treatments and monitoring requirements that take place following each timber operation.

5.8. Fire Protection and Hazard Reduction

RECOMMENDATION 5.8.1: Create shaded fuel breaks along and adjacent to public roads:

RECOMMENDATION 5.8.2 Regulations for the MCF should prohibit hunting, shooting, smoking and fires.

5.9. Conservation Measures

RECOMMENDATION 5.9.1: Minimize growing space loss by reusing exiting landings and skid trails, limiting landing size, and decommissioning exiting roads that are not needed for future management. Due to the desire for keeping landings as small as possible to prevent growing space loss, front end log loaders are not practical in MCF timber harvest operations. Boom type hydrologic shovel loaders can operate on smaller landing footprints so are the desirable log loader type.

RECOMMENDATION 5.9.2: Resource values of native habitat communities should be restored, maintained, or enhanced to promote natural diversity and stability. Measures to achieve this goal include snag recruitment and retention, preservation of appropriate logs and other wood, debris maintenance of natural ponds and springs, and protection of riparian zones for use as movement corridors for wildlife.

Specific Goals for Recreation on the McKinleyville Community Forest include:

- Provide opportunities for people to maintain and improve health and fitness through outdoor physical activity.
- Provide recreational trails that enable people to seek challenges and engage in play.
- Provide a refuge where people can connect with nature, experience solitude and wildness, make discoveries, and observe natural beauty.
- Provide an outdoor classroom for students and community members.
- Support public appreciation of watershed services, forest management, and modern timber harvest practices.
- Nurture a sense of place in the greater McKinleyville area and boost civic pride.
- Promote tourism and support the local economy.
- Allow local non-profit restoration groups to collect native plant material, such as transplanting stock and shrub greenery that is removed along power line right-of- ways and along alignments of proposed logging skid trails or new road segments where native plants would be impacted.
- Provide opportunities for local Native groups to apply Traditional Ecological Knowledge to stewardship of the forest and to gather plants for traditional purposes.

Recreation Trail Guidelines

1. New trail routes will be planned to meet the growing dispersed recreation demands and to reduce user conflict.
 - Disabled access will be provided by upgrading as many low gradient trail sections as possible to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

- Steps will be taken to ensure that recreational use is consistent with maintaining resource values. Illegal camping activity will not be permitted.

Mountain Bike Specific Trails

Mountain bikers often prefer features that are technically challenging and provide an experience of play and discovery. However, the MCF currently contains a number of sites where uncontrolled mountain bike (and motorcycle) use has degraded the road/trail surface and is causing erosion. In developing new and improved mountain bike trails erosion control will be a major consideration, as will safety concerns (to pedestrians, equestrians, etc.), and the exclusion of motor vehicles.

Mountain bike facilities may include a pump track, skills area, and trailhead parking. Pump tracks provide a continuous loop with rollers, berms, and other features that allow riders to gain momentum without pedaling by “pumping” the bike with up and down movements. A skills area would provide features constructed with dirt or wood to help riders’ practice bike handling, balancing, and jumping. The kids’ zone would provide small-scale features with a focus on safety and skill development. These facilities would provide opportunities for riders, especially youth, to learn and practice skills and then apply those skills on designated trails within the MCF. (These facilities, if completed, may limit future timber management within the facility footprint.)

Multi-Use Trails

Horseback riding is popular in the McKinleyville area and there are many horse owners within close proximity to the MCF. While some riders may be able to access the MCF without driving to a trailhead parking facility, it is likely that a parking area that can accommodate all users including horse trailers will be needed at some point.

Most trails are anticipated to be multi-use trails meaning that they provide use by hikers, runner’s, mountain bike riders and equestrians. Soliciting input from all of these users groups is important when designing and designating recreational trails.

Community support is vital for trail projects, including pre-construction phases and support for management once constructed. Solicit community leadership support for trail development. Promote community involvement with trail planning, construction and maintenance. Create alliances between various trail user groups early in an effort to maximize resources and efforts. Assess needs within the community and solicit leadership support for trail development.

Conflicts can occur on multi-use trails but can be avoided by constructing trails with good sight lines. Education is the key for fostering trail user cooperation and the MCS D can work with trail organizations to help the community to develop better trail sharing practices.

Other Recommendations for Recreation and Trails Include:

- Work with adjacent landowners to discourage and resolve trespass issues.
- Identify the locations of rare plant occurrences and minimize impacts during trail construction.
- Prohibit the use of motorized vehicles, shooting, hunting, camping, fires, and night time use, unless specifically authorized.

- Provide interpretive services that explain the Community Forest history, management programs and forest ecology. Services provided may be in the form of self-guided trails, brochures and maps or docent-led tours and are designed to encourage public use of the Community Forest and to solicit opinions from the public to improve the management of forest resources and visitor use.
- Design trails to comply with applicable local, State, and Federal master plans, design guidelines, environmental mitigation, laws, permits, or accepted standards.
- Remove unauthorized/rogue trails as soon as possible.
- Resolve trail user conflicts through education so that trail users adopt appropriate trail etiquette and self-police.
- Equestrian Trailer Parking – In addition to providing equestrian trailer parking at spaces where horseback riding trails are present, horse-friendly materials should be used. Spaces should be designed as a row of pull-through spaces each with sufficient depth and width for unloading horses and to allow horses to be tied to trailer sides. To accommodate overflow parking, additional space is recommended. Accessibility to shade and potable water should be considered when designing equestrian parking.
- Maps and Signs – Provide signs, maps and brochures at all trailheads and appropriately placed information kiosks to indicate permitted types of trail use, distances of trail sections, trail difficulty rating and to show the location of the kiosk or trailhead where the user is viewing the information. Signs and maps may also make note of landmarks, commonly seen wildlife, unusual features and sites of historical or ecological significance. All signs should be easily identifiable, vandal resistant, weather resistant and durable.
- Utilize mobile friendly website or application – MCF trails should have information already available online. A mobile device friendly website or application “app” such as Avenza can empower users to get information without the need for signs or other physical changes in the trail.
- Published resources include the California State Parks Trail Manual, the US Forest Service Trail Manual (FSM 2355), the USDA Forest Service Trails Management Handbook (FSH 23.09.18), USDA Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Trails (EM-7720-103, USDA/FHWA, Equestrian Design Guidebook for Trails, Trailheads, and Campgrounds, and the 2004 International Mountain Biking- Trail Solutions Guide.

The MCSD and County may consider adopt of an ordinance to provide specific guidelines for avoiding user conflicts and impacts to forest resources. Issues to address include rules for dog walking (e.g., provisions for leashes and waste clean-up) and whether activities such as disc golf and ropes courses are compatible with the overall management goals.

To report non-emergency illegal activities forest users can call Parks and Recreation. (707) 839-9003 and or the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office at (707) 445-7251. For emergencies call 911.

5.11. Access Points for Public Access

Trailhead kiosks should be installed and maintained at primary access points. Kiosks may include the following:

- rules and regulations governing the use of the forest including right-of-way;
- emergency information;
- special warnings about hazardous conditions;

- visitor awareness information;
- Native American cultural history;
- location map showing where cell phones can call out;
- trail system maps and links to online maps and apps such as Avenza;
- information pertaining to upcoming volunteer work days;
- information pertaining to ways to donate to the MCF fund;

RECOMMENDATION 5.12.1: Design all public access and parking facilities far into the property so as to reduce disturbance to neighbors.

RECOMMENDATION 5.12.2: Develop a plan for how to control access into parking and other areas at night.

5.12. Community and Tribal Involvement

RECOMMENDATION 5.12.1: For transparency, the MCSD should provide budget details for all departmental programs. Details on the MCF forestry program can be provided on the MCF webpage. An annual report should be developed for the MCF program, which details activities, costs and revenues generated annually.

5.13. Public Safety

The District should conduct regular assessments of hazard tree potential in areas of high use and along the urban interfaces. Hazard trees will be removed based upon these assessments. In order for a tree to be considered as posing a risk it must meet two criteria:

(1) The tree, or a tree part, must be at an increased likelihood of failure, usually due to the presence of some structural defect (e.g., the presence of a significant amount of decay in a portion of the tree) and (2) there must be one or more targets present. A target may be any person or property that could potentially be damaged or injured should a failure occur. If there are no targets present there is no risk and the tree will not be considered a hazard, even if it is structurally unsound and likely to fail at any time. Ideally, hazard tree removal will occur during a scheduled timber harvest operation in the vicinity.

5.16. Forest Certification (FSC/SFI)

RECOMMENDATION 5.16.1: The MCSD should consider the advantages (public transparency, periodic verification, association with similarly inclined landowners), and the disadvantages (cost, staff time commitment) of third party certification and decide if obtaining a certificate is worth pursuing for the MCF.