

## **FUEL MANAGEMENT**

**5022**

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The state forests present a prime opportunity for CDF to plan, implement, and demonstrate the effectiveness of a fuel management program.

Fuel management is an integral and important part of fire protection and should be pursued as actively as fire prevention and fire suppression in the state forests. There is a need to manage and control accumulations of dead and living vegetation in the forests to decrease the probability of destructive, high-intensity wildfires and to plan, construct, and maintain strategically located fuelbreaks. Prescribed burning, as well as pile and burn and mechanical methods, should be considered as a tool for accomplishing fuel management.

Slash abatement methods may vary from one forest to another, depending upon local conditions and hazards involved. Slash abatement requirements will equal or exceed the local forest practice rules and will be specified in timber sale agreements.

A program to fell snags in other than timber sale areas, especially along roads and other strategic locations, should be developed and implemented, using conservation camp and other CDF resources. Snags with wildlife value should be retained in accordance with applicable district forest practice rules.

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