The department will actively participate in Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP), as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (not available in e-format) for Coordinated Resource Management and Planning in California. The department will apply this approach to fire and resource management wherever appropriate.

CRMP offers an approach to land and resource management including fire protection, wherein individual, agency, and political boundaries are not limiting, and resource problems are solved based on resource boundaries. CRMP embodies the concept that integrating and coordinating resource uses will result in improved land and resource management with the least conflict among users, owners, and public agencies. The Chaparral Management program is a good example of CRMP application. CDF, along with ten other state and federal agencies, signed the CRMP statewide memorandum and has taken a major role in this common sense approach to planning.

In order to more effectively respond to resource concerns while maintaining a multiple use philosophy, resource agencies and private landowners must work together to achieve the greatest overall benefits. As defined in the MOU, "coordinated resource planning is a procedure designed to achieve (1) compatibility among the uses being made of natural resources, energy and mineral resources, livestock production, watershed, wildlife habitat, fire protection, wood products, and recreation; and (2) improvement of the resources and their perpetuation in high quality condition."

In general, a Coordinated Resource Plan is appropriate when:

- Ownership are intermingled (public and private).
- Conflicts are likely to develop.
- Resource needs extend beyond individual, political, and agency boundaries.
- Common use areas exist.
- Resource problems cannot be as effectively solved using other techniques.

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