

State of California

The Resources Agency

Memorandum

To : William T. Imboden, Chief, Region I
Dept, of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 670
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Date : February 29, 1988

From : Department of Fish and Game

Subject : Timber Harvesting Plan 1-88-041 MEN.
Ray Gulch, Navarro River, Mendocino County.

A preharvest inspection was conducted on February 19, 1988. Participants included Lee Susan, RPF; Tom Schultz, LP; Robert Pardini, LTO; Mike McKay and Jim Purcell, CDF; Tom Spittler, Geologist; and Dick Moore, DFG. Dick Moore was present for the inspections of the areas around Ray Gulch and Barton Gulch. He did not participate in inspection of the new road right of ways.

Fish utilize Ray and Barton Gulch in the plan areas.

Observations:

1. The Class I watercourse extends at least to the edge of the plan area at Area 1. Jim Purcell indicated he had seen a fish at the road crossing in the past. The pond extends south of Area 1 along the east edge of the plan area.

2. At Area 2, a landing outside the WLPZ (50 feet) will be reused. No problems are anticipated. This area is not visible from the highway and it is on porous soil, therefore, esthetics and erosion do not appear to be a problem. Low areas on the road will need to be rocked if this haul road is used in the winter period.

3. At Area 3, the proposed road is within the 50 foot WLPZ of a flowing channel of Barton Gulch. The proposed road is at the elevation of the flood plain for a distance of approximately 150 feet. This section of road will require special attention if use of a new road within the WLPZ will result in equal protection for the watercourse. We were unable to agree upon the best reasonable method needed to protect this area. Department of Fish and Game's concerns include: 1) The RPF did not recognize it was within the WLPZ; 2) A new road will be constructed upslope of this area; 3) The new road is on steep slopes with a steep road gradient between Areas 4 and 5.

The old roadbed within the WLPZ at Area 3 is intact and does not show evidence of gullyng or surface erosion. Concern is based on use of the road that will disturb the area resulting in erodible soil entering the stream. Elsewhere when roads are constructed in such areas the road is not stable unless special care is used. Fine material can be; "pumped" up through heavy rock in such areas when heavy loads are hauled across them. Water and mud can collect on the road in areas where it will be discharged to the watercourse during use or storm runoff.

Special care could include placing fabric on the 150 foot road grade prior to rocking this road to elevate it above the flood plain.

Review Team Questions:

4. Q. Evaluate Ray Gulch and the pond for fish.
 - A. Evaluated. No fish were seen, however, Jim Purcell indicated he had seen fish upstream to Area I. The RPF has agreed to extend the Class I . watercourse to Area 1.
5. Q. Evaluate new road construction. Are any stability problems expected?
 - A. Evaluated. In addition to other stability problems, some problems are anticipated at Area 3 unless special precautions are utilized. The roadbed at Area 3 is on grade at the edge of the flood plain. Flowing water in a channel within the f lood plain is within 50 feet of the proposed roadbed. The area of concern is approximately 150 feet long at the edge of the flood plain. See Recommendation Number 2.

Cumulative Impacts:

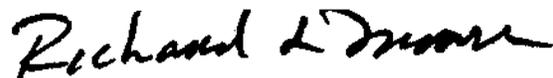
The cumulative impacts should not significantly adversely impact fish and wildlife resources if accomplished as indicated within the plan and the attached recommendations in this report.

The Department of Fish and Game's computerized Natural Diversity Data Base indicates no recorded plant or animal species of concern within the plan area.

The area contains second growth Redwood and fir that is planned for harvest. The canopy is "closed" resulting in very little understory on north facing slopes. There is a fern ground cover on these slopes. Organisms requiring a closed canopy of large trees will be affected adversely following harvest. Organisms requiring open regenerated forest will benefit following harvest. Clearcut harvest, if proposed, within Ray Gulch and Barton Gulch, should receive through evaluation at the time of proposal.

Recommendations:

1. Extend the Class I watercourse to Area 1.
2. At Area 3 stabilize the 150 foot section of the proposed WLPZ road at least equal to stability obtained by using fabric with at least one foot of rock on top.



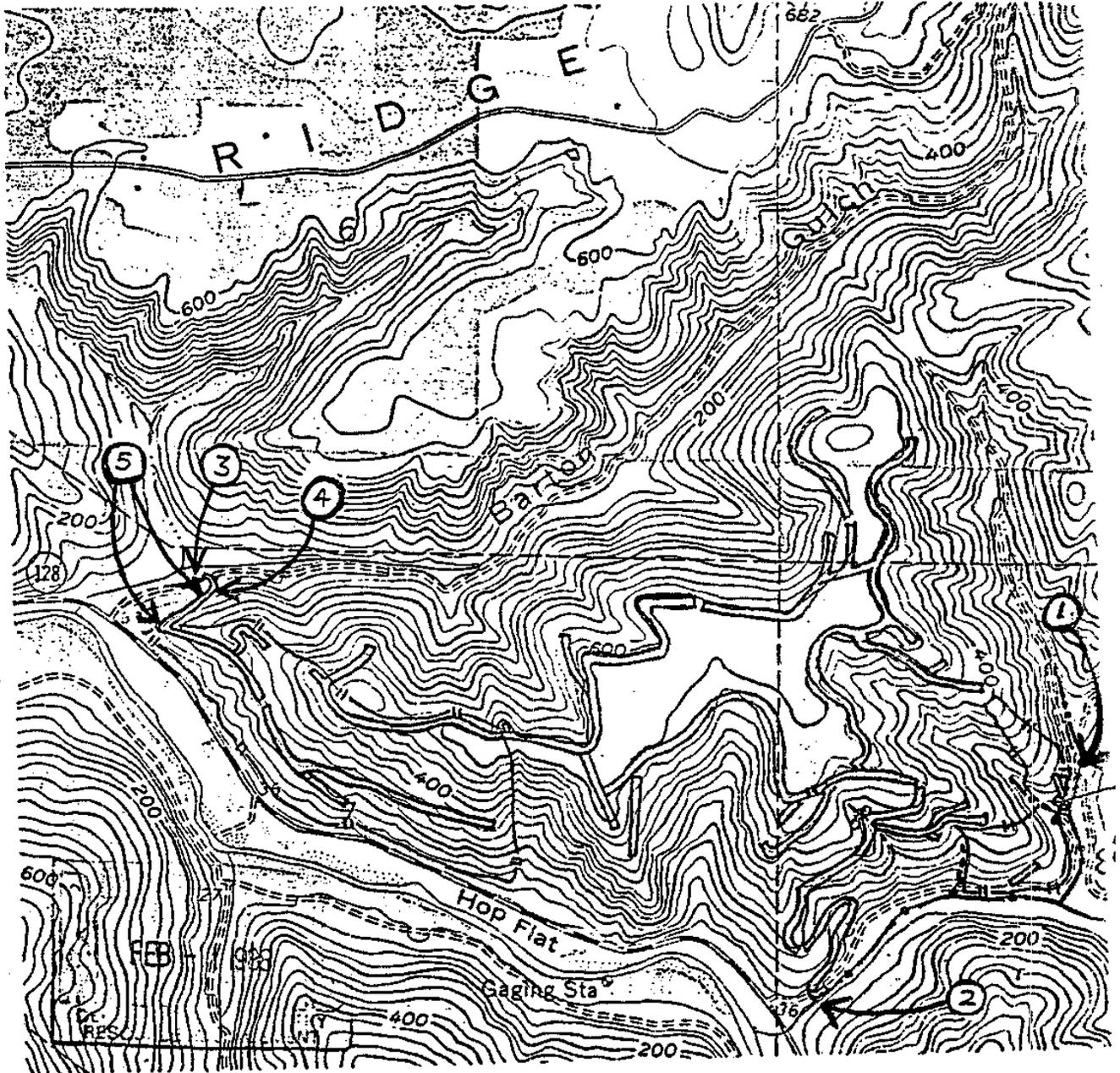
Richard Moore
Assoc. Water Quality Biologist
Dept. of Fish and Game

MAP TO ACCOMPANY
 TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN
 Pardini - East Barton Gulch - Louisiana Pacific All roads are seasonal.

THP 1-88-041 MEN

T 15 N

R 16 W



- Legend:
- Plan Area Boundary -----
 - New Road Construction [thick solid line]
 - Watercourses:
 - Class 1 [solid line with dots]
 - Class 2 [dashed line with dots]
 - Class 3 [dashed line]
 - Permanent Culvert installation [dashed line with bridge symbol]
 - Temporary Dry Crossing [dashed line with bridge symbol]

24 inch
Culvert

