

Forest Safeguards

Forest Safeguards

TIMBER HARVEST PLAN



1. Before a landowner in California can harvest timber, a written timber harvest plan must be approved by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
2. A timber harvest plan describes in detail how the harvest will be done, how the area will be replanted, and what will be done to prevent erosion, keep water pure, and protect habitat.
3. A timber harvest plan can only be written by a registered professional forester.

Forest Safeguards

CLEAN WATER ACT



1. The Clean Water Act protects against watershed erosion that might clog rivers and streams.
2. The CWA regulates areas around city and county water supplies to maintain water quality.
3. About 85% of California's water comes from the forests by means of creeks, streams, and rivers.

Forest Safeguards

FOREST PRACTICES ACT



1. Controls all harvest-related activities on private lands in the state.
2. The California Forest Practices Act is the most comprehensive regulation in the nation.
3. It encourages private forest landowners to do whatever is necessary to protect and improve forest health.

Forest Safeguards

CONTROLLED BURNS



1. Controlled fires are usually set during the rainy season, when they can be more easily regulated.
2. Controlled burns reduce the amount of brush and debris on the ground.
3. California Native Americans set fires to open up the forests for crops, to make it easier to hunt, and to protect their villages.

Forest Safeguards

MANAGED THINNING



1. Thinning protects the forest by preventing overcrowding.
2. Thinned trees can be chipped for use by pulp and paper mills.
3. Thinned trees can be used as fuel to produce electricity at biomass power plants.

Forest Safeguards

SUSTAINED YIELD HARVESTING



1. Sustained yield means never harvesting more wood than the forest is currently growing.
2. California foresters plant 20-30 million seedlings every year!
3. Sustained yield harvesting provides the forest products we need and also makes sure that California's forests will be here today, tomorrow, and forever.