

Private Forest Accord Implementation: 2023 Progress Report



Background

In February 2020, conservation and forest industry groups offered to revise the Forest Practices Act (FPA) and forest practice rules through a memorandum of understanding known as the Private Forest Accord (PFA). In June 2020, the Legislature adopted Senate Bill (SB) 1602 which increased helicopter spray buffers; directed rulemaking for salmon, steelhead, and bull trout streams in the Siskiyou Region; and set communication laws for spraying pesticides by helicopter. The bill set the accord timeline and led to mediated sessions between representatives of the forest industry and representatives of environmental interest resulting in the PFA Report.

In March 2022, the Legislature adopted the PFA Report recommendations through SBs 1501 and 1502, and House Bill 4055. SB 1501 (2022) amongst other things, made substantial changes to the FPA, required the recommendations of the PFA Report be incorporated into the forest practice rules, requires the pursuit of incidental take permits (ITPs) through a habitat conservation plan (HCP) and requires the Board of Forestry (BOF) to undertake rulemaking related to tethered logging and post-disturbance harvest.

Additionally, SB 1501 (2022) requires the BOF to submit annual progress reports regarding PFA implementation to the legislative committees related to forestry. This report captures the BOF's implementation obligations, the status of each, and any related 2023 activities.

Implementation Activities

Statutory Requirement	Status	Deadline	2023 Activities
Adopt a single rule package consistent with the PFA Report	Complete	11/30/2022	
First appoint Adaptive Management Program Committee members	Complete	11/30/2022	
Submit a proposed draft HCP	Complete	12/31/2022	
Report implementation progress to legislative committees	Complete	Annually	A report was submitted on 2022 activities in April 2023.
If needed, make minor amendments to single rule package	Complete	7/1/2023	Revised rules were adopted on June 7 th , 2023.
Appoint the first voting members of the Independent Research and Science Team	Complete	Not Specified	The first members were appointed on June 7 th , 2023.
Complete post-disturbance harvest rulemaking	Started	11/30/2025	Rulemaking was initiated on January 4 th , 2023.
Initiate tethered logging rulemaking	Not Started	3/17/2025	
Report to the legislative committees whether ITPs were issued by 12/31/2027 & if a petition was received from a PFA Report author	Not Started	2/1/2028 or earlier	

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