



Staff Report

March 4th, 2024 Council Workshop Meeting

Forest Management Plan Update

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

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BACKGROUND: The Nakia Creek Fire that occurred in the City's Jones and Boulder Creek Watershed accelerated the timber harvesting schedule from the proposed plan outlined in the original Forest Management Plan (FMP) completed in 2012. The City's FMP was completed for a 40-year period of rotational harvesting and replanting of the 1,700 acres of watershed land. An updated FMP will reflect a new harvest and planting schedule over the next 40 years based on the changes caused from the Nakia Creek Fire harvest and other harvesting activities completed to date.

SUMMARY: AKS, the City's Forest Management Consultant, has worked closely with the City on managing all the contractors that are involved when harvests take place in the watershed. They are intimately familiar with the 1,700 acres in the watershed and how to best protect the natural resources, build roads for future harvest units, aid the City in permitting requirements, and maximize revenue for the City. Revenues over the 11-year harvest period to date have totaled \$8.14 million dollars and the Watershed property is healthier now than when the program started.

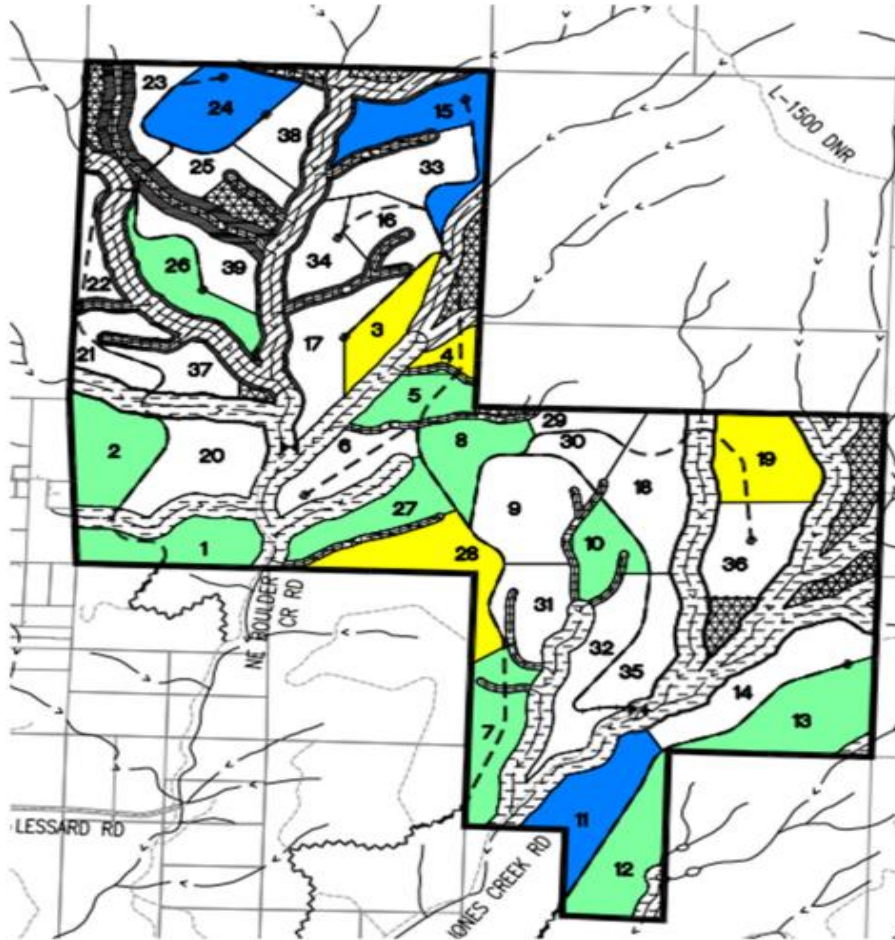


Figure 1: Original FMP Harvest Plan. Blue harvested within the last 5 years, green harvested more than 5 years ago, yellow planned harvest prior to Nakia fire, white future harvests.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: By updating the FMP, the City will continue to be a good steward to the watershed and help reduce fire risks within and adjacent to the City’s land.

BUDGET IMPACT: \$40,000 from the Water Fund, which will be covered by revenue from harvests on the land.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that this item be placed on the March 18th, 2024 Council Regular Meeting Consent Agenda.