



Red Tail Harvest Plan Updates

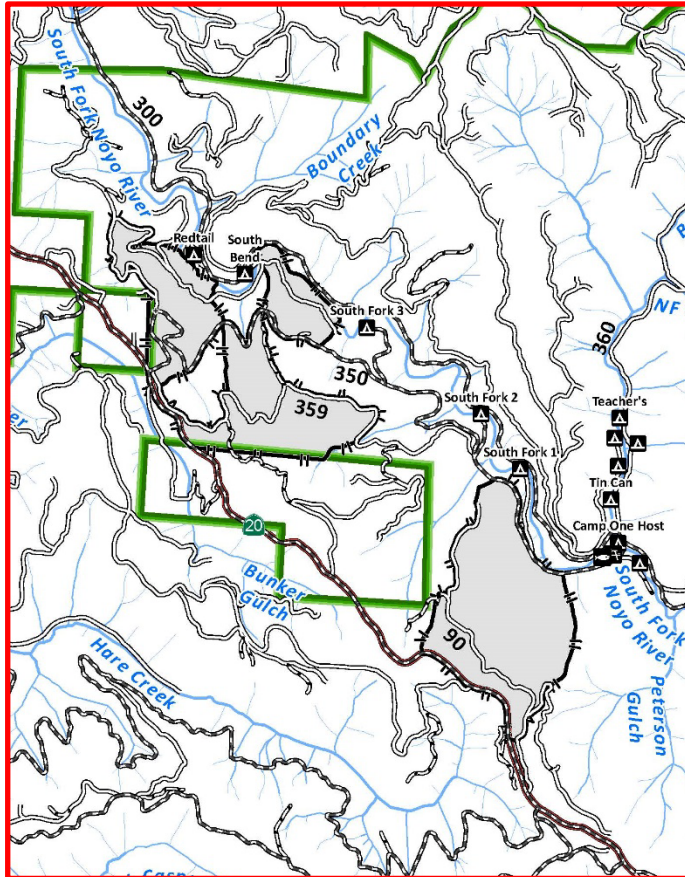


Figure 1 Map of the Red Tail THP area shown in gray.

Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) on JDSF are implemented in the framework of the ecosystem management approach outlined in the Forest Management Plan. This management approach is driven by explicitly outlined goals and is intended to be adaptable based on feedback from monitoring and research.

The Red Tail THP (fig 1) was approved in 2019, and the sale of the timber was completed in 2020. Tree falling and yarding operations began in 2021. In 2022, CAL FIRE instituted an operational pause on open THPs in response to concerns expressed by the public and other stakeholders.

Based on feedback from a wide array of community members, scientists, environmental groups, and local Tribal leaders, the State outlined a [new blueprint for managing JDSF](#) that balances the requirements of state law with current state climate goals, opportunities for Tribal co-management, and restoration economies. In accordance with this vision, several

operational changes were made to the Red Tail THP. Removal of trees over 48 inches in diameter was halted and large permanent retention trees were marked in the harvest area to enhance older forest structures and long-term carbon sequestration (fig 2). Every long-term retention tree was marked with orange paint and the size, species, and GPS coordinates were recorded.

After these changes, previously contracted harvesting operations restarted in the fall of 2022. The projected completion for this timber sale will be summer of 2023. JDSF looks forward to reopening the



Figure 2: Example of how harvest and retention trees are marked in the woods. The orange paint marks a permanent retention tree, and the blue paint is a harvest tree. The dot of paint at the base of the tree provides accountability.

Camp 1 campgrounds, and to the continued engagement on these important topics of restoring older forest habitat, and economically and ecologically sustainable forest management.

From the outset, one of the primary goals was the implementation of the “Older Forest Development Area” harvest prescription. This area was designated in the Forest Management Plan to be managed on an uneven-aged basis to promote structural conditions and wildlife habitat elements of older forests while growing and producing timber through careful thinning and periodic replacement of large trees. This prescription was outlined in the Forest Management Plan and is part of a larger effort to create a 6,803-acre corridor of older forest habitat stretching from west to east and north to south across JDSF.

Another objective included in the harvest plan was the fifth harvest entry into one of JDSF’s longest running uneven-aged demonstrations. Known as the Pleiades Demonstration, this 32-acre unit has been harvested five times in the last fifty-five years, beginning in 1969. There are very few stands in the redwood region that have this history of repeated uneven-aged harvests. Both the older forest development area prescription and the Pleiades demonstration attempt to address important issues facing redwood forest landowners, including how to develop older forest habitat and how to implement an economically and ecologically viable management approach over a long-term basis.