

Kristina:

Our feedback: no substantive changes. Sharing some input from staff below, though.

CDFA Office of Environmental Farming reviewed with an eye to ecosystem services and ground water. The Purpose and Action Items make sense for this committee and captures the potential impact of grazing on riparian areas in terms of integrity and water quality, as well as information needs related to implementation of SGMA.

Animal Health and Food Safety Services Division reviewed in the context of grazing lands for livestock: “This is a dense and wonderful plan.” AHFSSD has a new veterinarian starting in a few months; we would welcome the opportunity to engage him with this project long-term. He is filling a “wildlife-domestic animal intersection” position. This is very much an AHFSS area of interest. (Kristina – would the plan need to be modified to allow for this or could he just be invited to participate?)

Plant Health Division: Any time there is disturbance such as fire and remediation efforts, including grazing, the opportunity for Invasive Species to move in will occur, and in competition with any native restoration that may be taking place. These areas need aggressive management for invasives in ecological restoration and reestablishment of these damaged areas.

Grazing is strongly beneficial in rangeland management and ecological balance, and prevention of invasives play a role here in maintaining and the re-establishment of the native landscape. We are interested in opportunities to collaborate on this approach.

Objectives for consideration:

- Promote appropriate grazing for fuels management and multiple ecosystem services.
- Establish appropriate guidance for grazing following wildfire on California state-owned lands
- Develop educational opportunities and outreach RE: Fuel Reduction Methods
- Solicit and prioritize current California rangeland management research priorities (RMAC Strategic Objective 4: Monitor for issues in rangeland science and management)
- Increase collaborations with related agencies, Native American tribes, and other administrative bodies

Thank you again for soliciting our input; and the grace to allow us to submit comments so belatedly!

Christy

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