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State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Northern Region – Timberland Conservation Program
32330 North Harbor Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

August 11, 2026

Eric Hedge
Forest Practice Manager – Coast Region
CAL FIRE Northern Region Headquarters – Santa Rosa Review Team
135 Ridgeway Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
eric.hedge@fire.ca.gov

SUBJECT: TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS (14 CCR) § 919.11 AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (CDFW) CONSULTATION C-2026-0045-R1A-MAMU FOR TIMBER HARVEST PLAN 1-26-00076-SON "LITTLE PEPPERWOOD"

This memorandum is in response to your June 24, 2026, request to consult with CDFW, pursuant to 14 CCR § 919.11, as to whether the proposed THP will result in a "take" or "jeopardy" (pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act) of Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus Marmoratus* - MAMU). The Marbled Murrelet is listed as State endangered pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2050 *et seq*., Federally threatened pursuant to Section 1531, Title 16, United States Code *et seq*., and a Listed and Sensitive Species as defined by 14 CCR § 895.1.

The Marbled Murrelet is a small seabird that nests in multistoried conifer tree canopies on nesting platforms with a minimum diameter of four inches, from Del Norte to Santa Cruz Counties in California (Evans Mack et al. 2003, Nelson et al. 2006). Marbled Murrelets typically nest in trees with large lateral limbs, epicormic branching, intertwined branching, or epiphytic growth or mistletoe infection, and are often associated with late seral (over mature) forests and/or late seral structural characteristics (Evans Mack et al. 2003, Nelson et al. 2006).

The THP is in the Big Pepperwood Creek and Lower Rockpile Creek CalWATER Planning Watersheds in the McGuire Ridge, USGS Quadrangle. The THP proposes Selection harvesting (36 acres), Group Selection (36 acres), Commercial Thinning (24 acres) and Variable Retention (173 acres) for a total of 269 acres in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties (see Unit and Appurtenant Roads Map, Figure 1).

CDFW has reviewed all relevant MAMU protection measures in the revised THP

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pages 66 and 68, new THP page, 68.1, a previous MAMU consultation, 16-R1-CTP-041-MAMU, which has been added to the end of Section V as new THP pages 537.1-537.5, and THP Green bridge MAMU habitat and disturbance buffer map (Figure 2).

It is, therefore, CDFW's determination the THP's proposal has addressed our THP first review comments and questions and will not likely result in a "take" of, or "jeopardy" to, marbled murrelet, pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act.

Please direct questions or comments regarding this memorandum to Jack A Henry by email at ctp@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Jon Hendrix
29B7FBF2D92D404...

Jon Hendrix
Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)
Northern Region Timberland Conservation Planning

ec: Cale Lopez, Kim Sone, Santa Rosa Review Team
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Cale.lopez@fire.ca.gov, Kim.Sone@fire.ca.gov,
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Robert Hawkins, Jon Hendrix, Jack Henry, Julie Lile, Kristin Garrison
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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REFERENCES

Evans Mack, D., W. P. Ritchie, S. K. Nelson, E. Kuo-Harrison, P. Harrison, and T. E. Hamer. 2003. Methods for surveying Marbled Murrelets in forests: a revised protocol for land management and research. Pacific Seabird Group unpublished document available at http://www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

Nelson, S. K., M. H. Huff, S. L. Miller, M. G. Raphael. 2006. Marbled Murrelet biology: habitat relations and populations. Pp. 9–32 *in* M.H. Huff, M.G. Raphael, S.L. Miller, S.K. Nelson, and J. Baldwin (tech. coords.). Northwest Forest Plan—The First 10 years (1994–2003): Status and Trends of Populations and Nesting Habitat for the Marbled Murrelet. General Technical Report PNW-GTR-650. U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, OR.

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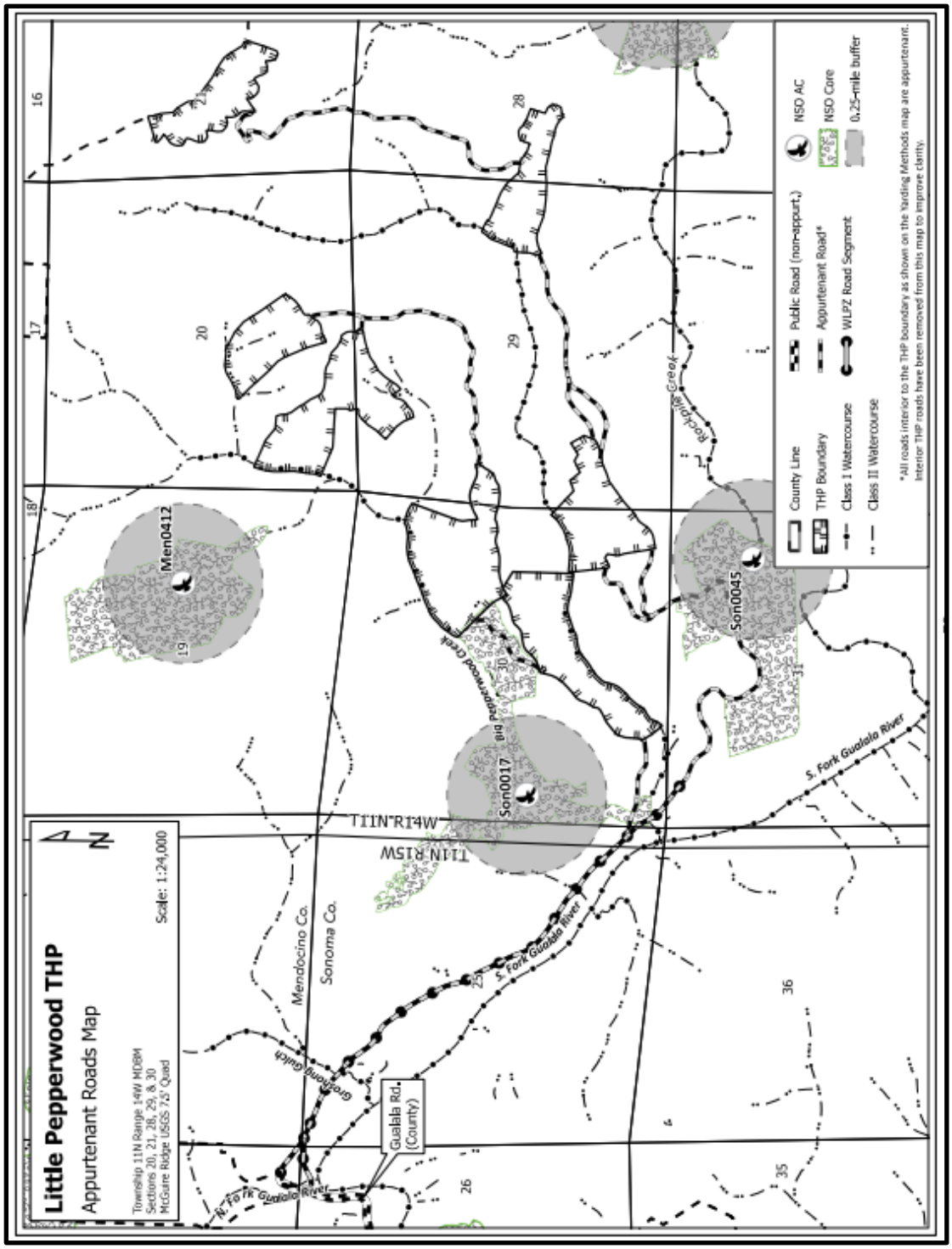

Figure 1. THP 1-26-00076-HUM "Little Pepperwood" THP Unit and Appurtenant Roads Map.

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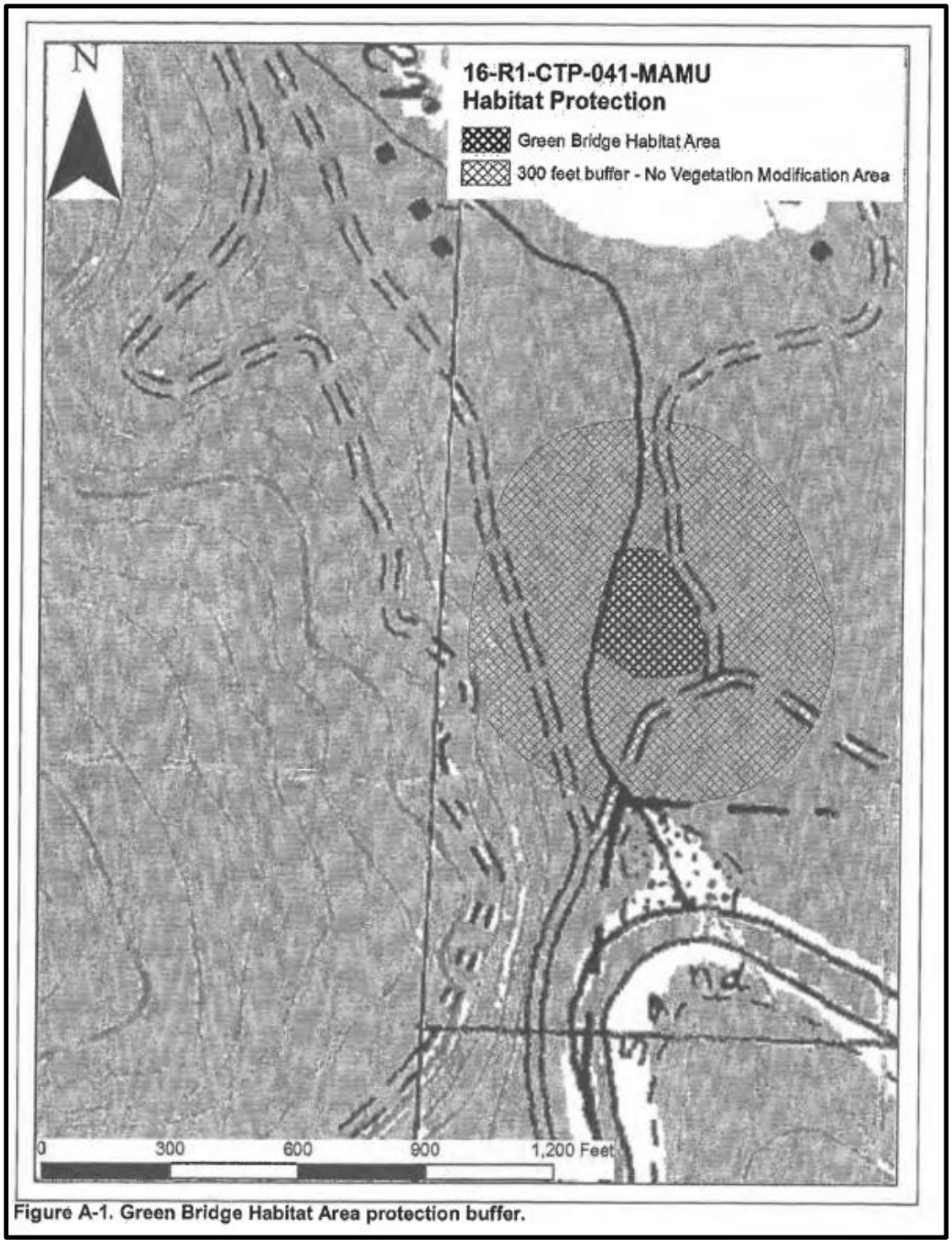

Figure 2. THP 1-26-00076-HUM "Little Pepperwood" THP Green bridge MAMU habitat and disturbance buffer map.

Outlook

RE: MaMu Consultation Request: 1-26-00076-SON

From Hendrix, Jon@Wildlife <Jon.Hendrix@wildlife.ca.gov>

Date Tue 8/11/2026 3:45 PM

To Hedge, Eric@CALFIRE <eric.hedge@fire.ca.gov>; CAL FIRE Santa Rosa Review Team <santarosareviewteam@fire.ca.gov>

Cc Sone, Kim@CALFIRE <Kim.Sone@fire.ca.gov>; Henry, Jack@Wildlife <Jack.Henry@Wildlife.ca.gov>; Hawkins, Robert@Wildlife <Robert.Hawkins@wildlife.ca.gov>; Lopez, Cale@CALFIRE <cale.lopez@fire.ca.gov>; Lile, Julie@Wildlife <Julie.Lile@wildlife.ca.gov>; Garrison, Kristin@Wildlife <Kristin.Garrison@wildlife.ca.gov>; Papian, Nora C <nora_papian@fws.gov>; 'seamus@jaforestry.com' <seamus@jaforestry.com>

1 attachment (471 KB)

20260807_1-26-00076-MEN_CDFW-Consultation-C-2026-0045-R1A-MAMU-Little-Pepperwood-THP-Final.pdf;

Attached, please find CDFW's 14 CCR Section 919.11 Marbled Murrelet consultation letter/response for the Little Pepperwood THP, 1-26-00076-SON and regarding CAL FIRE's request for formal consultation.

Jon Hendrix
Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)
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Timberland Conservation Program, Northern Region
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(707) 738-3437 mobile

From: Lopez, Cale@CALFIRE <cale.lopez@fire.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 11:39 AM
To: Hendrix, Jon@Wildlife <Jon.Hendrix@wildlife.ca.gov>; Henry, Jack@Wildlife <Jack.Henry@Wildlife.ca.gov>
Cc: Santa Rosa Review Team@CALFIRE <SantaRosaReviewTeam@fire.ca.gov>; Hedge, Eric@CALFIRE <eric.hedge@fire.ca.gov>; Sone, Kim@CALFIRE <Kim.Sone@fire.ca.gov>
Subject: MaMu Consultation Request: 1-26-00076-SON

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Good morning,

CAL FIRE requests formal consultation, pursuant to 14 CCR Section 919.11, as to whether the proposed Timber Operations under Timber Harvesting Plan 1-26-00076-SON ("Little Pepperwood") will result in a "take" or "jeopardy" (pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act) of Marbled Murrelet. Protection measures are described within Section II of the Plan. Analysis and additional information can be found in Sections III, IV, and V.

Please reach out if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Thank you,

Cale Lopez – RPF #3154
Forester II – Timber Regulation & Forest Restoration Forester
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