

POLICY TITLE TIMBER HARVESTS IN WATERSHED AREA AND
PRESERVATION OF OLD GROWTH TREES

POLICY STATEMENT:

Timber Harvests

City staff will notify the Council of any requests for timber harvest permits, which would have the potential to cause negative impact in the City's watershed area.

Preservation of Old Growth Trees

The City Council of the City of Santa Cruz hereby declares it to be its policy that old growth trees and specimen trees on City-owned forest lands are to be preserved unless safety factors dictate their removal, or if the Council makes a specific exception.

Further, it is the policy of the City Council that residual trees will be harvested only in cases where silvicultural guidelines indicate their harvest would benefit the health and vigor of the stand, or if safety or extraneous factors dictate their removal.

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions will apply:

“Old Growth Tree” means a tree which is at least 40 inches in diameter at breast height and/or is over 200 years old.

“Residual Tree” means a tree which was alive during the initial harvesting of the old growth forest, but either was a younger (smaller) tree at that time or was a suppressed tree in that forest.

AUTHORIZATION: Council Policy Manual Update of November 17, 1998

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