

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 83- 17

CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE KLAMATH RIVER BASIN AND THE NORTH COASTAL BASIN TO REVISE THE POLICY AND ACTION PLAN FOR CONTROL OF DISCHARGES OF HERBICIDE WASTES FROM SILVICULTURAL APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS:

1. On September 3, 1981, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, (Regional Board) adopted amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Klamath River Basin and the North Coastal Basin (basin plan) containing the Policy Action Plan for Control of Discharges of Herbicide Wastes from Silvicultural Applications.
2. On September 17, 1981, the State Board approved those amendments.
3. The basin plan's policy and action plan for herbicide wastes contains a receiving water limit applicable to all ester forms of 2,4-D, and that limit states:

"There shall be no discharge of 2,4-D esters to waters of the state that would cause the concentration of these substances in the receiving waters to exceed an instantaneous value of 40 parts per billion (ppb) acid equivalent or a 24 hour average of 2 ppb acid equivalent."
4. The basin plan's 40/2 receiving water limit for 2,4-D esters was developed primarily on aquatic toxicity information relative to the 2,4-D propylene glycol butyl ether (PGBE) ester.
5. The 40/2 limit is not specifically applicable to other ester forms of 2,4-D including the butoxyethanol ester (BEE) formulation.
6. Manufacturers of 2,4-D esters have indicated that 2,4-D PGBE will no longer be produced, and timber industry representatives have indicated that 2,4-D BEE will be the product to be used in the future.
7. On December 2, 1982, the Regional Board held a public hearing and considered all testimony and comments on a proposed amendment to revise the policy and action plan so that the 40/2 receiving water limit applies only to the 2,4-D PGBE formulation.
8. The Regional Board has determined that the proposed amendment will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.
9. At a public hearing held on December 2, 1982, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. 82-13 amending the basin plan to include revisions in the Policy and Action Plan for the Control of Discharges of Herbicide Wastes

from Silvicultural Applications that apply the existing 40/2 receiving water limit only to the 2,4-D PGBE herbicide.

10. The State Board, by Resolution No. 81-13, on February 19, 1981, initiated a Management Agency Agreement (MAA) with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, to determine best forestry management practices related to water quality impacts.
11. The State Board, by Resolution No. 81-73, on July 16, 1981, authorized a special study of 2,4-D ester forms that will be used in aerial spraying.
12. Findings from the 2,4-D Special Study and the MAA are not yet available.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the State Board approves the amendment to the basin plan to revise the language in the Policy and Action Plan for Control of Discharges of Herbicide Wastes from Silvicultural Applications to include the following:
  - "2. There shall be no discharge of 2,4-D PGBE ester~~s~~ to waters of the state within the North Coast Region that would cause the concentration of ~~these~~ this substance~~s~~ in the receiving waters to exceed an instantaneous value of 40 parts per billion (ppb) acid equivalent or a 24 hour average of 2 ppb acid equivalent."
2. That the State Board recommend~~s~~ that, as soon as best management practices related to herbicides have been developed from the Forest Service MAA, and when sufficient data is available from the 2,4-D Special Study, the Regional Board consider implementing these findings.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 17, 1983.



Clint Whitney  
Executive Director