



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Pacific
Southwest
Region

Regional Office, R5
1323 Club Drive
Vallejo, CA 94592
(707) 562-8737 Voice
(707) 562-9240 Text (TDD)

File Code: 2530-3

Date: February 16, 2010

Angela Wilson
Acting Timber Harvest Division Supervisor
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
415 Knollcrest Drive
Suite 100
Redding, CA 96002

Dear Ms. Wilson:

The USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region (USFS) supports the proposed renewal of Resolution R5-2005-0052, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities. The proposed renewal will not change conditions or requirements for Category 5, which applies to timber-harvest activities on national forest system lands. This waiver category has worked effectively over the past five years to protect water quality while allowing adequate management of timber and forest fuels on national forest system lands.

The USFS is currently working with staff of the State Water Resources Control Board and several Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs), including the Central Valley RWQCB, to revise the USFS Water-Quality Management Plan. Per State Board Resolution 2009-0064, this revised plan will serve as the basis of a statewide regulatory action that will cover most activities on national forest lands in California. Therefore, major changes to the Central Valley RWQCB waiver, Category 5, are not warranted at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please contact Regional Hydrologist Barry Hill at (707) 562-8968.

Sincerely,

/s/ Clinton D. Porter (for)
RANDY MOORE
Regional Forester

cc: Barry Hill

