

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-2220

Notice of Public Hearing

In The Matter Of

Limited Term Amendment to NTMP Provisions of
Order No. R1-2009-0038,
Categorical Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements
for Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities
on Non-Federal Lands in the North Coast Region

On March 24, 2011, the Regional Board will consider Order No. R1-2011-0038, amending Categorical Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges Related to Timber Harvest Activities on Non-Federal Lands in the North Coast Region (Order No. R1-2009-0038) to temporarily suspend the new (2009) NTMP provisions. This will allow an inquiry into water quality protections provided for NTMPs by the Forest Practice Rules (FPR), including the new ASP rules.

During the suspension period, Regional Water Board staff will work with timber landowners, CalFire and other interested parties to evaluate the adequacy of the existing FPRs and their effectiveness and implementation to achieve compliance for protecting water quality, particularly in areas designated as sediment and temperature impaired.

As proposed in Order No. R1-2011-0038, NTMP provisions from the 2004 Waiver will apply until February 1, 2012, after which time the conditions of Order No. R1-2009-0038 for NTMPs will automatically become effective again, unless the Regional Board takes action to modify the conditions in the Waiver.

Public Hearing Procedures

The public meeting to consider the proposed Amendment has been scheduled for March 24, 2011, at the Trinity PUD Community Room, located at 26 Ponderosa Lane, Weaverville, California beginning at 9:00 a.m., or as announced in the Regional Water Board agenda to be mailed on or around March 8, 2011. At the hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed Amendment Order, or take another action.

Order No. R1-2011-0038 will be available for review upon request on or after February 22, 2011 by contacting the Regional Water Board office at (707) 576-2220 or on the website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/

Comments on the proposed Order No. R1-2011-0038 may be submitted in writing and received at the Regional Water Board up to the day of the Board Meeting on March 24, 2011.

All those who plan to testify at the hearing must submit written statements to the Regional Water Board prior to the consideration of the tentative Order on March 24, 2011. The statements should provide the name of the witness, their qualifications (if an expert), and the scope of their intended testimony. Testimony at the above-scheduled hearing may summarize or explain timely submitted or late accepted written evidence, but shall not add new evidence. The time constraints for oral testimony or comments will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and usually allow no more than 15 minutes for Regional Water Board staff and the Discharger and three minutes for other interested persons. A timer may be used and speakers are expected to honor the time limits. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive.

For further information, please contact Regional Water Board staff member Jim Burke at (707) 576-2289 or at jburke@waterboards.ca.gov.

Catherine Kuhlman
Executive Officer

February 22, 2011