

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Proposed Revisions to Categorical Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements for Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) staff will conduct a public workshop at the regularly scheduled Regional Water Board meeting on June 7, 2012 in Willow Creek, CA. The purpose of the workshop is to facilitate public and Board involvement in proposed revisions to Category E for Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs) in the *Categorical Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Timber Harvesting Activities on Non-Federal Lands in the North Coast Region*. A quorum of Regional Water Board members will be present at the June 7, 2012 workshop. No action will be taken by the Regional Water Board at the workshop.

Background

The Regional Water Board renewed the Categorical Waiver in June 2009, including revising specific conditions for Non-industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs). In response to concerns of landowners, Foresters and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) that revised conditions in the Categorical Waiver would impose unreasonable burdens on NTMP owners as well as CAL FIRE, the Regional Water Board adopted limited term amendments to the Waiver to temporarily suspend the revised provisions for NTMPs (Order No. R1-2011-0038 and R1-2012-0010). One of the primary purposes of the amendment is to allow time for Regional Water Board staff to work with NTMP landowners, CAL FIRE and other interested parties to evaluate the adequacy of protective measures designed into NTMPs to achieve compliance with Total Maximum Daily Loads, Basin Plan standards, and rules for protecting water quality included in the Forest Practice Rules.

Regional Water Board staff has made significant progress with several investigations in collaboration with CAL FIRE. The purpose of this workshop will be to discuss the results of these investigations and provide a forum for members of the public to comment on potential revisions to the Categorical Waiver.

Availability of Documents

The Executive Officer Summary Report for the workshop on potential revisions to the Categorical Waiver will be available for download from the Regional Water Board's Internet website on or after May 24, 2012 at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast>.

Copies of this document can also be obtained at the Regional Water Board's office at 5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 or by calling (707) 576-2674.

Submittal of Written Comments

No action is proposed for the meeting; however, written comments on the Categorical Waiver may be submitted to staff contact **Jim Burke** by June 5, 2012 to allow staff to summarize public comments prior to the workshop. Comments should be sent to:

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Attn: Jim Burke or email to: Jburke@waterboards.ca.gov

For directions to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board offices, please refer to: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/contact.html>. Parking for the meetings is available onsite. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Patti Corsie, Executive Assistant, at (707) 576-2307 or PCorsie@waterboards.ca.gov at least five days prior to the meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

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