

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, California 96002

PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

Adoption of Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements

for

DISCHARGES RELATED TO TIMBER HARVEST ACTIVITIES

SACRAMENTO RIVER, SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND TULARE LAKE BASINS

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) will consider renewal of a conditional waiver (Waiver) of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) pursuant to Water Code Section 13269 for discharges to surface waters related to timber harvest activities and will determine whether the discharge should be subject to general or individual WDRs or should the proposed waiver be revoked. Discharges from timber harvest activities include surface discharges of soil, silt, sand, clay, rock; organic materials such as slash, sawdust, or bark; and silvicultural herbicides. Timber harvest activities includes all activities on timberlands relating to timber harvest, including the cutting or removal of both timber and other solid wood forest products for commercial or other purposes, including, but not limited to, construction of roads, fuel breaks, firebreaks, stream crossings, landings, skid trails, beds for the falling of trees, fire hazard abatement, and site preparation that involves disturbance of soil or burning of vegetation. Discharges related to the application of pesticides will also be covered by the Waiver. The Waiver will apply to discharges throughout the Central Valley Region, which includes the Sacramento River, San Joaquin River and Tulare Lake basins. The Regional Board will also consider adoption of General Monitoring Conditions for dischargers seeking coverage under the Waiver and a General Monitoring and Reporting Program that will be required for most timber activities.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Board meeting that is scheduled for:

DATE: 28 or 29 April 2005
TIME: to be determined
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California

Additional Information

Interested persons may obtain:

- Confirmation of the date, time, and location approximately two weeks before the hearing at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_meetings/index.html
- The draft staff report for this item will be available after 8 April 2005 at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/timberwaiver/index.html>

Persons wishing to comment on the noticed hearing items must submit such comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than **20 April 2005**. Written comments submitted after **20 April 2005** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -2-
CONSIDERATION OF CONDITIONAL WAIVER FOR
DISCHARGES RELATED TO TIMBER HARVEST ACTIVITIES
SACRAMENTO RIVER, SAN JOAQUIN RIVER AND TULARE LAKE BASINS

All interested persons may speak at the Regional Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Regional Board Chair. 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.

Any person planning to make a presentation to the Regional Board that requires the use of visual aids (such as overheads, slides, or video projector) should contact James C. Pedri, at 415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding CA 96002, telephone (530) 224-4845 to make arrangements before the meeting date in order to avoid unnecessary delays during the meeting.

After considering comments, the Regional Board may choose to adopt a resolution regarding the proposed agenda items. All Regional Board files, exhibits, and agenda material pertaining to items on the agenda are made a part of the record.

Anyone having questions on adoption of the waiver of waste discharge requirements for discharges related to timber harvest activities or the documents related to proposed monitoring requirements should contact James Pedri at (530) 224-4845. The proposed items may be reviewed on the Regional Board's web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb5/>. The proposed items and related documents may also be inspected and copied at the Regional Board's three offices: at 3443 Routier Road, Suite A in Sacramento, 3614 East Ashlan Ave. in Fresno or 415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100 in Redding weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by appointment.

Accessibility

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

James C. Pedri, Assistant Executive officer

16 March 2005