

Attachment J

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Lahontan Region

## **Forestry Activities Exempt from Requiring Basin Plan Discharge Prohibition Exemptions Under the 2009 Timber Waiver**

### **South Shore Project Waste Discharge Requirements**

To protect beneficial uses and achieve water quality objectives, the Basin Plan contains prohibitions against waste discharges to lands within 100-year floodplains and "permanent disturbance" in Stream Environment Zones (SEZs) in the Lake Tahoe Hydrologic Unit (see Attachment B). These prohibitions may apply to certain timber harvest and vegetation management activities conducted in these areas.

On May 14, 2009, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) adopted Board Order No. R6T-2009-0029, which waives waste discharge requirements for discharges resulting from timber harvest and vegetation management activities in the Lahontan Region (2009 Timber Waiver). Below is an abbreviation of Table N1 from Attachment N of the 2009 Timber Waiver (Table N1), and is provided here for informational purposes only, to describe the timber harvest management activities within SEZs and 100-year floodplains in the Lake Tahoe Hydrologic Unit (HU) which do not violate Discharge Prohibitions. See the 2009 Timber Waiver at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water\\_issues/programs/waste\\_discharge\\_requirements/timber\\_harvest/timberwaiver.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/timber_harvest/timberwaiver.shtml) for the specific conditions and criteria listed below.

Timber harvest and vegetation management activities listed in Table N1, when conducted in compliance with the Timber Waiver and the conditions specified in Table N1, do not result in discharges in conflict with the Basin Plan waste discharge prohibitions and do not require a prohibition exemption.

### **Timber Harvest and Vegetation Management Activities within SEZs and 100-year Floodplains in the Lake Tahoe Hydrologic Unit (HU) Which Do Not Violate Waste Discharge Prohibitions**

Activity	100-year Floodplains	Stream Environment Zones
Hand crew operations (except for pile burning)	Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains or permanent disturbance in SEZs do not occur if activities meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the conditions of the 2009 Timber Waiver Category 2.	
Over-snow equipment operation (no placement of slash within SEZs or	Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains or permanent disturbance in SEZs do not occur if activities meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the conditions of the 2009 Timber Waiver Category 1, 4, 5, or 6.	

Activity	100-year Floodplains	Stream Environment Zones
100 year floodplains)		
Operations on existing roads	Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains or permanent disturbance in SEZs do not occur if activities meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category.	
Broadcast Burning	Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains or permanent disturbance in SEZs do not occur if activities meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category.	
Operation of cut-to-length equipment with less than 13 psi ground pressure on granitic soils off existing roads in SEZs and 100-year floodplains	<p>Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains do not occur if activities meet all the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Equilibrated groundwater levels are at least two feet below the soil surface.</li> <li>b. Soils are dry (as defined in Attachment A) to a depth between 2 and 10 inches.</li> <li>c. Slash mats are employed or sufficient ground cover exists to prevent discharge of earthen materials to surface waters.</li> <li>d. Eligibility criteria and conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category are met.</li> </ul>	<p>Permanent disturbance in SEZs does not occur if activities meet all the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Equilibrated groundwater levels are at least 2 feet below the soil surface.</li> <li>b. Soils are dry (as defined in Attachment A) to a depth between 2 and 10 inches.</li> <li>c. Slash mats are employed or sufficient ground cover exists to prevent discharge of earthen materials to surface waters.</li> <li>d. Eligibility criteria and conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category are met.</li> </ul>
Construction and removal of temporary watercourse crossings	<p>Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains do not occur if activities meet all the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Temporary stream crossings are constructed with clean cobbles or logs. If sand or soil is used as running surface, BMPs must be in place (e.g. filter cloth, brow logs) to prevent discharge of earthen materials to surface waters.</li> <li>b. Stream crossings are completely removed at the end of operations, or prior to the winter period (as defined in Attachment A), whichever is sooner.</li> <li>c. Eligibility criteria and conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category are met.</li> </ul>	<p>Permanent disturbance in SEZs does not occur if activities meet Basin Plan Section 5.13 criteria:</p> <p>"Crossing of perennial streams or other wet areas shall be limited to improved crossings in accordance with the [TRPA] BMP handbook or to temporary bridge spans that can be removed upon project completion or the end of the work season, whichever is sooner, and damage to SEZ associated with a temporary crossing shall be restored within one year of removal."</p>
Placement of chips or masticated material	<p>Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains do not occur if activities meet a. or b., and c. below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chips or masticated material is incorporated into the soil, or</li> <li>b. Chips or masticated material do not exceed an average of two inches in depth, with a maximum of four inches, and</li> <li>c. Eligibility criteria and conditions</li> </ul>	<p>Placement of chips or masticated material does not result in "permanent soil disturbance" in SEZs if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chips or masticated material is incorporated into the soil, or</li> <li>b. Chips or masticated material do not exceed an average of two inches in depth, with a maximum of four inches, and</li> </ul>

Activity	100-year Floodplains	Stream Environment Zones
	of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category are met.	c. Eligibility criteria and conditions of the applicable 2009 Timber Waiver Category are met.
Repair or replacement of permanent crossings for existing roads, when new crossing is same size as existing.	Prohibited discharges to 100-year floodplains do not occur if activities do not involve the loss of additional floodplain area or volume (Basin Plan Sections 4.1 and 5.2).	New permanent SEZ disturbance is not attributable to maintenance, repair, or replacement of an existing structure that does not result in greater land coverage (Basin Plan 5.2).

Notes:

1. For equipment use on steep slopes in the Lake Tahoe HU, refer to the Basin Plan or the TRPA code of ordinances for prohibitions and exemption criteria.
2. Water Board will consider new information to update this list.

PROPOSED