

## Forest Activities Program Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year (FY) 19/20

### Overview of the Forest Activities Program

Nonpoint source pollution is the leading cause of water quality impairments in California. California's forested lands produce the highest quality waters and provide the majority of the state's water. The Forest Activities Program focuses regulatory efforts and grant funding on land use and restoration activities related to historic and current forestland management on both federal and non-federal lands within the Central Valley Region.

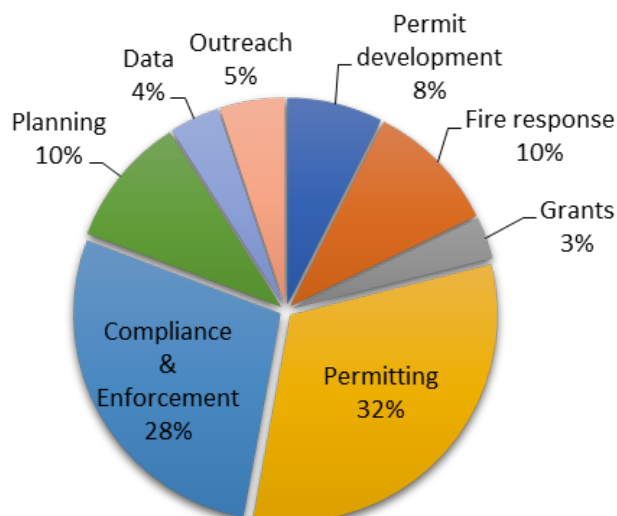
### Program Goals

The goal of the Central Valley Water Board's Forest Activities Program (Program) is to prevent impacts to surface waters due to discharges of pollutants related to forestland management: sediment, petroleum products, pesticides/herbicides, and other waste materials, in accordance with the state's 2004 NonPoint Source Policy. Through regulatory oversight of commercial timber harvesting, fuels management, post-fire salvage and other forestland management activities with the potential to affect waters of the state, the program aims to restore access to habitat for fish, reduce anthropogenic stream channel modifications, and reduce impacts from legacy roads and watercourse crossings.

Program staff review individual projects, make site-specific recommendations, and ensure compliance with pertinent regulations and policies through inspections and enforcement.

### Resources

The Forest Activities Program has 11.1 personnel years (staff). Resources are focused on the following areas:



## **FY 18/19 Accomplishments**

- Finalized the Battle Creek Watershed Based Plan, the first watershed based plan created for a waterbody in California that has not been listed as impaired.
- Executed and provided technical expertise for 9 contracts aimed to improve forestlands in watersheds where legacy logging impacts still exist.
- Conducted 251 inspections where the target was 166. The majority of the additional inspections were conducted in areas where post-fire salvage logging is occurring subsequent to the many large fires of 2018.

## **Priority Projects 19/20**

### *Federal Nonpoint Source Permit development*

- Continue collaboration with the Lahontan Water Board on the development of a programmatic performance-based permit for federal agencies with nonpoint source activities and discharges.

### *Pesticide Monitoring*

- Complete cooperative contract work with the USGS on passive and low flow sampling methodology for the detection of pesticides in our forested headwaters.
- Assist State Water Resources Control Board's Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (ELTAC) in developing laboratory methodologies for passive and low-flow sampling for the detection of pesticides.

### *Timber Fund Grants and Contracts*

- Manage 7 Timber Fund grants
- Execute and manage 1 interagency contract for gaging stations in Battle Creek
- Execute and manage 1 grant for emergency road repairs resulting from the 2018 Camp Fire.

### *Program Administration*

- Collaborate with other resource agencies, non governmental organizations and private entities through the Governor's Forest Management Regulations Work Group on regulatory mechanisms to facilitate fuels management across the state.