



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region



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Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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23 November 2005

Mr. Joe Karkoski
Regional Water Quality Control Board
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303(d) LISTING FOR FALL RIVER SHASTA COUNTY

We have reviewed the 23 November 2005 letter from Fall River Resource Conservation District, which requests revisions to descriptions contained in the current and proposed 303(d) listing of upper Fall River. As stated in the RCD letter, in order to accurately identify existing conditions of impairment, the stressor causing that impairment, and the source of the stressor; the listing descriptions should be modified. The "stressor" should be identified as "sedimentation (i.e. accumulated sand size sediment in upper Fall River), and the "source" of the stressor (and the impairment) should be identified as "historic land management activities (i.e. logging, grazing, channelization, roads, and railroads) and natural catastrophic events (i.e. fire)."

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As described by the RCD, in recent years there has been a substantial restoration effort underway in the tributary watershed to Fall River. The principal objective of these restoration projects has been to reduce active stream channel erosion and restore the sediment trapping capability of the upstream meadow complex. Forest landowners have participated in this restoration effort and have also responded through the implementation of improved management practices for their silvicultural operations. Restoration/remediation efforts are now focused on the 'sediment slug' that remains in upper Fall River. We will consider recommendations for delisting Fall River once this sedimentation issue is addressed (either by project activities or by natural causes).

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If you have any questions please contact Dennis R. Heiman of my staff at (530) 224-4851 or the letterhead address

JAMES C. PEDRI, P.E.
Assistant Executive officer
Shasta Cascade Watershed

DRH: sae

cc: Mr. Robert Rynearson, Fall River RCD, Fall River Mills

FALL R. MEMO.

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