

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 525
Sacramento, CA 95814

GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS



RESOURCES AGENCY
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

ATTACHMENT 937

June 30, 1999

Received By
BOARD OF FORESTRY

JUL 01 1999

Mr. Robert Kerstiens, Chairman
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chairman Kerstiens:

The Resources Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency are transmitting to you the attached package of proposed Forest Practice Rules. The package includes contributions from all departments actively involved in the Timber Harvest Plan review process, and reflects some of the most important recommendations from the recently released Scientific Review Panel Report. The package represents the consensus of the various departments' technical staffs on the most critical changes needed to protect salmon and impaired watersheds.

The proposed Rules focus on watersheds with threatened or impaired values. These are watersheds where: (1) a water body is listed pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act, i.e. the "TMDL" streams; or (2) the streams support (or could be restored to support) salmon or other aquatic species listed under federal or State endangered species laws. The proposed changes were drawn from the following sources:

- 1) The Watershed Protection and Restoration Council Scientific Review Panel Report;
- 2) Proposed rules package drafted by the staff of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board;
- 3) The "Coho Considerations" document offered by CDF as guidance to THP preparers, which has been incorporated into THPs by CDF and submitters, but would be enforceable only if set into code;
- 4) The "2090 Agreement" signed by the Department of Fish and Game and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to protect Coho south of San Francisco; and
- 5) Additional suggestions from the contributing departments.

Mr. Robert Kerstiens, Chairman

June 30, 1999

Page 2

ATTACHMENT 9

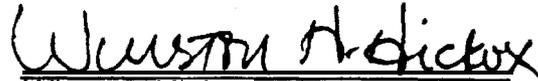
338

Because of the statutory limit on your ability to amend the Forest Practice Rules more than once per year, we offer this focused package for your consideration of rule changes you may want to see take effect on January 1, 2000. We recognize this package will go through a six month review period and may well change as you hear from the public. We offer the technical assistance of our various departments as your deliberations proceed.

Sincerely,



Mary D. Nichols
Secretary for Resources



Winston Hickox
Secretary, Cal EPA

Attachment

SUMMARY
PROPOSED FOREST PRACTICE RULES TO
PROTECT WATERSHEDS WITH THREATENED AND IMPAIRED VALUES
JUNE 21, 1999

0339

INTENT

- Defines "Watersheds with threatened or impaired values" and recognizes that they do exist and need special prescriptions for timber harvesting activities.
- Specifies that the primary intent of timber operations in those Watercourse and Lake Protection Zones within watersheds with threatened or impaired values is to ensure beneficial uses of water and that riparian zones be fully protected from site specific and cumulative impacts of timber operations.
- Beneficial uses of water and the functions of riparian zones shall be 1) maintained if in good condition; 2) protected where threatened; and 3) restored where impaired.
- Emphasizes that timber operations at all times comply with all applicable legal requirements.

PROTECTION

- Protection must also be provided for riparian functions.
- The watercourse and lake protection measures set forth in the Rules are minimum protection measures and additional protection or restoration must be provided where water-related values are threatened or impaired.

WATERSHEDS WITH THREATENED OR IMPAIRED VALUES

- Every timber operation shall meet the following goals:
 - (1) Result in no net sediment load increase
 - (2) Result in no decrease in stability of watercourse channel or bank
 - (3) Result in no blockage of aquatic migratory routes
 - (4) Protect and maintain stream flows during low water periods
 - (5) Protect and restore trees for large woody debris recruitment
 - (6) Protect shade canopy for stream temperature control
- Adverse cumulative watershed effects shall be deemed to exist

- Silviculture prescriptions within 200 feet of Class I streams, or within the standard width *or* expanded width of a Class II shall have stream protection as the primary goal, harvesting being secondary.
- Timber operations shall not contribute to any deleterious change.
- 150-foot minimum WLPZ for all Class I streams with 85% overstory shade canopy retained. Zone begins at upslope edge of floodplain.
- 100-foot minimum WLPZ for all Class II streams with 85% canopy retention within 30 feet and 65% canopy retention in the remainder of the zone.
- A 30-50 foot ELZ for Class III streams with mandatory retention of all hardwoods.
- LWD standards are prescribed for Class I, II and III watercourses.
- No-cut buffers within all watercourses out to the transition line.
- During the winter period no skid trails, landings or roads shall be constructed.
- The RPF shall identify all active erosion sites and submit a remedial plan and time schedule for completion.
- Site preparation causing soil disturbance or loss of large woody debris in watercourses is prohibited.
- Restricts operations in inner gorges, which are over-steepened streamside slopes. Establishes inner gorge special management zones.
- Logging road crossings of Class I watercourses must not disrupt normal hydrologic and biologic processes and must have a stable bed.
- No salvage, exemptions or emergencies.

ROADS AND LANDINGS

- New road construction will be coupled with road abandonment to achieve no net increase in road density within an ownership in the watershed.
- and reconstructed logging roads shall be no wider than 14 feet for tractor yarding areas and 16 feet where cable yarders are employed.
- Specific provisions of construction shall be identified for roads on slopes greater than 50 percent or built with balanced cuts and fills if properly engineered.

1 RAFT Language from June 21, 1999 Proposed Text

2 Amend § 895 Abbreviations Applicable Throughout Chapter.

3 The following three abbreviations shall be added to this section in
4 alphabetic order.

5
6 CDF California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

7
8 DFG California Department of Fish and Game

9
10 RWQCB Regional Water Quality Control Board

11
12 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5 and 21082, Public
13 Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4511, 4512, 4513, 4521.3, 4522, 4522.5,
14 1523-4525, 4525.3, 4525.5; 4525.7, 4526, 4526.5, 4527, 4527.5, 4528, 4551,
15 \$551.5, 4552, 4582 and 21080.5, Public Resources Code.

16 Amend § 895.1. Definitions.

17 The following six definitions, shall be added to this section in alphabetic
18 order.

19 "Bankfull stage" means the stage that occurs when discharge fills the
20 entire channel cross section without significant inundation of the adjacent
21 floodplain, and has a recurrence interval of 1.5 to 2.0 years.

22
23 "Channel zone" means that area that includes a watercourse's bankfull
24 channel and floodplain, encompassing the area between the watercourse
25 transition lines.

1 "Saturated soil conditions" means ~~1) the wetness of the soil within a~~
2 ~~yarding area such that soil strength is exceeded and displacement from timber~~
3 ~~operations will occur. It is evidenced by soil moisture conditions that~~
4 ~~result in: a) reduced traction by equipment as indicated by spinning or~~
5 ~~churning of wheels or tracks in excess of normal performance, or b)~~
6 ~~inadequate traction without blading wet soil or, c) soil displacement in~~
7 ~~amounts that cause visible increase in turbidity of the downstream waters in~~
8 ~~a receiving Class I or II watercourse or lake. Soils frozen to a depth~~
9 ~~sufficient to support equipment weight are excluded. 2) soil moisture~~
10 ~~conditions on roads and landings, in excess of that which occurs from normal~~
11 ~~road watering or light rainfall that will result in the significant loss of~~
12 ~~surface material from the road and landings in amounts that cause visible~~
13 ~~increase in turbidity of the downstream waters in a receiving Class I or II~~
14 ~~watercourse or lake that site conditions are sufficiently wet that timber~~
15 ~~operations may displace soils in yarding or mechanical site preparation areas~~
16 ~~or road and landing surface materials in amounts sufficient to cause a~~
17 ~~turbidity increase in downstream Class I, II, III, or IV waters that is~~
18 ~~visible or would violate applicable water quality requirements. Soils or~~
19 ~~road and landing surfaces that are hard frozen are excluded from this~~
20 ~~definition. In yarding and site preparation areas, this condition is~~
21 ~~evidenced by spinning or churning of equipment wheels or tracks in excess of~~
22 ~~normal performance, the need to blade soils to provide adequate traction, or~~
23 ~~creation of ruts greater than would be normal following a light rainfall. On~~
24 ~~Logging roads and landing surfaces, this condition is evidenced by pumping of~~
25 ~~road surface materials by traffic, or creation of ruts greater than would be~~
~~created by traffic following normal road watering.~~

1
2 "Stable operating surface" means that throughout the period of use, the
3 operating surface of a logging road or landing does not either generate
4 sediment or become rutted or deformed to the extent that water can be
5 channeled along the surface for more than 50 feet.

6
7 "Watercourse or Lake Transition Line" means that line ~~closest to the~~
8 ~~watercourse or lake where riparian vegetation permanently established that~~
9 is the outer boundary of a watercourse's floodplain as defined by the
10 following:

11 (1) the upper limit of sand deposition; or

12 (2) evidence of recent channel migration and/or flood debris.

13 The first line of permanent woody vegetation must not be used to determine
14 this transition line.

15
16 "Watersheds with threatened or impaired values" means any planning
17 watershed:

18 (1) that contains or drains to a water body that is listed pursuant to
19 Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act as having beneficial uses of
20 water that are impaired by factors that may be affected by timber operations,
21 including, but not limited to, sediment and temperature, except any portion
22 of the planning watershed that contains or drains directly to a portion of
23 the water body that has been specifically excluded from the Section 303(d)
24 list,

1 (2) that contains a water body that is the subject of a Total Maximum
 2 Daily Load that has been adopted to address factors that may be affected by
 3 timber operations, or

4 (3) where populations of anadromous salmonids or populations of other
 5 aquatic or riparian-dependent species that are listed as threatened or
 6 endangered under the State or Federal Endangered Species Acts are currently
 7 supported or can feasibly be restored.

8
 9
 10 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5, 4553, 4561, 4561.5,
 11 4561.6, 4562, 4562.5, 4562.7 and 454591.1, Public Resources Code. Reference:
 12 Sections 4512, 4513, 4526, 4551, 4551.5, 4561, 4561.6, 4562, 4562.5, 4562.7,
 13 4583.2, 4591.1, **21001(f)**, 21080.5, 21083.2 and 21084.1, Public Resources
 Code; CEQA Guidelines Appendix K (printed following Section 15387 of Title 14
 Cal.Code of Regulations), and *Laupheimer v. State (1988) 200 Cal.App.3d 440;*
 246 Cal.Rptr. 82.

14
 15
 16 Amend **§§ 916, 936, and 956** Intent of **Watercourse and Lake Protection.**

17 The purpose of this article is to ~~insure assure that the protection of~~
 18 ~~the beneficial uses that are derived from the physical form, water quality,~~
 19 ~~and biological characteristics of~~ watercourses and lakes, aquatic and
 20 riparian species, and the beneficial functions of riparian zones are fully
 21 protected from site-specific and cumulative impacts associated with timber
 22 operations. It is the intent of the Board to restore, enhance, and maintain
 23 the productivity of timberlands while providing equal consideration for the
 24 **beneficial** uses of water. Further, it is the intent of the Board to clarify
 25 and assign ~~responsibility, to recognize~~ for recognition of potential and
~~existing~~ impacts of timber operations ~~on the beneficial uses of water,~~

1 watercourses and lakes, aquatic and riparian-dependant species, and the
2 beneficial functions of riparian zones and to ensure adoption of feasible
3 measures to prevent water pollution related to timber harvesting effectively
4 achieve compliance with this article. All provisions of this article shall
5 be applied in a manner which complies with the following:

6 (a) During and following timber operations, the beneficial uses of water,
7 aquatic and rioarian-dependent species, and the functions of riparian zones,
8 soils and vegetation, shall be maintained where they are in good condition,
9 effectively protected where they are threatened, and insofar as feasible,
10 effectively restored where they are impaired.

11 (b) Protection of the quality and beneficial uses of water during the
12 planning, review, and conduct of timber operations shall comply with all
13 applicable legal requirements including those set forth in any applicable
14 water quality control plan adopted or approved by the State Water Resources
15 Control Board. At a minimum, the LTO shall not do either of the following
16 during timber operations:

17 (1) Place, discharge, or dispose of or deposit in such a manner as to
18 permit to pass into the waters of the state, any substances or materials,
19 including, but not limited to, soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or
20 petroleum, in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, beneficial riparian
21 zone functions, or the quality and beneficial uses of water;

22 (2) Remove water, trees or large woody debris from a watercourse or lake,
23 the adjacent riparian area, or the adjacent flood plain in quantities
24 deleterious to fish, wildlife, beneficial riparian zone functions, or the
25 quality and beneficial uses of water.

1 (c) Protecting and restoring aquatic and riparian dependant species, the
 2 beneficial functions of riparian zones and the quality and beneficial uses of
 3 water shall be the primary management objective within any prescribed WLPZ,
 4 or within any planning watershed with threatened or impaired values.

5
 6 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4562.7 and 21000(g), Public
 7 Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4512, 4513, 4551.5, 4552, 4562.5,
 8 4562.7, 21001(b), (f), 21002 and 21002.1, Public Resources Code; Sections
 100, 1243, 1243.5, 13001, 13001(f), 13146 and 13147, Water Code; and 33 USC
 Section 1288 (b) (2)(F) .

9
 10 Amend §§ 916.2, 936.2, and 956.2 Protection of the **Beneficial** Uses of Water
 11 and Riparian Functions.

12 (a) The measures used to ~~protect the beneficial uses of water for~~ each
 13 watercourse and lake in a logging area shall be determined by the presence
 14 and condition of the following values:

15 (1) The existing, potential, and restorable quality and beneficial uses
 16 of water as specified by the applicable water quality control plan and as
 17 further identified and refined during preparation and review of the required
 18 plan.

19 (2) The restorable uses of water for fisheries **as** identified by the
 20 ~~Department of Fish and Game~~ DFG or as further identified and refined during
 21 preparation and review of the required plan.

22 (3) Riparian habitat that provides for ~~t~~**The** biological needs of ~~the~~
 23 ~~fish and wildlife~~ aquatic and riparian-dependant species ~~provided by the~~
 24 ~~riparian habitat~~ as specified in 14 CCR 916.4(b) [936.4(b), 956.4(b)].

25 (4) ~~Sensitive near stream~~ conditions near watercourses and lakes as
 specified in 1-1 CCR 916.4(a) [936.4(a), 956.4(a)] .

1 These waters shall be fully protected from potentially significant 0347
 2 adverse impacts from any timber operation and restored to good condition,
 3 where needed, through a combination of the rules and plan-specific
 4 mitigation.

5 (b) The State's waters are grouped into four classes based on key
 6 beneficial uses. These classifications shall be used to determine the
 7 appropriate minimum protection measures to be applied ~~to the State's waters~~
 8 during the conduct of timber operations. The basis for classification
 9 (characteristics and key beneficial uses) are set forth in 14 CCR 916.5
 10 [936.5, 956.51, Table 1 and the range of minimum protective measures :
 11 applicable to each class are contained in Sections 14 CCR 916.3 [936.3,
 12 956.31, 916.4(e) [936.4, 956.41 , and 916.5 [936.5, 956.5).

13 (c) When the protective measures contained in 14 CCR 916.5 [936.5,
 14 956.51 are not adequate to provide protection to beneficial uses, feasible
 15 protective measures shall be developed by the RPF or proposed by the Director
 16 under the provisions of 14 CCR 916.6 [936.6, 956.6] , Alternative Watercourse
 17 and Lake Protection, and incorporated in the THP when approved by the
 18 Director.

19 (d) If it would not be feasible to implement these minimum protective
 20 measures, then alternative practices may be used pursuant to 14 CCR 916.6
 21 936.6, 956.61 .

22
 23 Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4562.7 and 21000(g), Public
 24 Resources Code. Reference: Sections 751, 4512, 4513, 4551.5, 21000(g),
 25 21001(b) and 21002.1, Public Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243, 13050 (f)
 Water Code; Sections 1600 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code; and 33 USC Section
 1288(b)(2)(F).

~~SS 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] Exclusion of Material from Streams and Lakes~~

0348

Adopt SS 916.9, 936.9, 956.9 Protection and Restoration in Watersheds with Threatened of Impaired Values.

In addition to all other district Forest Practice Rules, the following requirements shall apply in any planning watershed with threatened or impaired values:

(a) Every timber operation shall be planned and conducted to prevent any deleterious interference with natural recovery rates and process for the factors that primarily limit the condition of the values set forth in "14 CCR 916.2 [936.2, 956.21 (a) (e.g., no net sediment load increase where sediment is a primary limiting factor; no net thermal load increase where water temperature is a primary limiting factor; no net loss of instream large woody debris or recruitment potential where lack of this value is a primary limiting factor). To comply with this objective, every timber operation shall be planned and conducted to meet the following goals:

(1) Result in no net sediment load increase to a watercourse system or lake.

(2) Result in no decrease in the stability of a watercourse channel or of a watercourse or lake bank.

(3) Result in no blockage of any aquatic migratory routes for anadromous salmonids or listed species.

(4) Result in no stream flow reductions during critical low water periods.

(5) Protect, maintain, and restore trees (especially conifers), snags, or downed logs that currently, or may in the foreseeable future, provide

1 large woody debris recruitment needed for instream habitat structure and
2 fluvial geomorphic functions. (349)

3 (6) Protect, maintain, and restore the quality and quantity of
4 vegetative canopy needed to: (i) provide shade to the watercourse oc Lake,
5 (ii) minimize daily and seasonal temperature fluctuations, (iii) maintain
6 daily and seasonal water temperatures within the preferred range for
7 anadromous salmonids or Listed species where they are present or could be
8 restored, and (iv) provide hiding cover and a food base where needed.

9 (b) Adverse cumulative watershed effects on beneficial uses of water
10 and/or the populations and habitat of anadromous salmonids or listed species
11 shall be deemed to exist, and the plan shall set forth measures to
12 effectively reduce such effects.

13 (c) Any timber operation or silvicultural prescription within 200 feet
14 of any Class I waters or within the standard or expanded width of any Class
15 Ii WLPZ shall have protection, maintenance, or restoration of the beneficial
16 uses of water or the populations and habitat of anadromous salmonids or
17 listed aquatic or riparian-dependent species as its primary objectives;
18 harvesting of wood products shall be secondary to those objectives.

19 (d) Nonstandard practices (i.e., waivers, exceptions, in-lieu
20 practices, and alternative practices) shall comply with the goals set forth
21 in subsection (a) above as well as with the other requirements set forth in
22 the rules.

23 (e) The minimum WLPZ width for Class I waters shall be 150 feet from
24 the watercourse or lake transition line.

25 (f) For Class I waters, any required plan involving a timber operation
within the WLPZ shall contain the following information:

1 (1) A clear and enforceable specification of how any disturbance or log
2 skid trail cutting and removal within the Class I WLPZ shall be carried out to
3 conform with 14 CCR 310.2 [936.2, 956.2] (a) and 916.9 [936.9, 356.41 (a) .

4 (2) A specific and enforceable long term monitoring program to
5 determine the effectiveness of the prescribed practices as implemented during
6 the timber operation, including the reporting of the monitoring results to
7 CDF and review team agencies.

8 (3) A description of all existing permanent crossings of Class I waters
9 by logging roads and clear specification regarding how these crossings are to
10 be modified, used, and treated to minimize risks, giving special attention to
11 allowing fish to pass both upstream and downstream during all life stages.

12 (4) Clear and enforceable specifications for construction and operation
13 of any new crossing of Class I waters to prevent direct harm, habitat
14 degradation, water velocity increase, hindrance of fish passage, or other
15 potential impairment of beneficial uses of water.

16 (g) Where an inner gorge is present above a Class I WLPZ and slopes are
17 greater than 55%, a special management zone shall be established that
18 requires the use of selection harvesting. This zone shall extend upslope the
19 to the first major break-in-slope, or 300 feet as measured from the
20 watercourse or lake transition line, which ever is less. When evenaged
21 management is prooosed above a special management zone, but within an inner
22 gorge and on slopes that range from 55% to 65%; the proposed operations shall
23 be reviewed by a Certified Engineering Geologist (CEG) prior to plan
24 approval. All operations on slopes exceeding 65% within an inner gorge shall
25 be reviewed by a CEG prior to plan approval, regardless of whether they are
proposed within a WLPZ or outside of a WLPZ.

1 (h) All watercourse crossings will be constructed to accommodate the
2 estimated 100-year flood flow, including debris and sediment loads.

3 (i) The following shall apply to all Class I watercourse crossings:

4 (1) Except for culverts, all new and replaced Class I crossings shall
5 have a natural bottom.

6 (2) Any new permanent culverts installed within Class I watercourses
7 shall allow upstream or downstream passage of fish or listed aquatic species
8 during any life stage and for the natural movement of bedload to form a
9 stable bed inside the culvert and shall meet the following specifications:

10 (i) The culvert shall be at least equal to the average bankfull channel bed
11 width at the elevation the culvert intersects the bed; (ii) the culvert shall
12 be installed at a flat gradient; (iii) the downstream invert shall be
13 countersunk a minimum of 20% of the culvert diameter or rise; (iv) upstream
14 headcut potential shall be prevented; (v) the culvert shall accommodate the
15 100 year flood event, including debris and sediment loads.

16 Any alternative to these specifications requires an analysis and
17 specifications by a Professional Engineer licensed in California
18 demonstrating conformance with the intent of this section and subsection.

19 (j) Harvesting is prohibited within the channel zone.

20 (k) Within a WLPZ for Class I waters, at least 85 percent overstory
21 canopy shall be retained within 75 feet of the watercourse or lake transition
22 line, and at least 65 percent overstory canopy within the remainder of the
23 WLPZ. The overstory canopy must be composed of at least 25% overstory
24 conifer canopy post-harvest. Where these minimum percentages do not
25 currently exist within the Class I WLPZ, no timber harvesting shall occur
within the Class I WLPZ.

1 (l) The minimum WLPZ width for Class II waters shall be 100 feet from
2 the watercourse or Lake transition line.

3 (m) Within a WLPZ for Class II waters, at least 85 percent overstory
4 canopy shall be retained within 30 feet of the watercourse or Lake transition
5 line, and at least 65 percent overstory canopy within the remainder of the
6 WLPZ. The overstory canopy must be composed of at least 25% overstory
7 conifer canopy post-harvest. Where these minimum percentages do not
8 currently exist within the Class II WLPZ, no timber harvesting shall occur
9 within the Class I WLPZ.

10 (n) A 30 to 50 foot wide ELZ or EEZ is required for Class III waters.
11 All hardwoods shall be retained within the ELZ or EEZ.

12 (o) Recruitment of large woody debris for aquatic habitat in Class I
13 waters shall be ensured by retaining within the WLPZ at least ten conifers
14 per 330 feet of stream channel length. The retained conifers shall be: (i)
15 within 50 feet of the watercourse or lake transition line (ii) among the most
16 likely to fall into the water, (iii) from the upper 20% of the dbh
17 distribution of the preharvest stand in the WLPZ, (iv) clearly and
18 permanently marked, and (v) retained in future harvests unless replaced by a
19 tree that is of equal or greater size, and that is either more likely to
20 contribute to recruitment, or is more rot resistant.

21 (p) From October 15 to May 1, (i) no timber operations shall take place
22 unless the approved plan incorporates a complete winter period operating plan
23 pursuant to 14 CCR 914.7 [934.7, 965.71 (a), (ii) no skid trails shall be
24 constructed, reconstructed, or used on slopes that are over 40 percent and
25 within 200 feet of a Class I, II, or III watercourse, as measured from the
watercourse or lake transition line, and (iii) operation of trucks and heavy

1 equipment on roads and landings shall be limited to those with a permanent
2 stable operating surface throughout the period of use.

3 (q) Construction or reconstruction of logging roads, tractor roads, or
4 landings shall not take place during the winter period. Use of logging roads,
5 tractor roads, or landings shall not take place where saturated soil
6 conditions exist, where a stable logging road or landing operating surface
7 does not exist, or when visibly turbid water from the road, landing, or skid
8 trail surface or inside ditch may reach a watercourse or lake. Grading to
9 obtain a dryer running surface more than one time before reincorporation of
10 any resulting berms back into the road surface is prohibited.

11 (r) All tractor roads shall have drainage and/or drainage collection
12 and storage facilities installed prior to the start of any rain which causes
13 overland flow across or along the disturbed surface or any day with a
14 National Weather Service forecast of a chance of rain of 30 percent or more,
15 a flash flood warning, or a flash flood watch.

16 (s) Within the WLPZ, EEZ or ELZ, treatments to stabilize soils,
17 minimize soil erosion, and prevent the discharge of sediment into waters in
18 amounts deleterious to aquatic species or the quality and beneficial uses of
19 water, or that threaten to violate applicable water quality requirements,
20 shall be applied in accordance with the following standards:

21 (1) The following requirements shall apply to all such treatments.

22 i. They shall be described in the required plan.

23 ii. For areas disturbed from May 1 through October 15, treatment shall
24 be completed prior to any day for which a chance of rain of 30 percent or
25 greater is forecast by the National Weather Service or by October 15th,
whichever is earlier.

1 iii. For areas disturbed from October 15 through April 30, treatment
2 shall be completed prior to any day for which a chance of rain of 30 percent
3 or greater is forecast by the National Weather Service or within 10 days,
4 whichever is earlier.

5 (2) The traveled surface of logging roads shall be treated to prevent
6 generation of sediment and concentration of runoff at anytime, and treated
7 with rock or other suitable material to provide a stable operating surface
8 during periods of use.

9 (3) The treatment for other disturbed areas, including: (i) areas
10 exceeding 100 contiguous square feet where timber operations have exposed
11 bare soil, (ii) approaches to tractor road watercourse crossings between the
12 drainage facilities closest to the crossing, (iii) road cut banks and fills,
13 and (iv) any other area of disturbed soil that threatens to discharge
14 sediment into waters in amounts deleterious to the quality and beneficial
15 uses of water, may include, but need not be limited to, mulching, rip-
16 rapping, grass seeding, or chemical soil stabilizers. Where straw, mulch, or
17 slash is used, the minimum coverage shall be 90%, and any treated area that
18 has been subject to reuse or has less than 90% surface cover shall be treated
19 again prior to the end of timber operations.

20 (4) Where the undisturbed natural ground cover cannot effectively
21 protect beneficial uses of water from timber operations, the ground shall be
22 treated by measures including, but not limited to, seeding, mulching, or
23 replanting, in order to retain and improve its natural ability to filter
24 sediment, minimize soil erosion, and stabilize banks of watercourses and
25 Lakes.

1 (t) As part of the required plan, the RPF shall identify active erosion
2 sites linked to past management activities in the logging area, shall assess
3 them to determine which sites pose significant risks to the beneficial uses
4 of water and which can be feasibly remedied, and shall submit a remedial plan
5 and time schedule to complete all remedial action for all sites that can be
6 feasibly remediated.

7 (u) The erosion control maintenance period on permanent and seasonal
8 roads and associated landings that are not abandoned in accordance with 14
9 CCR 923.8 shall be three years.

10 (v) The required plan shall fully describe: (i) the type and location
11 of each measure needed to fully offset sediment or thermal loading or
12 cumulative watershed effects from timber operations, and (ii) the person(s)
13 responsible for the implementation of each measure, if other than the timber
14 operator.

15 In proposing, reviewing, and approving such measures, preference shall
16 be given to the following: (i) measures that are both onsite (i.e., on or
17 near the plan area) and in-kind (i.e., erosion control measures where
18 sediment is the problem), and (ii) sites that are located to maximize the
19 benefits to the impacted portion of a watercourse or lake. Out-of-kind
20 measures (i.e., improving shade where sediment is the problem) shall not be
21 approved as meeting the requirements of this subsection.

22 (w) No salvage logging is allowed in a WLPZ without: (i) written
23 concurrence from DFG or an approved HCP with NMFS and (ii) an SYP or approved
24' plan that contains a section that sees forth objectives, goals, and
2s measurable results for streamside salvage operations.

1 (x) Where these measures would not achieve the goals set forth in
2 subsection (a), other measures that would effectively achieve such
3 performance may be approved in accordance with 14 CCR, 916.6 [936.6, 956.6] .

4 (y) Site preparation activities that result in soil disturbance within
5 or cause sediment movement into the channel of watercourses shall not be
6 conducted. Prior to any burning, burning prescriptions shall be designed to
7 prevent loss of large woody debris in watercourses, and vegetation and duff
8 within a WLPZ, ELZ or EEZ. When burning prescriptions are proposed, the
9 measures or burning restrictions which are intended to accomplish this goal
10 shall be stated in the required plan and the burning permit. This
11 information shall be provided in addition to the information required under
12 4 CCR 915.4 [935.4, 954.4] .

13 (z) Water drafting for timber operations shall conform with the
14 following standards:

15 (1) Drafting is prohibited if surface flow: (i) is less than two cubic
16 feet per second or (ii) would be reduced by more than 20% below the drafting
17 or diversion point.

18 (2) Water holes shall not be constructed in watercourses' or lakes.

19 (3) Intakes shall be screened in Class I and **Class II** waters.

20 (4) Approaches to drafting locations within a **WLPZ** shall be surfaced
21 with rock or other suitable material to avoid generation of sediment.

22 (aa) No timber operations are allowed in the WLPZ, EEZ, or ELZ under
23 emergency notices or exemption notices.

24
25 **Note:** Authority cited: **Sections 4551, 4562.7 and 21000(g)**, Public
Resources Code. Reference: Sections 451, 4512, 4513, 4551.5, 21000(g),

1 21001(b) and 21002.1, Public Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243, 13050(E)
2 Water Code; Sections 1600 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code; and 33 USC Section
3 1233(b)(2)(F).

4
5 Adopt §§ 923.9 [943.9, 963.91 Road and Landings in Watersheds with Threatened
6 or Impaired Values.

7 In addition to all other district Forest Practice Rules, the following
8 requirements shall apply in any planning watershed with threatened or
9 impaired values:

10 (a) Where road construction or reconstruction is proposed, the required
11 plan shall state the locations of and specifications for road or landing
12 abandonment or other mitigation measures to achieve no net increase in-road
13 density within the ownership within the watershed.

14 (b) New and reconstructed logging roads shall be no wider than 14 feet
15 for tractor yarding areas and 16 feet where cable yarders are employed. They
16 shall be outsloped and drained with water breaks. Where the road grade is
17 inclined at 7 percent or less, rolling dips shall be used.

18 (c) The following shall apply on slopes greater than 50%:

19 (1) Specific provisions of construction shall be identified and
20 described for new roads.

21 (2) Where cutbank stability is not an issue, roads may be constructed
22 as a full-benched 'cut (no fill). Spoils shall be disposed of in stable areas
23 with less than 30 percent slope and. outside of any WLPZ, EEZ, or ELZ.

24 (3) Alternatively, roads may be built with balanced cuts and fills if
25 properly engineered with fills reinforcement or retainment, or fills may be
removed with the slopes recontoured prior to the winter period.

0358

(d) In addition to the provisions listed under 14 CCR 923.1(e) [943.1(e), 963.1(e)], all logging roads with a grade of 20% or greater that extends 500 continuous feet or more shall be surfaced with rock.

(e) Where situations exist that elevate risks to the factors set forth in 14 CCR 916.2(b), [936.2(b), 956.2(b)] (e.g., road networks are remote, the landscape is unstable, water conveyance features historically have a high failure rate, culvert fills are large) drainage structures and erosion control features shall be oversized, self-maintaining, or reinforced, or they shall be removed before the completion of the timber operation. The method of analysis used to design crossing protection shall be included in the required plan'.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5, 4553, 4562.7 and 21000(g), Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 751, 4512, 4513, 4551, 4551.5, 4562.5, 4562.7, 21000(g), 21001(b) and 21002.1, Public Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243, 13050(f) Water Code; Sections 1600 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code; and 33 USC Section 1288(b); Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp. (1976) 59 Cal.App. 3d 959, 131 Cal.Rptr. 172:

doh: 6/24/99
File: Draft Rule Text