



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Central Coast Region



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3>  
81 Higuera Street, Suite 200, San Luis Obispo, California 93401-5411  
Phone (805) 549-3147 • FAX (805) 543-0397

Gray Davis  
Governor

June 26, 2003

Nancy Drinkard, RPF  
Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection  
6059 Highway 9  
P.O. Drawer F-2  
Felton, CA 95018

Dear Ms. Drinkard:

**SUBJECT:** BARTLEBAUGH TIMBER HARVEST PLAN 1-03-071 SCR

On June 9, 2003, Regional Board staff William Arkfeld attended the pre-harvest inspection for the subject timber harvest plan (Plan). The Plan includes 34 acres of land that will be selectively harvested via ground based (tractor and/or rubber tire skidder) log yarding systems. Corralitos Creek, which is about ½ mile from the Plan, is known to be existing habitat for Steelhead Trout. Corralitos Creek is used as a domestic water supply. Our comments are as follows:

**LANDSLIDES:** Two landslides exist on the Plan (refer to mitigation M5 and M6 in the Plan). The best management practices implemented for these two sites appear adequate. Visual monitoring should be performed regularly to ensure any needed drainage improvements could be implemented promptly.

**MONITORING:** The Central Coast Regional Board now requires water column monitoring for all new and existing timber harvest plans. The existing monitoring plan for Big Creek's Scott Creek timber harvest plan is to be used to model monitoring plans for all new and existing timber harvest plans. Monitoring plans shall include the following components:

- Monitor Class I streams up and downstream of the timber harvest plan for turbidity and temperature. Turbidity monitoring is required within 24 hours of all large storm events. A turbidity meter is recommended. Temperature monitoring is required during the dry season. Hobo temps are recommended for this purpose. Monitoring data shall be maintained on site or at the office of the forester (RPF). We understand that there are no class I streams on the Plan.
- Up and downstream turbidity monitoring of each Class I or II watercourse crossing (existing and abandoned) by roads. Turbidity monitoring is required within 24 hours of all large storm events. We understand that there are no Class I watercourse crossings by roads on this Plan.
- Reporting of all significant water quality problems. Reporting is required when one cubic yard or more of soil is discharged to a creek. This reporting is required for both "natural" and timber caused sediment releases. Reporting is also required when downstream turbidity levels are

substantially higher than the up stream samples. When these conditions occur, reporting to the Regional Board is required within 7 days.

- Submittal of an Annual Report. The annual report shall include a summary of timber harvest activities during the previous year and planned for the next year, inspection and monitoring result evaluations, implemented maintenance and repairs, proposed maintenance and repairs for the next wet season.

A monitoring plan which includes these components is required before the Regional Board will consider waste discharge requirements or a waiver of waste discharge requirements. We recommend that these monitoring and reporting requirements be added to the timber harvest plan.

At this time, all timber harvest plans must obtain waste discharge requirements or a waiver of waste discharge requirements prior to commencement of timber harvest operations. Once a new plan is adopted by CDF, we will require an electronic version of the final timber harvest plan. Please contact Regional Board staff for further information about the application process. Currently, we are developing an application form and supporting documentation for timber harvest plan regulations.

**RECOMMENDATION:** If the above comments are given full consideration, we do not object to the proposed timber harvest plan.

If you have any questions, please contact **William Arkfeld** at (805) 542-4627 or via e-mail at [BARKFELD@RB3.SWRCB.CA.GOV](mailto:BARKFELD@RB3.SWRCB.CA.GOV).

Sincerely,

*for* 

Roger W. Briggs  
Executive Officer

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CC:

Vonita Bartlebaugh  
180 Buzzard Lagoon Road  
Watsonville, CA 95076

Steve Auten  
Big Creek Lumber Co.  
3564 Highway 1  
Davenport, CA 95017

