

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
8:30 a.m., June 10, 2010
Regional Water Board Office
David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

ITEM: 2

SUBJECT: Proposed ORDER NO. R1-2010-0044, *Waste Discharge Requirements For Discharges Related to Road Management and Maintenance Activities Conducted Pursuant to the Green Diamond Resource Company Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan in the North Coast Region* (Green Diamond Roads WDR)

DISCUSSION

In 2008, Green Diamond Resource Company began informal discussions with Regional Water Board staff about the need to have permit coverage for sediment reduction projects required by the Green Diamond Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan. In February 2009, collaboration began between Green Diamond, the Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Board to provide programmatic coverage for Green Diamond's Road Management Plan. The Department of Fish and Game acted as the lead agency for the CEQA review process and certification for both their Master Agreement for Timber Operations (i.e. a programmatic 1600 permit) and our Waste Discharge Requirements.

The proposed Order was distributed on April 7, 2010 by the Department of Fish and Game to agencies and the public for review via the state clearinghouse as an attachment to the CEQA package which also included the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Master Agreement for Timber Operations (SCH # 2010042020).

The proposed Order was also posted on the Regional Water Board website, mailed to interested parties, and distributed to a large email list. The public comment period ended on May 6, 2010. Mr. Jesse Noell submitted comments on the Green Diamond Roads WDR which are addressed in the attached Response to Comments. Comments from Caltrans and the State Water Resources Control Board Department of Water Rights were not specific to the Green Diamond Roads WDR. They were directed to the Department of Fish and Game, whose responses are attached.

No revisions were made to the proposed Order as a result of public comments. The following items are attached to this report:

1. Proposed Order R1-2010-0044
2. Response to Comments
3. Public Hearing Notice
4. Signed Notice of Determination for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration
5. Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Master Agreement for Timber Operations and Road Management Waste Discharge Requirements for Green Diamond Resource Company's Northern California Timberlands
6. Department of Fish and Game Responses to Comments

The Green Diamond Roads WDR sets out waste discharge requirements for road management activities carried out by Green Diamond Resource Company under its Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan. The Road Management Plan contains provisions to routinely inspect the road system and maintain it so water quality impacts are minimized. The Road Management Plan is designed to systematically upgrade and maintain the entire road system within property covered by the Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan.

The Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan covers approximately 401,000 acres of private timberlands in the following hydrologic areas: Smith River, Lower Klamath River, Redwood Creek, Maple Creek, Little River, Mad River, Jacoby Creek, Freshwater Creek, Elk River, Salmon Creek, and the Eel River.

The Green Diamond Roads WDR requires a sediment source inventory, an Annual Work Plan, routine road maintenance, monitoring, and reporting. Additional conditions include the prohibition of discharges of waste and the retention of natural shade.

Compliance with these measures will ensure that road management activities carried out in accordance with the proposed waste discharge requirements will meet the TMDL implementation plans for the watersheds in which they occur.

**PRELIMINARY STAFF
RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider public comments and adopt Order No. R1-2010-0044 as proposed.