Enclosure 2

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

North Coast Region

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Secretary for Environmental Protection

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Interoffice Memorandum

Date: September 11, 2002

To: Nathan Quarles, PE
Chief, Timber Harvest Division

From: David Kuszmar
Water Resource Control Engineer, Headwaters Unit

Re: Update on THP Monitoring Reconnaissance Efforts

Per your request, I have prepared this memorandum to assist you as you prepare to address the Regional Water Board at its upcoming meeting on September 26, 2002 in Santa Rosa, CA. Below is a summary of staff's efforts conducted to date related to field reconnaissance of potential monitoring sites associated with Pacific Lumber Company (PALCO) Timber Harvesting Plans (THPs) in the Elk River and Freshwater Creek watersheds in Humboldt County, CA.

As of the date of this memorandum and beginning with the year 2000, 23 THPs (2,469 harvest acres) have been submitted by PALCO in the Elk River Watershed and are in various stages of the review process. (Attachment 1) Likewise, 25 THPs (2156 harvest acres) have been submitted in the Freshwater Creek Watershed. (Attachment 2) Of these plans, we have identified 16 Elk River THPs and 6 Freshwater THPs as candidate project monitoring sites. Due to the need for pre-project monitoring in most Basin Plan compliance monitoring schemes (our primary focus), completed or currently active plans were excluded from the list of candidate project sites.

Table 1 contains a list of 16 candidate THPs for which field reconnaissance has been conducted to date. While official investigation reports have yet to be generated, we have enough information to present to you and the Board a preliminary, qualitative ranking of these THPs according to their suitability for monitoring.

Table 1. Summary of Candidate THPs Reviewed to Date (sorted by overall monitoring potential)

THP No.	THP Name	Watershed	Lead Staff	Overall Potential
01-201	Incline	Freshwater	Kuszmar	High
00-352	Elkhead #1	South Fork Elk	Arcand	High
00-452	Corrigan #2 Thin	South Fork Elk	Cushman	High
00-259	Turkey Foot	North Fork Elk	Warmerdam	Medium
00-448	Corrigan #1 Thin	South Fork Elk	Cushman	Medium
01-209	AWA	Freshwater	Geppert	Medium
02-096	Dunlap Retread	North Fork Elk	Kuszmar	Medium
02-049	Fresh Start	Freshwater	Kuszmar	Medium
01-193*	SFFC 2000	Freshwater	Kuszmar	Medium
02-090	Elk 218	North Fork Elk	Arcand	Medium
00-388	Elkhead #3	South Fork Elk	Cushman	Medium
01-451	McCready Gulch	Freshwater	Warmerdam	Low
02-111	McWhinney 4	North Fork Elk	Geppert	Low
00-030	Bridge Creek	North Fork Elk	Kuszmar	Low
00-219	Scout Camp 5	North Fork Elk	White	Low
02-102**	SF Elk 10	South Fork Elk	Warmerdam	Low

* Monitoring reconnaissance conducted during complaint response.
** Monitoring reconnaissance conducted during PHI.

Table 2 contains a list of 6 additional candidate THPs for which field reconnaissance is planned in the upcoming weeks.

Table 2. Summary of Additional Candidate THPs to be Reviewed

THP No.	THP Name	Watershed	Lead Staff	Inspection Date
01-411	George Clooney	Freshwater	Cushman	Sep 10
00-280	Lower Lake	North Fork Elk	Geppert	Sep 11
00-115	U837	North Fork Elk	Warmerdam	Sep 11
00-387	Elkhead 10 Thin	South Fork Elk	Arcand	Sep 18
00-077	Scout Camp 3	North Fork Elk	Kuszmar	Sep 19
02-217*	Casey Jones	South Fork Elk	TBD	TBD

* Plan recently submitted

Monitoring suitability for all sites is determined based on a rating of five factors:

- Potential for isolation of sediment discharge
- Flow regime
- Channel geometry
- Access / Safety
- Potential for equipment damage or loss

The rating system is constructed as follows:

1 = not suitable for monitoring
2 = unfavorable
3 = moderately favorable
4 = favorable
5 = ideal for monitoring

Investigation reports for all THPs will employ the rating system described above on a site-by-site basis. As reports are submitted, we will assemble a master list of candidate THPs sorted by their overall monitoring suitability, as indicated by the quantitative ratings and other information provided in the reports.

I trust that the information provided herein is helpful as you prepare to address the Regional Water Board later this month. Please contact me with any further questions or needed clarification.

(DAKmonreconupdate0911.doc)

Attachments: 2

cc: Diana Henrioulle-Henry, PE
Senior WRCE, Headwaters Unit