

1 **Board of Forestry and Fire Protection**

2 **Watercourse Crossings and Emergency Notice Watercourse Crossing**  
3 **Requirements, 2025**

4 **Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations**

5 **Division 1.5, Chapter 4,**

6 **Subchapter 4, 5, 6 & 7**

7  
8 **§ 916.9. Protection and Restoration of the Beneficial Functions of the Riparian**  
9 **Zone in Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids.**

10 In addition to all other Rules, the following requirements shall apply in any watershed  
11 with listed anadromous salmonids. Requirements of 14 CCR § 916.9 precede other  
12 sections of the FPRs.

13 Geographic scope -- Requirements for Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids  
14 differ depending on the geographic location of the watershed and geomorphic  
15 characteristics of the Watercourse. Unique requirements for Watersheds with Listed  
16 Anadromous Salmonids are set forth for 1) Watercourses in the coastal anadromy zone  
17 with Confined Channels, 2) Watercourses with Flood Prone Areas or Channel Migration  
18 Zones, and 3) Watercourses with Confined Channels located outside the coastal  
19 anadromy zone.

20 Watersheds which do not meet the definition of "Watersheds with Listed Anadromous  
21 Salmonids" are not subject to this section except as follows: The provisions of 14 CCR §  
22 916.9, subsections (k)-(q) also apply to Planning Watersheds immediately upstream of,  
23 and contiguous to, any watershed with listed anadromous salmonids for purposes of  
24 reducing significant adverse impacts from transported fine sediment. Projects in other  
25 watersheds further upstream that flow into Watersheds with Listed Anadromous

1 Salmonids, not otherwise designated above, may be subject to these provisions based  
2 on an assessment consistent with Cumulative Impacts assessment requirements in 14  
3 CCR §§ 898 and 912.9 and Board Technical Rule Addendum No. 2, Cumulative  
4 Impacts Assessment. These requirements do not apply to upstream watersheds where  
5 permanent dams attenuate the transport of fine sediment to downstream Watercourses  
6 with listed anadromous salmonids.

7 \*\*\*\*\*

8 **(s) Exemption notices** – No Timber Operations are allowed in a WLPZ, or within any  
9 ELZ or EEZ designated for Watercourse or Lake protection, under exemption notices  
10 except for:

11 (1) Hauling on existing roads.

12 (2) Road Maintenance.

13 (3) Operations conducted for public safety.

14 ~~(4) Construction or reconstruction of approved Watercourse crossings.~~

15 ~~(5)~~(4) Temporary crossings of dry Class III Watercourses that do not require  
16 notification under the Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq.

17 ~~(6)~~(5) Harvesting recommended in writing by CDFW to address specifically  
18 identified forest conditions.

19 **(t) Emergency notices** -- No Timber Operations are allowed in a WLPZ, or within any  
20 ELZ or EEZ designated for Watercourse or Lake protection, under emergency notices  
21 except for:

22 (1) Hauling on existing roads.

23 (2) Road Maintenance.

24 (3) Operations conducted for public safety.

1 (4) Construction or Rreconstruction of approved described and mapped  
2 Watercourse crossings.

3 (5) Temporary crossings of dry Class III Watercourses that do not require  
4 notification under the Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq.

5 (6) Harvesting recommended in writing by CDFW to address specifically  
6 identified forest conditions.

7 (7) The harvest of dead or dying conifer trees subject to the following conditions:

8 (A) Retention of all trees in the core zone of Class I and Class II-L Watercourses.

9 (B) Within any WLPZ, ELZ, or EEZ designated for Class II or III Watercourse  
10 protection, a minimum of two dead, dying, or diseased conifer trees per acre at  
11 least sixteen (16) inches d.b.h. and fifty (50) feet tall shall be retained within fifty  
12 (50) feet of the Watercourse Transition Line.

13 (C) Trees to be harvested or retained shall be marked by, or under the  
14 supervision of, an RPF prior to Timber Operations within the WLPZ or ELZ/EEZ.

15 (D) Within the WLPZ, or ELZ/EEZ, if the Stocking Standards of 14 CCR § 912.7  
16 are not met upon completion of Timber Operations, unless the area meets the  
17 definition of Substantially Damaged Timberlands, at least ten (10) trees shall be  
18 planted for each tree harvested but need not exceed the point count standards  
19 contained in 14 CCR § 912.7(b)(1), as appropriate.

20 (8) The harvest of trees or vegetation designated for removal pursuant to 14  
21 CCR § 1052.5 to address Sudden Oak Death that are:

22 (A) symptomatic of the pathogen that causes Sudden Oak Death and confirmed  
23 infected by a certified lab; or

24 (B) host hardwood trees that could spread the pathogen.

25 \*\*\*\*\*

1 Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4562.7 and 21000(g), Public Resources Code.

2 Reference: Sections 751, 4512, 4513, 4551.5, 21000(g), 21001(b) and 21002.1, Public  
3 Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243 and 13050(f), Water Code; and Sections 1600  
4 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code.

5  
6 **§ 923.1. Planning for Logging Roads and Landings.**

7 Logging Roads and Landings shall be planned and located within the context of a  
8 systematic layout pattern that considers 14 CCR § 923(b), uses existing Logging Roads  
9 and Landings where Feasible and appropriate, and provides access for fire and  
10 resource protection activities.

11 \*\*\*\*\*

12 **(b)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be planned for construction (i) within 150 feet  
13 of the Class I Watercourse Transition Line, (ii) within 100 feet of the Class II  
14 Watercourse Transition Line on slopes greater than 30%, (iii) within Class I, II, III, or IV  
15 Watercourses or Lakes, (iv) within a WLPZ, or (v) in marshes, or Wet Meadows and  
16 Other Wet Areas, except as follows:

17 (1) At existing Logging Road Watercourse crossings.

18 (2) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings to be constructed or Reconstructed  
19 ~~that are approved as part of the Fish and Game Code process~~ for which CDFW  
20 has received written notification pursuant to Fish and Game Code (F&GC § 1600  
21 et seq.).

22 (3) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings of Class III Watercourses that are  
23 dry at the time of use.

1 (c) No Logging Roads or Landings shall be planned for reconstruction (i) within Class I,  
2 II, III, or IV Watercourses or Lakes, (ii) within a WLPZ, or (iii) in marshes, or Wet  
3 Meadows and Other Wet Areas, except as follows:

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9 dry at the time of use.

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11 Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5 and 4553, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
12 Sections 4512, 4513, 4551 and 4551.5, Public Resources Code; 33 USC 1288(b); 40  
13 CFR 130.2(g); and *Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.*  
14 (1972) 59 Cal.App.3d 959, 131 Cal. Rptr. 172.

15  
16 **§ 923.4. Construction and Reconstruction of Logging Roads and Landings.**

17 Logging Roads and Landings shall be constructed or Reconstructed in accordance with  
18 the approved Plan and the following requirements. If a change in designation of Logging  
19 Road classification is made after the Plan is approved, the change shall be reported in  
20 accordance with 14 CCR §§ 1039, 1040, 1090.14, 1092.26, 1092.27, 1094.23 or  
21 1094.24 as appropriate.

22 \*\*\*\*\*

23 (b) No Logging Roads or Landings shall be constructed (i) within 150 feet of the Class I  
24 Watercourse Transition Line, (ii) within 100 feet of the Class II Watercourse Transition  
25 Line on slopes greater than 30%, (iii) within Class I, II, III, or IV Watercourses or Lakes,

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10 **(c)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be Reconstructed (i) within Class I, II, III, or IV  
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23 Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5 and 4553, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
24 Sections 4512, 4513, 4551, 4551.5, 4562.5, 4562.7 and 4597, Public Resources Code;

1 33 USC 1288(b); and Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.  
2 (1976) 59 Cal.App.3d 959, 131 Cal. Rptr. 172.

3  
4 **§ 936.9. Protection and Restoration of the Beneficial Functions of the Riparian**  
5 **Zone in Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids.**

6 In addition to all other Rules, the following requirements shall apply in any watershed  
7 with listed anadromous salmonids. Requirements of 14 CCR § 936.9 precede other  
8 sections of the FPRs.

9 Geographic scope -- Requirements for Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids  
10 differ depending on the geographic location of the watershed and geomorphic  
11 characteristics of the Watercourse. Unique requirements for Watersheds with Listed  
12 Anadromous Salmonids are set forth for 1) Watercourses in the coastal anadromy zone  
13 with Confined Channels, 2) Watercourses with Flood Prone Areas or Channel Migration  
14 Zones, and 3) Watercourses with Confined Channels located outside the coastal  
15 anadromy zone.

16 Watersheds which do not meet the definition of "Watersheds with Listed Anadromous  
17 Salmonids" are not subject to this section except as follows: The provisions of 14 CCR §  
18 936.9, subsections (k)-(q) also apply to Planning Watersheds immediately upstream of,  
19 and contiguous to, any watershed with listed anadromous salmonids for purposes of  
20 reducing significant adverse impacts from transported fine sediment. Projects in other  
21 watersheds further upstream that flow into Watersheds with Listed Anadromous  
22 Salmonids, not otherwise designated above, may be subject to these provisions based  
23 on an assessment consistent with Cumulative Impacts assessment requirements in 14  
24 CCR §§ 898 and 932.9 and Board Technical Rule Addendum No. 2, Cumulative  
25 Impacts Assessment. These requirements do not apply to upstream watersheds where

1 permanent dams attenuate the transport of fine sediment to downstream Watercourses  
2 with listed anadromous salmonids.

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4 **(s) Exemption notices** -- No Timber Operations are allowed in a WLPZ, or within any  
5 ELZ or EEZ designated for Watercourse or Lake protection, under exemption notices  
6 except for:

7 (1) Hauling on existing roads.

8 (2) Road Maintenance.

9 (3) Operations conducted for public safety.

10 ~~(4) Construction or reconstruction of approved Watercourse crossings.~~

11 (54) Temporary crossings of dry Class III Watercourses that do not require  
12 notification under the Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq.

13 (65) Harvesting recommended in writing by CDFW to address specifically  
14 identified forest conditions.

15 **(t) Emergency notices** -- No Timber Operations are allowed in a WLPZ, or within any  
16 ELZ or EEZ designated for Watercourse or Lake protection, under emergency notices  
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21 (4) Construction or Rreconstruction of approved described and mapped  
22 Watercourse crossings.

23 (5) Temporary crossings of dry Class III Watercourses that do not require  
24 notification under the Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq.



1 (6) Harvesting recommended in writing by CDFW to address specifically  
2 identified forest conditions.

3 (7) The harvest of dead or dying conifer trees subject to the following conditions:

4 (A) Retention of all trees in the core zone of Class I and Class II-L Watercourses.

5 (B) Within any WLPZ, ELZ, or EEZ designated for Class II or III Watercourse  
6 protection, a minimum of two dead, dying, or diseased conifer trees per acre at  
7 least sixteen (16) inches d.b.h. and fifty (50) feet tall shall be retained within fifty  
8 (50) feet of the Watercourse Transition Line.

9 (C) Trees to be harvested or retained shall be marked by, or under the  
10 supervision of, an RPF prior to Timber Operations within the WLPZ or ELZ/EEZ.

11 (D) Within the WLPZ, or ELZ/EEZ, if the Stocking Standards of 14 CCR § 932.7  
12 are not met upon completion of Timber Operations, unless the area meets the  
13 definition of Substantially Damaged Timberlands, at least ten (10) trees shall be  
14 planted for each tree harvested but need not exceed the point count standards  
15 contained in 14 CCR § 932.7(b)(1), as appropriate.

16 \*\*\*\*\*

17 Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4562.7 and 21000(g), Public Resources Code.

18 Reference: Sections 751, 4512, 4513, 4551.5, 21000(g), 21001(b) and 21002.1, Public  
19 Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243 and 13050(f), Water Code; and Sections 1600  
20 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code.

21  
22 **§ 943.1. Planning for Logging Roads and Landings.**

23 Logging Roads and Landings shall be planned and located within the context of a  
24 systematic layout pattern that considers 14 CCR § 923(b), uses existing Logging Roads  
25

1 and Landings where Feasible and appropriate, and provides access for fire and  
2 resource protection activities.

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4 **(b)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be planned for construction (i) within 150 feet  
5 of the Class I Watercourse Transition Line, (ii) within 100 feet of the Class II  
6 Watercourse Transition Line on slopes greater than 30%, (iii) within Class I, II, III, or IV  
7 Watercourses or Lakes, (iv) within a WLPZ, or (v) in marshes, or Wet Meadows and  
8 Other Wet Areas, except as follows:

9 (1) At existing Logging Road Watercourse crossings.

10 (2) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings to be constructed or Reconstructed  
11 ~~that are approved as part of the Fish and Game Code process~~ for which CDFW has  
12 received written notification pursuant to Fish and Game Code (F&GC § 1600 et seq.).

13 (3) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings of Class III Watercourses that are  
14 dry at the time of use.

15 **(c)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be planned for reconstruction (i) within Class I,  
16 II, III, or IV Watercourses or Lakes, (ii) within a WLPZ, or (iii) in marshes, or Wet  
17 Meadows and Other Wet Areas, except as follows:

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3 CFR 130.2(g); and Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.  
4 (1972) 59 Cal.App.3d 959, 131 Cal. Rptr. 172.

5  
6 **§ 943.4. Construction and Reconstruction of Logging Roads and Landings.**

7 Logging Roads and Landings shall be constructed or Reconstructed in accordance with  
8 the approved Plan and the following requirements. If a change in designation of Logging  
9 Road classification is made after the Plan is approved, the change shall be reported in  
10 accordance with 14 CCR §§ 1039, 1040, 1090.14, 1092.26, 1092.27, 1094.23 or  
11 1094.24 as appropriate.

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13 **(b)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be constructed (i) within 150 feet of the Class I  
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22 (3) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings of Class III Watercourses that are  
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13 33 USC 1288(b); and Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.  
14 (1976) 59 Cal.App.3d 959, 131 Cal. Rptr. 172.

15  
16 **§ 956.9 Protection and Restoration of the Beneficial Functions of the Riparian**  
17 **Zone in Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids.**

18 \*\*\*\*\*

19 In addition to all other Rules, the following requirements shall apply in any watershed  
20 with listed anadromous salmonids. Requirements of 14 CCR § 956.9 precede other  
21 sections of the FPRs.

22 Geographic scope -- Requirements for Watersheds with Listed Anadromous Salmonids  
23 differ depending on the geographic location of the watershed and geomorphic  
24 characteristics of the Watercourse. Unique requirements for Watersheds with Listed  
25 Anadromous Salmonids are set forth for 1) Watercourses in the coastal anadromy zone

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5 Salmonids” are not subject to this section except as follows: The provisions of 14 CCR §  
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13 Impacts Assessment. These requirements do not apply to upstream watersheds where  
14 permanent dams attenuate the transport of fine sediment to downstream Watercourses  
15 with listed anadromous salmonids.

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17 (s) Exemption notices -- No Timber Operations are allowed in a WLPZ, or within any  
18 ELZ or EEZ designated for Watercourse or Lake protection, under exemption notices  
19 except for:

20 (1) Hauling on existing roads.

21 (2) Road Maintenance.

22 (3) Operations conducted for public safety.

23 ~~(4) Construction or reconstruction of approved Watercourse crossings.~~

24 ~~(5)~~(4) Temporary crossings of dry Class III Watercourses that do not require  
25 notification under the Fish and Game Code § 1600 et seq.

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2 identified forest conditions.

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15 (7) The harvest of dead or dying conifer trees subject to the following conditions:

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18 protection, a minimum of two dead, dying, or diseased conifer trees per acre at  
19 least sixteen (16) inches d.b.h. and fifty (50) feet tall shall be retained within fifty  
20 (50) feet of the Watercourse Transition Line.

21 (C) Trees to be harvested or retained shall be marked by, or under the  
22 supervision of, an RPF prior to Timber Operations within the WLPZ or ELZ/EEZ.

23 (D) Within the WLPZ, or ELZ/EEZ, if the Stocking Standards of 14 CCR § 952.7  
24 are not met upon completion of Timber Operations, unless the area meets the  
25 definition of Substantially Damaged Timberlands, at least ten (10) trees shall be

1 planted for each tree harvested but need not exceed the point count standards  
2 contained in 14 CCR § 952.7(b)(1), as appropriate.

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6 Resources Code; Sections 100, 1243 and 13050(f), Water Code; and Sections 1600  
7 and 5650(c), Fish and Game Code.

8  
9 **§ 963.1. Planning for Logging Roads and Landings.**

10 Logging Roads and Landings shall be planned and located within the context of a  
11 systematic layout pattern that considers 14 CCR § 923(b), uses existing Logging Roads  
12 and Landings where Feasible and appropriate, and provides access for fire and  
13 resource protection activities.

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15 **(b)** No Logging Roads or Landings shall be planned for construction (i) within 150 feet  
16 of the Class I Watercourse Transition Line, (ii) within 100 feet of the Class II  
17 Watercourse Transition Line on slopes greater than 30%, (iii) within Class I, II, III, or IV  
18 Watercourses or Lakes, (iv) within a WLPZ, or (v) in marshes, or Wet Meadows and  
19 Other Wet Areas, except as follows:

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23 received written notification pursuant to Fish and Game Code (F&GC § 1600 et seq.).

24 (3) At Logging Road Watercourse crossings of Class III Watercourses that are  
25 dry at the time of use.

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11 Authority cited: Sections 4551, 4551.5 and 4553, Public Resources Code. Reference:  
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13 CFR 130.2(g); and Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.  
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15  
16 **§ 963.4. Construction and Reconstruction of Logging Roads and Landings.**

17 Logging Roads and Landings shall be constructed or Reconstructed in accordance with  
18 the approved Plan and the following requirements. If a change in designation of Logging  
19 Road classification is made after the Plan is approved, the change shall be reported in  
20 accordance with 14 CCR §§ 1039, 1040, 1090.14, 1092.26, 1092.27, 1094.23 or  
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21 33 USC 1288(b); and *Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Arcata Natl. Corp.*  
22 (1976) 59 Cal.App.3d 959, 131 Cal. Rptr. 172.

23  
24 **§ 1052 Emergency Notice**

1 **(a)** Before cutting or removing timber on an emergency basis, an RPF on behalf of a  
2 Timber Owner or operator shall submit a Notice of Emergency Timber Operations to the  
3 Director, on form RM-67 (1/1/10), form RM-65 (1052.4) (2/2020) for a Fuel Hazard  
4 Reduction emergency, or form RM-66 (1052.5) (2/1/11) for a Sudden Oak Death  
5 emergency, herein incorporated by reference, as prescribed by the Director. The notice  
6 shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

7 (1) Names and addresses of all Timberland Owner(s), Timber Owner(s), and  
8 Timber Operator(s) for the area on which timber will be cut or removed.

9 (2) A description of the specific conditions that constitute the emergency, its  
10 cause, extent and reason for immediate commencement of Timber Operations.

11 (3) Legal description of the area from which timber will be cut or removed.

12 (4) A titled USGS (if available) or equivalent topographic map(s) of scale not less  
13 than 2" to the mile, or larger scale, showing the Harvest Area, the legal description,  
14 Logging Roads and Class I, II, III and IV Watercourses, tractor road crossings except for  
15 tractor road crossings of Class III Watercourses, Logging Road Watercourse crossings  
16 to be constructed or Reconstructed, Yarding systems if more than one will be used, and  
17 boundaries of areas where Tractor Operations are proposed for use on areas  
18 designated for Cable Yarding. For Timber Operations conducted pursuant to 14 CCR §  
19 1052.4 within those areas described by 14 CCR § 1052.4(c)(2)(A)-(F), the map(s) shall  
20 include those features described within 14 CCR § 1052.4(c)(2)(A)-(F), as appropriate.

21 (5) Yarding system to be used.

22 (6) The expected dates of commencement and completion of Timber Operations.

23 (7) A declaration by the RPF, made under penalty of perjury, that a bona fide  
24 emergency exists which requires emergency Timber Operations.  
25

1 (8) A declaration by the Timber Owner, made under penalty of perjury, that any  
2 applicable timber yield taxes will be paid pursuant to Section 38115 of the Revenue and  
3 Taxation Code.

4 (9) Name, address, license number, and signature of the RPF who prepares the  
5 notice and submits it to the Director on behalf of the Timber Owner or operator.

6 (10) For Emergency Notices covering three acres or more in size, the RPF shall  
7 include a Confidential Archaeological Letter with the Emergency Notice submitted to the  
8 Director. The Director shall also submit a complete copy of the Confidential  
9 Archaeological Letter and two copies of any required archaeological or historical site  
10 records, to the appropriate Information Center of the California Historical Resource  
11 Information System within 30 days from the date of Emergency Notice submittal to the  
12 Director.

13 (A) For Projects filing an emergency notice for fuel hazard reduction under  
14 14 CCR § 1052.4, archaeology requirements shall be conducted by a person  
15 possessing current certification pursuant to 14 CCR § 929.4 [949.4, 969.4].

16 (11) Name, address, License number, and signature of the RPF who has been  
17 retained by the Timber Owner or operator to provide professional advice throughout the  
18 Timber Operations pursuant to 14 CCR § 1052(f).

19 (12) The RPF must certify either:

20 (A) Compliance with Fish & Game Code Section 1600, et seq. notification  
21 requirements for significant modification of watercourse bed, bank, and channel,  
22 if applicable; or

23 (B) Notification to CDFW within 14 days of commencing emergency work  
24 that impacts the watercourse's bed, bank, and channel, in accordance with Fish  
25 and Game Code § 1610.

1 (13) Within 30 days of the commencement of Timber Operations under the  
2 Emergency Notice, the RPF shall provide a table detailing identification and  
3 description of constructed or Reconstructed Watercourse Crossings.

4 (14) The RPF must promptly update the table with new information regarding  
5 newly constructed or Reconstructed Watercourse Crossings identified during  
6 Timber Operations under the Emergency Notice.

7 **(b)** Timber Operations pursuant to an emergency notice shall comply with the Rules and  
8 regulations of the Board. A person conducting Timber Operations under an Emergency  
9 Notice shall comply with all operational provisions of the Forest Practice Act and District  
10 Forest Practice Rules applicable to “Timber Harvest Plan”, “THP”, and “Plan”.

11 Watercourse crossing construction and Reconstruction pursuant to an Emergency

12 Notice shall comply with the operational provisions of 14 CCR §§ 923.9 [943.9, 963.9] et

13 seq.

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15 Authority cited: Sections 4551 and 4552, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections  
16 4592, 4750, 4750.3 and 4750.4, Public Resources Code.