

Anadromous Salmonid Protection Rules, 2012

Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR):

Amend:

§ 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] Protection and Restoration in Watersheds with Threatened or Impaired Values.

Amend 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] (c)(4):

(3) ***** an additional sediment filter on steeper slopes with high or moderate erosion hazard rating when tractor operations are proposed.

(4) Class II large watercourses (Class II-L): The primary objective is to maintain, protect or restore the values and functions of Class II-L type watercourses described below. Class II-L type watercourses: (i) can supply water and nutrients to a Class I watercourse during the month of July during a year of average precipitation and runoff as derived from long-term average precipitation data sets available from CAL FIRE, U.S. Geological Survey, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), (ii) can supply coarse and fine sediment to the Class I channel, and (iii) may be able to supply wood of a size that would function as large wood for the Class I watercourse. Recruitment, delivery and retention of large wood in Class II- L type watercourses is also critical, as large wood increases sediment storage and decreases the rate of sediment transport to fish-bearing Class I watercourses. Other objectives stated in 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] subsections (c)(1) and (2) above for the Core Zone and Inner Zone are also desired objectives for Class II-L type watercourses.

(5) A primary objective for all WLPZs is to implement practices to maintain****

Amend 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] (g)

1 **(f) Class I watercourses** – *****which delimb harvested trees on pathway over which heavy
2 equipment would travel.

3 **(g) Class II watercourses** –

4 The following are the minimum requirements for Class II WLPZ delineation and timber
5 operations. Differing rules are specified for watersheds in the coastal anadromy zone, the
6 Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District, and areas outside the coastal anadromy zone.
7 WLPZ width ranges from 50 to 100 feet slope distance, depending on side slope steepness in
8 the WLPZ and the watercourse type.

9 **(1) Determine the Class II Watercourse Type:** Class II watercourses are
10 composed of two types - Class II-S (standard) watercourses and Class II-L (large)
11 watercourses. A Class II-L watercourse is defined as a Class II watercourse that: (i) can supply
12 water and nutrients to a Class I watercourse during the month of July during an average
13 hydrologic year; (ii) can supply coarse and fine sediment to the Class I channel; and (iii) may be
14 able to supply wood of a size that would function as large wood for the Class I watercourse.
15 Identification of Class II-L watercourse types shall be based on one or more of the office
16 methods specified under 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] subsection (g)(1)(A) and the field
17 methods specified under 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9], subsection (g)(1)(B). Class II-S
18 watercourses are those classified as Class II watercourses pursuant to 14 CCR § 916.5 [936.5,
19 956.5], but do not meet the definition of a Class II-L watercourse.

20 **(A) Office-based approaches to identify potential Class II-L watercourses:**

21 **1. Stream order:** After classifying the watercourses in an area
22 pursuant to 14 CCR § 916.5 [936.5, 956.5], map all Class II watercourses in the area of
23 consideration on current 1:24,000 scale U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps and
24 determine stream order following the stream order method in 14 CCR § 895.1. Second order
25 and third order Class II watercourses are potentially Class II-L watercourses.

1 **2. “Blue Line” streams:** Watercourses mapped with a blue or
2 black line on current 1:24,000 scale U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps that are not
3 Class I are inferred to be Class II-L watercourses.

4 **3. Drainage area:** A calculated drainage area known to produce
5 mid-late summer flow based on past plan experience or local knowledge for an ownership or
6 local region and extrapolated over the ownership or local area can indicate Class II-L
7 watercourses.

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8 **(B) Field-based approaches to identify potential Class II-L watercourses:**
9 Determination of Class II-L watercourses shall be verified in the field by direct channel
10 observations and local experience using one or more of the following approaches.

11 **1.** Determine by direct observation or by local knowledge of
12 common mid-summer conditions if office mapped Class II-L watercourses contribute flow to a
13 Class I watercourse at least through approximately July 15th following a year with at least
14 average precipitation.

15 **2.** Observe channel characteristics such as channel width at
16 bankfull stage, channel depth at bankfull stage, channel slope, mean entrenchment ratio, the
17 presence of springs or seeps, and the presence of aquatic animal and plant life that require mid-
18 summer flow.

19 **3.** Use continuous streamflow monitoring data from headwater
20 watercourses to determine the watershed drainage area necessary to initiate mid-summer
21 streamflow for a given ecoregion and extrapolate this data to other headwater basins in that
22 ecoregion.

23 **4. Methods that indicate subsurface flow such as: (1) observation**
24 **of surface flow in upstream channels above sediment deltas or alluvial fans that have built up on**
25 **flood plains or in the Class I or II watercourse channel near the confluence; and (2) audible**

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1 evidence of subsurface flow located below organic and inorganic debris burying a watercourse
2 channel.

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3 (C) Based on (A) and (B) above, make a determination if the Class II watercourse being
4 evaluated meets the definition of a Class II-L watercourse in 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9],
5 subsection (c)(4).

6 (D) Include documentation in the plan explaining how the Class II-L determination(s)
7 were made within the plan area.

8 (E) All Class II-L watercourses designated above shall incorporate requirements stated
9 in 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9], (g)(2) for a maximum distance of 1000 feet, or total length of
10 Class II, which ever is less, measured from the confluence with a Class I watercourse.

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11 **(2) Class II WLPZ widths and operational requirements:** All Class II WLPZs shall be
12 composed*****

