

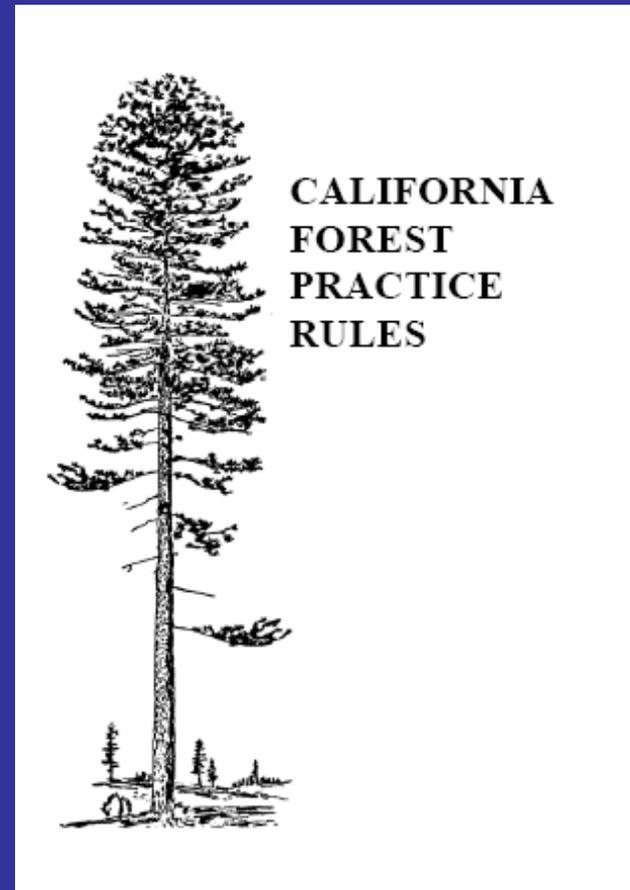
# **Section V Technical Advisory Committee (VTAC) Update**

**BOF Monitoring Study Group  
Meeting**

**November 16, 2011**

# ASP Rule 14 CCR § 916.9(v)

- The 2009 Anadromous Salmonid Protection (ASP) rules provide a moderately high level of protection for Class I, II, and III watercourses.
- In Section V of the ASP rules, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection established a regulatory pathway to allow for site-specific riparian design.
- This approach is voluntary.



## ASP Rule 916.9(v): Site-Specific Measures or Non-Standard Operations Provisions

- Develop site specific measures in place of any of the ASP requirements.
- RPF is to ensure that the goals and standards for salmonid habitat are met.
- DFG/Review Team agencies concurrence required.
- Rules call for development of 2 pilot projects with agencies and landowners in 18 months.
- Guidance provided for site specific plans for:
  - Flood prone areas.
  - Fire hazard reduction.

# ASP Rule 14 CCR § 916.9(v)

- Site Specific riparian practices must be based on scientific principles.
- Active riparian management must be appropriate for a given watershed (basin-scale context) and at the stream reach scale.

**Does the proposed practice make sense from geomorphic, biologic, and hydrologic perspectives?**

# ASP Rule 14 CCR § 916.9(v)

- Two pathways for site-specific riparian management.
  - DFG written approval for a site-specific practice.
  - Detailed analysis including the items listed in Section V (complete analysis)—can be used at the watershed scale.

# Incentives to Use 14 CCR § 916.9(v)

- Landowners will have increased flexibility to manage riparian zones based on site-based needs (vs. a fixed, prescriptive standard).

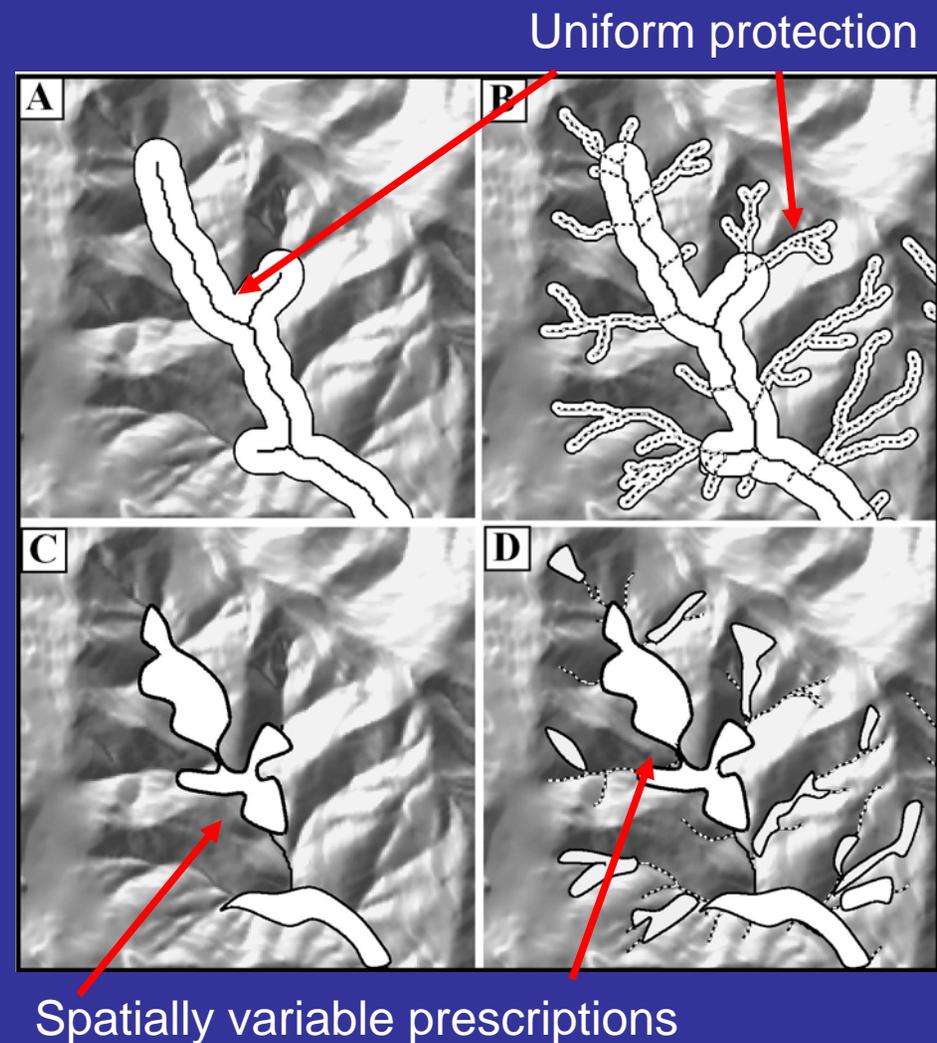


Image: L. Benda, Lee Benda and Associates

## VTAC Established to...

- **Develop a general guideline document that will allow for broad application of the site-specific approach for riparian management under 916.9(v).**
  - **For example, this could be an alternative to “uniform buffer strips.”**
- **Help develop and implement at least 2 pilot projects to demonstrate site-specific riparian management.**

# VTAC Members and Representatives

## • Members

- Mike Liquori, SWC (Chair)
- Peter Ribar, CTM
- Dr. Kevin Boston, OSU
- Dr. Matt O'Connor, OEI
- Dr. Kate Sullivan, HRC
- Dave Hope, Consultant
- Mark Lancaster, 5C
- Richard Gienger, public
- Bill Trush, McBain and Trush

## • Agency Representatives

- Bill Short, CGS
- Bill Stevens, NMFS
- Bryan McFadin, NCRWQCB
- Drew Coe, CVRWQCB
- Stacy Stanish, DFG
- Pete Cafferata, CAL FIRE

## • CAL FIRE/BOF Assistance

- Crawford Tuttle
- Bill Snyder
- Duane Shintaku
- Dennis Hall
- George Gentry

# VTAC Timeline

- VTAC established October 2010.
  - VTAC has met 9 times between October 2010 and September 2011.
- Produce draft guidelines document by the end of 2011.
- Establish pilot projects winter of 2012.
- Present final guidelines to BOF in July 2012.



**Soquel Demonstration State Forest  
Field Meeting held June 21, 2011**

**Soquel Demonstration  
State Forest Field  
Meeting held June 21,  
2011**





# Primary Types of Potential Riparian Projects

- Placement of large wood in fish-bearing watercourses using large conifers from the Core and/or Inner Zones.
- Thinning trees in the Core and Inner Zones to accelerate conifer growth.
- Modifying the stand composition of the Core and Inner Zone to restore conifer deficient areas or develop a more appropriate mixture of conifers and hardwood species.
- Management in the Core, Inner and Outer Zones of Class I watercourses to reduce the chance of catastrophic wildfire through the use of fuel hazard reduction projects.

# ASP Rule 14 CCR § 916.9(v)

- Why are active management and restoration actions needed in California riparian areas?
- To promote more immediate (short-term) responses to benefit listed fish species.



Low large wood loading in  
Gualala River watershed

# Example of Placing Large Wood in Parlin Creek, JDSF August 1996



# Clark Fork Ten Mile River Watershed Treatment Site No. 6 -- August 2010

Photos: Dave Wright, CTM



# Site 6 Looking Upstream

Pool created  
by large  
wood  
Mid-January  
2011



# Unanchored Large Wood Enhancement Projects



South Fork Ten Mile River, July 2008

Photos: Dave Wright, CTM

**GRI Kestrel THP PHI  
THP 1-11-087 SON  
PHI October 26, 2011**

Photo: Dan  
Wilson, NMFS



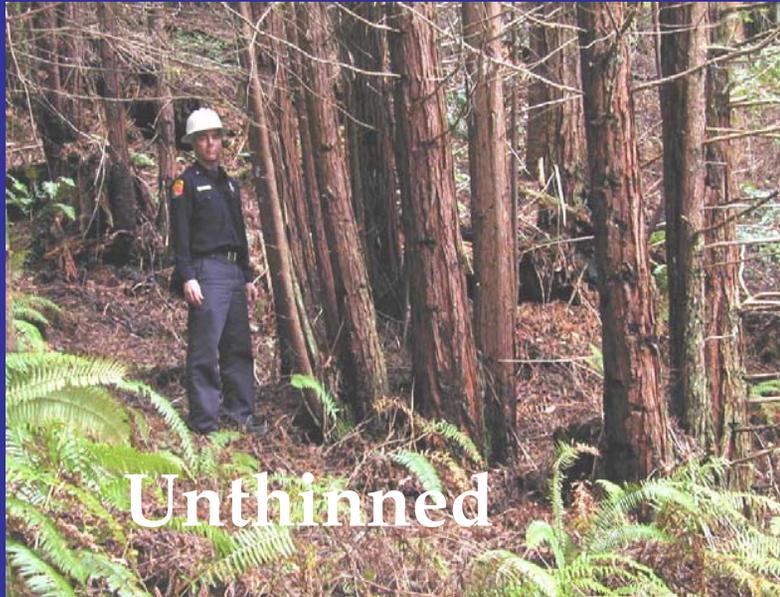


**Example of  
Beneficial  
Riparian  
Zone  
Thinning to  
Accelerate  
Stand  
Growth**

Photo: Dr. Kevin  
O'Hara, UCB

**Humboldt Redwood Company's Plantation at Scotia**

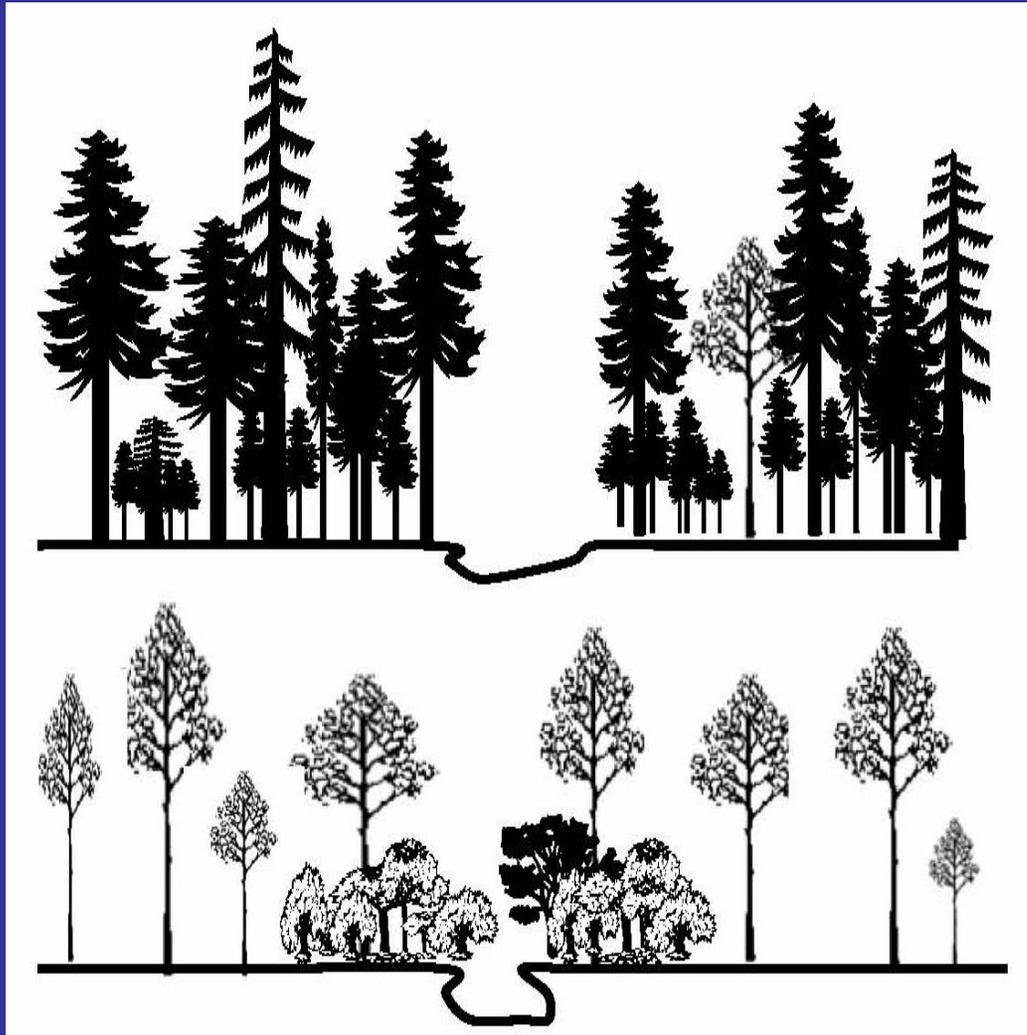
# Thinning Affects Wood Recruitment - Caspar Cutting Trials, JDSF



# Example of Thinning a Redwood Clump in the Coast Ranges



# Modifying Riparian Stand Composition



Does the Riparian Stand have the optimal mix of conifers and hardwoods for large wood, shading, and nutrient input into the stream system?

Image: Liquori and Jackson 2001

## McGarvey Creek, Humboldt County



**Active management can prevent dense stands of trees in riparian zones from contributing to rapid fire spread upslope in interior areas.**

## **Wildfire Burning Preferentially Through Riparian Forests**



# Fire History of Coniferous Riparian Forests in the Sierra Nevada

Van de Water and North 2011

- **Current riparian forests more prone to high-intensity fire than current upland forests.**
- **Riparian forests are significantly more fire prone under current management regimes with excluded harvest that allow for a build-up of fuels.**



Photo: Kip Van de Water,  
UC Davis



**“Dense stands of trees in the Angora SEZ likely contributed to the rapid [fire] spread upslope to Angora Ridge...”**

**Murphy et al. 2007**

**2007 Angora Fire  
Lake Tahoe Basin**

# Anadromous Salmonid Protection Rule 916.9 Section V Technical Advisory Survey

Home

## Thank You!!!

...for taking the time to help us implement the Anadromous Salmonid Protection Rule 916.9 Section V Pilot Project. Your thoughts and comments will help us set priorities in the months ahead and will help us frame the issues and approach we take as we develop guidance for this innovative new approach to riparian forest management. We've provided a brief introduction video (optional) as well as some Background Information and additional links (see below).



Online Version (preferred)



Hard Copy Version

You may print out a hard copy of the survey by clicking the download link below:



Hardcopies of the survey can be mailed to:  
Mike Liquori  
VTAC Chair  
c/o Sound Watershed  
2201 Melvin Rd

## VTAC Online Survey - Spring 2011

123 responses to the  
survey

-39% landowners

-32% agency

-19% consultants

-10% public

~50% RPFs

# VTAC Outreach Online Survey

## 1. About You

Thank You for taking the time to help us design CAL FIRE's Aquatic Salmonid Protection (ASP) Rule 916.9 Section V Pilot Program. Your answers will help us meet the needs and desires of a broad array of interests and concerns. We intend that the results of the program will help to promote a faster path to salmonid recovery in the forested lands of California.

There are 4 pages of questions, and this survey should take about 10-15 minutes.

\* An asterisk indicates that an answer is required.

### \* 1. Are you (or do you represent) a:

- Large landowner (>50,000 acres)
- Mid-sized landowner (2,500 acres to 50,000 acres)
- Small landowner (<2,500 acres)
- Land manager
- Consultant
- Advocate
- General public
- Agency staff

Other (please specify)

### 2. Are you a Registered Professional Forester?

- Yes
- No

### 3. What was your awareness of the ASP Section V rule before this survey?

- Detailed Knowledge
- Moderate Awareness
- Slight Awareness
- Never Heard of It

### \* 4. Prior to watching the video, how was your knowledge of the Section V rule obtained? (Check all that apply)

- Reading the Forest Practice Rules
- Professional organization information (CLFA, etc.)
- Internal training/discussions
- Agency training sessions and/or documents
- I had no prior knowledge

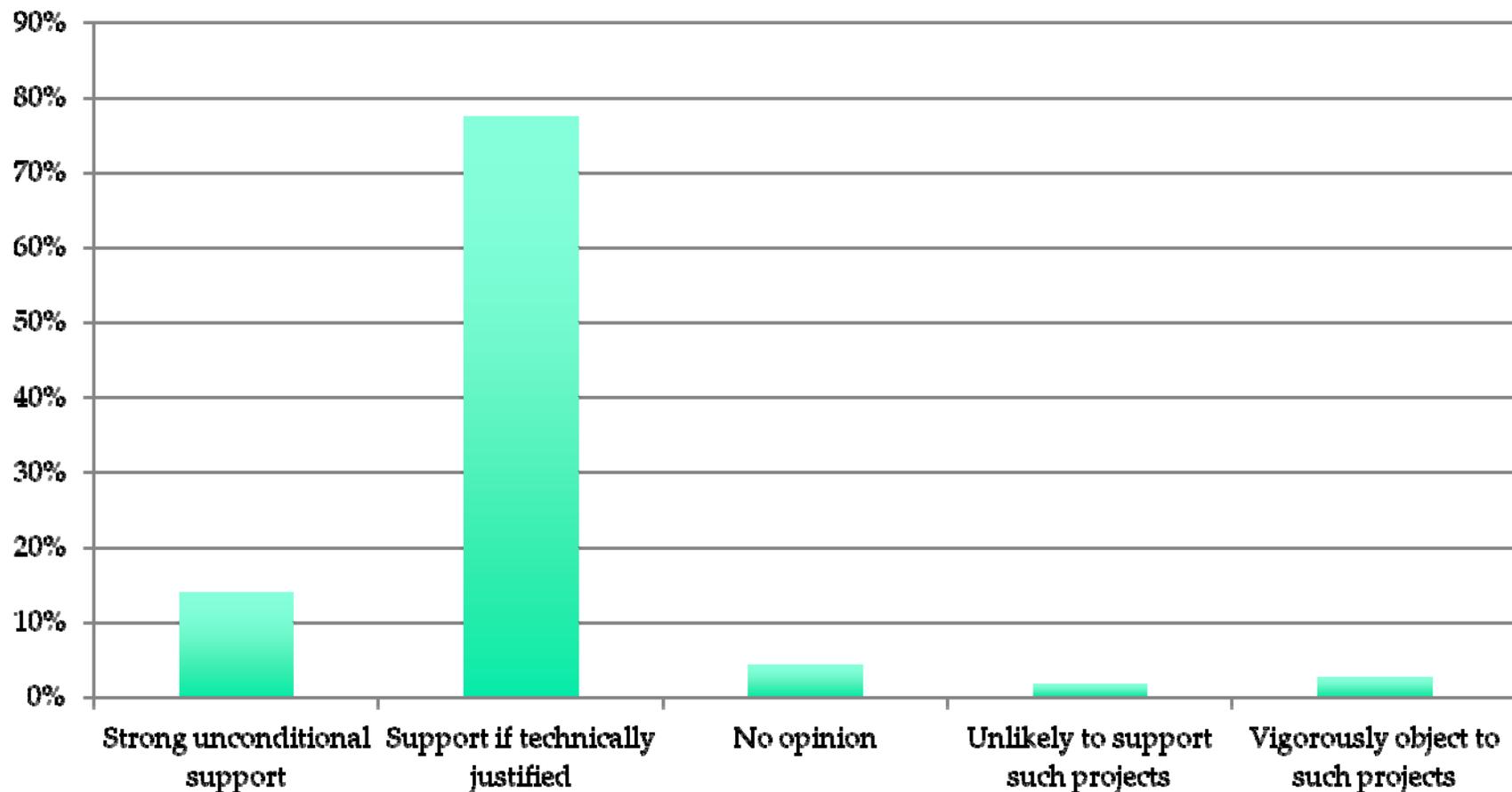
Other (please specify)

## 2. Which of the following objectives related to site-based riparian (streamside) management do you support?

	Strong Support	Moderate Support	Low Support	No Support	Neutral
Protecting/enhancing environmental conditions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing the science/technology for responsible, site-specific riparian treatments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reducing fire risks	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Demonstrating the ECOLOGICAL benefits of more active forestry within WLPZs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Demonstrating the ECONOMIC benefits of more active forestry within WLPZs	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preventing misuse of the rules by RPFs/landowners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preventing application of Section V rules by ALL landowners	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting better land stewardship thru active management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving the LONG-TERM ecological function of WLPZs/watercourses	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving the SHORT-TERM ecological function of WLPZs/watercourses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I want to promote the concept that more intensive management can yield more value both economically and environmentally	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creating the flexibility to address long-term stand management issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# VTAC Outreach Survey

## Likely to support landowner's ability to apply treatment through Section V rules



## VTAC Survey Take-Home Messages

1. Widespread agreement that site-based riparian management can be used where it is justified.
2. Landowners need an increased level of certainty for extensive use of the Section V process.
3. Need successful pilot projects and guidance to demonstrate to landowners that this approach can work.

# VTAC Guidance Document Outline

- Introduction/goals/background information.
- Pre-consultation guidelines.
- Analytical methods.
- Toolbox for potential riparian assessment techniques.
- Templates for RPFs to facilitate use of the guidelines.
- Watershed context assessment.
- Submission requirements.
- Proposal processing.
- Monitoring strategies.

# VTAC Pre-Consultation Guidelines

- **Voluntary.**
- **Will not receive formal agency approval.**
- **Quickly identify issues of potential controversy.**
- **Give the landowner and/or RPF the ability to determine the potential success of a proposed Section V project.**



# VTAC Guidance Document Analytical Methods

- 3 main analytical approaches to satisfy 916.9(v)(3):
  - Use a set of **matrices** to evaluate site conditions, identify objectives, and develop site prescriptions.
  - Use **“situation examples”** to identify where actions can be applied (providing examples with photographs and diagrams).
  - Use **watershed analysis** by expert users.

# VTAC Guidance Document

## Watershed Context Assessment

- **Use existing documents where possible:**
  - TMDL assessments.
  - Anadromous salmonid recovery plans.
  - Private timberland company HCPs.
  - North Coast Watershed Assessment Program (NCWAP) reports.
  - KRIS watershed online sites.
  - RCD watershed assessments.
  - Individual watershed studies (e.g., RNSP).

# Potential Pilot Project Sites

- Jackson Demonstration State Forest
- Green Diamond Resource Company
- Big Creek Lumber Company
- Campbell Timberland Management
- The Conservation Fund
- Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc. (RFFI)
- Fruit Growers Supply Company
- Collins Pine Company

# VTAC Next Steps...

- **VTAC to meet December 2<sup>nd</sup> (location TBD)**
- **Finalize Pre-Consultation document.**
- **Review revised draft Guidance document.**
- **Continue to plan strategies/outreach for pilot projects.**