



Nonpoint Source Permits For Discharges Related to Certain Federal Land Management Activities

RUSTICI RANGELAND TOUR JUNE 2018

Laurie Scribe
Environmental Scientist
Lahontan Water Board

Gretchen Woessner
Environmental Scientist
Central Valley Water Board

Mission



“To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.”

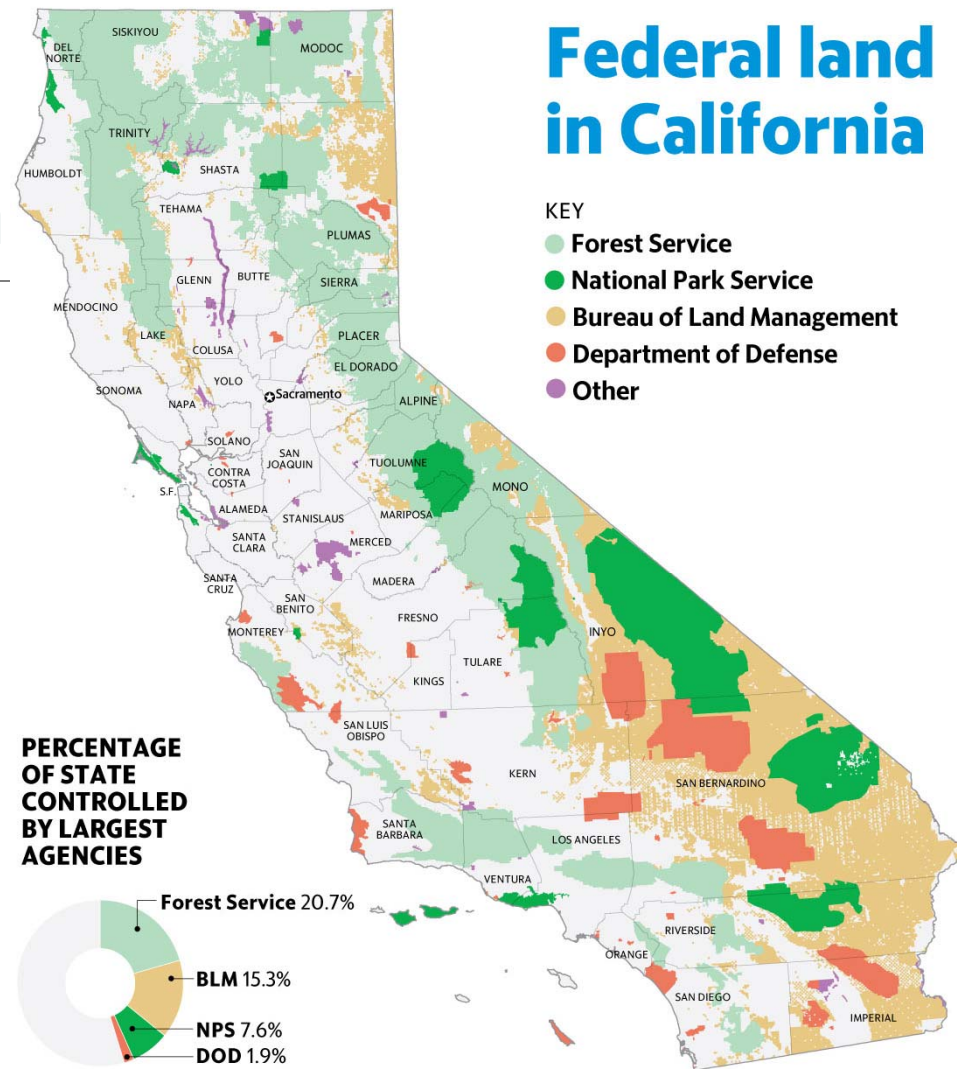
Federal Lands Connection

More than 45% of California is federally managed

Nonpoint Source Activities

- Grazing
- Timber/Vegetation Management
- Recreation
- Road Management
- Restoration

Federal land in California



Sources: Bee analysis of data from Esri and U.S. Geological Survey; Congressional Research Service

PHILLIP REESE and NATHANIEL LEVINE nlevine@sacbee.com

Why a Federal Nonpoint Source (NPS) Permit?

- Framework for interaction/collaboration between Water Boards and federal land management agencies
- NPS pollution is a significant water quality concern
- Federal and state law require the Water Boards to regulate NPS pollution (permits, waivers, and prohibitions)
- Shared goal of protection of water quality
- Need comprehensive, long term strategy to protect beneficial uses

Nonpoint Source Programs

**Agriculture/
Dairy**

Forestry

Cannabis

**NPS Grant
Program**

**Wetlands
Protection
and
Restoration**

**Recreational
Boating and
Marinas**

**Surface Water
Ambient Monitoring
Program (SWAMP)**

Common NPS Pollutants	Common Sources	Potential Adverse Effects
Nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Total Dissolved Solids)	Agricultural/cannabis activities, livestock grazing, dairies, urban runoff (lawns/golf courses), septic tanks, pet wastes, atmospheric inputs	Eutrophication, reduced dissolved oxygen, harmful algal blooms; ground water contamination
Pathogens (E. Coli, giardia)	Livestock grazing, dairies, wildlife, recreation (human/pet waste), septic systems	Human health risk
Sediment (Turbidity, suspended sediment)	Agricultural activities, construction sites, dirt roads, timber harvesting, post-wildfire runoff	Aquatic habitat degradation, reduced reservoir capacity, elevated temperature, filtration costs
Temperature (Increased temperature)	Removal of streamside vegetation, urbanization, climate change	Aquatic habitat degradation, lower dissolved oxygen, eutrophication, harmful algal blooms
Pesticides (Herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides)	Agricultural activities, timber harvesting, urban runoff, cannabis cultivation	Human health risk, toxicity to aquatic life, aquatic species habitat degradation
Hydrocarbons (Petroleum products (oil, gas); Polychlorinated biphenyls)	Urban runoff, timber harvesting, recreational vehicles, illegal dumping	
Metals (Aluminum, Arsenic, Copper, Iron, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Zinc)	Abandoned mines, urban runoff, illegal dumping	

What Activities will Permits Cover?



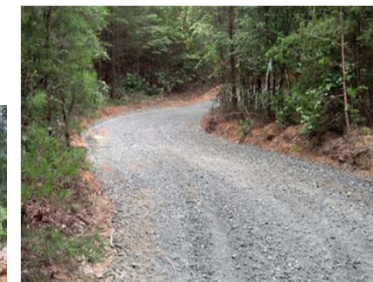
Timber Harvesting

Post-Fire Activities



Meadow or stream restoration

Water crossing upgrades



Road Management



Vegetation Management



Fuel Reduction



Motorized and Non-motorized Recreation



Range Management

Activities Potentially Included

- Utility Line Corridors
- Reporting of Illicit Cannabis Grows
- Dispersed Recreation
- Small scale mineral extraction and exploration



Who Will Permits Affect?

Proposed permits are ONLY for Federal Land Management Agencies
Specifically BLM and USFS

This Permit Will:

- Require USFS and BLM to apply for permit coverage

This Permit Will NOT:

- Require individuals, special-use permit holders or grazing permit/lease holders to apply for permit coverage
- Require 3rd party permittees to apply for permit coverage

Programmatic Permitting Approach

PROGRAMMATIC PERMITTING RECOGNIZES:

- Federal multiple use mandates
- Many activities are long-term, large and complex with multiple management goals and supporting projects
- Need for assessment & strategic prioritization of water quality issues
- Need to address issues over longer time frame

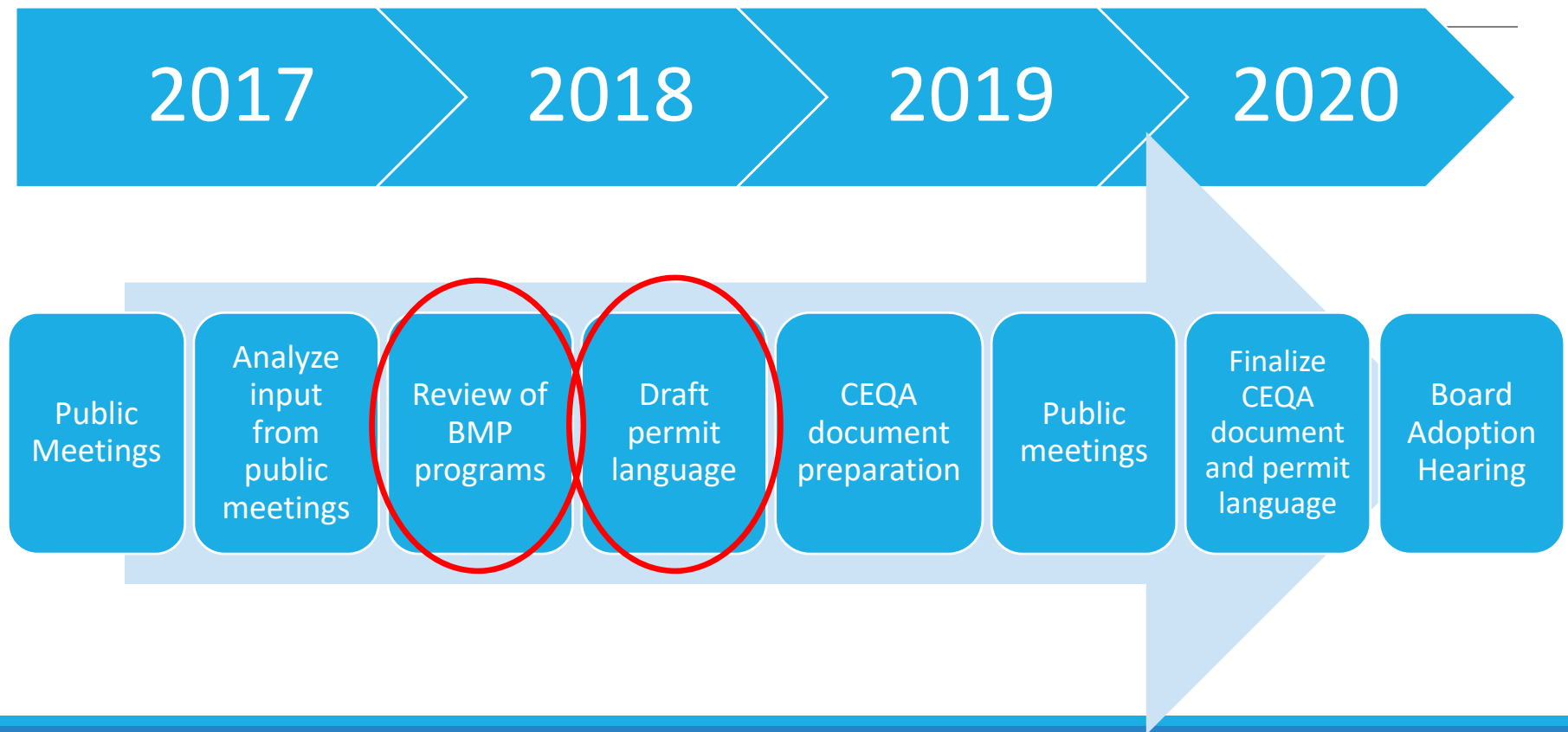
Programmatic Permitting Components

1. Assessment
2. Prioritization
3. Development of Work Plan
4. Implementation of Work Plan
5. Effectiveness Assessment & Reporting
6. Adaptive Management

Programmatic Permitting Results

- Efficient, effective use of resources
- Logical and systematic way to address water quality issues
- Landscape level approach
- Focus on desired water quality outcomes
- Protection of water quality and beneficial uses

Timeline



2018 Best Management Practices (BMP) Evaluations

- USFS National Core BMP Monitoring program
- Better understand BMP selection, implementation, evaluation and modification
- Field visits and participation in BMP evaluations and monitoring
- Understand differences between USFS and BLM processes, program management, and BMPs

Opportunities to Participate

- **Stay Connected:** View our Webpage www.waterboards.ca.gov/FederalNPSpermit
 - **Email Subscription List:** Sign up to get project updates (use link on webpage above)
 - **Email us with Questions or Comments:**
Fed.NPS.Permit@waterboards.ca.gov
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