

Shasta River TMDL Workshop Reporting for Ranchers

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board will be conducting a workshop for ranchers who irrigate or graze livestock near the Shasta River and its tributary streams.

Workshop: The workshop will be held July 27, 2001 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Montague Community Center, 200 South 11th Street in Montague. There will be presentations on the Shasta River TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load), ranch planning and tailwater management. For more information contact Andy Baker at the Regional Water Board at (707) 576-2690 or abaker@waterboards.ca.gov.

The Shasta River TMDL is a watershed restoration plan that contains measures to improve riparian conditions and reduce harmful tailwater flows to the Shasta River. Many areas of the Shasta River are impaired due to elevated stream temperatures and low dissolved oxygen levels which can adversely impact fish and other aquatic resources in the river, and downstream in the Klamath River. Much progress has been made by landowners in recent years to protect and restore cold water refuge areas for salmon and steelhead trout.

The workshop will focus on TMDL reporting requirements, tailwater reduction and stream protection and enhancement. Ranchers in the Shasta Valley were recently sent letters and reporting checklists to fill out and return to the Regional Water Board. Accurately filling out the reporting checklist and returning them to the Regional Water Board will fulfill landowner reporting requirements contained in the TMDL Action Plan. Landowner reporting is also required for continued enrollment in the TMDL Conditional Waiver program. Information contained in the reports will be used by the Regional Water Board to evaluate progress of the Shasta River TMDL program, which became law January 2007. The Regional Water Board staff are currently working on a five year progress report which will be used to help determine whether the current TMDL program is adequate or in need of modification. The checklists will also be used to help determine landowner assistance and economic needs for future restoration planning.