

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE
DIVISION 5. PARKS AND MONUMENTS
CHAPTER 1.4. CALIFORNIA WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT**

SECTION 5093.50-5093.70

[Abbreviated as noted below to focus on American River and reduce number of pages]

5093.50. It is the policy of the State of California that certain rivers which possess extraordinary scenic, recreational, fishery, or wildlife values shall be preserved in their free-flowing state, together with their immediate environments, for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the state. The Legislature declares that such use of these rivers is the highest and most beneficial use and is a reasonable and beneficial use of water within the meaning of Section 2 of Article X of the California Constitution. It is the purpose of this chapter to create a California Wild and Scenic Rivers System to be administered in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

5093.51. This chapter shall be known as the California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

5093.52. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meaning:

- (a) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Resources Agency.
- (b) "Resources Agency" means the Secretary of the Resources Agency and any constituent units of the Resources Agency that the secretary determines to be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.
- (c) "River" means the water, bed, and shoreline of rivers, streams, channels, lakes, bays, estuaries, marshes, wetlands, and lagoons, up to the first line of permanently established riparian vegetation.
- (d) "Free-flowing" means existing or flowing without artificial impoundment, diversion, or other modification of the river. The presence of low dams, diversion works, and other minor structures does not automatically bar a river's inclusion within the system. However, this subdivision does not authorize or encourage future construction of those structures on any component of the system.
- (e) "System" means the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- (f) "Land use regulation" means the regulation by any state or local governmental entity, agency, or official of any activities that take place other than directly on the waters of the segments of the rivers designated in Section 5093.54.
- (g) "Director" means the Director of Fish and Game.
- (h) "Immediate environments" means the land immediately adjacent to the segments of the rivers designated in Section 5093.54.
- (i) "Special treatment areas" means, for purposes of this chapter, those areas defined as special treatment areas in Section 895.1 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, as in effect on January 1, 2004, as that definition applies to wild and scenic river segments designated from time to time in Section 5093.54, and also includes areas within 200 feet of the watercourse transition line of a state-designated recreational river segment designated in Section 5093.54 that may be at risk during timber operations.
- (j) "Board" means the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

5093.53. Those rivers or segments of rivers included in the system shall be classified as one of the following:

(a) Wild rivers, which are those rivers or segments of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

(b) Scenic rivers, which are those rivers or segments of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

(c) Recreational rivers, which are those rivers or segments of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

5093.54. The following rivers and segments thereof are designated as components of the system:

[Note: The descriptions of other rivers and river segments designated as California Wild & Scenic Rivers are removed to reduce number of pages.]

(e) American River. The North Fork from its source to the Iowa Hill Bridge; the Lower American from Nimbus Dam to its junction with the Sacramento River.

(k) Other rivers which qualify for inclusion in the system may be recommended to the Legislature by the secretary.

5093.541. Smith River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

5093.542. McCloud River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

5093.545. The classifications heretofore established by the secretary for the rivers or segments of rivers included in the system are revised and adopted as follows:

[Details of other rivers removed to reduce number of pages.]

(h) Lower American River: The Lower American River from Nimbus Dam to its junction with the Sacramento River
Recreational

(i) North Fork American River:

(1) The North Fork from the source of the North Fork American River to two and one-half miles above the Forest Hill-Soda Springs Road
Wild

(2) The North Fork from two and one-half miles above the Forest Hill-Soda Springs Road to one-half mile below the Forest Hill-Soda Springs Road
Scenic

(3) The North Fork from one-half mile below the Forest Hill-Soda Springs Road to one-quarter mile above the Iowa Hill Bridge
Wild

(4) The North Fork from one-quarter mile above the Iowa Hill Bridge to the Iowa Hill Bridge
Scenic

5093.546. Classification or reclassification of rivers or segments of rivers within the system as wild, scenic, or recreational shall be by statute. The secretary may recommend legislation to classify or reclassify rivers or segments of rivers within the system, and may include specific land use restrictions relative to each particular classification in such recommendations.

5093.547. (a) The secretary shall study and submit to the Governor and the Legislature reports on the suitability or nonsuitability for addition to the system of rivers or segments thereof which are designated by the Legislature as potential additions to the system. The secretary shall report to the Legislature his or her recommendations and proposals with respect to the designation of a river or segment.

(b) Each report, including maps and illustrations, shall show, among other things, the area included within the report, the characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the system, the current status of land ownership and use in the immediate environment, and the reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and water which will be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the river or river segment were included in the system.

5093.55. Other than temporary flood storage facilities permitted pursuant to Section 5093.57, no dam, reservoir, diversion, or other water impoundment facility may be constructed on any river and segment thereof designated in Section 5093.54; nor may a water diversion facility be constructed on the river and segment unless and until the secretary determines that the facility is needed to supply domestic water to the residents of the county or counties through which the river and segment flows, and unless and until the secretary determines that the facility will not adversely affect the free-flowing condition and natural character of the river and segment.

5093.56. No department or agency of the state may assist or cooperate, whether by loan, grant, license, or otherwise, with any department or agency of the federal, state, or local government, in the planning or construction of a dam, reservoir, diversion, or other water impoundment facility that could have an adverse effect on the free-flowing condition and natural character of the river and segments thereof designated in Section 5093.54 as included in the system.

5093.57. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any measures for flood protection, structural or nonstructural, necessary for the protection of lives and property along the Eel River as described in subdivision (d) of Section 5093.54, except for dams, reservoirs, or other water impoundment structures; provided, however, that such measures for flood protection may include facilities for temporary flood storage or flood storage basins on tributaries of the Eel River.

5093.58. This chapter neither diminishes the power of the secretary or any other state or local official or agency under any other statute, nor conveys any authority, express or implied, to the secretary or any state or local agency, commission, board, or official to adopt or implement any interim or permanent order, rule, regulation, guideline, or directive concerning land use regulation.

5093.60. The Resources Agency shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of state agencies whose activities affect the rivers in the system with those of other state, local, and federal agencies with jurisdiction over matters which may affect the rivers.

5093.61. All departments and agencies of the state shall exercise their powers granted under any other provision of law in a manner that protects the free-flowing state of each component of the system and the extraordinary values for which each component was included in the system. All local government

agencies shall exercise their powers granted under any other provision of law in a manner consistent with the policy and provisions of this chapter.

5093.62. Nothing in this chapter shall affect the jurisdiction or responsibility of the state with regard to fish, wildlife, or their habitat. Hunting and fishing may be permitted on lands and waters administered as parts of the system under applicable state or federal laws and regulations.

5093.63. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to permit or require the reservation, use, or taking of private property for scenic, fishery, wildlife, or recreation purposes, for inclusion in the system or for other public use, without just compensation.

5093.64. If any provision of this chapter or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable.

5093.66. (a) Smith River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(b) Smith River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(c) Smith River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(d) Smith River. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(e) Nothing in this section or Section 5093.67 is intended to modify or limit the regulatory authority of any state agency under any other provision of law.

5093.67. In order to enhance the recreational qualities of rivers where temporary summer recreational dams have been constructed in the past to improve water oriented recreational opportunities for the public, the secretary may authorize the emplacement of temporary impoundments for recreational purposes on portions of rivers included in the system which are classified as recreational, if the secretary finds all of the following:

(a) There has been a history of impoundments at the location for recreational purposes.

(b) The impoundment will not cause an adverse effect on the fishery values of the river.

(c) The impoundment will be removed before it would interfere with anadromous fisheries.

(d) The impoundment will improve the recreational opportunities for the public.

(e) The impoundment will not adversely affect navigation, scenic qualities, and public access.

5093.68. (a) Within the boundaries of special treatment areas adjacent to wild, scenic, or recreational river segments, all of the following provisions shall apply, in addition to any other applicable provision under this chapter or generally, whether by statute or regulation:

(1) A timber operator, whether licensed or not, is responsible for the actions of his or her employees. The registered professional forester who prepares and signs a timber harvesting plan, a timber management plan, or a notice of timber operations is responsible for its contents, but is not responsible for the implementation or execution of the plan or notice unless employed for that purpose.

(2) A registered professional forester preparing a timber harvesting plan shall certify that he or she or a qualified representative has personally inspected the plan area on the ground.

(b) In order to temporarily suspend timber operations that are being conducted within special treatment areas adjacent to wild, scenic, or recreational rivers designated pursuant to Section 5093.54, while judicial remedies are pursued pursuant to this section, an inspecting forest officer of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection may issue a written timber operations stop order if, upon reasonable cause, the officer determines that a timber operation is being conducted, or is about to be conducted, in violation of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 4511) of Part 2 of Division 4, or of rules

and regulations adopted pursuant to those provisions, and that the violation or threatened violation would result in imminent and substantial damage to soil, water, or timber resources or to fish and wildlife habitat. A stop order shall apply only to those acts or omissions that are the proximate cause of the violation or that are reasonably foreseen would be the proximate cause of a violation. The stop order shall be effective immediately and throughout the next day.

(c) A supervising forest officer may, after an onsite investigation, extend a stop order issued pursuant to subdivision (b) for up to five days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, if the forest officer finds that the original stop order was issued upon reasonable cause. A stop order shall not be issued or extended for the same act or omission more than one time.

(d) Each stop order shall identify the specific act or omission that constitutes a violation or that, if foreseen, would constitute a violation, the specific timber operation that is to be stopped, and any corrective or mitigative actions that may be required.

(e) The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection may terminate the stop order if the timber operator enters into a written agreement with the department assuring that the timber operator will resume operations in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 4511) of Part 2 of Division 4, and with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to those provisions, and will correct any violation. The department may require a reasonable cash deposit or bond payable to the department as a condition of compliance with the agreement.

(f) Notice of the issuance of a stop order or an extension of a stop order shall be deemed to have been made to all persons working on the timber operation when a copy of the written order is delivered to the person in charge of operations at the time that the order is issued or, if no persons are present at that time, by posting a copy of the order conspicuously on the yarder or log loading equipment at a currently active landing on the timber operations site. If no person is present at the site when the order is issued, the issuing forest officer shall deliver a copy of the order to the timber operator either in person or to the operator's address of record prior to the commencement of the next working day.

(g) As used in this section, "forest officer" means a registered professional forester employed by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in a civil service classification of forester II or higher grade.

(h) (1) Failure of the timber operator or an employee of the timber operator, after receiving notice pursuant to this section, to comply with a validly issued stop order is a violation of this section and is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500), or by imprisonment for not more than one year in the county jail, or both. The person shall also be subject to civil damages to the state not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each misdemeanor violation. However, in all cases, the timber operator, and not an employee of the operator or any other person, shall be charged with that violation. Each day or portion thereof that the violation continues shall constitute a new and separate offense.

(2) In determining the penalty for a timber operator guilty of violating a validly issued stop order, the court shall take into consideration all relevant circumstances, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) The extent of harm to soil, water, or timber resources or to fish and wildlife habitat.

(B) Corrective action, if any, taken by the defendant.

(i) Nothing in this section prevents a timber operator from seeking an alternative writ as prescribed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 1084) of Title 1 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, or as provided by any other provision of law.

(j) (1) If a timber operator believes that a forest officer lacked reasonable cause to issue or extend a stop order pursuant to this section, the timber operator may present a claim to the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 900) of Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code for compensation and damages resulting from the stopping of timber operations.

(2) If the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board finds that the forest officer lacked reasonable cause to issue or extend the stop order, the board shall award a sum of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), per day for each day the order was in effect.

5093.69. (a) The Resources Agency shall conduct studies specifically funded by the Legislature relative to the condition of the system and may make recommendations to the Legislature for protection and enhancement of the system.

(b) The director shall conduct studies specifically funded by the Legislature and shall make recommendations relating to all of the following:

(1) The restoration of salmon and steelhead habitat in the system, including measures that can be taken to increase spawning populations, and provide at least 100 miles of reopened spawning and nursery areas each year until the year 1990.

(2) Enforcement requirements necessary to protect the system from fish or wildlife degradation.

(3) Development of information or statistical data necessary to provide the most beneficial management of the fisheries included within the system.

(4) Legislative action deemed necessary to protect the fishery and wildlife values of the system.

5093.70. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of the following:

(1) Mill Creek and Deer Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(2) Mill Creek and Deer Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(b) Mill Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(c) Deer Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(d) Mill Creek and Deer Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(e) Mill Creek and Deer Creek. [Details removed to reduce number of pages.]

(f) Nothing in this section shall prejudice, alter, affect in any way, delay, or interfere with the implementation or construction of any fishery restoration or improvement project that is authorized, required, or recommended pursuant to the Central Valley Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575) or the Upper Sacramento River Fisheries and Riparian Habitat Management Plan developed pursuant to Chapter 885 of the Statutes of 1986, or of any other fishery restoration or improvement project.

(g) Nothing in this chapter shall prejudice, alter, affect in any way, delay, or interfere with existing water rights; implementation of those rights; historic water use practices; and replacement, maintenance, repair, or operation of diversions and diversion facilities; or changes in the purposes of use, places of use, points of diversion, or ownership of existing water rights, except that no change shall operate to increase the adverse effect, if any, of the preexisting diversion facility or place or purpose of use upon the free flowing and natural character of the stream.
