Assembly Bill No. 47

CHAPTER 816

An act to add Section 4551.9 to the Public Resources Code, relating to forest practices.

[Approved by Governor October 10, 2003. Filed with Secretary of State October 11, 2003.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 47, Simitian. Timber harvesting plans: regulations: information.

Existing law, the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973, prohibits a person from conducting timber operations, as defined, until the person files a timber harvesting plan with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in accordance with specified requirements.

The act requires that a timber harvesting plan be a public record and include specified information relating to the conduct of timber operations.

The act also requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to adopt various rules and regulations related to forest practices.

This bill would require the board, on or before January 1, 2005, to adopt regulations requiring a timber harvesting plan to include specified map or maps. The bill would provide that this requirement may not be construed to require disclosure of proprietary information to the public. The bill would require the board to consider the impact of the regulations on smaller landowners, and avoid imposing excessive burdens and costs on those landowners.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 4551.9 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

4551.9. (a) On or before January 1, 2005, the board shall adopt regulations to require that a timber harvesting plan include a map or maps, depicting the location and boundaries of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable probable future projects, as defined in Section 21065 and Section 895.1 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, on land owned or controlled by the applicant in the planning watershed. The board may not require an applicant to furnish maps of projects completed more than 10 years prior to the submission of the timber harvesting plan. Maps shall include silvicultural

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prescription. The scale and format of maps provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be determined by the board. This subdivision may not be construed to require disclosure of proprietary information to the public.

(b) The board shall consider the impact of the regulations on smaller landowners, and avoid excessive burdens or costs on those landowners.