

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Red Bluff Area Office
1345 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Subject: Corrected NHEL Exclusion
Zone for Yuba County, CA

Date: April 21, 2006

To: Mr. Tim Garcia
District Conservationist
Yuba City Service Center

File Code: 180-8-5

Tim,

In accordance with NFSAM Third Edition, section 510.47, the following special provisions are approved for use in that portion of Yuba County identified as NHEL lying within a "NHEL Exclusion Zone" as identified by the attached map. Also attached is a listing of HEL status by map unit for water and wind.

Please note that this is a **correction** to a map and legend produced in July, 2005, which contained errors. This version replaces the July, 2005 version in its entirety. The old version should be removed from the appropriate section of the Yuba City SC Field Office Technical Guide, section 2.

Please provide a copy of the map along with a letter advising FSA that all tracts occurring within map units labeled NHEL lie within a NHEL Exclusion Zone producing agricultural commodities and have officially been determined to be NHEL, due to all soils having been determined to be classified as HEL Class 3. The letter should suggest that FSA maps be adjusted accordingly, and that NRCS assumes the "HEL" flags on the AD-1026A for those Tracts within the Exclusion Zone will be set to "N".

You are urged to meet with your FSA counterpart to reach an understanding that HEL determination referrals to NRCS should not typically be necessary for Tracts within this zone. Any AD-1026's received by your office requesting HEL determinations for Tracts within the zone should be completed as prescribed, entering "Located in NHEL Exclusion Zone" in the remarks block. AD-1026's will continue to be serviced as prescribed for areas outside this zone, and for all applicable wetland determinations.

A copy of this memo with attached map and geographic boundary description is to be filed with the instructions for processing AD-1026s in the Field Office NFSAM maintained at the Yuba City Service Center, and at the Red Bluff Area Office.

Linden A. Brooks
Assistant State Conservationist – Field Operations

Attachments

Cc: David Rose, Resource Conservationist, Willows
Diane Holcomb, State Resource Conservationist, Davis