

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3609

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt certain silviculture activities from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2000

Mr. SANDLIN (for himself, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. BERRY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt certain silviculture activities from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SILVICULTURE AC-**  
4       **TIVITIES FROM NPDES PERMITS.**

5       Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control  
6       Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by adding at the end  
7       the following:

8       “(q) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SILVICULTURE AC-  
9       TIVITIES.—No permit shall be required under this section

1 for discharges from silviculture activities, and for dis-  
2 charges of stormwater runoff from silvicultural activities,  
3 conducted in connection with—

4 “(1) site preparation;

5 “(2) reforestation (including subsequent cul-  
6 tural treatment);

7 “(3) thinning;

8 “(4) prescribed burning;

9 “(5) pest and fire control;

10 “(6) harvesting operations;

11 “(7) surface drainage;

12 “(8) road construction and maintenance; and

13 “(9) nursery operations.”.

14 **SEC. 2. POINT SOURCE DEFINED.**

15 Section 502 (14) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-  
16 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(14)) is amended by striking the  
17 second sentence and inserting the following: “This term  
18 does not include agricultural stormwater discharges, re-  
19 turn flows from irrigated agriculture, and discharges of  
20 stormwater runoff from silvicultural activities described in  
21 section 402 (q).”.

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