



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

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Subject: R5 Pesticide-Use Advisory Memorandum 06-01 - Issues With Using Borax for Annosus Root Disease Prevention

To: Forest Supervisors

In the last few months, many of you have been receiving letters from the organization Californians for Alternatives to Toxics (CATs) in response to your project proposals that include the use of the pesticide borax (commercially available as Sporax[®]). While these letters do provide us with some helpful reminders of correct NEPA practices, they also suggest alternatives to borax which are not feasible, and make claims about environmental analyses which are not true. Since all of these letters that have been received are very similar, the attached document (*Responding to Issues Raised by CATs Concerning Borax (Sporax[®])*) provides your employees with a consistent approach to considering the issues and alternatives raised by CATs in these letters. Please share this document with your pesticide-use coordinators, NEPA coordinators, project planners, recreation area managers, fuels project planners, and silviculturists.

If there are any questions concerning the attached document, please contact David Bakke, the Regional Pesticide-Use Specialist at 707-562-8916 or dbakke@fs.fed.us.

The references listed in the paper are all in electronic format and will soon be available on-line. If any of these references are needed prior to posting on the web, please contact David Bakke.

/s/ Thomas L. Tidwell (for)
BERNARD WEINGARDT
Regional Forester

Enclosure

cc:
David Bakke

