



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: September 28, 2010

To: Don Barrella, Napa County CDPD

From: Dave Steiner, Senior Soil Conservationist

Re: Erosion Control Plan for Peju (Black Forest), new vineyard development with Exception for Stream Setbacks, file #P09-00243-UP, AP #018-060-068

cc: Brian Bordona

Don:

The purpose of this memo is to document our recent discussions regarding alternatives to the specified extent of vine removal (as per the Plan iteration RCD found “technically adequate” on July 28, 2010) from creek setback areas along the east side of Block 2. I understand from those discussions that CDPD would entertain the idea of recommending somewhat *fewer* vine removals if the resulting vineyard configuration/practices can, with certain mitigations, meet the “T” soil loss standard required by the ConsRegs.

Strictly speaking, “soil loss” as modeled in the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) predicts only soil particle displacement, and does not speak directly to the issue of sediment delivery, either from a site or to a receiving water body or stream. Given that definition, no practices discussed to date would further reduce or mitigate soil loss within the vineyard itself. However, the mitigation I suggested—rock-lining the vineyard avenue along the east side of Block 2—would significantly reduce sediment delivery to the creek, both by filtering runoff from the vineyard and by armoring and protecting the avenue itself from turnaround and through traffic. In my opinion, installation of 4 inches of road base (hard rock, 3-inch minus) along this avenue would adequately compensate for the modest reduction in vine removals you described to me in our discussions.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if I may otherwise be of assistance.

Dave