

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER Governor

March 17, 2008

- TO: Local Health Officers Directors of Environmental Health Organized Camp Directors
- FROM: Environmental Management Branch

SUBJECT: TITLE 17, ORGANIZED CAMP REGULATIONS

The California Department of Public Health (Department) is pleased to announce that the revised regulations for organized camps are expected to be adopted during the first week of April 2008 by the Secretary of State. The organized camp regulations, sections 30700 through 30753, inclusive, of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations were revised to reflect current health and safety standards and requirements for the operation of organized camps. Enclosed please find a copy of the revised regulations and a document containing highlights of the new regulations.

To facilitate the implementation of the regulations, the Department is organizing a committee consisting of representatives of local health departments and organized camps. It is anticipated that the first meeting for the committee will be held in Sacramento in late April or early May. The charge for this committee will be to approve a training program and develop a schedule of training sessions to be held in Northern, Central and Southern California in the Fall of 2008.

Because the necessary training cannot occur sooner than Fall of 2008, the Department recognizes that it is not reasonable to expect organized camps to be in full compliance with the new requirements for this year's camp season that runs from May through August, 2008. To the extent possible, the Department encourages local health departments and all camps to make a reasonable effort for the camps to comply with the new regulations. The Department asks that local health departments and organized camps work together to ensure a smooth implementation of the new requirements. All organized camps will be expected to be in full compliance with the new requirements by the 2009 camp season.

The Department appreciates the efforts of the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health, California Local Health Officers, California Collaboration for

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Youth, and other stakeholders in the development of the new standards.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 449-5693.

Sincerely,

Glenn Takeoka, Chief Environmental Health Services Section

Enclosure