
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 June 2021

To All Interested Parties:

Order No. R2-2017-0033, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Vineyard Properties in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek Watersheds gives the Executive Officer authority to modify its monitoring and reporting requirements at any time as necessary or appropriate. Under that authority I am making the following change:

The Annual Compliance Reporting Form (Annual Report) will be due this and in future years on September 15.

Please note that the Annual Report can be submitted anytime between July 15 and September 15. To complete the report, a vineyard manager logs into their Geo-Tracker account and answers a few simple questions about their farm plan, the billing contact for the permit, and the current planted acreage. Once logged in, the report takes about 10 minutes to complete. We moved the reporting period forward into the summer, so that the Napa and Sonoma County Farm Bureaus will have current information available, when they transmit invoices (in November) to properties that are members of their compliance assistance groups^[1].

The reason for this change is to reduce the effort by vineyard managers, Farm Bureau staff, and Water Board staff associated with preparing correct and current invoices. Please note that Verified Tier 1 properties^[2] are not required to complete an Annual Report, but are reminded to keep their enrollment information current because for these properties, the enrollment information including the property contact and planted acreage are used to prepare the invoice. If you have questions about this change, please contact my staff: Graham Brown at graham.brown@waterboards.ca.gov or Mike Napolitano at Michael.napolitano@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael Montgomery
Executive Officer

^[1]All but about 20 of approximately 1500 properties enrolled in the permit have joined a Farm Bureau compliance assistance group. By joining a Farm Bureau group, these properties qualify for a lower annual permit fee, and they satisfy required streambed and BMP monitoring.

^[2] Verified Tier 1 properties have a farm plan that has been verified by an approved Third-Party Program (or by Water Board staff), as being complete and fully implemented to attain all applicable performance standards.