

**Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

May 30, 2014

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM  
ID NUMBER: AW1353

Randy Costa  
Headstart Nursery  
4860 Monterey Rd  
Gilroy, CA 95020

Si necesita ayuda en español llame al  
(805) 549-3881

如果協助必要用中文，請叫  
(805) 542-4648

**TIER UPDATE NOTIFICATION**

Dear Mr. Costa:

**HEADSTART NURSERY, INC., HEADSTART NURSERY, 4860 MONTEREY ROAD, GILROY (AGL020001485) – SUBJECT TO TIER 2 REQUIREMENTS**

On March 15, 2012, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) approved Order No. R3-2012-0011, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements from Irrigated Lands (Agricultural Order). The Agricultural Order addresses the discharge of waste from irrigated lands to groundwater and surface water. Wastes discharged from irrigated lands include but are not limited to pesticides, nutrients, and sediment that may be found in irrigation runoff, stormwater runoff, and percolation to groundwater. All enrolled ranches are classified into one of three tiers based on their potential risk to impair surface and groundwater. Higher tiers are subject to more stringent requirements.

You are receiving this notification because you have a ranch/farm enrolled in the Agricultural Order and the Water Board is updating your tier assignment. The Water Board periodically conducts tiering analyses of all enrolled ranches based on information reported in the electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) and Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) Pesticide Use Reports. The criteria used for tiering is described in Part A of the Agricultural Order (p. 16-18).

The Water Board has reviewed the information for the ranch/farm identified below. Based upon our review and tiering analysis, the Water Board is updating the tier assignment for this ranch/farm. As of the date of this letter, you are responsible for complying with all requirements of your updated tier, including the submittal of an Annual Compliance Form by October 1, 2014 and annually thereafter. The enclosed Compliance Calendar lists key reporting requirements for all tiers.

Name of Ranch/Farm:	<b>Headstart Nursery</b>
Updated Water Board Tier Assignment:	<b>Tier 2</b>
Previous Water Board Tier Assignment:	Tier 1
Criteria for Tier Update:	Proximity to Impaired Waterbody (<1000 feet)
Date of Tier Analysis:	May 12, 2014

The final tier assignment for your ranch is now reflected in GeoTracker. You can login to your GeoTracker account to verify your information. Growers are required to keep the information in the eNOI accurate and up-to-date.

If the characteristics of your ranch change such that the assigned tier may no longer apply per the tiering criteria of the Agricultural Order, or you believe any information may have been misreported or misinterpreted resulting in an incorrect tier assignment, please contact Water Board staff. Additionally, any person not satisfied with the Executive Officer's tier determination can file a request for Central Coast Water Board review.

If you have questions about this letter, please contact the Water Board staff assigned to your watershed area: **Monica Barricarte at (805) 549-3881** or [mbarricarte@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mbarricarte@waterboards.ca.gov), or Angela Schroeter, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Manager at (805) 542-4644 or [aschroeter@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:aschroeter@waterboards.ca.gov).

For general information about the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program and the Agricultural Order please visit the Central Coast Water Board's website at:  
[http://waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water\\_issues/programs/ag\\_waivers/index.shtml](http://waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml)

Sincerely,

*for*  
Kenneth A. Harris, Jr.  
Executive Officer

**Enclosure:** Grower Compliance Calendar



# CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD - AGRICULTURAL ORDER

## 5-Year Compliance Calendar

TIER			Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011	Reference	Due Date	Check box when completed				
						2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
1	2	3	Requirement							
✓	✓	✓	1. Enroll - Submit electronic-Notice of Intent (eNOI, if grower has not already done so).	Order, p24 #55	15-May					
✓	✓	✓	2. Develop/Update Farm Plan.	Order, p21 #44	1-Oct					
✓	✓	✓	3. Install Backflow Prevention devices,if you fertigate or chemigate.	Order, p19 #31	1-Mar					
✓	✓	✓	4. Implement management practices to treat or control discharges and protect water quality.	Order, p4 #10 Order, p15 #12 Order, p20 #36	Ongoing					
✓	✓	✓	5. Minimize bare dirt and prevent erosion to protect water quality.	Order, p20 #37	Ongoing					
✓	✓	✓	6. Protect existing aquatic habitat next to your farm to protect water quality.	Order, p20 #39	Ongoing					
✓	✓	✓	7. Conduct surface receiving water monitoring - Monitor creeks that may receive farm runoff . <sup>1</sup>	Order, p23 #52 MRP, p2 Part 1A	15-Sep					
✓	✓	✓	8. Conduct groundwater monitoring - Monitor primary irrigation well and any drinking water well located on farm. <sup>1</sup>	Order, p23 #51 MRP, p8 Part 2A	Sept-Dec Mar-June			Tier 3	Tier 3	Tier 3
✓	✓	✓	9. Update electronic-Notice of Intent (eNOI)	Order, p8 #27 Order, p24 #55	1-Oct					
✓	✓	✓	10. Report surface receiving water monitoring (individual or cooperative). <sup>1</sup>	Order, p23 #52 MRP, p2 Part 1B	Various					
✓	✓	✓	11. Report groundwater monitoring (individual or cooperative). <sup>1</sup>	Order, p23 #51 MRP, p10 Part 2B	1-Oct			Tier 3	Tier 3	Tier 3
	✓	✓	12. Submit Annual Compliance Form.	Order, p27 #67 MRP, p12 Part 3A	1-Oct					
	✓	✓	13. Calculate risk of loading nitrate to groundwater.	Order, p28 #68 MRP, p10 Part 2C	1-Oct			15-Jan		
	✓	✓	14. Conduct photo-monitoring to document the existing condition of adjacent surface water, <i>if impaired by sediment, turbidity or temperature.</i>	Order, p28 #69 MRP, p14 Part 4A	1-Jun					
	✓	✓	15. Record and report total nitrogen applied, <i>if the farm/ranch has a high nitrate loading risk.</i> <sup>2</sup>	Order, p28 #70 MRP, p11 #5	1-Oct					
		✓	16. Conduct individual discharge monitoring.	Order, p29 #72 MRP, p14 Part 5A	1-Dec					
		✓	17. Report individual discharge monitoring.	Order, p29 #73 MRP, p15 Part 5B	1-Oct			15-Mar		
		✓	18. Implement Certified Irrigation & Nutrient Management Plan, <i>if high nitrate loading risk.</i> <sup>2</sup>	Order, p29 #75 MRP, p19 Part 6A	Ongoing					
		✓	19. Submit Irrigation & Nutrient Management Plan Effectiveness Report, <i>if high nitrate loading risk.</i> <sup>2</sup>	Order, p29 #79 MRP, p19 Part 6A	1-Oct					
		✓	20. Submit Water Quality Buffer Plan, <i>if farm is adjacent to surface water impaired by sediment, temperature, or turbidity.</i> <sup>2</sup>	Order, p30 #80 MRP, p20 Part 7A	1-Oct					

Compliance calendar summarizes requirements for each tier. Growers should review complete Order and Monitoring and Reporting Program R3-2012-0011 for details. Right-hand columns indicate year when items are due for specific tier. Growers can check box when completed. Blacked-out boxes indicate no item is due that year. 1-Growers can comply with specific requirements individually or cooperatively (e.g. Cooperative Monitoring Program). 2-Alternative method to comply with requirement available.

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## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

### AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION Updated November 5, 2013

#### PROGRAM INFORMATION

Angela Schroeter (Program Manager/Supervisor)  
(805) 542-4644  
[aschroeter@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:aschroeter@waterboards.ca.gov)

Elaine Sahl (Enrollment, electronic Notice of Intent)  
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#### WATERSHED LEAD STAFF

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#### RELATED PROGRAMS

**Total Maximum Daily Load Program  
(TMDL)**  
Chris Rose, (Program Manager)  
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[cjrose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cjrose@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program  
(CCAMP)**  
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