

YEAR 2012 SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: Per the State Water Resource Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX, the Annual Compliance Form must be submitted by **December 1, 2012**, for all Tier 2 and Tier 3 ranches/farms. If growers have already provided information that is now considered optional, they have the ability to revise the Annual Compliance Form.

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FORM REQUIREMENT: The Annual Compliance Form (ACF) is required and must be submitted annually by October 1 (or as otherwise directed by the Executive Officer), for all Tier 2 and Tier 3 ranches/farms. The ACF is optional for Tier 1. This form is entirely online and must be accessed by logging into your operation's GeoTracker account. Growers should fill in the ACF completely and submit it by pressing the "Save & Submit" button at the bottom. Growers should submit and update information based on information from the last 12 months or the best information that is available at the time. Growers can update the ACF at any time and as necessary. Navigate to the following website to login to GeoTracker.

<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi>

PURPOSE: The purpose of the electronic Annual Compliance Form is to provide up-to-date information to the Central Coast Water Board to assist in the evaluation of affect on water quality from agricultural waste discharges and evaluate progress towards compliance with this Order, including implementation of management practices, treatment or control measures, or changes in farming practices.

INTERACTIVE SAMPLE ACF An interactive sample ACF form is attached at the end of these instructions and is also available at the following website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml This interactive sample form allows growers to view the drop down menu selections, as well as insert and populate information into the sample form prior to completing the required electronic ACF in GeoTracker. Also attached to these instructions is a general listing of all drop down menu selections in the ACF.

ASSISTANCE:

If you have general questions, please contact Water Board staff at (805) 549-3147.

If you need assistance with your username and password, please contact Water Board staff at (805) 542-4645.

For growers that do not have an internet connection, there are opportunities and resources available to help with submitting this form, including:

1. Growers can schedule an appointment to meet with Water Board staff in person at the San Luis Obispo office.
2. Growers can attend a local grower assistance workshop.
3. Growers can receive assistance from a third party, such as technical assistance agency, industry group, or a consultant.
4. Growers can utilize computers and internet connections at local libraries, colleges, etc.

AGRICULTURAL ORDER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS: For information about the regulatory requirements refer to the Agricultural Order, RB3-2012-0011 and associated Monitoring and Reporting Programs at the following website.

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml

Frequently asked questions, grower resources, and grower tools are also available on the website.

INFORMATION GROWERS NEED TO KNOW TO FILL OUT THE ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FORM:

Unless otherwise stated in the instructions, all reporting should be based on the past 12 months and up to the present.

1. Primary source(s) of irrigation water
2. Maximum Nitrate Concentration (Nitrate as NO₃ in mg/L) of the primary irrigation water source
3. Crop Type(s) and Irrigation Type(s)
4. Soil type(s), if applicable
5. Stormwater discharge characteristics
6. Irrigation discharge characteristics (i.e., location, estimated # runoff days/year, estimated volume)
7. Tile drain discharge characteristics (i.e., location, estimated # of tile drain days/year, estimated volume)
8. Water containment characteristics
9. Water quality management practices (practices implemented in last 12 months)
10. Water quality improvement projects (list type and scale)
11. Related permits, if applicable
12. Photo monitoring, if applicable for this ranch/farm.

Section A: General Requirements

Respond appropriately to the question in this section.

Access eNOI and verify/update information

GeoTracker Login Website: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi>

<p>Section B: Irrigation Water</p>	<p>Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section and provide the required information regarding source of irrigation water. Select the range of the highest Nitrate Concentration (in Nitrate as NO₃) of the primary irrigation water source for this ranch/farm. Please, refer to the maximum concentration result within the past twelve (12) months, if seasonal variations occur. The primary irrigation water source is the one that provides the greatest percentage of irrigation water for this ranch/farm.</p>
<p>Section C: Groundwater Nitrate Loading Risk Determination</p>	<p>This requirement is currently stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX. Growers are not required to report this information at this time.</p>
<p>Section D: Stormwater Discharge Characteristics</p>	<p>Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section and provide the required information.</p>
<p>Section E: Irrigation Discharge Characteristics</p>	<p>Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section and provide the required information.</p>
<p><u>Definition:</u> Irrigation Runoff</p>	<p>Surface water that leaves the ranch/farm following application of irrigation water (i.e., Tailwater).</p>
<p>Section F: Tile Drain Discharge Characteristics</p>	<p>Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section and provide the required information.</p>
<p><u>Definition:</u> Tile Drains</p>	<p>Subsurface drainage which removes excess water from the soil profile, usually through a network of perforated tile tubes installed 2 to 4 feet below the soil surface. This lowers the water table to the depth of the tile over the course of several days. Drain tiles allow excess water to leave the field. Once the water table has been lowered to the elevation of the tiles, no more water flows through the tiles.</p>
<p>Section G: Water Containment Characteristics</p>	<p>Respond appropriately to the required question in this section.</p>
<p><u>Definition:</u> Containment Structures</p>	<p>Refer to the Agricultural Order, page 20, condition 33. NOTE: Containment structures refer to any type of structure built to collect/contain any water, such as for frost control, irrigation storage, settling ponds, irrigation and/or stormwater runoff collection, other.</p>
<p>Section H: Water Quality Management Practices</p>	<p>Growers should refer to their farm plan to help complete this section and should focus on identifying on-farm water quality practices to resolve water quality problems in their area. Check all the boxes that apply for each management category to identify: 1) Practices implemented in the last 12 months and 2) Results/outcome(s) to demonstrate progress towards water quality improvement resulting from practice implementation. If selections are not available on the list provided, growers must describe them in the Farm Plan and submit to the Water Board, upon request.</p>
<p>Nutrient Management Irrigation Management Pesticide Management Sediment Management and Erosion Control</p>	<p><u>Practice Implementation:</u> Identify any management measure(s)/practice(s) implemented to protect water quality, in the last 12 months.</p> <p><u>OPTIONAL: Practice Outcome(s):</u> Growers have the opportunity to identify outcome(s) that demonstrate progress towards reducing or eliminating the discharge of pollutants as a result of practice implementation, in the last 12 months. Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not required. This requirement is currently stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX.</p>

Section I: Water Quality Improvement Projects	Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section and provide the required information. If selections are not available on the list provided, growers must describe them in the Farm Plan and submit to the Water Board, upon request.
Section J: Related Permits	Respond appropriately to the questions in this section.
Section K: Photo Monitoring	Photo monitoring must be conducted by June 1, 2013. However, answering the question in this section is OPTIONAL until the October 1, 2013 reporting deadline. Photo monitoring is required for Tier 2 and Tier 3 ranches/farms that contain or are adjacent to a waterbody impaired for temperature, turbidity, or sediment. Photos must be maintained in the Farm Plan and submitted to the Water Board, upon request. Refer to Photo Monitoring protocols at the following website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml
Proprietary Information	Information related to trade secrets or secret processes are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Water Code §13267. If the grower asserts that all or a portion of a report submitted is exempt from public disclosure, the grower must provide an explanation of how those portions of the reports are exempt from public disclosure. The grower must identify if any information reported in the Annual Compliance Form includes information related to trade secrets and/or secret process and provide a justification. Water Board staff will determine whether any such report or portion of a report qualifies for an exemption from public disclosure. If Water Board staff disagrees with the asserted exemption from public disclosure, staff will notify the grower prior to making such report or portions of such report available for public inspection.
Authorization and Certification	Read authorization and certification statement. Click on Save & Submit

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE FORM - DROP DOWN MENU SELECTIONS

Section B: Irrigation Water	
What is the primary source of irrigation water on this ranch/farm?	Blended Water City Water Groundwater (Well off Site) Groundwater (Well on Farm) Imported Water (Agency Delivered Water) Recycled Water (From On-site or from Purple Pipe) Spring Water Surface Water (Creek or Pond)
What is the maximum Nitrate Concentration (Nitrate as NO3 in mg/L) of the primary irrigation water source on this ranch/farm?	0 - 45 mg/L Nitrate NO3 46 - 60 mg/L Nitrate NO3 61 - 100 mg/L Nitrate NO3 101 - 225 mg/L Nitrate NO3 > 500 mg/L Nitrate NO3 Pending Results of 2012 GW Monitoring
What method was used to determine the maximum Nitrate Concentration (Nitrate as NO3 in mg/L)?	Laboratory Analysis Nitrate Test Strip Handheld Test Meter
Section D: Stormwater Discharge Characteristics	
If YES, under what conditions does stormwater leave this ranch/farm during storm events?	During most rain events Only during heavy storms Only after soil is saturated
Section E: Irrigation Discharge Characteristics & Section F: Tile Drain Discharge Characteristics	
Where is the closest drainage point from this ranch/farm to any surface water body (e.g., Stream, Lake, Bay, and/or Ocean)?	Not Applicable 0 to 30 feet 31 to 250 feet Greater Than 250 feet
State the number of locations where irrigation runoff leaves this ranch/farm.	1 2 to 5 Greater Than 5
State the estimated total number of days/year when irrigation runs off/leaves this ranch / farm at any location(s).	Less Than 30 31 to 90 91 to 180 181 to 270 Greater Than 270
State the estimated maximum total volume of irrigation runoff leaving from your ranch / farm on the highest flow day of the year. Report in gallons per day.	Less Than 500 501 to 1,000 1,001 to 5,000 5,001 to 20,000 Greater than 20,000
Section G: Water Containment Characteristics	
OPTIONAL: If YES, state the type of treatment or control that is used to minimize and/or prevent the percolation of waste to groundwater.	Not applicable (water quality data indicates no wastes present) Construction minimizes percolation(e.g.,liner or low permeability soil) Chemical treatment (e.g., enzymes or other) Biological treatment (e.g., wood chips or other) Contained water is recycled and/or reused to prevent infiltration and/or discharge Other, describe in farm plan and submit upon request None
Section I: Water Quality Improvement Projects	
Identify type of project.	Treatment Control or containment Managed groundwater recharge Managed wetland Other, describe in farm plan and submit upon request
Describe the scale of the project.	Neighboring ranch(es)/Farm(s) Local area Watershed / sub-watershed Groundwater basin / sub-basin City or county Regional Other, describe in farm plan and submit upon request

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Section A: General Requirements

Is the information reported in the electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) accurate and up to date for this ranch/farm? YES
NO

Section B: Irrigation Water

What is the primary source of irrigation water on this ranch/farm?

What is the maximum Nitrate Concentration (Nitrate as NO₃ in mg/L) of the primary irrigation water source on this ranch/farm?
 What method was used to determine the maximum Nitrate Concentration (Nitrate as NO₃ in mg/L)?

Section C: Groundwater Nitrate Loading Risk Determination

Note: This requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX

Section D: Stormwater Discharge Characteristics

Does stormwater leave this ranch / farm? YES NO
 If YES, under what conditions does stormwater leave this ranch/farm during storm events?
 If YES, what is the estimated acreage that produces stormwater runoff (doesn't infiltrate) and ends up leaving this ranch/farm during storm events?

Section E: Irrigation Discharge Characteristics

Does irrigation runoff leave this ranch / farm? YES NO
 If YES provide the following information:
 Where is the closest drainage point from this ranch/farm to any surface water body (e.g., Stream, Lake, Bay, and/or Ocean)?
 State the number of locations where irrigation runoff leaves this ranch/farm.
 State the estimated total number of days/year when irrigation runs off/leaves this ranch / farm at any location(s).
 State the primary season(s) when irrigation runoff leaves this ranch / farm: Summer (June 21 - September 20)
Fall (September 21 - December 20)
Winter (December 21 - March 20)
Spring (March 21 - June 20)
 State the estimated maximum total volume of irrigation runoff leaving from your ranch / farm on the highest flow day of the year. Report in gallons per day.

Section F: Tile Drain Discharge Characteristics

Does tile drain water leave this ranch / farm? YES NO
 If YES provide the following information:
 Where is the closest drainage point from this ranch/farm to any surface water body (e.g., Stream, Lake, Bay, and/or Ocean)?

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State the number of locations where tile drain water leaves this ranch/farm.

State the estimated total number of days/year when tile drain water leaves this ranch / farm at any location(s).

State the primary season(s) when tile drain water leaves this ranch / farm:

Summer (June 21 - September 20)
Fall (September 21 - December 20)
Winter (December 21 - March 20)
Spring (March 21 - June 20)

State the total estimated maximum volume of tile drain water leaving from your ranch / farm on the highest flow day of the year. Report in gallons per day.

Section G: Water Containment Characteristics

Are there water containment structure(s) (i.e., ponds, reservoirs) on this ranch/farm?

YES NO

OPTIONAL: If YES, state the type of treatment or control that is used to minimize and/or prevent the percolation of waste to groundwater.

Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not required. This requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX

Section H: Water Quality Management Practices (select all that apply)

Nutrient Management - Practice Implementation

Identify nutrient management measure(s)/practice(s) implemented on this ranch / farm to protect water quality in the last 12 months, if any.

None

Evaluated how much fertilizer crop needs and timing of application.

Scheduled fertilizer applications to match crop requirements.

Measured nitrogen concentration in irrigation water and adjusted fertilizer nitrogen applications accordingly.

Measured soil nitrate or soil solution nitrate and adjusted fertilizer nitrogen applications accordingly.

Used precision techniques to place fertilizer in the root zone, to ensure crop uptake, with minimal runoff and deep percolation (e.g. fertigation).

Measured nitrogen in plant tissue and adjusted fertilizer nitrogen applications.

Measured phosphorus in soil and adjusted fertilizer phosphorus applications.

Measured nitrogen and phosphorous content of applied manures and other organic amendments.

Mixed and loaded fertilizers on low runoff hazard sites (e.g. away from creeks and wells)

Used urease inhibitors and/or nitrification inhibitors.

Modified crop rotation to use beneficial cover crops, deep rooted species, or perennials to utilize nitrogen.

Used treatment systems to remove nitrogen from irrigation runoff or drainage water (e.g. wood chip bioreactor).

Compared amount of nitrogen applied in fertilizer and in irrigation water to crop need.

Measured nitrate concentration below the root zone.

Measured nitrate concentration in irrigation runoff.

Estimated/measured nitrate load in irrigation runoff.

Measured nitrate concentration in surface receiving water.

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Estimated/measured nitrate load in surface receiving water.

Estimated/measured nitrate loading to groundwater.

Measured nitrate concentration in groundwater.

Consulted with a qualified professional to assess practice implementation (e.g. CCA, PCA, UCCE Specialist, NRCS, RCD, agronomist or other).

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

OPTIONAL: Nutrient Management - Practice Outcome(s)

Identify outcomes that demonstrate progress towards reducing or eliminating the discharge of wastes off this ranch / farm in the last 12 months, if any. Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not required. The requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX.

None

Annual fertilizer nitrogen application reduced.

Total nitrogen applied as fertilizer and in irrigation water matches crop need.

Reduction in nitrate concentration or load, in irrigation runoff.

Reduction in nitrate concentration or load, in surface receiving water.

Reduction in nitrate loading to groundwater.

Reduction in nitrate concentration in groundwater.

Water quality standards achieved.

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

Irrigation Management - Practice Implementation

Identify irrigation management measure(s)/practice(s) implemented on this ranch / farm to protect water quality in the last 12 months, if any.

None

Determined amount of crop water uptake and applied irrigation water accordingly.

Installed more efficient irrigation system (e.g. microirrigation).

Improved irrigation distribution uniformity (DU) based on results of mobile lab or similar assessment.

Scheduled irrigation events using soil moisture measurements.

Scheduled irrigation events using weather information (e.g., evapo-transpiration, crop coefficient).

Maintained irrigation system to maximize efficiency and minimize losses (e.g. system components are replaced and/or flushed/cleaned).

Selected sprinkler heads, nozzles, and drip tape/emitter with application rate(s) that match system layout, system pressure, and infiltration rates.

Installed a variable speed pump and/or control system to improve irrigation distribution uniformity (DU).

Recycled or reused excess irrigation water.

Contained and/or treated irrigation water runoff prior to discharge off the farm/ranch.

Walked the perimeter of the property and cropped areas to verify irrigation runoff has been reduced or eliminated.

Recorded amount of irrigation water applied.

Recorded and reduced number of tailwater days/year.

Compared amount of irrigation water applied to crop water uptake

Estimated/measured volume of irrigation runoff.

Conducted field quick tests or used handheld meters to determine waste concentrations in irrigation runoff or tile drain water.

Conducted laboratory analysis to determine waste concentrations in irrigation runoff.

Conducted photo monitoring before and after practice implementation.

Consulted with a qualified professional to assess practice implementation (e.g. CCA, PCA, UCCE

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Specialist, NRCS, RCD, agronomist or other).

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

OPTIONAL: Irrigation Management - Practice Outcome(s)

Identify outcomes that demonstrate progress towards reducing or eliminating the discharge of wastes off this ranch / farm in the last 12 months, if any. Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not required. The requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX.

None

Volume of water applied matches crop needs.

Annual volume of irrigation water applied reduced.

Number of tailwater days/year reduced.

Reduction in volume of irrigation runoff.

Elimination of irrigation runoff.

Reduction in volume of tile drain discharge.

Reduction in water infiltration/percolation losses.

Reduction in pollutant concentration in irrigation runoff and/or tile drain discharge.

Water quality standards achieved.

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

Pesticide Management - Practice Implementation

Identify pesticide management measure(s)/practice(s) implemented on this ranch / farm to protect water quality in the last 12 months, if any.

None

Utilized Integrated Pest Management to reduce pesticide use (e.g., pest scouting, beneficial insects other).

Selected lower risk pesticides to minimize risk to water quality (e.g. based on toxicity, runoff potential, leaching potential).

Followed specific label instructions and any local use restrictions.

Avoided pesticide applications prior to rain events to prevent runoff.

Avoided pesticide applications during windy conditions to prevent drift.

Avoided pesticide application in areas adjacent to streams, creeks, or other surface water bodies.

Eliminated or controlled irrigation runoff during and after pesticide applications.

Eliminated or controlled sediment erosion and movement to avoid transport of pesticides.

Treated irrigation runoff with enzymes or other products to breakdown pesticides.

Used filter strips, vegetated treatment or other systems to remove pesticides and pollutants from irrigation runoff or tile drain water.

Mixed and loaded pesticides on low runoff hazard sites (e.g. away from creeks and wells)

Conducted field quick tests or used handheld meters to determine pesticide concentrations or toxicity in irrigation runoff or tile drain water.

Conducted laboratory analysis to determine pesticide concentrations or toxicity in irrigation runoff.

Measured pesticide concentrations or toxicity in surface receiving water.

Measured pesticide concentrations or toxicity in tile drain water

Conducted photo monitoring before and after practice implementation.

Consulted with a qualified professional to assess practice implementation (e.g. CCA, PCA, UCCE Specialist, NRCS, RCD, agronomist or other).

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

OPTIONAL: Pesticide Management - Practice Outcome(s)

Identify outcomes that demonstrate progress towards reducing or eliminating the discharge of wastes off this ranch / farm in the last 12 months, if any. Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not

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required. The requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX.

None

Annual pesticide application reduced.

Reduction in pesticide concentration or toxicity in irrigation runoff.

Reduction in pesticide concentration or toxicity in surface receiving water.

Water quality standards achieved.

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

Sediment Management - Practice Implementation

Identify sediment management measure(s)/practice(s) implemented on this ranch / farm to protect water quality in the last 12 months, if any.

None

Avoided disturbance of soils adjacent to streams, creeks, and other surface water bodies.

Minimized presence of bare soil in non-cropped areas.

Minimized presence of bare soil in cropped areas.

Minimized tillage to protect soil structure and cover soil.

Used soil amendments to protect soil structure.

Planted cover crops.

Aligned rows for proper drainage and to reduce erosion.

Diverted runoff and concentrated flows to grassed areas.

Controlled concentrated drainage on roads by grading to reduce erosion or installing culverts, rolling dips, underground outlet pipe(s).

Installed filter strips, vegetated treatment or other systems to remove sediment and other pollutants from runoff.

Installed sediment basin(s), pond(s), reservoir(s) or other sediment trapping structures to remove sediments from discharge

Applied Polyacrylamide (PAM) in irrigation water

Walked the perimeter of the property to verify erosion controls and that sediment doesn't leave the ranch/farm during irrigation events and/or storm events.

Conducted laboratory analysis, field quick tests or used handheld meters to measure turbidity in irrigation runoff.

Estimated sediment load in irrigation and/or stormwater runoff.

Conducted laboratory analysis, field quick tests or used handheld meters to measure turbidity in stormwater runoff.

Conducted photo monitoring before and after practice implementation.

Consulted with a qualified professional to assess practice implementation (e.g. CCA, PCA, UCCE Specialist, NRCS, RCD, agronomist or other).

Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

OPTIONAL: Sediment Management - Practice Outcome(s)

Identify outcomes that demonstrate progress towards reducing or eliminating the discharge of wastes off this ranch / farm in the last 12 months, if any. Note on Optional Reporting: Providing this information is not required. The requirement is stayed per State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ-2012-00XX.

None

Soil coverage increased and amount of bare soil reduced.

Reduction in turbidity or sediment load in irrigation runoff.

Reduction in turbidity or sediment load in stormwater runoff.

Reduction in turbidity or sediment load in surface receiving water.

Reduction in stormwater flow and/or volume.

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Water quality standards achieved.
Other, describe in Farm Plan and submit upon request.

Section I: Water Quality Improvement Projects

Is this ranch/farm participating in a specific water quality improvement project with other growers? YES NO

If YES provide the following information:

Identify the type of project.

Describe the scale of the project.

Section J: Related Permits

Has any work activity been completed and/or proposed within the bed, bank or channel of a lake or stream, including riparian areas, within the last 12 months on this ranch / farm, ? (includes water diversions and routine maintenance of canals, channels, culverts, and ditches) YES NO

Section K: Photo Monitoring

By June 1, 2013, Photo monitoring is required for Tier 2 and Tier 3 ranches/farms that contain or are adjacent to a waterbody impaired for temperature, turbidity, or sediment (applies to this ranch/farm if the words **Monitoring Required** are seen next to the Section K: Photo Monitoring title). Photos must be maintained in the Farm Plan and submitted to the Water Board, upon request. Refer to Photo Monitoring protocols at the following website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml

Answering the question below is **OPTIONAL** until the October 1, 2013 reporting deadline:

If required, has photo monitoring been completed for this ranch or farm? YES NO

Proprietary Information

Information related to trade secrets or secret processes are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Water Code §13267. If the Discharger asserts that all or a portion of a report submitted is exempt from public disclosure the Discharger must provide an explanation of how those portions of the reports are exempt from public disclosure.

Does this Annual Compliance Form contain information related to trade secrets or secret processes)? YES NO

Authorization and Certification

By submitting this Annual Compliance Form, in compliance with Water Code § 13267, I certify under penalty of perjury that this document was prepared by me, or under my direction or supervision, following a system designed to ensure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. To the best of my knowledge and belief, this document is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.