East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition

Wednesday, June 03, 2015

ID # 5849

Joe Silveira
260 Air Park Rd
Atwater, CA 95301

ALERT!
Regional Water Board Initiating Actions Against Members For Not Completing Farm Evaluation Survey

PLEASE RESPOND BY JULY 15th

Dear Joe Silveira,

Completing a Farm Evaluation is a mandatory requirement for all growers belonging to a water quality coalition in the Central Valley. As of the date of this letter, roughly a quarter of our members are missing this requirement. On July 31st, the Coalition is mandated to send a member list to the Central Valley Regional Water Board. This list will take into account membership standing. In order to be in good standing with the Coalition, you must have completed the following requirements: payment of membership dues, completion of Nitrogen Management Plan, and COMPLETION OF FARM EVALUATION SURVEY.

Enclosed in this packet is your Farm Evaluation Survey. Please fill it out and return it to us as soon as possible. The purpose of the Coalition is to help you stay in good standing by providing every available resource. If you need help with the Farm Evaluation Survey, or any other membership requirement, schedule an appointment by calling either of our staff:

- Caitie Campodonico (209-352-2348) or
- Breanne Ramos (209-723-3001)

They are available to meet you at your operation, the Farm Bureau office, or to help you complete the survey over the phone.

Also enclosed is the potential consequences letter from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. The following letter outlines the potential consequences for not complying and returning this document by July 15th, 2015. Keep in mind the Regional Board is the enforcement agency, NOT the Coalition. We do everything possible to help you stay in compliance with the Regional Water Board requirements.

If the property is leased, please forward this document to them or provide us the contact information and we will send the survey to the lessee. Ultimately you as a member are responsible for making sure they complete the survey.

After 2015, farming operations in Low Vulnerability Areas will need to submit Farm Evaluation surveys every 5 years (e.g. if a survey was submitted in 2015, the next survey would be due in 2020). For farming operations in High Vulnerability Areas, the Farm Evaluation survey is due

Return completed Farm Evaluations to:
ESJWQC • 1201 L Street • Modesto, CA 95354 or
contactesj@esjcoalition.org

Thank you,

Parry Klassen
Executive Director, ESJWQC
209-846-6112

Wayne Zipser
Grower Relations Manager
209-846-6112

Part A – Whole Farm Evaluation

Member Name: Joe Silveira **Coalition Member ID#:** 5849

1. Pesticide Application Practices (check all that apply)

- ☐ County Permit Followed
- ☐ Follow Label Restrictions
- ☐ Sensitive Areas Mapped
- ☐ Attend Trainings
- ☐ End of Row Shutoff When Spraying
- ☐ Avoid Surface Water When Spraying
- ☐ Reapply Rinsate to Treated Field
- ☐ Target Sensing Sprayer used
- ☐ Use Drift Control Agents
- ☐ Monitor Wind Conditions
- ☐ Use Appropriate Buffer Zones
- ☐ Use Vegetated Drain Ditches
- ☐ Monitor Rain Forecasts
- ☐ Use PCA Recommendations
- ☐ Chemigation
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Other _____

2. Who do you have help develop your crop fertility plan? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Certified Crop Advisor (CCA)
- ☐ Pest Control Advisor (PCA)
- ☐ Certified Technical Service Providers by NRCS
- ☐ Professional Soil Scientist
- ☐ Professional Agronomist
- ☐ Independently Prepared by Member
- ☐ UC Farm Advisor
- ☐ None of the above

3. Does your farm have the potential to discharge sediment to off-farm surface waters?

(circle one) Yes No

4. Complete Part D on sediment and erosion control practices used on farm field(s).

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel or represented Members properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for violations.

Signature	Printed Name	Date

Part B – Specific Field Evaluation

Member Name: Joe Silveira **Coalition Member ID#:** 5849

1. Identify the Parcels and Fields that this survey applies to by checking the box in the first column below. ***Fill out a separate survey for parcels/fields with different practices.***

SW High Vulnerability is when a parcel is within an area covered by a Surface Water Management Plan.
GW High Vulnerability is areas having potential for groundwater contamination.

	High Vulnerability SW	High Vulnerability GW	Parcel (APN)	Field ID	Acres	Crop
☐	☐	☑	056-141-008	001	_____	Almonds
☐	☐	☑	056-300-006		_____	Almonds

2. Irrigation Practices *(A secondary system could be used for crop germination, frost protection, crop cooling, etc.)*

Primary (check one)

- ☐ Drip
- ☐ Micro Sprinkler
- ☐ Furrow
- ☐ Sprinkler
- ☐ Border Strip
- ☐ Flood

Secondary (if applicable, check one)

- ☐ Drip
- ☐ Micro Sprinkler
- ☐ Furrow
- ☐ Sprinkler
- ☐ Border Strip
- ☐ Flood

3. Irrigation Efficiency Practices (check all that apply)

- ☐ Laser Leveling
- ☐ Use of E_T in scheduling irrigations
- ☐ Water application scheduled to need
- ☐ Use of moisture probe (e.g. irrometer or tensiometer)
- ☐ Soil Moisture Neutron Probe
- ☐ Pressure Bomb
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Other _____

4. Nitrogen Management Methods to Minimize Leaching Past The Root Zone (check all that apply)

- ☐ Cover Crops
- ☐ Split Fertilizer Applications
- ☐ Soil Testing
- ☐ Tissue/Petiole Testing
- ☐ Variable Rate Applications using GPS
- ☐ Foliar N Application
- ☐ Irrigation Water N Testing
- ☐ Fertigation
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Other _____

Part C – Irrigation Well Information

1. Do you have any irrigation wells on parcels associated with this Farm Evaluation? (Circle one) Yes No
2. Are you aware of any known abandoned wells associated with this Farm Evaluation? (Circle one) Yes No
3. For abandoned wells, mark the location of these wells on the attached map(s) or your own farm map with a unique Well ID of your choice and fill in the following table. For each well, be sure to fill in the table with the Well ID that corresponds to the map and put an "X" next to the practices that apply to the individual well. If the well has been abandoned, indicate the year the well was abandoned (write "UNK" if the year is unkown; approximate is ok) and mark how the well was abandoned:

Well ID	Wellhead Protection					Abandoned Wells			
	Ground Sloped Away from Wellhead	Standing water avoided around wellhead	Good "Housekeeping" Practices*	Air Gap (for non - pressurized systems	Backflow Preventive / Check Valve	If abandoned, year abandoned	Destroyed – certified by county	Destroyed by licensed professional	Destroyed - Unknown method

*Good housekeeping practices include keeping the area surrounding the wellhead clean of trash, debris and any empty containers.

Comments: _____

Part D – Sediment Erosion Control Practices

Member Name: Joe Silveira **Coalition Member ID#:** 5849

1. Identify the Parcels and Fields that this survey applies to by checking the box in the first column below. Fill out a separate survey for parcels/fields with different practices.

	High Vulnerability SW	GW	Parcel (APN)	Field ID	Acres	Crop
☐	☐	☑	056-141-008	001		Almonds
☐	☐	☑	056-300-006			Almonds

2. Irrigation Practices for Managing Sediment and Erosion

- ☐ In-furrow dams are used to increase infiltration and settling out of sediment prior to entering the tail ditch.
- ☐ The time between pesticide applications and the next irrigation is lengthened as much as possible to mitigate runoff of pesticide residue.
- ☐ Shorter irrigation runs are used with checks to manage and capture flows.
- ☐ PAM (polyacrylamide) used in furrow and flood irrigated fields to help bind sediment and increase infiltration.
- ☐ Use drip or micro-irrigation to eliminate irrigation drainage.
- ☐ Use of flow dissipaters to minimize erosion at discharge point.
- ☐ Tailwater Return System.
- ☐ Catchment Basin.
- ☐ No irrigation drainage due to field or soil conditions.

3. Cultural Practices to Manage Sediment and Erosion

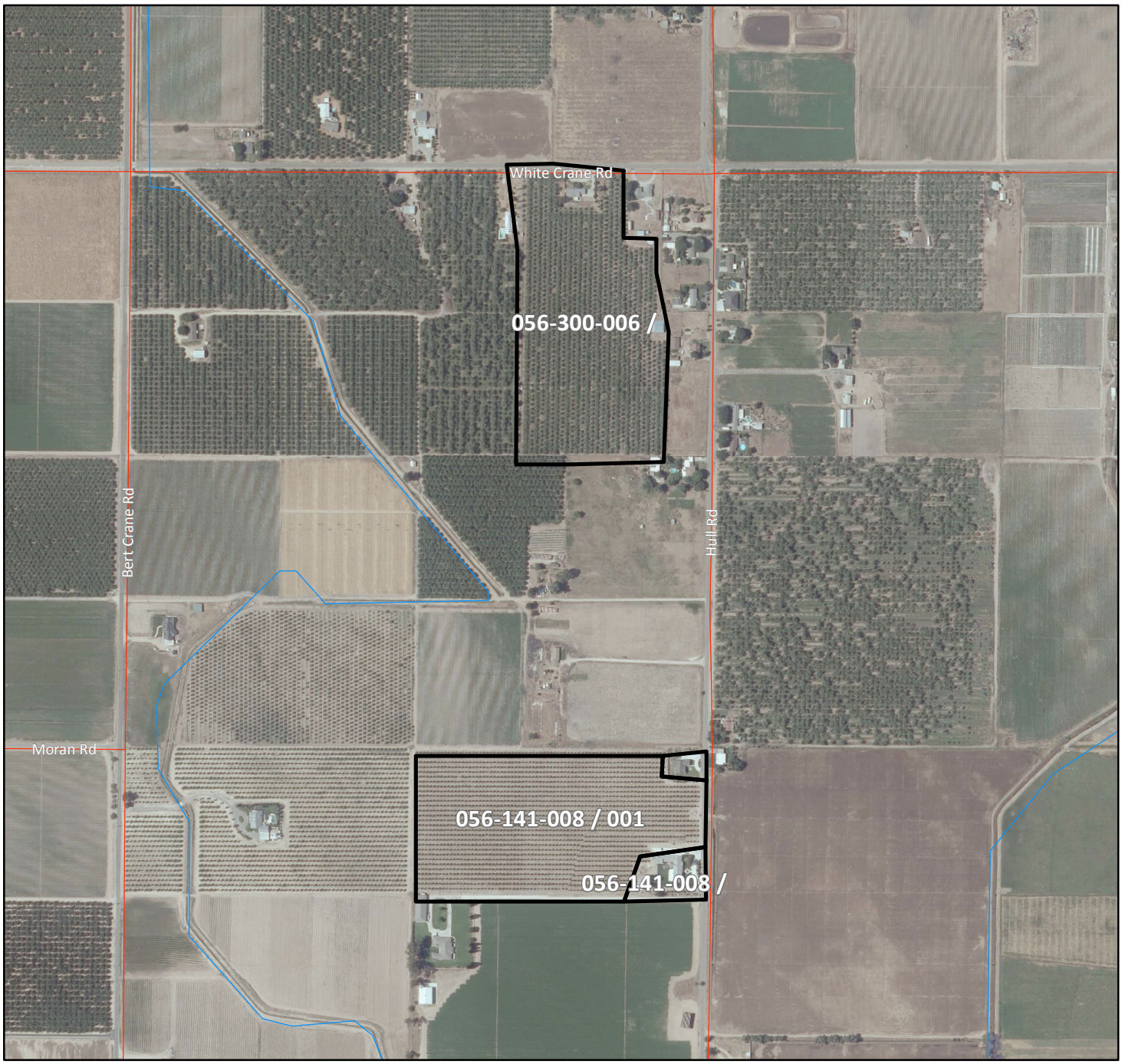
- ☐ Storm water is captured using field borders.
- ☐ Vegetated ditches are used to remove sediment as well as water soluble pesticides, phosphate fertilizers and some forms of nitrogen.
- ☐ Vegetative filter strips and buffers are used to capture flows.
- ☐ Sediment basins / holding ponds are used to settle out sediment and hydrophobic pesticides such as pyrethroids from irrigation and storm runoff.
- ☐ Cover crops or native vegetation are used to reduce erosion.
- ☐ Hedgerows or trees are used to help stabilize soils and trap sediment movement.
- ☐ Soil water penetration has been increased through the use of amendments, deep ripping and/or aeration.
- ☐ Crop rows are graded, directed and at a length that will optimize the use of rain and irrigation water.
- ☐ Creek banks and stream banks have been stabilized.
- ☐ Subsurface pipelines are used to channel runoff water.
- ☐ Berms are constructed at low ends of fields to capture runoff and trap sediment.
- ☐ Minimum tillage incorporated to minimize erosion.
- ☐ Field is lower than surrounding terrain.
- ☐ No storm drainage due to field or soil conditions.

Part E - Farm Map

(Keep Onsite - For Inspection Purposes Only)

Update map with well locations and surface water discharge points

Legend
X - In Use Well Locations
A - Known Abandoned Well Locations
DP - Off Farm Surface Water Discharge Points



N
0 0.05 0.1
Miles

Joe Silveira, Member 5849

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

Date Prepared: 2/3/2014
ESJWQC