



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region



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CENTRAL VALLEY REGION IRRIGATED LANDS CONDITIONAL WAIVER PROGRAM; EAST SAN JOAQUIN WATER QUALITY COALITION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff has reviewed the Watershed Evaluation Report (WER) and Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Plan for the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) submitted on 1 April 2004. In response to staff comments, the Coalition submitted the following additional items to comply with the Conditional Waiver requirements:

- Coalition responses, dated 8 September 2004,
- Site Description and Sampling Strategy, dated 13 December 2004, with proposed monitoring sites, justification for these proposed sites, maps of the monitoring sites, and Coalition responses to staff comments, and
- Timeline for Best Management Practice (BMP) compilation and drainage location mapping dated 4 March 2005.

Our review of the items listed above indicates that, as proposed in the *Timeline for BMP compilation and drainage location mapping* dated 4 March 2005, the Coalition will provide the Central Valley Water Board with the following information by the date specified to comply with the requirements of the Conditional Waiver:

Item / Description	Submittal Date
1. Crop Information - Draft GIS Maps - Complete GIS Maps	15 May 2005 30 June 2005
2. Priority Crops - High Risk Topography, Soil Types and Field Locations (Maps with soil and slope information and overlaid cropping information) - Management Practice (MP) Survey	30 June 2005 31 July 2005
3. Coalition Response to Monitoring Results As described in the letter dated 4 March 2005	31 July 2005
4. Drainage Maps - Complete set	15 August 2005
5. Compilation of MPs at Farm Level - Complete data analyses	31 October 2005

In addition, the Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) must be revised to include the following information:

1. Quality control requirements for pyrethroids and organophosphorus pesticides listed in QAPP Pages 35 and 36, Tables B-6c and B-6d amended to include greater recovery limits for the pesticides listed in the Coalition's QAPP and all other pesticides, e.g., herbicides that are used in the Coalition watershed area.
2. Pesticides listed in the QAPP Page 27, Table B-5, revised to include all pesticides used in the Coalition area that are required to be monitored during Phase II monitoring.
3. The QAPP revised to include detection limits for all constituents of concern lower than the water quality objectives or other State and Federal water quality criteria.
4. The QAPP revised to include the use of amber glass containers for toxicity testing and pesticide analyses unless otherwise approved by the Central Valley Water Board staff.

Based on the review of the WER and MRP Plan and supplement information, additional information is required to be submitted as outlined above for the Coalition to meet the conditions for coverage under Central Valley Water Board Resolution No. R5-2003-0105, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands (Conditional Waiver).

At this time the monitoring activities proposed by the Coalition are approved. Once the above information is submitted and reviewed the final approval of the WER and MRP can be considered.

If monitoring information shows that water quality standards are exceeded or if there is other evidence of a violation of the Conditional Waiver, a Communication Report, as outlined in the waiver and MRP, shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. If it is determined that requirements of the Conditional Waiver are not being met, the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer may terminate the applicability of the Notice Of Approval issued to the Coalition on 28 January 2004, at any time. In addition, the Central Valley Water Board may revise or terminate Resolution No. R5-2003-0105, associated Conditional Waivers, and/or the MRP at a public hearing.

On 10 September 2004, the Central Valley Water Board adopted a Basin Plan Amendment that includes a Control Program for Salt and Boron Discharges into the Lower San Joaquin River. Within two years of the effective date of this Basin Plan Amendment (after approvals by the State Water Resources Control Board and the Office of Administrative Law), the Central Valley Water Board plans to incorporate into the existing Conditional Waiver, or into a new conditional waiver specific to salinity management, the conditions required for participation in a Central Valley Water Board-approved real-time management program. Participants in a real-time management program will be required to meet real-time load allocations for salt or otherwise demonstrate how they are participating in a program to attain salinity water quality objectives in the San Joaquin River. Water Quality Coalition Groups are encouraged to start exploring how they can best organize and participate in a real-time management program for the control of salt.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Irrigated Lands Conditional Waiver Program or this letter, please contact Ms. Diana Messina (916) 464-4828 or dmessina@waterboards.ca.gov.

/S/ by JED for Tom Pinkos

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Executive Officer

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