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IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

EAST SAN JOAQUIN WATER QUALITY COALITION MANAGEMENT PLAN

MEETING NOTES

8 February 2011– MEETING No. 10

(Revised on 2 March 2011)

ATTENDEES: Chris Jimmerson, Dania Huggins, Melissa Turner, Mike Johnson, Parry Klassen, and Susan Fregien.

SUMMARY: The last quarterly management plan meeting occurred on 2 November 2010. Staff facilitated this meeting, to discuss the status on some of the key MPlan components such as performance goals and measures and the process for completion of management plans. Additionally, Parry Klassen provided us with an update on the salt and nitrate pilot project at Harding Drain.

ITEMS DISCUSSED

- (1) Review of 2 November 2010 qrtly MPlan mtg action items
- (2) Status on the three sets of high priority site subwatersheds
- (3) Completion of management plans
- (4) MRP plan monitoring modification request
- (5) Salt nitrate budget - Harding Drain pilot project
- (6) Approach to potential dairy discharges
- (7) Irrigation Districts potentially may be added to the ESJWQC
- (8) Next Deliverables
- (9) Next qrtly MPlan mtg No. 10
- (10) Action Items

(1) REVIEW OF 2 NOVEMBER 2010 QRTLY MPLAN MTG ACTION ITEMS

Purpose: To determine what actions still need to be completed.

Outcome: Staff provided an update on the membership enforcement efforts at Lateral 2 ½. One hundred postcards were sent on 12/28/2010 and 100 more on 01/31/2011 (Stanislaus County). The Coalition suggested that the next membership enforcement efforts should focus on Berenda Slough along Ave 18 ½ (about 40 postcards will be send within a month or two). Additionally, there were three pending items: (1) Follow up for future single exceedances and proposed “off ramp,” (2) Regional Board questions on the MRP Plan monitoring modification request, and (3) Staff response to MRP Plan amendment (submitted on 10/20/2010). Items (1) and (2) were addressed in the meeting (sections 3 and 4 below). Regarding Item (3), Staff submitted comments to the Coalition on 2/07/11 and Coalition responses are needed to complete the response letter.

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(2) STATUS ON THE THREE SETS OF HIGH PRIORITY SITE SUBWATERSHEDS

Purpose: To provide a status on the outcome of the performance goals and measures.

Outcome: For the 1st high priority areas, a summary of management practices implemented and an evaluation of effectiveness of newly implemented management practices will be provided in the Annual MPUR. For the 2nd high priority areas, a summary of management practices currently used by members and a summary of recommended practices for 2010 will be included in the Annual MPUR. For the 3rd set of high priority areas, the Coalition has completed about 50% of the individual interviews (surveys). The results from the survey including the recommended management practices is scheduled to be completed by 30 July 2011. The original number of growers to be contacted was 83, which was revised to 78 due to land use changes, new membership, and transfer of parcels. The number of growers that need to be contacted fluctuates throughout the year as additional contacts are made and new members join. The new number of growers to be contacted in the 3rd set of high priority areas is:

Table 1. Number of growers to be contacted in the 3rd set of high priority areas

<i>Site-subwatershed</i>	<i>Original target (as 11/02/10)</i>	<i>New target (as 02/08/11)</i>
Lateral 2 ½ @ Keyes Rd.	26 growers	22
Berenda Slough along Ave 18 ½	18 growers	18
Dry Creek @ Rd 18	28 growers	27
Livingston Drain @ Yosemite Rd	11 growers	11
TOTAL	83	78

The Coalition mentioned that they are still having problems with copper at Cottonwood Ck @ Rd 20. Three exceedances were found in 2010 (4/20/10 = 3.1 ug/L; 5/18/11 = 3.6 ug/L; 8/17/11 = 5.3 ug/L). Staff agreed to consult with the dairy program to see if the dairy units are monitoring and managing copper.

(3) COMPLETION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS

Purpose: To discuss management plan completion process and how future single exceedances will be managed in completed management plan areas.

Outcome: Staff explained that there is not an inclusive process to determine when a management plan is complete. The Coalition’s potential requests for management plan completion will be analyzed by Staff on a case by case basis. Staff explained that with the current staff resources available, changes to the current MRP Plan and other potential changes (e.g. potential TIER 1 considerations) would have to be addressed when the new Order is in place.

(4) MRP PLAN MONITORING MODIFICATION REQUEST

Purpose: To provide clarification to Regional Board Staff on items sent to the Coalition on 01/31/11 regarding the Coalition’s 11/11/10 MRP Plan monitoring modification request.

Outcome: The Coalition provided clarification to the following items:

Definition of high “TSS irrigation event” and “high TSS storm event”

High TSS Storm Event = When the storm event is predicted to bring 0.25 inch or greater of precipitation within a 24-hour period.

High TSS Irrigation Event= After the start of the peak irrigation season during high flows in irrigation canals (June/July/August).

Glyphosate and paraquat applications

Given the chemical characteristics of glyphosate and paraquat (e.g. high soil adsorption coefficients and extended half life time) and the monitoring results analyzed, it is difficult to justify presenting additional information on application trends. Therefore, after this discussion Staff stated that no additional information is required for Staff response.

Update the PUR information for sodium cacodylate

Staff asked the Coalition to update the PUR information to include the most recent available records (e.g. 2008 and 2009). The Coalition agreed to submit this information.

Would twice a year monitoring frequency be sufficient for Management Plan Constituents?

The request and proposed monitoring frequency is only for assessment monitoring. The monitoring strategy for site/constituents under a management plan will not be affected by this request.

Are new assessment sites being considered in the request?

Yes, because the representative monitoring strategy will provide enough information.

(5) SALT NITRATE BUDGET - HARDING DRAIN PILOT PROJECT

Purpose: To provide a status on the Salt Nitrate Budget pilot project at Harding Drain.

Outcome: Parry Klassen provided a pilot project summary. The Harding Drain area was selected for this study because it is the best understood area in terms of ground and surface water with information available from CV SALTS, Turlock ID, and Merced ID. Additionally, this is a well defined area. Michael Johnson has created a salt/nitrate budget worksheet which will be refined with specific data from this area and then run with various management practice scenarios to help predict the effect of management practices on surface and groundwater quality.

(6) APPROACH TO POTENTIAL DAIRY DISCHARGES

Purpose: Terry Bechtel offered to provide informal training to the Coalition's sampling crew to help determine when a dairy discharge has occurred and help the Coalition with source identification.

Outcome: Parry Klassen explained that he proposed this strategy in the November 2010 meeting to the ESJWQC Board of Directors. The Board of Directors rejected the concept because it is not a requirement in the ILRP for crews who are hired by the Coalition to identify dairy discharges in the field while collecting water quality samples.

(7) IRRIGATION DISTRICTS POTENTIALLY MAY BE ADDED TO THE ESJWQ

Background: Parry Klassen mentioned that Merced, Turlock, Oakdale, and Modesto IDs had approached him and asked to join the Coalition. Parry explained to the IDs that he needed to consult with the Regional Board.

Purpose: To discuss the possibility of the irrigation districts within the Coalition area joining the Coalition as members.

Outcome: Staff described to Parry Klassen that it is not clear how the IDs are going to be included under the framework of the Long Term Program. Parry Klassen was having a

meeting with the ILRP Program Manager, Joe Karkoski, (later today) to obtain more information.

(8) NEXT DELIVERABLES

Purpose: To provide a status on the next set of deliverables

Outcome: Staff has two deliverables pending:

Coalition

- a. AMR → 1 March 2011
- b. Annual MPUR → 1 April 2011

Regional Board

- a. Staff response to MRP Plan amendment (submitted on 10/20/2010)
- b. Staff response to MRP Plan Monitoring Modification Rqst (submitted on 11/11/2010)
- c. Staff response to Annual SJR Chlorpyrifos-Diazinon TMDL Report (submitted on 11/01/2010)

(8) NEXT STEPS

The following is a summary of the action items identified as part of the meeting outcome.

Regional Board

- a. Staff response to MRP Plan amendment (submitted on 10/20/2010) (Item 1, page 1). [Completed on 02/28/11](#)
- b. Check with Terry Bechtel on potential copper applications in dairy units and how it is being managed (Item 2, page 2). [Completed on 02/28/11](#)
- c. Staff response to Annual SJR Chlorpyrifos-Diazinon TMDL Report (submitted on 11/01/2010). **Pending**
- d. Staff response to MRP Plan Monitoring Modification Request (submitted on 11/11/2010). **Pending**

ESJWQC

- a. Response to Staff comments on MRP Plan amendment (Item 1, page 1). [Completed on 02/12/11](#). Version 02/12/2011 MRP Plan is now posted in the ILRP web site
- b. Response to Staff comments on ESJ 2011 Monitoring Schedule. [Completed on 02/17/11](#).

(9) NEXT ESJWQC QUARTERLY MEETING ==> **2011 meetings, are scheduled for the following dates:**

May 2011 → Tuesday, May 3rd

August 2011 → Tuesday, August 2nd

November 2011 → Tuesday, November 1st