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## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 22, 2016

Dear Growers and Interested Parties:

**NOTICE OF REVISIONS TO MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAMS, ORDER NOS. R3-2012-0011-01, R3-2012-0011-02, R3-2012-0011-03, FOR DISCHARGERS ENROLLED IN THE CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES FROM IRRIGATED LANDS**

The Executive Officer of the Central Coast Water Board has revised the Monitoring and Reporting Programs (MRPs) for Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 ranches. The requirements are for surface water and groundwater monitoring requirements that must be implemented, beginning in 2017. Growers can fulfill monitoring and reporting requirements through participation in a cooperative monitoring program or through individual monitoring and reporting.

### **SURFACE WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

All growers must monitor surface waters in 2017, such as creeks, rivers and estuaries, which could receive farm water runoff. The monitoring requirements include specific pollutants, specific surface waters, and monitoring sites that must be monitored. A Water Quality Sampling and Analysis and Quality Assurance Project Plan must be developed and submitted for approval prior to monitoring. These requirements can be fulfilled individually or through participation in a cooperative monitoring program (such as the Cooperative Monitoring Program operated by Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc.). For details about the surface receiving water monitoring requirements, please see Part 1 of the MRP, which is available online at the internet link provided below.

### **GROUNDWATER WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

Growers must also monitor groundwater in 2017. The groundwater monitoring requirements require all ranches to collect samples from 1) all wells that are used or may be used for domestic purposes and 2) the primary irrigation well. Note that all ranches must conduct two rounds of sampling for all wells that are required to be sampled (including all domestic wells and the primary irrigation well); the first round of sampling must occur between March and June 2017, and the second round of sampling must occur between September and December 2017. The groundwater monitoring requirements include specific pollutants that must be monitored. The samples must be collected by a qualified third party, such as a consultant, technician, or trained person conducting cooperative groundwater monitoring on the grower's behalf. Laboratory analysis for groundwater samples must be conducted by a State certified laboratory according to U.S. EPA methods, and the results must be submitted electronically by the laboratory using the Water Board's GeoTracker electronic deliverable format (EDF). These requirements can be fulfilled individually or through participation in a cooperative monitoring program. For details about groundwater monitoring and reporting requirements, please see Part 2 of the MRP, which is available online at the internet link provided below.

## **COOPERATIVE VERSUS INDIVIDUAL MONITORING**

All growers are required to fulfill the monitoring and reporting requirements, whether through assistance by a cooperative monitoring program or individually.

Growers can fulfill monitoring and reporting requirements through participation in a cooperative monitoring program. It is the growers' responsibility to assess whether they are in good standing with a cooperative monitoring program that will fulfill the requirements on their behalf.

If you elect to fulfill either the surface water or groundwater monitoring requirements without the assistance of a cooperative monitoring program, please review the MRPs for details regarding the monitoring and reporting requirements. Contact water board staff with questions about implementing your own monitoring and reporting.

## **MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENTS**

The following are internet links to the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (MRPs):

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for Tier 1 Ranches:

[Monitoring and Reporting Program, R3-2012-0011-01](#)

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for Tier 2 Ranches:

[2 Monitoring and Reporting Program, R3-2012-0011-02](#)

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements for Tier 3 Ranches:

[3 Monitoring and Reporting Program, R3-2012-0011-03](#)

For growers who do not have access to the internet and would like a printed copy of the MRPs, please contact us using the contact information provided below.

### **Central Coast Water Board Authority**

1. Monitoring reports are required pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code. Pursuant to Section 13268 of the Water Code, a violation of a request made pursuant to Section 13267 may subject you to civil liability of up to \$1000 per day.
2. The Water Board needs the required information to determine compliance with Order No. R3-2012-0011. The evidence supporting these requirements is included in the findings of Order No. R3-2012-0011.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Coast Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this notice, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this notice falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the internet at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality)

or will be provided upon request.

For questions regarding this notice, please contact an Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff assigned to your area:

Corinne Huckaby (Pajaro area): 805-549-3504; email: [Corinne.Huckaby@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Corinne.Huckaby@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Monica Barricarte (Santa Maria): 805-549-3881; email: [Monica.Barricarte@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Monica.Barricarte@waterboards.ca.gov)  
Arwen Wyatt-Mair (Salinas): 805-542-4695; email: [Arwen.Wyatt-Mair@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Arwen.Wyatt-Mair@waterboards.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

Chris Rose  
Irrigated Lands Program Manager