

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

June 10, 2016

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Agricultural Operations in the San Jacinto River Watershed: Ongoing Work to Address Water Quality

DISCUSSION:

In response to the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDLs, adopted in 2004, the Western Riverside County Agriculture Coalition (WRCAC) was formed to assist member agricultural operators to fulfill applicable requirements of these TMDLs. This includes monitoring and the development of a draft Agricultural Nutrient Management Plan. WRCAC has expended, and continues to expend, considerable resources to identify and invite the participation of agricultural operators in these efforts, and to develop technically defensible and practicable solutions to agriculture-related water quality concerns. This includes participation in work now underway by the TMDL Task Force to consider appropriate revisions to the Nutrient TMDLs based on the considerable body of evidence that has accrued through TMDL implementation and evaluation.

WRCAC has also been actively engaged with Regional Board staff in making recommendations concerning the pending **Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Agricultural Operations in the Watersheds of the San Jacinto River and its Tributaries, Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore and their Tributaries, Collectively, "The San Jacinto River Watershed", Riverside County, or "CWAD"** (Order No. R8-2016-0003). This Order is expected to be presented to the Board for consideration at the July 22, 2016 meeting.

Representatives of WRCAC and WRCAC's technical consultants will present information concerning agricultural operations in the San Jacinto River Watershed, WRCAC's work to assist agricultural owners and operators in the implementation of the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDLs, and ongoing work to develop Water Quality Indices pertaining to agricultural operations. This work is expected to contribute to the implementation of and compliance with the CWAD.

This is an information item only and no action will be taken regarding Order No. R8-2016-0003.