IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE March 2017

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program update provides a summary of significant activities of the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board. Next month's report will present activities of the North Coast, San Francisco Bay, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Colorado River, Lahontan, Santa Ana, and San Diego Water Boards.

STATE WATER BOARD

On March 7, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff participated in an Organics Touch Base meeting with CalRecycle staff. Issues discussed included: North American Workshop on Food Waste Reduction and Recovery; University of California Zero Waste Work Group; Update on research into inert contaminants in compost; SB1383 Update; Green Waste Pest Prevention; Compost General Order Update; Interagency Waste Working Group Update; Local Assistance and Marketing Development updates on AB 1826 related projects; Green Summit—Department of General Services efforts; and EcoLandscaping 2017.

On March 7, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff met with California Department of Food and Agriculture to discuss the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two agencies. The meeting objective was to discuss compliance of MOU requirements and strategy for implementing MOU activity for 2017.

On March 8, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff met with California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) to discuss biosolids, compost, and soil amendment land application and disposal strategy as part of SB 1383.

On March 10, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff participated on a conference call with staff from Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Farm Food Safety Conservation Network to discuss water quality best management practices.

On March 21, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff participated in a California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment (CRAE) meeting to discuss needs for securing the future of working lands in California.

On March 28-29, 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff presented at the California Association of Pest Control Advisers and Certified Crop Advisers nutrient management certification workshop in Exeter, California.

CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

Central Valley Water Board staff holds quarterly stakeholder meetings to provide an open forum for communication between staff, agricultural coalitions, environmental justice groups, and other interested parties in Central Valley Region. The April stakeholder meeting will focus on surface water management plans.

In November 2016, enforcement panel hearings were held to consider imposing administrative civil liabilities on dischargers for failure to enroll in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program or failure to provide reports in accordance with a General Order. The Central Valley Water Board approved two administrative civil liabilities in December 2016 and nine more during the February 2017 Board meeting.

Central Valley Water Board staff concentrated compliance, outreach, and enforcement efforts on the following areas: agricultural parcel inspections; Water Code section 13260 Directives; Notices of Violation for failure to respond to a Water Code section 13260 Directive and failure to comply with Orders; Pre-Administrative Civil Liability Notification Letters; and Administrative Civil Liability Complaints.

Additional information can be found on the Regional Board website.