

**AUGUST 2021 BOARD MEETING
DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM**

AGENDA ITEM: 8

SUBJECT:

Amendments to the ILRP Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers within the Sacramento River Watershed that are Members of a Third-party Group, Order R5-2014-0030-08.

BOARD ACTION:

Consider adoption of Order to exempt the Goose Lake irrigated agricultural operations from obtaining ILRP coverage.

BACKGROUND:

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board or Board) will be considering an Amending Order to exempt irrigated agricultural operations in the Goose Lake Watershed from obtaining regulatory coverage in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) through the Waste Discharge Requirements General Order (General Order) covering this area. The affected ILRP General Order is the Sacramento River Watershed Area (R5-2014-0030-08).

Irrigated agricultural operations in the watershed are irrigated pasture and/or alfalfa. There are approximately 30 operations in the watershed, covering a little over 7,000 acres.

On 26 February 2021, staff released a draft exemption recommendation report for a 30-day public comment period. Twelve comment letters were received, all in support of the proposed exemption. There were no specific comments on the exemption recommendation other than support for the proposal. Comment letters were received from the CA Farm Bureau, CA Cattlemen's Association, Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition, Goose Lake Subwatershed Group and RCD, Northeastern CA Water Association, Upper Feather River Watershed Group, Modoc County and Sierra County Board of Supervisors, and three growers.

On 15 June, staff released an exemption resolution for a 30-day public comment period and notice of public hearing. Eleven comment letters and

emails were received, all in support of the proposed exemption. Comment letters and emails were received from the CA Farm Bureau, Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition, Goose Lake Subwatershed Group and RCD, Northeastern CA Water Association, PNSSNS (Placer, Nevada, South Sutter, North Sacramento) Subwatershed Group, Lassen County, Modoc County and Sierra County Supervisors, and two growers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of Order to exempt the Goose Lake irrigated agricultural operations from obtaining ILRP coverage.

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	SYM 7/19/21
Legal Review:	JMJ 7/21/21

BOARD MEETING LOCATION:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Internet Zoom Meeting