

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

19 October 2018

Agricultural Water Quality Coalitions
[See Attached List]

PROVISION OF THE IRRIGATION AND NITROGEN MANAGEMENT PLAN TEMPLATES

Thank you for your 12 September 2018 submittal of proposed Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan (INMP) templates and instructions. Per section VIII.C of Appendix A to State Water Board Order WQ 2018-0002 (Order), I am providing the attached INMP Worksheet and Summary Report templates and instructions that must be used by your Members to fulfill the precedential requirements of the Order governing discharge from their irrigated lands. Any proposed changes to these attachments must be approved by me prior to implementation.

The attached INMP templates and instructions are consistent with your 12 September 2018 submittal with two exceptions, (1) the instructions have been updated to reflect a 640 acre upper limit on reporting unit size and (2) the date field in the outlier status box of the INMP Summary Report template has been removed. In addition, the following Members are exempted from reporting nitrogen removed from the field (R) at this time:

1. Diversified socially disadvantaged growers, as defined by the Farmer Equity Act of 2017, with (1) a maximum total acreage of 45 acres, (2) gross annual sales of less than \$350,000, and (3) a crop diversity greater than 0.5 crops per acre (one crop for every two acres).
2. Growers with (1) a maximum total acreage of 20 acres, and (2) a crop diversity greater than 0.5 crops per acre. This category would include, for example, small growers with multiple crops that sell their crops primarily at farmers' markets.

Additional Growers may be exempted if it is demonstrated that they (1) operate in areas with evidence of no or very limited nitrogen impacts to surface water or groundwater, (2) have minimal nitrogen inputs, and (3) have difficulty measuring yield (e.g., irrigated pastures).

We appreciate the work that you and other agricultural stakeholders have put into developing the INMP templates. We look forward to working with you in this important effort to assist growers in minimizing the leaching of nitrate to groundwater, while maintaining the viability of their crop.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact Ashley Peters at (916) 464-4857 or Ashley.Peters@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by

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Attachments: Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan (INMP) Worksheet
INMP Worksheet Instructions
INMP Summary Report
INMP Summary Report Instructions