



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair



Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114
Phone (916) 464-3291 • FAX (916) 464-4645
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley>

30 March 2009

Mr. Michael Wackman
San Joaquin & Delta Water Quality Coalition
3422 W. Hammer Lane, Suite A
Stockton, CA 95219

Mr. Mike Johnson, Program Manager
MLJ-LLC
1490 Drew Ave, Suite 175
Davis, CA 95618

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM PLAN MODIFICATIONS – SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND DELTA WATER QUALITY COALITION

The San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) submitted a 12 March 2009 request to modify its 25 August 2008 Monitoring and Reporting Program Plan (MRPP), which includes the approved 30 September 2008 Management Plan. As a follow-up, the California Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Regional Water Board) staff and the Coalition met on 16 March 2009 to discuss the proposed modifications.

The Coalition's State grant funding for grower outreach and management practice implementation and evaluation is currently suspended. The Coalition proposes to reduce the number of rotating assessment sites from four to one per year to reduce its monitoring costs. In addition, the Coalition proposes to conduct Management Plan monitoring only in the high priority areas as opposed to continuing with additional monitoring at its low priority Management Plan sites. In lieu of the additional upstream Management Plan monitoring, the Coalition proposes to evaluate pesticide use reports for source identification and use the monitoring results from its core and assessment monitoring to assist with management practice evaluation. Even though the Coalition proposes to reduce Management Plan monitoring, accountability for management practice implementation and evaluation remain unchanged.

The cost savings from reduced monitoring would be used to continue the scheduled outreach and implementation activities described in the approved MRPP and Management Plan. The rotating assessment site monitoring described in the approved MRPP exceeds the requirements in the Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. R5-2008-005 (Order) and so does the supplemental Management Plan monitoring. As such, the proposed reduction in monitoring still meets the requirements in the Order. Regional Water Board staff and the Coalition concluded that focusing resources on management practice outreach, implementation, and evaluation is more critical to improving water quality than the supplemental monitoring.

Therefore, I approve the Coalition's request for MRPP modifications to the assessment monitoring and Management Plan monitoring as proposed in its 12 March 2009 letter and 16 March meeting with the Regional Water Board, effective immediately. In order to complete this modification, please submit the following documents by **30 April 2009**:

California Environmental Protection Agency

- Revisions to the MRPP Table A (summarizes all modifications to the plan), Table 9 (Assessment and Core Monitoring Schedule), Table 10 (List of Water Bodies Within...), Table 12 (Monitoring Schedule for 2008-2010...), and Table 20 (Core Monitoring Sites and Additional...).
- Revisions to the Management Plan Table B (Amended Sections to the SJCDWQC...), Table 14 (List of Site Subwatershed tiers...), Table 15 (Management Plan Sourcing, Outreach...), and Figure 3 (SJCDWQC Prioritization process...).

If you have any questions or comments you may contact Chris Jimmerson at (916) 464-4859, or by email at cjimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov.



For PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

cc: Joe Karkoski, Acting Assistant Executive Officer
Karen Larsen, Senior Environmental Scientist