



# san joaquin county & DELTA WATER QUALITY COALITION

February 12, 2016

Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer  
Sue McConnell, Program Manager  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

*Re: Amendment to the 2015 Monitoring Plan Update for Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2014-0029-R1 for Growers in the San Joaquin County and Delta Area*

Dear Ms. Creedon,

The San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition (SJCDWQC) is submitting an amendment to the 2015 Monitoring Plan Update (MPU) and 2016 WY Monitoring Schedule.

On January 11, 2016, the SJCDWQC received an email from Regional Board staff indicating sediment toxicity data should be evaluated based on Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) protocol as outlined in the August 27, 2014 SWAMP Toxicity Workgroup Recommendation letter.

All previously reported sediment toxicity were reevaluated based on the following criteria: 1) sediment samples resulting in 80% survival compared to the control, or above, should not be considered toxic and 2) sediment samples resulting in 79% survival compared to the control or below should be considered toxic if they are statistically significant.

The SJCDWQC reviewed all management plans on a case-by-case basis and results are presented in Table 1 below. Original sediment toxicity results and the subsequent changes to management plans based on the SWAMP protocol will be included in the 2016 Annual Report, in Appendix IX (May 1, 2016). In some cases, removing a sediment toxicity result based on the SWAMP protocol changed the management plan status of the site subwatershed.

Due to two toxic events (March 2015 and September 2015, 34% and 80% survival compared to the control, respectively), Upper Roberts Island Drain was placed in a management plan for sediment toxicity to *H. azteca* and was scheduled for a second year of Represented site monitoring for sediment toxicity for *H. azteca* in the 2016 WY (2015 MPU, approved December 17, 2015). The 80% survival compared to the control sediment toxicity from September 2015 is no longer considered toxic under the SWAMP protocol; therefore, a management plan is not required for sediment toxicity in the Upper Roberts Island Drain site subwatershed.

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**Table 1. SJCDWQC changes to sediment toxicity management plans and monitoring schedule based on SWAMP protocol.**

Site	Site Type	Management Plan Updates	2016 WY Monitoring Updates
Upper Roberts Island Drain	Represented	No management plan required; one toxicity remaining.	Management plan no longer required.

Submitted respectfully,

Michael L. Johnson  
SJCDWQC Technical Program Manager  
Michael L. Johnson, LLC

Attachment:

SJCDWQC 2016 Monitoring Schedule (Excel file)

CC:

Susan Fregien, CVRWQCB  
Chris Jimmerson, CVRWQCB

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