



Update on Vineyard Permit Development

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

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and*

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Item 6

December 19, 2019

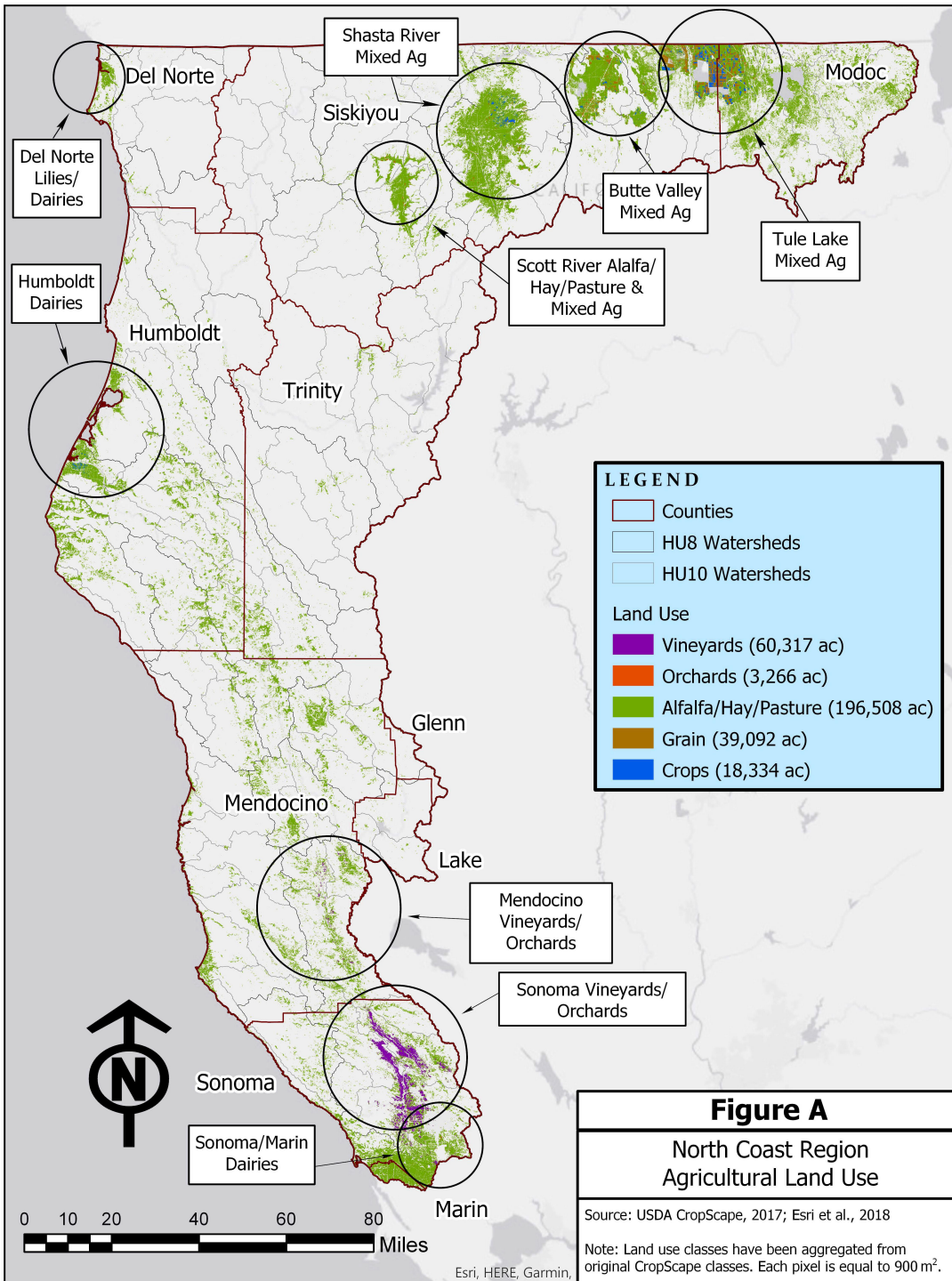
Santa Rosa, CA



Presentation Overview

- Agricultural Lands Discharge Program
- Prioritization of Vineyard Permit
- Potential Water Quality Impacts From Vineyards
- Vineyard Permit Details
- Next Steps for Permit Development
- Permit Development Schedule

Agriculture in the North Coast Region





Agricultural Lands Program

- State required to regulate nonpoint source discharges of waste
 - ✓ Federal Clean Water Act
 - ✓ California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
- Existing Agricultural Orders
 - ✓ Scott and Shasta River TMDL Conditional Waivers of WDRs
 - ✓ State Cannabis General Order and Regional Cannabis and Related Activities Waiver of WDRs
 - ✓ Regionwide Dairy WDRs
 - ✓ Federal Land Management Activities on National Forest Lands Waiver of WDRs



Prioritization of Vineyard Permit

- ✓ Priority of the Board
- ✓ Need to address potential water quality impacts – over 60,000 vineyard acres (approx. 20% of total agricultural acres)
- ✓ Permit will be integral in addressing 303(d) list impairments, Anti-degradation Policy, and other State and Regional Policies
- ✓ Complements Statewide Winery Order (under development)

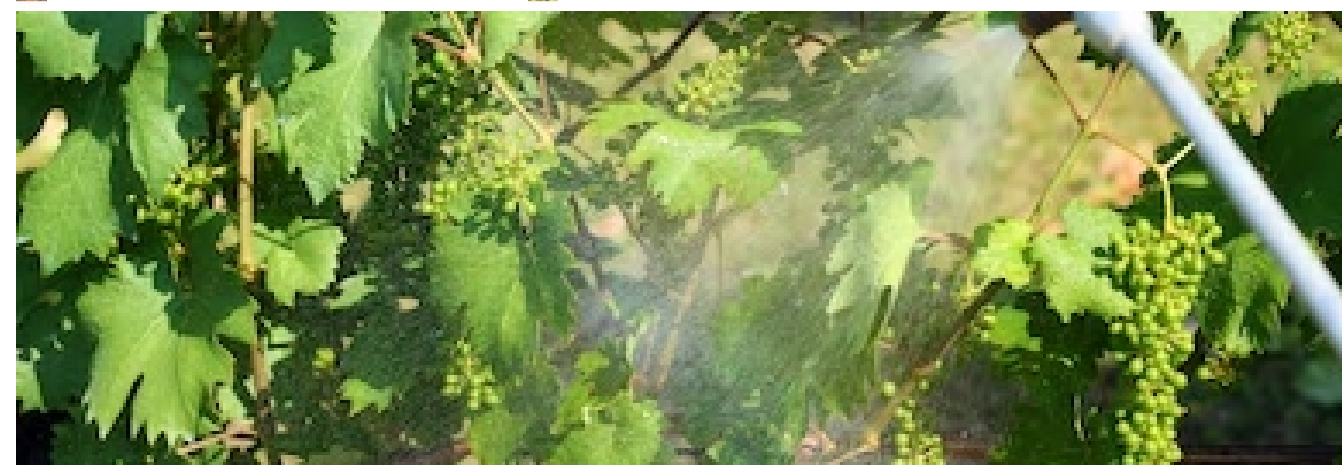
Potential Water Quality Impacts

- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ Sediment
- ✓ Chemicals
(Nutrients,
Pesticides,
Herbicides,
Fungicides)
- ✓ Debris
- ✓ Flow Volumes





Chemical Application & Storage





Sediment and Erosion Control





Riparian Area Management



Vineyard Permit Development

February
2019

April
2019

July
2019

October
2019

December
2019

- Board update: Revise permit scope to that of regionwide Vineyard WDRs
- Regional Board staff begin working with stakeholders in focused group meetings and begin drafting permit structure and findings
- Staff begin drafting permit discharge requirements
- Staff begin drafting permit monitoring, reporting, and farm plan requirements
- Board update: Status of Vineyard Permit Development



Stakeholder Feedback

- ✓ Minimize regulatory duplication
- ✓ Prioritize achievement of water quality objectives
- ✓ Minimize economic impacts
- ✓ Increase implementation and efficiency of BMPs
- ✓ Protect privacy rights
- ✓ Make water quality data more accessible
- ✓ Protect Human Right to Water
- ✓ Provide verification of BMP effectiveness and in-stream conditions



Vineyard Permit Details

- ✓ Applicability
- ✓ Conceptual Components
- ✓ Structure
- ✓ Key Issues in Development
- ✓ Policy Implementation

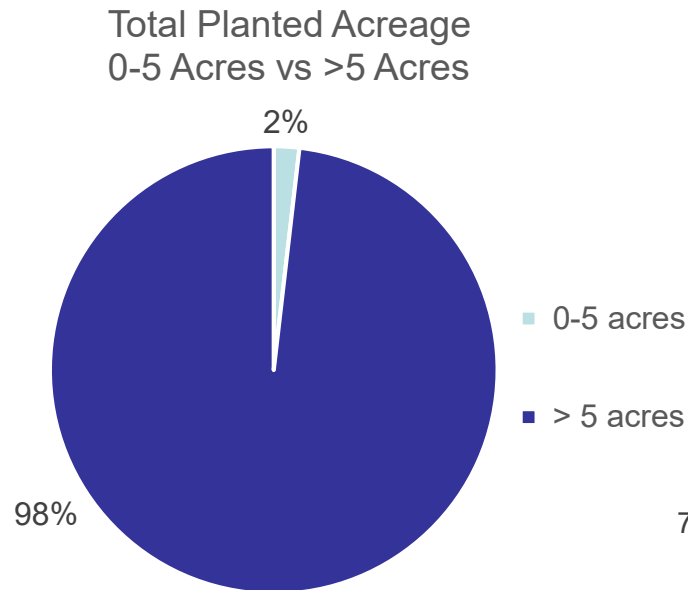
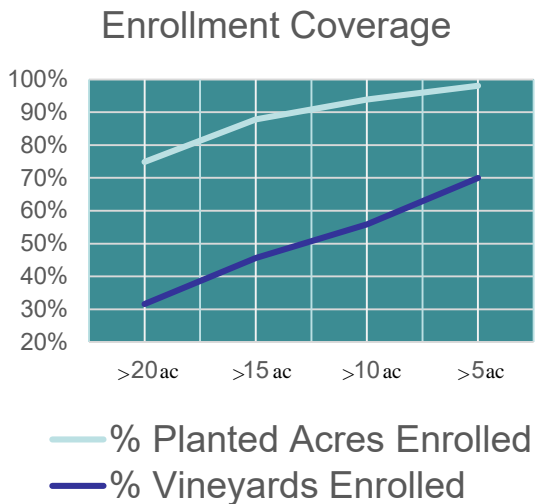


Permit Applicability

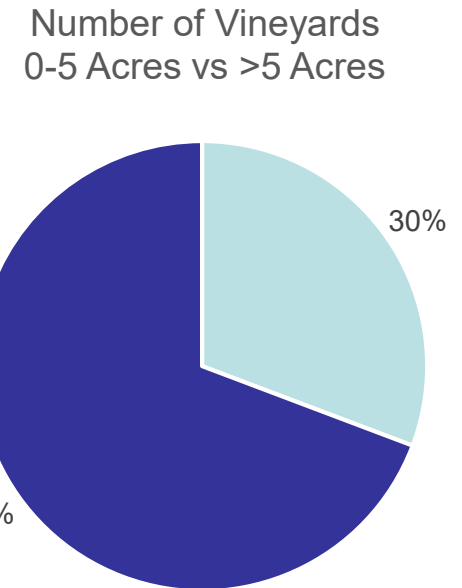
- Vineyards within North Coast Region
- Operational and site development activities
- De minimus threshold for enrollment requirement
 - > 5 acres in planted vines – same as SF Bay Regional Water Board’s vineyard permit
- Conditions that will require owners to seek coverage under individual WDRs
 - Significant slopes
 - Timber conversions

Permit Applicability

- De minimus threshold for enrollment
 - > 5 acres in planted vines – 98% coverage; 70% vineyards required to enroll



98% Vineyard
Acres



70% of
Vineyards

Conceptual Components

- ✓ BMP-based approach
- ✓ Farm water quality management plans
- ✓ Monitoring and reporting
- ✓ Third-party programs
- ✓ Outreach and education



BMP-Based Approach

Best Management Practices

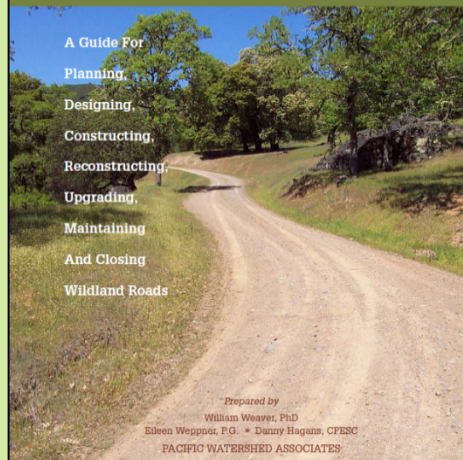
for VESCO

Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control



Handbook for Forest, Ranch & Rural ROADS

A Guide For
Planning,
Designing,
Constructing,
Reconstructing,
Upgrading,
Maintaining
And Closing
Wildland Roads

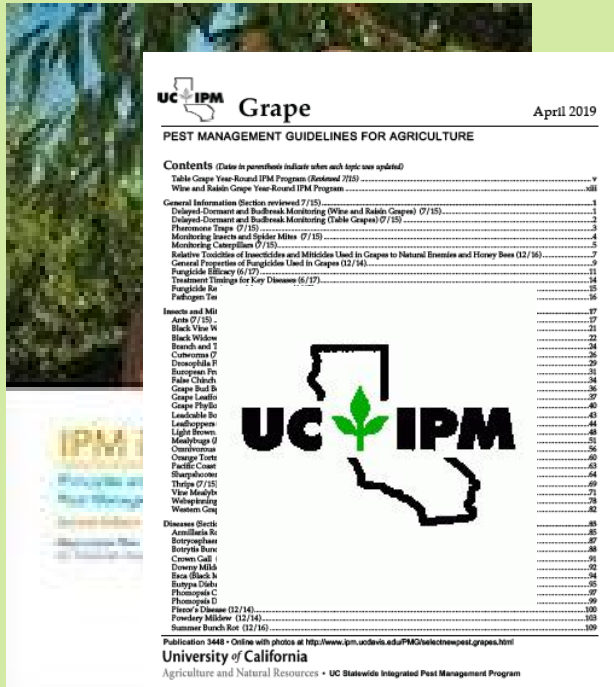


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The Land Steward's Guide to Vineyard and Orchard Erosion Control



BMP-Based Approach



UC IPM Grape April 2019
PEST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURE




Contents (Date in parentheses indicate when each topic was updated)


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Publication 3448 • Online with photos at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMO/selectpest-grapes.html>
University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources • UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program

**LANDSMART™ FOR VINEYARDS
REFERENCE GUIDE**

Version 1.0
July 2014



**CALIFORNIA CODE OF
SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING
WORKBOOK**

THIRD EDITION

A PROJECT OF

CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING ALLIANCE

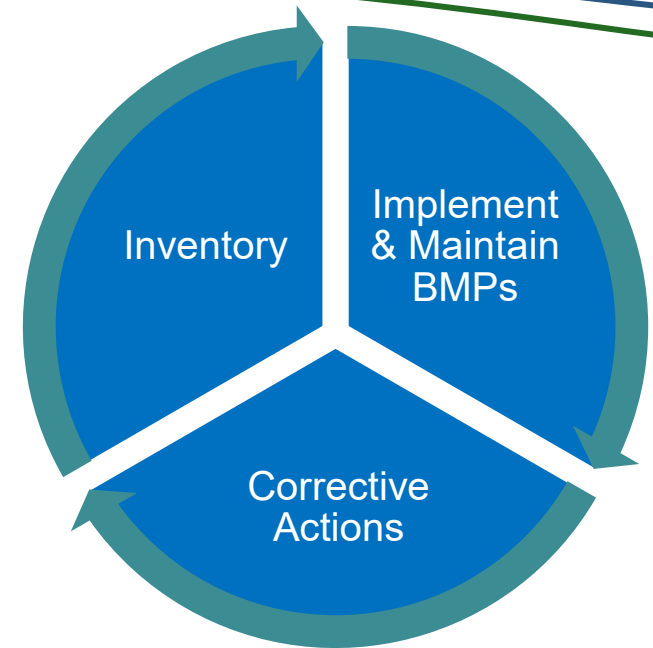
WINE INSTITUTE

AND

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF WINEGRAPE GROWERS

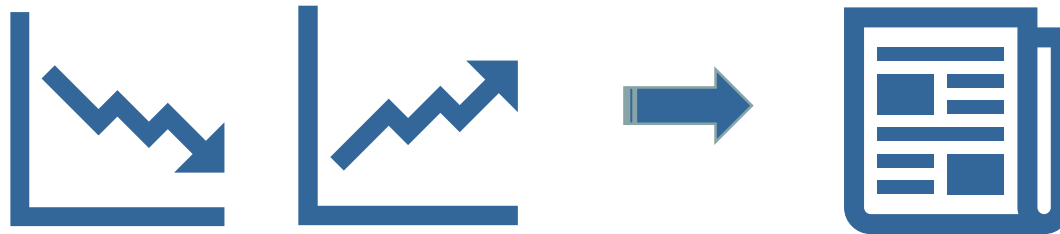
Farm Plans

- ✓ Inventory of site conditions
- ✓ Description of BMPs
 - ✓ Riparian management
 - ✓ Pesticide management
 - ✓ Nutrient management
 - ✓ Erosion control
- ✓ Identification of potential water quality impacts
- ✓ Identification and prioritization of corrective actions
- ✓ Timelines for corrective actions



Monitoring and Reporting

- ✓ Tiered based on potential for water quality impacts
- ✓ BMP implementation and effectiveness monitoring
- ✓ Water quality assessment monitoring
- ✓ Adaptive management approach



Third Party Programs

- ✓ Enrollment and Farm Plan assistance
- ✓ Monitoring and reporting assistance
- ✓ Outreach and education
- ✓ Economic resources
- ✓ Partnerships that support watershed based solutions





Permit Structure

- I. Findings
- II. Waste Discharge Requirements
- III. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements
- IV. Third-Party Roles, Qualifications, and Responsibilities
- V. Farm Plan Requirements

Key Issues in Development

- ✓ Stream buffers
- ✓ Nutrient use and uptake calculations – ESJ Precedential Items
- ✓ Timelines for completion of permit requirements
 - ✓ Enrollment
 - ✓ Farm Plan
 - ✓ Monitoring and Reporting



Key Issues in Development

Riparian Management

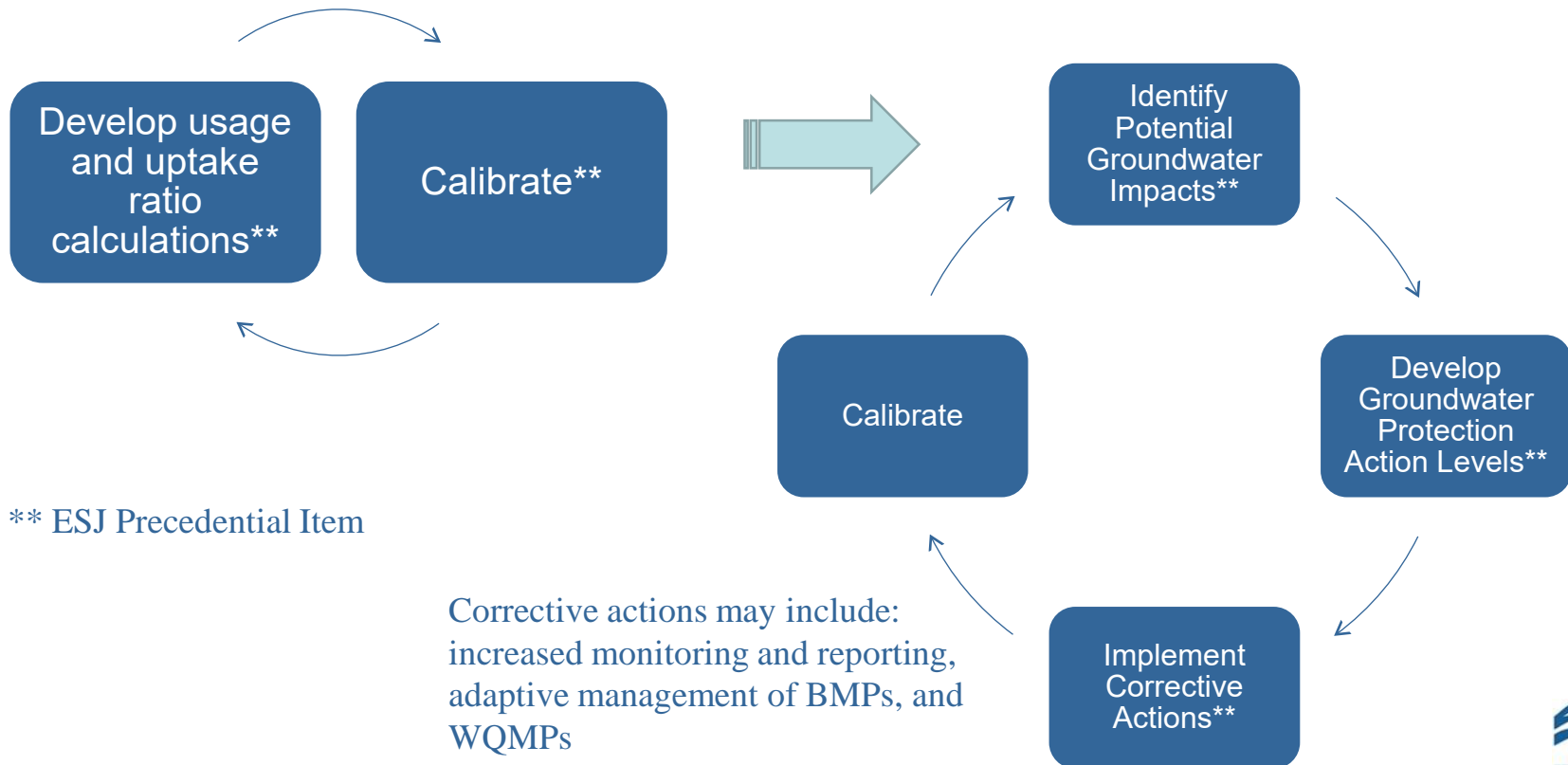
- ✓ Stream buffers
 - Riparian areas
 - Geomorphological conditions
 - Beneficial Uses
 - Benefits to land-owners
 - Sonoma County VESCO
 - State Cannabis Policy
 - SF Bay Regional Water Board
Vineyard Permit



Key Issues in Development

Groundwater Protection & Anti-degradation

✓ Nutrient Use – ESJ Precedential Items



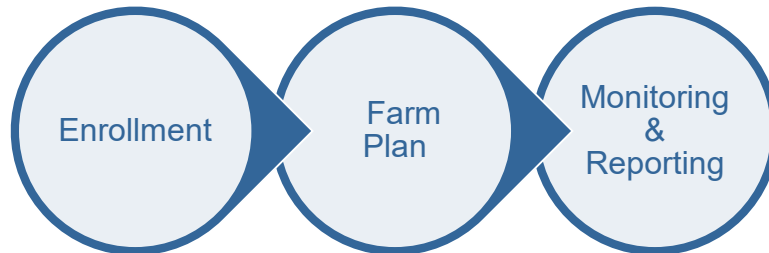
** ESJ Precedential Item

Corrective actions may include:
increased monitoring and reporting,
adaptive management of BMPs, and
WQMPs

Key Issues in Development

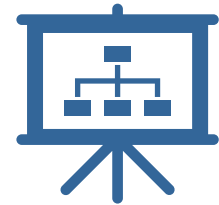
Timelines for completion of permit requirements

- ✓ Enrollment
- ✓ Farm plan
- ✓ Monitoring and Reporting



Policy Implementation

- ✓ State Nonpoint Source Policy
- ✓ Regional Sediment Policy
- ✓ Regional Temperature Policy
- ✓ Regional Total Maximum Daily Loads
- ✓ State Recycled Water Policy
- ✓ State Anti-degradation Policy



Next Steps

- Conduct Internal Coordination
- Continue Targeted Focus Group Stakeholder Meetings
- Initiate Tribal Consultations
- Public Participation Process
 - ✓ Public Workshops (2)
 - ✓ 30-day Review Period
 - ✓ Public Notifications



Agricultural Lands Lyris List Sign-up

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the California Water Boards website. The page title is "Agricultural Lands Discharge Program". The navigation bar includes "Home", "Water Issues", "Programs", and "Agricultural Lands". The main content area features a large image of a coastline with a prominent rock formation. Below the image, the text reads "North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board". The "Agricultural Lands Discharge Program" section includes a note about signing up for an email list and a paragraph describing the program's purpose. A "Mailing List" sidebar contains a link to the "Email List: Agricultural Lands Discharge Program Email List Subscription Page", which is circled in red. A "Resources" sidebar lists "Agricultural Lands Discharge Program" and "Existing Permits and Programs" with sub-items for "Cannabis Cultivation" and "Dairies".

Home | Water Issues | Programs | Agricultural Lands

Agricultural Lands Discharge Program

Note: Please sign up for the email list here to stay informed on the latest program developments and stakeholder outreach efforts.

The Agricultural Lands Discharge Program (Program) addresses water quality impacts associated with activities on agricultural lands in the North Coast Region (Region). There are approximately 350,000 acres of agricultural lands in the Region, which are primarily used for vineyards, orchards, row crops, grain, alfalfa, hay pasture, and dairies. Agricultural discharges can contain pollutants such as pesticides, nutrients, organic matter, salts, pathogens, and sediment. These pollutants can harm aquatic life or make surface or groundwater unusable for drinking water or agricultural uses. Activities on agricultural lands can also result in the removal or suppression of riparian vegetation, which provide shade and other ecological functions to waterbodies. The Program is designed to meet the requirements of the California Water Code, the State Nonpoint Source Policy, and the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) developed for certain watersheds in the Region.

The Program as a whole encompasses several separate Regional Water Board permits that

Mailing List

Interested parties are encouraged to sign up on the email list below to receive information about stakeholder involvement opportunities and updates on progress to develop the various programs and permits:

[Email List: Agricultural Lands Discharge Program Email List Subscription Page](#)

Resources

- Agricultural Lands Discharge Program
- Existing Permits and Programs
 - Cannabis Cultivation
 - Dairies

Permit Development Schedule

Process/Milestone	Time Frame
Outreach to Stakeholders	Summer 2019 - Winter 2020
Administrative Draft of Permit	Winter 2019 – Winter 2020
CEQA Development	Winter 2019 – Winter 2020
Tribal Consultation	Beginning Spring 2020
Public Workshops (2)	Summer 2020 & Spring 2021
Public Comment Period	Spring 2021
Adoption Hearing	Winter 2021

Vineyard Permit Development

■ Questions & Comments?

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