

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM  
FOR  
WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
ORDER NUMBER R1-2015-0023**

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for site monitoring by Dischargers enrolled in Order No. R1-2015-0023 (the Order). Water Code section 13267, subdivision (b) provides that the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), in conducting an investigation of any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of discharging waste within the region, may require Dischargers to furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports. The information required by this Order, issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267, including the additions in this version, is necessary to assess water quality impacts from cannabis cultivation and ensure that any prior harm and/or future threat to water quality created by the discharges of waste resulting from cannabis cultivation and associated activities or operations with similar environmental effects are properly assessed, abated, and controlled. The discharges and related controllable water quality factors supporting the need for this information are described in the Order and associated environmental impact assessment. The burden, including costs, of these reports bears a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.

This update (Version 4) to the MRP replaces the previous versions (Version 3, issued January 26, 2018). The update includes clarification language to section I.B Monitoring Inspections and content changes and a new submittal process for reports in section II. Annual Reporting. **Submittal of Annual Reports for Version 4 of the MRP must be completed using an online web portal at <https://public2.waterboards.ca.gov/cgo>.** The failure to furnish required reports, or the submittal of false information, is a misdemeanor, and may result in enforcement actions being taken against the Discharger, including issuance of an Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint pursuant to Water Code section 13268. Dischargers that are unable to meet the reporting requirements using the online portal must notify the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and provide reasonable cause for requesting alternative accommodations. If you experience problems completing the annual reporting form please contact the Cannabis Unit at the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board at (707) 576-2676 or by email at [northcoast.cannabis@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:northcoast.cannabis@waterboards.ca.gov). Under the authority of California Water Code section 13267, the Discharger is required to comply with the following:

The Monitoring and Reporting Program has two components (Monitoring and Reporting), reflected in the two sections below. The information collected through site monitoring and inspections, per Section I and reporting forms completed per Section II must be retained on site and made available upon request by Regional Water Board staff. The Annual Reporting form shall be submitted annually by March 31. Monitoring, including periodic site inspections and reviews of operational practices, helps to ensure that standard conditions are being met, that management measures and controls are effectively protecting water resources, and that any newly developing problems representing a water quality concern are identified and corrected quickly. Whether submitted directly to the Regional Water Board or through an approved third party program, the required reporting elements allow the Regional Water Board to assess general program implementation and compliance by tier category and by subwatershed. For example, reporting form information can allow staff to determine how many Tier 2 Dischargers are in the process of developing water resource protection plans (WRPPs), how many have developed and are implementing plans, how many are in compliance with standard conditions, how effectively Best Management Practices (BMPs) are performing, and what changes or improvements are needed to improve program effectiveness or compliance rate.

On a sub-watershed-wide scale, this information enables the Regional Water Board staff to comprehensively track activity from Tier 3 cleanup and restoration sites and individual instream work proposed under Tier 2 WRPPs to help correlate cleanups and activities or restoration or remediation work in streams or wetlands that are proposed and underway in individual watersheds. It may be necessary to limit the number of individual potential construction-related impacts occurring at any given time in any given watershed.

**I. Monitoring**

This information below is applicable to all sites and may also be part of or incorporated into the water resource protection plan for Tier 2 sites.

**A. Site Map:**

Please create a legible map identifying the features listed below where applicable. You may need to use a full-page satellite map (e.g. Bing, Google, or similar) and one or more additional maps at appropriate scales. The map(s) may be preliminary upon enrollment and refined upon completion of a thorough site inventory:

1. Property topography
2. Perimeter of land owned or leased
3. Watercourses and stream crossings
4. Roads, clearings, and developed areas
5. Perimeters of cultivation areas
6. Water source types and locations (surface water diversion, well, rainwater catchment) and water storage types and locations (storage tanks, ponds, bladders)<sup>1</sup>
7. Nutrient and chemical storage locations (i.e. fertilizers, pesticides, petroleum)
8. Buildings
9. Garbage/refuse storage facilities/locations
10. Human waste facilities (e.g. septic tanks and leach fields, privy, composting toilet)
11. Unstable earthen features
12. Soil or spoils storage/stockpile/disposal areas
13. Controllable sediment discharge sources identified for upgrade, cleanup, remediation, or restoration (as part of Tier 2 Water Resource Protection Plan or Tier 3 Cleanup and Restoration Plan)
14. Mark or highlight those locations where wastes or pollutants, whether spilled, placed, or stored could be transported into surface water or leached into groundwater
15. Management measures to control wastes and other water quality factors
16. Map legend

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<sup>1</sup> A basis of water right and relevant documentation shall be kept on site with the site map and monitoring records. Relevant documentation may include:

- A letter, or email from the State Water Board acknowledging that a statement has been filed with the State Water Board in support of a pre-1914 or riparian water right claim.
- A copy of an appropriative water permit, license, registration, or filed statement.
- A true and correct copy of an application, or other documentation verifying that an application has been submitted to the State Water Board to obtain such a right, permit, registration, or license.
- Explanation of why such documentation cannot be provided.

Note: Copies of documents may be downloaded from the State Water Board's Electronic Water Rights Information Management System (eWRIMS).

**B. Monitoring Inspections:**

Sites shall be inspected periodically to ensure conformance with standard conditions. Site inspections should include visual inspection of the site, including any management measures, to ensure they are being implemented and are functioning as expected. Inspections include photographic documentation of any controllable sediment discharge sites, as identified on the site map, and a visual inspection of those locations on the site where pollutants or wastes, if uncontained, could be transported into receiving waters, and those locations where runoff from roads or developed areas drains into or towards surface water. At a minimum, sites shall be inspected at the following times to ensure timely identification of changed site conditions and to determine whether implementation of additional management measures is necessary to prevent or minimize discharges of waste to surface water:

1. Before and after any significant alteration or upgrade to a given stream crossing, road segment, or other controllable sediment discharge site. Inspection should include photographic documentation, with photo records to be kept on site.
2. Prior to October 15 to evaluate site preparedness for storm events and stormwater runoff.
3. After the initial site preparedness inspection and by December 15 to evaluate the site and performance of BMPs and to make BMP modifications, as necessary.
4. Following any rainfall event with an intensity of 3 inches precipitation in 24 hours. These inspections may also satisfy the requirement to inspect by December 15. Precipitation data can be obtained from the National Weather Service by entering the site zip code at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/forecast>.

Note that Tier 2 Dischargers must include a monitoring element in their water resource protection plan that at a minimum provides for periodic inspection of the site, checklist to confirm placement and efficacy of management measures, and document progress on any plan elements subject to a time schedule. Tier 3 Dischargers must incorporate monitoring and reporting elements into their cleanup and restoration plans for approval by the Executive Officer.

The Annual Reporting form shall be submitted annually by March 31. The reported information shall be reflective of site conditions. Enrollees shall submit this information either directly to the Regional Water Board or through an approved third party program. **Annual Reports must be submitted electronically using an online portal system, available through the State Water Resources Control Board website: <https://public2.waterboards.ca.gov/cgo>**; if the Discharger needs assistance with submission of their annual report or would like to request special accommodations, please contact staff at 707-576-2676 or [northcoast.cannabis@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:northcoast.cannabis@waterboards.ca.gov).

The reporting requirements for the Annual Report are provided below in their entirety. New content associated with the latest update (Version 4) of the MRP is indicated in **bold text**. The Annual Report is composed of four sections: Enrollment and Site Information, Compliance with Standard Conditions, Quantitative Site Characterization, and Water Use. These four sections of the Annual Report are structured in successive pages in the online portal, followed by a submission page confirming that the information provided is accurate.

### Section 1: Enrollment and Site Information

WDID Number	#
County	Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Sonoma, Siskiyou, Trinity
APN(s)	#
Tier	1, 2, 2*, 3
Reporting Date	Date
Discharger Name	First; Last
Discharger Relationship to Property	Owner/ Operator/ Owner and Operator
Report Preparer	Discharger/ Authorized Representative
Report Preparer Organization (if applicable)	Name
Date Water Resource Protection Plan Developed	Date
Date Instream Work Performed (if applicable)	Date
Date Instream Work Planned (if applicable)	Date

### Section 2: Compliance with Standard Conditions

Standard Conditions	Compliance	Expected date of compliance
1) Site maintenance, erosion control, & drainage features	Yes/No	(if applicable)
2) Stream crossing maintenance	Yes/No	(if applicable)
3) Riparian and wetland protection management	Yes/No	(if applicable)
4) Spoils management	Yes/No	(if applicable)
5) Water storage and use	Yes/No	(if applicable)
6) Irrigation runoff	Yes/No	(if applicable)
7) Fertilizers and soil amendments	Yes/No	(if applicable)
8) Pesticides and herbicides	Yes/No	(if applicable)
9) Petroleum products and other chemicals	Yes/No	(if applicable)
10) Cultivation-related wastes	Yes/No	(if applicable)
11) Refuse and human waste	Yes/No	(if applicable)

### Section 3: Quantitative Site Characterization

<b>Total sum of all cultivation areas: Full Outdoor</b>	<b>Square feet (Ft<sup>2</sup>)</b>
<b>Number of plants: Full Outdoor</b>	<b>Count (#)</b>
<b>Planting Medium: Full Outdoor</b>	<b>Soil bags, raised beds, directly in topsoil, other, multiple, NA</b>
<b>Total sum of all cultivation areas: Mixed-light</b>	<b>Ft<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Number of plants: Mixed-light</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Planting Medium: Mixed-light</b>	<b>Soil bags, raised beds, directly in topsoil, other, multiple, NA</b>
<b>Total sum of all cultivation areas: Full Indoor</b>	<b>Ft<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Number of plants: Full Indoor</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Planting Medium: Full Indoor</b>	<b>Soil bags, raised beds, directly in topsoil, other, multiple, NA</b>
Shortest distance from any cultivation area to a Class I Watercourse	0-49ft, 50-99ft, 100-149ft, 150-199ft, 200+ft
Shortest distance from any cultivation area to a Class II Watercourse	0-49ft, 50-99ft, 100-149ft, 150-199ft, 200+ft
Shortest distance from any cultivation area to a Class III Watercourse	0-49ft, 50-99ft, 100-149ft, 150-199ft, 200+ft
Average slope of cultivation area	%
Number of road crossings of surface waters	#
<b>Length of unpaved roads</b>	<b>None, &lt;0.25 miles, 0.25-1 mile, 1-2 miles, 2-5 miles, &gt;5 miles</b>
Total water storage capacity	Gallons (ga)
Total nitrogen used	Pounds (Lbs)
Total phosphorous used	Lbs

Section 4: Water Use

Water Input to Storage												
Sources: Delivery, <b>Hydrologically Connected Well<sup>2</sup></b> , <b>Groundwater Well</b> , Municipal, None, Other, Rain, Spring(s), Surface Diversion(s)												
Input Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
2	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
3	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
Water Applied to Plants												
Sources: Delivery, <b>Hydrologically Connected Well<sup>2</sup></b> , <b>Groundwater Well</b> , Municipal, None, Other, Rain, Spring(s), Surface Diversion(s), Tank(s), Water Bladder(s), Pond(s)												
App Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
2	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
3	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga	ga
Calculation Method												
<b>How was water use estimated?</b>				<b>Water meter, Tank Fill Frequency, Application Rate, Plant Count, Best Guess, Other</b>								

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23,

<sup>2</sup> Select “Hydrologically Connected Well” if you know that your water supply well is hydrologically connected to surface waters or a subterranean stream. If you are not sure if your well is hydrologically connected then select “Groundwater Well.” See the Cannabis Cultivation Policy Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation for more information.

sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date that this Order becomes final, except that if the thirtieth day following the date that this Order becomes final falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday (including mandatory furlough days), the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/) or will be provided upon request.

This Monitoring and Reporting Program update requires submittal of Annual Reports. The Annual Report covering enrollment for the 2018 calendar year is due by March 31, 2019. Dischargers or their authorized representative shall indicate in the Annual Report if the Discharger does not have or cannot produce the additional information included in bold in this update and, if so reported, this will be considered compliance with the respective reporting requirement. The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring and reporting program beginning on the effective date of this Order.

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_

Matthias St. John,  
Executive Officer

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