



# Media Release

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

## Five Valley Businesses Face Water Code Violation Penalties Totaling \$292,299

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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SACRAMENTO – The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) has issued a total of \$292,299 in Administrative Civil Liability Complaints against five facilities in the Central Valley.

Two of the complaints involve discharge of storm water at construction sites, which is regulated under the Construction Storm Water General Permit. The permit requires that best management practices be used to reduce pollution of storm water runoff from construction sites.

- Donahue Schriber Asset Management Corporation, which is developing the 36-acre Rocklin Commons shopping center in Placer County, faces a penalty of \$51,550 for failure to install appropriate erosion and sediment control measures before the major rainstorm that began on November 28, 2012. The lack of erosion control measures led to the discharge of 300,000 gallons of sediment-filled stormwater to a large grassy field.

Although Water Board staff believes that high rainfall on November 30, 2012, resulted in turbid water discharging from the construction site into Sucker Ravine, staff could not determine if the water entered the ravine; therefore, the complaint does not include penalties for the off-site discharge of turbid storm water. Sucker Ravine is a tributary of the Sacramento River. The maximum potential liability for these violations is \$90,000. However, final liability amount in the complaint is consistent with the statewide enforcement policy, which allows the Water Board to take into account the current economic conditions in California with respect to new commercial construction and development.

- HBT of Saddle Ridge, which is developing the 38-acre Cascade Crossing subdivision in Lake of the Pines, Nevada County, faces a penalty of \$124,557 for (a) failure to install appropriate erosion and sediment control measures prior to the rainstorm which began on November 28, 2012, and (b) the discharge of 231,000 gallons of sediment-laden storm water into Ragsdale Creek on November 30 and December 2, 2012. The lack of

erosion control measures led to the discharge. Ragsdale Creek is a tributary of the Bear River. The maximum potential liability for these violations is \$2.39 million. The smaller penalty in this complaint is consistent with statewide enforcement policy, which allows the Water Board to take into account current economic conditions in California with respect to new residential construction and development.

Two dischargers were penalized for failure to submit the 2012 Annual Monitoring Report required under the Industrial Storm Water General Permit. The General Permit requires that non-storm water discharges be eliminated; that storm water samples be collected and sampled; and, if necessary, that additional actions be taken to prevent contaminants from leaving the site in the storm water.

- Richard Skykora, owner and operator of the Red Ink Maid and Big Seam mines, in Placer County, faces a penalty of \$4,450 for failure to submit the 2012 Annual Monitoring Report. Without the annual report, Water Board staff cannot determine whether Skykora complied with the General Permit. The mines are on a steep canyon overlooking a tributary to the Middle Fork of the American River.
- Toyautomart, an auto dismantling facility in Rancho Cordova, also faces a penalty of \$4,450 for failure to submit the 2012 Annual Monitoring Report. Storm water from the facility flows to tributaries of the Sacramento River.

Finally, the City of Manteca faces a penalty of \$87,492 for an unpermitted discharge to the San Joaquin River. The city is permitted to discharge highly treated effluent to the river, but on October 22, 2012, and again on November 30, 2012, the city lost electrical power to the ultra-violet disinfection portion of its treatment plant. The city discharged a total of 790,800 gallons of treated but un-disinfected wastewater to the river. The first discharge lasted 90 minutes and the second discharge lasted 60 minutes before the flows were diverted to holding ponds. The city has since fixed the electrical issues which led to the discharges.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. These complaints may be considered at the Water Board's regular public board meeting on May 30 or 31. For more information, visit: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

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