

ITEM:

SUBJECT: 2007 Monitoring Data Review – Irrigated Lands Program

BOARD ACTION: NA – Board Information Item

BACKGROUND: Based on Irrigated Lands Program monitoring conducted from May 2004 through October 2006, the monitoring information in this 2007 Review provides a general understanding of the baseline water quality conditions in many Central Valley areas of irrigated agriculture.

The discussions in this Review inform about data gaps, such as monitoring locations that require further investigation, and also about areas that warrant additional management practice implementation. It also provides insight into the types of water quality concerns that appear to be more pervasive in agricultural drainages within the Central Valley. In addition, source water quality, urban influences, legacy pollutants, and ambient conditions (e.g., air temperature, maintained nature of channels, hydraulic structures, low-flow conditions) contribute to water quality concerns. The stressors causing these impacts may be the result of a variety of factors, including land use, irrigation practices, crop type, land management practices and policies. In most cases, further investigation is necessary in order to understand the causes and develop the solutions.

Finally, this review reveals where additional information is needed to help characterize the effects of irrigated agriculture on waters of the State. The information provided in this 2007 Review will be summarized for the Board at the 2 August Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: NA – Board Information Item

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

2 August 2007

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