
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

31 January 2025

Orvil McKinnis
Watershed Coordinator
Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition
PO Box 2157
Los Banos, CA 93635

WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION – APPROVAL OF THE 2025 SURFACE WATER MONITORING PLAN UPDATE

Thank you for submitting the 2025 Monitoring Plan Update (MPU) for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition (Coalition). The MPU updates the Coalition's surface water monitoring plan for the period of March 2025 through February 2026. The MPU provides detailed plans for surface water monitoring, as required under Monitoring and Reporting Order R5-2014-0002-11 (Order).

Water Board staff have reviewed the 2025 MPU and find that it meets the requirements of the Order. However, required monitoring based on last year's exceedances has been determined for monitoring data collected through August 2024. Please submit any updates to the monitoring plan based on monitoring data collected September 2024 through February 2025 by 1 May 2025.

Based on the staff review (attached), I am approving the Coalition's 2025 Monitoring Plan Update.

As required by the Order, the next MPU is due by 15 December 2025. Executive Officer approval will be required prior to the implementation of any changes. If you have any questions, you may contact Dana Kulesza at dana.kulesza@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Adam Laputz 
Digitally signed by Adam Laputz
Date: 2025.02.07 10:01:00 -08'00'
Water Boards

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Staff Review of the 2025 Monitoring Plan Update, Westside SJR Coalition

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Petra Lee
Senior Environmental Scientist
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

FROM: Dana Kulesza
Engineering Geologist
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

DATE: 28 January 2025

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE MONITORING PLAN UPDATE FOR 2025-26:
WESTSIDE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION**

The Central Valley Water Board received a Monitoring Plan Update (2025 MPU) from the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition (Coalition) on 15 December 2024, as required by the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) Order R5-2014-0002-11. The 2025 MPU is the surface water monitoring schedule for the period 1 March 2025 through 28 February 2026.

Staff reviewed the 2025 MPU to determine compliance with requirements pursuant to the MRP and other Basin Plan requirements, such as the Pyrethroid Control Program.

An overview of the proposed monitoring plan is presented below, followed by staff review and recommendations.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS AND SCHEDULE

The Coalition's surface water monitoring program occurs on a three-year rotating cycle, with one Assessment year followed by two Targeted years. The Assessment years generally include the collection of more monitoring data than the Targeted Years, which are "targeted" to existing management plans, the prior year's exceedances, pesticide use, and other Basin Plan programs. The 2025-26 monitoring period is a Targeted monitoring year. The monitoring year type for the next five years is shown in the table below.

Monitoring Year	Monitoring Type
2025 (March 2025 to February 2026)	Targeted
2026 (March 2026 to February 2027)	Assessment
2027 (March 2027 to February 2028)	Targeted
2028 (March 2028 to February 2029)	Targeted
2029 (March 2029 to February 2030)	Assessment

In order to offset the cost of participating in the Delta Regional Monitoring Program, the Coalition has been approved to bypass regular monthly monitoring in November and December, unless a storm event requiring monitoring occurs during one of these months. Pesticide monitoring is specific to each monitoring site, based on each watershed's use patterns, prior exceedances, and active management plans through the use of the Pesticide Evaluation Protocol (PEP). Sediment toxicity testing occurs twice per year rather than monthly, in March and September.

The Coalition proposes to conduct pyrethroid pesticide monitoring as required in the Pyrethroid Basin Plan Amendment (Resolution R5-2017-0057). Pyrethroid monitoring is scheduled at all discharge sites based on the PEP and prior exceedances. The proposed monitoring schedule includes pyrethroids in the water column (bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, cypermethrin, esfenvalerate, lambda-cyhalothrin, and permethrin), as well as toxicity to *Hyaella azteca* in both the water column and sediment. Water column toxicity monitoring for *H. azteca* is scheduled to occur concurrently with pyrethroids monitoring.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff reviewed the 2025 MPU and finds that the Coalition's monitoring parameters and schedule meets the requirements of the MRP. The MPU also includes the required management plan, Pyrethroid Control Program, and TMDL monitoring. However, the proposed monitoring has been determined using monitoring data collected through August 2024. The Order requires the 2025 monitoring be based on monitoring data collected through February 2025. Therefore, an MPU addendum is needed once this data is available.

Staff recommends approval of the 2025 MPU (with an addendum proposing any changes that may be needed once the additional data is available).