

2016/2017 Lake County On-Farm Inspection Summary

In February 2017, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) staff conducted four regulatory compliance inspections at commercial vineyards in Lake County. The inspections included a review of the farm evaluation report, nitrogen management plan, and inspecting pertinent site features, such as perimeter areas that may drain offsite, irrigation supply wellheads, fertilizer and pesticide storage areas, and farm equipment storage and fueling areas.

During the inspections, staff sought to inspect and document management practices to reduce erosion and sediment discharges from the vineyards. Observed practices included vegetated buffers, grasses between the vine rows, and in some cases, farm roads were closed and stabilized for the winter. Staff generally found that the vineyard operators were applying adequate management practices to minimize winter erosion runoff around Clear Lake.

See photos below for examples of management practices.



Photo 1: Straw in the farm road and road access closed to minimize erosion. Photo taken during a rain event.



Photo 2: Straw waddles and hay to minimize erosion, along with vegetated strips between the vine rows to stabilize soil. Photo taken during a rain event.



Photo 3: Buffer zones and vegetated strips between the vine rows to stabilize soil and minimize erosion.