
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Attention Owners & Operators of Commercial Agricultural Operations

An Announcement from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) reminds owners and/or operators of commercial agricultural operations that the deadline to enroll in one of the General Agricultural Orders is **August 7, 2017**. A commercial agricultural operation is a farm, orchard, greenhouse, or other agricultural business that grows crops with the intent to make a profit.

In November 2016, the San Diego Regional Water Board adopted two [General Agricultural Orders](#) that provide regulatory coverage for commercial agricultural operations. General Agricultural Order No. R9-2016-0004 provides regulatory coverage for commercial agricultural operations that enroll as **members of a Third-Party Group**, and General Agricultural Order No. R9-2016-005 provides regulatory coverage for commercial agricultural operations that enroll as **individuals**. Copies of the General Agricultural Orders may be found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb9/water_issues/programs/commercial_agriculture/commercial_ag_wdr.shtml.

By enrolling, the owner/operator of the commercial agricultural operation agrees to:

- Use effective management practices to eliminate or reduce fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and sediment from leaving the agricultural operation and entering surface water and groundwater.
- Complete annual water quality training.
- Conduct monitoring and reporting activities.
- Pay an annual fee.
- Comply with all requirements of the General Agricultural Orders.

Many of these activities can be performed by a Third-Party Group on behalf of its members.

For more information visit

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/commercial_agriculture/commercial_ag.shtml, or contact Barry Pulver at (619) 521-3381, or barry.pulver@waterboards.ca.gov.

Who is the San Diego Water Board?

The San Diego Water Board is a State agency that carries out Federal and State clean water laws, programs, and regulations applicable to commercial agricultural operations to protect and enhance the quality of California's waters within the boundaries of the San Diego Region. The watershed of the San Diego Region stretches along 85 miles of scenic coastline from Laguna Beach to the Mexican Border and extends 50 miles inland to the crest of the coastal mountains in San Diego County, Orange County, and Riverside County. Visit the San Diego Water Board's website at www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego.