

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE

January 2018

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program update provides a summary of significant activities of State Water Resources Control Board from December 15, 2017, to January 15, 2018, and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board from November 15, 2017, to January 15, 2018. Next month's report will present activities of the North Coast, San Francisco Bay, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Colorado River Basin, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program activities and cover the time period from December 15, 2017, to February 15, 2018.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD - On January 5, 2018, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program staff (staff) and GeoTracker Unit staff met to discuss the development of an Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Information Management Solution (ILRP IMS). The Regional Water Boards have a critical need for the ILRP IMS to ensure effective development and implementation. Efficient information management is especially important as staffing resources are limited and the public has an increased interest in ILRP implementation. The ILRP IMS project provides opportunity for the State Water Board and Regional Water Boards to work collaboratively to transparently collect and assess programmatic data.

On January 8, 2018, staff participated in the Farm Food Safety Conservation Network Steering Committee meeting. Discussion centered on the final version of the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety Modernization Act. The Steering Committee also discussed updates to the Agriculture Water Quality Alliance Co-Management Toolkit/Clearing House website: <http://www.awqa.org/toolkits/co-management-of-water-quality-and-food-safety/>.

On January 11, 2018, staff participated in a California Bioresources Alliance Steering Committee meeting. The 2018 Annual Symposium dates were finalized for November 15-16, 2018 to be held at Ziggurat Building Auditorium in Sacramento. Biweekly teleconference calls are held every other Wednesday at 3:30 pm. Topics discussed by the Steering Committee centered on municipalities issues and potential sessions for the symposium. Potential sessions identified are: fire risk reduction; fire remediation run-off issues; compost application for degraded range lands versus fire-remediation areas; research on integration of multiple bioresources technologies; multiple feedstocks/processes/markets; models and integrated processes; lifecycle of generation to technologies to markets; developing air emissions profiles; feedstock differentiation; supply chain tracking; optimization of supply chain; thermal conversion processes; research updates; petrochemical and agricultural business representatives on bioresource projects; cannabis production issues.

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD staff hold quarterly stakeholder meetings to provide an open forum for communication between staff, agricultural coalitions, environmental justice groups, and other interested parties in the Central Valley Region. The January 10, 2018, stakeholder meeting was held at the Merced County Farm Bureau, with a focused discussion on the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative and the updated State Board Order regarding the East San Joaquin petition.

Staff continues to concentrate compliance, outreach, and enforcement efforts on agricultural parcel inspections; Water Code section 13260 Directives; Notices of Violation for failure to

respond to a Water Code section 13260 Directive and failure to comply with Orders; and Administrative Civil Liability Complaints. From early November 2017 to early January 2018, Central Valley Water Board staff conducted over 900 parcel inspections to determine possible need for irrigated lands enrollment, 11 on-farm inspections to assess General Order compliances, issued over 460 outreached letters and over 160 Notices of Violation.

Additional information can be found at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/index.shtml