

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE July 2018

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program update provides a summary of significant activities of State Water Resources Control Board staff from June 15, 2018 to July 15, 2018 and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board from May 15, 2018 to July 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 Boards and cover the time period from June 15, 2018 to August 15, 2018.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

On June 20, 2018, staff participated in a monthly California Bioresources Alliance steering committee conference call to further develop the agenda for the Annual Symposium scheduled for November 2018. Topics planned for discussion include organics recycling and diversion, bioresources research updates, soil health, and biofertilizers.

On June 26, 2018, staff participated in a workshop conducted by the California Natural Resources Agency, California Air Resources Board, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and California Environmental Protection Agency, with the goal of soliciting input on the development of California's Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan (Plan). The workshop also presented on current plans for conservation, restoration, and management priorities and targets of the Plan. Additional workshops are scheduled to solicit information before regional targets are finalized for the Plan.

On July 3, 2018, staff met with California Department of Food and Agriculture staff to discuss the upcoming 44th Annual California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA) and Agri-Expo joint conference hosted by CAPCA, Certified Crop Advisers, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and the State Water Resources Control Board. This conference is scheduled to be held on October 14-16, 2018 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. The audience will primarily be licensed pest control advisers (PCAs) and Certified Crop Advisers (CCAs) from throughout California, with an anticipated attendance of approximately 950 – 1,000 PCAs and CCAs. Members generally obtain one-third of their state continuing education requirements at this meeting, which is scheduled to include presentations on nitrogen management as a key component of the State and Regional Water Board Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.

On July 9, 2018, staff participated in a quarterly meeting with the Farm Food Safety Conservation Network. Topics discussed included the *E. coli* outbreak in romaine lettuce, water recycling and reuse, and Leafy Green Marketing Agreement updates.

On July 11, 2018, staff participated in a stakeholder meeting conducted by Central Valley Regional Water Board staff for open communication with agricultural stakeholders. The main topic of discussion focused on requirements for sampling on-farm drinking water wells.

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

Central Valley Regional Water Board staff held a quarterly stakeholder meeting on July 11, 2018 to provide an open forum for communication between staff, agricultural coalitions, environmental justice groups, and other interested parties in Central Valley Region. The

meeting was held at the Merced County Farm Bureau, with a focused discussion on the new requirement for coalition members to monitor on-farm drinking water supply wells.

Staff continue 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 May to June 2018, staff conducted 2 parcel inspections to determine possible need for irrigated lands enrollment, 19 on-farm inspections to assess General Order compliance, and issued over 280 directives and 77 Notices of Violation.

Additional information can be found at the following link:

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