

California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 18, 2004

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WATER BOARD RELEASES NEW WAIVER BROCHURE

Sacramento-The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board today released a new brochure titled "Irrigated Lands Waiver." The brochure provides growers with facts and options for complying with the Board's recent decision affecting Central Valley growers who irrigate their crops.

"The Water Boards Irrigated Lands Conditional Waiver is effective right now," said Al Brizard, a retired grower and Central Valley Regional Board member. "Growers have three options for complying with the waiver. The simplest and most economical way of complying is to participate in a coalition group. This brochure describes each option and how to comply. We are getting the word out to Central Valley growers through a variety of outreach efforts, including this brochure," Brizard said.

In a move to protect the quality of water for all of its many uses, the Central Valley Regional Board made the unprecedented decision to regulate runoff from irrigated lands.

"Growers must actively protect the waters of the state," said Bob Schneider, chair of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. "The conditional waiver process is designed so we can work cooperatively with farmers," Schneider said.

The conditional waiver is part of an evolving water quality and health protection program which requires developing water quality monitoring plans and efforts to address water quality problems caused by pesticides and nutrients in the runoff and stormwater from irrigated lands.

The conditional waivers apply only to irrigated lands within the Central Valley region.

The brochure and additional information about the conditional waiver can be found at the Central Valley Regional Board's Web site at:
http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/programs/irrigated_lands. *

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***Please Note: The referenced hyperlink has been updated to reflect the correct address.**