

# Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board



## Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Westside SJ River Grower Meeting

Terry Bechtel

Environmental Scientist

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/  
water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/)

# Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Overview

Water Board Background Review

Central Valley Region Ag Programs

What Does This Mean to You

# Water Boards' Mission

## Protect Beneficial Uses of Waters

### Uses for People



Recreation  
Fishing  
Navigation  
Irrigation Supply  
Drinking Water



### Uses for Aquatic Life



Riparian &  
Wetland Habitat  
Food

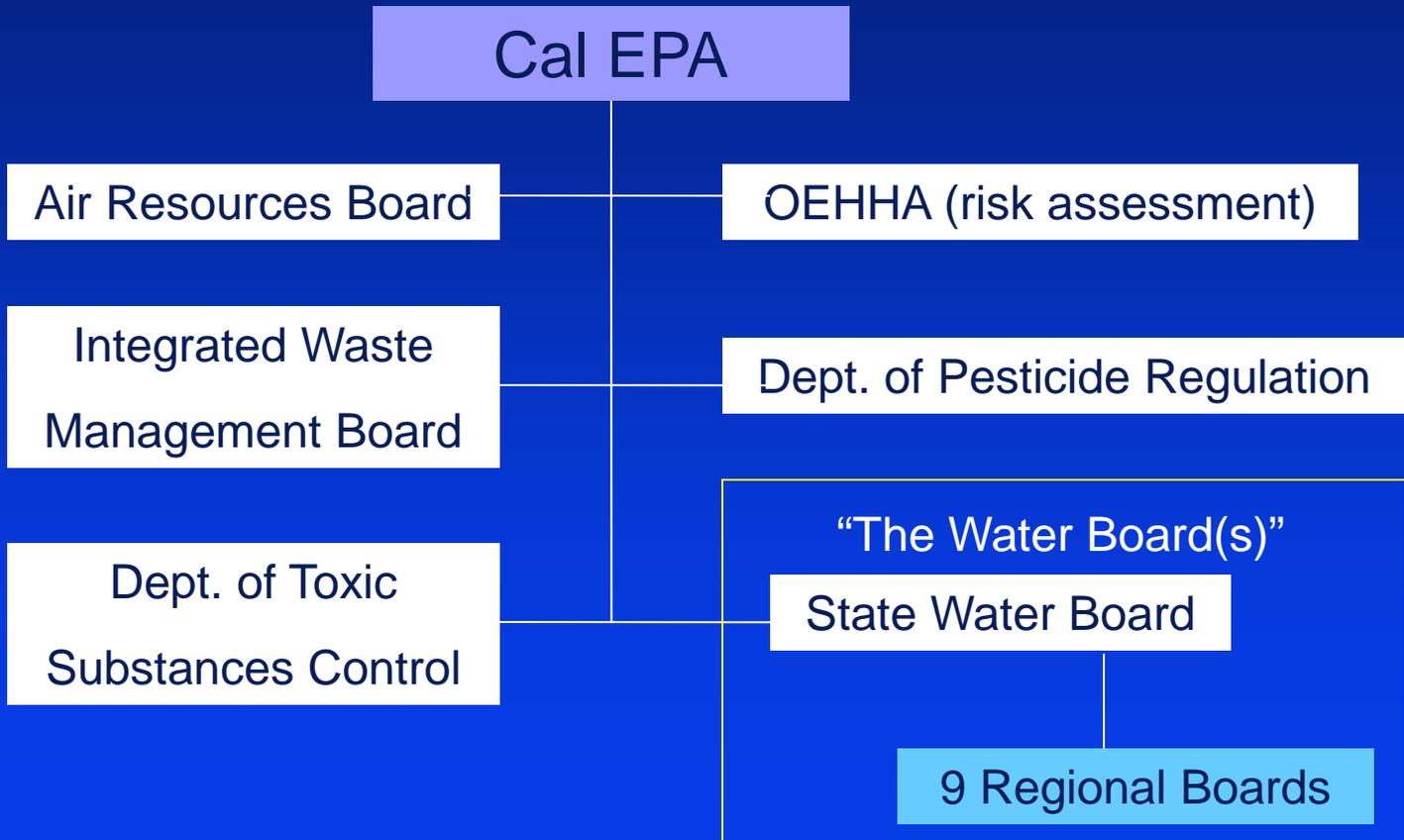
### Uses for Wildlife



Habitat  
Fish migration  
Spawning

# What is the “Water Board

## CALIFORNIA’S ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES



# Water Boards Protect Water Quality



**State Water Resource Control Board**

**9 Regional Boards**

**We are in the  
Central Valley Region**

**Central Valley Regional Water  
Quality Control Board**

**(AKA - Central Valley Water Board)**

# C.V. Region Ag Programs

- **Confined Animal Facility Operations**
  - ◆ **Confined Animals – General**
    - Title 27 (Zero waste discharge, protect groundwater, applications at agronomic rates and timing)
  - ◆ **Dairies: General Order WDR, May 2007**
    - Zero off-property discharge of waste
    - Nutrient & Waste Management Plans
    - Individual Monitoring
    - Point Source Liability



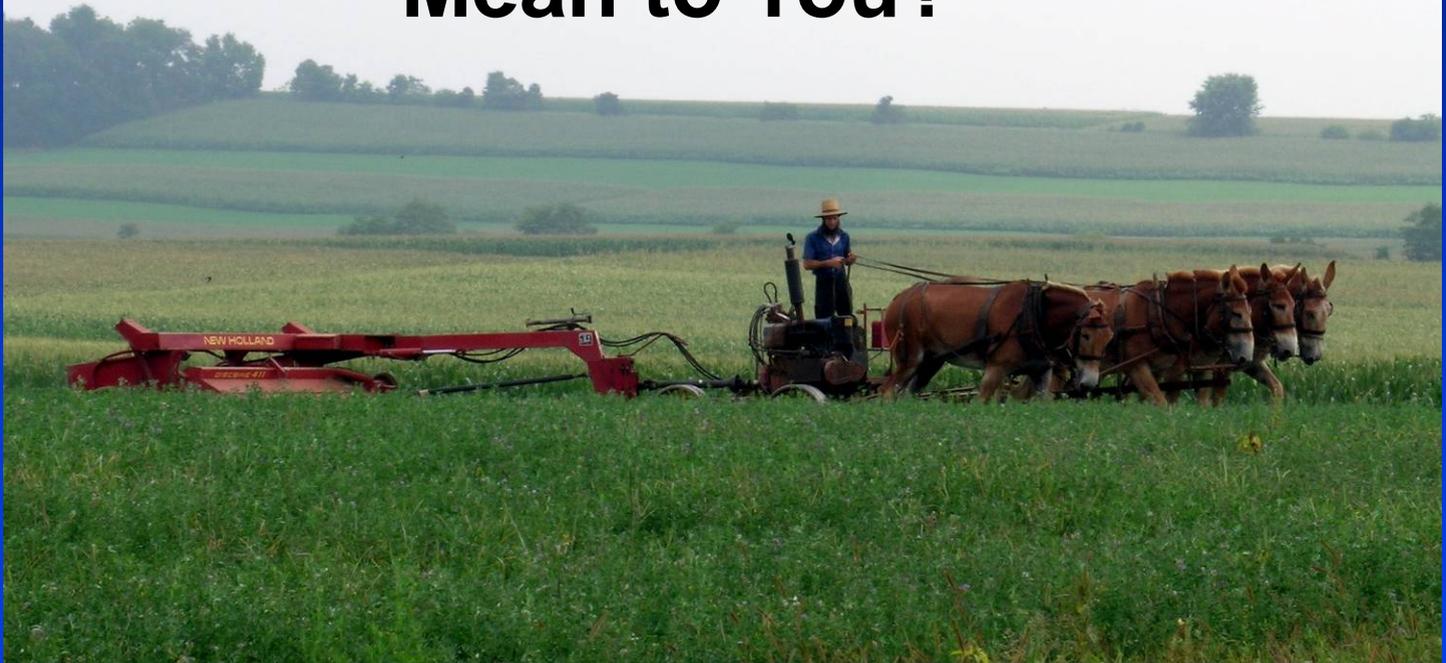
# C.V. Region Ag Programs

- **Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program**
  - ◆ **Current**
    - **Surfacewater Based**
    - **Irrigated Commercial Ag**
    - **Irrigation / Stormwater can leave the property**
    - **Coalition member or Individual Enrolled/WDR**
    - **Coalition monitoring and reporting to W.B.**
    - **Exceedences trigger coalition Management Plans**
    - **Individual liability for deleterious discharges**

# C.V. Region Ag Programs

- Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
  - ◆ New “Long Term” Program
    - Currently being drafted
    - General WDR
    - Will Include **GROUND WATER** and **FERTILIZERS**
    - Tiered, General WDR and sub-WDRs
    - Management plans and local sub-WDRs in “special need” areas (groundwater potential or existing exceedence, continued surfacewater exceedences, etc.)
    - Continuation of coalition based program
    - Existing coalition enrolled grandfathered in

# What Does This Mean to You?



# C.V. Region Ag Program

- Work with the Coalition
- Follow Management Plans
- Conduct your own Farm Evaluation / Management Plan
- Understand what is being found in the monitoring, and why
- Achieve Water Quality Goals



## **C.V. Region Ag Programs**

- **Achieving Water Quality Goals**

- ◆ **Primary Focus - Goal is for the growers to work with their coalitions.**
- ◆ **Increased Water Board Involvement**
  - **Working in the watershed, additional or more restrictive management plans, direct enforcement**

# **C.V. Region Ag Programs**

## **Increased Water Board Involvement**

- **We Have Arrived**

- ◆ New “Long Term” Program components will reflect exceedence areas and issues
- ◆ Increased Field Presence in areas with “issues”
- ◆ DF&G Wardens taking a more active role in pollution

# C.V. Region Ag Program Enforcement

- **Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program**
  - ◆ **Enforcement**
    - Non-enrollment or reporting (when required)
    - Deleterious discharges (excessive sediments, ammonia fertilizer, etc.)
  - ◆ **Types of Enforcement**
    - Verbal/written warning
    - Notice of Violation (NOV)
    - Individual Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
    - Administrative Civil Liability (ACL)
    - Cleanup and Abatement Order
    - Cease and Desist Order
- **DF&G**
  - ◆ **Sec 5650(a)**



# Increased Water Board Involvement

**A common question**

**Asked at meetings:**

**What makes you take  
out your sample bottles?**



# Increased Water Board Involvement



# Increased Water Board Involvement



# Increased Water Board Involvement

Flow into the  
San Joaquin  
River



# Increased Water Board Involvement



**Irrigation Supply**

**Field Drainage**

# Increased Water Board Involvement



# Increased Water Board Involvement



# Increased Water Board Involvement



# Increased Water Board Involvement



**Ammonia has a set ppm  
that is deleterious  
and strict liability enforced.  
That includes runoff from  
anhydrous and other  
ammonia based fertilizers.**

# TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Evaluate your property.
- Check your tailwater
- Apply pesticides and fertilizers at appropriate rates and timing.
- Watch for drift.
- Work with your coalition
- Increased Regulatory process may be initiated and/or direct enforcement.

# C.V. Region Ag Programs

## ● Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

— For more information on the draft program:

[www.waterboards.ca.gov/central\\_valley/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/central_valley/)

*Then go to -*

- Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program*
- Long-Term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program*
- Draft Program Environmental Impact Report – July 2010*

# C.V. Region Ag Programs

[www.waterboards.ca.gov/central\\_valley/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/central_valley/)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About Us, Public Notices, Board Info, Board Decisions, Water Issues, Publications/Forms, and Press Room. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation bar, a green banner reads "Welcome to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region!". The main content area features a large graphic with the text "California Central Valley Region Protecting California's Water" and an aerial view of a river. A sidebar on the left contains a link to Governor Schwarzenegger's website and a list of navigation links including Cal/EPA, State & Regional Water Boards, Laws & Regulations, Plans & Policies, Programs, and Decisions Pending and Opportunities for Public Participation. Below the sidebar are logos for "My Water Quality" and "Performance Report". The main content area lists various programs such as Executive Officer's Report, Enforcement, TMDLs and Impaired Water Bodies, Need Help?, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, Watershed Management Initiative, Do I Need a Permit?, Salinity (CV-SALTS), Water Education, Dairy Program, Storm Water, Water Quality Goals, Delta Water Quality, Surface Water Ambient Monitoring, and More... At the bottom, an "ANNOUNCEMENTS" section lists upcoming meetings and news releases.

CA .GOV CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

Skip to: [Content](#) | [Footer](#) | [Accessibility](#) Search  GO  
 California  This Site

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Public Notices](#) [Board Info](#) [Board Decisions](#) [Water Issues](#) [Publications/Forms](#) [Press Room](#)

Welcome to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region |

GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER  
Visit his Website

- Cal/EPA
- State & Regional Water Boards
- Laws & Regulations
- Plans & Policies
- Programs
- Decisions Pending and Opportunities for Public Participation

My Water Quality  
Performance Report

RESOURCES

- Email Subscriptions
- Data & Databases
- Business Help

→ Executive Officer's Report    → Enforcement    → TMDLs and Impaired Water Bodies  
→ Need Help?    → Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program    → Watershed Management Initiative  
→ Do I Need a Permit?    → Salinity (CV-SALTS)    → Water Education  
→ Dairy Program    → Storm Water    → Water Quality Goals  
→ Delta Water Quality    → Surface Water Ambient Monitoring    → More...

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Next Regional Board Meeting - 22/23/24 September 2010 - (these dates are subject to change due to furloughs)
- **NOTICE** - The Central Valley Water Resources Control Board is **CLOSED** on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Friday of each month
- **New!** Central Valley Regional Board Brochure is now available for download
- **News Release:** Central Valley Water Board Expands Irrigated Lands Program to Protect Ground Water
- Notice of Availability - Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

# Resources

## Some Potential Sources of Assistance

- Coalition Lead
- Your Fieldman -Certified Crop Advisor (CCA), Pest Control Advisor (PCA), private consultant
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Resource Conservation District
- Irrigation District
- Water Board Staff



# Questions/Comments



[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/  
water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/)