

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition

Stakeholder Meeting

27 June 2013

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Presentation Overview

- Who are the California Water Boards?
- Who is regulated and why?
- ILRP History
- Westside Monitoring Results Summary
- Grower Requirements
- Long-term Program Key Elements
- Current and future approach



California's Environmental Agencies

Cal EPA

Air Resources Board

OEHHA (risk assessment)

Integrated Waste
Management Board

Dept. of Pesticide Regulation

Dept. of Toxic
Substances Control

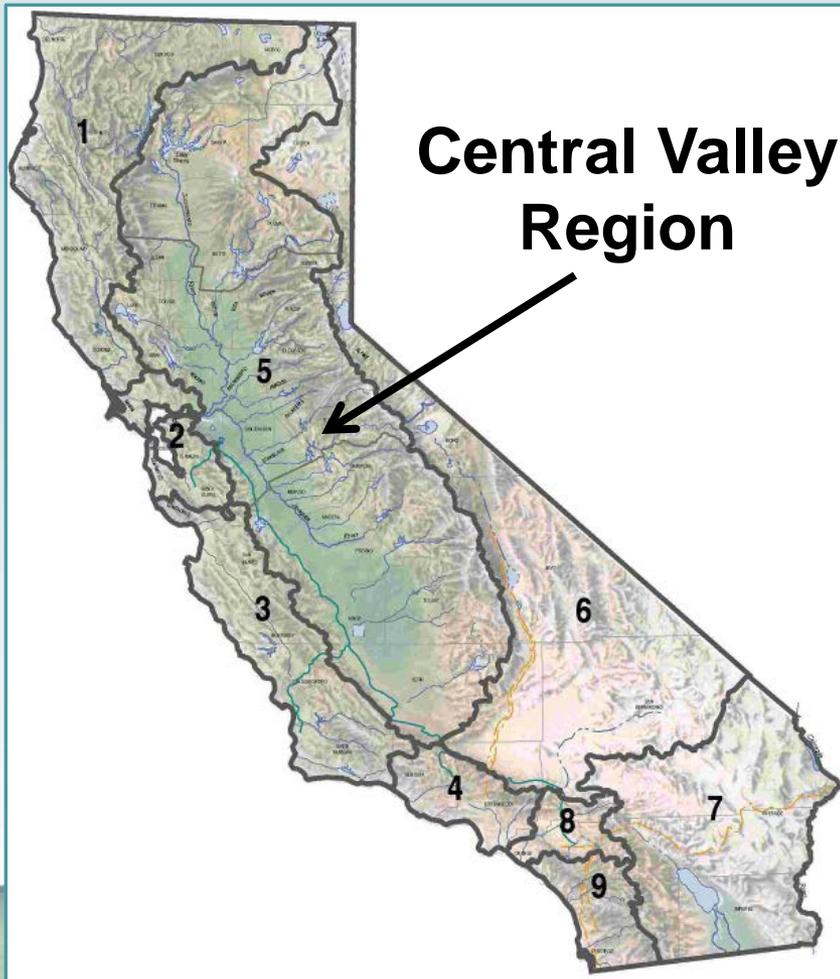
"The California Water Board(s)"

State Water Board

9 Regional Boards



Who are the Water Boards?



- Cal EPA – State Water Board – 9 Regional Boards
- Six members currently on Central Valley Water Board
- Implement State and federal water quality laws based on region specific conditions
- Regulate discharges of waste – Basin Plans

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (*The California Water Quality Law*)

Applies to:

- “Waters of the state” – *any surface water or groundwater*
- Discharges of waste to waters of the state

Water Quality Control Plan (aka Basin Plan)

- To meet CWA and Porter-Cologne regulations
- Water Quality Standards
- Programs of Implementation



About the Water Boards

Mission

To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.



Protect Beneficial Uses

Water quality must be protected for all uses and needs in California

Recreation

Aquatic
Organisms

Municipal Supply

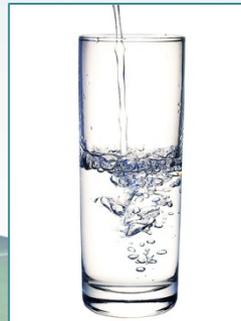
Fishing

Drinking Water

Groundwater Recharge

Agriculture

Wildlife



Water Quality Regulation

All California industries, entities, and agencies with potential to affect water quality are regulated by the water boards

- Storm water runoff: highways, construction sites, municipal, industrial
- Timber operations
- Mines
- Dairies
- Wastewater treatment plants, fish hatcheries
- Agriculture and ag-related industries
- Landfills; land discharges
- Military and industrial sites



ILRP History

- 1982 Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements; insufficient resources for oversight
- Senate Bill 390 – 1999; Waiver sunsets 2003
- 2003 Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements
- 2006 Updated and Renewed
- Board Direction – Long Term Program
- 1 Order adopted, 6 more in process



Westside Coalition Water Quality Monitoring Results Summary



Grower Requirements

- Regulations apply to owners and operators of irrigated lands; 3rd Party assists
- Regulatory coverage required by law
- Options for coverage
- Understand ways to prevent discharges
- Implement management practices
- Respond to Management Plans



Long-term Program Elements

- Regulates discharges to groundwater and surface water
- All growers confirm enrollment or sign-up
- Farm Evaluation – all growers
- Nitrogen Management Plan – all growers
- NMP Summary – high vulnerability areas
- Sediment Plans – high vulnerability areas



Workshop July 30, 2012

Los Banos Fairgrounds

9:00 AM

- Review Draft of Westside WDRs Order – currently available on website
- Regional Board Members will be present
- Take verbal comments from growers and other stakeholders
- Written comments due July 15th



Benefits of 3rd Party Approach

- Least costly, most efficient
- Flexibility to address compliance without individual monitoring or reporting directly to Regional Board
- 3rd Party assistance with compliance
- Future cost reductions possible
- Prevent need for new TMDL regulation
- Avoid Individual Oversight by Board



Questions?

