

Proposed Basin Plan Amendment to Standardize Imperial Valley
Sediment TMDL Implementation Schedules

**An Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin
Region to Standardize and Clarify Imperial Valley Sediment TMDL
Implementation Requirements- Alamo River, New River, and Imperial Valley
Drains**

AMENDMENT

(Proposed additions are denoted by underlined text, proposed deletions are denoted by ~~strikethrough-text~~)

TO “CHAPTER 4 – IMPLEMENTATION” SECTION “V. TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDLS) AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS”, EDIT THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

EDIT SECTION “1.1 FARM LANDOWNERS, RENTERS/LESSEES, AND/OR OPERATORS/GROWERS” TO THE FOLLOWING:

FARM LANDOWNERS, RENTERS/LESSEES, AND/OR OPERATORS/GROWERS:

Farm landowners, renters/lessees, and/or operators/growers shall submit self-determined Sediment Control Programs (Water Quality Management Plans) to the Regional Board by:

Table E-1 Sediment Control Program Due Dates

TMDL	Date
Alamo River	September 28, 2003
New River	June 30, 2004
Imperial Valley Drains	6 months after U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) approval

The Sediment Control Programs for discharges of tailwater into the above-mentioned waters shall thereafter be submitted annually to the Regional Board on October 31 ~~and on an annual basis thereafter.~~

The Sediment Control Program may be submitted by an individual farm landowner, renter/lessee, or operator/grower (hereafter "Individual Program") or by a group of farm landowners, renters/lessees, and/or operators/growers (hereafter "Group Program"). Individual and Group Sediment Control Programs (Water Quality Management Plans) are required pursuant to CWC §13267. These programs are necessary to achieve compliance with these TMDLs and applicable water quality objectives, and to monitor/assess MP effectiveness. Regional Board staff strongly recommends that individual farm landowners, renters/lessess, and/or operators/growers work with the Imperial County Farm Bureau (ICFB) to submit a Group Plan through the ICFB's Watershed Program. Group Plans offer landowners the ability to work together to solve their erosion problems, while also affording a measure of privacy to the members of the Group. A Group Program must provide information on a drain- or drainshed basis regarding which responsible parties are enrolled in the program. Additionally, a group may provide a single monitoring and reporting plan as long as results are representative of the efficiency of the group's various control practices, in order to measure overall water quality improvements.

In either case (whether a Group or Individual Plan), the Sediment Control Program shall, at a minimum, address the following issues:

1. Name of farm landowner, business address, mailing address, and phone number
2. Name of farm operator/grower, business address, mailing address, and phone number

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3. Problem assessment, including site conditions(s), site location by the irrigation canal, gate, and gate number that serve the farmed field, crop(s), potential or current NPS problems, problem severity, and problem frequency
4. Statement of goals (measurable outcomes or products)
5. Existing and/or alternative sediment management practices (technical/economic feasibility, desired outcome, etc.)
6. Timetable for implementation of management practices (measured in either water quality improvement or level of implementation)
7. Monitoring to demonstrate including progress toward goals and effectiveness of management decisions. Monitoring, at a minimum, shall include the following reports submitted to the Regional Board's Executive Officer:
 - a. Turbidity (or TSS) data report to measure the quality of tailwater leaving a field before it is discharged into receiving waters. Sampling frequency shall be such that it is representative of typical cropping patterns and provides statistical significance;
 - b. Report to document which MPs are being implemented by farmers; and
 - c. Report to illustrate success of MPs (e.g., comparison of tailwater quality turbidity or TSS results of before and after implementation of MPs)
8. Mechanism for reporting planned and completed implementation actions to the Regional Board.

EDIT SECTION "1.2 IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT" SUBSECTION "C. INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGERS" TO THE FOLLOWING:

Table E-3 IID Submission of Data on Agricultural Dischargers Due Dates

TMDL	Date
Alamo River	October 28, 2003
New River	July 31, 2004
Imperial Valley Drains	6 months after USEPA approval

and on a semi-annual basis thereafter on October 31 and April 30, the IID shall submit the following information to the Regional Board on the agricultural dischargers within the District:

The names and mailing addresses for all the owners of properties within the IID service area that are being used for irrigated agriculture, as well as the location of their properties. The names and mailing addresses for all water account holders within the IID service area, and the location of all fields that they irrigate. For each parcel within the IID service area, the location of the parcel, the irrigation canal and gates serving the parcel, the drop boxes draining the parcel, the drains that these drop boxes empty into, and the fields located within each parcel. For each field within the IID service area, the parcel within which each field is located, the area and location of each field within the parcel, the irrigation canal and gates serving each field, the drop boxes draining each field and the drains to which these drop boxes drain, the field crop codes including fallow codes, and date of last water delivery. The above information should be accurate and up-to-date; include the date the record was last modified; be submitted in an electronic, tabular, and easily geo-referenced format.

EDIT SECTION "2.4.1 IMPERIAL COUNTY FARM BUREAU WATERSHED PROGRAM" SUBSECTION "A. ICFB WATERSHED PROGRAM PLAN" TO THE FOLLOWING:

- By
Table E-7 ICFB Watershed Program Plan Due Dates

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TMDL	Date
Alamo River	September 28, 2003
New River	June 30, 2004
Imperial Valley Drains	6 months after USEPA approval

submit the ICFB Watershed Program Plan to the Regional Board. The Plan should (1) identify measurable environmental and programmatic goals; (2) describe aggressive, reasonable milestones and timelines for development and implementation of TMDL outreach plans; (3) describe aggressive, reasonable milestones and timelines for development of sub-watershed (“drainshed”) plans; (4) describe a commitment to develop and implement a tracking and reporting program.

- Submit semi-annual reports on October 31 and April 30 to the Regional Board's Executive Officer that describe the progress of each subwatershed group, any technical assistance workshops that are planned or were conducted, and any other pertinent information.