

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition Management Plan 5 September 2012 - Meeting No. 16

MEETING NOTES

ATTENDEES: Parry Klassen, Mike Johnson, Melissa Turner, Susan Fregien, Jelena Hartman

ITEMS DISCUSSED

(1) Agenda Review

Outcome: Ahead of the meeting, the Coalition provided a file with a tabulated update on the third and fourth priority subwatershed performance goals/measures, and a summary of management plan monitoring results through July.

(2) Summary of activity since the previous meeting

Outcome: Staff summarized prior activities and commended the Coalition on the quality of the submitted reports and amendments:

- Coalition submitted AMR amendments, 6/14/12
- Staff reviews of MPUR and TMDL AMR sent, 6/25/12 and 7/6/12
- Meeting to discuss AMR and MPUR review items, 7/19/12
- Management Plan schedule in 4th Priority Site Subwatersheds extended, 7/30/12
- Staff attended Coalition member meetings in June. The Coalition indicated that members expressed interest in additional meetings before the annual meetings. Member meetings to clarify issues associated with the tentative WDR will likely be scheduled for October. Annual member meetings are held in December.

(3) Update on Management Plan Performance Goals

Outcome: Performance Measures in the third priority subwatersheds are on track, with one follow-up survey outstanding in the Dry Creek @ Rd 18 subwatershed. The Coalition anticipates that the information about the grower that had one management practice recommended will be available for the evaluation of implemented management practices in the next MPUR due on 4/1/13.

Nine out of 14 surveys on the current management practices in the fourth priority subwatersheds are in the database. The final five surveys were set to be received by 8/31/12. The completion of remaining surveys and entering available surveys into the database has been postponed by one week; the lead person for the surveys had an unexpected family emergency.

Preparation steps for addressing the fifth priority set of subwatersheds are underway. The Coalition is reviewing the data and member information, and drafting Performance Goals and Measures with due dates. The Coalition will submit the request to update the Management Plan

Performance Goals and Measures schedule to include completion dates, goals and measures for the fifth priority subwatersheds in November.

The only observed exceedances during the management plan monitoring were for copper. Copper concentrations in water samples from Berenda Slough exceeded the water quality objective in June and July. Coalition representatives visited growers in Zone 6, and found out that there is little or no irrigation drainage. If spray drift were the source of copper detections, it would be expected that the concentrations would be higher than the amount detected and other compounds associated with drift would also be detected. Therefore the Coalition believes there may be additional sources contributing to copper in the water column other than agricultural uses. The Coalition inquired about the Madera Irrigation District's application for the permit to apply aquatic pesticides. Staff had information that MID took early steps to submit the application but it was not known whether the application was completed. Additionally, it remains unclear if MID or Chowchilla Water District have spill sites into Berenda Slough.

(4) Coalition update on TMDL monitoring

Outcome: August sampling event concluded the required monitoring in 2012 calendar year. There were no exceedances of chlorpyrifos and diazinon in the San Joaquin River or in the monitored tributaries in 2012.

(5) Status and timeline for of tentative WDR hearing

Outcome: Public hearing for the WDR has been re-scheduled from October to the December Board Meeting. The Coalition asked when the next draft of the WDR would be released for review, and if public comment period would be re-opened. Also raised was the question about the timeline for changes in monitoring upon the adoption of the WDR so that the Coalition had adequate time to coordinate with contracted laboratories. Staff will find out more about any updates to WDR content and anticipated timeline for public release, and provide clarifications and additional information in a separate communication or meeting.

(6) Next Steps/To Do Items

Coalition: Summarize the outcome of the discussion with Caltest regarding QC for *E.coli* tests

Coalition: Provide information on Irrigation District spill sites into waterways in Zone 6

Coalition: Notify board staff when member meetings in October and December are scheduled

Staff: Prepare Meeting Notes

Staff: Follow up on the status of the MID permit application

Staff: Provide clarifications regarding the timeline for monitoring requirements under the WDR

Staff: Find out when draft WDR will be released, and if public comments will be re-opened

Next Meeting – **select date at a later time, likely late December/January**