

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

ORDER NO. R5-2015-XXXX

REVISING ORDER NO. R5-2014-0002-R1
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS GENERAL ORDER
FOR GROWERS WITHIN THE WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED
THAT ARE MEMBERS OF THE THIRD-PARTY GROUP

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (hereafter Central Valley Water Board) finds that:

1. On 9 January 2014, the Central Valley Water Board issued Order No. R5-2014-0002 Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers within the Western San Joaquin River Watershed that are Members of the Third-party Group (Western San Joaquin Order). The Central Valley Water Board adopted revisions to the Western San Joaquin Order (Order No. R5-2014-0002-R1) on 17 April 2015.
2. The Central Valley Water Board's authority to regulate waste discharges that could affect the quality of the waters of the state, which includes both surface water and groundwater, is found in the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code Division 7).
3. This Order revises the Western San Joaquin Order to include reference to the corrected description and maps of the area controlled by the Grassland Bypass Project, which defines the southern boundary of the Western San Joaquin River Watershed. Parcels on 570 acres near the community of Firebaugh that do not utilize the San Luis Drain are annexed to the area covered by the Western San Joaquin Order; no subsurface drainage is generated from the area. A 644-acre area near the community of Mendota, managed by the Firebaugh Canal and inadvertently not identified as a part of the Grassland Drainage Area, will no longer be covered under the Western San Joaquin Order.
4. The boundary modification will result in a net decrease of 74 acres covered by the Western San Joaquin Order. The acreage change will not have a substantial effect on the number of members or costs to implement the program for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. Areas detached from the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Area will be covered by the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for surface water discharges from the Grassland Bypass Project, and by the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers in the Grassland Drainage Area for discharges to groundwater, also to be considered by the Board in July.
5. Adoption of this Order to amend Order No. R5-2014-0002-R1 is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15061 (b)(3). The modifications to the Western San Joaquin Order do not have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, since the changes are administrative in nature and do not alter the substantive provisions of the Western San Joaquin Order. This

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Order does not change the original CEQA findings accompanying Order No. R5-2014-0002-R1.

6. The Central Valley Water Board has notified interested agencies and persons of its intent to adopt this Order for discharges of waste from irrigated lands within the Western San Joaquin River Watershed, and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit comments.
7. The Central Valley Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to this Order.
8. Any person affected by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review this action. The State Water Board must receive the petition within 30 days of the date on which the Central Valley Water Board adopted this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided upon request.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2014-0002-R1 is revised by making the modifications identified in Attachment 1 of this Order.

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, on **XX** July 2015.

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer

Attachment 1: Revisions to Waste Discharge Requirements R5-2014-0002-R1

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