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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

**TO:** Doug Patteson  
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer

**FROM:** David Sholes, Senior Engineering Geologist  
Patrick Barnes, Environmental Scientist  
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

**DATE:** 8 September 2016

**SUBJECT: 5 AUGUST 2016 KURNOSOFF PROPERTY SITE VISIT, WEST OF KERMAN,  
FRESNO COUNTY**

Mr. Kurnosoff has three properties called Home Base, Three Palms, and Shasta. Each has its own water supply well or wells.

Patrick Barnes and I met Mr. Kurnosoff and Ms. Kathleen Clack at the Home Base ranch on the morning of 5 August 2016. We asked if we could take photographs during the inspection and received permission from Mr. Kurnosoff. Photographs from this site visit are included in this report.

### HOME BASE RANCH

The Home Base ranch consists of two 30 acre vineyards (APNs 020-100-32S and 020-100-33S; shown in photograph Nos. 1 & 2). Each parcel was served by an irrigation well which has been out of service at some time in the past three years. A piping system between the parcels allows irrigation of both parcels from either well.

The well on the eastern parcel was operational at the time of the site visit (photograph No. 3). Mr. Kurnosoff said it went out of service in early 2014 and was repaired and back in service in early 2015. He stated the well on the western parcel (photograph No. 4) was out of service in late 2013, four to five months before the other Home Base irrigation well went out of service. This well remains out of service, and this parcel is irrigated using water pumped from the well on the eastern parcel. Mr. Kurnosoff stated that there was no irrigation at the Home Base ranch in 2014.

Mr. Kurnosoff and his employee showed us an area in the southeast corner of the eastern parcel where there had been considerable loss of vines which they attributed to the lack of irrigation water (photograph No. 5). The employee stated the losses amounted to about 1,800 vines in this parcel, and that no other area of the ranches had experienced losses that concentrated. Other vine losses reportedly were scattered throughout the other properties.

### THREE PALMS

The Three Palms ranch consists of approximately 27 acres of vines (parcel 020-150-18S; shown in photograph No. 6). Mr. Kurnosoff showed us the irrigation supply well and stated he got one irrigation event in 2013 before the pump broke, and had no other irrigations in 2013 or 2014 from that well. He stated he purchased irrigation water once from Fresno Irrigation District in 2013, but it was unclear which property received the water. The pump at the Three Palms Ranch (photograph No. 6) was reportedly repaired in 2015, sometime after the well at Home Base was repaired. I asked Mr. Kurnosoff if he had harvested a crop in 2014 and 2015. Mr. Kurnosoff replied that he had harvested crops in those years, also stating that the crop in 2015 had to be reconditioned at a cost of \$11,000.

### SHASTA RANCH

The Shasta ranch consists of approximately 30 acres of vines (parcels 020-150-11S and 020-150-12S; shown in photograph No. 7). It is irrigated from a single well which reportedly went out of service in 2013 or 2014. The current status of the well was unclear. This property reportedly received some water from Fresno Irrigation District at least once during the period 2013-2015. The inspection ended at this point.

### SITE PHOTOS:

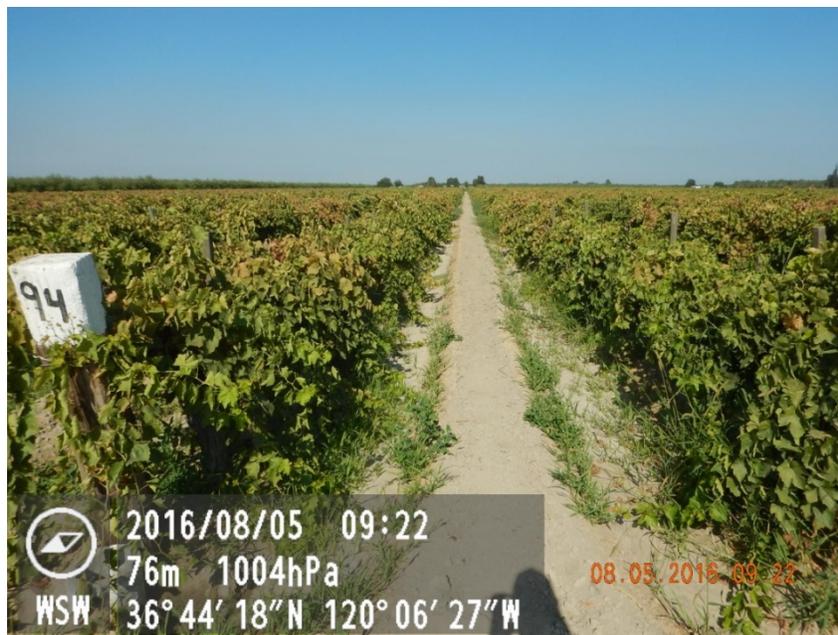


Photo 1: Row along southeastern edge of 020-100-32S facing west (eastern parcel of Home Base ranch).



Photo 2: Row of vines on north side of parcel 020-100-33S (western parcel of Home Base ranch).



Photo 3: Irrigation well that provides water for the Home Base parcels.



Photo 4: Out of service well at northeastern edge of Parcel 020-100-33S (western parcel of Home Base ranch).



Photo 5: Rows along southeastern edge of Parcel 020-100-32S facing south showing vine losses (eastern parcel of Home Base ranch).



Photo 6: Agricultural well and vines on western side of parcel 020-150-18S (Three Palms).



Photo 7: Vines along northern edge of parcel 020-150-11 (northern parcel of Shasta ranch).