



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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29 December 2009

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### **3 AUGUST 2009 MANAGEMENT PLAN SCHEDULE MODIFICATION REQUEST – SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND DELTA WATER QUALITY COALITION**

The San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) submitted a request to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board Staff (Staff) on 3 August 2009 to modify its Management (MPlan) Plan schedules. Subsequently, Staff met with the Coalition during two MPlan meetings to discuss the rationale for this request, to review the status of MPlan implementation for the current set of High Priority site-subwatersheds, to understand the Coalition's process for management plan tracking and evaluation, and to review the Performance Goals for the next set of High Priority site-subwatersheds.

The Coalition has provided information and status on the performance goals and schedule for the current and next set of High Priority site subwatersheds. For current sites, the Coalition has received completed surveys from all except five growers who lease their land from the land owner. The five growers have been contacted and indicated they will submit completed surveys. The Coalition has also described a process to identify, track, and confirm management practice information (Attachment A).

The Coalition has provided the necessary supportive evidence for their request (Attachment A), which includes: (1) the status of MPlan implementation for the current set of site-subwatersheds, (2) the new schedule for addressing each site-subwatershed with a focused MPlan approach (Table 1), (3) a description of the MPlan tracking process and new management practices evaluation schedule, and (4) the Performance Goals for the next set of High Priority site-subwatersheds (Table 2). Therefore, I approve the Coalition's request effective immediately.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this modification approval, please contact Chris Jimmerson at (916) 464-4859, or by email at [cjimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cjimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original signed by*

Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

Enclosures

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

## ATTACHMENT A

### 1. Status of Current (2008 – 2010) High Priority Site Subwatersheds

As a result of the State's suspension of the Proposition 50 grant grant, the Coalition was unable to complete the group and individual grower contact efforts for the first set of High Priority sites according to the schedule and will be unable to maintain the start dates for the following sets of High Priority sites. Consequently, the next High Priority sets have been pushed out a year. The schedule for evaluating effectiveness of new management practices will also need to be modified.

The Coalition has completed its contact Performance Goal schedule for Duck Creek and has recently provided information that it has contacted the five growers to complete the surveys for Lone Tree Creek and Unnamed Drain to Lone Tree Creek. Identifying and contacting the third party has been difficult because the land owner leases the property to a third party. As of 2 December, the Coalition indicated that the completed surveys will be mailed to the Coalition.

### 2. Modified Schedule for Site Subwatershed Focused MPlan Approach

The modified schedule will postpone start dates for the next set of High Priority site subwatersheds and each subsequent set by one year (Table 1). It is noted that Table 1 may need additional modifications if new sites roll into the Management Plan. At such time, according to the approved Management Plan, the Coalition will update the table in its 1 April Management Plan Update report for approval by the Executive Officer.

Table 1. New schedule for addressing each site subwatershed with a focused Management Plan approach

Site Subwatershed Name	Year for focused approach
Duck Creek @ Highway 4	2008-2010
Lone Tree Creek @ Jack Tone Rd	2008-2010
Unnamed Drain to Lone Tree Creek @ Jack Tone Rd	2008-2010
Grant Line Canal @ Clifton Court Rd	2010-2012
Grant Line Canal near Calpack Rd	2010-2012
Littlejohns Creek @ Jack Tone Rd	2010-2012
Terminus Tract Drain @ Hwy12	2011-2013
French Camp Slough @ Airport Way	2011-2013
Mokelumne River @ Bruella Rd	2011-2013
Sand Creek @ Hwy 4 Bypass	2012-2014
Kellogg Creek along Hoffman Lane	2012-2014
Mormon Slough @ Jack Tone Road	2012-2014
Roberts Island Drain @ Holt Rd	2013-2015
Roberts Island Drain along House Rd	2013-2015

### 3. Management Plan Tracking Process and Schedule

To address the High Priority site subwatersheds, the Coalition has implemented a management practice tracking process and scheduling tool, which includes a set of Performance Measures for each of the goals. The Coalition is developing a Gantt chart for internal use to manage the overlap of the initiation of new High Priority site subwatersheds and previous High Priority site subwatersheds Performance Measures. The schedule allows follow up with growers at the same time that the Coalition is initiating contacts with new growers.

During the 7 October 2009 Meeting, the Coalition described the steps which they will take to contact growers, complete the surveys, implement management practices, and follow up. The

following was developed by the Coalition to illustrate the management practice tracking process they will use.

#### Contact (January to March, Year1)

- Growers are contacted to attend meetings or conduct an interview with a PCA or Coalition representative.

#### Interview / Meeting (February to September, Year 1)

- Growers attend meetings or meet with PCAs / Coalition representatives to fill out surveys and discuss management practices. Watershed specific water quality issues are also discussed.

#### Survey Completed ( October, Year 1)

- Surveys are completed during the interview or meeting and returned to the Coalition to be entered into a database. The survey documents current management practices and practices that the grower intends to implement.

#### Implementation (April to November, Year 1 and 2)

- It is up to the grower to implement any additional management practices based on information gained during interviews / meetings.

#### Follow Up (September to February, Year 1/2 and 2/3)

- The Coalition will contact growers that filled out surveys to determine what additional practices were implemented after the interview / meeting.

In summary, the Coalition plans to establish a list of targeted growers during the fall/winter of 2009 for the 2010 High Priority site subwatersheds and then schedule meetings between January and September 2010. According to the Performance Goal schedule the output (e.g. record of baseline management practices) from the grower meetings is scheduled to be completed by 30 April, 30 June, and 31 October 2010 for Grant Line Canal near Calpack, Grant Line Canal at Clifton Court, and Littlejohns Creek at Jack Tone, respectively. This will enable management practice recommendation and implementation to occur in mid to late 2010 and continue into 2011, with evaluation by 2012. For the 2011 year group of High Priority sites, targeted grower lists will be developed during the fall of 2010 and contact will begin in January 2011. The process will continue until all subwatersheds in Table 1 are addressed.

The Coalition has requested that the completion date of the approved Management Plan task, "Evaluate effectiveness of new management practices", be extended from February 2010 to February 2011 for Duck Creek, Lone Tree Creek, and Unnamed Drain to Lone Tree Creek. This extension will provide the Coalition with enough time to evaluate the management practice effectiveness after implementation in 2009 and 2010. As a result of the extended time line, the Coalition may need to manage any activity-overlap of the time line. There could be instances where Coalition activity from the first set of High Priority site subwatershed Performance Goals carries over to the time when the next group of High Priority site subwatersheds begins.

#### 4. Performance Goals for 2010 – 2012 High Priority Site Subwatersheds

Table 2 describes each performance goal, performance measure, and completion date.

Table 2: Performance Goals for the next set of High Priority Site-subwatersheds.

Performance Goal/Performance Measure	Outputs	Completion Date		
		Grant Line Canal near Calpack	Grant Line Canal @ Clifton Ct	Littlejohns Creek @ Jack Tone
<b>Performance Goal 1: Individually contact members on adjacent properties to waterways where discharges have been identified to fill out surveys.</b>				
Performance Measure 1.1 – 100% of identified growers contacted to fill out surveys.	Report ratio of individual initial contacts made versus total growers identified to contact.	March 30, 2010	March 30, 2010	March 30, 2010
Performance Measure 1.2 – Contact owners/operators representing at least 1,000 acre of membership acreage in the site subwatershed (if subwatershed is greater than 800 acres).	Report ratio of acreage represented by individual contacts versus subwatershed acreage determined to have direct drainage.	Quarterly	Quarterly	Quarterly
<b>Performance Goal 2: Establish current practices (beyond established baseline practices) on adjacent properties to waterways or where discharges are identified.</b>				
Performance Measure 2.1 – Document current management practices of 100% of identified growers during individual contacts and encourage the adoption of new practices not currently implemented.	Record current management practices used that may reduce agricultural impact on water quality.	April 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	October 31, 2010
Performance Measure 2.2 – Document management practices that the identified grower were encouraged to implement.	Summary of management practice evaluations on a site subwatershed level in the Management Plan update.	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2011
<b>Performance Goal 3: Encourage growers to implement additional management practices based on water quality results.</b>				
Performance Measure 3.1 –Document (e.g. assess number/type) new management practices implemented by identified growers.	Record implemented management practices.	November 30, 2010	November 30, 2011	November 30, 2011
	Summary of management practices implemented as a result of individual contacts.	April 1, 2011	April 1, 2011 April 1, 2012	April 1, 2011 April 1, 2012
<b>Performance Goal 4: Evaluate effectiveness of the new management practices implemented during years that site is high priority.</b>				
Performance Measure 4.1 Update – Assess water quality results from Coalition monitoring location within the priority site subwatershed.	Summary of water quality data from management plan monitoring.	April 1, 2011 April 1, 2012	April 1, 2011 April 1, 2012	April 1, 2011 April 1, 2012

Performance Goal/Performance Measure	Outputs	Completion Date		
		Grant Line Canal near Calpack	Grant Line Canal @ Clifton Ct	Littlejohns Creek @ Jack Tone
<i>Performance Goal 5: Consult with CVRWQCB at least once during 2009/2010 to discuss Management Plan activities and consider if changes need to be made in Management Plan strategy for High Priority waterbodies.</i>				

Differences between new High Priority Performance Goals and former High Priority Performance Goals:

1. Deleted out Performance Goal 1 (Conduct grower group meetings).
2. Updated Performance Measure 2.2 Output (now 1.2) to be specific to the subwatershed acreage with direct drainage.
3. Combined Performance Measure 3.1 and 3.2 (now 2.1 and 2.2); deleted Performance Measure 3.1 (Obtain current management practice from 100% of identified growers / Completed individual contact checklists recorded in an Access database).
4. Updated Performance Goal 5 (now 4) – refers to years that the subwatershed is high priority versus specific years.
5. Updated Performance Measure 5.1 (now 4.1) and omitted “90% completeness, 90% accuracy and 90% precision”