



## California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

March 7, 2014

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested
Article Number: 7011 0470 0002 8952 5164

Eileen Rivard 40205 Calle Cabernet Temecula, California 92591-4005 in reply refer to: 793587:Melbourn

## Request to Address Mitigation Planting Failure and Onsite Erosion

Ms. Rivard:

On February 28, 2014, staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) observed onsite erosion and the absence of mitigation habitat at your vineyard at 40205 Calle Cabernet. By March 28, 2014, please submit to me a written plan of action to address these deficiencies which are detailed below.

Mitigation Planting Failure

By letter dated October 8, 2013, you agreed to plant Mulefat in the ephemeral stream bed running across the vineyard as mitigation for the June 2012 unauthorized grading in the stream to construct the vineyard. This vegetative cover is necessary to minimize soil erosion and compensate for habitat loss from your grading activities. On November 13, 2013, you submitted a written statement along with photographs demonstrating the planting of 400 Mulefat seedlings in the streambed. San Diego Water Board staff observed that the streambed is barren, and that the Mulefat seedlings did not survive after their planting. See attached photograph of streambed. Therefore, you must submit a written plan of action to address the failure to mitigate the unauthorized grading (i.e., that you will replant the area with Mulefat seedlings by a certain date, etc.).

## **Onsite Erosion**

On February 28, 2014, during a storm event San Diego Water Board staff noted erosion along the east side of your vineyard at the base of the slope that runs parallel with Calle Cabernet. See attached photograph of erosion. Therefore, you must submit a written plan of action to address the erosion (i.e., how you will repair the erosion and protect the area from eroding in the future).

In the subject line of any response, please include the reference number. For questions or comments, please contact Frank Melbourn by telephone at (619) 521-3372, or by email at <a href="mailto:fmelbourn@waterboards.ca.gov">fmelbourn@waterboards.ca.gov</a>.

Respectfully,

CHIARA M. CLEMENTE

Senior Environmental Scientist

CMC:ftm

Enclosure: Photographs of barren stream bed and onsite erosion

cc: Darren Bradford, San Diego Water Board, <a href="mailto:dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov">dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov</a> Kelly Dorsey, P.G., San Diego Water Board, <a href="mailto:kdorsey@waterboards.ca.gov">kdorsey@waterboards.ca.gov</a>

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Photograph (20140228\_093905.jpg) taken on February 28, 2014, by Frank Melbourn, San Diego Water Board. Photograph taken looking to the west from Calle Cabernet. Runoff can be seen flowing through the streambed. The streambed has intermittent gravel bag check dams; some of which are placed outside the flowpath and therefore ineffective. Note that the streambed is barren of vegetation and lacks mitigation habitat that was planted in the streambed in November 2013.



Photograph (20140228\_093830.jpg) taken on February 28, 2014, by Frank Melbourn, San Diego Water Board. Photograph taken looking to the northwest from Calle Cabernet. Note the erosion of the earthen drainage ditch where the far sides are slumping into the ditch and turbid soil colored water can be seen flowing from the upper right of the picture to the lower left. The erosion is indicated with the red arrows.