

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program monthly report will provide an update on activities of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) ILRP, as reported in the Central Valley Water Board's January 31/February 1, 2013 Executive Officer's report. Current and past ILRP program monthly reports can be found on the State Water Board Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/agriculture/

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CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM (ILRP)

Enforcement

California Water Code section 13260 & 13267 Orders, & Notices of Violation

In November 2012, ILRP staff (staff) mailed 25 and 21 CWC §13267 Orders to landowners in the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition area. These Orders were issued to landowners who first received an outreach postcard and subsequently did not respond.

Compliance & Outreach – Postcards

In November 2012, ILRP staff mailed 98 postcards to non-participating landowners within the San Joaquin County & Delta and Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalitions' boundaries. Of these 9 postcards were mailed to landowners in Colusa County, 6 were mailed to Contra Costa County, 32 were mailed to San Joaquin, and 51 were mailed to Sutter County.

In December 2012, an additional 49 postcards were mailed to landowners in Sutter County. Staff screened these landowners' parcels using aerial photography to target agricultural operations with the potential to discharge waste to surface waters.

Compliance & Outreach – Surveillance and Complaint Inspections

On December 10, 2012, staff responded to an anonymous complaint submitted via the U.S. EPA National Tips Database. The complaint alleged that a nursery in San Joaquin County was unsafely storing and spraying pesticides. Staff met on-site with the owner of the nursery. The result of this inspection was no obvious signs of a threat to water quality.

On December 11, 2012, staff conducted a site inspection in response to a complaint submitted by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) in which sediment-laden water

was discharged into Blitz Creek and subsequently the Stanislaus River. The site was several hundred acres of pasture that is being converted into irrigated orchards in Stanislaus County. Staff will be reviewing the inspection results and DFG's findings to determine the appropriate course of action.

Coalition Groups

California Rice Commission

On December 27, 2012, the California Rice Commission submitted a draft Rice Pesticides Program (RPP) report for the 2012 season. There were no exceedances of performance goals for the year. Per RPP Resolution R5-2010-9001, the RPP report, with its recommendations for the 2013 season, will be reviewed by the RPP stakeholders.

On December 31, 2012, the California Rice Commission submitted the 2012 Annual Monitoring Report for the ILRP. Staff's review of the report for adequacy and compliance with the MRP Order is expected to be completed by March 1, 2013.

East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition

On November 1, 2012, the Executive Officer approved the Coalition's October 23, 2012 performance goals and measures for the Fifth Priority Site Subwatersheds. The performance goals and measures provide a mechanism to track the coalition's efforts in addressing water quality.

On November 7, 2012, the coalition requested to remove certain constituent/site combinations from its current Management Plan and management plan monitoring schedule. The request is under staff review.

The coalition submitted a request to update its MRP Plan and QAPP on November 26, 2012. The coalition's request proposes to update sample hold temperature for water and sediments, hold time for sediment samples, and the analytical method for analyzing triazine herbicides in water. The request is under staff review.

On December 1, 2012, the coalition submitted the Quarterly Monitoring Data Report.

On December 5, 2012, the coalition requested to remove Peaslee Creek at Lake Road from its monitoring schedule due to limited access to the site. Monitoring expected for Peaslee Creek will occur at the next scheduled assessment site, Mustang Creek at East Avenue. The request is under staff review.

Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC)

On November 2, 2012, staff received the coalition's proposed 2013 monitoring schedule. Staff subsequently reviewed this schedule and provided feedback to the coalition. Final changes to the schedule were reviewed and agreed upon at the November 18, 2012 Quarterly Management Plan meeting.

On November 19, 2012, staff met with coalition leads and representatives of the Butte-Yuba-Sutter Subwatershed group to provide assistance on developing Performance Goals for toxicity and pesticide Management Plans.

On December 4, 2012, staff received the coalition submission of the third quarter monitoring data.

Staff traveled to Lake County on December 12 and 19, 2012 to give presentations to growers and to meet with sub-watershed participants to discuss progress being made in the local program and the prospects for the new WDR Order.

On December 18, 2012, staff met with coalition representatives for the Quarterly Management Plan meeting. Meeting topics included items on the coalition's deliverables schedule, addendums to Performance Goals reports and the coalition's 2013 monitoring schedule.

On December 21, 2012, staff met with coalition leads and representatives of the Solano and Yolo County subwatersheds. The discussion resulted in new targets for Performance Goals for toxicity and pesticides in Willow Slough and Ulatis Creek.

San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition

On October 31, 2012, the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition submitted the 2013-2015 High Priority Performance Goals for Bear Creek at North Alpine Rd., Roberts Island at Whiskey Slough Pump, and Walthall Slough at Woodward Avenue as part of its approved Management Plan implementation schedule. The Executive Officer approved the performance goals schedule on November 6, 2012.

On November 13, 2012, the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition requested to remove certain constituents from its current Management Plan monitoring schedule. The request is under staff review.

On December 14, 2012, staff and the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition held a meeting to discuss the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta chlorpyrifos and diazinon Total Maximum Daily Load monitoring schedule. As a result, the coalition will propose some alternative monitoring sites.

Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition (SSJWQC)

On December 5, 2012, the Executive Officer issued an approval letter for a Management Plan for water quality exceedances within the Tule River watershed area of Tulare County.

Westside Coalition

On October 31, 2012, staff met with Westside Coalition representatives for the Quarterly Management Plan meeting. Discussion items included finalization of the coalition's QAPP, progress of the stakeholder process in Hospital and Ingram Creeks, and updating the coalition's General Management Plan Approach.

On November 6, 2012, staff participated in the coalition's Steering Committee Meeting by telephone. Key topics included monitoring results and management plan updates, grower outreach visits, noncompliant members, available grants for management practice implementation, and confusion regarding the overlap of dairy lands and the ILRP.

On November 30, 2012, the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition submitted its Semi Annual Monitoring Report for the period March through August 2012. The SAMR is under staff review.

Other Projects

Data Management

Data reports received through December 1, 2012 are currently being prepared for loading into a California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) comparable database provided by the Central Valley Regional Data Center (CV RDC). Additionally, staff has begun the limited processing of prioritized data sets submitted prior to 2009. These sets have been classified as historical sets and will be loaded to the database and transferred to CEDEN as resources permit.

Data from 2009 through 2011 for all coalitions are available to the public on CEDEN. Data as recent as early 2012 is available for some coalitions and new data will continue to be transferred to CEDEN on a quarterly basis. The next transfer is planned for the end of February 2013. Data collected prior to 2009 will continue to be available on the ILRP surface water quality data webpage.

Prop 84 Grant Funding

At the December 2012 Board meeting, Parry Klassen of the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) gave a presentation on the status of the Prop 84 funding and information on the projects that have been awarded funding. Twenty-six projects have been completed to date. Forty-two additional projects have been approved for funding. All projects should be completed by December 2014.

Most of the funded projects are conversion from furrow to drip/micro irrigation systems. The grant agreement has been amended to include a model to estimate sediment discharged pre- and post- construction of the funded projects. An additional task will be added to the CURES grant agreement to develop a soil erosion model for conversion from furrow to drip/micro irrigation. Field measurements will be included to validate the model accuracy. The model is expected to be completed in December 2013.

The CURES website at <http://www.curesworks.org/bmp/projects84.asp> has additional information on the Prop 84 funding and photos of completed projects.