

Summary of Member Requirements

Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers in the Tulare Lake Basin Area, R5-2013-0120

The intent of the State of California Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (**Regional Board**) Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (**ILRP**) is for growers to implement practices to protect water quality. This new program applies to discharges to both surface water and groundwater. The groundwater component addresses waste (e.g. salt, nitrate, pesticides, etc.) transported by irrigation water, percolating past the root zone into groundwater.

The following are some of the key components of the General Order. For the complete listing of Member requirements see the General Order, Section VII.

1. Landowners or operators who are current KRWCA members are required to confirm their intent to remain covered under the new General Order by the Coalition.
2. Any landowners or operators electing not to be covered by the Coalition will be required to seek individual coverage directly with the Water Board. Individual coverage will be considerably more expensive than as a Coalition Member in the KRWCA.
3. Members will be required to submit a Farm Evaluation to the Coalition specifying measures the farm is taking to protect water quality.
4. Members within high-vulnerability areas for nitrate contamination of groundwater must prepare, implement, and report on a Nitrogen Management Plan (**NMP**) summarizing the amount of nitrogen applied to land and the amount of nitrogen used by the crop. Plans must be reviewed and signed by a Certified Crop Advisor (**CCA**) or as stated in the General Order. Members in low-vulnerability areas must complete a non-certified NMP to remain on the farm. It must be available for Water Board inspection.
5. Members are required to attend annual Coalition sponsored (or co-sponsored) education/outreach events.
6. Members with potential to discharge sediment to surface water during irrigation events or storm events must prepare and implement a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan.
7. Farming operations of less than 60 acres in low-vulnerability areas will be given additional time to comply with some of the General Order requirements. See the table below.
8. Members are required to maintain a hard or electronic copy of the General Order at the farming headquarters and shall be familiar with the General Order requirements.
9. Members shall provide the Coalition with information requested for compliance with the General Order.
10. The Water Board is likely to continue to increase enforcement actions against landowners and operators that do not obtain regulatory coverage either through the Coalition or the Individual Order.
11. The Water Board is likely to continue to increase enforcement actions against landowners and operators that do not effectively implement management practices to protect the quality of both surface water and groundwater.

The following table summarizes documents and respective deadlines to be completed by Members complying with the General Order. Small farming operations have less than 60 total acres of irrigated land.

Report	Vulnerability	Farm Size	Due Date	Renewal Frequency
Farm Evaluation	High	All	March 1, 2018	Annually
	Low	Large (≥ 60 ac)	March 1, 2021	Five Years
		Small (< 60 ac)	March 1, 2018	Five Years
Sediment and Erosion Control Plans	All locations identified in the Sediment Discharge and Erosion Assessment Report (SDEAR)	Large (≥ 60 ac)	April 4, 2016	As conditions change
		Small (< 60 ac)	October 7, 2016	As conditions change
Nitrogen Management Plan (NMP) Worksheet	High	Large (≥ 60 ac)	March 1, 2018 (certified)	Annually
		Small (< 60 ac)	March 1, 2018 (certified)	Annually
	Low	All	March 1, 2018	Annually
Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report	High	Large Farm	March 1, 2018	Annually
		Small Farm	March 1, 2018	Annually
	Low	Does not apply		

Large farm = 60 acres or greater; Small farm = less than 60 acres