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## Permittee Webinar: Salt Compliance in the Central Valley

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) is hosting a live webinar for permitted dischargers, consultants, and other parties interested in salinity management in the Central Valley. The webinar will provide an opportunity to learn firsthand from the people who developed new nitrate and salinity permitting requirements approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board).

*NOTE: If you have recently received a Salinity Notice to Comply, this webinar will provide valuable information about your available compliance options.*

**Central Valley Nitrate and Salt Permit Compliance**  
**February 10, 2021 - 10:00 AM to Noon**

### **REGISTRATION**

**You can help us get the word out by forwarding this email to other permittees and consultants you know who should attend this event.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Visit the [Salt Control Program](#) on the CV-SALTS website.

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### **Why Attend?**

In January 2021, the Central Valley Water Board began mailing Notices to Comply to all permittees in the Central Valley. There are now two distinct pathways available to permitted dischargers. These requirements were developed through a collaborative, stakeholder-led process and are intended to provide a simpler, more viable option for permittees who have trouble satisfying the stringent requirements of the Central Valley Salt Control Program. Permittees must select their salt control permitting pathway by July 15, 2021. Attendees of this webinar will gain an understanding of both pathways so they can evaluate which works best for them.

Webinar topics include:

- An overview of the CV-SALTS program
- Salt control compliance options available for permittees
- Salinity studies and management options
- Fee structure
- Q & A

The following technical considerations may be discussed:

- Salinity costs and impacts
- Regulatory challenges
- CV-SALTS program
- Salinity control permitting requirements
- Conservative vs. Alternative permitting approaches
- Short-term vs. long-term salt management strategies

## Who Should Attend?

Permitted dischargers, consultants, and other parties with an interest in salinity permitting and compliance in the Central Valley.

## Your Time Commitment

The webinar will be conducted on February 10, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

**REGISTER NOW**

## Unable to Attend?

The webinar will be recorded and posted after the event at [www.cvsalts.info](http://www.cvsalts.info)

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## Presenters

**Patrick Pulupa**, Executive Officer, Central Valley Water Board

As Executive Officer, Patrick Pulupa oversees development and implementation of water quality requirements for the Central Valley. He maintains strong working relationships with the wide variety of stakeholders that are affected by the Board's regulatory decisions. Prior to becoming Executive Officer in 2018, he served as the Board's legal counsel.

**Daniel Cozad**, Executive Director, Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC)

The CVSC represents a diverse array of regulated dischargers of salts and nitrate throughout the Valley. Since 2006, Daniel has managed collaborative efforts among regulators, permittees, and environmental stakeholders to develop the new regulatory requirements.

**Tess Dunham, Attorney, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP**

Tess Dunham has spent the past 20 years specializing in legal and regulatory issues related to state and federal water quality laws. Tess played a critical role in the development of the new nitrate and salt control programs.

**Richard Meyerhoff, Senior Water Quality Specialist, GEI Consultants.** Richard Meyerhoff is a specialist in water resource management. He assists clients with the management of water resources in an integrated and sustainable manner, including achieving compliance with often challenging water quality regulations. Dr. Meyerhoff has worked on the development of and compliance with water quality standards for surface water or groundwater in multiple states, including California, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico. He serves as technical advisor and study manager for the CV-SALTS program.

**Nitrate & Salt Brochures available on the CV-SALTS website:**

**New Nitrate Control Program**  
Coming Together to Resolve the Safe Drinking Water Challenge

**Challenges and Choices**

A new Nitrate Control Program is now in place in the Central Valley to address historical nitrate problems, which have left some households that rely on groundwater without a source of safe drinking water. The program includes twin imperatives for the Valley:

- Providing safe drinking water, especially for residents in affected areas as quickly as possible.
- Managing nitrate discharges to reduce or eliminate impacts to groundwater.

The program is being administered by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board). Under the program, regulated dischargers—including owners and operators of irrigated crop land, dairies, ranches, poultry producers, food processors, wineries, and municipalities—will face new requirements for compliance with such timelines:

The Nitrate Control Program will begin in Priority 1 groundwater subbasins that include Kaweah, Turlock, Chowchilla, Tule, Modeno, and Kings (not shown on map). Once the Regional Board sends Notices to Comply in late March 2020, dischargers will have limited time to choose between two compliance pathways:

**A Pathway A:** Proceeding under an individual permit. (See page 4 for details.)

**B Pathway B:** Joining a Management Zone. (See pages 2-4 for details.)

Pathway B: Joining a Management Zone is an alternative means of nitrate compliance that offers regulated dischargers something they have never had before: An opportunity to work cooperatively to manage nitrate discharges more cost-effectively and to provide safe drinking water to adversely affected residents.

**Management Zone Benefits:**

- Ensure safe drinking water to those who need it.
- Avoid "going it alone" under demanding individual permit (Pathway A).
- Establish local control and more flexibility than under past regulations.
- Adapt management to local conditions.
- Share resources, funding, and knowledge.
- Protect water resources over the long term.

**Groundwater Subbasins by Nitrate Control Program Priority**

**Legend**

- Shaded in light blue: Shaded in light blue
- Shaded in light green: Shaded in light green
- Shaded in yellow: Shaded in yellow
- Shaded in orange: Shaded in orange
- Shaded in red: Shaded in red
- Shaded in dark red: Shaded in dark red
- Shaded in black: Shaded in black

1. The new Salt Control Program is contained within Basin Plan Amendments for the Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and Tule Lake Basin, as approved by the Central Valley Water Board in 2018 and State Water Resources Control Board in 2019.

**CV SALTS**

**NEW SALT CONTROL PROGRAM**  
FOR THE CENTRAL VALLEY

**Coming Together to Resolve the Central Valley's Salinity Problems**

To address increasing levels of salt in the Central Valley, a new Salt Control Program is underway for all regulated dischargers of salinity to surface waters or groundwaters throughout the region.

The phased program requires permitted dischargers to choose one of two permitting options:

**OPTION 1**  
Proceed under traditional, more stringent, salinity control requirements.

**OR**

**OPTION 2**  
Join in a Valley-wide salt planning study that will lead to a long-term roadmap for addressing salt build-up in the Central Valley.

In January, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will mail Notices to Comply to all permitted dischargers subject to the new Salt Control Program, which was recently added to the Central Valley's Basin Plans. This notice will trigger the need for permittees to make key decisions within six months, which will affect costs and responsibilities over the coming year.

1. The new Salt Control Program is contained within Basin Plan Amendments for the Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and Tule Lake Basin, as approved by the Central Valley Water Board in 2018 and State Water Resources Control Board in 2019.

## **Nitrate Brochure**

The new Nitrate brochure is available for download. More info on Nitrates at link below.

[Nitrate Control Program](#)

## **New Salt Brochure**

The new Salt Brochure is available for download. More info on Salt Program below.

[Salt Control Program](#)

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