Butte-Yuba-Sutter Water Quality Coalition

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

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Agenda

- Roles and Purposes Re-cap: The Regulators, the Regulation, BYSWQC, and Coalition staff
- Current Coalition Requirements
- 2015 Successes and Challenges
- Quick reminders
- Questions?
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) regulates discharges from irrigated agricultural lands

- Waste Discharge Requirement Order No. R5-2014-0030
- Surface and groundwater monitoring

The Regulators and the Regulation

California Environmental Protection Agency

State Water Resources Control Board

Regional Boards 1-4

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (5)

Regional Boards 6-9
Regulators

Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (NCWA manages)

- SWRCB
- RWQCB

Other Entities including:
- Ducks Unlimited
- Larry Waller Associates
- CURES
- Legal
- Several Ag Organizations

El Dorado
Yolo-Solano
Sacramento-Amador
Colusa-Glenn
Lake Napa
NECWA (Pin River)
FNSINS
Shasta-Tehama

Batte-Tah-Sitter

Upper Feather River

You
BYSWQC is a sub-watershed within the larger Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition.
The Coalition’s Role

The BYSWQC was designed to be a simple, less expensive way to comply with the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

Education and Outreach Coordinator Function:
1. Answer questions about and provide assistance with ILRP requirements

2. Work directly with monitoring staff and Ag Commissioners to address exceedances

3. Coordinate educational opportunities that focus on current water quality issues and the best management practices to avoid exceedances in the future
Who else is effected by Waste Discharge Requirements?

- Non-point Sources
  - Small wineries and food processor land applications
  - CalTrans
  - Industrial Storm Water SWPPPs
- Agricultural
  - Dairy
  - Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
  - Rice
Current BYSWQC Member Requirements

Long-Term Orders were approved in March 2014

Both surface water and groundwater are addressed

These are annual obligations! To remain a member in good standing, all requirements must be completed and submitted to the Coalition by the appropriate due date

- Member Dues - **Due January 31, 2016**
- Farm Evaluation Survey - **Due February 1, 2016**
- Nitrogen Management Plan:
  - 2015 reporting stays onsite
  - 2016 reporting sent out soon
- Nitrogen Summary Report - Still to Come, due March 2017
- Sediment and Erosion Control Plan - Still to Come
- Attending an Outreach Event - Must be completed by October 31, 2016
- Notice of Confirmation (One time only in 2015)
FARM EVALUATION SURVEY

2015 Farm Evaluation Surveys (FES) were due **February 1, 2015**

**ANNUAL** requirement for members

2015 FES’s were mailed with your 2015-2016 invoices in December

- If you have misplaced or need another copy, please contact Jessica DeCoito at the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau (530)673-6550

If you need help completing your FES please contact:
- Lexi Everhart with SCRC (Yuba & Sutter Counties)
- Colleen or Shay with BCFB (Butte County)
Nitrogen Management Plan

- 2015 Nitrogen Management Plans: First year for requirement - to get ‘feet wet’
- 2016 NMP’s will require certification for High Vulnerability areas
  - 2016 NMP’s will be sent soon
  - Certification required by March 1, 2017
- High Vulnerability Areas
  - Not yet approved by Regional Water Board
  - However, those farming on the valley floor should be prepared to certify
- How to certify
  - Certified Crop Advisors
  - Self certification - Growers can attend a special training to self certify their NMP
    ✓ BYSWQC is currently working on coordinating trainings for members

NMP’s stay onsite!
Members do not submit to Coalition
Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report

- Regional Water Board recently announced that a Summary Report will *not* be required for 2015 reporting.
- However, *Summary Reports for members in High Vulnerability areas must be completed by March 1, 2017.*
- Regional Water Board has *not yet* approved the template.
- Tentatively, BYSWQC plans to send Summary Reports to members following harvest to then be completed and submitted by early Spring 2017.

The NMP must be completed and certified prior to completing and submitting the Summary Report; the Summary Report requests certain portions of the NMP.
2015 Successes and Challenges: Overview

- Diazinon Mgmt Plan at Gilsizer Slough:
  - Submit a request to complete Mgmt Plan in 2016

- Ceriodaphnia dubia (water flea) Mgmt Plan at Lower Snake River:
  - Submit a request to complete Mgmt Plan in 2016

Management Plans currently in place:
- Chlorpyrifos at Pine Creek
- Chlorpyrifos at Gilsizer Slough

January
- Chlorpyrifos & Dichlorvos - Gilsizer Slough

February
- Diuron - Lower Snake River
- Arsenic - Lower Snake River

March
- Ammonia as N - Lower Snake River

April
- Chlorpyrifos - Pine Creek
- Copper - Pine Creek

August
- Chlorpyrifos - Gilsizer Slough
Chlorpyrifos Exceedance at Pine Creek
April 2015

- An aerial application of Lorsban Advanced days before a sample event is likely cause of exceedance.
  - It was the only application made during that time
- It was the 2nd exceedance in less than a year, triggering a management plan for the Pine Creek watershed
- What happens when there is an exceedance?
  - The BYSWQC handles all communication and outreach regarding the issue, to include:
    - Correspondence with the Regional Water Board to satisfy their outreach requirements
    - Working with growers to let them know the exceedance happened and how to avoid it in the future.
Pine Creek Monitoring Site

Hamilton City

Chico
Chlorpyrifos is now a restricted chemical by the California Department of Pesticide Regulations.

The new restrictions act as a basis to the management plan, so it won’t be too much of an effect on your operation outside adding it to your permit.

Require regular, continued monitoring at Pine Creek and HWY 32.

To complete the plan, must show 3 years of zero exceedances.
How to Avoid Future Exceedances?
Use Best Management Practices!!!

- Use end of row shut off
- Shut off outside booms when spraying near water bodies
- Avoid spraying before a rain event or irrigation cycle.
- Most importantly - Train your employees on these practices too!!

More Exceedances = More Monitoring = Increased costs
Conclusion

Quick reminders:

- If you haven’t already, please pay your 2016 invoice and complete and submit the 2015 Farm Evaluation Survey
  ✓ Letters of non-receipt will be sent soon
- Complete the 2015 Nitrogen Management Plan, keep onsite

We understand!
These requirements take time, but they are the most effective way to show the Regional Water Board that the Sac Valley is doing its part to address water quality
How to contact us

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Thank you!

Questions?