

Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc.

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2014 CMP Fees Ag Order

Growers who enrolled in the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Ag Order and elected to participate in the CMP (99% of all growers elected to participate in the CMP) will receive an invoice for participation in December, 2013.

In 2012 the Ag Committee adopted the CMP (Cooperative Monitoring Program for surface water) participation fee schedule for 2013 and 2014, subject to any changes in the State Fees. The State Water Board adopted a State Fee schedule for 2014 on September 24, 2013. It increased the Tier 1 acreage fee from 56¢/acre to 75¢/acre (34%). The Ag Committee, at its meeting on October 22, 2013, confirmed the previously adopted CMP fee structure. Therefore the CMP participation fee for 2014, including the new State Fee increase is as follows.

2014 FEE STRUCTURE	
Fees are the sum of the following plus 13% (sum x 1.13)	
Monitoring Fee	
Type 1	Irrigated Acres Total \$2.00 per acre (as shown in eNOI)
Type 2	Off Property Tailwater Acres an additional \$2.00 per acre (as shown in eNOI)
Annual Administrative Fee per operator	
Number of Acres per eNOI	
50 acres or less	\$50.00
51 acres to 499 acres	\$1.00/acre
500 or more acres	\$500.00 plus \$.20/acre over 500 acres
State Board Fee \$0.75 per irrigated acre as follows:	
\$0.75 per acre of irrigated land per eNOI. This is a straight pass through to the State Board, plus a 3¢ per acre to CCWQP for administrative costs	

The following chart shows how this proposed fee will apply to various farm sizes:

Acres	Monitoring	Administrative	Tailwater	State Tax	Tax Handling	Base Fees	2014 CMP
	\$ 2.00	*Variable	\$ 2.00	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.03		Base x 1.13
5	\$ 10.00	\$ 50.00		\$ 3.75	\$ 0.15	\$ 63.90	\$ 72.21
5 tailwater	\$ 10.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 3.75	\$ 0.15	\$ 73.90	\$ 83.51
400	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00		\$ 300.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 1,512.00	\$ 1,708.56
400 tailwater	\$ 800.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,312.00	\$ 2,612.56
1000	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 600.00		\$ 750.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 3,380.00	\$ 3,819.40
1000 Tailwater	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 5,380.00	\$ 6,079.40
*Admin Fee / Acre							
	≤50	51-499	≥500				
	\$ 50	\$1/acre	\$500 + 20¢/acre over 500				

State Penalty for Failure to pay CMP: When you pay CCWQP (Preservation, Inc.) for 2014 it includes the State Fee of 75¢/acre which we remit to the State Water Board. This is a *Tier 1* (unrelated to the Ag Order tier scheme) fee assessment. If an enrolled grower does not pay CCWQP the CMP fee when billed, the grower will be billed in June directly by the State at the *Tier 3* rate and will still owe the CMP fee. The Ag Order requires growers to either participate in the CMP and pay the Tier 1 fee or conduct individual surface water monthly monitoring and also pay the Tier 3 fee. The State Fee structure for 2013-2014 is:

Tier 1

\$100 (paid by CCWQP) plus \$0.75 per acre (paid by grower)

Tier 3 (paid by grower only)

0-10 Acres	\$404 plus \$13.50 per acre	\$404 min - \$538 max
11-100 Acres	\$1,084 plus \$6.70 per acre	\$1,084 min - \$1,756 max
101-500 Acres	\$3,033 plus \$3.40 per acre	\$3,033 min - \$4,715 max
501 or more	\$6,733 plus \$2.70 per acre	\$6,733 min – no max

Tier 3 is a punitive tier which only applies if the State Fee is not paid through CCWQP with the CMP fee. Almost 300 growers in the Central Coast received Tier 3 bills from the State Water Board in 2013. In every case it would have been far cheaper to pay the CMP fees first and avoid the Tier 3 bill altogether (see below). The State Board will send Tier 3 bills in 2014 to growers who do not pay the CMP fee before April 1, 2014.

Farm Size	CMP - All Fees	State Fees Tier 3 only
5 acres	\$ 72.21	\$ 421.50
400 acres	\$ 1,708.56	\$ 4,393.00
1000 acres	\$ 3,819.40	\$ 9,433.00

2014 CMP Invoice: CCWQP will mail the 2014 invoice for CMP participation to enrolled growers in December, 2013, for payment before January 20, 2014.

Verify your account: Please make sure your company’s billing address, farms and acreage are correct in the Regional Water Board’s eNOI database found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/noi_submittal.shtml. You can use your password to access your account to verify that the information is correct. The RWQCB provides the eNOI information on billing addresses, farm acreage and tailwater acres to CCWQP to prepare the annual CMP participation invoice in December.

Termination: If your company ceased farming altogether (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/docs/resources4_growers/not_operation.pdf), or stopped farming a particular parcel (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/docs/resources4_growers/not_ranch_farm.pdf) it is necessary to correct this online on the eNOI database *and* to mail a termination form to the RWQCB.

Questions: If you have any questions please contact Kirk Schmidt, CCWQP Executive Director, kschmidt@ccwqp.org .

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