

CMP Annual Participation Fee Invoice:

Enclosed is the 2013 CMP Participation Invoice from Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc., for participation in the Cooperative Monitoring Program. The participation fee schedule for 2013 is 13% higher than last year due to additional lab tests required in 2013 and 2014.

Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc. (CCWQP) has been designated by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) as the non-profit entity formed to conduct the Cooperative Monitoring Program (CMP) in accordance with Order No. R3-2012-0011, the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharger Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, and the Monitoring and Reporting Program (collectively the Ag Order). When your farm, or company, electronically filed the Notice of Intent in compliance with the Ag Order you elected to participate in the CMP.

THE ENCLOSED BILL IS FOR CMP PARTICIPATION

Not Groundwater Monitoring: CCWQP does not monitor groundwater and participation in the CMP does not satisfy the requirement for groundwater monitoring.

How the 2013 Fee Increase was Determined: The Ag Committee (individual farmers with various size farms and crops) adopted the current fee structure as the most equitable after considering various options. Farm size, administration costs, and the 2013 CMP operational budget were evaluated. Fees for 2013 are 13% higher than last year for all operations, regardless of size. The CCWQP Board adopted the recommendation of the Ag Committee.

Enforcement: CCWQP manages the CMP and provides information to area farmers on surface monitoring results and practices that will improve water quality. CCWQP does *NOT* enforce the Ag Order. Failure to pay means that your farm is not participating in the CMP. The RWQCB may seek to impose fines, and/or compel you to either obtain a discharge permit or conduct individual monitoring.

The CCWQP Board members are (county){term expires}:

President Kevin Merrill (SB) {2013}
Board Bob Martin (M) {2015} Sig Christierson (M) {2013}
 Dennis Sites (M){2013}, Richard Smith (M) {2014}, Alan Teixeira (SLO){2014}, Craig Reade (SB) {2015}, Don Hordeness (SCLara){2015}, Tom AmRhein (SCruz){2013}, Paul Hain (SBenito){2015}, Tim Frahm (SM){2014},
Ex Officio Dirk Giannini & George Adam, Ag Committee Co-Chairs
Staff: Executive Director, Kirk Schmidt (kschmidt@ccwqp.org);
 Technical Program Manager, Sarah Lopez (sarah@ccwqp.org) and
 Bookkeeper, Leila Salas, (831) 761-8644, or fax (831) 761-8695

Invoice is due upon receipt and delinquent after January 20, 2013

Retain a copy for your records

2013 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 \$0.59 per irrigated acre as follows:

- \$0.56 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

Individual Monitoring vs. Cooperative Monitoring

CMP: The Ag Order requires every enrolled grower to conduct surface water quality monitoring. You have the option of either conducting your own individual monitoring or participating in the Cooperative Monitoring Program (CMP) managed by CCWQP. *CCWQP monitors 50 sites throughout the Central Coast Region.* CCWQP deals with the regulators on CMP issues on behalf of the participating growers. CMP data are reported to RWQCB and available on the CCAMP website. You are signed up to participate in the CMP, which is why you received the enclosed bill, which includes mandated State Fees.

Individual: If a grower elects to do their own surface water monitoring, or *fails to pay for the CMP*, they have to deal directly with the regulators, obtain approval for a monitoring plan for each ranch, conduct and pay for monthly monitoring and lab testing, file the results with RWQCB electronically every 90 days, most likely hire a consultant and your farm monitoring results are public records. In addition, individual monitors are not part of the CMP and must also pay State Fees directly to the State Water Board of between \$300 and \$6,500 each year.

Farm Size	Cooperative Monitoring Program - All Fees	State Fees for Individual Monitoring (not including cost of monitoring, QAPP or dealing with RWQCB)
5 Acres	\$ 71	\$ 350
40 Acres	\$ 174	\$ 950
400 Acres	\$ 1,623	\$ 3,000
1000 Acres	\$ 3,605	\$ 6,000

Farm and Acreage Accuracy

The information used by CCWQP to prepare your invoice for participation in the Cooperative Monitoring Program is maintained by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). CCWQP uses the contact, acreage and tailwater acreage data from the RWQCB eNOI database. If there are errors in your operation information, or if your operation has changed since the last eNOI database update, you need to contact the RWQCB directly.

Procedure for correcting CCWQP billings: If there is an error in the bill which CCWQP has sent to you please:

1. Correct the invoice by showing the correct address, contact information, acreage and/or tailwater acreage
2. Include your name and phone number
3. Sign the changes
4. Fax the corrected invoice to CCWQP at (831) 761-8695

CCWQP will prepare a corrected bill for you to pay. **Changes made by CCWQP to your bill will NOT change the data maintained by the RWQCB.** You must also contact RWQCB.

Procedure for correcting NOI and Ranch information with the RWQCB:

All irrigated farmers are required to enroll online with the RWQCB and to keep their farm information current. This is your obligation. Should you have any questions regarding the requirement to file a new eNOI, the on-line re-enrollment form, or the accuracy of the data used by CCWQP to produce your annual bill for participation in the CMP *you must contact* the RWQCB: **Water Board staff at (805) 549-3875 or AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov**

Groundwater Monitoring

CCWQP does not conduct groundwater monitoring for farmers.

If prior to August 1st you did not elect in the eNOI to participate in possible future cooperative groundwater monitoring you must sample your well(s) before the end of December and again next Spring, have the water analyzed by an approved lab and submit the results next year. If you choose one of the approved labs, call them prior to sampling to make sure you are taking and transporting the sample correctly for the lab. Most labs will provide you with a clean container. The lab must upload your results to the RWQCB GeoTracker database. Not all labs have this capability.

You can also use a previous sample if it was taken within the past five years and analyzed by a lab using EPA approved methods. You must upload those results on the lab's printed form in pdf format to the RWQCB GeoTracker database before the deadline next year.

If you have any questions contact any of the RWQCB staff at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3/water_issues/programs/ag_wai vers/docs/ag_contacts_8_22_12.pdf.

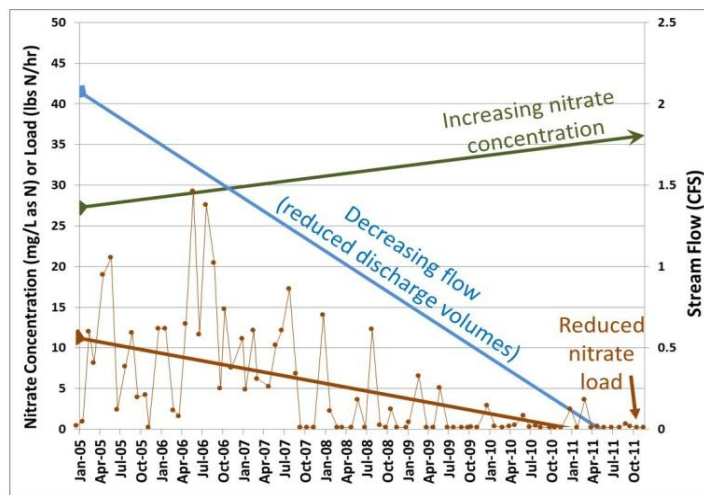
Two Kinds of Water Quality "Change"

As farms work to improve water quality, we should remember that change can take two forms. Some farms can improve the *quality* of their discharges while still discharging the same volume of water. This will reduce concentrations in-stream, hopefully bringing water into compliance with numeric water quality objectives. Often though, it is more practical for farms to reduce the *volume* of discharges, which does not immediately improve concentration-based water quality, but does reduce *loading* to downstream areas. When reduced loads mix with water in downstream water bodies (i.e. are diluted), the desired concentration-based improvements occur.

$$[\text{Concentration}] \times [\text{Flow}] \times [K^*] = \text{Load}$$

*K = Constant to convert concentration & flow units to loading [Mass/Time]

Example: In Quail Creek (south of Salinas), local nitrate load decreased while concentrations increased. Growers have reduced discharge volumes to a point where nitrate loads have significantly decreased, which reduces loading to the Salinas River and improves water quality there.



Aquatic toxicity (to fish, invertebrates, or algae) is related to the concentration of toxicants in water or sediment. In ag runoff, load reductions alone will not necessarily reduce local aquatic toxicity (because concentration is what controls toxicity), but will improve conditions further down the watershed where dilution occurs.

In June 2012, for the first time in 8 years of CMP monitoring, toxicity to invertebrate survival in Quail Creek sediments was not observed. The ability of test invertebrates to reproduce was still impaired, but survival rate was not. In 2010 the CMP measured Chlorpyrifos and Pyrethroid pesticides in Quail sediments, many times higher than the toxic concentration. The high survival rate observed in 2012 could only have occurred if pesticide concentrations were reduced.