

**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 (**Water 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 contaminants (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.

- Members will be required to submit a **Farm Evaluation** to the Association specifying measures the farm is taking to protect water quality. (The KBWQA will provide members more information and hold education workshops to assist members in understanding and complying with this and the following requirements)
- 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.
- Members will be required to **annually attend Association sponsored (or co-sponsored) education/outreach events**.
- 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**.
- 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.
- Members shall provide the Association with information requested for compliance with the General Order.
- The Water Board is likely to continue to increase enforcement actions against landowners and operators that do not obtain regulatory coverage either through the Association or the Individual Order.
- 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. Members with high-vulnerability land will be identified by the KBWQA in the Groundwater Quality Assessment Report (GAR).

Report	Vulnerability	Farm Size	First Due Date	Renewal Frequency
Farm Evaluation	High	All	March 1, 2016	Annually
	Low	Large (≥ 60 ac)	March 1, 2016	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 Plans	High	Large (≥ 60 ac)	March 1, 2016 (Must be certified)	Annually
		Small (< 60 ac)	March 1, 2017	Annually
	Low	All	March 1, 2017	Annually