

Consultant Webinar: Salt and Nitrate Permit Compliance in the Central Valley

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) is hosting a live webinar for municipal and industry consultants in all disciplines of water resource management. The webinar will provide an opportunity to learn firsthand from the people who developed new nitrate and salt permit requirements approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Thursday, July 2, 2020

10:30 a.m. to noon

Overview of new nitrate and salt control programs and permit requirements

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m

Nitrate Management Zones in Priority 1 subbasins

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Why Attend?

In late May 2020, Notices to Comply were sent to permittees in high-priority areas where implementation will begin immediately. These areas include six Central Valley subbasins: Kaweah, Turlock, Chowchilla, Tule, Modesto, and Kings.

Consultants will be critical in assisting permitted dischargers complying with new nitrate control permit requirements.

Professional services consultants will gain an understanding of the new nitrate and salt regulations and how their services may help permittees implement these regulations. Webinar topics include:

- Compliance options now available for permittees
- Activities and timelines for compliance
- Providing safe drinking water to communities in need
- Potential service needs for permittees and coalitions

Who Should Attend?

Professional services consultants involved in water quality, nitrate discharge compliance, and safe drinking water in the Central Valley should attend. The following technical and management services may be involved:

- Hydrogeology and groundwater quality characterization
- Drinking water program development and management
- Nitrate source identification and management
- Permit compliance assistance
- Compliance mapping, data management, and reporting management and communications

- Management planning and proposal development and documentation
- Outreach, facilitation, and collaboration with permit holders
- Governance agreements and contracts
- Administration, fund management, and program management
- Outreach and engagement with stakeholders and communities
- Cost estimating, cost allocation, and funding

Vendors of water treatment technologies and drinking water services may be interested in attending, but this webinar is targeted to professional services needs for nitrate and salts permit compliance in the Central Valley.

Please forward this email to consultants, attorneys, and community leaders who should attend this event.

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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.

Parry Klassen, Executive Director, East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition, Modesto, CA

Parry is an avid grower, farming 20 acres of peaches and pomegranates near Reedley, CA. He is currently assisting in the development of a management zone in the Priority 1 Modesto and Turlock subbasins. Parry is also involved in developing the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative, a joint effort of several of the ILRP coalitions to develop a valley-wide groundwater quality trend monitoring network.

Charlotte Gallock, Manager of Water Resources, Kings River Conservation District, Fresno, CA.

Charlotte is a Professional Civil Engineer and currently the Director of Water Resources for Kings River Conservation District. Gallock serves as a regulatory expert for the Kings River region, helping local water agencies implement state regulations on matters related to groundwater and water quality. In addition to her role as the Coordinator for the Kings River Water Quality Coalition, Gallock is also

Nitrate Brochure & Management Zone Templates 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 health standards.

The Nitrate Control Program will begin in Priority 1 groundwater subbasins that include Kaweah, Turlock, Chowchilla, Yuba, Rodoto, 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:

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

- REGULATED DISCHARGER
- NO MANAGEMENT ZONE
- Higher Nitrate Priority
- Priority 1
- Priority 2
- Not Prioritized

1. The water quality of Priority 1 subbasins is affected. Subbasins that are not in Priority 1, but are in the same watershed, are not affected. Priority 1 subbasins are: Kaweah, Turlock, Chowchilla, Yuba, Rodoto, 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.

New Nitrate Brochure

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

[Nitrate Control Program](#)

Management Zone Pilot Study Guidance to Develop Key Elements of a Preliminary Management Zone Proposal with Early Action Plan



Management Zones

Templates developed during the Pilot Study are included in this guidance document.

[Joining a Management Zone](#)