

REVIEW DRAFT ONLY

Technical Committee Recommendations for Changes/ Additions to the Draft Eastern San Joaquin River watershed WDR and MRP Governing Discharges from Irrigated Agriculture

On May 17th the Technical Advisory Committee convened a conference call to review the draft ESJR WDR and MRP. Following are suggestions presented by Committee members during that call:

1. Water Budget

To assist the understanding on of the salinity and nitrate budgets utilize and link to the CV-SALTS Water Balance Budgets created for the Initial and Salt and Nutrient Management Plan Conceptual Model work. The will allow consistent estimation of an Annual Regional Water Budget to support the development of appropriate management alternative.

2. Nitrogen Budget Template

Propose a template for nitrogen budgets that can become standardized across Coalitions allowing CV-SALTS to make use of the information as developed. Utilize a scientifically defensible methodology in the template. Ensure that the format or aggregated data from the templates is coordinated with CV-SALTS; the data can be connected to conceptual model and numeric models that CV-SALTS may use.

3. Time Schedules are Appropriate for Compliance

The 10-year timeline identified for compliance from SQMP or GQMP submission especially in groundwater, is not likely to be achievable. A longer schedule is likely appropriate for full compliance.

4. Monitoring Parameters

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) should be considered for addition to the compounds monitored for added to Table 2, Page 8 of the draft MRP, when appropriate this will increase the understanding of the nature of the salinity and potential solutions CV-SALTS may consider.

In areas where it is established that elevated EC is common, the Committee recommends additional monitoring for other salt related constituents to assist in characterization and identifying solutions. Examples could include sodium, chloride and other dominant ions/ anions).

5. MRP Table 3. Trend Monitoring Constituents

Members of the Committee also recommended requesting annual monitoring for TDS along and nitrogen rather than the five year interval. This will allow more rapid and comprehensive trend monitoring.

6. Frequency and Removal

The process for reducing frequency or removing constituents from the analyte list is appropriate and should be proposed in the plan. Analytes could be reduced in frequency or removed from monitoring when a stable trend is determined; a contaminant is no longer present in regulatory concentrations or other appropriate situations. Revisions should consider salinity needs; currently the document appears to focus more on nitrate and pesticides.