

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

1 December 2015

Agricultural Water Quality Coalitions
[See Attached List]

PROVISION OF SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL PLAN TEMPLATE

Thank you for your 9 October 2015 submittal of a proposed Sediment and Erosion Control Plan template. Per Section VII.C. of your respective Third-party Group General Orders under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, I am providing the attached Sediment and Erosion Control Plan template that must be distributed to your Members and used by them to fulfill the applicable requirements of the General Order governing discharge from their irrigated lands. Any proposed changes to the Template instructions or form must be approved by me prior to the change being implemented. The draft Template was made available for public review and comment from 21 October through 20 November 2015.

The attached Sediment and Erosion Control Plan template differs from your 9 October 2015 submittal in the following ways:

1. We have added a requirement for the inclusion of a map of the respective farming operation to the Template.
2. We revised the Section 4 instructions to clarify that the certifying agencies are not required to complete the Sediment and Erosion Control Plan, but that the Plan must adhere to the site-specific recommendations provided by the listed agency.
3. We added a footnote to the management practice inventory table stating that completion of the Template does not relieve Members from any permitting requirements triggered by the disturbance of waters of the United States (i.e., clarify that federal or state permits may be required for conducting work within a surface water body).
4. We have made minor revisions to the Template that include grammatical edits and changes to items such as column headings. These changes do not alter the Template requirements or format.

We appreciate the work you and other agricultural stakeholders have put into developing the Sediment and Erosion Control Plan template. We look forward to working with you in this important effort to assist growers in minimizing the discharge of sediment to surface water.

If you have questions regarding this approval, please contact Sue McConnell at (916) 464-4798.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition

Parry Klassen
1201 L Street
Modesto, CA 95354

Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition

Bruce Houdesheldt
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 335
Sacramento, CA 95814

San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition

Mike Wackman
3422 W. Hammer Lane, Suite A
Stockton, CA 95219

Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority

Casey Creamer
P.O. Box 8259
Fresno, CA 93747

Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition

David DeGroot
2904 W. Main Street
Visalia, CA 93291

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority

Nicole Bell
P.O. Box 151
Bakersfield, CA 93302

cc: Clay Rodgers, Central Valley Water Board, Fresno
George Day, Central Valley Water Board, Redding

Buena Vista Coalition

Tim Ashlock
P.O. Box 756
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Cawelo Water District

David Hampton
17207 Industrial Farm Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Westside Water Quality Coalition

Greg Hammet
21908 Seventh Standard Rd.
McKittrick, CA 93251

Westlands Coalition

Charlotte Gallock
P.O. Box 6056
Fresno, CA 93703

Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition

Joseph McGahan
P.O. Box 2157
Los Banos, CA 93635

Attachments: Template for Sediment and Erosion Control Plan

R:\RB5\R5SSections\Irrigated Lands Assessment Planning\Units\Monitoring Implementation\Coalition Groups\Templates\SECP-Template

Template for Sediment and Erosion Control Plan

General Instructions

Introduction: Soil erosion and sediment deposition from farmlands can contribute to degraded surface water quality. Sediment delivery is known to be relatively high in areas where there are steep slopes, erodible soils, or rainfall runoff activity. Dirt roads, stream crossings, and other areas of disturbed ground where bare soils are susceptible to the erosive action of flowing water can also be contributors of sediment to water bodies.

A Sediment Discharge and Erosion Assessment Report (**SDEAR**) was prepared by your water quality Third-Party Group/Coalition and approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (**Water Board**) as required by the General Order. Based on the approved SDEAR, it was determined that agricultural lands in the area you farm are prone to erosion and possible discharge of sediment and which could degrade surface water quality. Because of that potential, you are required to use this template to prepare and have certified a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan (**SECP** or **Plan**) for the parcels. The Plan must be maintained at the farming operation's headquarters or primary place of business. **DO NOT SUBMIT THIS PLAN TO YOUR COALITION.** Upon request, the Plan must be made available to the Water Board or an authorized representative, should they conduct an inspection of your farming operation.

The Plan will help identify the erosion sources and potential locations of sediment discharge that could affect the quality of storm water and irrigation water discharges off your farm lands. As part of the Plan, you are asked to document the management practices you have or plan to implement based on the potential for sediment discharge and erosion from your parcels. The plan development must adequately address your operation and must be implemented to address site specific conditions.

Section Instructions

Section 1: General Information

- a. Fill in or update any parcels and/or corresponding field(s) which have been identified as requiring a Sediment Discharge and Erosion Control Plan.
- b. Provide any additional information pertinent to the site under General Information Comments.

Section 2: On-farm Sediment and Erosion Management Practices

- a. Use this list of *On-farm Sediment and Erosion Control Practices* to identify all the sediment and erosion control practices currently implemented and proposed to be implemented on the parcels identified in Section 1.
- b. Insert the Management Practice Code into the table in Section 3.

Section 3: Sediment and Erosion Control Site Evaluation

- a. Attach a map of your farming operation (you can use the map that was a part of your Farm Evaluation Survey, or draw/develop a map of your farming operation). The map should show parcel(s) outlines and include the Assessors Parcel Number (APN), and Field ID.
- b. Use the evaluation table provided to determine areas of your operation that are prone to erosion and sediment discharge and that require further evaluation on your part.
- c. The table lists several suggested sites (provide your own site-specific locations if necessary) to be evaluated; they may require you to visit the location to determine if different management

practices are needed to minimize the transport of sediment from the evaluated areas and into adjacent streams, channels, or drains.

- d. Assign a *Location ID Point* to that site in the table and on the attached map that you are evaluating. The *Location ID Points* are consecutive numbers assigned to the locations.
- e. The practices recorded in this Plan should correspond to the Location ID Points on the map. The ID point will become a reference that can be used to locate the site if future evaluation is needed.
- f. Using the appropriate Management Practice ID Code from Section 2, identify which Management Practices (if any) are currently being employed at the site; also identify the Management Practice(s) proposed to mitigate the sediment discharge and/or erosion and place the appropriate code(s) in the table.
- g. Lastly, provide the date you propose that the new Management Practice(s) will be fully implemented.

Section 4: Sediment and Erosion Control Plan Certification

Using the boxes, identify the method used to complete the Plan, provide the required information and sign. The Plan must be prepared in one of the following ways:

- (1) The Plan must adhere to the site-specific recommendations provided by the listed agency. The Member must retain written documentation of the site-specific recommendation provided and certify that they are implementing the recommendations; or
- (2) The Plan must be written, amended, and certified by a qualified professional possessing the required registrations or certifications and have appropriate experience with erosion issues on irrigated agricultural lands; or
- (3) The Plan must be prepared and self-certified by the Member, who has completed a training program that the Executive Officer of the Water Board concurs provides necessary training for sediment and erosion control plan development; or
- (4) The Plan must be prepared and certified in an alternative manner approved by the Executive Officer. Such approval will be provided based on the Executive Officer's determination that the alternative method for preparing the Plan meets the objectives and requirements of the Order.

Sediment and Erosion Control Plan (SECP) Template

Member Name: _____

1. General Information:

Provide the required information where indicated.

| Parcel (APN) | Field ID(s) |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

General Information Comments:

Name of Person Completing the Template:

Member Name: _____

2. On-farm Sediment and Erosion Management Practices:

Use these Practice Codes to insert into the table in Section 3.

| Management Practice Code | Inventory of Sediment and Erosion Control Practices |
|--|--|
| Current Irrigation Infrastructure Practices | |
| I-1 | Drip/microspray irrigation installed and used. |
| I-2 | Use of irrigation equipment (sprinklers, micro-sprinklers, emitters, etc.) to match soil infiltration rates as much as possible to prevent runoff. |
| I-3 | Recirculation systems are used to keep sediment and farm inputs on site. Water is recirculated to irrigate other fields. |
| I-4 | In-furrow dams are used to increase infiltration and settling out of sediment prior to entering the tail ditch. |
| I-5 | Storm water is captured using field borders to reduce runoff and supplement field irrigation. |
| I-6 | Use of flow dissipaters to minimize erosion at discharge point. |
| I-7 | Shorter irrigation runs are used with checks to manage and capture flows. |
| I-8 | Land grading has been done to increase irrigation efficiency and improve control of drainage. |
| I-9 | Fields are planted on the contour to reduce runoff. |
| I-10 | Crop rows are graded, directed and at a length that will optimize the use of rain and irrigation water. |
| I-11 | Berms are constructed at low ends of fields to capture runoff and trap sediment. |
| I-12 | Vegetative filter strips and buffers are used to capture flows. |
| I-13 | Subsurface pipelines are used to channel runoff water. |
| I-14 | Hedgerows or trees are used to help stabilize soils and trap sediment movement. |
| I-15 | Sediment basins / holding ponds are used to settle out sediment and hydrophobic pesticides such as pyrethroids from irrigation and storm runoff. |
| I-16 | Other irrigation practices (attach additional sheets if necessary to list and describe practices): |
| | |
| Current Irrigation Management Practices | |
| M-1 | Use of irrigation scheduling methods and equipment to match irrigations to crop needs where possible. |
| M-2 | The time between pesticide applications and the next irrigation is lengthened as much as possible to mitigate runoff of pesticide residue. |
| M-3 | Vegetated ditches are used to remove sediment as well as water soluble pesticides, phosphate fertilizers and some forms of nitrogen. |
| M-4 | Cover crops or native vegetation are used to reduce erosion. |
| M-5 | Soil water penetration has been increased through the use of amendments, deep ripping and/or aeration. |
| M-6 | PAM (polyacrylamide) used in furrow and flood irrigated fields to help bind sediment and increase infiltration. |
| M-7 | Minimum tillage incorporated to minimize erosion. |
| M-8 | Other irrigation management practices (attach additional sheets if necessary to list and describe practices): |
| | |
| Other Practices | |
| O-1 | Grade access roads to reduce on-road erosion. |
| O-2 | Control concentrated drainage on roads with culverts, rolling dips, etc. |
| O-3 | Direct drainage off road to vegetated area, ditches, sediment basins, etc. |
| O-4 | Protect roads in rainy season by seeding roads, rice straw, gravel, avoid use, etc. |
| O-5 | Check culverts in rainy season to ensure they are not plugged with debris. |
| O-6 | Minimize erosion downstream of culverts by using energy dissipaters. |
| O-7 | Remove/avoid stream crossings wherever possible. * |
| O-8 | Creek banks and stream banks have been stabilized. * |

* Federal and state permits may be required prior to conducting work in surface waters (e.g. bank stabilization, crossings). If an United States Army Corps of Engineers permit, or any other federal permit, is required due to the disturbance (in-water work) of waters of the United States (such as streams and wetlands), then a Water Quality Certification must be obtained from the Central Valley Water Board prior to initiation of project activities. For questions regarding Water Quality Certification, contact the Central Valley Water Board Certifications Unit, Elizabeth Lee (Elizabeth.Lee@waterboards.ca.gov).

Member Name: _____

Control Practice Comments:

Member Name: _____

3. Sediment and Erosion Control Site Evaluation:

List of suggested locations/sites to evaluate:

(Provide your own site-specific locations if necessary.)

Farm Fields

Discharge Points from the Field

Discharge Points into Drains

Water Delivery Canals

Culverts

Stream Crossings

Access Roads

Attach additional sheets, if necessary, to include all locations that require evaluation

| Evaluated On-farm Locations | Location ID Point | Evaluation Date | Current Practice ID Code (if any) | Existing Practices Sufficient | Recommended Practice ID Code | Planned Implementation Date |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Member Name: _____

4. Sediment and Erosion Control Plan Certification

On the following table place a check mark next to the choice of the method to certify the Sediment and Erosion Control Plan. Supply the additional information required for the method of choice and provide the necessary signature.

| Qualifying Sediment and Erosion Control Plan Certification Methods | | |
|---|--|--|
| Mark Selected Method | Certification that Plan adheres to a site-specific Agency recommendation or County Ordinance | Area Office/County |
| | Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) | |
| | University of California Cooperative Extension | |
| | Resource Conservation District | |
| | County Ordinance Applicable to Sediment & Erosion | |
| | Qualifying Professional Certification/Registration | Certification/Registration Number |
| | California Registered Professional Civil Engineer | |
| | California Registered Professional Geologist | |
| | California Registered Professional Engineering Geologist | |
| | California Registered Professional Landscape Architect | |
| | NRCS Certified Conservation Planner | |
| | American Institute of Hydrology: Professional Hydrologist | |
| | American Society of Agronomy: Certified Soil Scientist | |
| | EnviroCert International, Inc: Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control | |
| | EnviroCert International, Inc: Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality | |
| | National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies: Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control | |
| | Alternative Certification Methods | Training Program/Method |
| | Self-certified by Member | |
| | Executive Officer's Approved Method | |

Printed Name: _____

Certifying Signature: _____ Date: _____