

Proposed Nitrogen Reporting  
Requirements:  
Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural  
Order Revisions

October 2017 Draft



# What does “precedential” mean?

- Nitrogen reporting requirements are precedential (exceptions to be discussed)
- Specific requirements of the newly released order, including timelines, are effective for the East San Joaquin growers upon adoption of the order
- All other orders must be revised by the regional board before precedential direction becomes effective
- Pending petitions must be resolved first



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: Who Reports (and When)

- Low and high vulnerability areas prepare certified nitrogen plan and submit summary report
- High vulnerability: Already preparing certified plan and submitting summary report; revisions to data reported are effective for March 1, 2019 Report
- Low vulnerability: Already preparing plan; must certify beginning March 1, 2020, must submit summary report beginning March 1, 2021



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: Who Reports

## Exception:

- Commodity groups or growers in certain areas may demonstrate that nitrogen reporting not appropriate
- Demonstration: “Nitrogen applied to the fields does not percolate below the root zone in any significant amount and does not migrate to surface water through discharges, including drainage, runoff, or sediment erosion.”
- To be approved by the regional board



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: What is Reported

## Data Kept on-Farm:

- Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan (INMP) (Handout 1)
  - Certification includes self-certification option
  - New certification language to address liability
    - *Certifier may rely on the information and data provided by the Member*
    - *Certifier is not responsible for any damages, loss, or liability for Member's subsequent implementation of the INMP in a manner inconsistent with certifier's recommendations*
    - *Recommendations informed by applicable training for meeting the crop's agronomic needs while minimizing nitrogen loss to surface water and groundwater*
    - *Certification does not create any liability for claims for environmental violations*
- (Appendix A, Attachment B MRP, pp. 35-36 )



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: What is Reported

## Data Reported from Growers to Coalition:

- See Handout 2 for Summary Report Data
- Nitrogen applied in irrigation water, in synthetic fertilizers, and in organic amendments
- Crop yield



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: What is Reported

## Values Calculated by the Coalition:

- Nitrogen removed based on crop yield and coefficient
- Coefficients to be developed by coalition and approved by Regional Board – 95% by 2021, 99% by 2023
- Nitrogen Applied/Nitrogen Removed (A/R Ratio)
- Nitrogen Applied-Nitrogen Removed (A-R Difference)



# Proposed Nitrogen Reporting: What is Reported

## Data Reported from the Coalition to the Regional Board:

- See Handout 3 for data reported to regional board
- Field-level nitrogen data reported to regional board in three tables, without name and location identifiers
  - With anonymous member IDs
  - With anonymous location IDs
  - Aggregated by township
- Exception where no coalition (Central Coast)

