

WHAT ARE SEDIMENT AND TURBIDITY?

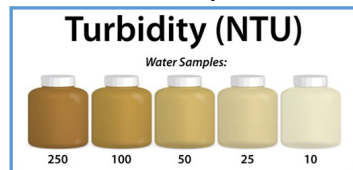
Regional Board is increasingly focused on sediment & erosion control as a means of protecting surface water quality. Parcels determined to be high risk for sediment discharges to surface water will be required to complete certified sediment & erosion control plans. Members will be notified soon of each parcel's risk status and deadlines for completion of plans.

What do the rules say?*

All Members shall implement effective sediment discharge and erosion prevention practices to minimize or eliminate the discharge of sediment above background levels.

Sediment The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters shall not be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Turbidity is a measure of light scattered due to particulates in water. Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. Increases in turbidity attributable to controllable water quality factors shall not exceed the following limits:



| Natural Turbidity | Maximum Increase |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 0-50 NTU | 20% |
| 50-100 NTU | 10 NTU |
| Greater than 100 NTU | 10% |

For more information, sign up for the Sediment & Erosion Control Self-Certification Course on practices (see insert)

*From Sac Valley Order and Central Valley Basin Plan

Examples of Sediment/Erosion Control Practices



Polyacrylamide Application



Orchard Cover Crops

2016-2017 MONITORING RESULTS

We participated in coordinated monitoring at our Ulatis Creek site to reduce costs & overlap with other monitoring programs. There was no required monitoring at Shag Slough. Z-Drain was monitored in April and August only. There were **NO PESTICIDE EXCEEDANCES IN 2016-2017!**

Our management plan to address Diuron and related algae toxicity in Ulatis Creek was deemed complete after four years without an exceedances. Management plans for sediment toxicity from pyrethroids* in Z-Drain and for chlorpyrifos* in Ulatis Creek will continue until we have three years with no exceedances. Regional Board staff and Board members have referenced Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalitions' successful reductions in pesticide exceedances as proof that group compliance is effective. Keep up the good work!

USE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN APPLYING PRODUCTS with Chlorpyrifos including: Cobalt, Dursban, Lorsban, Govern, Lock-on, Eraser, Vulcan, Warhawk Pyrethroids (Lamda-Cyhalothrin, Bifenthrin, Esfenvalerate, Cypermethrin, etc.) including: Cobalt, Lamda-Cy, Lambdastar, Warrior II, Karate, Ammo, Mustang, Silencer, Asana SL, Pounce, Baythroid, Besiege etc.

**Thoughts About Oil Recycling
Amy King — Solano RCD**

Solano RCD is working with growers to recycle their used oil and oil filters. A major part of this effort is a survey of Solano County farmers and ranchers to hear how they recycle their oil products. We would love to hear from you to conduct a brief survey and get your thoughts on the current availability of recycling facilities and what you think would improve them! In addition, if you have oil stored on your property and need to have it recycled, please give us a call; we have limited grant funds available to assist you with oil recycling at no cost to you.

Please direct all inquiries to Allison Meador at (707) 678-1655 x116.

Visit Our Websites www.dixonrcd.org & www.solanorcd.org

| Dixon/Solano Coalition July 2015 - June 2016 Finances | |
|--|--------------------|
| Total Income 07/15—06/16 | \$ 395,893 |
| Membership Fees (\$3.00/acre) | \$ 387,649 |
| New Parcel Initiation Fees | \$ 6,926 |
| Interest + Misc. Revenue | \$ 1,318 |
| Total Expenses 07/15—06/16 | \$ 353,676 |
| RCD Staff | \$ 129,765 |
| RCD Direct Costs | \$ 11,100 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | \$ 33,285 |
| Groundwater Requirements | \$ 66,797 |
| SVWQC Fees | \$ 16,302 |
| State Board Fees (75 cents/acre) | \$ 96,427 |
| Fund Balance 07/15 | \$ 120,791* |

| Dixon/Solano Coalition Projected July 2016 - June 2017 Finances | |
|--|-------------------|
| Budgeted Income 07/16—06/17 | \$ 385,711 |
| Membership Fees (\$3.00/acre) | \$ 384,861 |
| New Parcel Initiation Fees | \$ 0 |
| Interest | \$ 850 |
| Budgeted Expenses 07/16—06/17 | \$ 434,100 |
| RCD Staff | \$ 164,235 |
| RCD Direct Costs | \$ 17,650 |
| Surface Water Monitoring | \$ 53,000 |
| Groundwater/Reporting Requirements | \$ 83,000 |
| SVWQC Fees | \$ 20,000 |
| State Board Fees (75 cents/acre) | \$ 96,215 |
| Fund Balance 06/16 (projected) | \$ 72,402* |

*The Coalition policy is to maintain a minimum fund balance of \$50,000 to cover any additional required monitoring as well as to maintain a positive cash flow throughout the membership year. In order to maintain this balance annually, some years we will have a higher ending balance because under the new order some significant costs (including surface water monitoring) will vary considerably depending on the year. Our objective remains to keep program costs as low as possible, while still providing members the tools necessary to maintain compliance with water quality regulations. Several of the new requirements to address groundwater quality which were due to take effect in 2016 were delayed to 2017. In addition, local staff costs were less than expected. The Advisory Committee and RCD Board Members continue to review the financials closely in determining the per acre member fees. Along with other Coalitions, Dixon/Solano continues to explore options for online data entry of farm reporting and balancing the member benefit/cost-savings with the costs of the systems. In 2015-2016 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provided \$9,182 in funding assistance for the Coalition staff time to put on the farm reporting workshops.

JUST FOR FUN—List of Acronyms

- APN – Assessor's Parcel Number
- CCA – Certified Crop Advisor
- CDFA – California Department of Food and Agriculture
- CSECP – Certified Sediment and Erosion Control Plan
- CURES – Coalition for Urban/Rural Environment Stewardship
- CVRWQCB – Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- DRCD – Dixon Resource Conservation District
- FE – Farm Evaluations
- GAR – Groundwater Quality Assessment Report
- GQMP – Groundwater Quality Management Plan
- GSA – Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
- ILRP – Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
- MPEP – Management Practice Evaluation Program
- NCWA – Northern California Water Association
- NMP – Nitrogen Management Plan
- NMPSR – Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report
- NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
- PCA – Pest Control Advisor
- RB – Regional Board
- RCD – Resource Conservation District
- SDEAR – Sediment Discharge Erosion Assessment Report
- SECP – Sediment Erosion Control Plan
- SGMA – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SRCD – Solano Resource Conservation District
- SVWQC – Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition
- USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
- WDR – Waste Discharge Requirements
- WQC – Water Quality Coalition

| BOARD OF DIRECTORS — DIXON RCD | BOARD OF DIRECTORS — SOLANO RCD | COALITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mark Holdener | Joe Martinez | Bruce Brazelton |
| Rick Martinez | Paul Lum | Joe Martinez |
| Dave Viguie | Kurt Balasek | Cork McIsaac |
| Sam Beukelman | Darrell Hill | Paul Lum |
| Vacant | John Knowles | Guy Garcia |
| Jim Campbell, Associate | Randi Thompson | Rick Martinez |
| Leo Soukeris, Associate | Glenda Riddle | Spencer Bei |
| | Terry Riddle, Associate | Dave Viguie |
| | Kathi Stutz, Associate | Roy Gill |

Dixon/Solano Resource Conservation District Water Quality Coalition
 John Currey, District Manager Dixon RCD • Chris Rose, Executive Director Solano RCD
 1170 N. Lincoln Street, Suite 110 Dixon, CA 95620
 Phone: (707) 678-1655 • Kelly Huff, Project Manager x102 • Martha McKeen, Membership Coordinator x103

Dixon / Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition UPDATE

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ATTENTION:

DID YOU COMPLETE YOUR EDUCATION REQUIREMENT?

If you have not attended an outreach event for 2015-2016, please join us at the **ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING NOVEMBER 30TH 7-9 PM** Dixon Senior/Multiuse Center **RSVP Required. Call Martha at (707) 678-1655 x103**

NEW DUE DATE FOR FARM REPORTING 02/15/17



2016-2017 MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

Membership Updates: Please remember that updating contact information, parcel numbers, tenant information, etc. is the member's responsibility. Failure to do so could cause delay in receiving important dated materials. Multiple paperwork mailings increases cost for all members. Visit www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands-program/forms to find the CHANGE FORM needed to make changes or simply call Martha at (707) 678-1655 x103.

Education Requirements: Approximately 90% of the memberships fulfilled their education requirements in 2015. You must attend a *qualifying event*¹ within the 2016 calendar year for it to fulfill the 2016 education requirement. You can fulfill this requirement in many ways:

Attend² a meeting or workshop held by Dixon/Solano Water Quality Coalition (WQC) (see insert for upcoming events). Attend a meeting or event related to water quality hosted by another organization. Make an appointment with the Dixon/Solano WQC staff.

1. A qualifying event is any event that covers the protection of surface and/or groundwater quality. Please contact Kelly at (707) 678-1655 x102, to find out if the event you attended or will be attending will meet the requirement.

2. You may have a representative attend on your behalf. The individuals closely involved with the farming practices should be the representative attending.

Deadlines and Due Dates: There are various due dates in the program. This is because the Coalition has deadlines to meet, as well. Follow up on late payment of membership fees and/or farm reporting, ultimately leads to additional costs to all members. Please strive to meet the due dates to help keep the cost of the program as low as possible for everyone.

Important Dates to Remember: 2016-2017 Membership and RCD WQC Requirements:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| October 1 | RCD WQC: Invoices – mail to member or reporting party |
| November 15 | RCD WQC: Farm reporting – mail to member and/or reporting party |
| December 1 | Member or Reporting Party: Invoices – Payment DUE |
| Jan - Feb | Member or Reporting Party: Attend workshops and/or make office hour appointments to meet education requirements for 2017 |
| January 15 | RCD WQC: Second notice farm reporting reminders – mail to member and/or reporting party |
| February 15 | Member or Reporting Party: Farm reporting – DUE |
| Feb - March | RCD WQC: Second notice invoices – mail to member or reporting party |
| March - May | RCD WQC: Phone calls to members/reporting party with no payment and/or no farm reporting |
| April 15 | RCD WQC: Farm reporting due to the RB |
| July 1 | RCD WQC: Notice of membership revocation sent by certified mail for non-payment and failure to submit farm reporting |
| July 15 | RCD WQC: Annual WQC participant's list due to RB |

Note:

Completion rate for all required reporting in 2015-2016 was at 99%, however over 20% submitted their reports late. Reminders are expensive and late submittals make reporting to the Regional Board difficult. ☺



Solano Sub-Basin Map

WHY THE FOCUS ON GROUNDWATER?

Groundwater Quality—Under the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) the highest priority issue is nitrates from applied fertilizers. Several areas in California (including portions of Solano County) have elevated or upward trending nitrate levels. In addition to the farm level nitrogen management reporting requirements, coalitions are being required to research methods to reduce leaching of nitrates, monitor long-term trends in groundwater quality and in some cases to provide replacement drinking water.

Groundwater Supply—Starting in January 2015, local areas began to establish Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) that will develop plans to manage and protect groundwater supplies as required under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Although this is separate from the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), Dixon & Solano RCDs, along with other organizations that represent agriculture, are actively involved in the process. We will continue to participate, inform members of critical information and coordinate to reduce the chance for duplicative programs.

To receive regular updates on SGMA subscribe at <http://www.scwa2.com/resources-management/ground-water/sgma> or call John Currey (707) 678-1655 x105.

IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS by Paul Lum

Free of charge to any Solano grower for any crop irrigation practice! An evaluation involves trained staff spending a half-day in your field during an irrigation. For furrow and border strip irrigations, water advance rates and recession rates are timed, and the flow at the turnout is measured. Runoff is estimated. For pressurized systems, numerous flow and pressure readings are taken throughout the field, and the irrigation pump and filtration system is inspected. An evaluation report is prepared with recommendations for improving uniformity. The results for the flow and pressure measurements are included, and recommendations for irrigation scheduling are provided. To obtain a free irrigation evaluation, contact Paul at (707) 455-4024, LumP@sidwater.org

Regional Board is Stepping up Enforcement!

UNENROLLED PARCELS—Regional Board continues to issue administrative civil liability orders & fines to irrigated agricultural landowners that are not enrolled in a Coalition and/or don't have an individual permit*.

FAILURE TO SUBMIT REQUIRED REPORTS to COALITIONS—Regional Board is issuing fines for failure to submit Farm Evaluations & Nitrogen Reporting.

SEDIMENT DISCHARGES—Regional Board is issuing clean up and abatement orders for potential and alleged sediment discharges* (see article page 3).

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS—Regional Board is conducting site inspections to verify that the Irrigated Lands Program is functioning at the field level. So far, Coalitions and members have been given prior notice of the inspections and Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition together with USDA & NRCS staff have offered pre-site inspection site visits to review the RB checklist (available on our website).

Advice from Dixon/Solano Member site inspection in May:

- Have all required forms completed and bring copies. Prior to inspection, review your practices & be prepared to show them in the field plus answer questions.
- Review the Regional Board Checklist (available at www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands-program/forms).
- Remember YOU are the expert on your operation, this is your opportunity to inform RB staff and you may be able to direct the format of the site visit.
- PREPARATION IS WORTH YOUR TIME.

*Examples at: www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/grower_outreach_inf/formal_enforcement/index.shtml