

April 1, 2020

## San Diego Region Irrigated Lands Group Newsletter

*You are receiving this newsletter as a member of the San Diego Regional Irrigated Lands Group (SDRILG). As a reminder, SDRILG is a non-profit organization governed by seven farmers who volunteer their time as members of the board of directors. Joining SDRILG is a benefit exclusively for Farm Bureau members. As a member you are enrolled in a third-party group as required by the General Order for Agriculture (General Order) adopted by the State of California's San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Diego Water Board) for runoff pollution prevention.*

### Two Reports to Complete

Under normal circumstance you would have received this prompt to complete the reports required by the San Diego Water Board a few weeks ago. To give everyone a chance to acclimate to the COVID 19 situation you are receiving it now. Please note that your deadline for completion is APRIL 30, 2020. The online site will be taken down at the end of that day.

In addition to the first Quarterly Self-Inspection Report (Quarterly Inspection) for 2020, it is time to complete the Annual Self-Assessment Report (Annual Report) for calendar year 2019. Please keep in mind that the ongoing acceptance of the program, and not something more onerous, is largely dependent on the farm community's completion of these quarterly and annual reports and will keep you from having direct contact with the San Diego Water Board.

At the link <https://noi.sdrrigatedlandsgroup.org/asar/> you will access your Annual Report for the 2019 calendar year. Upon completion it will roll right into your first Quarterly Inspection for 2020. Once completed the two reports will be emailed to you, which you must keep for your records. Here are some comments and instructions for your 2019 Annual Report:

**Parts A, B, C, & D** – These will auto-fill based on information you previously submitted. Please make any needed changes.

**Part E** – If you completed the required annual pollution prevention training in-person or online this section will auto-fill. If you did not complete the training, you cannot make it up. We do not know how the San Diego Water Board will react to failure to complete the training. We strongly suggest you meet this requirement in 2020 (see Education item below).

**Part F** – The Quarterly Inspections you completed for 2019 will auto-fill for the dates they were submitted. Any that were not completed cannot be done now. We do not know how the San Diego Water Board will react to missing quarters. We strongly suggest that each 2020 Quarterly Inspection be completed when you are prompted by SDRILG.

**Part G** – Review the Water Quality Protection Plan you submitted with your Notice of Intent and note the changes if any were made.

**Part H** - Report on record-keeping and give explanations as needed. NOTE: The groundwater quality question only applies to on-farm drinking water wells.

**Part I** – If there were failures to report, we suggest you also note corrective actions.

**Part J** – Certification.

## 2019 First Quarter Self-Inspection

Following completion of your 2019 Annual Report you will move on to your first Quarterly Inspection for 2020. The form has no changes from the reports you filled out previously.

## Annual Education Requirement

Farm Bureau staff is being reorganized and a staff member will be given responsibility for overseeing the annual education requirement very soon. Before the end of the year there will be ample opportunity to complete the training online or in person, assuming relaxation of social distancing precautions.

## Annual Acreage Fee

In May you will receive your billing for your 2020 Acreage Fee that supports SDRILG operations. You will see that for the second year in a row the board of directors has reduced the fee per acre rate.

*As always, if you have any questions about SDRILG or your compliance responsibilities, please feel free to call 760-745-2215 or email [info@sdirrigatedlandsgroup.org](mailto:info@sdirrigatedlandsgroup.org). Please note that during the COVID 19 restrictions, the office is closed and you will need to leave a message. Messages are checked daily and you will receive a return call.*