

12th Annual Meeting
Costs & Consequences of
Invasive Plants

# NPDES Permits for Aquatic Herbicide Use in California

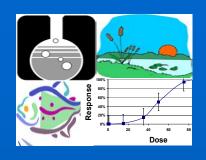
**October 11, 2002** 

Presented By: Michael Blankinship



Blankinship & Associates, Inc. Agricultural & Environmental Consultants

#### History

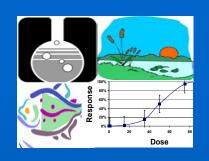


- 1996 Talent Irrigation District
  - -Acrolein/Copper
  - Leaking gate
  - -90,000 juvenile steelhead dead



- 1998 Headwaters Suit
  - -Alleged CWA Violation
  - -FIFRA Prevails...suit unsuccessful

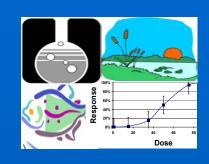
#### History (con't)



- 2001 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Decision
  - -Overturns Lower Court
  - CWA violation cited
  - -NPDES Permit required
  - -FIFRA superceded
  - -\$ 200,000 Settlement
  - Regional Consequences

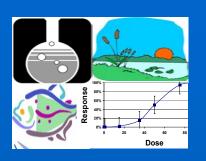


## Regional Consequences



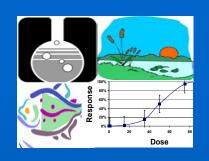
- California Subject to 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit
   Court Decision
- SWRCB issues Emergency General Permit for Discharge of Aquatic Pesticides
- Permit Expires January 2004

# The Permit for Discharge of Aquatic Pesticides



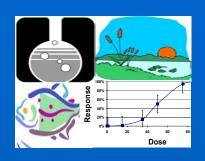
- You Need One if....
- The Requirements Are...
- It Costs How Much !?!
- How Long Does It Take ?

#### You Need One if....



- You apply aquatic pesticides to a waterbody
- Perceived CWA Violations and Subsequent Citizen Lawsuits Concern You
- You are Public Entity
- Note: If you are not a Public Entity, you need your own individual NPDES permit

#### Typical Aquatic Weeds

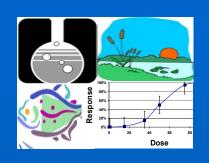


- Water milfoil (Myriophyllum aquaticum)
- Water Primrose (Ludwigea hexapetala)
- Cordgrass (Spartina alterniflora)
- Parrot feather (Myriophyllum aquaticum)
- Cattail (Typha spp)
- Bulrush (Scirpus fluviatilis)
- Giant reed (Arundo donax)



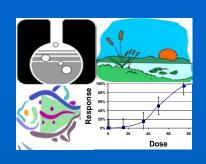


# You May <u>Not</u> Need One if You Apply to ....

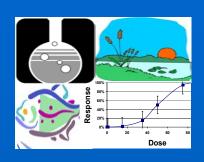


- A canal or ditch bank <u>above</u> the water level
- A <u>dry canal</u> that was or will be filled with water later
- To land where pesticide may be conveyed in storm or irrigation runoff
- Vernal pools
- Ponds that are <u>not</u> hydrologically connected to a water of the U.S.



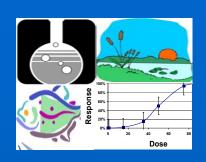


- Submit Notice of Intent
- Prepare Monitoring, Inspection and Reporting Plan
- Implement/Document BMPs Used for Control
- Evaluate Alternatives that May Protect Water Quality
- Report Monthly & Annually



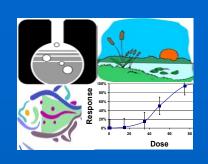
- Submit Notice of Intent
  - -Easy: \$400, 2 page form & map





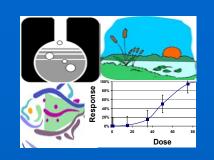
- Submit Notice of Intent
  - Prepare Monitoring,
     Inspection and Reporting
     Plan

...A little more work



- Prepare Monitoring, Inspection and Reporting Plan
  - 1) Characterize typical application sites
  - 2) Visually assess impacts
  - 3) Perform water quality analyses
  - 4) Prepare Quality Assurance Plan (QAP)
  - 5) Evaluate non- or less-toxic methods
  - 6) Evaluate BMP effectiveness
  - 7) Get Local RWQCB Approval

## RWQCB Aquatic NPDES Permit Contacts

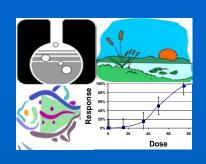




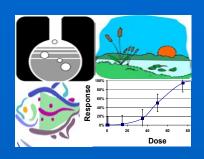
| Region/Office     | Aquatic Pesticide Contact | Phone Number   | Email address             |
|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| I Santa Rosa      | John Short                | (707) 576-2065 | Shorj@RB1.swrcb.ca.gov    |
| 2 Oakland         | Tina Low                  | (510) 622-5682 | TJL@RB2.swrcb.ca.gov      |
| 3 San Lois Obispo | Bill Arkfeid              | (805) 542-4627 | Barkfeld@rb3.swrcwca.gov  |
| 4 Los Angeles     | Augustine Anijielo        | (213) 576-6657 | Aanijiel@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov |
| 5 Fresno          | Doug Patteson             | (559) 445-5156 | PattesD@rb5f.swrcb.ca.gov |
| 5 Redding         | Dennis Wilson             | (530) 224-4848 | WILSOND@rb5r.swrcb.ca.gov |
| 5 Sacramento      | Emily Alejandrino         | (916) 255-0736 | AlejanE@RB5S.swrcb.ca.gov |
| 6 S. Lake Tahoe   | Alan Miller               | (530) 542-5430 | Milla@RB6S.swrcb.ca.gov   |
| 6 Victorville     | Jehiel Cass               | (760) 241-2434 | Jcass@RB6V.swrcb.ca.gov   |
| 7 Palm Desert     | Doug Wylie                | (760) 346-6585 | Wylie@RB7.swrcb.ca.gov    |
| 8 Riverside       | Nikki Outwin              | (909) 782-3238 | noutwin@RB8.swrcb.ca.gov  |
| 8 Riverside       | Gary Stewart              | (909) 782-4379 | Gstewart@RB8.swrcb.ca.gov |
| 9 San Diego       | Peter Michael             | (858) 467-2990 | Michp@RB9.swrcb.ca.gov    |
|                   |                           |                |                           |
| SWRCB             | Wayne Sobieralski         | (916) 445-9379 | sobiw@dwq.swrcb.ca.gov    |
| SWRCB             | Larry Nash                | (916) 341-5586 | nashl@dwq.swrcb.ca.gov    |
|                   |                           |                |                           |

(See your handout for a larger version)





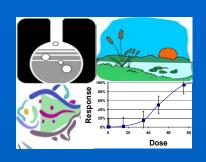
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  - Report Monthly & Annually



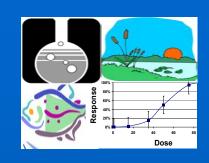
- Implement/Document BMPs Used for Control
  - Pictures and Field Notes
- Evaluate Alternatives that May Protect Water Quality
  - Pictures and Field Notes



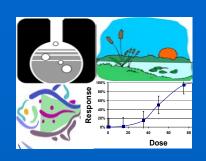




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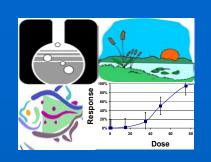


- Report Monthly & Annually
  - 1) Location, Name & Size of water body treated
  - 2) Name & amount of pesticide used
  - 3) Document BMP's and Alternatives
  - 4) Data on Sampling & Analysis



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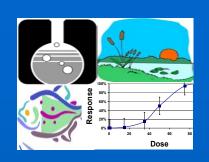
## It Costs How Much !?! Example: One Agency



- •NOI ..... \$400
- •PMP..... \$5,000
- Sampling..... \$1,000
- •Reporting..... \$2,500

**Est. Total:** \$8,900

### It Costs How Much !?! Example: Five Agencies



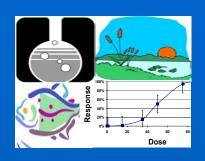
- NOI ..... \$400
- PMP..... \$10,000
- Sampling..... \$5,000
- Reporting..... \$5,500

Est. Total: \$20,900

Per Agency Cost: \$4,180



#### How Long Does It Take ?



NOI ......
PMP.....
PMP Approval...

Sampling.....
Reporting.....

1-2 weeks
2-4 weeks
RWQCB
Dependent
1-6 months















Protection

#### California Regional Water Quality Control Board

**Central Valley Region** 

Robert Schneider, Chair

#### Sacramento Main Office

Internet Address: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5 3443 Routier Road, Suite A, Sacramento, California 95827-3003 Phone (916) 255-3000 • FAX (916) 255-3015



Governor

6 August 2002

Michael Blankinship Blankinship & Associates, Inc 2940 Spafford Street, Suite 110 Davis, CA 95616

#### APPROVAL OF MONITORING PLAN UNDER THE GENERAL NPDES PERMIT NO. CAG990003 FOR DISCHARGES OF AQUATIC PESTICIDES

We have reviewed your Yolo Regional Monitoring Plan dated 31 July 2002. The plan is approved as submitted.

If you have any questions, please contact Emily Alejandrino at 916-255-0736.

THOMAS R. PINKOS
Acting Executive Officer

cc: Christy Barton, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Sal Espinoza, Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Lewis Bair, Reclamation District #108

John Webber, Reclamation District #999

California Environmental Protection Agency

