

# Water Quality Compliance Program for Discharges from Irrigated Lands

Item 16

January 19, 2012

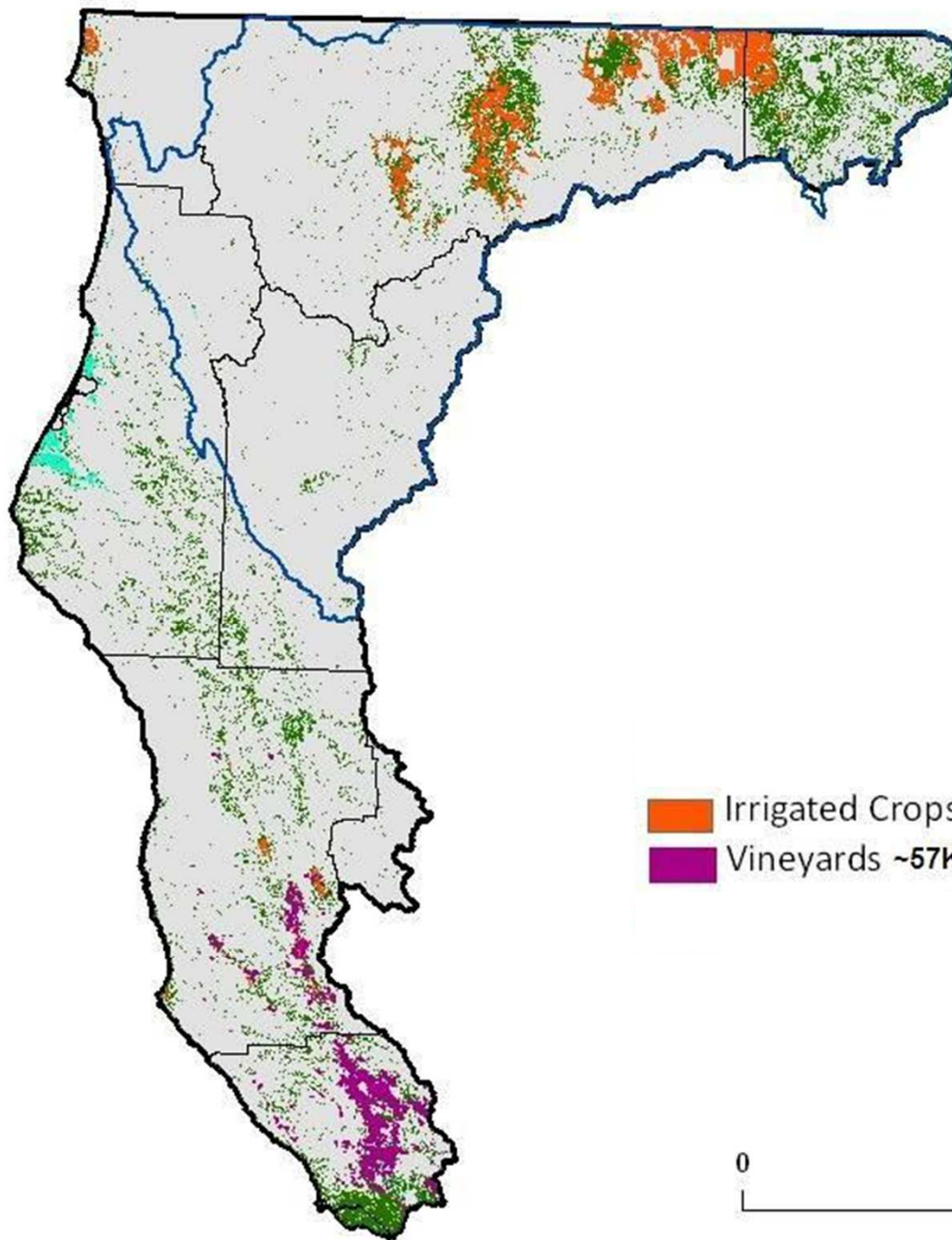
North Coast



Regional Water Quality Control Board

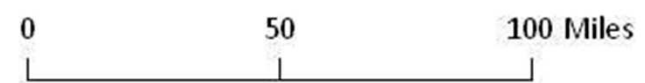
Ben Zabinsky

# Presentation Overview

- Program Purpose
- Progress to Date
- Stakeholder Advisory Group Process
- Next Steps
- Timeline



-  Irrigated Crops and Pasture ~325K acres
-  Vineyards ~57K acres



# Program Purpose

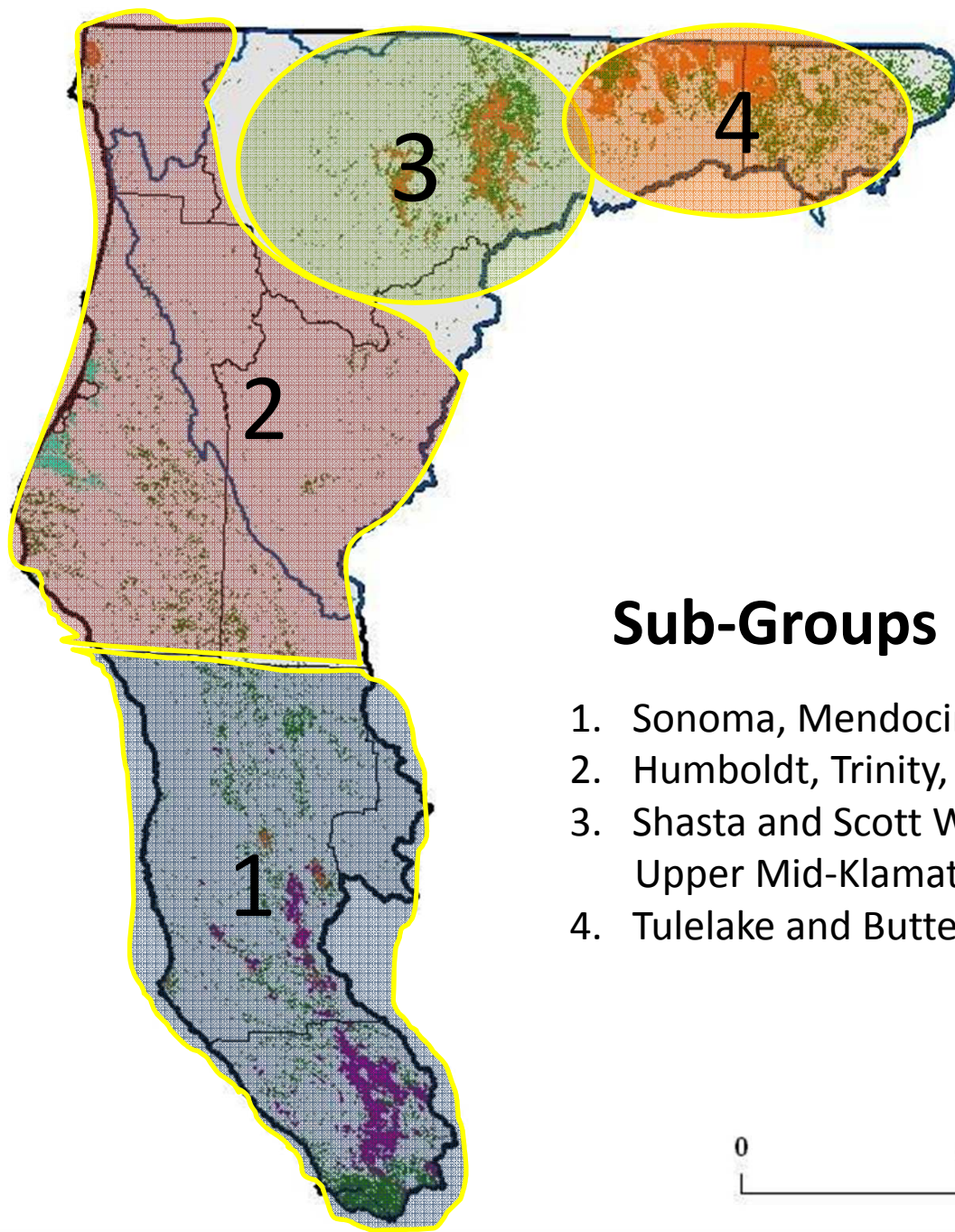
- Need for program to address discharges of waste from irrigated lands
- Fulfill California Water Code and NPS Policy
  - Regulate discharges through combination of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), waiver of WDRs, and/or prohibitions
- Address 303(d) listings
  - Vehicle for TMDL Implementation
- Protect high quality waters

# Progress to Date

- Initiated implementation of stakeholder involvement strategy
- Contracted with Center for Collaborative Policy to facilitate stakeholder process
- Formed Stakeholder Advisory Group
  - Outreach to stakeholder representatives
  - Stakeholder surveys
- Held first Advisory Group meeting

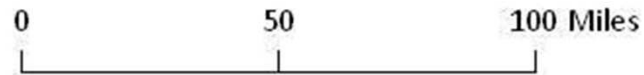
# Stakeholder Advisory Group

- Purpose is to provide recommendations to Regional Board staff
- Representation of interests
  - Industry, landowner, environmental, Tribal, technical, and agency
- Meet as full Advisory Group and also in subregional groups

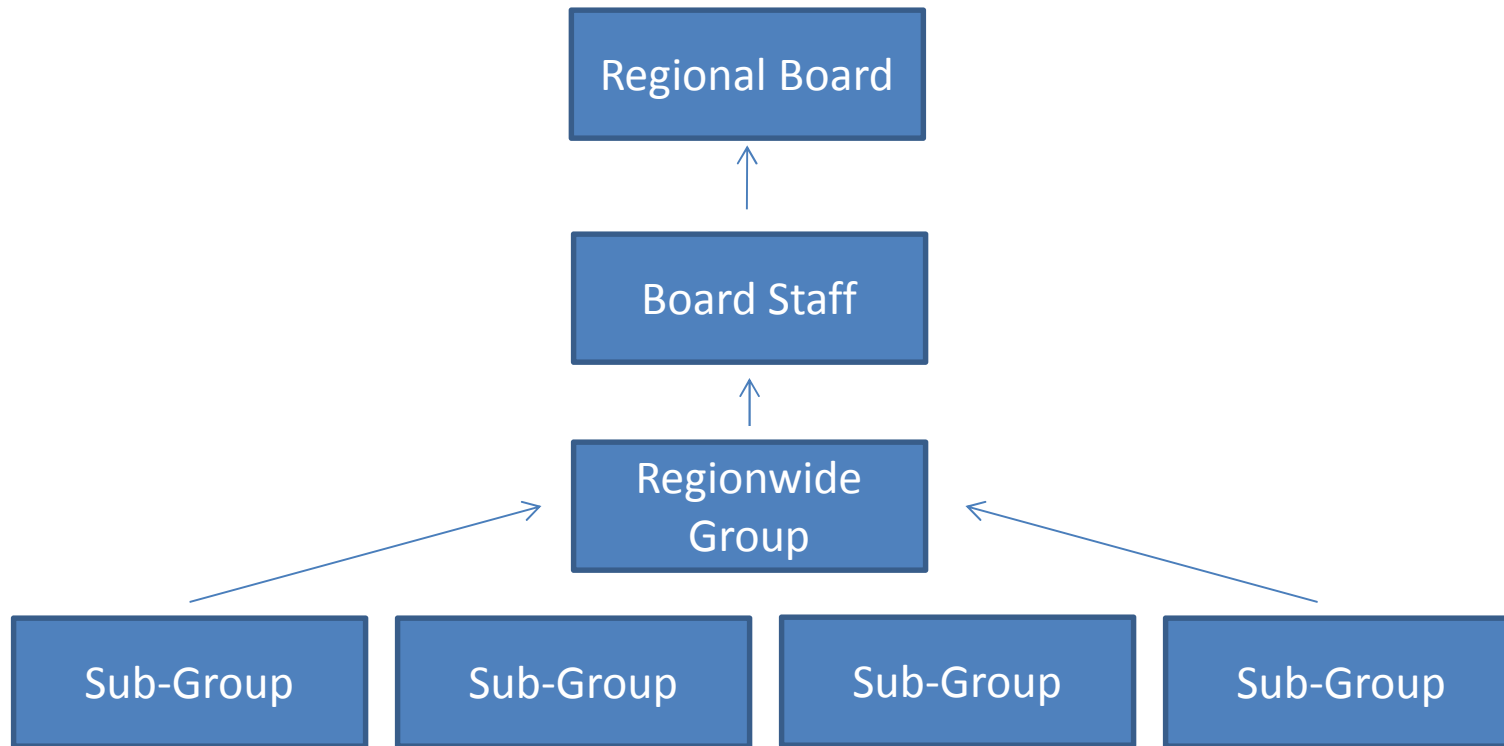


## Sub-Groups Boundaries

1. Sonoma, Mendocino, Marin Counties
2. Humboldt, Trinity, Del Norte Counties
3. Shasta and Scott Watersheds and Upper Mid-Klamath Area
4. Tulelake and Butte Valley Area



# Stakeholder Advisory Group



- Consensus not needed to move forward
- Range of recommendations to be presented in staff report to Board



# First Advisory Group Meeting

- Full group met on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Redding
- Staff presented background on program and options for program framework
- Facilitators presented group charter



# Topics of Discussion

- Makeup of Advisory Group
- Definition of irrigated lands
- Meeting process and materials
- Fees
- Risk Tiers

# Next Steps

- Scheduled sub-group meetings for end of February and March
- Full group meeting planned for May
- Advisory Group process will run through April 2013
- Public review draft – Summer 2013
- Board hearing on draft orders – Fall 2013

# Water Quality Compliance Program for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Contact Information

Ben Zabinsky – Program Development Lead

**Address** RWQCB, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**Email** bzabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov

**Phone** 707-576-6750

**Website** [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/  
programs/agriculture\\_and\\_irrigated\\_lands/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agriculture_and_irrigated_lands/)

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