

Order R1-2026-0035

**General Waste Discharge Requirements for Commercial Lily Bulb Operations in
the Smith River Plain**

Attachment C: Coalition Requirements

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Attachment C outlines the approval process and requirements for a Grower Coalition (Coalition) under this Order. Coalitions are programs or entities approved by the North Coast Water Board's Executive Officer to collect and submit State Board fees on behalf of Enrollees, provide education and resources to Enrollees, and may conduct monitoring and reporting on behalf of their members in accordance with the MRP.

A Coalition may be approved by the North Coast Water Board's Executive Officer following adoption of this Order in accordance with expectations and requirements in this Attachment. Once approved, the Coalition will be listed on the North Coast Water Board's Lily Bulb Program websiteⁱ.

I. Coalition Requirements

A. General Provisions

- 1) A Coalition that is approved to represent Enrollees under this Order shall, at a minimum, fulfill the following responsibilities:
 - a) Collect fees from its Enrollee members and submit payment to the State Water Resources Control Board,
 - b) Assist communication between its Enrollee members, the North Coast Water Board, and State Water Board, and
 - c) Provide compliance education resources for its Enrollee members.
- 2) The Coalition may fulfill certain monitoring and reporting requirements as specified in Attachment B: Monitoring and Reporting Program. However, this function is not required of a Coalition. For Enrollees who do not submit reporting information through the Coalition, they must report all information directly to the North Coast Water Board via GeoTracker.
- 3) The Coalition may work with multiple entities or programs to meet one or more of the above requirements provided the Coalition has binding agreements (e.g., through Memorandums of Agreement) that clearly define roles and responsibilities within each entity to meet all Coalition requirements.
- 4) The North Coast Water Board may revoke the status of an approved Coalition and require its enrolled Enrollees to enroll either individually or in another approved coalition if the Coalition fails to meet requirements of this Order after initial approval.
- 5) Prospective Coalition entities shall follow the procedures outlined below in Sections B and C to become an approved Coalition for this Order. Prospective Coalition(s) shall obtain written approval from the North Coast Water Board's Executive Officer prior to assisting Enrollees with compliance with this Order.

B. Minimum Qualifications

A prospective Coalition wishing to act as a representative on behalf of enrolled Enrollees shall meet the minimum qualifications below:

- 1) Administrative Capacity – The Coalition must have a well-defined governance and administrative structure with clearly defined roles and responsibilities, and shall demonstrate sufficient managerial and financial capacity to carry out fee collection and remittance to the State Water Board, Enrollee outreach and communication, and assistance to Enrollees with self-reporting and recordkeeping requirements under this Order.
- 2) Membership and fee accounting – The Coalition must track and provide ongoing accounting of its Enrollee membership and fees to document Enrollee compliance. The Coalition must have clearly stated membership eligibility requirements and report them to the North Coast Water Board as needed to document compliance.
- 3) Transparency and accountability – The Coalition must have meaningful and clearly stated goals, objectives, and associated performance metrics relevant to the Order requirements that are the focus of the program. The Coalition must provide regular assessments of its performance relative to its stated goals and objective based on meaningful performance metrics. This includes reporting of water quality data and farm-level data as needed to document compliance with this Order.
- 4) Compliance education – The Coalition must include continuing education opportunities as appropriate either directly through the Coalition or through coordination with other technical service providers or local entities to ensure its Enrollees obtain technical skills and assistance necessary to achieve compliance with the limits and requirements established in this Order.

If providing monitoring and reporting functions on behalf of Enrollees, a prospective Coalition must also meet the following minimum qualifications:

- 5) Data management and Record Keeping – The Coalition must upload data as required by this Order to the Water Boards' various data management systems (e.g., CEDEN, GeoTracker, etc.). The Coalition must have the capacity to manage and retain data for ten years and comply with record-keeping requirements in Section II.I (Provisions) of the Order.
- 6) Development of Required Technical Material –The Coalition must have capability to develop and implement, or contract detailed technical documents as specified in Attachment A of the Order including but not limited to annual water quality and management practices reporting.
- 7) Conducting Water Quality Monitoring – The Coalition must have the capability to develop or contract group surface water and groundwater quality monitoring programs in accordance with the requirements in Sections II and III of the Attachment B of the Order

C. Coalition Application and Approval Process

- 1) Within three months following adoption of this Order, the North Coast Water Board will publish on the Lily Bulb Program webpage an application form and submittal instructions for prospective Coalitions. A prospective Coalition shall submit a complete application to the North Coast Water Board within the submittal deadline stated on the webpage to be considered.
- 2) The Coalition application shall include:
 - a) The legal name, organizational structure, bylaws or operating procedures and contact information for the prospective Coalition, identifying whether the applicant is a nonprofit corporation, local or state government entity, Joint Powers Authority, or other entity formed pursuant to a binding agreement among multiple parties; names and qualifications of key Coalition staff and contractors; description of roles and responsibilities; demonstration of managerial and financial capacity; and recent financial statements or proof of solvency.
 - b) A description of how the Coalition will meet each Minimum Qualification in Section B of this Attachment C;
 - c) Identification of the persons or entities responsible for fulfilling each Coalition responsibility under Section A of this Attachment C;
 - d) Where the Coalition intends to engage subsidiary or partnering entities to assist with Coalition responsibilities (including but not limited to fee collection), copies or summaries of the binding agreements among those entities;
 - e) Membership eligibility requirements and the consequences (including revocation of membership eligibility) that will be triggered when an Enrollee is no longer in good standing due to: (i) non-payment of fees; (ii) non-submittal of required information; (iii) non-participation in compliance education; or (iv) failure to implement or adapt management practices required by this Order; and
 - f) A governance structure that includes a governing board composed in whole or in part of Enrollees, or that otherwise provides Enrollees with a mechanism to direct or influence Coalition governance through appropriate by-laws.
- 3) The Executive Officer will review the Coalition application and may request additional information from the applicant. The Executive Officer may approve, conditionally approve, or deny the application based on the applicant's demonstrated ability to carry out the Coalition responsibilities set forth in Section A and meet the Minimum Qualifications in Section B of this Attachment C.

- 4) If the Executive Officer approves the application, the Executive Officer will issue a Notice of Applicability to the Coalition and, if appropriate, conditions specific to the Coalition.
- 5) If the Executive Officer denies the application, the Executive Officer shall provide the applicant with the basis for denial in writing. The applicant may revise and resubmit the application addressing the identified deficiencies.

D. Coalition Requirements

- 1) Approved Coalitions shall comply with all requirements of Coalitions as outlined in the Order and Attachment B: Monitoring and Reporting Program for Enrollees in a Coalition upon receipt of the Notice of Applicability.
- 2) Approved Coalitions shall be prepared to accept enrollments by **January 1, 2027**.
- 3) By **March 1, 2027**, and annually thereafter, the Coalition shall submit to the North Coast Water Board a list of all its Enrollee members. The list shall specifically identify any new Enrollees, or any Enrollees terminated since the last reporting period. As part of the membership list submittal, the Coalition shall identify Enrollees who have failed to fulfil the requirements of this Order as specified in Attachment B: Section IV.A
- 4) The Coalition shall respond promptly to North Coast Water Board requests for any of the information the Coalitions are required to maintain, which may include but is not limited to: (1) Enrollee contact information; (2) Enrollee reports (e.g., Farm Evaluations), (3) compliance education attendance lists, and (4) water quality monitoring locations.

ⁱ Visit the Lily Bulb Program webpage: [Lily Bulbs | California Northcoast Regional Water Quality Control Board](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agricultural_lands/lily/)
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