



# Media Release

## **Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>

### ***Sonora Turkey Ranch Receives \$60,000 Penalty for Violations of State and Federal Water Regulations***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Lonnie Wass  
Phone: (559) 445-5116

SACRAMENTO –The executive officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) has issued a \$60,000 Administrative Civil Liability penalty against Diestel Turkey Ranch in Sonora, Tuolumne County, for illegal discharges of waste from a slaughterhouse and confined animal operation.

From December 2010 to January 2011, Diestel discharged wastewater and storm water containing offal and turkey manure into Chicken Creek, a tributary to Phoenix Reservoir, in violation of the state Water Code and federal Clean Water Act.

The maximum potential liability for these violations is \$240,000. However, the final liability amount is consistent with guidelines in the statewide enforcement policy, and was reached during settlement negotiations with Diestel.

Diestel has paid \$34,000 to the State Water Resources Control Board's Cleanup and Abatement Account and \$26,000 to the Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District (RCD) for the completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). The SEP is to provide funding for monitoring and laboratory equipment for the Tuolumne County RCD Stream Team. Diestel has completed facility improvements to stop future discharges of waste to surface water.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. For more information, visit: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>.

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