# STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

# RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GENERAL CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED TO SMALL IRRIGATION USE REGISTRATIONS

## WHEREAS:

- 1. Senate Bill 1839 (1988), also known as the Water Rights Permitting Reform Act of 1988, established Water Code sections 1228 through 1229.2, collectively known as the Water Rights Registration Program, which provides for the acquisition of water rights for Small Domestic Use purposes through registration of the use with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). Senate Bill 1775 (2000) modified the Water Rights Registration Program to add Livestock Stockpond Use to the program. Assembly Bill 964 (2011) modified the Water Rights Registration Program to add Small Irrigation Use to the program, and modified certain Water Code sections to provide for additional options for Small Domestic Use registration.
- 2. Water Code section 1228.6 requires the State Water Board to establish, and from time to time revise, reasonable general conditions for the Water Rights Registration Program.
- 3. Water Code section 1229 does not allow the State Water Board to register water rights for small irrigation use until general conditions are established to protect instream beneficial uses. Water Code section 1229, subdivision (c) allows the State Water Board to adopt general conditions for some methods of diversion or categories of small irrigation use to be established before others. Water Code section 1229, subdivision (d) requires the State Water Board to adopt general conditions for registration of small irrigation use for frost protection in the area described in of Water Code section 1259.4, subdivision (a), paragraph (1) prior to adopting other general conditions for small irrigation use.
- 4. The delegation of authorities from the State Water Resources Control Board to the Deputy Director for Water Rights (Resolution 2012-0029) authorizes the Deputy Director for Water Rights to establish and revise a list of general conditions to be applied to registrations for Small Domestic Use, Livestock Stockpond Use, and Small Irrigation Use.
- 5. On July 25, 2012, the Deputy Director for Water Rights approved an initial set of general conditions for Small Irrigation Use registrations in accordance with Water Code section 1229. These conditions were developed by Division of Water Rights staff in consultation with a stakeholder group consisting of representatives from the following agencies, firms and organizations: the California Department of Fish and Wildlife; Trout Unlimited; Ellison, Schneider, and Harris; Wine Institute; and, the California Association of Wine Grape Growers.
- 6. Following adoption of the initial set of general conditions for Small Irrigation Use registrations, the Deputy Director for Water Rights approved updated mandatory terms for appropriative water right permits and licenses. Where appropriate, the general conditions for Small Irrigation Use registrations have been updated to reflect those changes.

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Deputy Director for Water Rights establishes the general conditions listed below to be applied to the following methods of diversion and specific categories of registrations for Small Irrigation Use:

- a) Diversions to offstream storage reservoirs with points of diversion located on Class I, II, or III streams not to exceed 20 acre-feet per annum where the reservoir is existing or proposed for construction within cultivated lands. Water appropriated under this category of Small Irrigation Use may be used for the irrigation, frost protection, or heat control of currently cultivated lands within the area described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Water Code section 1259.4. Uses may also include incidental aesthetic, fire protection, recreational, or fish and wildlife purposes.
- b) Diversions to onstream storage reservoirs located on Class III streams not to exceed 20 acre-feet per annum where the reservoir was constructed prior to January 1, 2012. Water appropriated under this category of Small Irrigation Use may be used for the irrigation, frost protection, or heat control of currently cultivated lands within the area described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Water Code section 1259.4. Uses may also include incidental aesthetic, fire protection, recreational, or fish and wildlife purposes.

# **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

5. Quantity and Season:

For projects that involve only one reservoir, insert this term after "Quantity and Season:" above: The water appropriated shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed [Amount] acre-feet per year to be collected from [Month Day of each year to Month Day of the succeeding year] OR [Month Day to Month Day of each year]. The capacity of the reservoir shall not exceed [Amount] acre-feet. For offstream storage reservoirs, include this sentence: The rate of diversion to storage shall not exceed [Rate] cubic feet per second.

For projects that involve more than one reservoir, insert this term after "Quantity and Season:" above: The water appropriated shall be limited to the quantity which can be beneficially used and shall not exceed **[Amount] acre-feet per year** to be collected from [Month Day of each year to Month Day of the succeeding year] OR [Month Day to Month Day of each year] as follows: [Amount] acre-feet per year in [Reservoir # or Name Reservoir], [Amount] acre-feet per year in [Reservoir # or Name Reservoir], etc. The capacities of the reservoirs shall not exceed the following: [Amount] acre-feet for [Reservoir # or Name Reservoir], [Amount] acre-feet for [Reservoir # or Name Reservoir], etc. For offstream storage reservoirs, include this sentence: The rate of diversion to storage shall not exceed **[Rate] cubic feet per second**.

- 6. No water shall be diverted or used under this right, and no construction related to such diversion shall commence, unless right holder has obtained and is in compliance with all necessary permits or other approvals required by other agencies.
- 7. Diversion works shall be constructed and water applied to beneficial use with due diligence.
- 8. No water shall be diverted under this right unless right holder complies with all lawful conditions required by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. (Wat. Code, § 1228.6, subd. (a)(2).)
- 9. No water shall be diverted under this right unless it is diverted in accordance with the information set forth in the completed registration form as to source, location of point of diversion, purpose of use, place of use, and quantity and season of diversion. This information is reproduced as conditions 1 through 5 of

this certificate.

- 10. Pursuant to Water Code sections 100 and 275 and the common law public trust doctrine, all rights and privileges under this right, including method of diversion, method of use, and quantity of water diverted, are subject to the continuing authority of the State Water Board in accordance with law and in the interest of the public welfare to protect public trust uses and to prevent waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of diversion of said water.
- 11. Right holder shall grant, or secure authorization through right holder's right of access to property owned by another party, the staff of the State Water Board, and any other authorized representatives of the State Water Board the following:
  - a. Entry upon property where water is being diverted, stored or used under a right issued by the State Water Board or where monitoring, samples and/or records must be collected under the conditions of this right;
  - b. Access to copy any records at reasonable times that are kept under the terms and conditions of a right or other order issued by State Water Board;
  - c. Access to inspect at reasonable times any project covered by a right issued by the State Water Board, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated by or required under this right; and,
  - d. Access to photograph, sample, measure, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a right or other order issued by State Water Board, or as otherwise authorized by the Water Code.
- 12. Diversion of water under this right is subject to prior rights. Right holder may be required to curtail diversion or release water stored during the most recent collection season should diversion under this right result in injury to holders of legal downstream senior rights. If a reservoir is involved, right holder may be required to bypass or release water through, over, or around the dam. If release of stored water would not effectively satisfy downstream prior storage rights, right holder may be required to otherwise compensate the holders of such rights for injury caused.
- 13. This right shall not be construed as conferring right of access to any lands or facilities not owned by right holder.
- 14. All rights are issued subject to available flows. Inasmuch as the source contains treated wastewater, imported water from another stream system, or return flow from other projects, there is no guarantee that such supply will continue.
- 15. If storage or diversion of water under this right is by means of a dam, right holder shall allow sufficient water at all times to pass through a fishway or, in the absence of a fishway, allow sufficient water to pass over, around, or through the dam to keep in good condition any fish that may be planted or exist below the dam; provided that, during a period of low flow in the stream, upon approval of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, this requirement will be satisfied if sufficient water is passed through a culvert, waste gate, or over or around the dam to keep in good condition any fish that may be planted or exist below the dam if it is impracticable or detrimental to pass the water through a fishway. In the case of a reservoir, this provision shall not require the passage or release of water at a greater rate than the unimpaired natural inflow into the reservoir. (Fish & G. Code, § 5937.)
- 16. The facilities for diversion under this right shall include satisfactory means of measuring and bypassing sufficient water to satisfy downstream prior rights and any requirements of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- 17. This right does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a threatened, endangered or candidate

species or any act which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code section 2050 et seq.) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A. section 1531 et seq.). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this water right, the right holder shall obtain authorization for an incidental take prior to construction or operation of the project. Right holder shall be responsible for meeting all requirements of the state and Federal Endangered Species Acts for the project authorized under this right.

- 18. This right is subject to the submittal of a report of water use and satisfactory renewal, on forms to be furnished by the State Water Board, including payment of the then-current renewal fees prior to the expiration of each five-year period following the priority date of this right. (Wat. Code, § 1228.5.)
- 19. This right shall be totally or partially forfeited for nonuse if the diversion is abandoned or if all or any part of the diversion is not beneficially used for a continuous period of five years.
- 20. This right is subject to enforcement, including but not limited to revocation, by the State Water Board if 1) the State Water Board finds that the right holder knowingly made any false statement, or knowingly concealed any material fact, in the right; 2) the right is not renewed as required by the conditions of this certificate; or 3) the State Water Board finds that the right holder is in violation of the conditions of this right. (Wat. Code, § 1228.4 et seq.)
- 21. The State Water Board intends to develop and implement a basin-wide program for real-time electronic monitoring and reporting of diversions, withdrawals, releases and streamflow in a standardized format if and when resources become available. Such real-time reporting will be required upon a showing by the State Water Board that the program and the infrastructure are in place to accept real-time electronic reports. Implementation of the reporting requirements shall not necessitate amendment to this right

### Use this term if the CDFW conditions include a bypass flow requirement:

22. No water shall be diverted under this right unless the flow in [Source] is at or above [Amount] cubic feet per second, as determined at [Location].

# Use this term if the CDFW conditions include a reservoir mitigation plan requirement, and select the appropriate purpose(s) of the plan based on the CDFW conditions:

23. No water shall be diverted under this right unless right holder is operating in accordance with a mitigation plan satisfactory to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife that addresses eradication of non-native species, gravel and wood augmentation and riparian habitat replacement.

### Use this term for rights that include storage in an onstream reservoir:

24. No water shall be diverted under this right unless right holder is monitoring and reporting the withdrawal of water for beneficial use and the release of water from the reservoirs. This monitoring shall be conducted using devices and methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. The devices shall be capable of continuous monitoring of the rate and quantity of water withdrawn for beneficial use or released to the stream channel from each reservoir and shall be properly maintained.

Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that the devices have been installed with the first renewal report submitted after device installation. Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that substantiates that the devices are functioning properly as an enclosure to the current renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

Right holder shall maintain a record of all withdrawals of water for beneficial use or releases of water to the stream channel under this right that includes the date, time, rate of withdrawal or released at time intervals of one hour or less, and the amount of water withdrawn or released. The records shall be submitted with the renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

### Use this term for rights that include storage in an onstream reservoir:

25. No water shall be diverted under this right unless right holder is monitoring and reporting the water surface elevation in the reservoirs. This monitoring shall be conducted using devices and methods

satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. The devices shall be capable of monitoring water surface elevations from the maximum water line to the minimum water line known to exist for the reservoirs and shall be properly maintained.

Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that the devices have been installed and the mark or reading corresponding to the maximum water line of the reservoirs with the first annual report submitted after device installation. Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that substantiates that the devices are functioning properly as an enclosure to the renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

Right holder shall maintain a record of water surface elevations. The records shall be submitted with the renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights. The State Water Board may require release of water held in storage that cannot be verified by monthly records. Failure to maintain or submit the required records may result in the requirement to release the entire content of the reservoir's storage.

### Use this term for rights that include diversion to offstream storage:

26. No water shall be diverted to offstream storage under this right unless right holder is monitoring and reporting said diversion of water. This monitoring shall be conducted using devices and methods satisfactory to the Deputy Director for Water Rights. The devices shall be capable of continuous monitoring of the rate and quantity of water diverted and shall be properly maintained.

Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that the devices have been installed with the first annual report submitted after device installation. Right holder shall provide the Division of Water Rights with evidence that substantiates that the devices are functioning properly as an enclosure to the renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

Right holder shall maintain a record of all diversions under this right that includes the date, time, rate of diversion at time intervals of one hour or less, and the amount of water diverted. The records shall be submitted with the renewal report or whenever requested by the Division of Water Rights.

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

### ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director Division of Water Rights

Dated: SEPT 20 2013