

What if my operation falls under Tier 3?

Tier 3 operators must develop, submit for approval, and implement a Site Management Plan to minimize impacts to water resources. Site Management Plan requirements can be found in the General Order and in the NOI.

What if I have a new or expanding cultivation operation?

An Environmental Compliance Assessment is required for new, recently expanded, or expanding cultivation operations (see *NOI, Section 5 for requirements*). As a result, cultivators may need to include additional documentation with their NOI.



Who can I contact if I need more information?

If you have questions about the General Order, please contact:

Trey Sherrell, Environmental Scientist:
P: (530) 224-4847
E: roy.sherrell@waterboards.ca.gov

Kevin Pfeiffer, Engineering Geologist:
P: (530) 224-4204
E: kevin.pfeiffer@waterboards.ca.gov

The General Order, Notice of Intent to Obtain Coverage (NOI), and other Cannabis Cultivator – related documents are available online at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/cannabis/index.shtml

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

364 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 205
Redding, CA 96002
Phone: (530) 224-4845
Fax: (530) 224-4857
www.waterboards.ca.gov/central_valley

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

Medicinal Cannabis Cultivation Activities

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
General Order No. R5-2015-0113



General Order

The General Order regulates discharges of waste from medicinal cannabis cultivation activities (cultivation activities) to make sure those activities do not affect water resources. The General Order is for outdoor or mixed outdoor/indoor cultivation activities that occupy and/or disturb more than 1,000 square feet. The General Order was approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board in October 2015.

General Order Tiers

Cultivation activities are categorized into three tiers based on threat to water quality, and determined by specific physical characteristics of the operation, and it's surroundings.

Each tier has an Annual Fee, ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000, depending on the tier/threat level of the operation.

Tier 1 - Low Threat

Cultivation activities that:

- Are located on slopes* *less than 30%, and*
- Occupy and/or disturb less than ¼ acre, *and*
- Are not located within 200 feet of Aquatic Wildlife Habitat

Annual Fee: \$1,000

Tier 2 - Moderate Threat

Cultivation activities that:

- Are located on slopes* *less than 30%, and*
- Occupy and/or disturb less than an acre and no more than 50% of the cultivator's parcel(s), *and*
- Are not located within 200 feet of Aquatic Wildlife Habitat

Annual Fee: \$2,500

Tier 3 - Elevated Threat

Cultivation activities that:

- Are located on slopes* *greater than 30%, or*
- Occupy and/or disturb more than an acre or more than 50% of the cultivator's parcel(s), *or*
- Are located within 200 feet of Aquatic Wildlife Habitat

Annual Fee: \$10,000

**Percent slope should be determined by measuring between cultivation areas and associated facilities, and the nearest surface water body.*

How can I obtain coverage under the General Order?

Step 1

- Download Notice of Intent to Obtain Coverage (NOI) from Water Board's website¹

Step 2

- Complete NOI
- Make check payable to:
State Water Resources Control Board

Step 3

Mail NOI and Annual Fee Payment to:
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
364 Knollcrest Dr., Ste. 205
Redding, CA 96002

Step 4

After NOI is approved, a Notice of Applicability is mailed to the Cultivator/Enrollee.