



SVWQC actions, accomplishments, and updates

1.1+ MILLION IRRIGATED ACRES

8,700+ PARTICIPANTS

11 SUBWATERSHEDS

## “The Beginning of the End” for the ILRP in the Pit River

The February 21, 2025 Regional Board informational hearing on the Pit River was "the beginning of the end" as the expression goes. While the unanimous direction from the Board to exempt the Pit River irrigated agriculture from the Irrigated Lands Program was something Coalition leadership feels should have come sooner, the Regional Board was deliberate and thorough to ensure it was done correctly. Discussions to revise the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) exempting the Pit River will begin with hopes of finalizing the exemption at the June 19-20 Board meeting.

This is a huge milestone. It was only possible through the commitment of Pit River farmers/ranchers, UCCE, and many others to sharing with the Regional Board that Pit River irrigated agriculture’s stewardship practices are protective of water quality.

## Roger Cornwell Elected NCWA Chair of the NCWA Board of Directors

Northern California Water Association (NCWA) is pleased to announce that Roger Cornwell has been elected as Chair of the [NCWA Board of Directors](#). A dedicated water leader and lifelong advocate for Northern California. Roger brings a wealth of experience in both farming and water management to this role. Roger’s deep ties to agriculture come from decades of farming in the Sacramento Valley. He farmed at River Garden Farms, a Coalition member, for 20 years, including 17 years as General Manager.

To learn more about Roger, visit <https://norcalwater.org/category/blog/>



### *The latest in this issue:*

NCWA HONORS DR. KARL LONGLEY FOR DECADES OF SERVICE

GOOD NEWS ON SURFACE WATER MONITORING CYCLE

IRRIGATED PASTURE UPDATE

PYRETHROIDS DETECTED IN SURFACE WATER SAMPLING

PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT FOR LATE ANNUAL REPORTS

### **MEMBER INFORMATION**

- INMP SELF-CERTIFICATION RENEWAL DEADLINES
- MEMBER REPORTING DEADLINES

# In Memory of Pam Giacomini

## *A Virtuous Life of Ardent Devotion*

It was a briskly cold March morning on the Modoc Plateau in 2009 when I first met Pam Giacomini at the Northeastern California Water Association's (NeCWA) sixth annual membership meeting. Her affable personality immediately warmed up the room.

Over the next 16 years I would get to know her as a champion of ranching and agriculture, share with her stories about serving the community as an elected official, and count on her to be a sounding board on advancing an alternative Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program for the upper watersheds of the Sacramento Valley.



What I came to appreciate about Pam was something already well-known to others who worked closely with her—like David Guy who worked with her for years, and known to the North State Agricultural Commissioners, for whom she hosted an annual barbeque at the Hat Creek Grown cattle operation she managed with her husband, Henry. This was simply Pam: a person whose life was defined by service, devotion, and an unwavering commitment to excellence in everything she pursued.

This devotion to farming, ranching, and the rural way of life, led to her being recognized in 2016 as a recipient of the Common Threads North Award bestowed on women in agriculture who have chosen to make a difference in their communities and our world through philanthropy and service. The award honors those exemplary individuals whose extraordinary contribution of time, energy and resources enhance the lives of all around them. For Pam, this award was well deserved!

She was an integral part of Hat Creek Grown in Shasta County, where Henry and she raise more than 1,000 head of beef cattle. They were selected as one of three finalists for the 2024 California Leopold Conservation Award® which honors farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners who go above and beyond in their management of soil health, water quality and wildlife habitat on working land.

We will all miss Pam, and we hope we can carry her devotion and spirit forward to make the Sacramento Valley a better place!

*Written by Bruce Houdesheldt*

## 2024-2025 Annual Outreach Presentation

Each year, the Coalition creates an online video presentation recapping the previous year and previewing the coming year. This year's video can be found at [svwqc.org/outreach-and-education](http://svwqc.org/outreach-and-education) under Online Presentations.

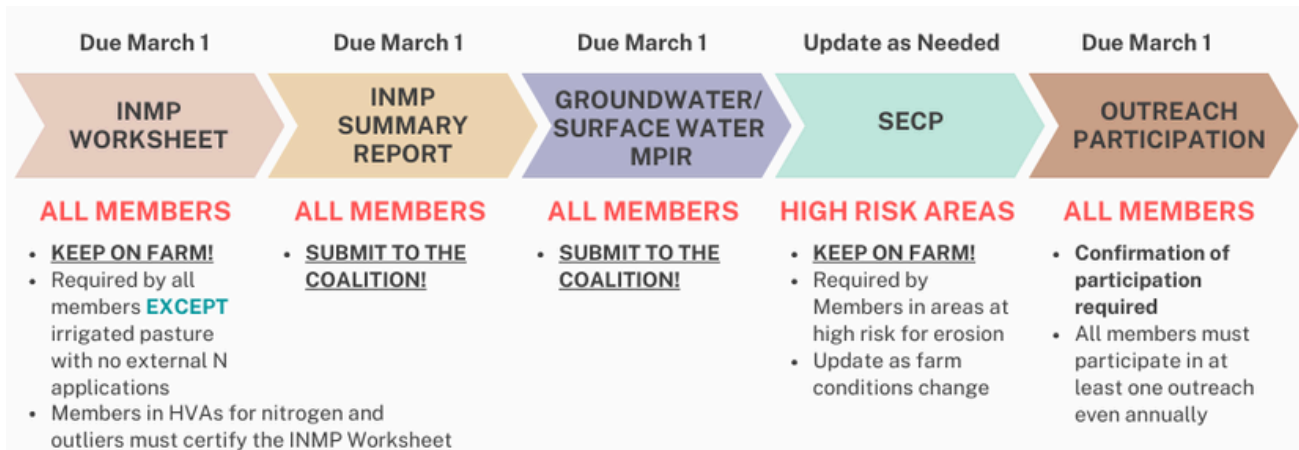
Coalition members may watch the online presentation to fulfill their annual outreach participation requirement.



# Coalition Member Information Hub



## COMPLETE YOUR REQUIRED MEMBER REPORTS ASAP TO REMAIN IN GOOD-STANDING



The end of the reporting season is here and a majority of the deadlines to complete member reports have passed. According to the Waste Discharge Requirements, all 2024CY reports were due March 1, 2025. **If you have not already completed your member reports, please contact your Subwatershed ASAP.** Completing member reports is an important component to remain a member-in-good-standing. **Members who fail to complete their reporting will have their name reported to the Regional Board and face potential fines of up to \$1000 per day.** Avoiding the fine is simple, contact your Subwatershed and submit the required reports!

### Coalition Meeting - March 27, 2025

***With Special Guest: CV Regional Water Board Chairman Nick Avdis:***

The Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition meeting on March 27, 2025 will feature remarks from Central Valley Regional Board Chairman Nick Avdis. Olivia Mathews, the Regional Board liaison to the Sacramento Valley will also speak and provide an update on a variety of items.

Additionally, an overview of the Groundwater Quality Protection Values update will be provided and a "mid-year" surface water quality monitoring update, including pyrethroid results, will be shared.

The Agenda is part of the implementation of the Next Generation Regional Plan of Action which was developed after the Coalition conducted a Stakeholder Assessment in 2024.

**The meeting will be held at the NCWA office, 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 703, beginning at 9:30 AM. While in-person attendance is encouraged, seating is limited to the first 35 people. A hybrid option is available on request.**

### General Questions

sacvalleyinfo@gmail.com  
www.svwqc.org

### DIRECTORY

Bruce Houdesheldt,  
Director of Water Quality  
Email: bruceh@norcalwater.org  
Phone: 916-442-8333

Chelsie Bryden,  
Program Coordinator  
Email: svwqccordinator@gmail.com  
Phone: 916-778-0993

Central Valley Regional  
Quality Control Board,  
ILRP Division  
Phone: 916-464-4611  
[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/)