

Agricultural Order Requirements and Implementation

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Central Coast Region

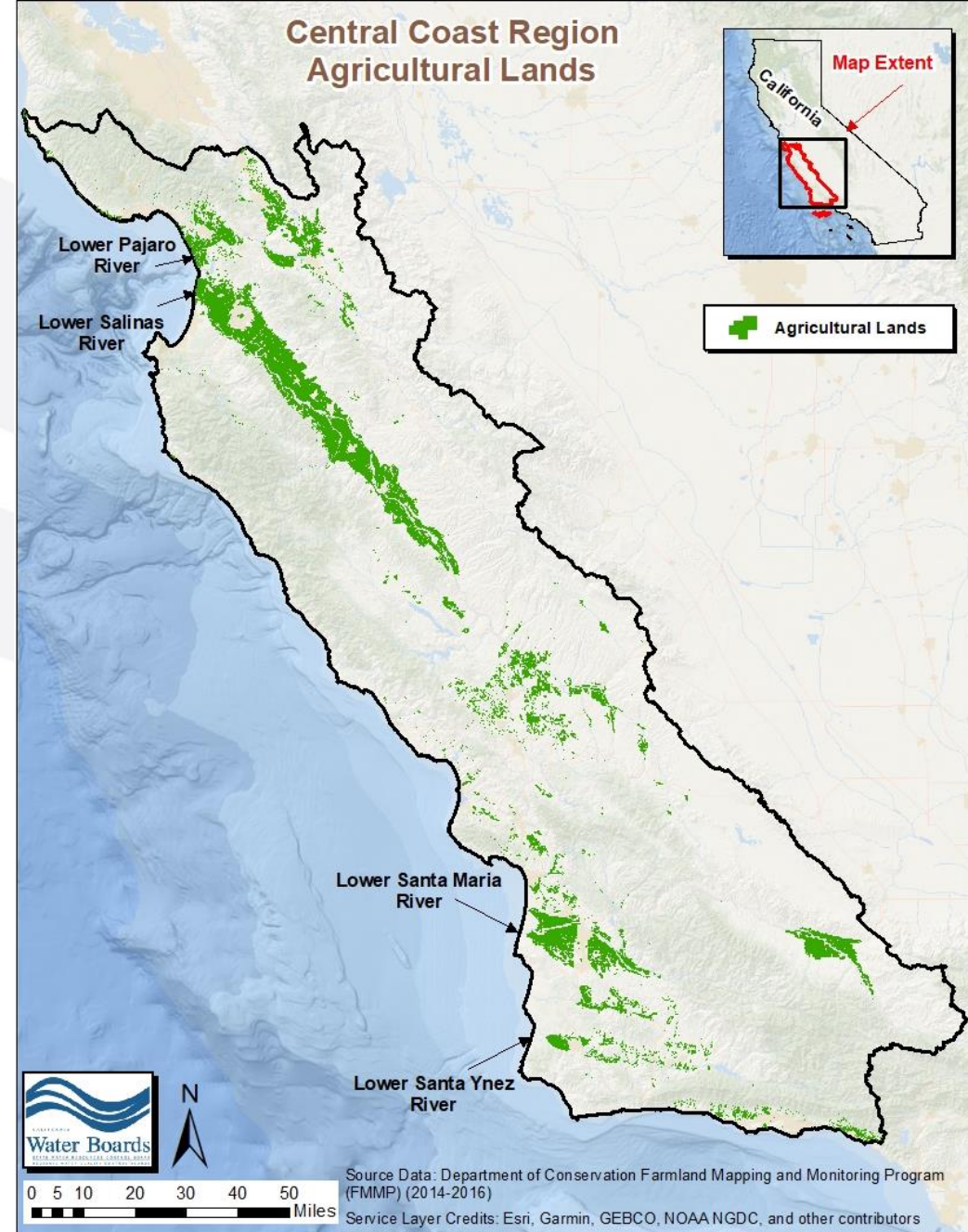
Discussion Topics - options

1. Implementation and Ongoing Requirements
2. Changes under development following State Board Remands Order
3. Alternative Water Supply Program
4. Tools and Information

Agricultural Order regulates waste discharges from commercial irrigated lands to protect surface water and groundwater quality

- Approx. 435,000 acres of irrigated lands in the region

Central Coast Water Board's Irrigated Lands Program (ILP) staff implement and enforce the Agricultural Order



Central Coast Agricultural Order Evolution

2004
1st Ag Order

2023
State Board
Remands Order

2021
4th Ag Order

2024-2025
Revised Ag Order &
Alternative Water Supply
Program Development

Implementation- Ongoing Requirements

- Enroll and Pay Annual Fees
- Develop and Maintain Farm Plan
- Participate in Continuing Education
- File Annual Compliance Form by March 1st
- Comply With
 - Surface Water Protection Program Requirements
 - Groundwater Protection Program Requirements

Requirements Checklist Tool

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ilp/requirements_checklist/



[Home](#) | [Water Issues](#) | [Programs](#) | [Ilp](#) | [Requirements Checklist](#)

Requirements Checklist

If you would like to view requirements for another year, use the dropdown below:

2024 ▼

[View your Requirements Checklist](#)



Surface Water Protection Program

Surface Water Quality Trends Monitoring Program

- Either individually or as part of the Third-party
- Workplan and Quality Assurance Plan
- Evaluate compliance with surface water quality limits

Follow-up implementation program phased in, based on watershed

- Monitoring and reporting

Surface Water Protection Program Major Changes Remanded

Ag Order cannot change compliance dates of TMDLs with final compliance dates established in the Basin Plan

Next step, revise the compliance dates in the Order and develop Time Schedule Orders, if needed

Groundwater Protection Program Overview

- Monitoring on-farm wells
- Report Nitrogen Applied and Removed
- Comply with nitrogen discharge targets
 - Individually or collectively if participating in Alternative Compliance Pathway
- Trend monitoring programs

Groundwater Protection Program Annual Well Monitoring and Reporting

- All Domestic and Dual-Purpose Wells
 - Nitrate and 1,2,3-TCP
 - **Note** – reduced frequency when two 1,2,3-TCP samples = non-detect
 - Notify users of sampling results and health risks.
- Primary Irrigation Well
 - Nitrate and TDS
 - **Note** – ends when Trend Monitoring Program begins in your basin

Groundwater Protection Program Trends Workplan

Groundwater Quality Trends Workplan

- Requirement phased in by Area
- Must characterize agricultural discharge impacts & change over time
- **Note** – with approved workplan, ranches in workplan areas cease irrigation well monitoring



Groundwater Protection Program Nitrogen Applied and Removed Reporting

- All ranches now report Total Nitrogen Applied (TNA)
- Irrigation and Nutrient Management Plan (INMP) Summary Report (TNA and nitrogen removed)
 - Phased in based on location

Note - could be eligible for Nitrogen Removal reporting exemption when TNA is less than the final A-R target of 50 lbs/ac/yr

Groundwater Protection Program 3P-ACP

Third-party Alternative Compliance Pathway (3P-ACP) Workplans

- Establish groundwater protection (GWP) areas
- Establish Formulas, Values, and Targets for GWP areas
- 35% workplan in progress, 70% workplan, and final workplan

Groundwater Protection Requirements Major Changes Remanded

- Nitrogen Application Targets (no limits)
- Nitrogen Applied – Nitrogen Removed (A-R) Targets (no limits)
 - Remove discounts and credits from compliance formula, still used for prioritizing follow-up actions.
 - Third-party continues to develop mass balance type compliance formula
- Develop targets and schedule for A/R metric
- Develop an alternative water supply program

Alternative Water Supply Program State Board Order Language

“...because of the critical drinking water impacts associated with groundwater nitrate contamination, we hereby direct the Central Coast Water Board to incorporate a requirement or reach an agreement in which dischargers or their third-party representatives provide short-term and long-term alternative water supplies for residents relying on groundwater in areas where the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate is exceeded as a result of agricultural operations.”

Alternative Water Supply Program Development

- Outreach
- Needs Assessment
- Costs Assessment (cost of all options)
- Fee Structure and Co-funding
- Program Administration and Oversight
- Regulatory Framework and Voluntary Agreement Options

ILP Dashboard

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ilp/dashboard.html

Irrigated Lands Program Dashboard for Grower Reporting and Water Quality

This dashboard is for informational purposes only. The data provided in this dashboard may contain errors or inconsistencies and are subject to change at any time. By using these data, the user acknowledges all limitations and agrees to accept all errors stemming from its use. This dashboard provides high level statistics on program enrollment in the Irrigated Lands Program, reports required by the Agricultural Order, and water quality data. Public feedback and questions should be directed to AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov.

Last updated: May 29, 2024

How to use this dashboard:

Select a button below to view a dashboard page. On each page, use the drop-down menus on the left hand side to view statistics related to a county, groundwater basin, and/or watershed. Select the "Dashboard Home" button to return to this page. To use keyboard navigation and/or a screen reader, open in full-screen mode by clicking on the double arrow in the bottom right-hand corner.



ILP Dashboard

ILP Enrollment Summary Statistics

[View Details on Irrigation and Discharge](#) →



This page represents an annual snapshot of enrollment data during the month of May for each year since 2011. ILP enrollment data is collected through the electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) form on GeoTracker. Use the drop-down menus below to filter data.

Year
2024

County
All

Watershed
All

Surface Water Priority Area
All

Groundwater Basin
All

Groundwater Phase Area
All

Operations Enrolled

1466

Ranches Enrolled

3902

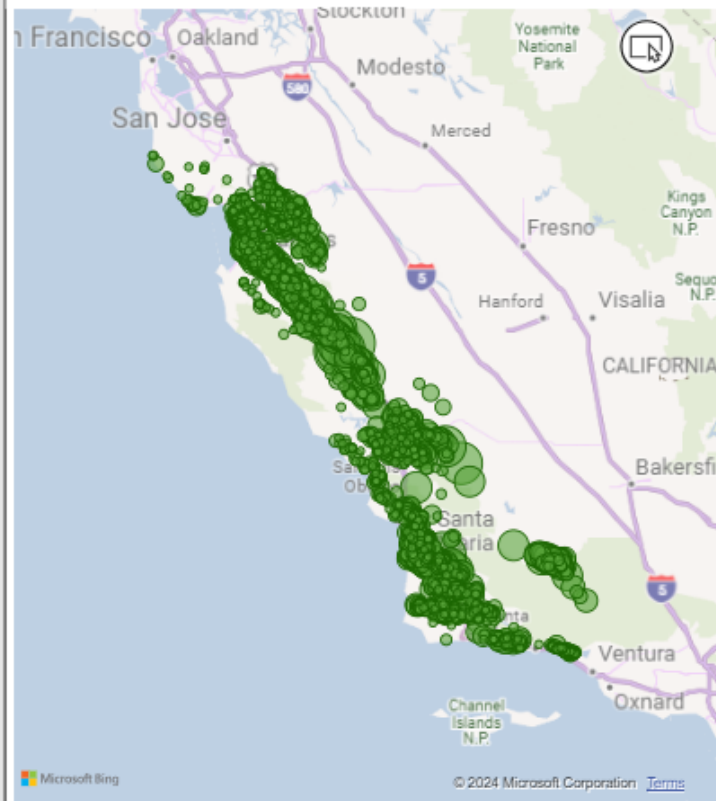
Total Irrigated Acres Enrolled

406,239

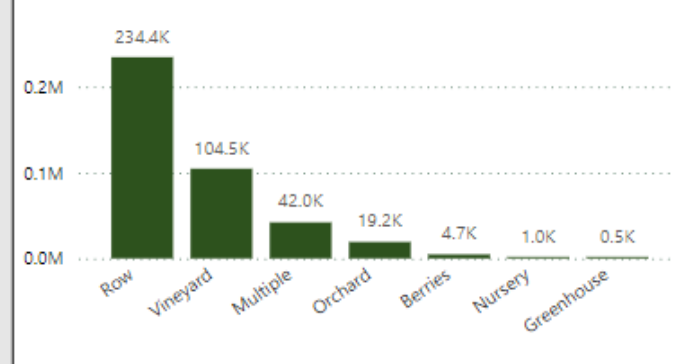
Average Irrigated Acres per Ranch

104

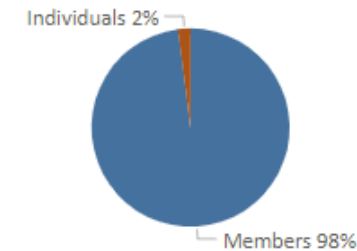
Map of Enrolled Ranches Sized by Irrigated Acreage



Crop Type by Irrigated Acres

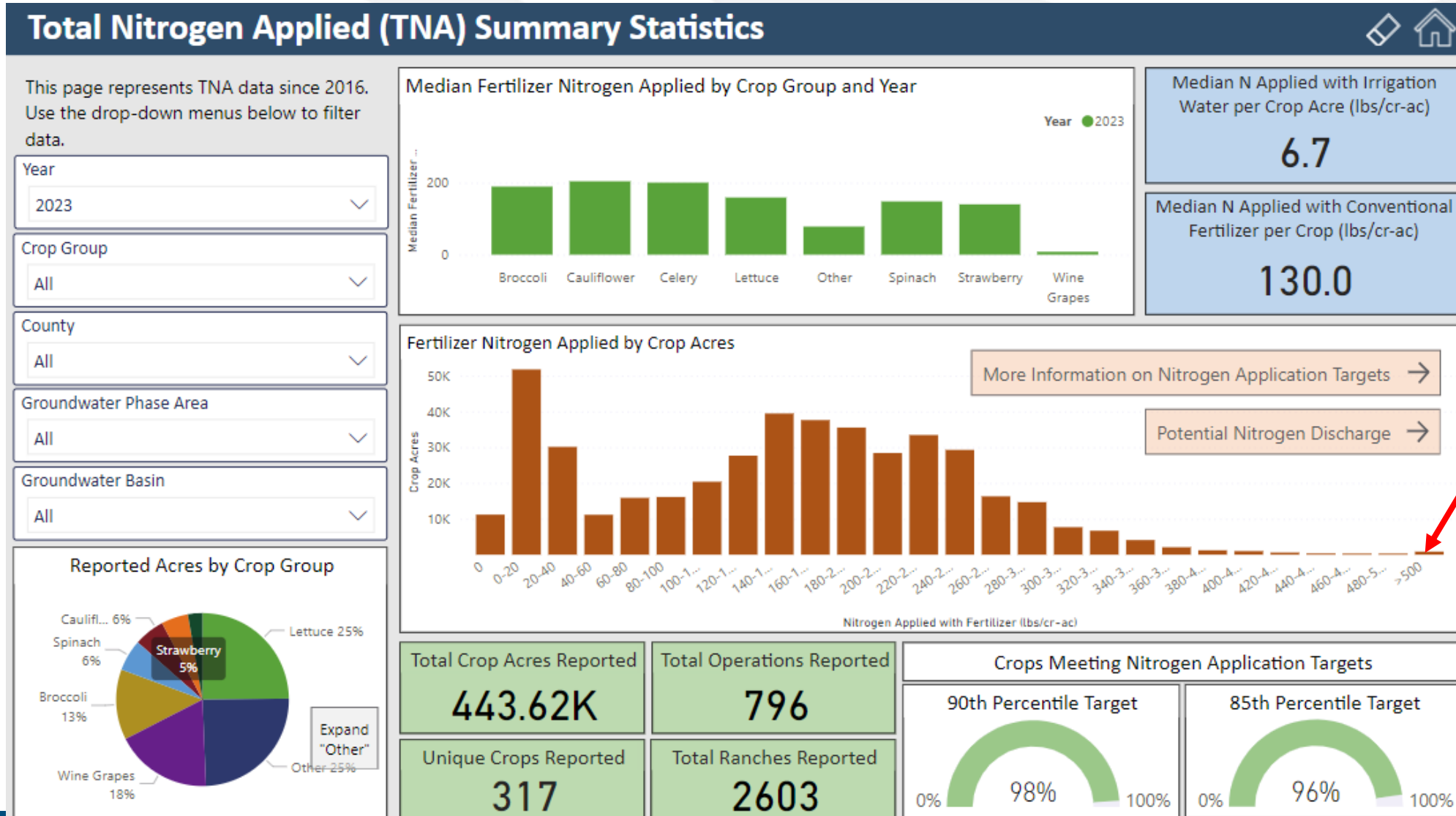


Third Party Membership Status of Enrolled Operations by Irrigated Acreage



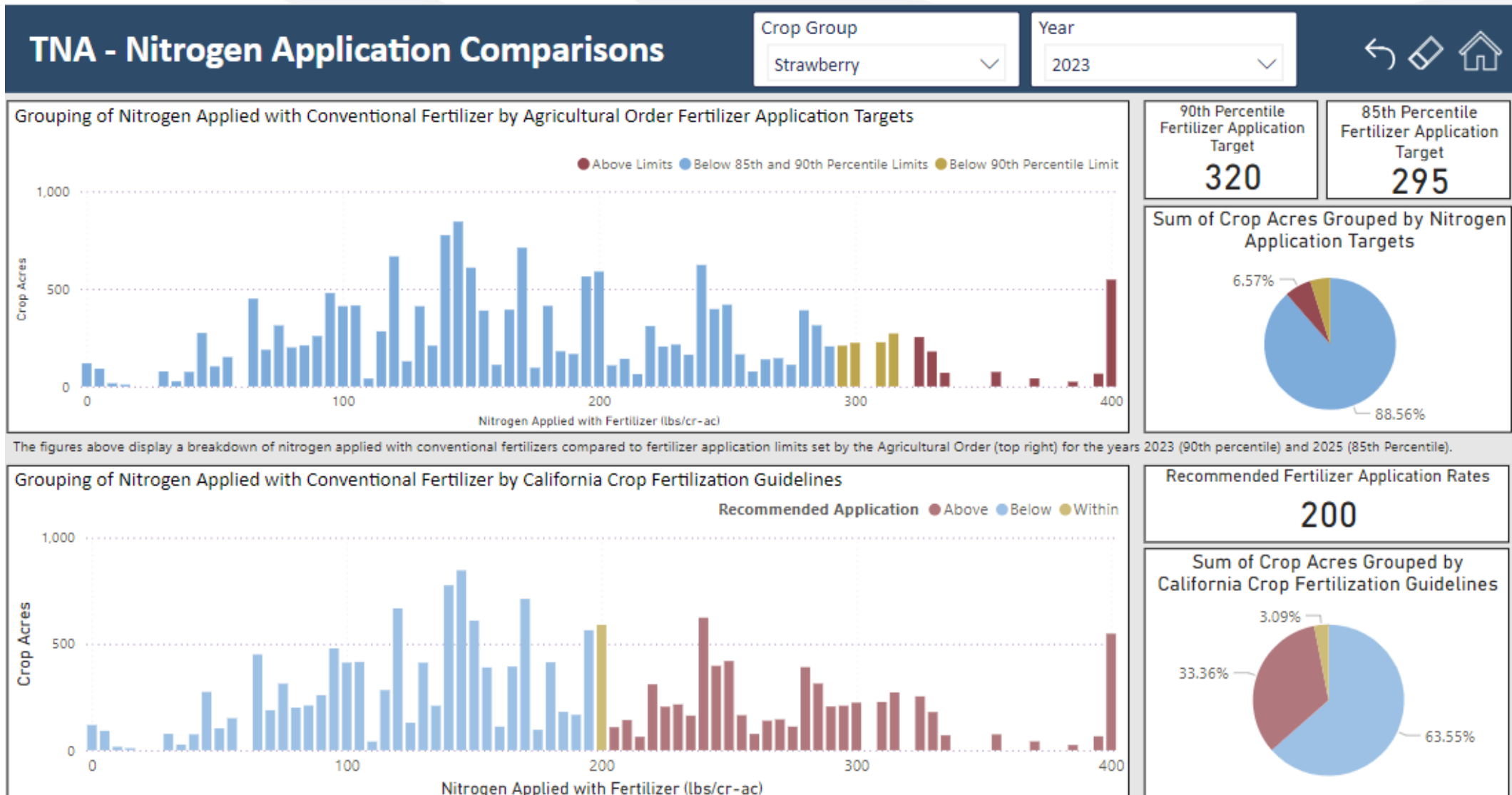
Note: membership data is not available prior to 2021. Visit Preservation, Inc.'s [website](#) for more information.

ILP Dashboard



Exceeds target of 500 lbs/ac

ILP Dashboard



ILP Dashboard

Irrigation and Nutrient Management (INMP) Summary Report



This page represents grower reported INMP data collected for all growers in Groundwater Phase Area 1. All values are in pounds of nitrogen discharged per ranch acre (lbs./ranch-ac).

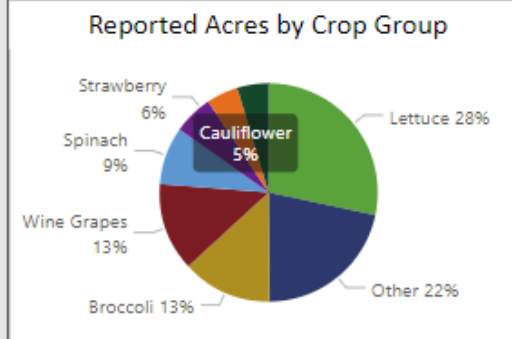
Year: 2023

Crop Group: All

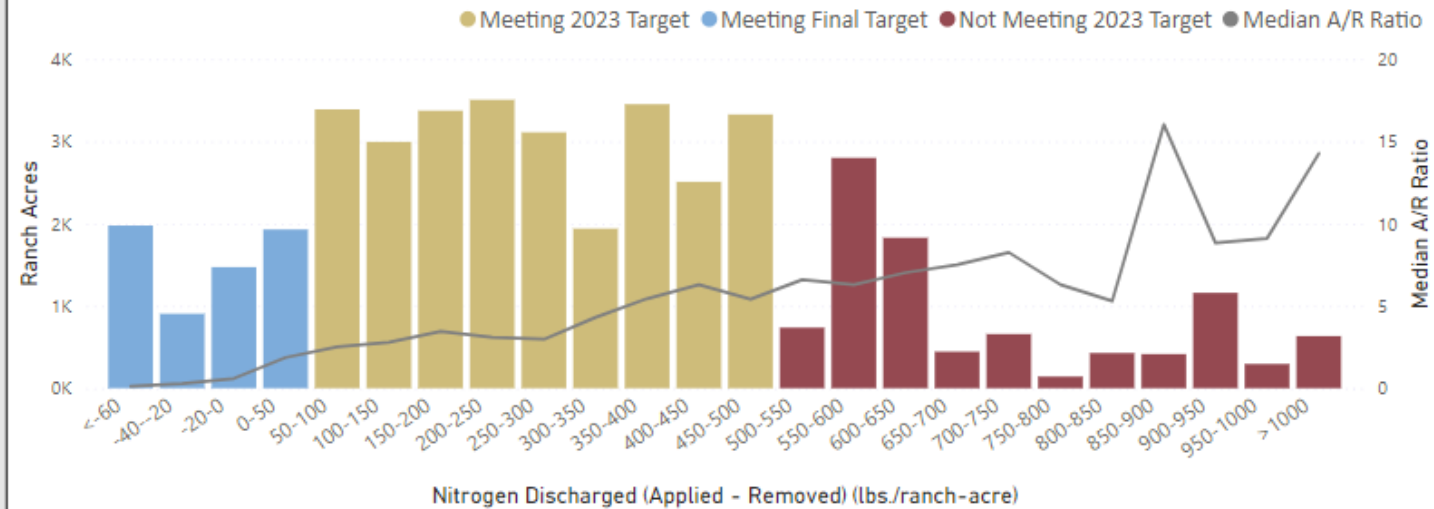
County: All

Groundwater Phase Area: All

Groundwater Basin: All



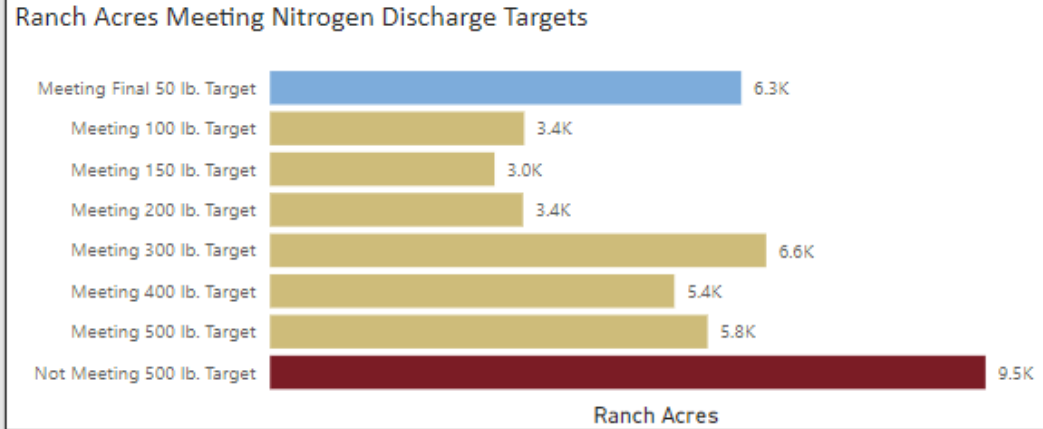
Nitrogen Discharged to by Ranch Acres



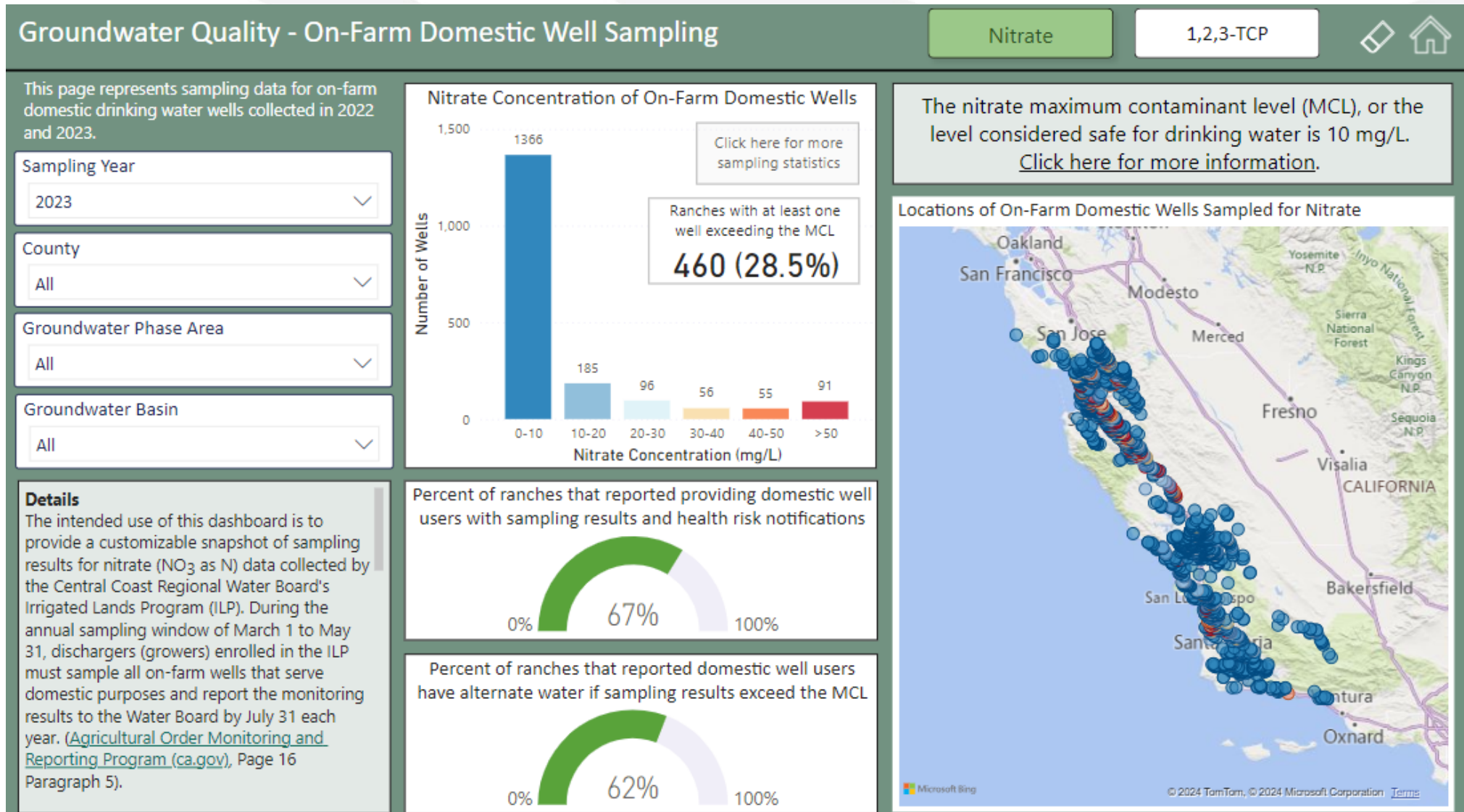
Compliance Date for Nitrogen Discharge (A-R) Targets

Agricultural Order Table C.1-3

Compliance Date	Target (lbs. of nitrogen)
12/31/2023	500
12/31/2025	400
12/31/2027	300
12/31/2031	200
12/31/2036	150
12/31/2041	100
12/31/2051	50



ILP Dashboard



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