

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 13-14, 2014**  
Prepared on July 16, 2014

**ITEM NUMBER: XX**

**SUBJECT: Adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2014-0025, Mission Springs Christian Camp and Conference Center Wastewater Treatment Plant, Santa Cruz County, WDID XXXXXXXXXXXXX**

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**KEY INFORMATION**

Discharger:	Mission Springs Christian Camp and Conference Center
Facility Name:	Mission Springs Christian Camp and Conference Center Wastewater Treatment Plant
Facility Address:	1050 Lockhart Gulch Road, Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County, California
Type of Waste:	Domestic wastewater
Treatment:	Enhanced, recirculating, three-stage trickling filter wastewater treatment plant.
Disposal:	Five new independent leachfield zones.
Capacity:	The treatment plant is designed to treat a peak flow of 36,300 gpd. The total disposal capacity between all five zones is estimated to be 36,355 gpd.
Permitted Flow:	25,400 gpd (70% of designed maximum) averaged over each month (30-day average).
Existing Order:	None.
<b>This Action:</b>	<b>Adopt Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2014-0025</b>

**SUMMARY**

The Mission Springs Christian Camp and Conference Center (hereafter “Mission Springs”) owns and operates the newly installed distribution system and advanced wastewater treatment plant (hereafter “Facility”). Mission Springs is located in the San Lorenzo River watershed, approximately two miles northeast of Felton, at 1050 Lockhart Gulch Road, Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County. There are no pre-existing waste discharge orders for the Facility because historically all wastewater discharges were handled by several individual septic systems. This is a new Order.

**DISCUSSION**

Mission Springs’ new collection system includes over 3,000 linear feet of gravity and pressurized sewer mains to convey sewage up to Frontier Lodge and then to the new wastewater treatment system. The treatment system is an enhanced, recirculating, multi-stage wastewater treatment plant (three-stage trickling filter) located at the bottom of the Biblar Trail. The advanced treatment system (Facility) is designed to treat a peak flow of 36,300 gallons per day (gpd) and to serve a maximum population of

660 persons. The proposed Order permits the Facility to have a daily flow of 25,400 gpd averaged over each month (30-day average). Wastewater flow measurements taken in September 2007 indicate that the daily average and peak flows are 7,840 gpd and 23,670 gpd, respectively.

This Order requires a 50% reduction of nitrogen in effluent, consistent with Resolution No. 95-04. Resolution 95-04 amended the Basin Plan to incorporate the "Wastewater Management Plan for the San Lorenzo River Watershed, County of Santa Cruz" and "San Lorenzo Nitrate Management Plan Phase II Final Report" by reference and requires individual onsite wastewater disposal systems to comply with both plans. The Facility is not located within a California Groundwater Bulletin 118 (update 2003) groundwater basin but lies immediately north of the Scotts Valley (3-27) groundwater basin.

### **PURPOSE OF THE ORDER**

The primary objective of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2014-0014 is to permit subsurface discharge of treated domestic wastewater.

### **COMPLIANCE HISTORY**

The County of Santa Cruz regulated the individual septic systems installed at this facility prior to the installation of the new advanced treatment system. Mission Springs does not have a compliance history with the Water Board.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY**

The Mission Springs Conference Center obtained a Use Permit in 1976 from the County of Santa Cruz, Application No. 75-1060-U. The Use Permit approved occupancy for 500 overnight stays and up to 1,000 people for day use. Therefore, County of Santa Cruz Environmental Health staff found the facility to have an existing occupancy and use deeming it exempt from any CEQA requirements.

### **COMMENTS**

pending

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt Order No. R3-2014-0025 as proposed.