

CHAPTER 4. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

(onsite wastewater section only)

VIII.D. INDIVIDUAL, ALTERNATIVE, AND COMMUNITY ONSITE WASTEWATER SYSTEMS

VIII.D.1. ONSITE WASTEWATER SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for siting, design, operation, maintenance, and management of onsite wastewater systems are specified in the State Water Resources Control Board's *Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems* (OWTS Policy). The OWTS Policy sets forth a tiered implementation program with requirements based upon levels (tiers) of potential threat to water quality. The OWTS Policy includes a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for onsite systems that comply with the policy.

The OWTS Policy, including future revisions, is incorporated into this Basin Plan and shall be implemented according to the policy's provisions.

VIII.D.2. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

In order to achieve water quality objectives, protect present and future beneficial water uses, protect public health, and prevent nuisance, discharges of waste are prohibited in the following areas:

1. Discharges from individual sewage disposal systems are prohibited in portions of the community of Nipomo, San Luis Obispo County, which are particularly described in Appendix A-27.
2. Discharges from individual sewage disposal systems within the San Lorenzo River Watershed shall be managed as follows:

Discharges shall be allowed, providing the County of Santa Cruz, as lead agency, implements the *Wastewater Management Plan for the San Lorenzo River Watershed, County of Santa Cruz, Health Services Agency, Environmental Health Service*, February 1995, and *San Lorenzo Nitrate Management Plan, Phase II Final Report*, February 1995, County of Santa Cruz, Health Services Agency, Environmental Health Service (Wastewater Management Plan) and assures the Regional Board that areas of the San Lorenzo River Watershed are serviced by wastewater disposal systems to protect and enhance water quality, to protect and restore beneficial uses of water, and to abate and prevent nuisance, pollution, and contamination.

In fulfilling the responsibilities identified above, the County of Santa Cruz shall submit annual reports beginning on January 15, 1996. The report shall state the status and progress of the Wastewater Management Plan in the San Lorenzo River Watershed. The County of Santa Cruz annual report shall document the results of:

- a. Existing disposal system performance evaluations,
- b. Disposal system improvements,
- c. Inspection and maintenance of onsite systems,
- d. Community disposal system improvements,
- e. New development and expansion of existing system protocol and standards,
- f. Water quality monitoring and evaluation,
- g. Program administration management, and
- h. Program information management.

Resolution No. R3-2013-0005 ATTACHMENT A

The report shall also document progress on each element of the Nitrate Management Plan, including:

- a. Parcel size limit,
- b. Wastewater Management Plan implementation,
- c. Boulder Creek Country Club Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade,
- d. Shallow leachfield installation,
- e. Enhanced wastewater treatment for sandy soils,
- f. Enhanced wastewater treatment for large onsite disposal systems,
- g. Inclusion of nitrogen reduction in Waste Discharge Permits,
- h. Livestock and stable management,
- i. Protection of groundwater recharge areas,
- j. Protection of riparian corridors and erosion control,
- k. Nitrate control for new uses,
- l. Scotts Valley nitrate discharge reduction, and
- m. Monitoring for nitrate in surface and ground water.

The County of Santa Cruz shall submit for approval by May 13, 2016, a Local Agency Management Program to be implemented in lieu of the Wastewater Management Plan for the San Lorenzo River Watershed, referenced above. Beginning in 2017 annual reports shall be consistent with the requirements specified in the OWTS Policy and the Regional Board approved Local Agency Management Program in lieu of reporting requirements stated above.

3. Discharges of waste from individual and community sewage disposal systems are prohibited effective November 1, 1988, in the Los Osos/Baywood Park area, and more particularly described as: Groundwater Prohibition Zone. (Prohibition Boundary Map included as

Attachment "A" of Resolution No. 83-13 which can be found in Appendix A-30.)

Failure to comply with any of the compliance dates established by Resolution 83-13 will prompt a Regional Board hearing at the earliest possible date to consider adoption of an immediate prohibition of discharge from additional individual and community sewage disposal systems.

VIII.D.3. SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL EXEMPTIONS

The Regional Board or Executive Officer may grant exemptions to prohibitions of waste discharges from new or existing onsite systems within the specific prohibition areas cited above. Such exemptions may be granted only after presentation by the discharger of sufficient justification, including geologic and hydrologic evidence that the continued operation of such systems in a particular area will not individually or collectively or directly or indirectly result in pollution or nuisance or affect water quality adversely.

Requests for exemptions will not be considered until the local agency has reviewed the system and submitted the proposal for Regional Board review. Dischargers requesting exemptions must submit a Report of Waste Discharge. Exemptions will be subject to filing fees as established by the State Water Code.

Further information concerning individual, alternative, or community onsite sewage disposal systems can be found in Chapter 5 in the Management Principles and Control Actions sections. State Water Resources Control Board plans and policies, discharge prohibitions, and Regional Board policies also apply depending on individual circumstances.

CHAPTER 5. PLANS AND POLICIES

(new onsite wastewater section only)

I.M. ONSITE WASTEWATER POLICY

The *Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems* (OWTS Policy), Resolution No. 2012-0032, was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on June 19, 2012. This Policy implements California Water Code, Chapter

4.5, Division 7, §13290-13291.7 by establishing statewide regulations and standards for permitting onsite wastewater systems. The OWTS Policy specifies criteria for existing and new onsite systems and establishes a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for onsite systems that comply with the policy.

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