



29 April 2022

Steven Fredrick Jackson Valley Irrigation District 6755 Lake Amador Drive Ione, CA 95640

CERTIFIED MAIL 7020 1810 0002 0569 0265

# NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS
ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ
FOR
JACKSON VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT
LAKE AMADOR RESORT
AMADOR COUNTY

On 25 February 2021, the Jackson Valley Irrigation District (hereafter Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge for Lake Amador Resort (the Resort) requesting to obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This Notice of Applicability (NOA) provides notice that the General Order is applicable to the WWTP as described below. You are hereby assigned Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374 for the discharge. After Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 99-033 has been rescinded, coverage under General Order 2014-0153-DWQ will become effective. A copy of the General Order is enclosed and also available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/water\_quality/2014/wqo201 4 0153 dwg.pdf

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. The General Order contains operational and reporting requirements by wastewater system type. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

# EXISTING FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Lake Amador Resort is located at 7500 Lake Amador Drive, Ione in Amador County as shown on attachment A, which is incorporated herein. The facility is owned and operated by the Discharger.

The Resort consists of facilities for fishing, boating, camping, a restaurant, Recreational Vehicle (RV) camping, a fish cleaning station, and caretaker facilities. Lake Amador Resort has a campground consisting of 113 sites located on a 100-acre portion of the facility. The Resort also has a 73-site deluxe RV park on a private peninsula. These facilities are serviced by a series of septic tanks with capacity ranging from 1,500 gallons to 5,000 gallons. Effluent from septic tanks is disposed via three unlined percolation ponds with a combined design disposal capacity of 6,500 gallons per day (gpd) based on the RWD. The site plan is shown on Attachments B, which is incorporated herein.

### SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections in the General Order, including:

- 1. Requirements A. Prohibitions
- 2. Requirements B.1.a.

The Discharger shall comply with the following flow limit: Effluent entering the disposal ponds shall not exceed 6,500 gpd as a monthly average.

3. Requirements B.1.b. through B.1.I For Section B.1.I, the Discharger shall comply with the following setback requirements listed in in Table 3 of the General Order:

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, or Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
Impoundment	150 ft.	150 ft.	150 ft.	50 ft.	200 ft.

- 4. Requirements B.2 Septic Systems
- 5. Requirements B.5 Pond Systems
- 6. Requirements B.8 Sludge/Solids/Biosolids Disposal
- 7. Requirements C. Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations
- 8. Provision E.2 and E.3

9. Based on Senate Bill 317 (see Attachment), starting January 1, 2022, the RV park/campground owner should certify that signage for the prohibition/use of RV sanitation chemicals is posted onsite.

On 31 May 2018, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new strategies for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley as part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative. Further details of these strategies are discussed in the enclosed memorandum. As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Program are met.

# MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

WDRs Order 99-033 will be rescinded at an upcoming Central Valley Water Board meeting. Effective upon the first day of the month following rescission of WDRs Order 99-033, the Discharger shall comply with MRP WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374, which is incorporated herein.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the discharge. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength, generation rate, or to the method of waste disposal, you must contact the Central Valley Water Board to determine if submittal of a Report Waste Discharge is required.

The Discharger generates the waste subject to the terms and conditions of Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374 and maintains exclusive control over the discharge. As such, the Discharger is primarily responsible for compliance with this NOA, MRP, and General Order, with all attachments. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order or this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

### **DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL**

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to:

centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: Lake Amador Resort Program: Non-15 Compliance Order: WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374

CIWQS Place ID: CW- 236179

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board ECM Mailroom 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Kenny Croyle is your new point of contact for any questions about the Waiver. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Kenny will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Kenny at (916) 464-4676 or at kcroyle@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Digitally Signed by John J. Baum on Date: 2022.04.29 17:47:22-07'00'

for Patrick Pulupa Executive Officer

Enclosure: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ

Monitoring and Reporting Program WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374

Attachment A, Location Map Attachment B, Site Plan

Senate Bill 317

Staff Review Memorandum for Lake Amador Resort

cc w/out enc: Michelle Opalenik, Amador County Environmental Health Department

Debbie Webster, CVCWA (via email)

Laurel Warddrip, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento (via email)

Howard Hold, Central Valley Water Board, Rancho Cordova (via email)

WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374 ATTACHMENT A



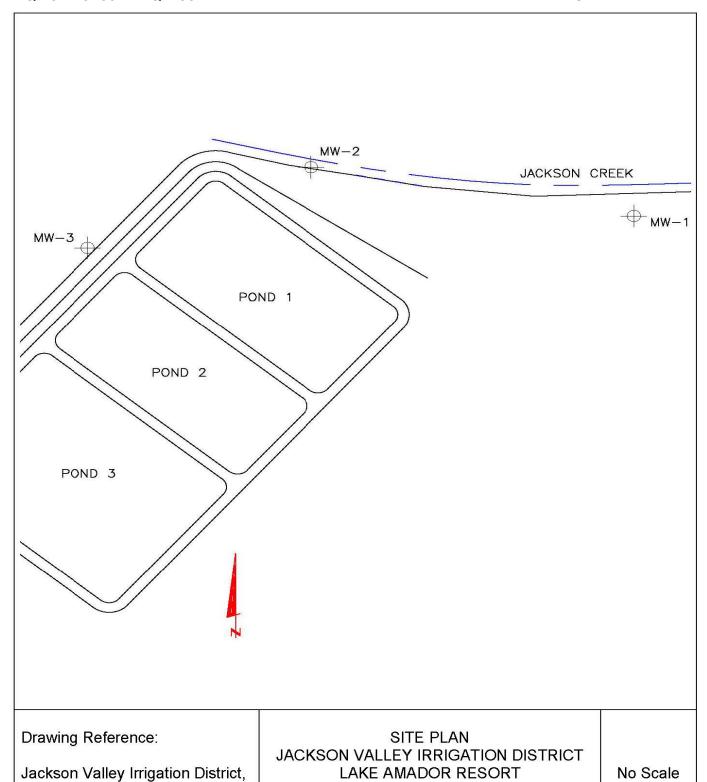
Drawing Reference Google Map

JACKSON VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAKE AMADOR RESORT AMADOR COUNTY



3Q 2021Groundwater Monitoring

Report, October 2021



**AMADOR COUNTY** 

**TO:** Robert Busby

Supervising Engineering Geologist

**FROM:** Scott Armstrong Senior Engineering Geologist

**DATE:** 2 February 2022

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; JACKSON VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT LAKE AMADOR RESORT; AMADOR COUNTY

25 February 2021, the Jackson Valley Irrigation District (hereafter Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge for Lake Amador Resort (the Resort) requesting to obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This memorandum provides a summary of the applicability of this discharge for coverage under the General Order.

### REGULATORY BACKGROUND

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) 99-033, adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 30 April 1999, prescribes requirements for wastewater treatment and disposal at Lake Amador Resort. WDRs Order 99-033 will be rescinded at an upcoming Central Valley Water Board meeting. Effective upon rescission of Order 99-033, the discharge described in this NOA shall be regulated pursuant to the General Order.

### EXISTING FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The campground facility is located in Section 8, T5N, R10E, MDB&M, with Assessor Parcel Numbers: 812-04-29, 12-05-02, 03, 08, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 25. The surface water drainage is Jackson Creek.

Domestic wastes generated at the campground facility are initially treated in septic tank systems provided at each service facility. The effluent from the septic tank units is discharged into the first and second percolation ponds, with the third pond accepting overflow. The RWD indicates that the three ponds cover approximately 0.8 acres of surface area and provide four acre-feet of storage capacity based on two feet of freeboard.

The peak flows normally occur in the summer months. Based on the effluent monthly monitoring reports from July 2019 through July 2021, the annual average flow was 1,860 gallons per day (gpd) with a maximum monthly average flow of 2,600 in July 2019; the effluent BOD concentrations ranged from 110 to 1,500 mg/L with an average of 402 mg/L; the effluent TDS concentrations ranged from 180 to 1,100 mg/L with an average of 393 mg/L. There are no effluent data available for nitrate, total kjeldahl nitrogen and RV waste concentrations such as formaldehyde zinc, phenol, because MRP 99-033 does not contain monitoring requirements for

these constituents. MRP WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5374 will include monitoring requirements for these constituents.

As needed, solid wastes in the septic tanks are hauled offsite to a licensed facility accepting septage in Amador County. Other solid wastes generated onsite are hauled to a local landfill for disposal.

# **GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS**

Based on the Discharger's 18 March 2008 Groundwater Assessment Report, the geology in the general project area consists of Tertiary-age sedimentary and volcanic rocks.

Three monitoring wells MW-1, MW-2, and MW-3 were installed onsite in spring 2004 with well depths between 20 to 25 feet below ground surface. The groundwater flow direction is generally to the west and southwest. MW-1 and MW-2 are up-gradient of three ponds onsite and MW-3 is cross- to down-gradient of Pond No. 1. Local groundwater is shallow. Based on Discharger's quarterly groundwater monitoring reports from March 2019 through March 2021, the depth of groundwater ranged from 0.6 feet to 3.9 feet below ground surface. The RWD addendum submitted on 22 January 2022 indicates that the ponds' depths range from 5.5 to 6 feet. Based on this information, the bottoms of the disposal ponds are likely in contact with shallow groundwater, and these conditions may impact the ability of the soils beneath the disposal ponds to treat or remove certain waste constituents. In order to evaluate the potential groundwater degradation due to discharge, this NOA requires the Discharger continue to conduct groundwater monitoring.

Based on the groundwater monitoring quarterly sampling events from December 2019 to September 2021, the groundwater monitoring data for select constituents are listed below.

Constituent	Solids, Total Dissolved (mg/L)	Nitrogen, Total Nitrate-N (mg/L)
Potential Water Quality Objective	500-1,500, see note No.1	10
MW-1 Range	980-1,300	1.5-10
MW-1 Average	1,119	5.2
MW-2 Range	1,100-5,000	0.4-2.1
MW-2 Average	2,311	1.2
MW-3 Range	1,700 to 17,000	0.2 to 2.1
MW-3 Average	8,967	0.8

Note: 1. Potential Water Quality Objective for TDS: Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level range, Recommended level = 500; Upper level = 1000 mg/L; Short-term level = 1,500 mg/L.

2. Potential Water Quality Objective for Nitrate as Nitrogen: 10 mg/L, Primary Maximum Contaminant Level.

Based on the table above, the down-gradient monitoring Well MW-3 contains elevated TDS concentrations (ranged from 1,700 to 17,000 mg/L) with an average of 8,967 mg/L. However,

the effluent has an average of TDS concentration of 393 mg/L. The RWD indicates that the elevated groundwater TDS concentrations may represent naturally occurring conditions related to the bedrock and soil condition or are affected by other sources, and it is unlikely being caused by wastewater disposal onsite. Nitrate as nitrogen concentrations in the groundwater monitoring wells are less the Primary Maximum Contaminant Level of 10 mg/L for nitrate as nitrogen.

## SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. The Basin Plan amendments were conditionally approved by the State Water Board on 16 October 2019 (Resolution 2019-0057) and by the Office of Administrative Law on 15 January 2020 (OAL Matter No. 2019-1203-03).

For nitrate, dischargers that are unable to comply with stringent nitrate requirements will be required to take on alternate compliance approaches that involve providing replacement drinking water to persons whose drinking water is affected by nitrates. Dischargers may comply with the new nitrate program either individually or collectively with other dischargers. For the Nitrate Control Program, the facility falls within Non-Prioritized Groundwater Basins. Notices to Comply for Non-Prioritized Basins will be issued within two to four years after the effective date of the Nitrate Control Program.

For salinity, dischargers that are unable to comply with stringent salinity requirements will instead need to meet performance-based requirements and participate in a basin-wide effort to develop a long-term salinity strategy for the Central Valley. Dischargers received a Notice to Comply with instructions and obligations for the Salt Control Program within one year of 17January 2020, the effective date of the amendments. The Discharger has selected Option 2 (Alternative Option for Salt Permitting).

As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this Order to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. This order may be amended or modified to incorporate newly applicable requirements. More information regarding this regulatory planning process can be found on the Central Valley Water Board CV-SALTS website

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water issues/salinity).