

ITEM: 27

SUBJECT: Uncontested NPDES Permits

REPORT: Following are proposed permits. All agencies and the dischargers concur, or have offered no comments. Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewals

a	<p><b>Meridian Beartrack Company, Royal Mountain King Mine, Calaveras County</b></p> <p>The Meridian Beartrack Company (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Royal Mountain King Mine, located in Calaveras county. The Facility was a gold mine operated by the Discharger between 1988 and 1994. Closure Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2008-0021 regulates the closure of the Facility. The Facility includes three former mining pits; Gold Knoll, North Pit Lake, and Skyrocket Pit Lake. The Gold Knoll pit has been backfilled. The North Pit Lake and Skyrocket Pit Lake have been filled with water. Skyrocket Pit Lake is intended to act as a groundwater sink to manage groundwater on the site. However, the current level of Skyrocket Pit Lake is too high, so it is not acting as a groundwater sink and low quality groundwater seeps into Littlejohns Creek.</p> <p>In 2007, to prevent uncontrolled surface water discharges and to lower the water level in the Skyrocket Pit Lake, the Central Valley Water Board issued an NPDES permit that allows discharges from Skyrocket Pit Lake to Littlejohns Creek during periods of high flow in the creek (e.g., during storm events). The NPDES surface water discharge is a part of the overall water management system on the site to ensure Skyrocket Pit Lake operates as a groundwater sink.</p> <p>An NPDES permit renewal is proposed for approval. The proposed NPDES renewal allows the continued management of discharges from Skyrocket Pit Lake to reduce impacts to beneficial uses in Littlejohns Creek caused by previous mining operations (predominantly from high total dissolved solids, sulfate, and arsenic concentrations). Because these constituents have a greater impact on beneficial uses during low-flow/dry seasons due to its concentration in smaller volumes of water, the loading of salt and arsenic has the potential to impact water supplies downstream. During high flow periods (i.e., during storm events) there is assimilative capacity in Littlejohns Creek, thus, the volume of water moving through the watershed and allows for a reduction in the potential for impacts to beneficial uses.</p> <p>The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (USEPA), submitted a comment that the revised effluent limit for selenium in the proposed Order was less stringent than the previous effluent limit, but does not meet the exceptions to the federal antibacksliding regulations. USEPA commented that the maximum daily effluent limit must remain at 14 µg/L, consistent with the existing permit. Central Valley Water Board staff agrees and the proposed maximum daily effluent limit for selenium has been changed to 14 µg/L. The Discharger has been notified and is not contesting the change.</p>
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<p>b</p>	<p><b>Calaveras County Water District, Copper Cove Wastewater Reclamation Facility and Saddle Creek Golf Course, L.P., Calaveras County</b></p> <p>Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) is the owner and operator of the Copper Cove Wastewater Reclamation Facility (hereinafter Facility), a publicly-owned treatment works. Saddle Creek Golf Course, L.P. is the owner and operator of the Saddle Creek Golf Course (SCGC), together CCWD and SCGC are the Discharger in the proposed Order.</p> <p>CCWD provides sewerage service for portions of the Copper Cove Community, located in the southwestern part of Calaveras County. The Facility consists of a headworks and flow diverter, two aerated ponds operated in parallel, followed by an additional aerated pond for settling and polishing, and potassium hypochlorite disinfection. Disinfected, secondary treated wastewater is stored on-site in an unlined storage reservoir, which may then be land applied via spray irrigation on CCWD's 25 acres of spray irrigation fields.</p> <p>During the summer, wastewater is further treated to tertiary levels using tertiary filtration and ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection. The Title 22 tertiary treated effluent is collected in a reclaimed water storage tank and then discharged to be used for golf course irrigation or to provide makeup water for the jurisdictional wetland system on the SCGC. The wetland system is regulated by a US Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404 permit. The proposed Order regulates the seasonal discharges to the jurisdictional wetlands, waters of the United States, between 1 April and 31 December of each year.</p> <p>The proposed Order includes effluent limits for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), pH, ammonia, nitrate plus nitrite, electrical conductivity, dichlorobromomethane, aluminum, chlorine residual, manganese, acute and chronic whole effluent toxicity, total coliform organisms, and total suspended solids (TSS). Time Schedule Order R5-2012-0055, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 8 June 2012, provides compliance schedules for dichlorobromomethane, chloroform, electrical conductivity, aluminum, and manganese with compliance required by 31 July 2016.</p> <p>The Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA) submitted a late comment regarding an error they noted with the rationale in the Fact Sheet explaining the need for the BOD and TSS effluent limits. The late comment has not been accepted into the record. However, Central Valley Water Board staff agrees that an error was made in the Fact Sheet and has made the necessary changes. The changes are only to the rationale in the Fact Sheet and do not affect the effluent limitations.</p>
<p>c</p>	<p><b>General Waste Discharge Requirements for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Waters, Central Valley Region</b></p> <p>There are many discharges of wastewater having well-defined characteristics and for which treatment technologies are well-established to eliminate constituents that pose a threat to water quality. To regulate these limited threat discharges to surface water, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control</p>

	<p>Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Order R5 2008 0082-01 General Waste Discharge Requirements for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (NPDES No. CAG995002) on 12 June 2008.</p> <p>The Limited Threat General Order expires on 1 June 2013. A proposed NPDES permit renewal has been developed for reissuance of the Limited Threat General Order. The proposed permit renewal contains no significant changes from the existing General Order and dischargers currently covered by General Order R5 2008-0082-01 would automatically be granted continued coverage under the renewed Limited Threat General Order.</p> <p>The proposed Order was issued for public comment on 5 March 2013 with written comments due by 8 April 2013. A notice of public hearing was also issued on 5 March 2013 and published in the Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee, and Redding Record Searchlight.</p> <p>No comments were received.</p>
d	<p><b>General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters, Central Valley Region</b></p> <p>Individuals, public agencies, private businesses, public and private water suppliers, such as irrigation districts, water districts, and water agencies, and other legal entities often need to discharge clean or relatively pollutant-free wastewater to surface waters and surface water drainage courses that pose little or no threat to water quality. These discharges are often short-term and low volume in nature. To regulate these low threat discharges to surface water, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Order R5 2008 0081 General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dewatering and Other Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters (NPDES No. CAG995001) on 12 June 2008.</p> <p>The Low Threat General Order expires on 1 June 2013. A proposed NPDES permit renewal has been developed for reissuance of the Low Threat General Order. The proposed permit renewal contains no significant changes from the existing General Order and dischargers currently covered by General Order R5-2008-0081 would automatically be granted continued coverage under the renewed Low Threat General Order.</p> <p>The proposed Order was issued for public comment on 5 March 2013 with written comments due by 8 April 2013. A notice of public hearing was also issued on 5 March 2013 and published in the Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee, and Redding Record Searchlight.</p> <p>No comments were received.</p>
e	<p><b>General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Waters of Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum Fuel Pollution, Central Valley Region</b></p>

	<p>The presence of petroleum constituents in groundwater at various sites throughout the Central Valley Region poses a threat to existing and potential beneficial uses of the groundwater. Remediation at many of these sites includes groundwater treatment, with discharge of the treated groundwater to surface waters. To regulate the discharge of treated groundwater from cleanups of petroleum constituents to waters of the United States, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Order R5-2008-0085 General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharge to Surface Waters of Groundwater from Cleanup of Petroleum Fuel Pollution (NPDES No. CAG915001) on 12 June 2008.</p> <p>The Petroleum Cleanup General Order expires on 1 June 2013. A proposed NPDES permit renewal has been developed for reissuance of the Petroleum Cleanup General Order. The proposed permit renewal contains no significant changes from the existing General Order and dischargers currently covered by General Order R5-2008-0085 would automatically be granted continued coverage under the renewed Petroleum Cleanup General Order. The proposed Order was issued for public comment on 5 March 2013 with written comments due by 8 April 2013. A notice of public hearing was also issued on 5 March 2013 and published in the Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee, and Redding Record Searchlight.</p> <p>A comment was received from Arcadis US, Inc. on 4 April 2013, requesting clarifications of flow and receiving water monitoring requirements. Minor clarifying changes were made to the proposed Order to address the comment.</p>
f	<p><b>Placer County Department of Facility Services, Placer County Sewer Maintenance District 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant, Placer County</b></p> <p>The Placer County Department of Facility Services (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility), serving a population of approximately 1,500. The Facility is currently authorized to discharge up to 0.3 million gallons per day of disinfected tertiary treated effluent to Miners Ravine, a tributary to the Sacramento River within the Lower Sacramento River watershed. The Discharger is currently planning a regional project that will connect its municipal wastewater to the City of Roseville’s Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Once the connection is made, the Facility will no longer be used for wastewater treatment and discharge to Miners Ravine will cease. The regional project is scheduled for completion by 31 December 2014.</p> <p>The proposed NPDES Permit renewal contains new effluent limitations for nitrate plus nitrite and total trihalomethanes. Based on a reasonable potential analysis, the proposed NPDES Permit renewal does not retain existing effluent limitations for aluminum, iron, manganese, mercury, persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides, nitrate, and settleable solids from the existing permit. The proposed CDO contains interim effluent limitations, and requires compliance with the final effluent limitations by 31 December 2014, for copper, dibromochloromethane, dichlorobromomethane, and total trihalomethanes.</p>

	<p>Public comments on the tentative orders were received from the Discharger and from the Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA). Staff concurs with the comments and has made appropriate changes to the tentative orders to address the comments. Therefore, the proposed NPDES Permit renewal and proposed CDO are uncontested.</p> <p>The following is a summary of the comments received and the staff responses.</p> <p>Monitoring for Hardness. The Discharger requests that the requirement to collect monthly effluent and receiving water hardness data be removed from the proposed NPDES Permit. The hardness data is not necessary to determine compliance with the NPDES Permit. Staff concurs and the monthly monitoring of the effluent and receiving water for hardness has been removed from the proposed NPDES Permit.</p> <p>Authorized Signatory. The Discharger indicated that due to staff changes at Placer County, the authorized person to sign and submit reports for the Facility has changed. Accordingly, staff has made the appropriate correction in the Fact Sheet of the proposed NPDES Permit.</p> <p>Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). CVCWA comments that the effluent limitations for BOD and TSS are being carried over from the existing NPDES Permit to the proposed NPDES Permit and the rationale for the limitations has not changed, and therefore, requests that the proposed NPDES Permit be revised to maintain the findings from the existing NPDES Permit with respect to the effluent limits for BOD and TSS. Staff concurs and the necessary revisions were made to the Fact Sheet of the proposed NPDES Permit. The changes do not affect the effluent limitations.</p>
g	<p><b>City of Roseville, Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant, Placer County</b></p> <p>The City of Roseville (Discharger) owns and operates the Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) The Facility provides tertiary-level treatment, including mechanically cleaned bar racks, aerated grit basins, primary clarifiers, and secondary treatment using activated sludge oxidation ditches with nitrification-denitrification, and secondary clarification. Tertiary treatment is provided by fine screening, chemical coagulation with organic polymers, using rapid mix flocculation, followed by continuous backwash filtration, disinfection with an ultraviolet light system, and final polishing over a cascade to increase dissolved oxygen. Tertiary treated wastewater is discharged from the Facility to Pleasant Grove Creek, a water of the United States (and a tributary to Pleasant Grove Creek Canal, Natomas Cross Canal, and the Sacramento River).</p> <p>Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5 2008-0079 and Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5 2008 0080, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 12 June 2008. TSO R5-2008-0080 provides a compliance schedule for zinc.</p>

	<p>Nitric acid is used to preserve trace metals samples for laboratory analysis. The Discharger suspected trace metal sample contamination from impure preservatives that may have resulted in elevated zinc concentrations in the effluent results. On 25 July 2012 the Discharger submitted a technical memorandum to the Central Valley Water Board titled Updated Analysis of Effluent Zinc Data Sets for the City of Roseville's Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant and Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (Technical Memorandum). The Technical Memorandum provided analysis of zinc data collected before and after the use of higher purity nitric acid to preserve metals samples for analysis. The newer zinc data was lower in concentration and indicates the discharge does not have reasonable potential for zinc and water quality-based effluent limitations are not required. Therefore, an amending Order is proposed to remove the zinc effluent limitations. The removal of the zinc effluent limitations complies with federal antibacksliding regulations and is consistent with state and federal antidegradation requirements.</p>
<p>h</p>	<p><b>City of Roseville, Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, Placer County</b></p> <p>The City of Roseville (Discharger) owns and operates the Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility). The Facility provides a tertiary-level treatment, including bar screens, grit chambers, primary clarification, secondary treatment consisting of nitrification, denitrification, aeration, and secondary clarification, and tertiary treatment consisting of chemical coagulation, filtration, chlorination, dechlorination, pH adjustment, and cascade aeration. Tertiary treated wastewater is discharged to Dry Creek, a water of the United States (and a tributary to Natomas East Main Drainage Canal, and the Sacramento River) within the Lower American Watershed.</p> <p>Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5 2008-0077 and Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5 2008 0078, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 12 June 2008. TSO R5-2008-0078 provides a compliance schedule for zinc.</p> <p>Nitric acid is used to preserve trace metals samples for laboratory analysis. The Discharger suspected trace metal sample contamination from impure preservatives that may have resulted in elevated zinc concentrations in the effluent results. On 25 July 2012 the Discharger submitted a technical memorandum to the Central Valley Water Board titled Updated Analysis of Effluent Zinc Data Sets for the City of Roseville's Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant and Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (Technical Memorandum). The Technical Memorandum provided analysis of zinc data collected before and after the use of higher purity nitric acid to preserve metals samples for analysis. The newer zinc data was lower in concentration and indicates the discharge does not have reasonable potential for zinc and water quality-based effluent limitations are not required. Therefore, an amending Order is proposed to remove the zinc effluent limitations. The removal of the zinc effluent limitations complies with federal antibacksliding regulations and is consistent with state and federal antidegradation requirements.</p>

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed NPDES permits.  
Mgmt. Review \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Review \_\_\_\_\_

30/31 May 2013  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting  
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670