

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 82-40

REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR

BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT  
MARIN COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter Board) finds that:

1. The Bolinas Community Public Utilities District (hereinafter Discharger) owns and operates a municipal wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system in Bolinas, Marin County.
2. The Discharger presently collects, treats and disposes approximately 30,000 gallons per day (gpd) of municipal sewage (average dry weather flow) from some 150 residences of the sewered portion of the community. The remainder of the community is served by private on-site wastewater systems. Wastewater from the sewered area is collected and pumped to a series of four oxidation ponds for stabilization and storage, with ultimate disposal through pond evaporation and spray disposal on some 45 acres of grassland. The effluent spray disposal area and adjacent pond system are located south of Mesa Road and east of Overlook Road, with drainage to Bolinas Lagoon. Attachment A is a location map of these facilities.
3. The Discharger's wastewater management system is designed to store an average dry weather wastewater flow of 65,000 gpd, plus 65 inches of rainfall (100-year seasonal rainfall), while maintaining a minimum of two feet of freeboard. The ponds were designed to store these flows for a 150-day wet season. The 45 acre grassland was designed to dispose of the stored wet weather flows plus dry weather flow during the seven month dry season.
4. The Discharger's wastewater pond system experienced overflows during the early part of the recent wet weather season. These overflows occurred after all pond freeboard was utilized, after the dry weather spray field was saturated with treated effluent, and after only the average seasonal rainfall had occurred. Staff has reviewed the discharger's facilities and conclude that the system is not being maintained and operated in a manner to assure that waste discharge requirements will be met.
5. The Discharger's collection system has had several reported bypasses of untreated sewage to Bolinas Lagoon since construction was completed in 1975.
6. The discharge is presently covered by Regional Board Order No. 72-55, adopted on August 22, 1972.

7. The Board, on its own motion, has reviewed the existing wastewater management system of the discharger and has reviewed the present waste discharge requirements. Under Section 13263(e) of the California Water Code the Board hereby revises waste discharge requirements for the Discharger.
8. The Board in April 1975 adopted a Water Quality Control Plan for San Francisco Bay Basin. The Plan contains water quality objectives for Bolinas Lagoon.
9. The beneficial uses of unnamed streams adjacent to the effluent disposal area, Bolinas Lagoon and contiguous water are:
  - a. Recreation
  - b. Fish migration, spawning and habitat
  - c. Habitat and resting for marine animals and migratory birds
  - d. Preservation of Rare and Endangered Species
  - e. Shellfish Harvesting
  - f. Area of Special Biological Significance
  - g. Commercial and Sport Fishery
10. This project involves the continued operation of a sewage treatment and disposal facility with negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing. Consequently, this project will not have a significant effect on the environment based upon the exemption provided in Section 15101, Title 14, California Administrative Code.
11. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
12. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Bolinas Community Public Utilities District, pursuant to the provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code, and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1. There shall be no bypass or overflow of sewage from the collection, treatment, or disposal system to waters of the State.
2. Discharge from the pond system other than to the effluent spray disposal area, shown in Attachment A, is prohibited under this Order.
3. The volume of waste influent shall not exceed 65,000 gallons per day (average dry weather flow).
4. No wastewater effluent shall be applied to the effluent spray disposal area during periods of rainfall, in anticipation of rainfall, or for 48 hours after a rainfall.

5. No wastewater shall be applied to the effluent spray disposal area when soils are saturated to a point where effluent runoff is likely.
6. Wastewater ponding which could provide a breeding area for mosquitoes is prohibited.

B. SPECIFICATIONS

1. Waste at the surface of all ponds shall meet the following quality limits at all times:

In any grab sample:

Dissolved Oxygen	2.0 mg/l minimum
Dissolved Sulfides	0.1 mg/l maximum
pH	6.0 minimum
	9.0 maximum

2. Waste effluent, as discharged to the effluent spray disposal area, shall meet the following quality limits at all times:

In any grab sample:

5-day BOD	40 mg/l maximum
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3. A minimum freeboard of two feet shall be maintained in all ponds at all times.
4. Ponds shall be protected from erosion, washout, and flooding from a flood having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
5. Neither the collection, treatment nor disposal of waste shall create a nuisance as defined by California Water Code Section 13050 (m).
6. The public shall be effectively excluded from the treatment and effluent disposal area.
7. Wastewater effluent shall not be applied to the effluent disposal area whenever Specifications B.2. and B.6. are not being met.

C. PROVISIONS

1. The waste shall not be allowed to escape from the discharger's effluent disposal area into waters of the State via surface flow, resurfacing after percolation, or airborne spray.
2. The disposal of waste shall not cause degradation of groundwater suitable for domestic use or cause any quality parameter that would make groundwater unsuitable for irrigation use.

3. By July 1, 1982, and by May 1 of each succeeding year, the discharger shall submit a report to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer which outlines the anticipated method and schedule by which pond levels will be lowered to provide the freeboard necessary to meet the requirement contained in Specification B.3. throughout the following wet season. A water balance shall be the basis of this report.
4. In reviewing compliance with Prohibitions A.4 and A.5 and Specification B.3., the Board will take special note of the difficulties encountered in achieving compliance during entire wet seasons having a rainfall recurrence interval greater than once in ten years.
5. The discharger is required to submit a plan of study to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer within 90 days of the date of this Order which addresses the infiltration/inflow problems and bypasses from the collection system. This plan of study shall include a proposed method and time schedule for identification and correction of the problems.
6. The Discharger shall comply with the Self-Monitoring Program as ordered by the Executive Officer.
7. All equipment including pumps, piping and valves, storage ponds, etc. which may at any time contain wastes shall be adequately and clearly identified with warning signs and Discharger shall make all necessary provisions, in addition, to inform the public that the liquid contained therein is wastewater and is unfit for human consumption.
8. The Discharger shall maintain in good working order and operate, as efficiently as possible, any facility or control system installed to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.
9. The Discharger shall file with this Board a report of waste discharge at least 120 days of any material change or proposed change in the character, treatment, or volume of this waste discharge. For the purpose of these requirements, this includes any proposed change in the boundaries, or ownership of the property.
10. The Discharger shall permit the Board or its authorized representatives in accordance with California Water Code Section 13267(c):
  - a. Entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept.
  - b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of this Order.

- c. Inspection of any monitoring equipment or method required by this Order.
  - d. Sampling of any stored or disposed wastewater.
- 11. The Board will review this Order periodically and may revise the requirements when necessary.
  - 12. Order No. 72-55 is hereby rescinded.

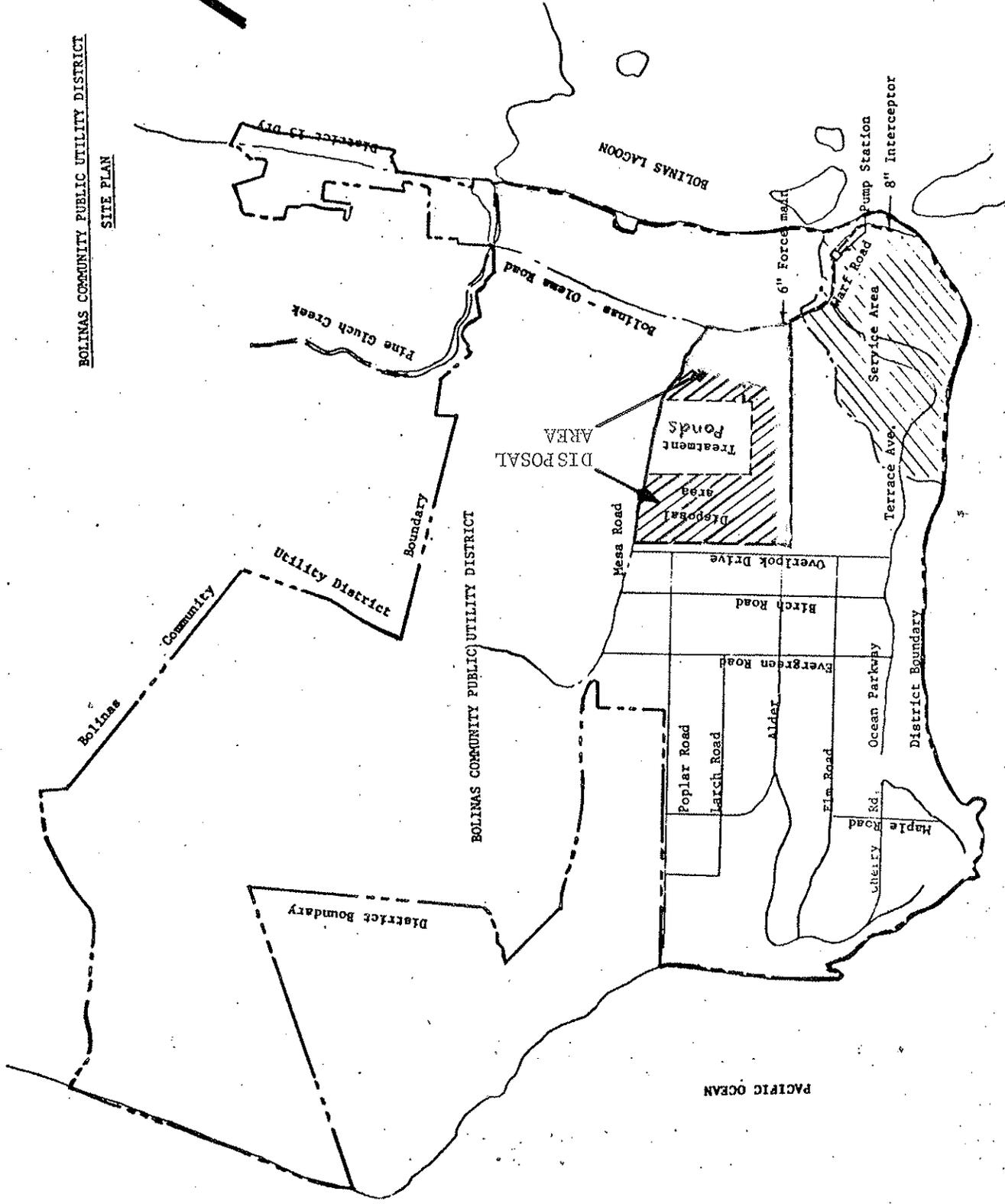
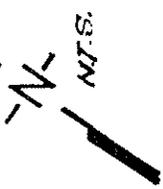
I, Fred H. Dierker, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on June 16, 1982.

FRED H. DIERKER  
Executive Officer

Attachments:

- A. Treatment Pond and  
Effluent Disposal Area Map

BOLINAS COMMUNITY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT  
SITE PLAN



Attachment A. TREATMENT POND AND EFFLUENT DISPOSAL AREA MAP