

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

RESOLUTION 74-11

POLICY FOR ENFORCEMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR  
WASTE DISPOSAL FROM DAIRIES

- I. WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board, in March of 1973, adopted Minimum Guidelines for Animal Waste Management, which prohibits the discharge to waters of the State of manure, wash water, and stormwater runoff from animal confinement areas; and
- II. WHEREAS, the great majority of the dairies in the Region are not now in compliance with the guidelines, and are for the most part polluting waters of the State to varying degrees; especially during wet weather; and
- III. WHEREAS pollution from dairies on the Tomales Bay watershed has had an especially significant impact on water quality, resulting in quarantine of shellfish harvesting during wet weather, and
- IV. WHEREAS, compliance with the guidelines, especially those relating to stormwater runoff will involve relatively large capital expenditures by dairymen, as well as time to complete engineering, financing arrangements, and construction, and
- V. WHEREAS, Marin and Sonoma Counties have instituted programs to provide technical assistance to dairymen, in conjunction with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, now
- VI. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this Regional Board establishes the following policy for enforcement of State "Minimum Guidelines for Protection of Water Quality from Animal Wastes".
  1. Immediate enforcement action will be taken against any dairyman found to be discharging manure into a water course, or depositing manure in areas subject to flooding.
  2. All dairies on the Tomales Bay and Walker Creek watersheds will be expected to be in full compliance with all provisions of the guidelines, including those relating to storm water runoff, by September 1, 1976. All other dairies in the region will be given until September 1, 1977, to comply. As these deadlines approach, the Board's staff will ascertain the compliance status of every dairy, and enforcement action will be taken against any dairy not in compliance by the deadline.
  3. The deadlines established above do not authorize discharge of grossly polluted runoff in the interim. Enforcement action will be taken in any case wherein dairy waste discharges are found to be having an immediate, significant impact on receiving waters.

VII. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board commends the Counties of Marin and Sonoma and the Soil Conservation Service for their programs to assist dairymen in the solution of dairy waste problems, and urges dairymen in these counties to avail themselves of these programs.

I Fred H. Dierker, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region on August 20, 1974.

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FRED H. DIERKER  
Executive Officer

Attachment:  
Appendix A, Minimum Guidelines (3/1/73)

# CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Appendix #

## MINIMUM GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTION OF WATER QUALITY FROM ANIMAL WASTES

The State Water Resources Control Board has issued these guidelines for the assistance of regional water quality control boards and all other persons in the preparation and amendment of water quality control plans and waste discharge requirements for the protection of the quality of the waters of the State with respect to the disposal of animal wastes.

It is intended that, when justified, regional boards may be more restrictive than these guidelines.

The disposal of animal wastes can cause problems other than water quality degradation. To whatever extent it is appropriate, solutions to such problems will need to be integrated with these guidelines. Other agencies may have guidelines directed to points not addressed in the guidelines below.

### ARTICLE I: DEFINITIONS

Animal Confinement - Cattle, calves, sheep, swine, horses, mules, goats, fowl or other domestic animals corraled, penned, tethered or otherwise caused to remain in restricted areas where feeding is other than by grazing.

Manure Storage Areas - Corrals, feedyards, retention ponds, manure collection areas of any kind and areas used for storage, composting and/or drying of animal wastes.

Ten-year 24-hour Storm - A storm of 24-hour duration which yields a total precipitation of a magnitude that has a probability of recurring only once every ten years.

Washwater - Water which has been used for washing animals or equipment or for cleaning manure storage areas.

Retention Pond - Pond used to retain washwater or surface drainage from manure storage areas until proper disposal on land or other suitable disposal means can be accomplished.

Twenty-year Peak Stream Flow - Stream flow magnitude that is expected to be equaled or exceeded on the average of once every 20 years.

One Hundred-year Peak Stream Flow - Stream flow magnitude that is expected to be equaled or exceeded on the average of once every 100 years.

Sandy Loam - Soil material in which the sandy characteristics are readily recognizable. A typical sandy loam will contain from 43% to 85% sand, less than 20% clay and a content of silt plus twice the clay exceeding 30%. The normal soil textural triangle utilizing the content of sand, silt and clay to determine texture will provide the standard definition of a sandy loam.

ARTICLE II: GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTION OF SURFACE WATER

1. Animal confinement facilities plus adjacent crop lands under the control of the operator shall have the capacity to retain surface drainage from manure storage areas plus any washwater during a 10-year 24-hour storm. The regional board may set waste discharge requirements for discharges exceeding a 10-year 24-hour storm.
2. Surface drainage, including water from roofed areas, shall be prevented from running through manure storage areas.
3. Animal confinement facilities, including retention ponds, shall be protected from overflow from stream channels during 20-year peak stream flows for existing facilities and 100-year peak stream flows for new facilities.
4. Washwater and surface drainage from manure storage areas shall be applied to crop lands, or discharged to treatment systems subject to approval by the appropriate regional water quality control board.
5. Animals in confinement shall be prevented from entering surface waters.
6. Lands that have received animal wastes shall be managed to minimize erosion and runoff. Dry manures applied to cultivated crop lands should be incorporated into the soil soon after application.
7. Animal wastes shall be managed to prevent nuisances in manure storage areas.

ARTICLE III: GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTION OF GROUNDWATER

1. Manure storage areas shall be managed to minimize percolation of water into underlying soils.
2. Animal confinement facilities shall have adequate surface drainage to prevent continuous accumulation of surface waters in corrals and feedyards.
3. The use of special sealants for retention ponds is not usually necessary when these ponds are constructed on sandy loams or finer textured soil materials.
4. Application of manures and washwaters to crop lands shall be at rates which are reasonable for the crop, soil, climate, special local situations, management system and type of manure.
5. The salt in animal rations should be limited to that required to maintain animal health and optimum production.

3/1/73