CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R3-2003-0054

Waste Discharger Identification No. 3 270102001

For

SAN JERARDO COOPERATIVE, INC.
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
MONTEREY COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Regional Board), finds that:

FACILITY OWNER AND LOCATION

1. The San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc. (hereafter "San Jerardo Cooperative" or "Discharger") owns and operates the San Jerardo Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereafter "Facility").

2. The Facility is located approximately 4.5 miles southeast of the City of Salinas near the intersection of Calle El Rosario and Old Stage Road. The Facility is in Sections 9, Township 15 South, Range 07 East, of the Mount Diablo Base & Meridian along the west bank of the Salinas River, as shown on Attachments "A".

PURPOSE OF ORDER

3. On December 20, 2002, Michael J. Freitas, Registered Civil Engineer with Freitas + Freitas, Engineering and Planning Consultants, on behalf of San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc. submitted a Report of Waste Discharge for authorization to continue discharging treated domestic wastewater within the Salinas River sub-basin.

4. Order No. R3-2003-0054 revises waste discharge requirements for the Facility that are intended to:
   a) regulate the discharge described in the Report of Waste Discharge,
   b) uphold State water quality standards and,
   c) revise the Monitoring and Reporting Program.

SITE/FACILITY DESCRIPTION

5. San Jerardo Cooperative is a farm worker housing development and consists of 63 dwelling units, office with social hall, small grocery store, and Headstart childcare center with school. The Discharger provides sewage service and has direct responsibility for the wastewater collection system.

6. The Facility consists of four treatment and disposal ponds and an emergency overflow pond as shown in Attachment "A".

7. The ponds are operated in series. Pond 1 is primarily an aeration pond, while Ponds 2, 3, and 4 are primarily oxidation/disposal ponds. If the organic loading requires additional treatment, Pond 2 can be operated as an aeration pond.

Discharge Type

8. The Facility discharges treated domestic wastewater.

9. Analysis of the San Jerardo Cooperative development water supply on June 27, 2001 yielded the following water quality data:

Constituent	San Jerado Cooperative Water Supply (June 27, 2001)
Total Dissolved Solids	420
Sodium	98
Chloride	110
Sulfate	12
Boron	0.41

10. Analysis of the Facility's wastewater pond effluent, submitted with the Discharger's October 2002 Self Monitoring Report, identifies the following:

Constituent	Pond Effluent (mg/l) October 3 2002
Total Dissolved Solids	720
Nitrite (as N)	ND
Nitrate (as N)	ND
Total Kjelahl Nitrogen	25
Total Nitrogen (as N)	25

Design and Current Capacity

11. The Facility, from January 2000 through November 2002, treated an average flow of approximately 29,000 GPD (based on 85% of potable water use). The peak month, average daily flow, occurred during August 2002 and averaged approximately 39,000 GPD (based on 85% of potable water use). The Facility's treatment and disposal system design capacity is believed to be approximately 40,000 GPD.

Wastewater Disposal

12. Wastewater disposal occurs by percolation and evaporation within the ponds.

Solid Waste Disposal

13. Solid wastes generated from the treatment system consist of sludge within the ponds. Sludge is pumped by a professional transporter and transported to an appropriate disposal facility.

Geology

14. The Facility is located on nearly level topography consisting of sandy soils. According to the Soil Survey of Monterey County prepared by the Soil Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, soils in the area of San Jerardo Cooperative are Elder sandy loam and Hanford gravelly sandy loam. These soils are formed in alluvium derived from granitic and sedimentary rocks of the nearby hills. Permeability of both soils is moderate to moderately rapid.

Hydrogeology

15. San Jerardo Cooperative is located above the East Side Aquifer Sub-area of the Salinas River Sub-basin. Depth to groundwater varied in 2001 from 105 feet in March 2001, to 155 feet in August 2001.

Surface Water

16. The Salinas River is located two miles southwest of the Facility and flows in a northwesterly direction to Monterey Bay.

17. A small branch of Alisal Creek, a tributary to the Salinas River flows alongside the San Jerardo Cooperative and immediately adjacent to the Facility.

Land Uses

18. The Facility is surrounded by agricultural land to the north, west and south and the San Jerardo Cooperative development to the east.

Regional Basin Plan

19. The Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coast Basin (Basin Plan) was adopted by the Regional Board on November 19, 1989 and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) on August 16, 1990. The Regional Board approved amendments to the Basin Plan on February 11, 1994 and September 8, 1994. The Basin Plan incorporates statewide plans and policies by reference and contains a strategy for protecting beneficial uses of State Waters. This Order implements the Basin Plan.

20. Historical beneficial uses of groundwater near the discharge include:

    a. Municipal and Domestic Water
    b. Agricultural Water Supply
    c. Industrial Water Supply

21. Present and anticipated beneficial uses of the Salinas River downstream of Chualar include:

    a. Municipal and Domestic Supply
    b. Agricultural Supply
    c. Industrial Process Supply
    d. Industrial Service Supply
    e. Groundwater Recharge
    f. Water Contact Recreation
    g. Non-Contact Water Recreation
    h. Wildlife Habitat
    i. Cold Freshwater Habitat

j. Warm Freshwater Habitat
k. Migration of Aquatic Organisms
l. Freshwater Replenishment
m. Commercial and Sport Fishing

MONITORING PROGRAM

22. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R3-2003-0054 is a part of the proposed Order. The Monitoring Program requires routine facility, water supply, pond, influent, effluent, groundwater, solids, and inflow/infiltration to verify compliance and evaluation of groundwater quality protection.

23. Monitoring reports are due quarterly in January, April, July, and October. An annual report summarizing the year's events and monitoring is due in January.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

24. These waste discharge requirements are for an existing facility and are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et. seq.) in accordance with Section 15321, Article 19, Chapter 3, Division 6, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Total Maximum Daily Load

25. Total maximum daily load (TMDL) allocations will be developed for impaired surface waters in the Salinas River Basin. TMDL documents will allocate responsibility for constituent loading throughout the watershed. If TMDL's determine constituent contributions from waste discharged may adversely impact beneficial uses or exceed water quality objectives, changes in these Waste Discharge Requirements may be required. Waste Discharge Requirements may be modified to implement applicable TMDL provisions and recommendations.

EXISTING ORDERS/GENERAL FINDINGS

26. The discharge was previously regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 88-12, adopted by the Regional Board on March 11, 1988. The Regional Board has regulated this discharge since June 10, 1977.

27. Discharge of Waste is a privilege, not a right, and authorization to discharge is conditional upon the discharge complying with provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, to protect beneficial uses, and to prevent nuisance.

28. On March 3, 2003, the Regional Board notified the Discharger and interested parties of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with a copy of the proposed Order and an opportunity to submit written views and comments.

29. After considering all comments pertaining to this discharge during a public hearing on May 16, 2003, this Order was found consistent with the above findings.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to authority in Sections 13263 and 13267 of the California Water Code, that the San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc. its agents, successors, and assigns, may discharge waste at the above-described Facility providing compliance is maintained with the following:

Notes:

- Other prohibitions and conditions, definitions, and the method of determining compliance are contained in the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements" dated January 1984. Superscripted terms are defined in Section, D. Definitions.
- All technical and monitoring reports submitted pursuant to this Order are required pursuant to Section 13267 of the California Water Code. Failure to submit reports in accordance with schedules established by this Order, or failure to submit a report of sufficient technical quality to be acceptable to the Executive Officer, may subject the Discharger to enforcement action pursuant to Section 13268 of the California Water Code. The Regional Board will base all enforcement actions on the date of Order adoption
- Any person affected by this action of the Regional Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review the action in accordance with section 13320 of the California Water Code and Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 2050. The State Board must receive the petition within 30 days of the date of this order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions will be provided upon request.
- These requirements include the following footnotes, which indicate the requirement's source:

A. PROHIBITIONS

1. Discharge of treated wastewater to areas other than disposal areas shown in Attachment "A", is prohibited unless approved by the Executive Officer.
2. Discharge of any wastes other than treated domestic wastewater is prohibited.
3. Discharge of wastes to surface waters or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
4. Discharge of any wastes including overflow, bypass, seepage, and overspray; from transport, treatment, storage, or disposal systems to adjacent drainageways or adjacent properties not listed in this Order is prohibited.
5. Bypass of the treatment facility and discharge of untreated or partially treated wastes directly to designated disposal areas is prohibited.

B. SPECIFICATIONS

Effluent

1. Daily wastewater flow averaged over each month shall not exceed 40,000 GPD or Facility design capacity when sufficiently documented and approved by the Executive Officer.

Groundwater Protection

2. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to exceed the following limitations:

Constituents	Units*
TDS	1,500 mg/l
Sodium	250 mg/l
Chloride	250 mg/l
Sulfate	600 mg/l
Boron	0.5 mg/l

* as measured in groundwater downgradient of the disposal area

Note: these values are based on the adjacent 180-foot aquifer of the Salinas River sub-basin taken from the Basin Plan.

3. The discharge shall not cause the pH of underlying groundwater's to exceed 8.3 or recede below 6.5.

4. The discharge shall not cause nitrate concentrations in groundwater downgradient of the disposal area to exceed 8 mg/l (as N).

5. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to contain taste or odor producing substances in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses.

6. The discharge shall not cause a significant increase of mineral constituent concentrations in underlying groundwater.

7. The discharge shall not cause radionuclides to be present in concentrations that are deleterious to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life; or result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

8. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to contain concentrations of radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 64443, Table 4.

9. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64431, Table 64431-A.

10. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to contain concentrations of organic chemicals in excess of the limiting concentrations set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 15, Article 5.5, Section 64444, Table 64444-A.

11. The discharge shall not cause groundwater to contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect the agricultural supply beneficial use.

12. The discharge shall not cause the median concentration of coliform organisms in groundwater over any seven-day period to be more than 2.2/100 mL.

13. No controllable water quality factor shall significantly degrade the quality of any groundwater resource or adversely affect long-term soil productivity. The salinity control aspects of groundwater management will account for effects from all sources.

System Operation

14. Treatment and disposal areas shall be fenced and posted (English and Spanish) to advise the public that the Facility contains domestic wastewater.

15. Extraneous surface drainage shall be excluded from the wastewater treatment and disposal facilities.

16. Wastewater shall be aerated as needed to assure adequate treatment. Inadequate treatment, as evidenced by excessive surface scum and anaerobic gas production or creation of odor or nuisance conditions, shall not occur.

17. Treatment and disposal ponds shall have a freeboard greater than one foot at all times.

18. As a means of discerning pond freeboard, the Discharger shall install and maintain permanent markers with calibration indicating the water level at design capacity and available operational freeboard.

Wastewater Disposal

19. Effluent shall not be discharged within 100 feet of any existing water supply well.

Solid Waste

20. All solids generated from the treatment process must be reclaimed or disposed of in a manner acceptable to the Executive Officer.

Storm Water

21. All storm water contacting domestic wastewater shall be contained onsite.

Inflow/Infiltration

22. Best management practices shall be implemented to minimize the inflow and infiltration of storm water and/or unauthorized wastewater into the Facility.

C. PROVISIONS

1. Order No. 88-12, "Waste Discharge Requirements for San Jerardo, Inc., Monterey County," adopted by the Regional Board on March 11, 1988, is hereby rescinded.

2. The Discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. R3-2003-0054, as specified by the Executive Officer.

3. The Discharger shall comply with all applicable items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements," dated January 1984.

4. All discharges from the Facility shall comply with lawful requirements of the municipalities, counties, irrigation districts, drainage districts, and other local agencies regarding discharges of waste and wastewater within their jurisdictional area.

5. The Discharger shall submit an engineering report to the Executive Officer, not later than November 16, 2003, documenting Facility design capacity and future expansion needs. The report shall include organic loading calculations and hydraulic balance calculations based upon in situ pond infiltration rates and wastewater flows during a 100-year rainfall season. If Facility expansion is required to handle future flows, the Discharger shall submit with the engineering report a timetable for expansion. Any proposed expansion shall consider recycling and reuse, and if viable, develop a schedule for phased implementation.

6. The Discharger shall give advance notice to the Regional Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or waste management activities that may result in noncompliance with this Order.

7. This Order may be reopened to address any changes in State or Federal plans, policies, or regulations that would affect the quality requirements for the discharges.

8. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or facilities presently owned or utilized by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner(s) or operator(s) of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to the Regional Board.

9. Pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9, of the California Administrative Code, the Discharger must submit a written report to the Executive Officer not later than November 16, 2017, addressing:

    a. Whether there will be changes in the continuity, character, location, or volume of the discharge;

    b. Whether, in their opinion, there is any portion of the Order that is incorrect, obsolete, or otherwise in need of revision; and

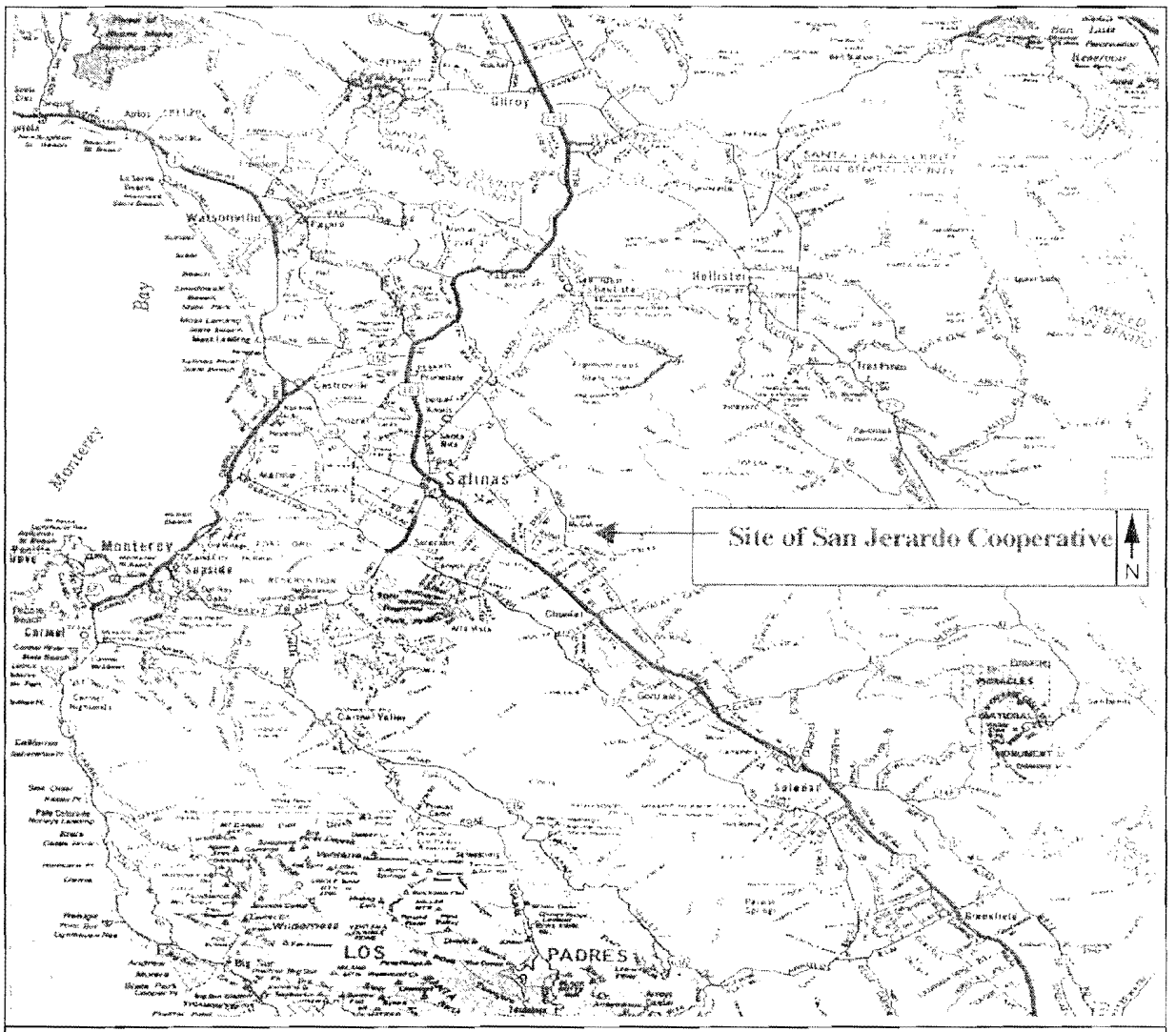
    c. A summary of all violations of Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. R3-2003-0054, which occurred since adoption of the order along with a description of the cause(s) and corrective action taken.

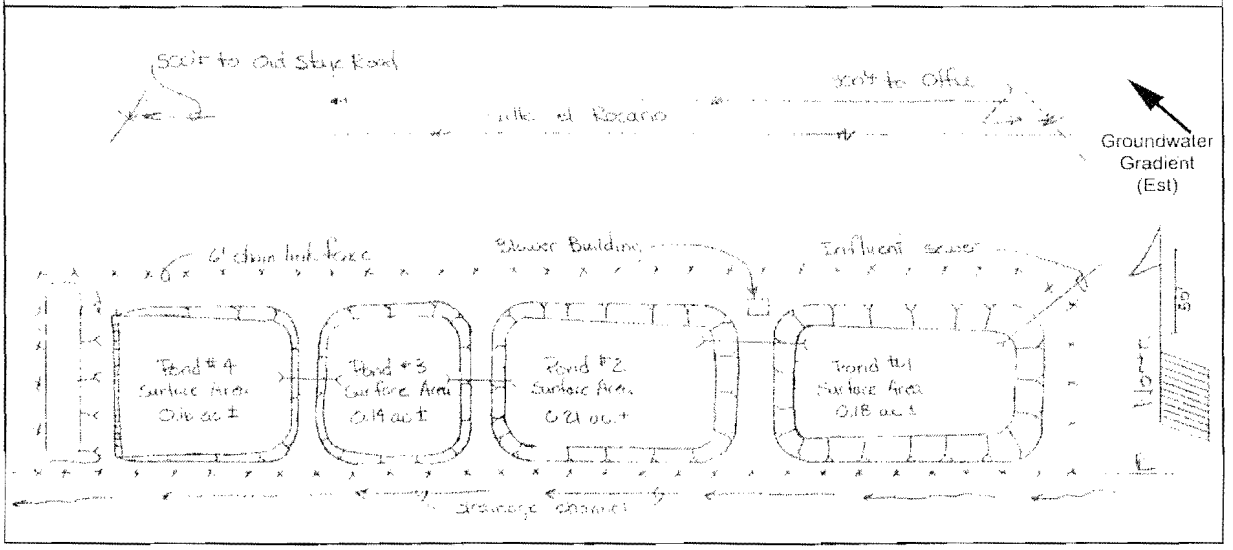
I, Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on May 16, 2003.

Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer

S:\WB\Central Watershed\WDRs\San Jerardo WWTP\Order R3-2003-0054, WDR, 4-10-2003 (final).doc

San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc.
Wastewater Treatment Plant
Order No. R3-2003-0054
Location and Facility Map





Attachment "A"

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. R3-2003-0054

Waste Discharge Identification No. 3 270102001
Adopted at May 16, 2003 Meeting

For

SAN JERARDO COOPERATIVE, INC.
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
MONTEREY COUNTY

Reporting responsibilities are specified in Sections 13225(a), 13267(b), 13383, and 13387(b) of the California Water Code. This Discharge Monitoring Program is issued in accordance with Provision C.2 of Regional Board Order No. R3-2003-0054.

WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

Representative samples of the Facility water supply shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequency specified below, unless a greater frequency is required by another regulatory agency:

Parameter/Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling and Analyzing Frequency
General Minerals*	mg/l	Grab	Once/3 years (Sept. 2003, 2006, ...)**

* General Mineral analyses shall include the following constituents: Calcium, Magnesium, Sodium, Sulfate, Carbonate, Bi-Carbonate, Chloride, Total Hardness, Total Alkalinity, Total Dissolved Solids, pH, Electrical Conductivity, Boron, Iron, and Nitrate (as N). Sampling results for the Department of Health Services may be submitted to satisfy this requirement.

** Sampling and analysis performed for another regulatory agency such as the State Department of Health Services or local County Health Department that meets the above criteria may submitted.

INFLUENT MONITORING

Representative samples of the influent shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequencies specified below:

Parameter/Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling and Analyzing Frequency
Flow Volume	MGD	Metered	Daily
Maximum Daily Flow	MGD	Metered	Monthly
Mean Daily Flow	MGD	Calculated	Monthly
BOD_5	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (March, June, Sept., Dec.)
Total Suspended Solids	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (March, June, Sept., Dec.)
Nitrite (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Total Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)

FACILITY & POND MONITORING

The Discharger shall make at least bi-weekly inspections of the treatment and disposal systems. During the inspections, the Discharger shall note compliance status with this Order, particularly Discharge Prohibitions A.1, 2, and 3. A log of these inspections shall be maintained and a summary of observations made during the inspections shall be submitted with each quarterly monitoring report.

Representative samples of wastewater contained in each treatment and disposal pond shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequency specified below:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling and Analyzing Frequency
pH	-	Grab*	Weekly
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/l	Grab*	Weekly
Freeboard	ft or in	Measured	Weekly

* Grab sample to be taken at one-foot depth.

EFFLUENT MONITORING

Representative samples of wastewater being discharged to the final pond shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequencies specified below:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling and Analyzing Frequency
BOD_5	mg/l	Grab	Quarterly (March, June, Sept., Dec.)
Nitrite (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Total Nitrogen (as N)	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Sodium	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Chloride	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Sulfate	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Boron	mg/l	Grab	Semi-Annually (March, September)
Aluminum	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Antimony	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Arsenic	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Barium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Berylium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Cadmium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Chromium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Copper	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Cyanide	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Flouride	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Lead	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Mercury	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Nickel	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Selenium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Thalium	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Zinc	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
VOCs	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
PCBs	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)
Pesticides	mg/l	Grab	Once/5 years (Sept. 2003, 2008, ...)

SOLIDS MONITORING

The Discharger shall submit a summary of activities regarding solids handling with each semi-annual monitoring report. Prior to solids removal or change in disposal practices (location, process, frequency), the Discharger shall submit all disposal information to the Executive Officer for approval. Representative samples of the solids to be disposed off shall be collected and analyzed for the constituents and at the frequencies specified below:

Parameter/Constituent *	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling and Analyzing Frequency **
Quantity	Tons or yds^3	Measured during removal	Each load
Moisture Content	%	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Nitrate (as N)	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Total Phosphorus	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
pH	pH units	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Grease & Oil	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Arsenic	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Antimony	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Barium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Beryllium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Boron	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Cadmium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Cobalt	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Copper	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Chromium, VI & Total	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Lead	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Mercury	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Molybdenum	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Nickel	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Selenium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Silver	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Thallium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Tin	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Vanadium	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Zinc	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal
Pesticides	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal***
Organic Lead	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal***
PCBs	mg/kg	Grab	Prior to transport/disposal***

* Characterization required by disposal facility may be submitted in place of this list.

** If no need for solids removal occurs during a given year, the Discharger will have no obligation for solids monitoring. Reporting in this case shall explain the absence of this monitoring.

*** At least once every 5 years prior to transport or disposal.

INFLOW/INFILTRATION MONITORING

The Discharger shall submit a summary of activities regarding its Best Management Practices for inflow/infiltration control with the annual monitoring report. The summary should address investigations into inflow/infiltration, and efforts to reduce inflow/infiltration to the San Jerardo Wastewater Treatment Plant.

REPORTING

Monitoring reports are required quarterly, by the 30th of January, April, July, and October, and shall contain all data collected or calculated over the previous six months. Pursuant to Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements, General Reporting Requirement C.16, an annual report is required by the 30th of January.

IMPLEMENTATION

This monitoring and reporting program shall be implemented immediately.

ORDERED BY _____
Executive Officer

5-23-03
Date

S:\WB\Central Watershed\WDRs\San Jerardo WWTP\Order R3-2003-0054, MRP, 4-10-2003 (final).doc