

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
7/8 June 2012 Board Meeting

Response to Comments  
for the  
University of California  
Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture  
Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and  
Tentative Time Schedule Order

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The following are Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) staff responses to comments submitted by interested parties regarding the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (NPDES Permit) and Time Schedule Order for the University of California, Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture, in Yolo County. Public comments regarding the tentative Orders were required to be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by 27 March 2012 in order to receive full consideration.

The Central Valley Water Board received timely comments regarding the proposed Orders from the following interested party:

- University of California, Davis

The submitted comments were accepted into the record, and are summarized below, followed by Central Valley Water Board staff responses.

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS (DISCHARGER) COMMENTS**

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**Discharger Comment No. 1. Reinstate Ecosystem/Wetlands for the Putah Creek Facility**

The Discharger requests that the Ecosystem/Wetlands located at the Putah Creek Research Facility and north and northwest of Curve Pond be reinstated

back into the tentative NPDES Permit. This would allow the Facility to retain continued flexibility to determine whether any discharge needs to go to Putah Creek, or if the capacity of the additional wetland ponds is adequate.

**RESPONSE:** Central Valley Water Board staff agrees to the request and has established the studies descriptions, land discharge specifications, and applicable monitoring requirements in the proposed NPDES Permit. If the Discharger decides to implement the study as a new operational procedure for the Putah Creek Facility, the Discharger must furnish the data and study findings with its Report of Waste Discharge for the next NPDES Permit renewal for Central Valley Water Board approval.

#### **Discharger Comment No. 2. Land Apply Wastewater from Aquatic Center**

The Discharger requests the ability to reroute wastewater from the Aquatic Center to the ground surface, with return flow to Jamison Pond in a limited area adjacent to Jamison Pond. The flexibility will allow for completion of a research project to study the effect of light levels on the establishment and growth of submersed aquatic plants, and for study activities to evaluate the feasibility of reducing the amount of wastewater discharged to Putah Creek from the Facility.

**RESPONSE:** Central Valley Water Board staff agrees to the request and has established the studies descriptions, land discharge specifications, and applicable monitoring requirements in the proposed NPDES Permit. If the Discharger decides to implement permanent rerouting of the wastewater for ongoing studies as a new operational procedure for the Aquatic Center Facility, the Discharger must furnish the data and study findings with its Report of Waste Discharge for the next NPDES Permit renewal for Central Valley Water Board approval.

### **Discharger Comment No. 3. Specific Editorial Comments**

The Discharger provided additional clarifications and edits to the tentative NPDES Permit.

**Response:** Central Valley Water Board staff reviewed and considered each editorial comment. The recommendations by the Discharger were either accepted, or discussed and resolved with the Discharger.