

ITEM: 32

SUBJECT: Uncontested Waste Discharge Requirements

REPORT: Following are the proposed waste discharge requirements that prohibit discharge to surface waters. All agencies and the dischargers concur or have offered no comments. Items indicated as updates on the summary agenda make the requirements consistent with current plans and policies of the Board.

a	<p>WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR KIEFER LANDFILL, CLASS III LANDFILLS, FOR CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, CLOSURE, POST-CLOSURE MAINTENANCE, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION, SACRAMENTO COUNTY</p> <p>Kiefer Landfill is a Class III municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal facility located at 12701 Kiefer Blvd, Sloughouse, CA 95683. It is operated by the County of Sacramento, Municipal Services Agency (Discharger). The landfill accepts MSW from areas within Sacramento County. The total permitted landfill footprint of 660 acres consists of 225-acre Landfill Unit 1 containing Modules M-1 and M-1L, and 435-acre Landfill Unit 2 containing Modules M-2 and M3, and future Modules M-4 through M-11. Module M-1 is unlined, Module M-1L has a single composite liner system, and Modules M2 and M3 have single composite on the side slopes, and double composite on the base. Modules M4 through M11 have yet to be constructed and will have single composite on the side slopes, and double composite on the base. The discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge in September 2015 to update existing WDRs R5-2007-0107. The WDR includes prohibitions, specifications, provisions, and revised monitoring parameters for the operation of the Site.</p>
b	<p>REVISIONS TO THE WDRS FOR SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED</p> <p>On 12 March 2014, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements for discharges from irrigated lands for growers that are Members of a third-party group within the Sacramento River Watershed (Order). The Order was revised on 5 June 2015. On 17 December 2015, staff circulated a proposed revision to the Order. No comments were received by the 18 January 2016 deadline.</p> <p>In the proposed revisions, the 2016 due dates for the certification of the Nitrogen Management Plan and submission of Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports for growers within High Vulnerability Groundwater Areas have been extended by one year. The extension allows additional time for the California Department of Food and Agriculture grower certification program to be available to members and for additional Third-Party education and outreach regarding the Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report. The Nitrogen Management Plan preparation and implementation will not be delayed. Certified Nitrogen Management Plans and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports for growers in High Vulnerability areas will be due by 1 March 2017.</p>
c	<p>REVISIONS TO THE WDRS FOR EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED, TULARE LAKE BASIN AREA, WESTERN TULARE LAKE BASIN AREA, WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND DELTA AREA, SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED AREA, AND GRASSLAND DRAINAGE AREA.</p>

To bring consistency in approach and clarify requirements that apply to managed wetlands and irrigated pasture, the Central Valley Water Board released proposed changes on 17 December 2015 to the Waste Discharge Requirements General Orders for Growers within the Central Valley that are members of a third-party group (ILRP General Orders). On 7 January 2015, staff provided additional clarification on the proposed changes regarding the wetland and irrigated pasture operations. One letter was received during the comment period, from the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition, which expressed support for the revisions and requested Board consideration of similar General Order revisions for other crops.

Proposed changes to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order (R5-2012-0116-R3), Tulare Lake Basin Area (R5-2013-0120-R1), Western Tulare Lake Basin Area (R5-2014-0001):

In the proposed revisions, the requirements to prepare Nitrogen Management Plans (NMPs) and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports are removed for parcels operated exclusively as a managed wetland or irrigated pasture that do not apply fertilizers. Since NMPs address only applied fertilizers, they are not necessary for these operations. The proposed revisions to exempt the NMP and NMP Summary Report requirements from managed wetlands are consistent with the later adopted ILRP General Orders.

The use of the standard Farm Evaluation template for wetland evaluation is revised to allow the applicable wetland specific evaluation template to be used in the ILRP General Orders. The unique environmental conditions and effects of wetlands on water quality, and the difference between wetland and agricultural management activities requires the use of a different evaluation template from the standard farm evaluation template. The Wetland Evaluation Template issued by the Executive Officer on 29 July 2014 is a more appropriate tool for reporting managed wetlands practices.

The proposed revisions remove the requirement for parcels operated exclusively as managed wetlands to prepare a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan. Management practices implemented in wetlands such as holding ponds, vegetative buffers, and minimum tillage prevent or minimize sediment discharge and erosion. Managed wetlands generally act as a sediment basin and do not contribute to excess sediment.

Proposed changes to the Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers in the Western San Joaquin River Watershed R5-2014-0002-R2, San Joaquin County and Delta Area R5-2014-0029-R1, Sacramento River Watershed Area R5-2014-0030-R1:

In the proposed revisions, the requirements to prepare Nitrogen Management Plans (NMPs) and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports are removed for parcels operated exclusively as irrigated pasture that do not apply fertilizers. Since NMPs address only applied fertilizers, they are not necessary for these operations.

The proposed revisions remove the requirement for parcels operated exclusively as managed wetlands to prepare a Sediment and Erosion Control Plan. Management practices implemented in wetlands such as holding ponds, vegetative buffers, and minimum tillage prevent or minimize sediment discharge and erosion. Managed wetlands generally act as a sediment basin and do not contribute to excess sediment. The option to develop a wetland-specific Sediment and Erosion Control Plan to parcels operated exclusively as a managed wetland is unnecessary.

Proposed changes to the Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers in the Grassland Drainage Area R5-2015-0095 (adopted on 31 July 2015):

The proposed revisions remove the requirements to prepare Nitrogen Management Plans and Nitrogen Management Summary Reports for parcels operated exclusively as managed wetlands or irrigated pasture that do not apply fertilizers. This revision will bring consistency with the earlier adopted ILRP General Orders.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed waste discharge requirements.

Mgmt. Review _____

Legal Review _____

February 18/19, 2016

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting

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