

CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD STAFF SURVEY WRITE-UP

City of Willows

Wastewater Treatment Plant, Glenn County

MUN Beneficial Use Project

6 March 2012

On 6 March 2012, Anne Littlejohn and Calvin Yang conducted a site visit of the Willows Wastewater Treatment Plant and its immediate receiving waters, Ag. Drain C and Lateral 26-2. The treatment plant's assistant facility manager, Mr. Skyler Lipski, participated in the site visit.

The City of Willows Wastewater Treatment Plant is located southwest of the City of Willows (City) in Glenn County. The treatment plant's effluent is released into Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District's (GCID) Lateral 26-2 or Ag. Ditch C. Water from these receiving water bodies is greatly dispersed throughout GCID's district via a large number of canals, laterals and drains. The primary downstream receiving water is Logan Creek, prior to its flow into the Colusa Basin Drain (2047). The purpose of the site visit was to conduct reconnaissance and a site survey of the area immediately around the treatment plant. There was no evidence of any municipal or domestic water use from Ag. Drain C or GCID Lateral 26-2 during the visit. Due to equipment problems, no YSI field measurements were obtained at any of the sites.

The afternoon of the visit was chilly and very windy (Beaufort Scale = 6+), despite the sunny conditions. Many of the adjacent farms produce rice crops, but the fields were still dry as it was too early for the flooding season. The first site visited was the upstream receiving water monitoring site on the Lateral 26-2 (RSW-003), located approximately 100 feet upstream from the effluent discharge point. Photo 1 shows the site, looking downstream. Photo 2 shows the point where effluent leaves the facility into Lateral 26-2. There was no discharge coming from the treatment plant. Skyler Lipski confirmed that Ag. Drain C has been the primary discharge point for the last several years. The second site, shown in Photo 3, was the downstream receiving water monitoring site on the Lateral 26-2 (RSW-004), located approximately 100 feet downstream from the effluent discharge point. Photo 4 is a view of RSW-004 looking downstream.

The third and fourth sites were the receiving water monitoring sites on Ag. Drain C, RSW-001 and RSW-002. The RSW-001 site is located approximately 1500 feet upstream of the discharge site and the RSW-002 site is located approximately 100 feet downstream from the discharge. Photos 5 and 6 show Ag. Drain C at the RSW-001 site and at its confluence with the effluent discharge, respectively. Two views of the downstream monitoring site, RSW-002, are presented in Photos 7-8.

Photo 1. GCID Lateral 26-2, upstream receiving water site, RSW-003



Photo 2. Point of effluent discharge into Lateral 26-2



Photo 3. GCID Lateral 26-2, downstream receiving water site, RSW-004



Photo 4. GCID Lateral 26-2 site RSW-004, looking downstream



Photo 5. Ag. Drain C, upstream receiving water site RSW-001, looking downstream



Photo 6. Ag. Drain C, at confluence with effluent channel



Photo 7. Ag. Drain C, site RSW-002, approximately 100 feet downstream of effluent discharge



Photo 8. Ag. Drain C, RSW-002, looking downstream

