

Kason Grady - Report of reclaimed water release at SSU

From: "Craig Dawson" <dawsonc@sonoma.edu>
To: "Kason Grady" <kgrady@waterboards.ca.gov>, "Randy Piazza" <RPiazza@ci.santa-rosa.ca.us>
Date: 9/18/2009 3:36 PM
Subject: Report of reclaimed water release at SSU
CC: "Thomas Sargent" <sargent@sonoma.edu>
Attachments: Reclaimed irrigation 005.jpg; Reclaimed irrigation 003.jpg; Reclaimed irrigation 002.jpg

Hi Kason,

I have completed my investigation of the irrigation release from the Tuscany Village housing at Sonoma State University. This report is based on the best available information I was able to obtain through interviews with the contractors, project managers, and campus employees. As I provided earlier, the discharge was caused by gross overwatering of the recently installed landscaping at the new housing complex at Sonoma State University. Based on the compilation of comments and physical conditions in the field I am estimating that the ponding condition directly in front of the housing complex has been occurring for, at least, a month, but the discharge off campus has most likely been for less than two weeks.

It appears that each water cycle (day) the runoff water moved further down the quarter mile long drainage swale and it was only after the entire swale became saturated that the water was able to pool at the outfall drain and eventually discharge into the storm drain inlet.

I have made several conservative estimates to calculate the quantity discharged and they are as follows:

1. the average release rate was 1 gallon per minute
2. the daily duration of release time was 12 hours (5 am to 5pm). Based on the flows under the worst conditions stopping on their own by 5pm.
3. The duration of this condition was 14 days.

This information results in a release of 720 gallons per day totaling 10,080 gallons. This is essentially using the worst case condition which was observed at the time of your visit and assuming that was the condition for the duration of the previous two weeks.

I have attached some pictures from yesterday morning showing that the flows has stopped and the puddling is diminishing. We will keep the block in place at the culvert located before the front entrance until we are confident that the contract can properly manage the water.

As an aside, even though it was not helpful in this type of situation, the campus does specify on all new projects the Rainbird and MaxiCom system that is networked and able to send phone alarms is excessive flows, flows outside of watering time, or other undesirable conditions are experienced. The system has been very valuable in providing notification of problems with enough warning to respond and correct prior to a release occurring.

I have provided Randy Piazza a copy of the last report of release and added the City to my reporting list for future reclaimed releases.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Craig Dawson, CHMM
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Reclaimed irrigation 002.jpg

2009-09-17_09-10-37
Reclaimed irrigation 003.jpg



2009-09-17_09-13-18
Reclaimed irrigation 005.jpg