

Executive Officer's Summary Report
8:30 a.m., October 28, 2010
Regional Water Quality Control Board
David C. Joseph Hearing Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, California

Item: 3

Subject: Public Hearing Order No. R1-2010-0079, to consider adoption of a Cease and Desist Order for **College of the Redwoods** WDID No. 1B80121OHUM, NPDES No. CA0006700.

DISCUSSION

The College of the Redwoods (hereinafter Discharger or College) owns and operates a municipal wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and associated wastewater collection, and disposal facilities that serve a student population on the Eureka campus of approximately 5,700. The WWTF treats domestic wastewater, with a design treatment capacity of 0.1 million gallons per day (MGD). Wastewater treatment consists of secondary treatment through the activated sludge process and clarification, disinfection with sodium hypochlorite generated onsite, and dechlorination with sodium metabisulfate prior to discharge. The College of the Redwoods WWTF is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. R1-2010-0003, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0006700, WDID No. 1B80121OHUM, adopted by the Regional Water Board on June 10, 2010 with an effective date of September 1, 2010.

The treatment facility's point of discharge at Discharge Point 001 to White Slough is located within the Eureka Plain Hydrologic Unit at 40°41'56.20"N latitude and 124°12'11.77"W longitude. The effluent flows overland through a transitional wetland area into an unnamed creek that flows from the storm water collection reservoir on the college campus and then comingles with White Slough, a tributary to Humboldt Bay. In accordance with Chapter 1, Paragraph A of the Bays and Estuaries Policy, Resolution No. 82-12, adopted by the Regional Water Board on December 2, 1982, waives the discharge prohibition established in the Bays and Estuaries Policy, allowing College of the Redwoods to discharge to White Slough.

Order R1-2010-0003 establishes new effluent limitations for nine priority pollutants which demonstrated reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality criteria including copper, lead, and silver. The Discharger submitted a Statement of Infeasibility to comply with final effluent limitations for copper, lead and silver by September 1, 2010 as required by Order No. R1-2010-0003. Based on our

review of the available data, staff agrees that routine effluent violations for copper, lead, and silver will likely occur, unless additional measures are undertaken. The Discharger has submitted a tentative schedule to perform source identification, reduction and control measures in order to meet these new effluent limitations. Staff worked with the Discharger to adapt these tasks and an associated compliance schedule for incorporation into tentative Order No. R1-2010-0079.

A copy of the draft Order and/or information to access the draft on the Regional Water Board website was mailed to the Discharger, interested agencies, and persons. This item was opened for public comment from September 13, 2010 to September 23, 2010. No comments were received.

PRELIMINARY STAFF
RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Order No. R1-2010-0079 as
proposed.