

2012-1 Fee Schedules

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

TITLE 23. Division 3. Chapter 9. Waste Discharge Reports and Requirements

Article 1. Fees

Section 2200. Annual Fee Schedules

Each person for whom waste discharge requirements have been prescribed pursuant to Section 13263 of the Water Code shall submit, to the State Board, an annual fee in accordance with the following schedules. The fee shall be submitted for each waste discharge requirement order issued to that person.

An ambient water monitoring surcharge will be added to each individual fee as required. The ambient water monitoring surcharge for all discharges pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) is 9.5 percent of the calculated fee; the surcharge for all discharges pursuant to subdivision (b) is 21 percent of the calculated fee. The surcharge shall be applied to all permits prior to other surcharges prescribed herein.

(a) The annual fees for persons issued waste discharge requirements (WDRs), except as provided in subdivisions (a)(3), (b), and (c), shall be based on the discharge's threat to water quality (TTWQ) and complexity (CPLX) rating according to the following fee schedule, plus applicable surcharge(s).

ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS				
Threat to Water Quality (TTWQ)	Complexity (CPLX)	Type of Discharge		
		Discharge to Land or Surface Waters ¹	Land Disposal ²	
			Not Paying a Tipping Fee ³	Paying a Tipping Fee ⁴
1	A	\$72,565	\$48,125 ⁵	\$41,732 ⁵
1	B	\$45,830	\$38,870	\$33,706
1	C	\$24,729	\$24,988	\$21,668
2	A	\$16,518	\$20,823	\$18,057
2	B	\$9,930	\$16,659	\$14,445

¹ For this table, discharges to land or surface waters are those discharges of waste to land or surface waters not covered by NPDES permits that are regulated pursuant to Water Code Section 13263 that do not implement the requirements of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Examples include, but are not limited to, wastewater treatment plants, erosion control projects, and septic tank systems. It does not include discharge of dredge or fill material, discharges from agricultural lands, including irrigated lands, or discharge from animal feeding operations.

Dischargers covered by a WDR for municipal and domestic discharges with permitted flows of less than 50,000 gallons per day in categories 2-B, 2-C, 3-B and 3-C will receive a 50 percent fee discount. The design flow shall be used where no permitted flow is present. Municipal and domestic discharges receiving the discount are defined as discharges from facilities that treat domestic wastewater or a mixture of wastewater that is predominately domestic wastewater. Domestic wastewater consists of wastes from bathroom toilets, showers, and sinks from residential kitchens and residential clothes washing. It does not include discharges from food preparation and dish washing in restaurants or from commercial laundromats. Dischargers covered by a Landscape Irrigation General Permit issued by the State Water Board will be assessed a fee associated with TTWQ/CPLX rating of 3B plus any applicable surcharges.

² For this table, land disposal discharges are those discharges of waste to land that are regulated pursuant to Water Code Section 13263 that implement the requirements of CCR Title 27, Division 2, except Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, §22560-22565 (confined animal facilities). Examples include, but are not limited to, discharges associated with active and closed landfills, waste piles, surface impoundments, and mines.

³ For this table, Not Paying a Tipping Fee are those land disposal dischargers not subject to Public Resources Code (PRC) §48000 et seq.

⁴ For this table, Paying a Tipping Fee are those land disposal dischargers subject to PRC §48000 et seq.

⁵ A surcharge of \$12,000 will be added for Class I landfills. Class I landfills are those that, during the time they are, or were, in operation, are so classified by the Regional Board under 23 CCR Chapter 15, have WDRs that allow (or, for closed units, allowed) them to receive hazardous waste, and have a permit issued by the Department of Toxic Substances Control under 22 CCR Chapter 10, §66270.1 et seq.

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2	C	\$7,447	\$12,494	\$10,834
3	A	\$5,868	\$8,329	\$7,223
3	B	\$3,125	\$6,247	\$5,416
3	C	\$1,389	\$2,776	\$2,408

(1) Threat to water quality (TTWQ)⁶ and complexity (CPLX) of the discharge is assigned by the Regional Board in accordance with the following definitions:

THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

Category “1” – Those discharges of waste that could cause the long-term loss of a designated beneficial use of the receiving water. Examples of long-term loss of a beneficial use include the loss of drinking water supply, the closure of an area used for water contact recreation, or the posting of an area used for spawning or growth of aquatic resources, including shellfish and migratory fish.

Category “2” – Those discharges of waste that could impair the designated beneficial uses of the receiving water, cause short-term violations of water quality objectives, cause secondary drinking water standards to be violated, or cause a nuisance.

Category “3” – Those discharges of waste that could degrade water quality without violating water quality objectives, or could cause a minor impairment of designated beneficial uses as compared with Category 1 and Category 2.

COMPLEXITY

Category “A” – Any discharge of toxic wastes; any small volume discharge containing toxic waste; any facility having numerous discharge points and groundwater monitoring; or any Class 1 waste management unit.

Category “B” – Any discharger not included in Category A that has physical, chemical, or biological treatment systems (except for septic systems with subsurface disposal), or any Class 2 or Class 3 waste management units.

Category “C” – Any discharger for which waste discharge requirements have been prescribed pursuant to Section 13263 of the Water Code not included in Category A or Category B as described above. Included are dischargers having no waste treatment systems or that must comply with best management practices, dischargers having passive treatment and disposal systems, or dischargers having waste storage systems with land disposal.

(2) For dischargers covered under Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems (Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ), the TTWQ and CPLX designations are assigned based on the population served by the sanitary sewer system. The table below describes the correlation between population served and TTWQ and CPLX designations to determine the appropriate annual fee:

⁶ In assigning a category for TTWQ, a regional board should consider duration, frequency, seasonality, and other factors that might limit the impact of the discharge.

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Population Served ⁷	Threat and Complexity Designation
Less than 50,000	3C
50,000 or more	2C

(3) The fees for discharges of dredge and fill material shall be as follows, not to exceed \$59,000, plus applicable surcharge(s).⁸

Type of Discharge	Fees
(A) Fill & Excavation ⁹ Discharges. Size of the discharge area expressed in acres to two decimals (0.01 acre) (436 square feet) rounded up.	\$944 Base Price + (Discharge area in acres x \$4,059)
(B) Dredging Discharges ¹⁰ Dredge volume expressed in cubic yards.	\$944 Base Price + (Dredge volume in cubic yards x \$0.150)
(C) Dredging Discharges (Sand Mining). Aggregate extraction in marine waters where source material is free of pollutants and the dredging operation will not violate any basin plan provisions.	\$1,776
(D) Channel and Shoreline Discharges Includes linear discharges to drainage features and shorelines, e.g., bank stabilization, revetment and channelization projects. (Note): The fee for channel and shoreline linear discharges will be assessed under the "Fill and Excavation" or "Channel and Shoreline" schedules, whichever results in the higher fee.	\$944 Base Price + (Discharge length in feet x \$9.44)
(E) Discharges to Non-federal (e.g. "Isolated") Waters. Discharges to waters or portions of waterbodies not regulated as "waters of the United States," including waters determined to be "isolated" pursuant to the findings of <i>Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</i> (2001) 121 S. Ct. 675.	Double the applicable fee schedules except for (G) restoration projects

⁷ Assumes 2.5 persons per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU).

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- i. For "excavation" the area of the discharge is the area of excavation; if the excavated material is then discharged to waters, an additional "fill" fee will be assessed.
- ii. When a single project includes multiple discharges within a single dredge and fill fee category, the fee for that category shall be assessed based on the total area, volume, or length of discharge (as applicable) of the multiple discharges. When a single project includes discharges that are assessed under multiple fee categories, the total fee shall be the sum of the fees assessed under each applicable fee category; however a \$738 base fee, if required, shall be charged only once.
- iii. Fees shall be based on the largest discharge size specified in the original or revised report of waste discharge or Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 water quality certification application, or as reduced by the applicant without any State Board or Regional Board intervention.
- iv. If water quality certification is issued in conjunction with dredge or fill WDRs or is issued for a discharge regulated under such preexisting WDRs, the current annual WDR fee as derived from this dredge and fill fee schedule shall be paid in advance during the application for water quality certification, and shall comprise the fee for water quality certification.
- v. Discharges requiring water quality certification and regulated under a federal permit or license other than a US Army Corps of Engineers CWA Section 404 permit or a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission License shall be assessed a fee determined from CCR 23, Section 2200(a).

⁹ "Excavation" refers to moving sediment or soil in shallow waters or under no-flow conditions where impacts to beneficial uses are best described by the area of the discharge. It typically is done for purposes other than navigation. Examples include trenching for utility lines, other earthwork preliminary to construction, and removing sediment to increase channel capacity.

¹⁰ "Dredging" generally refers to removing sediment in deeper water to increase depth. The impacts to beneficial uses are best described by the volume of the discharge and typically occur to facilitate navigation. For fee purposes it also includes aggregate extraction within stream channels where the substrate is composed of coarse sediment (e.g., gravel) and is reshaped by normal winter flows (e.g., point bars), where natural flood disturbance precludes establishment of significant riparian vegetation, and where extraction timing, location and volume will not cause changes in channel structure (except as required by regulatory agencies for habitat improvement) or impair the ability of the channel to support beneficial uses.

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(F) Low Impact Discharges. Projects may be classified as low impact discharges if they meet all of the following criteria: 1. The discharge size is less than all of the following: (a) for fill, 0.1 acre, and 200 linear feet, and (b) for dredging, 25 cubic yards. 2. The discharger demonstrates that: (a) all practicable measures will be taken to avoid impacts; (b) where unavoidable temporary impacts take place, waters and vegetation will be restored to pre-project conditions as quickly as practicable; and (c) where unavoidable permanent impacts take place, there will be no net loss of wetland, riparian area, or headwater functions, including onsite habitat, habitat connectivity, floodwater retention, and pollutant removal. 3. The discharge will not do any of the following: (a) directly or indirectly destabilize a bed of a receiving water; (b) contribute to significant cumulative effects; (c) cause pollution, contamination, or nuisance; (d) adversely affect candidate, threatened, or endangered species; (e) degrade water quality or beneficial uses; (f) be toxic; or (g) include "hazardous" or "designated" material. 4. Discharge is to a water body regulated as "Waters of the United States."	\$944 Flat Fee
(G) Restoration Projects. Projects undertaken for the sole purpose of restoring or enhancing the beneficial uses of water. This schedule does not apply to projects required under a regulatory mandate or to projects that include a non-restorative component, e.g., land development, property protection, or flood management.	\$944 Flat Fee
(H) General Orders. Projects which are required to submit notification of a proposed discharge to the State and/or Regional Board pursuant to a general water quality certification permitting discharges authorized by a federal general permit or license, (e.g., a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide permit). Applies ONLY if general water quality certification was previously granted.	\$114 Flat Fee
(I) Amended Orders Amendments of WDR's or water quality certifications previously issued for one-time discharges not subject to annual billings. (a) Minor project changes, not requiring technical analysis and involving only minimal processing time. (b) Changes to projects eligible for flat fees (fee categories C, F, G, and H) where technical analysis is needed to assure continuing eligibility for flat fee and that beneficial uses are still protected. (c) Project changes not involving an increased discharge amount, but requiring some technical analysis to assure that beneficial uses are still protected and that original conditions are still valid, or need to be modified. (d) Project changes involving an increased discharge amount and requiring some technical analysis to assure that beneficial uses are still protected and that original conditions are still valid, or need to be modified. (e) Major project changes requiring an essentially new analysis and re-issuance of WDR's or water quality certification.	(a) No fee required (b) Appropriate flat fee (c) \$944 flat fee (d) Additional fee assessed per increased amount of discharge(s) per Section 2200 (a)(3) (plus \$944 base price) (e) New fee assessed per Section 2200 (a)(3)