

2014-15 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.¹

(a) The annual fees for persons issued waste discharge requirements (WDRs), except as provided in subdivisions (a)(3), (a)(4), (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 ²	Land Disposal ³	
			Not Paying a Tipping Fee ⁴	Paying a Tipping Fee ⁵
1	A	\$109,095	\$70,781 ⁶	\$59,252 ⁶
1	B	\$68,901	\$57,168	\$47,856
1	C	\$37,178	\$36,751	\$30,766
2	A	\$24,833	\$30,625	\$25,638
2	B	\$14,929	\$24,502	\$20,510
2	C	\$11,195	\$18,376	\$15,383
3	A	\$8,823	\$12,250	\$10,256
3	B	\$4,699	\$9,188	\$7,690
3	C	\$2,088	\$4,082	\$3,419

¹ Federal facilities will generally not be invoiced for the portion of the annual fee that is attributable to the State Board's ambient water monitoring programs. See *Massachusetts v. United States* (1978) 435 U.S. 444.

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ For this table, Not Paying a Tipping Fee are those land disposal dischargers not subject to Public Resources Code (PRC) § 48000 et seq.

⁵ For this table, Paying a Tipping Fee are those land disposal dischargers subject to PRC § 48000 et seq.

⁶ 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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(1) Threat to water quality (TTWQ)⁷ 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, 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:

Population Served ⁸	Threat and Complexity Designation
Less than 50,000	3C
50,000 or more	2C

⁷ 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.

⁸ Assumes 2.5 persons per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU).

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(3) The fees for discharges of dredge and fill material shall be as follows.⁹

STANDARD FEE			
Discharge Category	Application Fee ¹⁰	Annual Active Discharge Fee ¹¹	Annual Post-Discharge Monitoring Fee ¹²
(A) Fill and Excavation¹³ Discharges Discharges will be assessed as the higher fee of "discharge length in feet" and "discharge area in acres." The size of the discharge area shall be rounded to two decimal places (0.01 acre = 436 square feet).	Discharge length in feet x \$13.50 -or- Discharge area in acres x \$5,670 whichever is higher, up to a maximum of \$90,000. The minimum application fee is \$600.	\$600	\$300

- ⁹ 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 standard fee categories, the total application fee shall be the sum of the application fees assessed under each applicable fee category; however only a single annual active discharge fee or annual post-discharge monitoring fee, if required, shall be assessed for the project. The single annual active discharge fee and the single annual post-discharge monitoring fee for the project shall be based on the higher of the applicable fee categories. Single projects qualifying for a special/flat fee or amended order fee shall only be assessed the applicable special/flat fee or amended order fee.
- 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).
- ¹⁰ Dischargers shall pay a one-time application fee for each project at the time that the application or report of waste discharge is submitted. Notwithstanding section 2200.2, if discharges commence in a fiscal year other than the fiscal year in which the application or report of waste discharge is submitted, the application fee is in addition to the first annual active discharge fee for the project. If discharges commence in the same fiscal year as the application or report of waste discharge is submitted, the discharger shall pay only the greater of the application fee or the first annual active discharge fee. The application fee for category (A) fill and excavation discharges will be based on the discharger's estimate of project length and area. If, upon completion, the actual length or area is larger than the estimate, the discharger may receive an additional application fee invoice that is based on the actual project length and area, minus the application fee that was previously paid.
- ¹¹ Dischargers shall pay an annual active discharge fee each fiscal year or portion of a fiscal year during which discharges occur until the regional board or the State Board issues a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter to the discharger. The annual active discharge fee for category (B) dredging discharges will be invoiced after the annual dredge volume has been determined.
- ¹² Dischargers shall pay an annual post-discharge monitoring fee each fiscal year or portion of a fiscal year commencing with the first fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the regional board or State Board issued a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter to the discharger, but continued water quality monitoring or compensatory mitigation monitoring is required. Dischargers shall pay the annual post-discharge monitoring fee each fiscal year until the regional board or the State Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the discharger.
- ¹³ "Excavation" refers to removing 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 discharge, removing sediment to increase channel capacity, and other flood control and drainage maintenance activities (e.g., debris removal, vegetation management and removal, detention basin maintenance and erosion control of slopes along open channels and other drainage facilities).

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Discharge Category	Application Fee ¹⁰	Annual Active Discharge Fee ¹¹	Annual Post-Discharge Monitoring Fee ¹²
(B) Dredging¹⁴ Discharges (except Sand Mining-see (C) below) Dredge volume expressed in cubic yards.	\$600	Annual dredge volume in cubic yards x \$0.21, up to a project maximum of \$90,000. The minimum annual active discharge fee is \$600.	\$300
SPECIAL/FLAT FEE			
Discharge Category	Application Fee ¹⁰	Annual Active Discharge Fee ¹¹	Annual Post-Discharge Monitoring Fee ¹²
(C) Sand Mining Dredging Discharges Aggregate extraction in marine waters where source material is free of pollutants and the dredging operation will not violate any basin plan provisions.	\$600	\$600	\$300
(D) Ecological Restoration and Enhancement 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 are not primarily intended for ecological restoration or enhancement, e.g., land development.	\$200	\$200	\$100
(E) 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.	\$200	N/A	N/A

¹⁴ "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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<p>(F) General Orders for CEQA Exempt Projects Projects which are CEQA exempt and which are required to submit notification of a proposed discharge to the State and/or Regional Board pursuant to: (1) a general order authorizing impacts for the qualifying project CEQA exemption (e.g. Small Habitat Restoration General Permit); or (2) a general water quality certification permitting discharges authorized by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers general permit (e.g., nationwide permit). Applies ONLY if a general order or general water quality certification was previously granted.</p>	\$200	N/A	N/A
<p>(G) Emergency Projects authorized by a Water Board General Order</p>			
<p>(H) Amended Orders Amendments of WDR's or water quality certifications previously issued for one-time discharges not subject to annual billings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 and D) 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) No fee required (b) \$300 flat fee (c) \$200 flat fee (d) Additional standard fee assessed per increased amount of discharge(s) (e) New standard fee assessed 		

(4) The annual fee for discharges associated with marijuana cultivation shall be as follows:

Total Area Cultivated	Annual Fee
Less than 0.25 acres	\$500
0.25 to 5 acres	\$2,500
Greater than 5 acres	\$10,000