

ITEM:

SUBJECT: City of Gridley, Gridley Wastewater Treatment Plant, Butte County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Adoption of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements*

BACKGROUND: The City of Gridley (Discharger) owns and operates the Gridley Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) located approximately 3.3 miles east of the City of Gridley, in Butte County. The WWTP is currently regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. 99-089. The Discharger proposes to expand the WWTP capacity from 1.05 millions gallons daily (mgd) to 1.7 mgd. The WWTP currently consists of: headworks with flow meter, aeration pond, polishing pond, and four percolation/evaporation ponds. To increase capacity, the Discharger proposes to: replace the current headworks with a spiral self-cleaning screen, replace the aerators and mixers with more powerful models, and replace the interconnecting process piping and pond inlets/outlets to provide adequate hydraulic capacity for peak flows. Ring infiltrometer testing showed that the percolation/evaporation ponds have adequate capacity to handle increasing flows. These WDR require the installation of piezometers to monitor groundwater elevations. Installation and monitoring of groundwater wells and submittal of groundwater quality studies are also required. The WWTP is located approximately 300 feet west of the Feather River. Surface water drainage is to the Feather River. (JMM)

The tentative WDR were circulated for comment on 20 September 2006. Written comments were received from California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA). Based on these comments, minor changes were made to the WDR.

ISSUES CSPA is concerned about CEQA, hydraulic capacity of the WWTP, need for NPDES permit, flood protection, BPTC compliance, and antidegradation analysis. Staff has addressed these concerns in the Response to Written Comments, which are in the agenda packet.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Waste Discharge Requirements.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

7/8 December 2006
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