



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 May 2020

Jesse Hampton
Calaveras County Water District
PO Box 846
San Andreas, California 95249

CERTIFIED MAIL
7019 2280 9243 5241

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

**GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS
ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ
FOR
CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
WEST POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
CALAVERAS COUNTY**

The Calaveras County Water District (CCWD, hereafter Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) dated 20 November 2019 describing West Point Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Calaveras County. Based on the provided information, the proposed domestic wastewater treatment system and discharge is consistent with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This Notice of Applicability (NOA) provides notice that the General Order is applicable to the site as described below. You are hereby assigned Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336 for the discharge. A copy of the General Order is enclosed and also available on the [State Water Board's web page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. The General Order contains operational and reporting requirements by wastewater system type. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

REGULATORY BACKGROUND

WDRs 93-078, adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 25 June 1993, prescribes requirements for the facility, and allows a monthly average dry weather discharge flow of 0.058 million gallons per day (MGD). WDRs Order 93-078 will be rescinded at an upcoming Central Valley Water Board meeting. Effective upon rescission of Order 93-078, the discharge described in this NOA shall be regulated pursuant to the General Order.

EXISTING FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The WWTF is located at 20 Sandy Gulch Road, West Point, in Calaveras County in Section 14, T6N, and R12E, MDB&M as shown in attachment A, which is incorporated herein. The Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) for the system is 012-011-015. As of late 2019, the WWTF provides wastewater treatment for 165 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) in the West Point community. The buildout capacity is estimated to be 220 connections. Each customer connection has a 1,250-gallon septic tank and a pump system. The Discharger owns these tanks and is responsible for maintenance of all septic tanks and pump systems, including periodic removal of accumulated solids from all customer septic tanks. These solids are transported to CCWD's La Contenta Wastewater Treatment Facility, which is regulated under WDRs Order R5-2013-0133.

The WWTF includes two 12,000-gallon recirculation tanks and sand fillers, a 4,400-gallon chlorine contact basin, two unlined effluent storage ponds, and 40-acres of land application areas (LAAs). The effluent storage ponds have a total storage capacity of 53.8 acre-feet based on two feet of freeboard. The Discharger owns and operates the facilities. The site plans are shown in Attachments B, which are incorporated herein.

Effluent from each customer's septic tank conveys to the WWTF by either lift stations or gravity flow. At the WWTF, wastewater is recirculated via sand filters and tanks, and then is disinfected by sodium hypochlorite in the chlorine contact basin prior to entering the effluent storage ponds. Effluent from ponds is applied to the LAAs for disposal via sprinkler systems. The process schematic is shown on Attachment C, which is incorporated herein.

The WWTF was designed for an average dry weather flow (ADWF) of 0.058 MGD when it was constructed in 1998. However, a Water Balance with a 100-year precipitation event included in the RWD indicates that annual rainfall entering the storage ponds would occupy sixty-three percent of total pond capacity. As a result, the effluent storage ponds only have an adequate storage for an ADWF of 0.017 MGD of wastewater. This NOA contains an effluent (disinfected wastewater prior entering the storage ponds) limit of 0.017 MGD as an ADWF, which is much less than the flow limit of 0.058 MGD in WDRs Order 93-078. In addition, this NOA has an annual total effluent flow limit of 8.2 million gallons (MG) based on the Water Balance included in the RWD. From 2014 through 2018, the effluent ADWF ranged from 0.087 to 0.013 MGD and the annual total effluent flows ranged from 3.3 to 6.0 MG. Currently, the Discharger would not be at risk of being out of compliance with the proposed flow limits in this NOA.

Based on the data collected from 2014 through 2018, the influent had an average BOD₅ concentration of 63 mg/L. The effluent quality is summarized below.

Constitute	2014-2018 Effluent Average Concentration (mg/L)
BOD ₅	3.4
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	399
Nitrate as Nitrogen	39
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	8.2

Based on the effluent average total nitrogen concentration of 47 mg/L from 2014 through 2018, an annual average nitrogen loading rate is 48 pounds per acre per year, which is less than the nitrogen demand for native trees, shrubs and grasses in the LAAs. Therefore, land application of treated wastewater is not likely to cause additional groundwater degradation with nitrate.

GROUNDWATER CONCERNS

There are five groundwater monitoring wells MW-1, MW-1D, MW-2, MW-3, and MW-4 onsite, which are presented on Attachment B. The Discharger began monitoring groundwater in April 2012 via monitoring wells MW-1 and MW-2. Monitoring well MW-1 has been dry since it was installed in 2012. Monitoring well MW-3 was initially sampled in December 2015 and was not sampled until 5 September 2018. According to the 28 November 2017 *Notice of Violation*, monitoring well MW-3 was inaccessible due to saturated soil conditions. Based on available data, wells MW-2 and MW-3 are shallow wells with water depths ranged from 9 to 28 feet below ground surface. In order to improve the monitoring well network, two additional monitoring wells (MW-1D and MW- 4) were installed in late September and early October 2019. The first sampling event on 12 November 2019 indicated that depths to groundwater were 64 feet and 50 feet below ground surface in monitoring wells MW-1D and MW-4, respectively; TDS concentrations were 196 mg/L in MW-1D and 140 mg/L in MW-4. Based on the Discharger's *Fourth Quarter 2019 Groundwater Monitoring Report*, groundwater flows from north to south. MW-1D is an upgradient well and MW-2 and MW-4 are downgradient wells. MW-3 is considered to be a side-downgradient well. Based on all available data included in the *Fourth Quarter 2019 Groundwater Monitoring Report*, the maximum TDS and nitrate as nitrogen concentrations in all monitoring wells were 223 mg/L and 1 mg/L, respectively. These results are less the recommended Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 500 mg/L for TDS and the Primary MCL of 10 mg/L for nitrate as nitrogen, respectively, in the Basin Plan. This NOA does not contain an effluent nitrogen limit because all available groundwater data for nitrate as nitrogen has not shown significant degradation due to wastewater discharge.

The potable water supply for the West Point comes from Bear Creek, a tributary of the Lower Middle Fork of the Mokelumne River, or from Lower Middle Fork depending upon conditions in Bear Creek. Drinking water has a TDS concentration of 60 mg/L based on the CCWD's 2018 Consumer Confidence Report.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Map Service Center has designated the site of the Facility Zone X, Minimal Flood Hazard Area.

SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections in the General Order, including:

1. Requirements A. Prohibitions
2. Requirements B.1.a.

The Discharger shall comply with the following flow limit:

The disinfected effluent prior to entering the storage ponds shall not exceed **17,000 gpd** as an average dry weather flow defined as the total flow for the months of July through September divided by 92 days; and the annual total effluent flow shall not exceed 8.2 MG.

3. Requirements B.1.b. through B.1.I

For Section B.1.I, the Discharger shall comply with the following setback requirements listed in in Table 3 of the General Order:

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, or Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
LAA	100 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	200 ft.
Impoundment	100 ft.	100 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.	200 ft.

4. Requirements B.2. Septic Systems
5. Requirements B.5 Pond Systems
6. Requirements B.7 Land Application Systems
7. Requirements C. Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations
8. Requirements D. Effluent Limitations

D.1.a. Effluent discharged to the storage ponds shall not exceed BOD5 of 30 mg/L as a monthly average and 45 mg/L as a seven-day average.

9. Provision E.2 and E.3

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Upon activation of this NOA, the Discharger shall comply with MRP WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336, which is incorporated herein.

ENFORCEMENT

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the discharge. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength, generation rate, or to the method of waste disposal, you must contact the Central Valley Water Board to determine if submittal of an RWD is required.

The Discharger generates the waste subject to the terms and conditions of WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336 and maintains exclusive control over the discharge. As such, CCWD is primarily responsible for compliance with this NOA, MRP, and General Order, with all attachments. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order or this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to:

centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: West Point Wastewater Treatment Facility
Program: Non-15 Compliance
Order: WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336
CIWQS Place ID: CW-272109

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
ECM Mailroom
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Jesse Hampton
Calaveras County Water District

- 6 -

18 May 2020

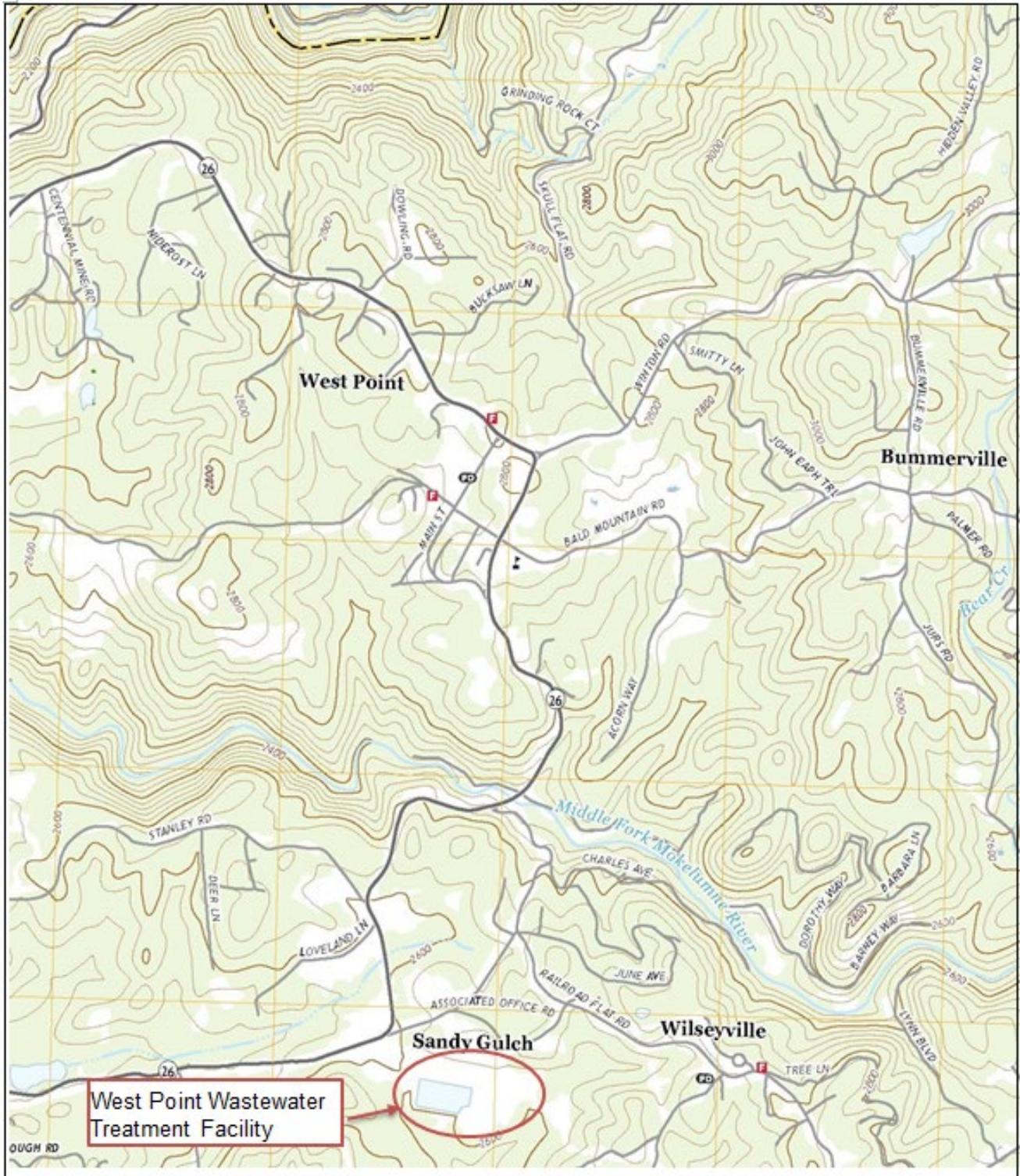
Now that the Notice of Applicability has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Kenny Croyle is your new point of contact for any questions about the General Order. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Kenny will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Kenny at (916) 464-4676 or at kcroyle@waterboards.ca.gov.

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PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer

Enclosure: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ
Monitoring and Reporting Program WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5336
Attachment A: Site Location Map
Attachment B: Site Plan
Attachment C: Process Schematic

cc w/out enc: Brian Moss, Calaveras County Environmental Health Department



Drawing Reference:
Calaveras County Water District, Report of Waste Discharge, November 2019

SITE LOCATION MAP
CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
WEST POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY


Approx. scale
1 in. = 2,000 ft.

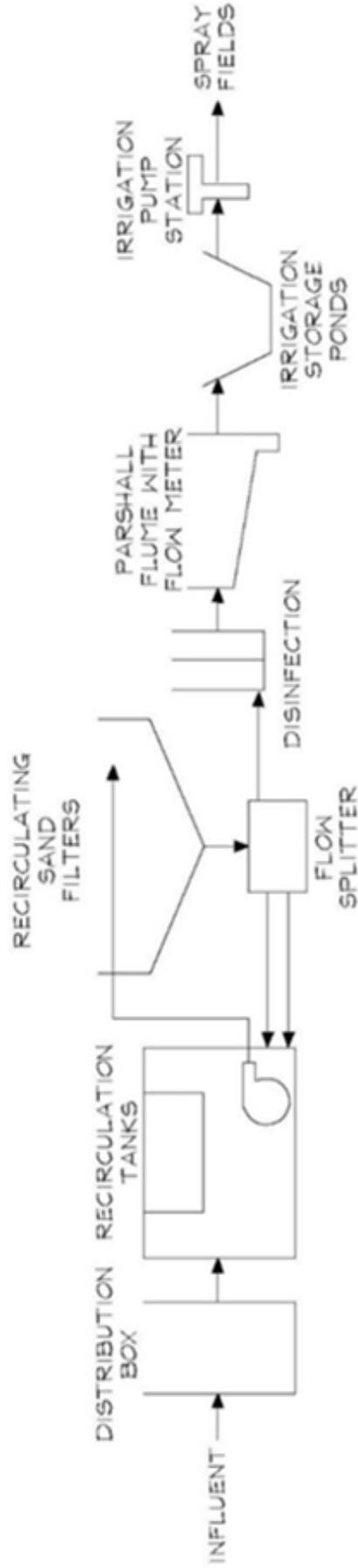


Drawing Reference:

Calaveras County Water District
Report of Waste Discharge
November 2019

SITE PLAN

**CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
WEST POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT
FACILITY**



PROCESS SCHEMATIC

**CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
WEST POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

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