



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

13 November 2020

Simon Helyer,
Golden State YMCA
YMCA Camp Tulequoia
320 N. Akers Street
Visalia, California 93291

CERTIFIED MAIL
7019 2970 0001 5202 4252

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA), STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; GOLDEN STATE YMCA; YMCA CAMP TULEQUOIA AT SEQUOIA LAKE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM; FRESNO COUNTY

On 25 June 2020, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, on behalf of Golden State YMCA (Discharger), submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility or WWTF). The Discharger is requesting coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Water Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) included a completed and signed Form 200 and a technical report prepared by Timothy J. Jeffcoach, a California registered civil engineer with Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (RCE 90275).

Based on the information provided and a review of available information, the Facility treats and disposes of less than 100,000 gallons of domestic wastewater per day and is eligible for coverage under the General Order. This letter serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your system and the wastewater discharge described. You are hereby assigned enrollee number **2014-0153-DWQ-R5351** for your system. After Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 87-046 has been rescinded, coverage under General Order 2014-0153-DWQ will become effective.

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which describes mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring and reporting requirements applicable to your

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

1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

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) No. **2014-0153-DWQ-R5351**. This MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached memorandum.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Golden State YMCA owns and operates the YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake (or Camp) and the associated WWTF. The Camp is located 40 miles west of Sanger in Fresno County (Section 1, Township 14 South, Range 27 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian). The WWTF treats wastewater generated from campers (25 to 200) staying at the Camp. The Camp has four central bathrooms with a total of 17 toilets and 17 showers, a dining facility with a dishwasher, and three sets of washing machines. The WWTF is located on the southern portion of the property and consists of five septic tanks, two lift stations, and three evaporation/percolation ponds. Wastewater is treated in the septic tanks then pumped to the evaporation/percolation ponds for disposal. Water for the Camp is provided by a groundwater supply well, which is treated with chlorine disinfection.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The Discharger shall maintain exclusive control over the discharge and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351.

In accordance with section B.1 of the General Order, **the monthly average daily discharge to the evaporation/percolation ponds shall not exceed 4,250 gpd**. In accordance with the requirements of the General Order, this NOA does not specify a nitrogen effluent limitation since the Facility flow rate is less than 20,000 gpd.

The General Order states in Section B.1 that the Discharger shall comply with the setbacks as described in Table 3 of the General Order. This table summarizes the different set setback requirements for wastewater treatment system equipment, activities, land application areas and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the applicable requirements, as summarized in the following table.

Table 1: Site Specific Applicable Setback Requirements

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Impoundment (undisinfected secondary wastewater)	150 ft.	150 ft	150 ft.	50 ft	200 ft

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Treatment System, and Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft	50 ft.	5 ft	50 ft (see 1. below)

1. The existing septic tanks do not meet the minimum setback (200 feet) for septic tanks and collection systems from a lake or reservoir established by the OWTS Policy in Table 3 of the General Order. As discussed in the attached memorandum, based on site specific conditions, a reduced setback of 50 feet as established by the California Plumbing Code is acceptable for the existing septic tanks.

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

1. Septic System requirements specified in Section B.2 of the General Order.
2. Pond Systems requirements specified in Section B.5 of the General Order;
3. Sludge/Solids/Biosolids Disposal requirements specified in Section B.8 of the General Order; and
4. Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations specified in Section C.1 of the General Order.

Provision E.1 of the General Order requires dischargers enrolled under the General Order to prepare and implement the following reports within **90 days** of the issuance of the NOA (**12 February 2021**):

- Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (Provision E.1.a).
- Sampling and Analysis Plan (Provision E.1.b).
- Sludge Management Plan (Provision E.1.c).

The General Order requires that the Sludge Management Plan be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board within 90 days of the issuance of the NOA. A copy of the Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan and the Sampling and Analysis Plan shall be maintained at the treatment facility and shall be presented to the Regional Water Board staff upon request.

As stated in Section E.2.w., in the event any change in control or ownership of the Facility or wastewater disposal areas, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be

immediately forwarded to the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) Executive Officer.

Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351 could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting (i.e., Salt and Nitrate Control Programs) as part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (**CV-SALTS**) initiative. These Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020. Further details of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are discussed in the enclosed memorandum. As these programs are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. For more information regarding the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs, you are encouraged to go to the [CV-SALTS Info Webpage](https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info) (<https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info>).

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 274468,
Facility Name: YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351

In order to conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of the General Order has been sent only to the Discharger. Others are advised that the [General Order](#) is available on the State Water Board's website

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wq2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

All documents, including responses to inspections and written notifications, submitted to comply with this NOA shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the Compliance and Enforcement Unit, attention to Russell Walls. Mr. Walls can be reached at (559) 488-4392 or Russell.Walls@waterboards.ca.gov. Questions regarding the permitting aspects of the NOA, and notification for termination of coverage under the Small Domestic General Order, shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the WDR Permitting Unit, attention Katie Carpenter. Ms. Carpenter can be reached at (559) 445-5551 or Katie.Carpenter@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. [Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the internet or will be provided upon request.

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality).

Original Signed by Clay L. Rodgers for:

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments:

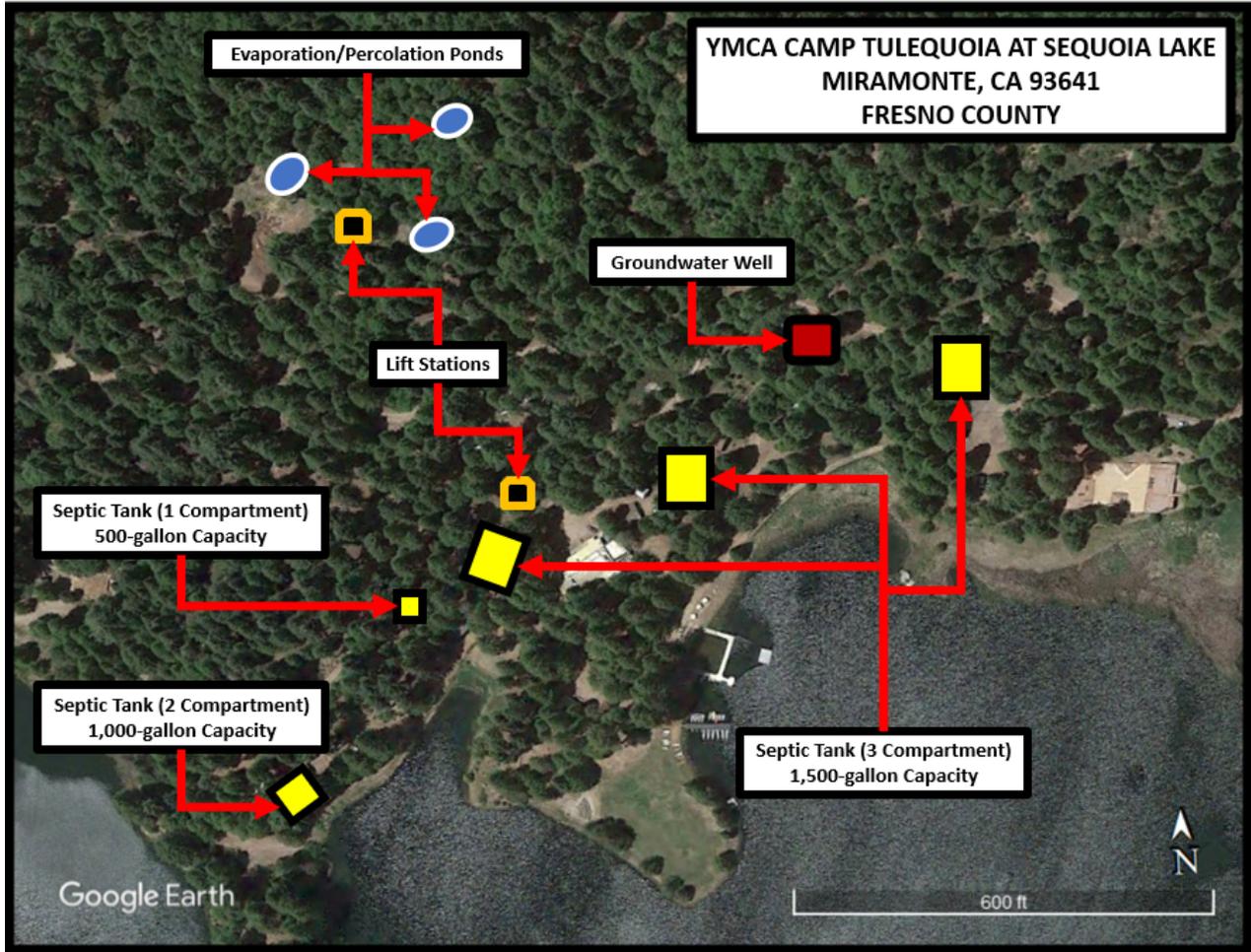
- Attachment A – Site Map
- Attachment B – Flow Schematic

Enclosures:

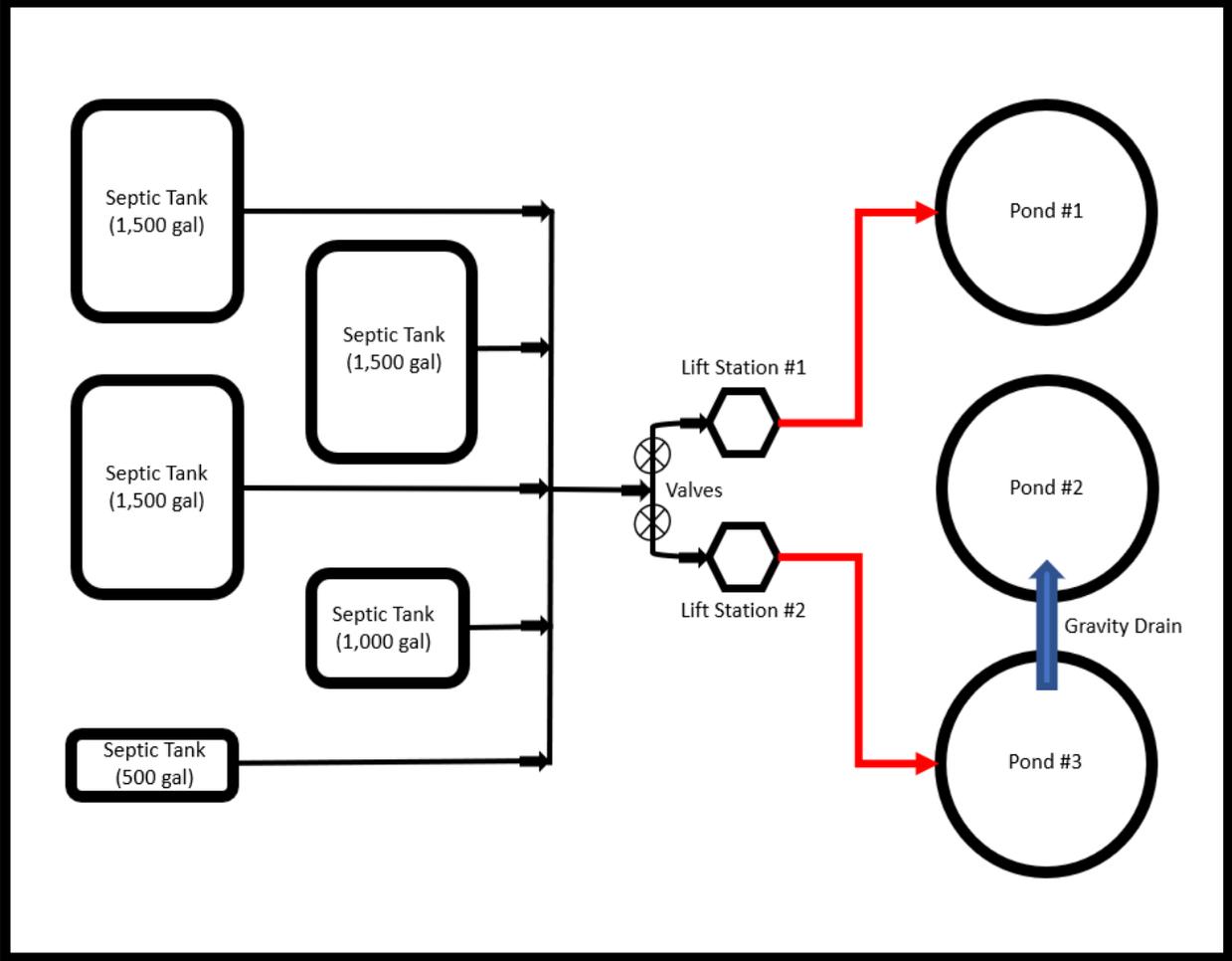
- Monitoring and Reporting Program 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351
- Review Memorandum of YMCA Golden State, YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility
- State Water Resources Control Board WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (Discharger Only)

cc:

- David Lancaster, State Water Resources Control Board, OCC (via email)
- Laurel Warddrip, State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ (via email)
- Russel Walls, Senior Engineer, Central Valley Water Board, Compliance and Enforcement Unit, Fresno (via email)
- Fresno County Environmental Health, 1221 Fulton Street, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 11867, Fresno, CA 93775
- Timothy Jeffcoach, Provost and Prichard Consulting Group. (via email)



ATTACHMENT A – SITE MAP
 NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351
 FOR
 GOLDEN STATE YMCA
 YMCA CAMP TULEQUOIA AT SEQUOIA LAKE WWTF
 FRESNO COUNTY



ATTACHMENT B – FLOW SCHEMATIC
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351
FOR
GOLDEN STATE YMCA
YMCA CAMP TULEQUOIA AT SEQUOIA LAKE WWTF
FRESNO COUNTY

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351
FOR
GOLDEN STATE YMCA
YMCA CAMP TULEQUOIA AT SEQUOIA LAKE
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
FRESNO COUNTY**

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. Golden State YMCA (YMCA or Discharger) shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) or Executive Officer.

Section 13267 of the California Water Code states, in part:

“In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports.”

Section 13268 of the California Water Code states, in part:

“(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13399.2, or falsifying and information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.”

The Discharger owns and operates the YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF or Facility) located in Miramonte that is subject to Notice of Applicability (NOA) 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351 enrolling the Facility under State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Water Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Resources Control Board, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) certified laboratory, or:

1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments.
2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer.
3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

If monitoring consistently shows no significant variation in magnitude of a constituent concentration or parameter after at least 12 months of monitoring, the Discharger may request this MRP be revised to reduce monitoring frequency. The proposal must include adequate technical justification for reduction in monitoring frequency.

SEPTIC TANK MONITORING

Septic tanks shall be inspected and/or pumped at least as frequently as described below. Inspections of sludge and scum depth are not required if the tanks are pumped at least annually.

Table 1. Septic Tank Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Measurement Type	Inspection/Reporting Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each compartment of each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Filter condition (if equipped, clean as needed)	NA	NA	Annually

Septic tanks shall be pumped when any one of the following conditions exists:

1. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth of the first compartment.
2. The scum layer is within 3 inches of the outlet device.
3. The sludge layer is within 8 inches of the outlet device.

If a septic tank is pumped during the year, the pumping report shall be submitted with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. At a minimum, the record shall include the date, nature of service, service company name, and service company license number.

POND SYSTEM MONITORING

Influent Monitoring

Influent samples shall be taken at a location that provides representative samples of the wastewater and flow rate prior to discharge to any pond (e.g., at the lift station). Influent monitoring shall only occur when the Camp is in use and wastewater is being discharged to the pond(s). At a minimum, influent monitoring shall consist of the following:

Table 2. Pond Influent Monitoring

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow Rate	gpd	Metered (see 1 below)	Continuous	Annually
pH	pH units	Grab	Monthly	Annually
EC	µmhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	Annually
BOD ₅	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Annually
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

1. Flow rate may be metered or estimated based on potable water supply meter readings or other approved method. Flow rates may be measured as influent or effluent flow. The method of measurement should be reported.

Wastewater Pond Monitoring

Monitoring of the wastewater pond(s) shall occur when wastewater is present in the pond(s). All wastewater treatment and disposal ponds (lined and unlined) shall be monitored as specified below:

Table 3. Wastewater Pond Monitoring

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Dissolved Oxygen (see 1 below)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly	Annually
Freeboard	Feet	Observation	Monthly	Annually
Odors	--	Observation	Monthly	Annually
Berm Condition	--	Observation	Monthly	Annually

1. DO shall be measured between 8:00 am and 10:00 am and shall be taken opposite the pond inlet at a depth of approximately one foot, when there is sufficient water in the pond(s). Should the DO be below 1.0 mg/L during a monthly sampling event, the Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to correct the problem and commence daily DO monitoring in the affected ponds until the problem has been resolved.

SOLIDS DISPOSAL MONITORING

The Discharger shall report the handling and disposal of all solids (e. g., screenings, grit, sludge, biosolids, etc.) generated at the wastewater system. Records shall include the name/contact information for the hauling company, the type and amount of waste transported, the date removed from the wastewater system, the disposal facility names and address, and copies of analytical data required by the entity accepting the waste. These records shall be submitted as part of the annual monitoring report.

REPORTING

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, solids, etc.), and reported analytical or visual inspection results are readily discernable. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate compliance with the General Order and NOA as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next regularly scheduled monitoring report and shall be included in calculations as appropriate.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the appropriate Regional Water Board office, in

this case 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 274468,
Facility Name: YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5351

A. Annual Report

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board **by March 1st following the monitoring year**. The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the requirements (including flow limitations), disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements.
3. Copies of all laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).
4. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment system, including discussion of the capacity issues nuisances' conditions, system problems and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year. A flow rate evaluation, as described in the General Order (Provision E.2.c), shall also be submitted.
5. A discussion of compliance and the corrective actions taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order.
6. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
7. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall report violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned to correct the violations and prevent future violations. The transmittal letter shall contain the following penalty of perjury statement and shall be signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I

am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.”

The Discharger shall begin implementing the above monitoring program in the first month following the date WDRs Order 87-046 is rescinded.

Ordered by:

Original Signed by Clay L. Rodgers for:
PATRICK PALUPA, Executive Officer

11/13/2020
(Date)

GLOSSARY

BOD ₅	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
CaCO ₃	Calcium carbonate
DO	Dissolved oxygen
EC	Electrical conductivity at 25° C
FDS	Fixed dissolved solids
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
TSS	Total suspended solids
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
24-hr Composite	Samples shall be a flow-proportioned composite consisting of at least eight aliquots over a 24-hour period.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Twice Weekly	Twice per week on non-consecutive days.
Weekly	Once per week.
Twice Monthly	Twice per month during non-consecutive weeks.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Semiannually	Once every six calendar months (i.e., two times per year) during non-consecutive quarters.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
mg/kg	Milligrams per kilogram
mL/L	Milliliters [of solids] per liter
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
gpd	Gallons per day
mgd	Million gallons per day
MPN/100 mL	Most probable number [of organisms] per 100 milliliters
NA	Denotes not applicable

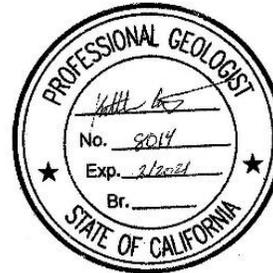
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Scott J. Hatton
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer

FROM: Alexander S. Mushegan
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
RCE 84208

Kathleen Carpenter
Engineering Geologist
PG 8014

Ernesto P. Garcia
Scientific Aid



DATE: 13 November 2020

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; GOLDEN STATE YMCA; YMCA CAMP TULEQUOIA AT SEQUOIA LAKE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY; FRESNO COUNTY

On 25 June 2020, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) consisting of a Form 200 and technical report for Golden State YMCA's YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility or WWTF). The technical report was prepared and signed by Timothy Jeffcoach (RCE 90275), a California registered professional civil engineer with Provost & Prichard Consulting Group. This memorandum provides a summary of the applicability of this discharge for coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board's WQ Order 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Golden State YMCA (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates the Facility which provides wastewater treatment and disposal for YMCA Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake near Miramonte in Fresno County (36° 43' 59.15" N, 118° 59' 12.91" W). The Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 87-046, which authorizes a discharge of up to 4,250 gallons per day (gpd) to evaporation/percolation ponds.

Camp Tulequoia at Sequoia Lake (or Camp) is open for approximately three to four months each year between May and the end of August. According to the RWD, the Camp hosts from 25 to 200 visitors at a time, typically only on the weekends. According to the RWD, there are no RV hookups, and no RV waste is discharged into the system. Average flows to the Facility are estimated at about 1,214 gpd (based on domestic water use).

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The Camp's wastewater system has a design capacity of about 4,250 gpd. Wastewater is generated from four central bathrooms with a total of 17 toilets and 17 showers, a dining facility with a dishwasher, and three laundry washing machines. The Facility consists of five septic tanks, two lift stations, and three percolation/evaporation ponds for disposal (see **Attachment A** of the Notice of Applicability [NOA]). A process flow schematic is provided in **Attachment B** of the NOA.

Water for the Camp is provided by a single groundwater well which is treated with chlorine disinfection. According to the well log, the well was constructed in 1959 to a depth of 177 feet and screened from 101 to 172 feet. The well log shows a combination of soils and coarse decomposed granite to about 10 feet followed by a combination of decomposed granite with some clays to about 177 feet. According to the Geotracker Groundwater Ambient Monitoring Program (GAMA) database, groundwater quality in the vicinity of the WWTF is relatively good with nitrate as N of < 1 mg/L, alkalinity of 28 mg/L, and sodium of 8.8 mg/L.

According to the RWD, wastewater generated at the Camp flows through in-line filters, which are placed on all pipes leading to the septic tanks. The purpose of the filters is to help break up solids before entering the septic tank. Filters are washed off once per month during Camp season. Solids from the filters are stored in a 55-gallon drum and hauled off for disposal.

Wastewater, after the in-line filters, receives primary treatment with solids separation via the septic tanks (total of five). Effluent from the septic tanks is sent to Lift Station #1 near the middle of the Camp. Lift Station #1 pumps the wastewater to Pond #1 unless that pond is near capacity, in which case the valve on the pipe leading to Lift Station #1 is closed and the wastewater is sent to Lift Station #2, which then pumps the wastewater up to Pond #3. Pond #3 is rarely used since actual flows at the Camp are

much lower than design capacity and the Camp is only occupied during the summer months. In the event Pond #3 is full, a gravity pipe will drain wastewater to Pond #2. According to the RWD, the septic tanks are cleaned and flushed out about once every three years or as needed and the sludge is sent to a landfill for disposal.

The General Order states facilities discharging under 100,000 gpd are eligible for coverage. Furthermore, since the Facility will have flows below 20,000 gpd, no nitrogen evaluation is necessary per the General Order

POTENTIAL THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

The Camp is located on a 549-acre parcel within Fresno County, northeast of the intersection of Highway 180 and 245 at Sequoia Lake. Based on classification by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), topsoil in the area is considered well-draining sandy loam and coarse sandy loam which contains a shallow weathered bedrock layer. According to the RWD, no infiltration tests have been conducted at the site, though percolation rates are high and no overflow issues have been reported. According to onsite operators and maintenance personnel, no groundwater or bedrock has been encountered to depths of 13 feet below site grade (bsg), the greatest depth explored.

According to the Discharger, the distance from the percolation/evaporation ponds to Sequoia Lake and the onsite water supply well is greater than 700 feet, and the septic tanks are a minimum of 50 feet from Sequoia Lake. The distance from the ponds to sensitive receptors meets the minimum setback requirements specified in Table 3: *Summary of Wastewater System Setbacks* in the General Order. In addition, the area around the ponds is heavily forested and warning signs are posted to preclude public access. However, the OWTS policy requires a minimum setback of 200 feet for septic tanks and collection systems from a lake or reservoir. Given that the wastewater system is only in operation for three to four months out of the year and there have been no reported overflows to the system, the existing septic tanks do not appear to pose a threat to nearby Sequoia Lake and the minimum setback of 50 feet from a lake or reservoir established by the California Plumbing is sufficient.

According to the RWD, the Camp does not sample its wastewater and there is no effluent water quality data. However, the Camp has similar water use as that of a residential home with similar wastewater solids and chemical loading. The typical ranges for residential wastewater, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, range from 155-330 mg/L for total suspended solids (TSS), 155-286 mg/L for biochemical oxygen (BOD₅), and total nitrogen from 26-75 mg/L. Septic tanks are expected to achieve 60-80% solids removal, and BOD removal is expected to be around 30-50%.

In accordance with Attachment 1 of the General Order, with flows less than 20,000 gpd a nitrogen effluent evaluation is not required.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following sections from Attachment C of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Septic Tank Monitoring
- Pond System Monitoring
- Solids Disposal Monitoring

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV SALTS) initiative, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments (Resolution R5-2018-0034) incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. On 16 October 2019, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Resolution No. 2019-0057 approving the Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan amendments and directed the Central Valley Water Board to make targeted revisions to the Basin Plan amendments within one year following approval by the Office of Administrative Law. The Office of Administrative Law approved the Basin Plan amendments on 15 January 2020 (OAL Matter No. 2019-1203-03).

Pursuant to the Basin Plan amendments, dischargers will receive a Notice to Comply with instructions and obligations for the Salt Control Program within one year of the effective date of the amendments (17 January 2020). Upon receipt of a Notice to Comply, the Discharger will have no more than six months to inform the Central Valley Water Board of their choice between Option 1 (Conservative Option for Salt Permitting) or Option 2 (Alternative Option for Salt Permitting). For the Nitrate Control Program, the Facility falls outside a prioritized groundwater basin. The closest prioritized basin is Groundwater Basin 5-022.08. (San Joaquin Valley - Kings). Implementation within a non-prioritized basin/sub-basin will occur as directed by the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer. More information related to the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs can be found at the [CV-SALTS Website](https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info) (<https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info>).