

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2018-XXXX
COUNTY OF MODOC
ALTURAS CLASS III MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL
MODOC COUNTY

The Alturas Landfill (Facility) is a Class III municipal solid waste ("MSW") landfill located approximately two miles south of the City of Alturas in Modoc County. County of Modoc owns the Facility and began operating the landfill in 1969 as a Class II limited disposal site that functioned as a canyon-fill operation. In November 1987, the Facility was reclassified as a Class III landfill. The Facility stopped accepting MSW in 1995 and functions primarily as a transfer station. Currently, MSW from the site's service area is redirected to a landfill near Reno, Nevada, except as emergency backup when waste cannot be transported to an off-site landfill. Scrap metal, white goods and tires are also stockpiled at the Facility and periodically hauled away by private contractors. Additionally, the Facility is used as a disposal site for inert construction debris, green waste, septage and dead animals. The landfill property covers approximately 162 acres, of which approximately 29 acres are associated with landfill activities, including waste disposal, transfer facilities, administrative uses, Facility operations and roads.

The Facility has five unlined solid waste units ("WMUs") and two unlined surface impoundments (as shown in Attachment B). The Facility does not have any leachate control and removal, leakage detection systems, or vadose zone monitoring. Unit A, a seven acre unit containing MSW, has been inactive since 1985 when an interim cover waste placed over the unit. Unit B occupies 15 acres and is an active solid waste WMU; the unit receives MSW (emergency backup only), inert construction debris, and green waste. Unit C, an approximately three acre unit containing MSW, has been inactive since 1976 when an interim cover was placed over the unit. The Dead Animal Disposal Unit occupies less than one acre and is still in use. The Woodash and Metal Unit occupies approximately two acres, and became inactive in 1989 when an interim cover was placed on the unit. The landfill units are unlined and predate the requirements set forth under Title 27, section 20080(d) established in 1984. The two surface impoundments ("Septage Ponds") receive septage sludge from local septic tanks, and have not been excavated for several years.

Lands surrounding the Facility are used for agriculture, and a federal game refuge. The Facility receives an annual average of approximately 12 inches of precipitation as rainfall and 17 inches as snowfall and has a mean pan evaporation of approximately 51 inches per year. The Facility generally slopes to the east toward the Pit River.

The Facility is underlain by volcanic deposits belonging to the Warm Springs Tuff member of the Alturas Formation. These deposits include loose, unconsolidated clayey sands, gravels, tuffs, and breccias. A thin layer of soil (one to two feet thick) covers the Facility. The tuffs and breccias contain the waste disposal trenches. Field observations indicate permeability is relatively high and influenced locally by cracks and fissures. The first encountered groundwater ranges from about four feet to 31 feet below the native ground surface. Groundwater elevations range from about 4,348 feet MSL to 4,356 feet MSL. The principal water-bearing formations in the Alturas Basin are lava flows and the Alturas Formation, which contains both confined and unconfined aquifers.

Seven monitoring wells are incorporated into monitoring and reporting as specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R5-2018-XXXX. The monitoring wells were installed into three different geologic formations. Wells OB-1 and OB-5 are screened in volcanic deposits of the Warm Springs Tuff Formation, wells OB-3 and OB-4 are screened in silt and clay deposits of the Alturas Formation, and wells OB-2, OB-6 and OB-7 are screened in sand and gravel deposits of intermediate alluvium. Total depths of the wells range from 15 to 56.5 feet below ground surface. Based on the available data, the Facility has not impacted groundwater.