

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Monitoring and Reporting Program R1-2020-0032

Sonoma County Water Agency  
Stream Maintenance Program  
WDID No. 1B09026WNSO  
Sonoma County

**GENERAL**

Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water, or the “Applicant”) shall follow the following monitoring and reporting requirements contained in this Order, and additional requirements listed in the Sediment Disposal and Reuse Chapter of the Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Manual. This Monitoring and Reporting Program is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267 and Order R1-2020-0032 Waste Discharge Requirements and Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification for Sonoma County Water Agency Stream Maintenance Program.

**WATER DIVERSION MONITORING**

For all activities involving diversion of stream:

The Applicant shall establish at least two surface water monitoring stations, one representative of typical undisturbed conditions 100 feet upstream of the active work area. Turbidity may be sampled 100 feet downstream of the water diversion outlet. Dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature must be sampled at the point of diversion. Baseline measurements shall be taken before installation of diversion structures at both stations. If for whatever reason work within that reach is interrupted for over one day, new baseline measurements shall be taken. Water diversion activity monitoring shall be in accordance with Table 1 below:

**TABLE 1  
WATER DIVERSION SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Type</b>	<b>Minimum Analysis Frequency*</b>
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Twice Daily (once in the AM and once in the PM during operations)
pH	pH units	Grab	Twice Daily (once in the AM and once in the PM during operations)
Temperature	°F	Grab	Twice Daily (once in the AM and once in the PM during operations)
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Twice Daily (once in the AM and once in the PM during operations)

\* Field analysis allowed.

The daily sampling set shall be taken during work hours and shall be collected no earlier than one hour after work commencement each day. Samples shall be taken with accurately calibrated field measurement instrument(s) such as a DataSonde®, or equivalent, and the results shall be saved and logged. A QA/QC program equivalent to requirements of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program shall be followed. Samples are not required to be sent to a fixed laboratory. Use of a field measurement instrument(s) is authorized as the majority of SMP activities take three days or less and use of a fixed laboratory for analysis would be time prohibitive. Additionally, the Applicant shall observe surface water conditions upstream and downstream of the active project area to visually detect impacts of water diversion. Observations shall be conducted during sampling events at sampling locations for presence of bottom deposits, color, film or coating (from oil, grease, wax, etc.), floating material (including solids, liquids, foams, and scum), and odor. If any visual events occur, additional samples as detailed in Table 1 shall be taken, with results being saved and logged.

Applicant will have equipment and supplies on-site (or readily available nearby) that could be quickly deployed to provide additional filtration if turbidity is observed. These supplies may include bladders for settling, filter bags and pumps, silt filter dams, or a silt barrier as appropriate depending on site conditions. Surface water observations detecting exceedances of Effluent and Receiving Water Limitations are subject to "Reporting" requirements at the end of this document.

During installation and removal of diversion structures the Applicant shall monitor surface monitoring stations, described above (100 feet upstream and 100 feet downstream) in accordance with Table 2 below:

**TABLE 2  
DIVERSION STRUCTURE INSTALLATION SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Type</b>	<b>Minimum Analysis Frequency*</b>
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Twice Daily

\* Field analysis allowed

### **BANK STABILIZATION MONITORING**

For the first year following completion of a bank stabilization project, Applicant shall inspect surface waters during and immediately following (within 1 week of) larger storm events (10-year event or greater) to determine if the project and BMPs are adequately functioning to stabilize soil and prevent erosion.

Photos will be taken to document site inspections during these post-storm visits during the first year following the maintenance project and once a year for a period of 5 years thereafter. The Applicant shall observe surface water upstream and downstream of the bank stabilization site for bottom deposits, color and floating material.

If, at any time, an unauthorized discharge to surface water (including wetlands, lakes, rivers, or streams) occurs, or any water quality problem arises, the associated project activities shall cease immediately until adequate BMPs are implemented including stopping work. The Regional Water Board shall be notified promptly and in no case more than 24 hours after the unauthorized discharge or water quality problem arises.

## **REVEGETATION MONITORING**

The Applicant shall monitor all revegetated sites annually for five years after planting, including at least two years after supplemental watering has ceased. The Applicant shall also implement requirements contained within the SMP Manual.

## **SEDIMENT MONITORING**

All excavated sediment material will be removed to a permitted disposal facility or an upland beneficial reuse site such as non-residential construction fill, non-agricultural cover, or landfill daily cover. Excavated sediment material reuse at an aquatic or wetland beneficial reuse site is not covered under Order No. R1-2020-0032 Waste Discharge Requirements and Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification for Sonoma County Water Agency Stream Maintenance Program.

For projects involving sediment removal (excluding minor maintenance sediment removal, reservoirs, and sediment basins):

## **SEDIMENT SAMPLING FREQUENCY AND LOCATIONS**

- For sediment removal projects involving at least 100 cubic yards at creeks that have not been approved for reduced sampling frequency (as described below), one sample will be collected and analyzed for every 500 cubic yards of sediment removed from each site and every additional 500 cubic yards. Up to three discrete grab samples may be composited into one sample to represent the bulk of sediment to be removed from the creek.
- For project sites that require more than one sample, grab sampling locations will be selected to represent overall reach conditions, and to target conditions at the upstream and downstream ends of the project. Sample sites will also specifically target conditions downstream of culvert crossings, culvert outfalls, and key stream confluences.
- There may be situations where long channel reaches are not particularly wide or deep with sediment, it will be preferable to collect grab sediment samples for every 1,000 meters of project length rather than per 500 cubic yards of sediment removal. Samples collected from such sites shall be most representative of the total amount of soil to be removed from that site. No more than three composite samples shall be collected to characterize sediment quality from long, homogeneous reaches of sediment deposits.

- In all cases, sampling locations shall be project areas with the highest potential for detecting the maximum number of contaminants at the highest concentrations and shall be most representative of site conditions.
- Upon approval by the Executive Officer, sampling frequencies may be reduced at locations where the review of readily available, existing information, including all results of previously collected physical and chemical testing, have continually demonstrated attainment of the Environmental Screening Level (ESL) guidelines developed by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board<sup>1</sup>. The Applicant may propose reduced sampling frequency for sites with a minimum of two years of data. Testing results must be below corresponding San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board's Tier I ESLs<sup>1</sup> for soil or commensurate with natural/anthropogenic background concentrations for two consecutive sampling episodes. For sites with reduced sampling frequency, Regional Water Board staff may still require sediment sampling and analysis when there is a suspected contamination source.
- Approval of reduced sediment sampling frequencies may be accomplished through the Regional Water Board staff review and concurrence of annual reports and data proposed to substantiate reduction in accordance with this MRP.
- Sites where sediment removal activities occurred on a regular basis, and where sampling has been reduced due to two sequential testing results reporting below ESLs (or commensurate with natural/anthropogenic non-urban background) need only be sampled every 10 years with the sampling regime at the discretion of the Executive Officer. A significant change in land use at the site or upstream may require reinitiating a sampling regime for constituents of concern.
- Based on the consistency of results for samples collected along the same creeks and because all SMP creeks are less than 10 kilometers (linear), a distance of up to 5000 meters between site locations may be used to evaluate the need to resample. Project sites that are within 5000 meters of a previously tested site but located in a different use area/habitat type or adjacent to a major roadway would be excluded (i.e., would not qualify as the "same site" for evaluation purposes).
- Sediment from creeks or sub-basins that have not been evaluated in the past shall be sampled for the full suite of analytes prior to sediment removal activities.

## **Sediment Sampling Methodology**

This guidance applies to discrete (single) samples and composite samples. All samples shall be collected by means of a hand trowel, a hand auger, or another sampling

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<sup>1</sup> San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2019. Environmental Screening Levels (ESL) Workbook. Interim Final. January 2019. Available: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water\\_issues/programs/esl.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/esl.shtml).

method approved by the Regional Water Board. The individual collecting the sample will have the discretion of choosing the sampling method which is the most efficient to perform. Sampling methodology is described in the Sediment Disposal and Reuse Chapter of the SMP Manual.

Sampling parameters/analytes and locations will be reviewed by Regional Water Board staff annually during review of the SMP Notification Report. As is appropriate and as directed by the Regional Water Board, each sample location and disposal site shall include sampling for the parameters/analytes listed in Table 3. Sampling parameters/analytes listed in Table 3 may be modified after a history of sampling is obtained. This may result in not requiring monitoring for some of these contaminants under certain situations or at certain locations, or the addition of more parameters/analytes if deemed necessary by the Executive Officer.

Sampling shall be in accordance with Table 3 below:

**TABLE 3  
DISCRETE SEDIMENT SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS**

Table 3 was amended on July 29, 2010, April 29, 2016, and [insert adoption date]

***Conventional Parameters***

Analyte	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)	Analyte (cont.)	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)
Grain Size (%) (Gravel, Sand, Silt, Clay)	0.1		
Total Organic Carbon (%) (EPA Method <sup>1</sup> 9060)	0.1		
Total Solids (%)	0.1		

***Total Metals (EPA Method<sup>1</sup> 6020 or 7000 series)***

Analyte	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)	Analyte (cont.)	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)
Arsenic	0.05	Mercury (total)	0.005
Cadmium (total)	0.005	Nickel (total)	0.1
Chromium (total)	0.02	Selenium (total)	0.1
Copper (total)	0.1	Silver (total)	0.1
Lead (total)	0.01	Zinc (total)	0.5

***Organochlorine Pesticides (EPA Method<sup>1</sup> 8081 or 8082A)***

Analyte	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)	Analyte (cont.)	Reporting Limit for Soil <sup>2</sup> (mg/kg)
Aldrin	0.002	Dieldrin	0.002
α-HCH (hexachlorocyclohexane)	0.002	Endosulfan I	0.002
β-HCH	0.002	Endosulfan II	0.002
γ-HCH (Lindane)	0.002	Endosulfan sulfate	0.002
δ-HCH	0.002	Endrin	0.002
Chlordane (tech)	0.002	Endrin aldehyde	0.002
2,4'-DDD	0.002	Heptachlor	0.002
4,4'-DDD	0.002	Heptachlor epoxide	0.002
2,4'-DDE	0.002	Toxaphene	0.002
4,4'-DDE	0.002		
2,4'-DDT	0.002		
4,4'-DDT	0.002		

**NOTES:**

<sup>1</sup> The most recent version of EPA's SW-846 Test Methods will be used.

<sup>2</sup> All sediment results to be reported in dry weight.

The Applicant shall maintain records of field sampling in a log containing at least the following information:

- Date and time
- Site location
- Sample collector
- Sampling methods
- Sampling location
- Sampling depth
- Number of sampling containers
- Specific site conditions
- Analysis requested
- Other information describing the sampling event

Field sampling logs shall be made available to Regional Water Board staff upon request.

### **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) MONITORING**

The applicant shall inspect temporary and permanent structural BMPs at active sites at least twice daily to determine if BMP maintenance, repair, or replacement is necessary. The Applicant shall maintain, repair, and/or replace BMPs as appropriate to prevent sediment discharge and reduce erosion. BMP inspections and corrective action shall be documented in a BMP inspection log. The BMP inspection log shall be kept on-site while the site is active and shall be available to Regional Water Board staff upon request.

The Applicant shall document BMP effectiveness, and BMP installation, maintenance and repair, and sediment removal activities in the BMP inspection log. All changes to the Applicant's SMP Manual shall be documented, and a summary of changes shall be reported annually.

### **REPORTING**

#### **A. Violation Reporting**

1. Upon discovery of an exceedance of Effluent and Receiving Water Limitations during water diversion monitoring, the Applicant shall identify the source of the exceedance, implement corrective action, and resample or make additional observations to determine whether or not the exceedance was corrected. After four hours, an exceedance will be considered a violation.
2. The Applicant shall notify Regional Water Board staff by telephone at (707) 576-2220 immediately to report violations that last longer than 12-hours. The applicant shall stop all work at the site for violations lasting longer than 24-hours. The Applicant shall update Regional Water Board staff of site conditions and obtain verbal permission to resume work.

3. The Applicant shall notify Regional Water Board staff in writing within seven calendar days of all violations. Written reports shall include time and date of incident, duration, estimate of discharge or bypass volume, and documentation of sampling results/observations determining compliance status. The report shall also include detailed discussion of reasons for noncompliance, and specific steps that were or will be taken to correct the failure and prevent it from reoccurring. Reports shall be submitted via email to [NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov).
- B. For each sediment removal project, the Applicant shall characterize the sediment and summarize all sediment sampling analyses and submit a report to the Regional Water Board staff at least fifteen days prior to proposed sediment removal activities.
- C. All monitoring performed in compliance with this Order shall be made available to Regional Water Board staff upon request.
- D. The Applicant shall submit a letter with all monitoring reports to demonstrate compliance status with Order R1-2020-0032.
- E. Applicant shall comply with reporting dates and requirements within the SMP Manual.

## **MODIFICATION**

Any part of this Monitoring and Reporting Program may be revised with the written approval of the Executive Officer.

Ordered By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthias St. John  
Executive Officer

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