
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

January 11, 2024

Mr. Chris Ghidinelli
California Department of Transportation
703 B Street
Marysville, CA 95901
chris.ghidinelli@dot.ca.gov

Dear Mr. Ghidinelli:

Subject: Savage Creek Water Intake Structure Maintenance Project - Notice of Applicability of Coverage under Order No. R1-2020-0006 General NPDES Permit for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters of the North Coast Region

File: Savage Creek Water Intake Structure, United States Highway 101 R103.67, Trinidad, Humboldt County, WDID No. 1B23077RHUM, Place ID CW-888560

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll the Savage Creek surface water intake structure for coverage under General Order No. R1-2020-0006, Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters in the North Coast Region, on June 1, 2023. Submittal of the required application fee was received on June 27, 2023. The NOI was determined to be complete upon submittal of water characterization sample results on November 9, 2023.

Based on information provided in the NOI, water characterization sample results, and in the Best Management Practices and Pollution Prevention Plan for the Savage Creek Water Intake Structure Maintenance Project, Regional Water Board staff determined that the Facility's discharge, as described in the NOI, qualifies as a low threat discharge and is eligible for coverage under the General Order. Therefore, this Notice of Applicability (NOA) serves as formal notice that the General Order is applicable to the Savage Creek Water Intake Structure Maintenance Project.

The surface water intake structure at Savage Creek is located adjacent to U.S. Highway 101 (US 101) at post mile (PM) 103.67 in Humboldt County. This intake structure is an

in-creek sand/rock filter collection vault system and supplies water to both the Trinidad Southbound Safety Roadside Rest Area (SRRA) and the Seawood Estates Mutual Water Company (SEMWC). Periodic backflush maintenance events of the intake structure will use water from Seawood Estates Mutual Water Company's (SEMWC) 5,000-gallon raw water tank, reversing flow through the existing waterline and back into the collection vault in Savage Creek. The backflush events will clear lighter stream sediment and organic material that occludes the filter media and release this material to Savage Creek. The discharge of this material requires enrollment under the General Order to address post-construction low threat discharges that will occur from the proposed maintenance activities. The backflush source water is Savage Creek water stored in the SEMWC raw water tank. There is no chlorine, additives or other chemicals added to the stored water. The uses described in the submitted NOI and authorized under this General Order enrollment include:

- Savage Creek Water Intake Structure: Periodic backflush maintenance events of the intake structure.

A copy of the General Order is included as Attachment A, and available electronically at the [Regional Water Board website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/adopted_orders/) for adopted Orders (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/adopted_orders/). Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. R1-2024-0009 (MRP) replaces the MRP contained within the General Order and is included as Attachment B to this NOA.

Please carefully review the General Order and MRP and familiarize yourself with all its requirements and provisions. If you have any questions regarding this NOA or your enrollment under the General Order, or if you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, you may contact Matthew Herman, by telephone at 707-576-2683 or email at Matthew.Herman@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Valerie Quinto
Executive Officer

240111_MTH_SavageCreek_NOA

Attachments:

Attachment A: Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters in the North Coast Region, Order No. R1-2020-0006

Attachment B: Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Savage Creek Water Intake Structure Maintenance Project, Order No. R1-2024-0009

cc: Charles Reed, Charles.Reed@waterboards.ca.gov
Heaven Moore, Heaven.Moore@waterboards.ca.gov
Gwendolyn Erickson, Gwen.Erickson@dot.ca.gov
Caren Coonrod, Caren.E.Coonrod@dot.ca.gov
Jason Meyer, Jason.Meyer@dot.ca.gov
David Thomas, David.Thomas@dot.ca.gov
Mike Thiel, Mike.Thiel@dot.ca.gov
Christian Figueroa, Christian.Figueroa@dot.ca.gov

ATTACHMENT A

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOW THREAT DISCHARGES
TO SURFACE WATERS IN THE NORTH COAST REGION
ORDER NO. R1-2020-0006**

Here is a link to Attachment A on the [North Coast Regional Water Board Website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/adopted_orders/pdf/2020/20_0006_Low%20Threat%20Discharges%20to%20Surface%20Waters.pdf):

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/adopted_orders/pdf/2020/20_0006_Low%20Threat%20Discharges%20to%20Surface%20Waters.pdf)

ATTACHMENT B

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM
ORDER NO. R1-2024-0009**