



North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

**California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-2220**

Notice of Public Hearing

of

Draft Rescission Order No. R1-2021-0018

for

**Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements Order Number R1-2016-0041 and
Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2016-0043**

for the

**COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

**NPDES Permit No. CA0006700
WDID NO. 1B80121OHUM**

Humboldt County

On June 17 and 18, 2021, the California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) will consider adoption of Order No. R1-2021-0018 (Recession Order) rescinding National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Order Number R1-2016-0041 and Cease and Desist Order (CDO) No. R1-2016-0043 for the College of the Redwoods Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility).

The College of the Redwoods (Permittee) has been discharging under NPDES Order No. R1-2016-0041 (NPDES Permit). CDO No. R1-2016-0043 required the Permittee to cease and desist discharging and threatening to discharge waste in violation of the NPDES Permit final effluent limitations for Total Copper, Total Ammonia and Total Nitrate and violating the *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (Basin

GREGORY A. GIUSTI , CHAIR | MATTHIAS ST. JOHN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Plan) for the creation of pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined by section 13050 of the California Water Code. Additionally, the Permittee could not meet final effluent limitations for copper, nitrate and ammonia. The CDO established a time schedule for the Permittee to implement a capital improvement project (CIP) that would upgrade treatment processes at the Facility and eliminate the Permittee's discharge to surface waters.

On December 15, 2016, the Regional Water Board adopted land discharge Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) Order No. R1-2016-0041 for the Facility. This WDR reflects the facility upgrade required in the CDO that includes an influent septic tank, a recirculating tank, two recirculating gravel filters, two leach fields and support facilities. As of March 5, 2021, the Regional Water Board has determined that the Permittee is in satisfactory compliance with the requirements of the CDO and the Basin Plan, which would allow for the recession of the NPDES Permit.

This item will be open for public comment between March 9, 2021 and April 8, 2021.

Public Hearing Procedures

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed permit is scheduled for the Regional Water Board's **June 17 or 18, 2021** Board Meeting, or as announced in the Regional Water Board's agenda. Due to the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders (Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20) to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this meeting is scheduled to occur solely via remote participation. Please follow the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board website for information on how to participate in the meeting and any updates regarding this agenda item.

Live video and audio broadcasts of the public hearing will be available via the internet and can be accessed at the [CalEPA Public Meeting Live Webcasts page](https://video.calepa.ca.gov/) (<https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>). The public hearing will be recorded.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. You can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations at the [Regional Water Board web site](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/). (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/). At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed order.

In order for the Regional Water Board to consider any evidentiary material concerning this hearing, any documents, including written comments, technical reports and other evidentiary material, must be submitted to the [Regional Water Board email](mailto:Northcoast@waterboards.ca.gov) (Northcoast@waterboards.ca.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m. on **April 8, 2021**. All documents that are received timely will be distributed to the Regional Water Board

members and interested persons. These records will also become a permanent part of the administrative record for this public hearing.

Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice the Permittee or the Regional Water Board staff. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

The Regional Water Board will accept written and oral comments and evidence regarding this item. Written comments and evidence must be submitted to the Regional Water Board no later than **April 8, 2021**. Oral comments or testimony at the above-scheduled hearing may summarize or explain timely submitted or late-accepted written evidence but shall not add new evidence. The time constraints for oral testimony or comments will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and usually will allow no more than 10 minutes for the Regional Water Board staff and District staff and three minutes for other interested persons. A timer may be used, and speakers are expected to honor the time limits. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive.

Document Viewing

The Proposed Permit and related documents are available at the [Regional Water Board's website for tentative orders for Board decisions](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/).

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Additionally, the Proposed Order and file may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. During the COVID-19 emergency and pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-22-30, appointments are required for document review and can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer
March 9, 2021

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