Draft General Waste Discharge

Requirements for Dairies

Workshop Item No. 8 November 14, 2018 Cherie Blatt NCRWQCB



Workshop Outline

1. Existing Dairy Program - 2012

2. Draft General Waste Discharge Requirements

- New Requirements
- Changes

3. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- 4. Stakeholder Outreach
- 5. Partnerships
- 6. Next Steps



Existing Dairy Orders to be Replaced

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	R1-2012-0001	0 enrolled
General Waste Discharge Requirements	R1-2012-0002	3 enrolled
Conditional Waiver	R1-2012-0003	120 enrolled
Individual Waiver	R1-2015-0051	1 enrolled
Extension Conditional Waiver	R1-2016-0045	120 enrolled

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS	EXISTING	DRAFT GWDR
Water Quality Plan	\checkmark	\checkmark
Annual Reports	\checkmark	\checkmark
Waste Discharge Specifications	\checkmark	Δ
Nutrient Management Plan	\checkmark	Δ
Surface Water Monitoring	\checkmark	Δ
Groundwater Monitoring	\checkmark	Δ
Riparian Management Plan	-	\checkmark
Tribal Cultural Resources	-	\checkmark

 \checkmark = Existing, - = Absent, \triangle = Changed, \checkmark = New

Which Dairies Are Covered?

- 2012 Only existing cow dairies
- 2015/16 Two individual dairy permits
- 2019 Existing, new, expanding, or previously inactive dairies:
 ✓ goat, sheep, and water buffalo
 ✓ 25 cow/water buffalo minimum
 ✓ 100 goat/sheep minimum



Waste Discharge Specifications

- \checkmark Unchanged: Title 27 of CA Code of Regulations
 - Retain wastes
 - Exclude animals from surface waters in production area
 - Protect manure ponds from inundation
 - New manure pond seepage requirement
 - Manure pond sufficient freeboard (2 feet)
 - Manure pond sufficient capacity
 - Manure pond cleanout annually
 - Nutrients applied to land shall:
 - At rates based on nutrient value and crop needs
 - Prevent discharges
 - Minimize nutrient percolation to groundwater



Waste Discharge Specifications

Conditions in the draft GWDR apply to:

- Production and confined areas
- Retention ponds
- Land application areas

Riparian areas

- Tribal cultural resources protection
- Composting
- Odors



Nutrient Management Plans (NMP)

- 2012 NMP for ≥ 700 mature cows
- 2019 NMP for all dairies that apply manure or graze > 30 days/year
 - Due Nov. 30, 2020
 - NMP developed by soil/crop specialist
 - Manure/process water management
 - Nutrient budget
 - Water quality protection



Surface Water Monitoring

- Same as 2012:
 - ✓ Monitoring above and below all dairies
 - ✓ 3 times per winter, during \geq 1" in 24 hours
 - ✓ Group monitoring if approved by E.O.
- Changes from 2012:
 - ✓ 2012 ammonia, pH, temperature, electrical conductivity
 - ✓ 2019 ammonia, electrical conductivity



Groundwater Monitoring

2012 – Nitrate, fecal coliform

• Spring and fall for 2 years

2019 – Nitrate, total dissolved solids, plus total coliform for domestic wells

- Year 1, 2, 3, then every 2 years
- If results > half of nitrate MCL, then increased monitoring and adaptive management
- Electronic data submittal

 \checkmark Sample representative wells



Riparian Management

- Develop and implement a Riparian Management Plan
- Requires protection of riparian areas
- Control animal access to surface waters
- Draft GWDR includes performance requirements
- Monitoring/photos provided in Annual Reports



Tribal Cultural Resources Mitigation Program

- AB52 (Gatto 2015): tribal consultation for CEQA
- Worked with State Water Board Archaeologist
- Existing dairies: if artifacts discovered, consult an archaeologist
- New dairies: archaeology survey required
- If archaeologist determines the artifact may be significant, then consult with tribe on protection



CEQA for the Draft GWDR

- Public scoping meetings in 2017
- Draft Initial Study
- Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration
- 32-day state agency review and public comment period



Stakeholder Outreach

- Public Scoping Meetings August 22 and 23, 2017
- Regional Water Board Staff / State Water Board
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- Western United Dairymen
- Ferndale Dairies
- Sonoma/Marin Farm Bureau
- Animal Resource Management Committee)
- Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
- Humboldt Baykeeper
- Russian Riverkeeper
- Sierra Club
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- California Dairy Quality Assurance Program
- Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)
- Smith River Alliance
- Coast Seafoods/Hog Island Oyster Company



Strong Partnerships

- Western United Dairymen
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- California Dairy Quality Assurance Program
- Resource Conservation Districts
- University of California Cooperative Extensions
- Farm Bureaus
- California Department of Food & Agriculture
- County and State Health Departments
- Commercial milk buyers, others leaders and individuals
- Russian Riverkeeper



Next Steps

- 32-day comment period ends: December 3, 2018
- Respond to comments
- Revise Order if needed
- Consideration of adoption by Board: tentatively February 20 or 21, 2019



Regional Water Board Contacts

Comments Due: December 3, 2018

Email comments to:

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Thank You

- Questions
- Comments

