

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

81 Higuera Street, Suite 200  
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-5414

**ORDER NO. 91-69**

WASTE DISCHARGE AND WATER RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS  
FOR  
A & D CHRISTOPHER RANCH  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (hereafter Board), finds:

1. Donald C. Christopher, Owner, filed a complete Report of Waste Discharge on January 24, 1991, in accordance with Section 13260 of the California Water Code. The report was filed on behalf of A & D Christopher Ranch, for authorization to discharge food processing wastewater, and once through cooling water. The information supports a request to allow discharge of wastewater from the facility.
2. A & D Christopher Ranch (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates a food processing facility at 305 Bloomfield Avenue, about one mile south of the City of Gilroy. The facility processes garlic, ginger, and shallots to produce fresh peeled, chopped, and crushed canned products from June to December of each year. During the off-season (January to May) the facility produces salsa and sauces from a variety of vegetables. The Discharger also operates an ice making machine which discharges once through cooling water. This cooling water is discharged to a drainage ditch which drains into Carnadero Creek. However, the Discharger is proposing to divert this wastestream into the wastewater storage ponds.
3. Domestic wastewater is discharged to a septic tank and sub-surface disposal system which is regulated by the County of Santa Clara and is excluded from this Order.
4. Up to 0.15 million-gallons-per-day (MGD) of food processing and once through cooling wastewater is generated year round. These wastes consist primarily of wash water used in the processing of vegetables and once through cooling water discharge. The Discharger's various waste streams have the following average characteristics:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Wastewater Storage Pond</u>	<u>Once through Cooling Water</u>
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	1550	540
Sodium (mg/l)	50	--
Chloride (mg/l)	160	91
Nitrate (mg/l) (as N)	7.2	7.4
Sulfate	120	66

Item No. 15 Attachment 1  
March 23, 2007 Meeting  
Rescission of WDR Order 91-69  
Christopher Ranch

5. Wastewater generated at the food processing facility is screened before discharging to two lined aerated storage ponds and three evaporation/percolation ponds. Wastewater is then pumped and disposed by spray irrigation in a disposal area shown in Attachment "A". Wastewater may also be used for orchard irrigation.
6. The disposal area is located on relatively level (<1% slope) topography consisting of silty clay soil. Depth to ground water is about 75 feet. A groundwater sample collected from an on-site well on September 5, 1990 had the following analysis:
 

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Domestic Well</u>
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	680
Sodium (mg/l)	40
Chloride (mg/l)	110
Nitrate (as N) (mg/l)	7.3
pH	7.1
7. Carnadero Creek, a tributary to the Pajaro River, lies east and south of the disposal area and flows in a southwesterly direction into Pajaro River.
8. The Water Quality Control Plan, Central Coastal Basin, (Basin Plan) was adopted by the Board on November 17, 1989, and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on August 16, 1990. The Basin Plan incorporates statewide plans and policies by reference and contains a strategy for protecting beneficial uses of State waters.
9. Present and anticipated beneficial uses of ground water in the vicinity of the discharge include:
  - a. Domestic Supply;
  - b. Agricultural Supply;
  - c. Industrial Process Supply; and,
  - d. Industrial Service Supply.

10. Present and anticipated beneficial uses of Pajaro River that could be affected by the discharge include:
  - a. Municipal and domestic water supply;
  - b. Agricultural water supply;
  - c. Industrial service supply;
  - d. Groundwater recharge;
  - e. Water contact recreation;
  - f. Non-contact water supply;
  - g. Wildlife Habitat;
  - h. Cold freshwater habitat; and,
  - i. Fish migration and spawning.
11. These waste discharge requirements are for an existing facility and are exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Section 15301, Chapter 3, Title 14, of the California Code of Regulations.
12. Discharge of waste is a privilege, not a right, and authorization to discharge wastewater is conditional upon the discharge complying with provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code and any more stringent effluent limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, to protect beneficial uses, and to prevent nuisance. Compliance with this Order should assure this and mitigate any potential adverse changes in water quality due to the discharge.
13. On June 27, 1991, the Board notified A & D Christopher Ranch, and interested agencies and persons of its intent to revise waste discharge requirements and has provided them with a copy of the proposed Order and an opportunity to submit written views and comments.
14. After considering all comments pertaining to this discharge during a public hearing on September 13, 1991, this Order was found consistent with the above findings.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to authority in Sections 13263 of the California Water Code, A & D Christopher Ranch, its agents, successors, and assigns, may discharge waste at the wastewater disposal area providing compliance is maintained with the following:

(Note: other prohibitions and conditions, definitions, and the method of determining compliance are contained in the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements" dated January, 1984. Applicable paragraphs are referenced in paragraph D.1. of this order.)

**A. PROHIBITIONS**

1. Discharge of any wastes other than those identified herein to the designated wastewater disposal areas shown on Attachment "A" is prohibited.
2. Discharge of hazardous substances including but not limited to gasoline, diesel, and other petroleum products, is prohibited.
3. Bypass of the treatment system (consisting of screens and aerated ponds) and discharge of food process wastewater or partially treated food process wastewater directly to the designated wastewater disposal area is prohibited.

**B. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

1. Until August 31, 1992, wastewater discharged to disposal areas shall not exceed the following:

Constituent	Units	12-month Flow Weighted Avg.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	Water Supply (WS) + 900 Flow weighted
Sodium Chloride	mg/l	" + 120 " + 150
Nitrate (as N)	mg/l	8

2. Effective September 1, 1992, the 12-month flow weighted average of the combined effluent for TDS shall not exceed 1000 mg/l or the monthly flow weighted average of the water supply TDS plus 500 mg/l, whichever is lower.
3. Discharge shall be maintained in the designated wastewater disposal area as shown on Attachment "A" without overflow, seepage, or bypass onto adjacent properties, or into drainageways, storm sewers, or Carnadero Creek.
4. Maximum daily flow to the designated wastewater disposal area shall not exceed 0.15 million gallons. Flow limits are not an entitlement, but a maximum allowable flow providing all other conditions of this Order are met.
5. Wastewater applied to the disposal area shall not become anaerobic, as evidenced by malodorous gas production or by black sulfide slimes on the surface of the ground.
6. Wastewater shall not have a pH less than 6.5 or greater than 8.3.
7. Extraneous surface drainage shall be excluded from the wastewater disposal area.
8. Disposal shall occur by means of sprinkler irrigation. Berms used to retain wastewaters in the designated disposal area shall be properly maintained.
9. Discharge areas shall be disced or plowed at least annually to break up accumulated solids and keep soils aerated.
10. Loading rates (gallons of wastewater/acre/day) shall be based on rational engineering considerations and shall assure that wastewater percolate meets the terms of this Order.

**C. GROUND WATER LIMITATIONS**

1. Discharge shall not cause a statistically significant increase of chemical, mineral, or organic constituent concentrations in

underlying groundwaters, as determined by comparison of samples collected from wells located upgradient and downgradient of the disposal area and unlined wastewater storage ponds.

2. Discharge shall not cause concentrations of metals, chemicals, and radionuclides in groundwater to exceed limits set forth in Title 22, Chapter 15, Articles 4 and 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
3. Discharge shall not cause nitrate concentrations in the groundwater downgradient of the disposal area to exceed 8 mg/l (as N).

#### D. PROVISIONS

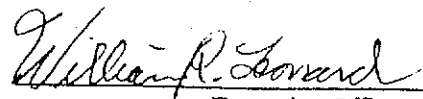
1. Discharger shall comply with all items of the attached "Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for Waste Discharge Requirements" dated January, 1984; except item Nos. A.1., 4., 6., 8., 11., 13., 15., 17., C.9., 16., D.1., and 2.
2. Discharger shall comply with "Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 91-69," as specified by the Executive Officer.

3. Discharger shall comply with the following time schedule:

<u>Task</u>	<u>Report Due</u>
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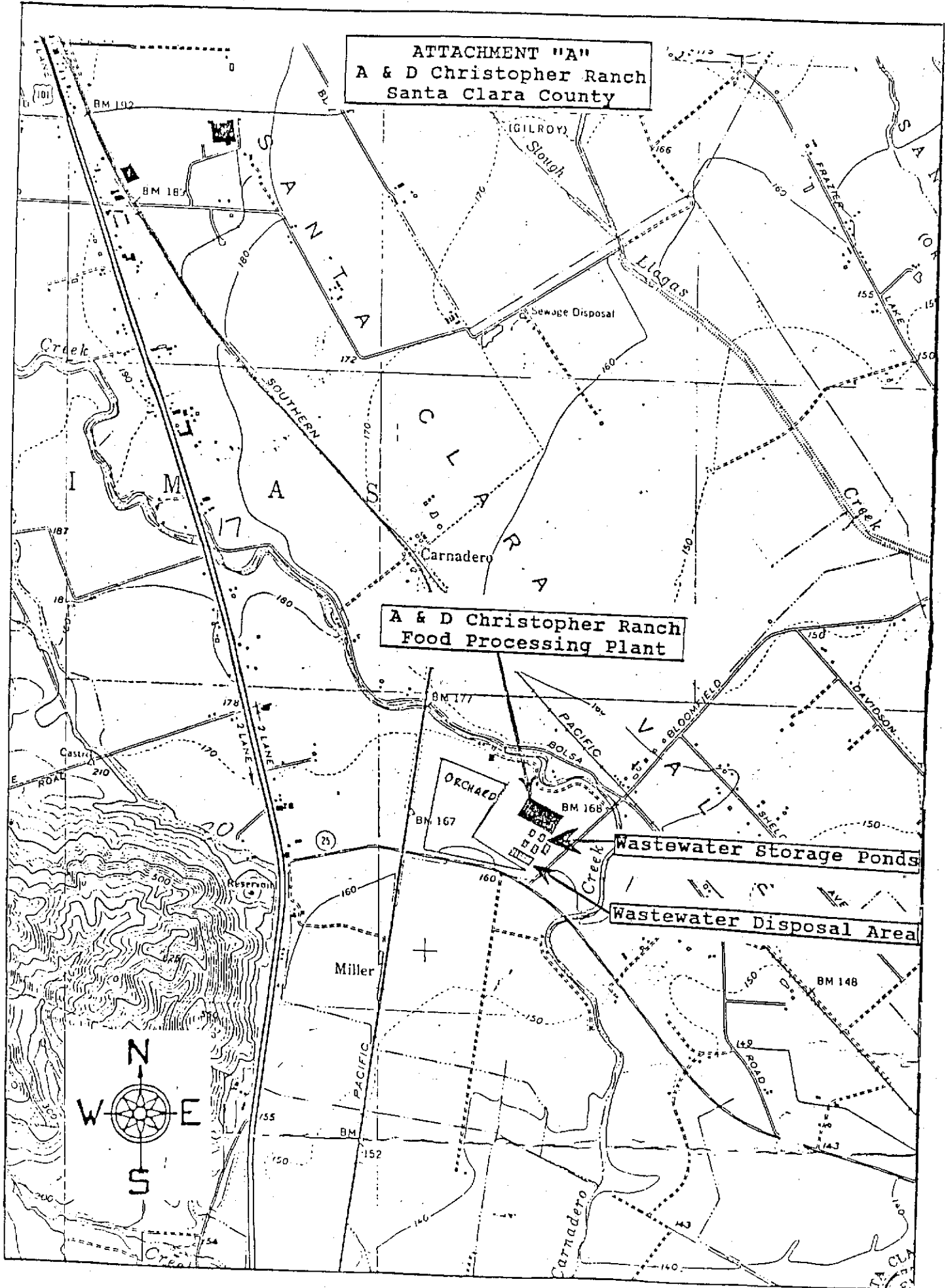
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| a. Submit water balance calculations to demonstrate adequacy of wastewater disposal capacity.  | 11/15/91 |
| b. Submit a technical report discussing the proposed location and depth of the monitoring wells and the technical justification of the proposal. | 11/30/91 |
| c. Submit a technical report discussing how compliance with TDS limit specified in Discharge Specifications B.2. can be accomplished.            | 03/31/92 |
4. Pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 9, of the California Administrative Code, the Discharger must submit a written report to the Executive Officer not later than March 1, 1996, addressing:
    - a. Whether there will be changes in the continuity, character, location, or volume of the reclaimed wastewater; and,
    - b. Whether, in their opinion, there is any portion of the Order that is incorrect, obsolete, or otherwise in need of revision.

I, WILLIAM R. LEONARD, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on September 13, 1991.

  
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 Executive Officer

**ATTACHMENT "A"**  
**A & D Christopher Ranch**  
**Santa Clara County**

**A & D Christopher Ranch**  
**Food Processing Plant**



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, California 93401-7906

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 91-69  
Waste Discharger Identification No. 3 432041001

For

A&D Christopher Ranch  
Santa Clara County  
(Revised November 24, 2003)

**WASTEWATER MONITORING**

Representative samples from the final wastewater storage pond (pond from which wastewater is pumped to the disposal area) shall be collected and analyzed according to the following schedule:

**Wastewater Monitoring**

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Sample and Analysis Frequency
Flow	MGD	Metered	Daily
Boron	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
MBAS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
pH	-	Grab	Monthly
Sodium	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Specific Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	Monthly
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	Grab	Monthly

**WATER SUPPLY MONITORING**

Samples of each water well supplying process and domestic water to the facility shall be obtained and analyzed according to the following schedule:

**Supply Water Monitoring**

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Sample and Analysis Frequency
Flow	gallons/month	Measured	Monthly
Boron	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Calcium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Magnesium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	Grab	April, October
pH	-	Grab	April, October
Potassium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Sodium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Specific Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	April, October
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	Grab	April, October

**RECEIVING WATER MONITORING**

Samples from each groundwater monitoring well shall be collected and analyzed according to the following schedule:

**Receiving Water Monitoring**

Constituents	Units	Sample Type	Sample and Analysis Frequency
Groundwater Elevation	feet	Measured	January, April, July, October
Chloride	mg/L	Grab	January, April, July, October
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	Grab	January, April, July, October
pH	-	Grab	January, April, July, October
Sodium	mg/L	Grab	January, April, July, October
Specific Conductivity	umhos/cm	Grab	January, April, July, October
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	January, April, July, October
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	Grab	January, April, July, October
Boron	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Calcium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Magnesium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Potassium	mg/L	Grab	April, October
Sulfate	mg/L	Grab	April, October

**REPORTING**

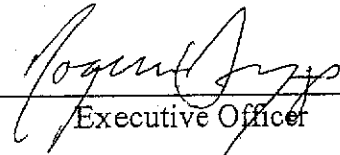
Quarterly monitoring reports shall be submitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> of January, April, July, and October, and shall contain information collected during the previous three months.

An annual report is due January 30<sup>th</sup> of each year and shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. The Discharger shall discuss the compliance record and corrective actions taken, or which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance. The annual report should discuss planned and completed operation and maintenance of the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal systems.

The Discharger shall submit a cover letter (attached) with all monitoring reports to demonstrate compliance status with Waste Discharge Requirements.

Monitoring reports are required pursuant to California Water Code Section 13267, and are needed to determine the Discharger's compliance status and to assess impacts to receiving waters. Evidence that supports requiring the reports includes the facility's discharge of waste to groundwater and the facility's historic violations of discharge limitations. Failure to submit reports in accordance with this monitoring and reporting program may subject the Discharger to enforcement action pursuant to California Water Code Section 13268.

Ordered By:



Executive Officer

11-24-03

Date