

State of California
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles

FACT SHEET
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY – LOS ANGELES BASIN
NPDES NO. CAG994002
CI-8338

PROJECT LOCATION

Los Angeles Coastal Hydrologic Basin
Los Angeles River Watershed, California

FACILITY MAILING ADDRESS

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), in cooperation with the Water Replenishment District of Southern California, is currently studying the geology, hydrology, and geochemistry of the Los Angeles Coastal Hydrologic Basin in Los Angeles County. The purpose of the work is to characterize the regional groundwater flow system in order to provide an improved basis for evaluating groundwater issues related to management, replenishment, and protection. The USGS proposes to discharge groundwater associated with construction, development, and purging of monitoring wells in Los Angeles River Watershed.

VOLUME AND DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The USGS discharges up to 1,000 gallons per day of groundwater from fifty-seven existing monitoring wells into the Los Angeles River. A field portable granular-activated charcoal treatment system or other appropriate treatment will be used, when necessary, to remove volatile organic compounds or other contaminants prior to discharge. See Figure 1 for a schematic flow diagram. The groundwater will be discharged through existing storm drains and will flow to Los Angeles River, a water of the United States. See Table 1 for the monitoring well identifications and outfall descriptions. See Figure 2 for site locations.

FREQUENCY OF DISCHARGE

The discharge is intermittent during construction, development, and monitoring of the wells. Sampling of each monitoring well will be conducted for one to two days between the months of October-November and April-May each year. As the study progresses, it is anticipated that some of the monitoring sites may only require annual, or less frequent, sampling.

REUSE OF WATER

The discharge of groundwater from the project site into an existing sewer system or recycling facility is not cost-effective due to the following:

- Location – potential reuse from numerous monitoring sites is limited by means to deliver and obtain the purged groundwater from a single central location.
- Volume – total volume of groundwater available for reuse is estimated to be less than 12,000 gallons per year.
- Frequency – the ability to supply groundwater on-demand for reuse, as discharge from the monitoring sites will not occur more than twice per year.

Therefore, reuse is not feasible, and the wastewater will be discharged to the storm drain.