



**Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board** 

6 August 2019

Jim Abercrombie El Dorado Irrigation District 2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, CA 95667 **CERTIFIED MAIL** 

7014 3490 0001 3008 1889

# NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

## GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ FOR GOLD RIDGE FOREST PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT GOLD RIDGE FOREST UNIT NO. 3 EL DORADO COUNTY

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge dated 25 August 2017 describing Gold Ridge Forest Unit No.3 wastewater treatment system located in Pollock Pines, El Dorado County. Based on the provided information, the proposed domestic wastewater treatment system and discharge is consistent with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This Notice of Applicability (NOA) provides notice that the General Order is applicable to the site as described below. You are hereby assigned Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293 for the discharge. A copy of the General Order is enclosed and also available at State Water Board adopted orders webpage: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/water\_quality/2014/wqo2014\_0153\_dwq.pdf">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/water\_quality/2014/wqo2014/wqo2014-0153\_dwq.pdf</a>

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. The General Order contains operational and reporting requirements by wastewater system type. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

KARL E. LONGLEY SCD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER



## **REGULATORY BACKGROUND**

WDRs 5-00-135, adopted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 16 June 2000, prescribes requirements for the facility, and allows a monthly average dry weather inflow (ADWF) of 12,500 gallons per day (gpd). WDRs Order 5-00-135 will be rescinded at an upcoming Central Valley Water Board meeting. Effective upon rescission of Order 5-00-135, the discharge described in this NOA shall be regulated pursuant to the General Order.

## **EXISTING FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION**

The wastewater treatment system serves a portion of the Gold Ridge Forest Subdivision located in Pollock Pines. The wastewater treatment system is located approximately 1.5 miles north of Jenkinson Lake and about two miles south of Highway 50, El Dorado County in Sections 5, T10N, R13E, MDB&M as shown on Attachment A, which is incorporated herein. The Assessor's Parcel Numbers for the system is 042-671-01. The access road to the treatment system is near the intersection of Pearl Road and Garnet Road in Pollock Pines. The Gold Ridge Forest Property Owners Association owns the land associated with the treatment system and the EID is responsible for the operation of the system.

The water supply to the Gold Ridge Forest Subdivision is provided by the El Dorado Irrigation District main water supply system. Approximately half of the main system's supply is from Jenkinson Lake. The water supply has low total dissolved solids concentrations ranging from 35 to 39 mg/L, and hardness ranging from 11 to 16 mg/L as CaCO<sub>3</sub> based on data collected in 2016.

The wastewater treatment system is comprised of a gravity collection system, a septic tank battery, and disposal leachfields. The septic tank battery and leach fields sit on approximately five acres within a larger common parcel. Currently 46 single family residential homes are connected to the leachfield system. The capacity of the leachfield system is 12,500 gpd as an average dry weather flow. The gravity collection system is designed to convey wastewater to a 19,200-gallon septic tank battery, which is comprised of twelve 1,600-gallon septic tanks arranged in three parallel trains. The tanks are designed to provide treatment prior to gravity flow to eight hundred linear feet of leach lines situated on an approximately 15-degree sloping hillside.

In 2016, influent flow to the septic tank battery ranged from approximately 4,000 gpd in July and August to 10,000 gpd in November. Based on an influent sampling event conducted on 22 September 2016, TDS, sodium and chloride in the influent were 34 mg/L, 5.4 mg/L and 5.7 mg/L, respectively. The septic tanks are pumped annually. In 2016, a total of 15,000 gallons of septage was removed. The septage is hauled to the District's Deer Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is regulated under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Order R5-2014-0081.

Surrounding land uses include single family homes and natural forest. There are three seasonal drainage courses in the vicinity of the leach field: one crosses to the north of the septic tank battery, one crosses to the north of the existing leach field, and one is about 300 feet downslope of the leachfield. Because the Gold Ridge Forest Subdivision is on the

EID's main water supply system and surrounding land uses are single family homes, there are no wells in the vicinity of the leachfield. Rainfall runoff from the site is downslope to an unnamed tributary to Jenkinson Lake, which is tributary to Sly Park Creek. Sly Park Creek is tributary to Camp Creek, which is tributary to the North Fork of the Cosumnes River.

## SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Note that the General Order contains prohibitions and specifications that apply to all wastewater treatment systems as well as those that only apply to specific treatment and/or disposal systems. The specific requirements for your treatment system are summarized below.

The wastewater treatment operator must be certified and familiar with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and the MRP.

## Requirements by Wastewater System Type, Section B of General Order

B.1 All Wastewater Systems

This applies in its entirety to the treatment system with the following site specific requirements.

B.1.a. Flow Limit.

Influent flow to the septic tank battery shall not exceed **12,500 gpd** as an average dry weather flow defined as the total flow for the months of July through September divided by 92 days.

B.1.I. Wastewater System Setbacks.

The discharge shall comply with the following setback requirements listed in in Table 3 of General Order:

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, or Collection System	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
Leach Field	100 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.

## B.2 Septic Systems

The wastewater treatment system utilizes septic tanks; therefore Section B.2 of General Order applies in its entirety.

B.6 Subsurface Disposal Systems

The wastewater treatment system utilizes a subsurface disposal system; therefore Section B.6 of General Order applies in its entirety.

## MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Upon activation of this NOA, the Discharger shall comply with MRP WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293, which is incorporated herein.

## ENFORCEMENT

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the discharge. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength, generation rate, or to the method of waste disposal, you must contact the Central Valley Water Board to determine if submittal of an RWD is required.

The Discharger generates the waste subject to the terms and conditions of WQ 2014 0153 DWQ-R5293 and maintains exclusive control over the discharge. As such, EID is primarily responsible for compliance with this NOA, MRP, and General Order, with all attachments. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order or this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

## **ANNUAL FEES**

Staff has determined the discharge is a threat to water quality and complexity rating of 3-C. The annual fee corresponding to a threat to water quality and complexity of 3-C is currently \$2,286; however, because the permitted flow is less than 50,000 gpd, the discharge qualifies for the 50 percent fee discount. Therefore, the annual fee for this discharge is currently \$1,143. The fee is due and payable on an annual basis until coverage under the General Order is formally rescinded. Please note that the annual fees are reviewed each year and may change. If the wastewater discharge ceases, you must provide written notice so that we can terminate coverage under the General Order and cancel future invoices.

## DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to:

centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: Gold Ridge Forest Unit No.3, El Dorado County Program: Non-15 Compliance Order: WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293 CIWQS Place ID: 227444

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board ECM Mailroom 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the Notice of Applicability has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Kenny Croyle is your new point of contact for any questions about the General Order. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Kenny will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Kenny at (916) 464-4676 or at <u>kcroyle@waterboards.ca.gov</u>.

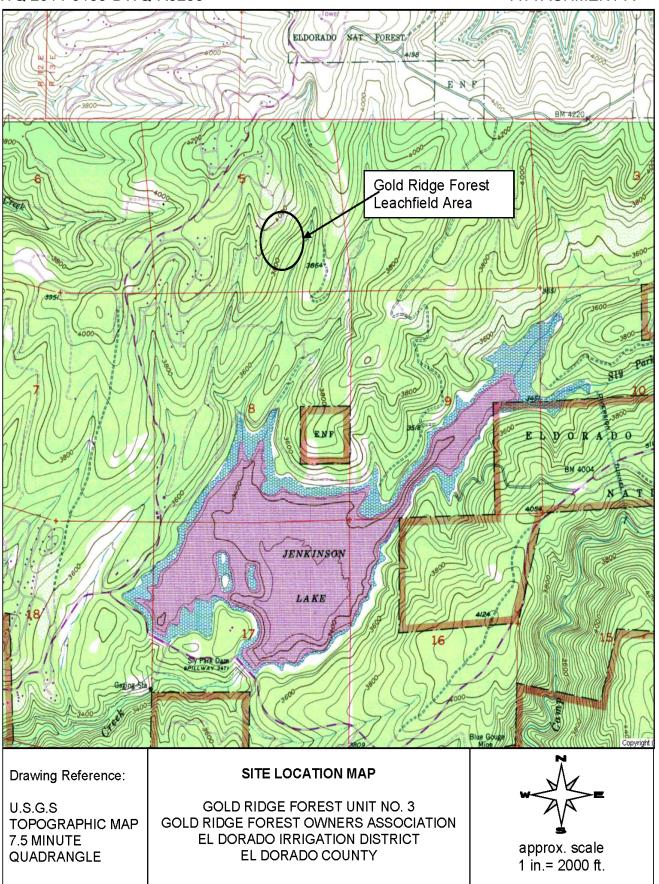
Original signed by Robert Busby for

Patrick Pulupa Executive Officer

- Enclosure: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ Monitoring and Reporting Program WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293 Attachment A, Site Location Map Monitoring Report Transmittal Sheet
- cc w/out enc: Greg Stanton, El Dorado County Environmental Management Department, Placerville Michelle Brown, Roberston-Bryan,Inc, Elk Grove Kenny Croyle, CVWQCB, Rancho Cordova

WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293

## ATTACHMENT A



## CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTORL BOARD CENTRAL VALLEY REGION REVISED MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293-1 FOR GOLD RIDGE FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT GOLD RIDGE FOREST UNIT NO. 3 EL DORADO COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system at the Gold Ridge Forest Unit No.3. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The Discharger shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) or Executive Officer.

Water Code section 13267 states, in part:

"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."

Water Code section 13268 states, in part:

"(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of section 13399.2, or falsifying any information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs."

The El Dorado Irrigation District operates the wastewater system that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) of Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293. The reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order.

Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Resources Control Board, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program certified laboratory, or:

- 1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
- 2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
- 3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency, and
- 4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

Analytical procedures shall comply with the methods and holding times specified in the following: Methods for Organic Chemical Analysis of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater (EPA); Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste (EPA); Methods for Chemical Analysis of Water and Wastes (EPA); Methods for Determination of Inorganic Substances in Environmental Samples (EPA); Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (APHA/AWWA/WEF); and Soil, Plant and Water Reference Methods for the Western Region (WREP 125). Approved editions shall be those that are approved for use by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or the California Department of Public Health's Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program. The Discharger may propose alternative methods for approval by the Executive Officer. Where technically feasible, laboratory reporting limits shall be lower than the applicable water quality objectives for the constituents to be analyzed.

# SEPTIC TANK MONITORING

All septic tanks attached to or contained in the collection system and any grease traps shall be inspected at least annually to assure adequate treatment and perform biosolids removal as necessary. Biosolids removal shall be reported annually and documented as to the volume

removed, by whom, and location of disposal. The septic tank monitoring report shall be included in the annual report.

A monthly written report of the system conditions observed including the volume of biosolids removed (if any) shall be prepared following each inspection. Such written descriptions shall include the conditions of all the items listed in the above paragraphs and shall identify any maintenance work on the physical aspects of the system, if any.

## **EFFLUENT MONITORING**

Samples of effluent shall be taken at the point of discharge to the leachfields. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall consist of the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow to Leachfield	gallon	Calculated	Bi-monthly	Semi-annually
BOD <sub>5</sub>	mg/L	Grab	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Nitrate a Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	Grab	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Standard Minerals	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

Wastewater discharged to leachfield may be estimated based on potable water supply meter readings or other approved method.

Standard Minerals shall include, at a minimum, the following elements and compounds: boron, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, sodium, potassium, chloride, sulfate, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness.

# LEACHFIELD MONITORING

All leachfield system facilities including collection system, sewer mains, headworks, distribution lines and boxes, diversion trenches, effluent disposal trenches (such as French drain), and other appurtenant monitoring systems associated with the system inspection port(s), septic tank(s), shall be inspected on a monthly basis. Observations made during these inspections shall be recorded on a monthly basis.

Inspections of the leachfield system facilities will be comprised of a physical evaluation of the disposal site area to determine whether waste is being contained beneath the ground surface. The ground in the immediate vicinity and surrounding the disposal site shall be inspected to determine the presence of effluent on the ground surface.

A written report of the conditions observed for the system shall be prepared following each inspection and submitted with the semi-annual monitoring report. Evidence of surfacing wastewater, erosion, field saturation, runoff, or the presence of nuisance conditions shall be noted in the report. The report shall identify any maintenance work necessary on the physical aspects of the system.

# WATER SUPPLY MONITORING

A sampling station shall be established where a representative sample of the municipal water supply can be obtained. Water supply monitoring may be substituted with the annual report of the supplying agency. Water supply monitoring shall include at least the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling and Reporting Frequency
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Standard Minerals	mg/L	Grab	Annually

Standard Minerals shall include, at a minimum, the following elements and compounds: boron, calcium, iron, magnesium, manganese, sodium, potassium, chloride, sulfate, total alkalinity (including alkalinity series), and hardness.

## REPORTING

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to the following address: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board ECM Mailroom 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, California 95670

To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any correspondence used to transmit documents to this office:

Facility Name: Gold Ridge Forest Unit No.3, El Dorado County Program: Non-15 Compliance Order: WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5293 CIWQS Place ID: 227444

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, pond, etc.), and reported analytical result for each sample are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to clearly illustrate compliance with waste discharge requirements and spatial or temporal trends, as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next scheduled monitoring report.

In addition to the requirements of Standard Provision C.3, monitoring information shall include the method detection limit (MDL) and the Reporting limit (RL) or practical quantitation limit (PQL). If the regulatory limit for a given constituent is less than the RL (or PQL), then any analytical results for that constituent that are below the RL (or PQL) but above the MDL shall be reported and flagged as estimated.

## A. Semi-Annual Monitoring Report

The Discharger shall establish a semi-annual sampling schedule for effluent monitoring such that samples are obtained approximately every six months. Semi-Annual Monitoring Reports shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by the 1st day of February and August. The Semi-Annual Monitoring Reports shall include the following:

- 1. The results of all leachfield monthly monitoring, and
- 2. The results from bi-monthly and Semi-Annual monitoring of the effluent including analytical laboratory results.

## **B. Annual Report**

In addition to the semi-annual monitoring reports, an Annual shall be prepared. The Annual Report shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by **1 February** each year. The Annual Report shall include the following:

- 1. Results of the septic tank monitoring;
- 2. The results from annual monitoring of the effluent, and water supply including analytical laboratory results;
- 3. An estimated flow volume from water supplied to the homes connected to the system;
- 4. Estimated wastewater annual total flow and average dry weather flow;

- 5. The dates, duration, and volume of any leachfield failure events;
- 6. An update on the number of homes connected to the system;
- 7. For biosolids and sludge: the dates of removal, volume, analysis (if any), final disposal location, and who performed the removal and transportation of any biosolids or sludge from the system;
- 8. Any other significant events or changes which may have water quality implications;
- 9. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements;
- 10. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program;
- 11. Tabular and graphical summaries of all data collected during the year, and
- 12. A copy of the certification for each certified wastewater treatment plant operator working at the facility and a statement about whether the Discharger is in compliance with Title 23, CCR, Division 3, Chapter 26.

A letter transmitting the self monitoring reports shall accompany each report. Such a letter shall include a discussion of requirement violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned for correcting noted violations, such as operation or facility modifications. If the Discharger has previously submitted a report describing corrective actions and/or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence will be satisfactory.

The transmittal letter shall contain the penalty of perjury statement by the Discharger, or the Discharger's authorized agent, as described in the Standard Provisions General Reporting Requirements Section B.3.

The Discharger shall implement the above monitoring program on the first day of the month following adoption of this Order.

Ordered by: Original signed by Robert Busby for

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer

<u>4 September 2019</u> (Date)