



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

23 October 2022

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Lower Lake, CA 95457

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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS
ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382

FOR

HUTTOPIA SIX SIGMA, LLC; KAJ AHLMANN; AND CHRISTIAN AHLMANN
HUTTOPIA SIX SIGMA
LAKE COUNTY

Northpoint Consulting Group, Inc on behalf of Huttopia Six Sigma, LLC submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) dated 13 July 2022 for Huttopia Six Sigma, a glamping resort in Lake County. Based on information provided, the treatment system and discharge are consistent with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's *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 discharge as described below. The discharge is assigned enrollee number **WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382**. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge. A copy of the General Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ is enclosed and also available on the [Water Boards Adopted Orders webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wq2014_0153_dwq.pdf) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wq2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

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) No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382. Huttopia Six Sigma, LLC is the owner and operator of Huttopia Six Sigma which is located on land owned by Kaj Ahlmann, and Christian Ahlmann. Huttopia Six Sigma, LLC; Kaj Ahlmann; and Christian Ahlmann (hereafter “Discharger”) are responsible for all applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Huttopia Six Sigma is a proposed glamping resort located at 13444 Spruce Grove Road in Lower Lake, Lake County on Accessor Parcel Number 012-012-086 (29 Section, 12N Township, and 06W Range). The property consists of 168 acres of undeveloped rural area used for cattle and recreation activities. The proposed development will be separated into six regions. There will be 118 tent and cabin sites, employee housing and associated facilities, a bistro, and six separate onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS).

Each OWTS will consist of a septic tank and leach field system and their locations are shown on **Attachment A**. The leach fields are centralized in the southeast corner of the property just south of Region 4. An additional septic tank is proposed at the upstream end of each leach field in Region 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6. Wastewater will be pumped from the upstream septic tank to the downstream septic tank in each of these regions prior to outflow to the individual leach fields. Each OWTS will range in disposal capacity between 1,050 and 5,850 gallons per day (gpd). The following OWTS that will be regulated under the General Order and this NOA are listed below.

Table 1. OWTS Summary

OWTS Name/Location	Wastewater Source
OWTS Region 1	25 tents and cabins, each with bathroom facilities; bistro with restroom.
OWTS Region 2	29 tents and cabins; 19 of the 29 will be served by a centralized restroom and bathhouse; remaining will have their own bathroom facilities.
OWTS Region 5	32 tents, each with bathroom facilities.
OTWS Region 6	44 tents and cabins, each with bathroom facilities.

Lake County does not have an approved Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) in accordance with the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS Policy, 19 June 2012). OWTS Region 3 and 4 (not listed in the table above) will have a design capacity less than 2,500 gpd and will be regulated by the local agency (Lake County Environmental

Health). Upon approval of a LAMP, regulation of the OWTS listed in **Table 1** may be transferred to the local agency.

Domestic wastewater will be generated at the tents and cabins, centralized bathhouse (with toilets and showers), bistro, and employee housing. A grease interceptor will be installed at the kitchen in the Bistro. Laundry wastewater will be generated from employee housing and will be discharged to the OWTS Region 3. The pool and spa will not be connected to the OWTS. There are no recreational vehicle sewer discharges on site. Water will be provided by an onsite potable supply well located just north of Region 1.

GROUNDWATER AND SITE CONDITIONS

There is no groundwater monitoring proposed at the site. Site evaluations consisting of test pits and percolation tests were performed at the proposed OWTS locations. Subsurface soils were primarily sandy clay loam. Soil subsurface profiles indicate no groundwater encountered at 10 feet below ground surface. Based on site evaluations and testing results, soil conditions were deemed favorable for leach field systems; the OWTS were designed to meet local agency requirements. Based on anticipated wastewater flows, soil profiles, and depth to groundwater, the discharge will likely not impact groundwater quality and therefore groundwater monitoring is not required at this time.

SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections of the General Order including:

1. Prohibitions Section A.
2. Requirements for Wastewater System Type Section B.1.a.

The Discharger shall comply with the following flow limits.

Table 2. Flow Limitation

OWTS	Flow Measurement	Flow Limitation
Region 1 OWTS	Monthly Maximum	5,850 gpd
Region 2 OWTS	Monthly Maximum	2,640 gpd
Region 5 OWTS	Monthly Maximum	4,800 gpd
Region 6 OWTS	Monthly Maximum	3,300 gpd
Total:	Monthly Maximum	16,590 gpd

3. Requirements for Wastewater System Type Sections B.1.b through B.1.l.

For Section B.1.l., the Discharger shall comply with the following setback requirements listed in Table 3 of the General Order as shown in the table below.

Table 3. Wastewater System Setbacks

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

4. Septic Systems Section B.2.

5. Subsurface Disposal Systems Section B.6.

6. Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations Section C.

7. Effluent Limitations Section D.

The OWTS is a septic tank and leach field system that is not subject to technology performance effluent limits for total suspended solids (TSS) or biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) as specified in the General Order. Treatment is performed through the soil column.

Staff evaluated the need for a total nitrogen effluent limit using the method contained in the General Order and determined that a nitrogen effluent limit is not required based on proposed flows for each OWTS and as a cumulative total flow.

8. Provisions Section E.

Section E.1.a., E.1.b, E.2., E.3., and E.4 of the General Order applies. Provision E.1 requires Dischargers enrolled under the General Order to prepare and implement the following reports within **90 days of the issuance of the NOA**:

- Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (Provision E.1.a)
- Sampling and Analysis Plan (Provision E.1.b)

A copy of the Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan and the Sampling and Analysis Plan shall be maintained at the treatment facility and shall be presented to the Regional Water Board staff upon request.

SALT AND NITRATES CONTROL PROGRAM

On 31 May 2018, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new strategies for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley as part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative. Further details of these strategies are discussed in the enclosed memorandum. As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Program are met.

For the Salt Control Program, the Discharger (**CV-SALTS ID 3629**) has selected Alternative Pathway 2, Participation in Prioritization & Optimization (P&O Study). For the Nitrate Control Program, the facility falls in a non-prioritized basin. At this time, a Management Zone does not currently exist. The Discharger may be subject to comply with the Nitrate Control Program through a later formed Management Zone.

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Discharger shall comply with **MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382**, which is attached hereto and made part of this NOA by reference.

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 or 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-R5382 and will maintain exclusive control over the discharge. As such, Huttopia Six Sigma, Inc; Kaj Ahlmann; and Christian Ahlmann are 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.

DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

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: Huttopia Six Sigma, Lake County
Program: Non-15 Compliance
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382
CIWQS Place ID: 882444

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

Any person aggrieved by this Central Valley Water Board action may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320, and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day after the date of this NOA, except that if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Laws and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available to the public on the [Internet](#) (at the address below), and will be provided upon request. (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality)

Now that the Notice of Applicability has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Guy Childs 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, Guy will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Guy at (916) 464-4648 or at guy.childs@waterboards.ca.gov.

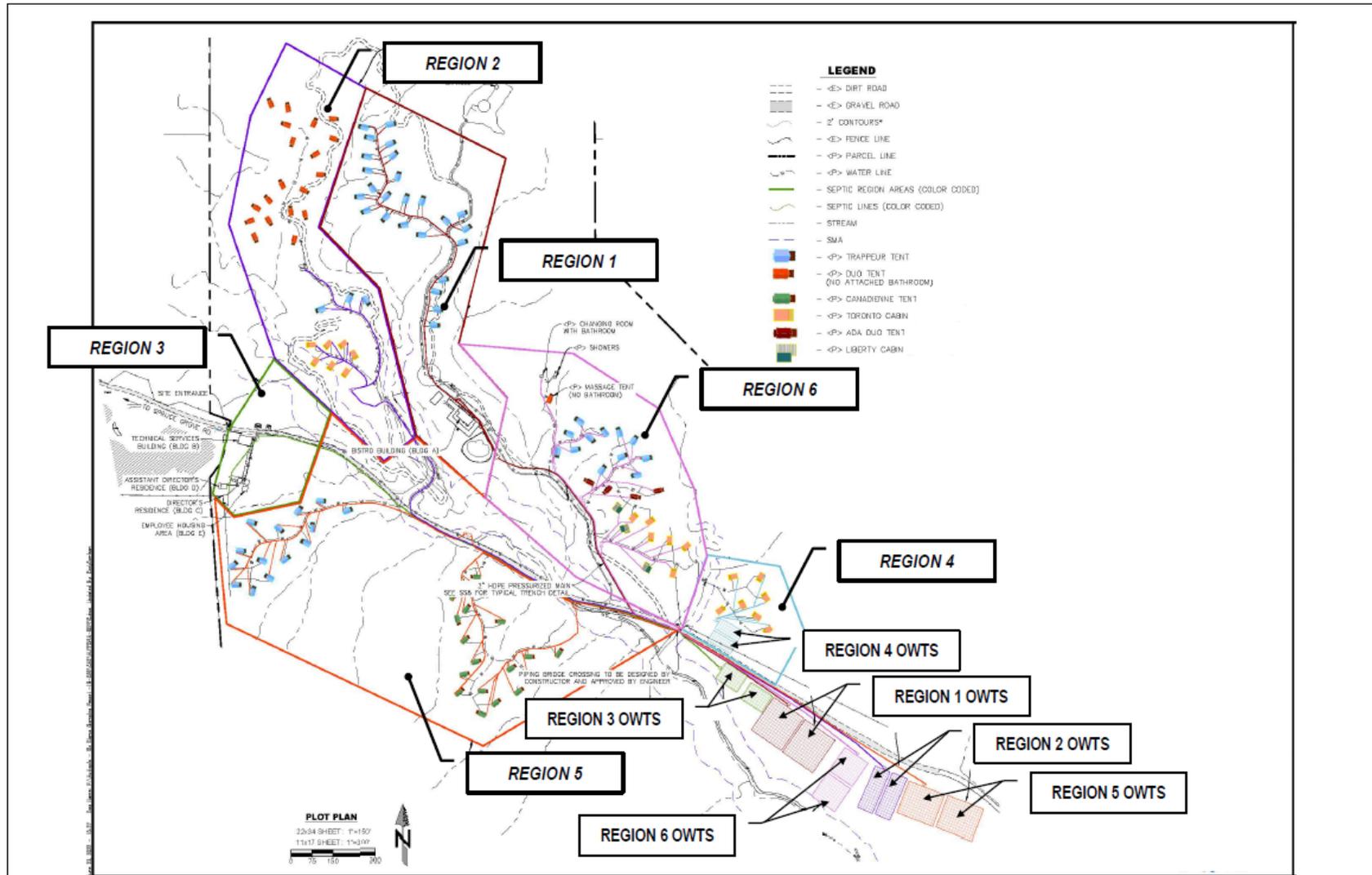
for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A, Site Map
Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5382

Enclosure: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (Discharger only)

Cc via email: Laurel Warddrip, SWRCB, Division of Water Quality, Sacramento
Annjanette Dodd, Northpoint Consulting Group, Inc., Arcata
Lake County Environmental Health
Guy Childs, CVWQCB, Rancho Cordova
Howard Hold, CVWQCB, Rancho Cordova
Debbie Webster, CVCWA, Sacramento

ATTACHMENT A



Approximate Scale:
As Noted Above

Drawing Reference:

SITE MAP

Navigation toolbar with icons for pan, hand, zoom in, zoom out, 85% zoom level, print, rotate, and other functions.

TO: Rob Busby
Supervising Geologist

FROM: Scott Armstrong
Senior Engineering Geologist
P.G. #6787, C.H.G. #620

Lani Andam
Water Resource Control Engineer

DATE: 10 October 2022

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; HUTTOPIA SIX SIGMA; LAKE COUNTY

Central Valley Water Board staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) consisting of a Form 200 and technical report dated 13 July 2022 for the Huttopia Six Sigma in Lake County. An application fee was submitted online on 13 July 2022. The RWD was prepared by Northpoint Consulting Group, Inc. on behalf of Huttopia Six Sigma, Inc. The RWD was prepared by Annjanette Dodd, a California registered Professional Engineer (No. 77756). Additional information was sent via email on 22 September 2022. The Discharger is requesting coverage under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (General Order)*. This memorandum provides a summary of Central Valley Water Board staff's review of the RWD and the applicability that the existing discharge is eligible for enrollment under the General Order.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Huttopia Six Sigma is a proposed glamping campground resort, which will be located outside the Lake County Sanitation District. The proposed development will be separated into six regions, each region with its own onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS). Domestic wastewater will be generated at the tents/cabins, centralized bathhouse (with restrooms and showers), bistro, and employee housing. The OWTS will consist of a septic tank and leach field system ranging in size between 1,050 and 5,580 gallons per day (gpd). The leach fields are centralized in the southeast section of the property.

Because Lake County does not have an approved Local Area Management Plan (LAMP), only OWTS with a design capacity less than 2,500 gpd will be subject to regulation by the county. The remaining four OWTS with a design capacity greater than 2,500 gpd will be subject to the requirements of the General Order and this NOA. A summary of the OWTS and permitting authority is summarized in the table below.

OWTS Name	Permitting Authority
Region 1 OWTS	Central Valley Water Board
Region 2 OWTS	Central Valley Water Board
Region 3 OWTS	Lake County
Region 4 OWTS	Lake County
Region 5 OWTS	Central Valley Water Board
Region 6 OWTS	Central Valley Water Board

Water will be supplied from an onsite supply well located north of Region 1, constructed to a depth approximately 160 feet below surface grade (bgs). First encountered water was approximately 87 feet bgs.

The General Order includes five-site specific conditions to be considered when evaluating a discharge and the need for nitrogen control. These five conditions include: flow, depth to groundwater, percolation rate, wastewater strength, and if nitrogen is of concern in the area. Wastewater flow at each of the OWTS subject to the General Order and this NOA, as well as the total combined flow is less than 20,000 gpd, and therefore, a nitrogen effluent limit evaluation is not required.

The General Order requires that subsurface disposal systems including leach field systems, must comply with USEPA Underground Injection Control requirements when classified as a Class V well. The leach field system meets at least one of the characteristics listed in Section B.6.g of the General Order. The Discharger has completed and submitted the required forms via online with USEPA.

Provision E.1.c of the General Order requires submittal of a Sludge Management Plan. The OWTS is a septic tank and leach field system. The General Order prescribes requirements to when septic tanks shall be pumped including pumping performed only by a California licensed General Engineering, Pumping, or Sanitation System contractor; all septage be pumped, hauled, treated, and disposed of properly; and all septage disposal be to a legal disposal site that has been issued WDRs by a Regional Water Board allowing septage disposal. Based on the septic system requirements of General Order, submittal of a Sludge Management Plan is not required at this time.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following section from Attachment B of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Septic Tank Monitoring, and
- Subsurface Disposal Area Monitoring

To establish a realistic estimate of statewide recycled water use and potential for increased recycled water use statewide, the Recycled Water Policy requires dischargers to report the volume of treated wastewater and recycled water. Based on anticipated wastewater flows, the Discharger is not required to submit volumetric annual reporting at this time.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. The Basin Plan amendments were conditionally approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on 16 October 2019 (Resolution No. 2019-0057) and by the Office of Administrative Law on 15 January 2020 (OAL Matter No. 2019-1203-03).

For salinity, dischargers that are unable to comply with stringent requirements will instead need to meet performance-based requirements and participate in a basin-wide effort to develop a long-term salinity strategy for the Central Valley. The Discharger has chosen to participate in Option 2, Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach and participate in the P&O Study (CV-SALTS ID 3629).

For nitrate, dischargers that are unable to comply with stringent nitrate requirements will be required to take on alternative compliance approaches that involve providing replacement drinking water to persons whose drinking water is affected by nitrates. Dischargers may comply with the new nitrate program either individually or collectively with other dischargers. For the Nitrate Control Program, the facility falls in a non-prioritized basin. At this time, a Management Zone does not currently exist. The Discharger may be subject to comply with the Nitrate Control Program through a later formed Management Zone.

As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this Order to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. This NOA may be amended or modified to incorporate newly applicable requirements. [More information on the Salt and Nitrate Control Program](https://www.cvsalinity.org) may be found on the internet (<https://www.cvsalinity.org>).