NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMPLY WITH THE GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2026-XXXX

FOR

LAND DISCHARGES FROM DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS WITH FLOWS GREATER THAN 0.1 MILLION GALLONS PER DAY

Contents

Document Date: _____

This Notice of Intent (including all required attachments) serves as the application for Order No. R5-2026-XXXX (General Order R5-2026-XXXX). If you need assistance with the application process, please contact a representative from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board). Contact information is available online.

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/waste_to_land/non-15/contacts/)

All sections in this document must be completed unless otherwise stated. For responses that require more than one word or number, complete sentences must be used to describe the information.

Additional information and guidance for completing this application for coverage under the General Order is contained in the attached Appendices.

I. COMPLETE FORM 200

An electronic version of Form 200 is available online.

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications_forms/forms/docs/form200.pdf)

II. APPLICATION FEE (IF APPLICABLE)

For new dischargers, not currently regulated by the Central Valley Water Board, the NOI must include an application fee in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2200. Existing dischargers who are current on their annual fees are not required to submit an additional application fee with their NOI. Applicants should contact Central Valley Water Board staff to determine the required application fee.

☐ a) An application fee that serves as the first annual fee under the General Order. Fees are based on threat and complexity ratings, and the treatment technology employed. Threat and complexity ratings are defined in the fee schedule listed in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2200. (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/docs/fy1112fee_schdl_wdr.pdf)

III. WASTEWATER SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

Wastewater system name: _____
Wastewater system address: _____ City: _____

Is this system a Publicly owned Treatment Works (POTW)?: **Yes** **No**

Wastewater treatment level (select from drop down): _____

What treatment method/s best describe/s this wastewater system?
(select from drop down): _____

Wastewater treatment level plant classification: _____

See the Wastewater Operator Certification Program web page for more information.
(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/operator_certification/wwtp.html)

Peak daily influent design flow in million gallons per day (mgd): _____

Average monthly wastewater influent flow during the previous calendar year in mgd: _____

Peak daily flow from previous calendar year in mgd: _____

Total sewer connections (domestic & industrial) wastewater system serves: _____

Percent of domestic and industrial connections (approximate):

Domestic: _____ Industrial: _____

Sections A through H: required descriptions must be provided in complete sentences. For descriptions that exceed the space provided text will automatically scroll. These descriptions must be standalone; they do not refer to a section of a report in a separate document.

A. HEADWORKS/PRELIMINARY TREATMENT

Describe the headworks technology in the space provided below:

_____
_____
_____
_____

Capacity of the headworks system in mgd: _____

B. PRIMARY TREATMENT

Describe the primary treatment technology in the space provided below: _____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Capacity of the primary treatment technology in mgd: _____

C. SECONDARY TREATMENT

Describe the secondary treatment technology in the space provided below:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Capacity of the secondary treatment technology in mgd:_____

D. TERTIARY TREATMENT

Describe the tertiary treatment technology in the space provided below:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Capacity of the tertiary treatment technology in mgd:_____

E. DISINFECTION

Describe the disinfection technology in the space provided below:_____

_____

_____

_____

Capacity of the disinfection technology in mgd:_____

F. WASTEWATER DISPOSAL METHOD

Describe the disposal method(s) and total surface area in the space provided below:_____

_____

_____

_____

Capacity of the wastewater disposal method(s) in mgd:_____

G. SOLIDS HANDLING

Describe the solids handling technology in the space provided below:_____

_____

_____

_____

Solids produced annually in tons:_____

Solids disposal facility/location *(name & address below)*:

Name: _____

Street Address:_____City:_____

H. RECYCLED WATER

Does the Facility produce non-potable recycled water? *(If 'Yes' attach a Title 22 report and Division of Drinking Water Acceptance Letter to this application. If 'No' the remainder of section II.H may be skipped but the NOI shall include a Recycled Water Feasibility Evaluation and Plan [See Section XV and Appendix B])*

Average daily recycled water production volume in mgd:_____

Is the Facility enrolled in *State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW Water Reclamation Requirements for Recycled Water Use or separate Water Reclamation Requirements (if separate, indicate order number below)*?*

*State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW is available online. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2016/wqo2016_0068_ddw.pdf)

Non-potable recycled water usage:_____

Non-potable recycled water is distributed by a third party?

Recycled water distributor:_____

Attach the following documents to your Notice of Intent.

☐ a) Title 22 Engineering Report

☐ b) Division of Title 22 Engineering Review Letter

IV. WASTEWATER SYSTEM TECHNICAL REPORT

Attach the following documents to your Notice of Intent. All submittals requiring engineering or geologic evaluations/judgments must be performed under the direction of, signed, and stamped by an appropriately registered professional.

☐ a) A detailed engineering report including descriptions of all treatment and disposal components and their treatment/disposal objectives.

☐ b) For pond systems, include a water balance demonstrating ponds are designed, constructed, maintained, and operated to ensure adequate storage and disposal capacity at all times to accommodate wastewater, design seasonal precipitation, ancillary inflow and infiltration, and wind-driven waves based on the 100-year return annual total precipitation value distributed monthly in accordance with average (mean) precipitation values. The calculations must demonstrate adequate capacity to maintain two feet of freeboard in the pond(s).

☐ c) Scaled schematic of the wastewater system (e.g., treatment train, treated wastewater disposal, solids disposal, treated wastewater reuse, sampling locations, tailwater control, etc.).

☐ d) Scaled aerial map of the wastewater system identifying wastewater system boundary, treatment components, sampling locations, treated wastewater disposal or reuse areas, storm water system, solids storage areas, etc.

☐ e) If applicable, a scaled aerial map of the groundwater monitoring well location(s), groundwater elevation contours, and the direction of groundwater flow.

☐ f) Scaled wastewater system boundary map with parcel boundaries and Accessors Parcel Number(s) (APN) identified for all activities related to this wastewater system.

☐ g) Latitude(s) and longitude(s) for the wastewater system, sampling points, groundwater wells, etc.

☐ h) A list and description of all chemicals added to the waste stream treatment process must be provided, including their specific usage and the amount used. The amount should be reported in appropriate units (e.g., gallons, pounds, or milligrams per liter) and reflect typical daily or batch usage as applicable.

V. Groundwater Information

Attach the following documents to your Notice of Intent and check the corresponding box to indicate a complete attachment.

☐ a) Underlying groundwater quality data in tabular and graphical format (minimum of five years of data, including site-specific data and data available through the State Water Resources Control Board's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Database. (https://gamagroundwater.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/gamamap/public/)

☐ b) Scaled aerial map showing location of all groundwater wells (water supply wells and monitoring wells) onsite and within one-half mile of the project site.

☐ c) Table documenting the depth of all on-site groundwater wells, screened intervals, and depth to static water level.

☐ d) A map detailing surface water within a one-half-mile radius of the wastewater system, disposal area(s), and reuse area(s). Surface water includes, but is not limited to, storm water conveyance features, creek beds, streams, rivers, lakes, etc.

VI. ANTIDEGRADATION ANALYSIS

The State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16 (the Antidegradation Policy) requires that the Central Valley Water Board maintain the high quality of waters of the state until it is demonstrated that any change in quality will be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the state, will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and will not result in exceedances of one or more water quality objectives. If a discharge will degrade groundwater quality but will not cause an exceedance of one or more water quality objectives, the discharger must demonstrate that all practicable treatment or control measures have been implemented or will be implemented such that the Board can consider these measures to represent the "best practicable treatment or control" (BPTC) of the constituents of concern. Demonstrating that BPTC has been, or will be, implemented at the site can provide justification for the Board to allow the current level of degradation to continue or increase (as applicable), or for the Board to allow any degradation in the case of a new discharge. The Antidegradation Policy is incorporated into our Basin Plans, which also include implementation plans that we follow. The Basin Plans and other important policy documents are available online.

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/plans_policies/)

The discharger must submit an antidegradation assessment, which must include the following:

1. For existing facilities, whether the discharge has caused degradation. If degradation has occurred, for which constituents, to what degree, and whether the discharge has caused exceedances of a water quality objective.
2. The potential for the discharge to degrade groundwater quality (for new discharges) of further degrade groundwater quality (for existing discharges, whether or not the discharge is expanding)

The assessment must be based on site-specific data and shall include the following items for each constituent listed below:

1. Characterization of all waste constituents to be discharged that have the potential to degrade groundwater quality. At a minimum, the characterization should evaluate salinity constituents, nitrogen constituents, metals, disinfection by products, and the potential for reducing conditions in groundwater due to organic overloading;
2. Characterization of shallow groundwater quality (i.e., the uppermost layer of the aquifer) for typical waste constituents[1] upgradient and downgradient of the site, and comparison to established water quality objectives[2] (include tabulated historical groundwater monitoring data and groundwater elevation contour maps for the last eight monitoring events to the extent that it exists for the site);
3. A description of the geology and hydrogeologic conditions of the site, including groundwater elevation and gradient, transmissivity, influence of all known recharge and pumping sources, and subsurface conditions at the facility, including

[1] Include analyses for the following: total coliform organisms, total dissolved solids, fixed dissolved solids, electrical conductivity, nitrate as nitrogen, total nitrogen, and major anions and cations.

[2] Compare to Basin Plan water quality objectives, including drinking water standards, agricultural water quality goals, etc.

any proposed new disposal site or storage ponds;

4. Groundwater degradation, if any, that has resulted from existing operations, other nearby discharges, or natural occurrences;
5. The areal extent that the discharge has impacted or will impact the quality of the shallow groundwater, if any;
6. The concentration found and/or expected increase in concentration in shallow groundwater for each constituent;
7. If degradation has occurred or is expected to occur, describe the following:
    a. Any facility design features and operational practices that reduce the potential for groundwater degradation (treatment or control). Such features might include salinity source control, other pollutant source control, advanced treatment, disinfection, concrete treatment structures, and pond lining systems, etc.
    b. Additional treatment or control measures that could be implemented and a preliminary capital and annual operations and maintenance cost estimate for each,
    c. How current treatment and control measures are justified as BPTC (i.e., what justifies not implementing additional measures),
    d. How no water quality objectives will be exceeded; and
    e. Why allowing existing and/or anticipated degradation is in the best interest of the people of the state.

VII. CEQA

For new or expanding discharges, please attach the following documents and check the corresponding box:

☐ a) Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/ Negative Declaration (ND)/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)

☐ b) Lead Agency EIR/ND/MND Approval Letter

VIII. COLLECTION SYSTEM

This section pertains to the collection system that serves the subject wastewater system.

Population served by the collection system:_____

The collection system is enrolled in State Water Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ for Sanitary Sewers?*:_____

IX. OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

Provide a list of current or proposed operating personnel, their respective operator certification grade, and license number.

Operator Name	Grade	License Number

Operator Name	Grade	License Number

X. CV-SALTS (Details about CV-SALTS are provided in Appendix A)

I. Nitrate Control Program

Underlying groundwater basin Nitrate Control Program Management Zone and Prioritization Level:_____

Refer to CV-SALTS Interactive Management Zone Map: https://www.cvsalinity.org//nitrate-program/find-your-management-zone/

For dischargers in a Priority 1 or 2 Basin, see Section 1 below. For dischargers in a Non-Priority Basin, see section 2 below. For dischargers not in an identified basin (i.e., outside the valley floor), no further information is needed for this section.

1. Dischargers in Priority 1 or Priority 2 Basins

For dischargers in a Priority1 or Priority 2 Basins, indicate the elected Nitrate Control Program Pathway:_____

For more information regarding Nitrate Control Program pathways, please review the guidance which is available online. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/forms_temps_guide/nitrate_guidance.pdf)

For Dischargers electing to pursue the Individual Approach (Path A), please indicate the discharge category determination :_____

Refer to Table N-3 in Attachment B – Information Sheet of the General Order for information regarding the determination of categorization.

For dischargers in a Priority 1 or Priority 2 Basins, include the following items:

☐ a) A copy of the Nitrate Control Program Notice of Intent submitted for the facility

☐ b) For dischargers participating in a Nitrate Priority Management Zone, confirmation that the discharger is in good standing with the Local Management Zone.

☐ c) For dischargers selecting the Individual Pathway Approach (Path A), a copy of the Initial Assessment and Central Valley Water Board approval letter.

2. Dischargers in a Non-prioritized Basin

For dischargers in a Non-Prioritized Basin, indicate whether the **existing or proposed** discharge is currently unpermitted or exceeds the permitted limits (i.e., flows/nitrate

concentrations):_____

If no, no further information is needed for this section. If yes, please refer to the CV-Salts section of the Appendices and include the following:

- ☐ a) Nitrate Control Program Notice of Intent
- ☐ b) Nitrate Initial Assessment
- ☐ c) Nitrate Early Action Plan (if required)

J. Salt Control Program

Please indicate the elected Salt Control Program Option:_____

Please include the following:

- ☐ a) A Copy of the Salt Control Program Notice of Intent
- ☐ b) For dischargers participating in the Prioritization and Optimization (P&O) Study, provide confirmation that the discharger is current on Central Valley Salinity Coalition annual fees.

XI. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS OF FACILITY'S EXISTING PERMIT

Complete the table and questions below. Type 'N/A' if the wastewater system does not have an existing effluent limitation for a specific parameter listed.

Constituent	Units	Effluent Limit 1	Effluent Limit 2
Specify Effluent Limit Type:			
Biochemical Oxygen Demand, 5-Day	mg/L		
Total Nitrogen	mg/L		
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L		

Note: *Effluent Limit 1 and 2 refer to the potential for a wastewater system to have different types of effluent limits. For example, a maximum effluent limit and a mean effluent limit.*

In the space provided below include any additional comments or effluent limitations that are not included in the table above. For a description that exceeds the space provided text will automatically scroll.

_____

_____

_____

If this wastewater system produces recycled water, include an attachment that documents the limitations of the recycled water effluent. *Select an option below to complete this section.*

- ☐ This wastewater system has limitations on recycled water effluent, and a

document has been attached that outlines these effluent limitations.

☐ This wastewater system does NOT have recycled water effluent limitations.

XII. WATER SUPPLY

Attach the following documents to your Notice of Intent and check the corresponding box to indicate a complete attachment.

☐ a) Last three years of water supply data (both quality and quantity).

Water supply sourced from a third party? **Yes** **No**

- If ***Yes***, identify the third party here: _____
- If ***No***, provide a map showing locations of all water supply wells, surface water diversions, holding facilities (e.g., tanks, ponds, impoundments, etc.), treatment facilities, and any additional information that is necessary to describe the sources and facilities associated with the water supply.

XIII. SOURCES OF WASTEWATER PRODUCTION

Identify all sources sending wastewater to the wastewater system. At a minimum, the application must identify the following:

Please attach the following documents to your application and check the corresponding box to confirm a complete attachment.

☐ a) Five years of previous data detailing the influent wastewater quality and quantity in tabular and graphical format (raw water characteristics: volume, organic concentration, nutrients, fats, oils, phenol, formaldehyde, contaminants of emerging concern, priority pollutants, etc.).

☐ b) A list of all industrial users that discharge wastewater to the Facility that are considered Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) and Categorical Industrial Users (CIUs) under 40 CFR Part 403, and all non-SIU and CIU industrial users that are subject only to local discharge limitations. The list shall indicate which categorical industries, or specific pollutants from each industry, are subject to local limitations that are more stringent than the federal categorical standards.

Does the Facility have an existing pretreatment program?:_____

Does the wastewater system regularly accept wastewater from the following sources:

Industrial processing facilities such as cannabis, fruit & vegetable processors, etc._____

Chemical toilets or recreational vehicles (RVs)?:_____

High-strength wastewater containing elevated levels of fats, oils, and grease?:_____

XIV. COMPLIANCE TIME SCHEDULE REQUEST

As specified in General Order R5-2026-XXXX, Section III.B.8, if the Discharger cannot immediately comply with the effluent limitations/requirements established in Tables 2 through 6 of the Order, the Discharger may submit a time schedule compliance plan with this NOI for Central Valley Water Board review and approval. A compliance schedule may be granted

in the NOA for up to 24 months, but only for the time reasonably necessary for to achieve compliance with the effluent limits of this Order. A time schedule beyond 24 months must be adopted by the Central Valley Water Board. The purpose of a time schedule is to allow the discharger sufficient time to implement necessary facility improvements (e.g., operational changes or treatment upgrades) to achieve compliance with the General Order limitations/requirements.

Is the Discharger requesting a compliance schedule?:_____

If yes, attach the following documents to your Notice of Intent and check the corresponding box to indicate a complete attachment.

☐ a) Time Schedule Compliance Plan

XV. TECHNICAL REPORTS

Attach the following technical reports to your Notice of Intent and check the corresponding button.

Report Type	Report Due Date	Attached to this Notice of Intent?	
Operations and Maintenance Manual (See 1 below) *Including:* • Sludge Management Plan • Wastewater Disposal Management Plan • Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan • Training Records Log	With NOI	Yes	No
Initial Pond Evaluation Report (See 2 below)	With NOI	Yes	No
Recycled Water Feasibility Evaluation and Plan (See 3 below)	With NOI	Yes	No

1. Information on the required contents of the Operations and Maintenance Manual is available in Appendix B.
2. Information on the required contents of the Initial Pond Evaluation Report is available in Appendix B.
3. If the discharger does not currently recycled treated wastewater at the facility, the discharger shall include a Recycled Water Feasibility Evaluation and Plan with the Notice of Intent. Information on the required contents of the Recycled Water Feasibility Evaluation and Plan is available in the Order Attachment B –

Information Sheet, Section VII.B.

XVI. CERTIFICATION

Certification is required by one of the following:

a) For a corporation: by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president.
b) For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
c) For a public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
d) For a LLC: either a member or manager given signing authority by the operating agreement of the LLC.
e) a "duly authorized representative" of one of the above.

“I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations. I also acknowledge I have reviewed the General Waste Discharge Requirements as specified in General Order R5-2026-XXXX and agree to comply with the terms and conditions set forth therein.”

Print Name:_____ Title:_____

Signature: _____ Date:_____

XVII. SUBMITTTAL

Submit the signed Notice of Intent, supporting documentation, and a photo copy of the application fee (if applicable) through email to the appropriate Central Valley Water Board Office email:

- Rancho Cordova Office: CentralValleySacramento@waterboards.ca.gov
- Fresno Office: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov
- Redding Office: centralvalleyredding@waterboards.ca.gov

To submit your application fee, dischargers can mail the check to the appropriate Central Valley Water Board Office along with a copy of the Form 200. Additional directions on how to submit an application fee can be found online. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/)

APPENDICES

Appendix A

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Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS)

On 31 May 2018, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution R5-2018-0034, approving Basin Plan amendments incorporating the CV-SALTS Salt and Nitrate Control Programs. The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020 and were subsequently revised by the Central Valley Water Board in 2020 through the adoption of Resolution R5-2020-0057, effective 10 November 2021.

The overarching goals and priorities of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are to (1) ensure safe drinking water supply; (2) reduce salt and nitrate loading so that ongoing discharges neither threaten to degrade high quality waters absent findings by the Central Valley Water Board, nor cause or contribute to exceedances of WQOs; and (3) implement long-term managed restoration of impaired water bodies.

To ensure compliance with the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs, this Order incorporates the Basin Plans' Conditional Prohibitions for these Programs. For the Salt Control Program (SCP), dischargers that received a Notice to Comply are prohibited from discharging salts in concentrations that exceed the salinity numeric values in the Phase 1 Conservative Permitting Approach (700 µmhos/cm as a monthly average or 900 µmhos/cm as an annual average) unless they are implementing SCP requirements in a timely manner. For the Nitrate Control Program, dischargers of nitrate that have received a Notice to Comply or whose discharges were initiated or expanded after the effective date of the Nitrate Control Program (NCP) are prohibited from discharging nitrate unless they are implementing NCP requirements in a timely manner.

I. Salt Control Program

The SCP provides a framework for controlling and permitting salt discharges to surface water and groundwater in the Central Valley region. The SCP will be implemented in three ten-to-fifteen-year phases, wherein the findings from each phase will inform the next, allowing for adaptive management of salt discharges in the Central Valley region. The first phase (Phase 1) is underway.

During Phase 1, dischargers of salt are required to select one of two permitting pathways: the Conservative Permitting Approach or the Alternative Permitting Approach. Under the Conservative Permitting Approach, dischargers must meet stringent salt-loading limits and limit or prevent surface water and groundwater degradation. Under the Alternative Permitting Approach, dischargers must maintain current efforts to control salinity in their discharges and participate in the regionwide Prioritization and Optimization (P&O) Study. Dischargers that meet these requirements will be deemed in compliance with the salinity discharge requirements of this Order. Based on the nature of the discharge permitted by this Order (i.e., treated domestic wastewater), the majority of WWTPs eligible for coverage under this General Order do not meet the thresholds set by the Conservative Permitting Approach. It is anticipated that most WWTPs enrolled under this General Order will participate in the regionwide P&O Study.

II. Nitrate Control Program

Dischargers subject to the NCP are required to select one of two permitting approaches: the Individual Approach (Path A) or the Management Zone Approach (Path B).

1. Path A

Dischargers electing to comply with the NCP through Path A are required to evaluate the

impacts of their nitrate discharges on shallow groundwater underlying the area of discharge (Shallow Zone). Based on that evaluation, dischargers will be identified as falling into one of five categories of nitrate dischargers (see Attachment C - CV-SALTS Basin Plan Amendment, Table N-3).

Dischargers whose permitted discharges cause or contribute to exceedances of the nitrate WQO in a public water supply well or domestic well must prepare an Early Action Plan (EAP) to ensure access to safe drinking water for those who are impacted.

Dischargers whose permitted discharges cause or may cause nitrate in the Shallow Zone to exceed 75 percent of the WQO for nitrate (i.e., Category 4 and 5 dischargers) may be required to develop and implement long-term Alternative Compliance Projects (ACPs) with identified milestones for addressing nitrate-related drinking water issues.

2. Path B

Alternatively, under Path B, dischargers may elect to comply with the NCP by participating in basin- or sub-basin-specific Management Zones. Path B dischargers must collaborate with other dischargers within their respective Management Zones to ensure provision of safe drinking water to adversely affected residents within their areas and to develop and execute Management Zone Implementation Plans (MZIPs) for managing and reducing nitrate loading to groundwater.

3. Priority 1 Basins

The Central Valley Water Board has identified and categorized Groundwater Basins/Sub-basins (Priority 1, Priority 2, and Non-Prioritized Basins) and established timelines for phased implementation of the NCP in these prioritized areas (see Figure N-1 below). As of the date of the adoption of this Order, the following Priority 1 Management Zones have MZIPs that are either accepted or approved by the Central Valley Water Board.

Management Zone	**MZIP Status**
Modesto (Valley Water Collaborative)	Accepted – Pending Approval
Turlock (Valley Water Collaborative)	Accepted – Pending Approval
Chowchilla (Chowchilla Management Zone)	Accepted – Pending Approval
Kings (Kings Water Alliance)	Accepted – Pending Approval
Kaweah (Kaweah Water Foundation)	Accepted – Pending Approval
Tule Basin Management Zone	Accepted – Pending Approval

4. Priority 2 Basins

As of the date of the adoption of this Order, the following Priority 2 following Priority 2 Management Zones (listed below) have conditionally approved Early Action Plans:

- Delta-Mendota (Valley Water Collaborative)
- Eastern San Joaquin (Valley Water Collaborative)
- Madera (Valley Water Collaborative)
- Merced (Valley Water Collaborative)
- Yolo (Valley Water Collaborative)
- Tulare Lake (Kings Water Alliance and Kern Water Collaborative)

- Kern County - Westside South (Kern Water Collaborative)
- Kern County – Poso (Kern Water Collaborative)

5. Unprioritized Basins

Groundwater basins that are not currently prioritized may be designated as a high priority on a case-by-case basis when determined necessary by the Central Valley Water Board. In such cases, existing dischargers to those basins will receive Notices to Comply, including a time schedule for implementation of NCP requirements.

6. New or Expanding Dischargers in Unprioritized Basins

New dischargers or existing dischargers proposing to increase the level of nitrate discharged to groundwater in an unprioritized basin (see Figure N-1 below) must comply with the NCP and provide applicable data and information (i.e., an initial assessment – see below) as part of their application for new or revised regulatory coverage of their waste discharges. If a Management Zone does not exist at the time of application, the Central Valley Water Board may use its discretion to issue a time schedule to the discharger for complying with the NCP through a later-formed Management Zone. New or expanding dischargers to areas that are outside of a designated basin/sub-basin are not subject to the NCP unless the Central Valley Water Board issues a Notice to Comply requiring participation based on site- or discharge-specific conditions.

Dischargers proposing to initiate a new or expanded nitrate discharge in an unprioritized basin that does not have an existing Management Zone must submit a **Nitrate Initial Assessment** with their ROWDs. Required elements of the Nitrate Initial Assessment are listed below in Table 1. If a Management Zone exists for the basin, the discharger may alternatively submit a Notice of Intent to join the local Management Zone.

Table 1 - Nitrate Initial Assessment for New/Expanding Dischargers in Unprioritized Basins

Item #	Information
i.	Estimated impact of the discharge of nitrate on the Shallow Zone (See 1 below) over a 20-year planning horizon • May be estimated based on a simple mass balance calculation assuming 20 years of loading as nitrate reaches the water table.
ii.	Initial assessment of water quality conditions based on readily available existing data and information. • May use default information in or referenced by, the Central Valley Salt and Nitrate Management Plan (2016) or provide supplemental information that includes water quality conditions in the Shallow and Upper Zones (See 2 below);
iii.	Survey of the discharge, and determination if the discharge is causing any public water supply or domestic well to be contaminated by nitrate;
iv.	Identification/summary of current treatment and control efforts, or management practices;
v.	Identification of any overlying or adjacent Management Zone;

Item #	Information
vi.	Identification of the category of discharge, and information to support the categorization;
vii.	Information necessary to support the request for allocation of assimilative capacity, if applicable;

1. The shallowest portion within the upper zone where groundwater would be considered to constitute an aquifer (which is defined as a "body of rock or sediment that is sufficiently porous and permeable to store, transmit, and yield significant or economic quantities of groundwater to wells and springs" [DWR, 2003]). In all cases, relevant groundwater does not include perched water. For example, this may be the upper portion of the upper zone that generally encompasses the shallowest 10% of the domestic water supply wells in a given basin or sub-basin. When determining the upper portion of the upper zone based on the shallowest 10% of the domestic wells in a given area, variations in well depth across the basin or sub-basin due to hydrogeologic conditions or other factors should be considered.
2. Dischargers may rely on previous groundwater assessments conducted by the discharger, assessments conducted by others that are applicable and relevant, or previous antidegradation analysis that have been submitted to the Central Valley Water Board.

If the proposed new or expanded discharge will cause any public water supply or domestic well to exceed the nitrate water quality objective, the NOI should include an Early Action Plan. The Early Action Plan should be initiated within 60 days of submittal of the NOI provided no objection received by the Central Valley Water Board. The required elements of the Early Action Plan are listed in Table 2 below. An Early Action Plan may be part of an Alternative Compliance Project.

Table 2 – Early Action Plan New/Expanding Dischargers in Unprioritized Basins

Item #	Information
i.	A process to identify affected residents and the outreach utilized to ensure that impacted groundwater users are informed of and given the opportunity to participate in the development of proposed solutions;
ii.	A process for coordinating with others that are not dischargers to address drinking water issues, which must include consideration of coordinating with impacted communities, domestic well users and their representatives, the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water, Local Planning Departments, Local County Health Officials, Sustainable Groundwater Management Agencies and others as appropriate;
iii.	Specific actions and a schedule of implementation that is as short as practicable to address the immediate drinking water needs of those initially identified within the Management Zone, or area of contribution for a Path A discharger, that are drinking groundwater that exceeds nitrate standards and that do not otherwise have interim replacement water that meets drinking water standards;

Item #	Information
iv.	A funding mechanism for implementing the Early Action Plan, which may include seeking funding from Management Zone participants, and/or local, state and federal funds that are available for such purposes;

Central Valley Water Board staff, as part of the review of the ROWD, will review the discharger's Nitrate Initial Assessment. Based on the nature of the proposed discharge and site-specific conditions, the Notice of Applicability (NOA) issued by the Executive Officer may require the discharger to prepare and implement an **Alternative Compliance Project**. If the proposed discharge is determined to result in no or de minimis impact to existing Shallow Zone nitrate concentrations compared to previously permitted discharges in the area, the Executive Officer may issue a time schedule as part of the NOA for the discharger to comply with the NCP through a later-formed Management Zone.

FIGURE N-1: PRIORITIZED DWR BULLETIN 118 GROUNDWATER BASINS/SUB-BASINS

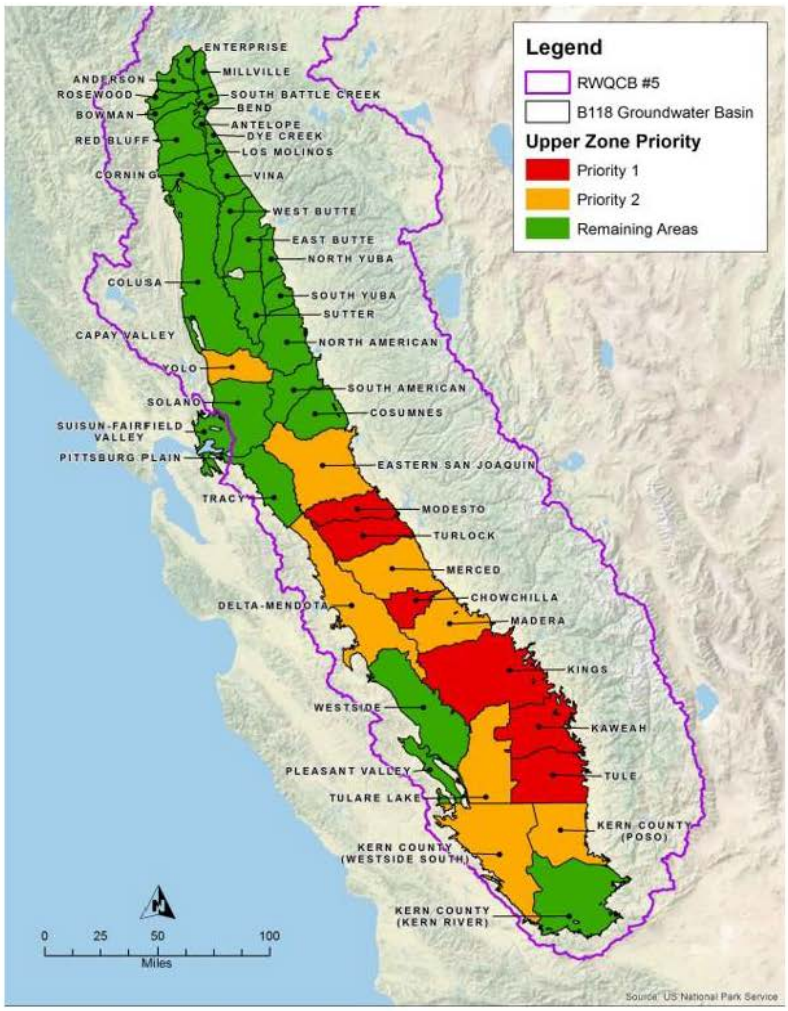

TABLE N-1: PRIORITIZED DWR BULLETIN 118 GROUNDWATER BASINS/SUB-BASINS

Priority 1	
5-22.11	Kaweah
5-22.03	Turlock
5-22.05	Chowchilla
5-22.13	Tule
5-22.02	Modesto
5-22.08	Kings

Priority 2	
5-21.67	Yolo
5-22.04	Merced
5-22.14	Kern County (Westside South)
5-22.12	Tulare Lake
5-22.14	Kern County (Poso)
5-22.07	Delta Mendota
5-22.01	Eastern San Joaquin
5-22.06	Madera

Appendix B
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Technical Report Guidance

I. Initial Pond Evaluation Report

1. An initial evaluation is required for all existing wastewater treatment, storage, emergency bypass, or evaporation ponds as part of the Notice of Intent (NOI). A revised evaluation is required, as specified in the discharger's NOA, for facilities where the initial evaluation is inconclusive or indicates that existing ponds at a Large WWTP may threaten underlying groundwater quality. Both reports shall be prepared by a California-licensed Professional Engineer or Professional Geologist. At a minimum, the Report must include the following:

   a. Site Background

      i. Description of the facility, location, and surrounding hydrogeology.

      ii. History of wastewater generation, treatment, and disposal.

      iii. Site conditions relevant to liner performance (e.g., underlying geology, groundwater depth, aquifer conditions, climate, etc.).

   b. Wastewater Pond System Description

      i. Design and operational details of the pond(s): size, depth, liner type and hydraulic conductivity, liner extent, construction history/ historical context, previous assessment, design capacity, influent characteristics.

      ii. Flow rates and seasonal variations.

      iii. Historic and current maintenance and monitoring practices.

   c. Groundwater Monitoring Program Summary (if applicable)

      iv. Monitoring well network: locations, depths, screened intervals, etc. (If Applicable).

      v. Tabulated groundwater monitoring data

   d. Site Geotechnical Evaluation

      i. Soil characteristics, including USDA NRCS SSURGO soil drainage class, permeability, and texture.

      ii. Site-specific geotechnical and hydrogeologic data, such as boring logs, percolation test results, and infiltration rates.

   e. Monitoring Data Evaluation

      i. Summary of historical and current wastewater and groundwater quality data.

      ii. Assessment of Water Quality Objective (WQO) compliance for applicable WQOs (e.g., MCLs, Basin Plan standards, etc.).

      iii. Water quality trend analysis and plume delineation, if applicable.

   f. Evaluation of Threat to Groundwater Quality

      i. Conceptual site model of how wastewater could impact groundwater (e.g., groundwater flow direction and gradient, preferential pathways, vadose zone characteristics, vertical separation between the pond bottom and the highest anticipated groundwater elevation, etc.).

ii. Evaluation for evidence that discharges are contributing to rising contaminant concentrations or exceedances of WQOs in groundwater.

iii. Evaluation of whether the wastewater pond poses a current or potential future threat to groundwater quality.

iv. Evaluation of attenuation capacity of underlying soils.

v. Sensitive receptor survey.

g. Conclusions and Recommendations

i. Recommendations for mitigation (e.g., pond lining, additional wastewater treatment, increased monitoring).

ii. Proposed monitoring or operational changes.

II. Operations and Maintenance Manual (O&M Manual) –

The discharger shall submit a written O&M Manual to the Central Valley Water Board. The O&M Manual shall be maintained at the wastewater treatment facility and must be presented to Central Valley Water Board staff upon request. The O&M Manual shall contain the following components:

A. Sludge Management Plan (SMP)

1. The discharger shall submit an SMP, which must describe how the discharger will carry out its sludge management operations in compliance with the applicable WDRs. At a minimum, the SMP shall include the following:
   a. Descriptions of quantities of sludge and scum generated.
   b. Descriptions of sludge, scum, and supernatant storage and disposal.
   c. Description of sludge handling including sludge handling equipment, operational controls, and disposal procedures.
   d. Sludge treatment and storage requirements.
   e. Procedures for monitoring sludge/solids/biosolids accumulation.
   f. Procedures for cleaning digesters and storage vessels, and treatment and storage of residuals.
   g. Procedures for drying residuals to prevent nuisance odors and vectors and protect water quality.

B. Wastewater Disposal Management Plan (WDMP)

1. The discharger shall submit a WDMP that describes how the discharger will carry out its wastewater disposal operations in compliance with the General Order. At a minimum, the WDMP shall include the following:
   a. Disposal Location - A description of the wastewater disposal area and a map denoting acreage.
   b. Loading – Loading calculations based on flow volumes, applied acreage, and biochemical oxygen demand, salts (total dissolved solids, sodium, chloride, sulfate, boron), and nitrogen analytical results.
   c. Disposal Practices - A description of wastewater disposal and water quality protection practices.

C. Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (SPERP)

1. The SPERP must describe how the discharger will carry out its operations in compliance with the applicable WDRs. The SPERP shall describe the operation and maintenance activities to prevent accidental releases of wastewater and to effectively respond to such releases and minimize the environmental impact, and at a minimum, include/address the following:
   a. Treatment System Layout - WWTP schematics with valve and gate locations.

b. Operations and Control - A description of operation and control, current treatment equipment, operational controls, and flow measurement and calibration.

c. Treatment System Maintenance - A description of treatment system cleaning and maintenance, equipment tests, and alarm functionality tests to minimize the potential for wastewater spills originating from the treatment system or headworks.

d. Emergency Response - A description of emergency response procedures for adverse situations such as power outage, severe weather, flooding, and inadequate freeboard (for systems with wastewater treatment, storage, or disposal ponds or treated non-potable recycled water storage ponds). The plan should include an equipment list and contact information for contractors, consultants, emergency responders, and equipment vendors.

e. Finance - A discussion of current fees, projected fees, current budget for spill prevention and emergency response, and projected budget for spill prevention and emergency response.

f. Notifications - A description of notification and coordination procedures with fire and police departments, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Central Valley Water Board, and local agencies.

D. Training Records Log

1. The discharger's Operation and Maintenance Manual must contain updated training records logs that demonstrate the discharger is complying with the General Order.

III. Recycled Water Feasibility Evaluation and Plan

The recycled water feasibility evaluation and plan shall assess the viability of using the facility's treated wastewater effluent for beneficial reuse, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Beneficial Reuse Options – Identification of reuse opportunities for the facility's treated effluent that would achieve the highest beneficial impact and best uses possible of non-potable recycled water. When considering potential beneficial reuse options, the evaluation shall comply with the State Water Board Recycled Water Policy[1], specifically evaluating options for providing safe alternatives to fresh water or potable water for approved uses; supporting sustainable groundwater and surface water uses with the intent of substituting use of treated effluent in place of fresh water or potable water; and diversifying community water supplies and mitigating for the impacts of climate change.
2. Viable Users – Identification and viability evaluation of all potential users of the facility's treated effluent associated with identified beneficial reuse options. The discharger must demonstrate it engaged potential water purveyors and customers about the viability of reusing the facility's treated effluent.
3. Infrastructure Upgrades – Assessment of infrastructure needs to produce non-potable recycled water for identified beneficial reuses and convey non-potable recycled water to beneficial reuse locations.
4. Fiscal Analysis – Cost estimates for identified reuse options, at a minimum, including project development, construction, and long-term maintenance and lifecycle costs. This analysis shall also include identification and evaluation of the following: 1) funding options, including, at a minimum, revenues from recycled water sales, grant and loan funding opportunities, and financing from other benefiting parties, and 2) funding limitations.
5. Schedule and Milestones for Next Steps – Timeframes to assess the feasibility of identified beneficial reuse options and to identify proposed beneficial reuse options based on prioritized water recycling and reuse opportunities, feasibility assessments, and other factors identified by the discharger.
6. Identification of the implementation schedule and adequate funding to implement the plan.

[1] Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water, State Water Board, adopted December 11, 2018, page 1. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2018/121118_7_final_amendment_oal.pdf)