

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
April 8, 2009

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: Update of Waste Discharge Requirements for California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Rainbow Conservation Camp, San Diego County (Tentative Order No R9-2009-0009) (*Fisayo Osibodu*)

PURPOSE: To adopt tentative Order No. R9-2009-0009, prescribing waste discharge requirements for the disposal of up to 12,500 gallons per day of treated domestic wastewater from the Rainbow Conservation Camp Onsite Wastewater Treatment System.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Notification of this action was posted on the Regional Board web page on March 4, 2009. This action satisfies the public notification requirements of California Water Code, Division 7 section 13167.5 for a 30 day notice.

DISCUSSION: The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (hereinafter CAL Fire) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RoWD) dated May 27, 2008 for a material change to its Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS). This change consisted of replacing the existing septic tank with an OWTS that includes a bar screen, a flow equalization tank, an anoxic zone, an aerobic zone, a clarifier, and a sludge storage tank. The design capacity of the upgraded treatment system is 12,500 gallons per day. Effluent from the OWTS is disposed to three evaporation/percolation ponds and an onsite spray disposal field. No change is being made to the three onsite disposal ponds and the spray disposal field.

Rainbow Conservation Camp is a low security work prison located in the community of Fallbrook in San Diego County. Rainbow Conservation Camp houses about 105 personnel, which includes CAL Fire staff, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation staff, and inmates. The new OWTS will treat the wastewater from the mess hall, kitchen, forestry and correction offices, the shop building

restroom, inmate barracks with toilets and showers, the laundry facility, and the recreation building. The RoWD does not propose any expansion of these facilities.

Tentative Order No. R9- 2009-0009 supersedes Order No. 95-20, and prescribes applicable requirements for the treatment of domestic sewage, and for the disposal of up to 12,500 gallons per day of treated wastewater to three onsite ponds, and the onsite spray disposal field. The tentative Order also establishes new effluent limitations and new monitoring and reporting requirements.

To date, the Regional Board has not received public comments regarding this item.

KEY ISSUES:

Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0009 will supersede the existing order, Order No. 95-20, and will prescribe requirements for the discharge of treated wastewater from the upgraded Rainbow Conservation Camp OWTS.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES:

The tentative Order prescribes new technology based effluent limitations to ensure proper operation of the upgraded treatment system, and water quality based effluent limitations derived from the water quality objectives in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region (Basin Plan). The tentative Order specifies additional effluent and groundwater monitoring. The additional groundwater and effluent monitoring is minimal and is expected to cost less than \$1000 a year. Effluent monitoring is required to verify compliance with the prescribed effluent limitations in the tentative Order, while the groundwater monitoring will provide information on the groundwater quality of the disposal areas.

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Location Map
2. Transmittal letter to California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
3. Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0009

RECOMMENDATION:

Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0009