

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**ORDER NO. R9-2020-0188**

**AN ORDER RESCINDING ORDER NO. 99-04,  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO WILD ANIMAL PARK,  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board), finds that:

1. Order No. 99-04, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego Wild Animal Park, San Diego County* (Order No. 99-04), established requirements for the discharge of domestic wastewater from an on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS), which consists of an influent pump station, mechanical screening, flow equalization tank, anoxic tank, two aeration basins, two membrane filtration systems, one ultraviolet disinfection unit, aerated sludge holding, and solids dewatering. The San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. 99-04 on March 10, 1999. Domestic wastewater from the San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS is collected from restrooms that are used by park visitors. The San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS is located at 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido, California.
2. Order No. 99-04 must be replaced to ensure that the discharge is regulated consistent with current state policy and requirements. Discharges from small package treatment plants and OWTS have certain common characteristics, such as types of constituents, concentrations of constituents, disposal techniques, and flow ranges, and also require the same or similar treatment standards. The State Water Resources Control Board issued Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order), to regulate these types of discharges consistently throughout the state. Enrollment of the San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS in the General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. 99-04.
3. The discharge from the San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS is eligible for enrollment in the General Order based on information provided in monitoring reports and a report of waste discharge submitted on October 20, 2019. As such, the discharge from the San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS is more appropriately regulated under the General Order than individual waste discharge requirements.
4. The San Diego Water Board will issue a Notice of Applicability (NOA) to the San Diego Wild Animal Park OWTS for enrollment in the General Order prior to the board meeting on November 18, 2020. The NOA's effective date of enrollment in the General Order coincides with the adoption date of this rescission Order.

5. Adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0188 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.). Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15060(c)(2) and 15061(b)(3), the action to rescind Order No. 99-04 will not have potentially significant adverse effects on the environment because the discharges that were regulated by Order No. 99-04 are now regulated under the General Order. In addition, adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0188 is exempt from CEQA pursuant to categorical exemptions listed in title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects).

The State Water Resources Control Board considered the environmental impacts associated with the adoption of the General Order, and prepared an Initial Study in accordance with title 14, section 15063. Analysis in the Initial Study and early consultation with responsible and trustee agencies did not identify any significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Negative Declaration was prepared. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Negative Declaration on September 23, 2014, through Resolution No. 2014-0054, California Environmental Quality Act, Negative Declaration, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems. The General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. 99-04.

6. The San Diego Water Board heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of Order No. R9-2020-0188 in a public meeting on, November 8, 2020.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Order No. 99-04 is rescinded.

*I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on November 18, 2020.*

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David W. Gibson, Executive Officer