



# San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 2, 2023

Tyler Carter, Vice President of Operations SeaWorld San Diego 500 SeaWorld Dr San Diego, CA 92109 Tyler.Carter@Seaworld.com Sent by Email Only In reply refer to: 767591:jchhor

Subject: Notice of Applicability (NOA), General National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Residual Firework Pollutant Waste Discharges to Waters of the United States in the San Diego

Region from the Public Display of Fireworks,

Order R9-2022-0002, NPDES Permit CAG999002 (General Order)

SeaWorld San Diego, San Diego, CA 92109 (Project)

# Dear Tyler Carter:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) has reviewed the February 28, 2023, Notice of Intent (NOI) application for coverage under the General Order submitted by SeaWorld San Diego (Discharger), with supplemental information provided on April 20, 2023. The San Diego Water Board has determined that the NOI is complete and the Discharger is eligible for coverage under the General Order.

#### **Enrollment Information**

The Discharger is hereby enrolled and authorized to discharge under the terms and conditions of the General Order and this NOA. The Discharger and Enrollment Information are summarized in Table 1 below.

**Table 1 - Discharger and Enrollment Information** 

| WDID  | 9 000002300  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Discharger                                    | SeaWorld San Diego   |  |
| Discharger Contact                            | Katherine Smith, Environmental Supervisor, (619) 225-3247  |  |
| Authorized Persons to Sign and Submit Reports | Tyler Carter, Vice President of Operations   |  |
| Event Location:                               | Latitude: 32.76777<br>Longitude: -117.21962  |  |
| Expected Event Date                           | Several Events Monthly Please see the SeaWorld San Diego Fireworks Schedule online for exact dates |  |

| Mailing Address                     | SeaWorld San Diego<br>Katherine Smith - Environmental Supervisor<br>500 SeaWorld Dr<br>San Diego, CA 92109 |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Billing Address                     | SeaWorld San Diego<br>Leslie Coyote – Finance Manager<br>P.O. Box 690429<br>Orlando, FL 32869-0429         |  |
| Type of Facility                    | Fireworks Event  |  |
| Major or Minor Facility             | Minor  |  |
| Discharge Category                  | 3 – Lowest Threat to Water Quality   |  |
| Receiving Water                     | Mission Bay  |  |
| This Enrollment is Effective as of: | May 2, 2023  |  |

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# **Discharge Specifications**

The Discharger proposes to host firework events throughout the year in Mission Bay. Each event will use approximately 172 pounds of explosives for 5-minute displays and 510 pounds of explosive for 20-minute displays. The Discharger shall implement the Fireworks Best Management Practices Plan (FBMPP), submitted with the NOI, as well as the FBMPP minimum elements described in section 5.2 of the General Order to prevent and/or reduce the discharge of pollutants associated with the public display of fireworks. This includes, to the extent practical, collecting, removing, and managing debris found in the firing range and adjacent affected surface waters. The Discharger is advised to periodically review the FBMPP to ensure compliance with the General Order. For each fireworks event, the Discharger is required to conduct visual monitoring following the end of each fireworks event, maintain a Post-Fireworks Display Log, and complete a Display of Fireworks Post-Event Report Form.

#### **Water Quality Monitoring**

Pursuant to section 8.2 of the Monitoring and Reporting Program of the Order (Attachment E), the San Diego Water Board requires the Discharger to conduct water quality and sediment quality monitoring due to having multiple fireworks shows in Mission Bay. The Discharger shall submit a water quality and sediment quality monitoring plan in accordance with section 8.2.2 of the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP, Attachment E of the Order) by May 1, 2023. The San Diego Water Board encourages Dischargers to establish or join a water body-monitoring coalition, which enable the sharing of technical resources, trained personnel, and associated costs and create an integrated water quality monitoring program within each water body.

#### **Notifications**

This NOA may be modified to require technical or monitoring reports to assess the quality of the discharge and its potential impacts on the water quality and beneficial uses of the receiving water.

Failure to comply with the General Order may subject the Discharger to enforcement actions by the San Diego Water Board, including administrative enforcement orders requiring the Discharger to cease and desist from violations or to clean up waste and abate existing or threatened conditions of pollution or nuisance; administrative civil liability in amounts of up to \$10,000 per day per violation and \$10 for each gallon discharged but not cleaned up in excess of 1,000 gallons; referral to the State Attorney General for injunctive relief; and, referral to the District Attorney for criminal prosecution.

#### **Petition for Review**

Any person aggrieved by this action of the San Diego Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 *et seq*. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 calendar days after the date of this letter. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found at

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\_notices/petitions/water\_quality or will be provided upon request.

### **Termination of Discharge**

To terminate coverage from the General Order, the Discharger is required under section 2.8 of the General Order, to submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) form (Attachment I), to the San Diego Water Board, requesting the termination date of the discharge. The Discharger shall continue to submit reports in accordance with the reporting schedule until the NOT has been approved by the San Diego Water Board.

In the subject line of any response, please include the reference "767591:jchhor". If you have any questions, please contact James Chhor at <a href="mailto:james.chhor@waterboards.ca.gov">james.chhor@waterboards.ca.gov</a> or (619) 521-5899.

Respectfully,

DAVID W. GIBSON Executive Officer

cc by email:

James Chhor, San Diego Water Board, <u>james.chhor@waterboards.ca.gov</u>
Tyler Carter, SeaWorld San Diego, <u>tyler.carter@seaworld.com</u>
Katherine Smith, SeaWorld San Diego, <u>katherine.smith@seaworld.com</u>
Edward Basmadjian, SeaWorld San Diego, <u>edward.basmadjian@seaworld.com</u>
Craig LaBelle, SeaWorld San Diego, <u>craig.labelle@buschgardens.com</u>

| Tech Staff Info & Use  |              |  |
|--|--------------|--|
| Order  | R9-2022-0002 |  |
| NPDES Permit   | CAG999002    |  |
| CW Place ID (SeaWorld - Fireworks Event Location)  | 767591       |  |
| CW Party/Organization ID (SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc. a Delaware Corporation, SeaWorld LLC) | 523232       |  |
| CW Party/Person ID (Tyler Carter)  | 631024       |  |
| CW Regulatory Measure (General Order)  | 447470       |  |
| CW Regulatory Measure (Enrollment)   | 451974       |  |
| WDID   | 9 000002300  |  |