ATTACHMENT J – ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND GLOSSARY

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ASBS	Area of Special Biological Significance
CASQA	California Stormwater Quality Association
CEDEN	California Environmental Data Exchange Network
C.F.R.	Code of Federal Regulations
DDD	Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane
DDE	Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
GIS	Geographic Information System
HCH	Hexachlorocyclohexane
LID	Low Impact Development
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OP	Organophosphate pesticide
PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
QSD	Qualified SWPPP Developer
QSP	Qualified SWPPP Practitioner
SMARTS	Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load

USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
Water Code	California Water Code

Glossary

Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) – an area designated by the State Water Board as ocean area requiring protection of species or biological communities to the extent that maintenance of natural ocean water quality is assured.

At the Point of Discharge(s) – as used in the context of discharges to ASBS, in the surf zone immediately where runoff from an outfall meets the ocean water (a.k.a., at point zero).

Beneficial Uses – uses of water of the state protected against degradation, such as domestic, municipal, agricultural and industrial supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation and preservation of fish and wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves.

California Ocean Plan – the statewide water quality control plan for California near-coastal waters adopted by the State Water Board. The California Ocean Plan serves as statewide regulations to protect the beneficial uses and water quality of ocean water, adjacent coastal water bodies, and Areas of Special Biological Significance.

Catch Basin – a sump that captures a portion of the sediment, debris and other pollutants prior to discharging stormwater and dry weather flows to the storm drain system.

Catchment – an area of land where water collects when it rains, often bounded by hills.

Construction Site – the site of any project, including projects requiring coverage under the General Construction Permit, that involves soil disturbing activities including, but not limited to, clearing, grading, paving, disturbances to ground such as stockpiling, and excavation.

Core Discharge Monitoring – ASBS monitoring of stormwater effluents from the stormwater outfalls at the priority discharge locations.

Chlordane – the sum of chlordane-alpha, chlordane-gamma, chlordane-gamma, nonachlor-alpha, nonachlor-gamma, and oxychlordane.

DDT – the sum of 4,4’DDT, 2,4’DDT, 4,4’DDE, 2,4’DDE, 4,4’DDD, and 2,4’DDD.

Dichlorobenzenes – the sum of 1,2- and 1,3-dichlorobenzene.

Discharge of a Pollutant – the addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to waters of the United States from any point source, or any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the contiguous zone or the ocean from any

point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. The term includes additions of pollutants to waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works.

Discharger – any responsible party or site owner or operator within a Permittee's jurisdiction that discharges waste.

Dry Weather – a season where prolonged dry periods occur; it usually corresponds to the period between May and September.

Effective Date of Designation – the effective date of the permit in which the entity is designated as a permittee.

Endosulfan – the sum of endosulfan-alpha and -beta and endosulfan sulfate.

Erosion – the physical detachment of soil due to wind or water.

Erosion Control Measures – measures used to minimize soil detachment.

eRule – USEPA's Electronic Reporting Rule that modernizes reporting under the Clean Water Act. The rule requires entities regulated under the Clean Water Act to report information electronically instead of filing paper reports. The rule also requires that regulatory authorities share data electronically with USEPA. (USEPA, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Electronic Reporting Rule, Final Rule).

Exceedances of Natural Ocean Water Quality – if results of post-storm receiving water quality testing at an ASBS indicates levels higher than the 85th percentile threshold of reference water quality data and the pre-storm receiving water levels, then the permittee must re-sample the receiving water, pre- and post-storm. If after re-sampling the post-storm levels are still higher than the 85th percentile threshold of reference water quality data, and the pre-storm receiving water levels, for any constituent, then natural ocean water quality is exceeded.

Full Capture System – a treatment control, or series of treatment controls, including but not limited to, a multi-benefit project or a low-impact development control that traps all particles that are 5-millimeters or greater, and has a design treatment capacity that is either:

1. Of not less than the peak flow rate, Q, resulting from a one-year, one-hour, storm in the sub-drainage area, or
2. Appropriately sized to, and designed to carry at least the same flows as, the corresponding storm drain.

[Rational equation is used to compute the peak flow rate: Q = C • I • A, where Q = design flow rate (cubic feet per second); C = runoff coefficient (dimensionless); I = design rainfall intensity (inches per hour, as determined per the rainfall isohyetal map specific to each region, and A = sub-drainage area (acres).]

To be considered a Full Capture System, the treatment control or series of treatment controls must be certified as a Full Capture System by the State Water Board Executive Director. Certified Full Capture systems are listed on the State Water Board's Trash Implementation Program website (www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/trash_implementation.html).

Full Capture System Equivalency – the trash load that would be reduced if full capture systems were installed, operated, and maintained for all storm drains that capture runoff from the relevant areas of land. The full capture system equivalency is a trash load reduction target that the treatment quantifies by using an approach, and technically acceptable and defensible assumptions and methods for applying the approach, subject to the approval of State Water Board Executive Director.

Full Depth Reclamation – a pavement rehabilitation technique in which the full thickness of the asphalt pavement, a portion of the underlying layers, and a small percentage of added cement are pulverized to provide a homogeneous pavement material.

Halomethanes – the sum of bromoform, bromomethane (methyl bromide) and chloromethane (methyl chloride).

HCH – the sum of the alpha, beta, gamma (lindane) and delta isomers of hexachlorocyclohexane.

Flood Management Facilities – facilities or structures designed for the explicit purpose of controlling flood waters safely in or around populated areas. (e.g., dams, levees, bypass areas). Facilities or structures designed for the explicit purpose of controlling flood waters safely in or around populated areas (e.g., dams, levees, bypass areas). Flood management facilities do not include traditional stormwater conveyance structures (e.g. stormwater sewerage, pump stations, catch basins, etc.)

Grading – cutting and/or filling of the land surface to a desired slope or elevation.

Hotspot – specific operations and areas in a sub watershed that may generate high storm water pollution. Hotspots are high priority sites.

Hydromodification – modification of hydrologic pathways (precipitation, surface runoff, infiltration, groundwater flow, return flow, surface-water storage, groundwater storage, evaporation and transpiration) that results in negative impacts to watershed health and functions.

Illicit Discharge – any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit.

Impaired Waterbody – a waterbody with chronic or recurring monitored violations of the applicable numeric or narrative water quality criteria. An impaired water is either listed on the California 303(d) list or has not yet been listed but otherwise meets the criteria for listing. The State Water Board Integrated Report, 303(d) List can be found https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/water_issues/tmdl/impaired_waters_list.

Impervious Surface – a surface covering or pavement of a developed parcel of land that prevents the land's natural ability to absorb and infiltrate storm water. Impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to; roof tops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots, storage areas, impervious concrete and asphalt, and any other continuous watertight pavement or covering. Landscaped soil and pervious pavement, including pavers with pervious openings and seams, underlain with pervious soil or pervious storage material, such as a gravel layer sufficient to hold the specified volume of rainfall runoff are not impervious surfaces.

Linear Underground/Overhead Projects (LUPs) – includes, but are not limited to, any conveyance, pipe, or pipeline for the transportation of any gaseous, liquid (including water and wastewater for domestic municipal services), liquiescent, or slurry substance; any cable line or wire for the transmission of electrical energy; any cable line or wire for communications (e.g., telephone, telegraph, radio, or television messages); and associated ancillary facilities. Construction activities associated with LUPs include, but are not limited to, (a) those activities necessary for the installation of underground and overhead linear facilities (e.g., conduits, substructures, pipelines, towers, poles, cables, wires, connectors, switching, regulating and transforming equipment, and associated ancillary facilities); and include, but are not limited to,(b) underground utility mark-out, potholing, concrete and asphalt cutting and removal, trenching, excavation, boring and drilling, access road and pole/tower pad and cable/wire pull station, substation construction, substructure installation, construction of tower footings and/or foundations, pole and tower installations, pipeline installations, welding, concrete and/ or pavement repair or replacement, and stockpile/borrow locations.

Low Impact Development (LID) – a sustainable practice that benefits water supply and contributes to water quality protection. Unlike traditional storm water management, which collects and conveys storm water runoff through storm drains, pipes, or other conveyances to a centralized storm water facility, LID takes a different approach by using site design and storm water management to maintain the site's pre-development runoff rates and volumes. The goal of LID is to mimic a site's predevelopment hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff close to the source of rainfall. LID has been a proven

approach in other parts of the country and is seen in California as an alternative to conventional storm water management.

Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) – the minimum required performance standard for implementation of municipal storm water management programs to reduce pollutants in storm water. Clean Water Act § 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires that municipal permits "shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants." MEP is the cumulative effect of implementing, evaluating, and making corresponding changes to a variety of technically appropriate and economically feasible BMPs, ensuring that the most appropriate controls are implemented in the most effective manner. This process of implementing, evaluating, revising, or adding new BMPs is commonly referred to as the iterative process.

Method Detection Limit (MDL) – the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in 40 C.F.R. Part 136 Appendix B.

Minimum Level (ML) – the concentrations at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure, assuming that all the method-specified sample weights, volumes and processing steps have been followed.

Multi-Benefit Project – a treatment control project designed to achieve any benefits per section 10562(d) of the Water Code. Examples include projects to infiltrate, recharge or store stormwater for beneficial reuse; develop or enhance habitat and open space through stormwater and non-stormwater management; and reduce stormwater and non-stormwater runoff volume.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) –"a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

(i) Owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created to or pursuant to state law) including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the Clean Water Act that discharges into waters of the United States.

(ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water;

(iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 C.F.R. 122.2." (40 C.F.R. 122.26(b)(8).)

In practical terms, operators of MS4s can include municipalities and local sewer districts, state and federal departments of transportation, public universities, public hospital complexes, military bases, and correctional facility complexes. The Storm Water Phase II Rule added federal systems, such as military bases and correctional facilities by including them in the definition of Small MS4s.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) – a national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under sections 307, 402, 318, and 405 of the CWA.

Natural Ocean Water Quality – the water quality (based on selected physical, chemical and biological characteristics) that is required to sustain marine ecosystems, and which is without apparent human influence, i.e., an absence of significant amounts of: (a) man-made constituents (e.g., DDT); (b) other chemical (e.g., trace metals), physical (temperature/thermal pollution, sediment burial), and biological (e.g., bacteria) constituents at concentrations that have been elevated due to man's activities above those resulting from the naturally occurring processes that affect the area in question; and (c) non-indigenous biota (e.g., invasive algal bloom species) that have been introduced either deliberately or accidentally by man. Discharges "shall not alter natural ocean water quality" as determined by a comparison to the range of constituent concentrations in reference areas agreed upon via the regional monitoring programs. If monitoring information indicates that natural ocean water quality is not maintained, but there is sufficient evidence that a discharge is not contributing to the alteration of natural ocean water quality, then the Regional Water Board may make that determination. In this case, sufficient information must include runoff sample data that has equal or lower concentrations for the range of constituents at the applicable reference area(s). Natural ocean water quality is determined from the ocean reference area monitoring.

New Development and **Redevelopment** – new development is land disturbing activities; structural development, including construction or installation of a building or structure, creation of impervious surfaces; and land subdivision on an area that has not been previously developed. Redevelopment is land-disturbing activity that results in the creation, addition, or replacement of exterior impervious surface area on a site on which some past development has occurred. New development projects involve no alteration of existing impervious surface. Redevelopment projects may either entirely involve alteration of existing impervious surface or some alteration of existing impervious surface alongside addition of new impervious surface.

Non-Traditional Small MS4 – Small MS4s owned or operated by entities other than traditional cities or counties, such as state/federal departments of transportation (DOTs), universities, prisons, hospitals, military bases, and parks.

Notice of Intent (NOI) – the application form by which dischargers seek coverage under General Permits unless the General Permit requires otherwise.

Nuisance – anything that meets all of the following requirements: (1) is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property; (2) affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal; (3) occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes.(Water Code, section 13050.)

Organophosphate Pesticides – a class of insecticides that includes chlorpyrifos, diazinon, and malathion.

Outfall – a point source as defined by 40 C.F.R. 122.2 at the point where a municipal separate storm sewer discharges to waters of the United States and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers, or pipes, tunnels or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the United States and are used to convey waters of the United States.

PAHs (polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons) – the sum of acenaphthylene, anthracene, 1,2-benzanthracene, 3,4-benzo fluoranthene, benzo[k]fluoranthene, 1,12-benzo perylene, benzo[a]pyrene, chrysene, dibenzo[ah]anthracene, fluorene, indenol[1,2,3-cd]pyrene, phenanthrene and pyrene

Parking Lot – land area or facility for the parking or storage of motor vehicles used for business, commerce, industry, or personal use.

Polychlorinated biphenyls – the sum of chlorinated biphenyls whose analytical characteristics resemble those of Aroclor-1016, Aroclor-1221, Aroclor-1232, Aroclor-1242, Aroclor-1248, Aroclor-1254 and Aroclor-1260.

Permanent Stormwater Control Measure – any engineered system designed to remove pollutants from storm water runoff by settling, filtration, biological degradation, plant uptake, media absorption/adsorption or other physical, biological, or chemical process. This includes but is not limited to landscape-based systems such as vegetated filter strips and swales, bioretention units, infiltration trenches and basins, as well as proprietary systems.

Permittee – an entity named in and subject to the requirements of this General Permit.

Pervious Pavement – pavement that stores and infiltrates rainfall at a rate that exceeds conventional pavement and that is not considered an "impervious surface" per the definition above.

Point Source – any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operations, landfill leachate collection systems, vessel, or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural storm water runoff.

Pollutant – dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter backwash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials (except those regulated under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2011 *et seq.*)), heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.

Pollution – an alteration of the quality of the waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects the beneficial uses of the water or facilities which serve those beneficial uses.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act – the part of the Water Code that governs water quality regulation in California, established to protect water quality and beneficial uses. It applies to surface water, groundwater, and wetlands, and point source and nonpoint sources of pollution.

Potable Water – water that is safe for domestic use, drinking, and cooking.

Priority Land Uses – developed sites, facilities, or uses (i.e., not simply zoned land uses) within a municipal separate stormwater sewer system permittee's jurisdiction from which discharges of Trash are regulated by the Trash Provisions as follows:

1. **High-Density Residential**: Land uses with at least ten (10) developed dwelling units/acre.
2. **Industrial**: Land uses where the primary activities on the developed parcels involve product manufacture, storage, or distribution (e.g., manufacturing businesses, warehouses, equipment storage lots, junkyards, wholesale businesses, distribution centers, or building material sales yards).
3. **Commercial:** Land uses where the primary activities on the developed parcels involve the sale or transfer of goods or services to consumers (e.g., business or professional buildings, shops, restaurants, theaters, vehicle repair shops, etc.).
4. **Mixed Urban**: Land uses where high-density residential, industrial, and/or commercial land uses predominate collectively (i.e., are intermixed).
5. **Public Transportation Stations:** Sites where public transit agencies' vehicles

load or unload passengers or goods (e.g., bus stations and stops).

Receiving Water – surface water that receives regulated and unregulated discharges from activities on land.

Redevelopment – see "**New Development** and **Redevelopment**".

Reference Area – a watershed or waterbody segment determined or approved by the Water Board to be minimally disturbed by anthropogenic stresses but otherwise is representative of conditions of the assessed site, watershed, or water body segment.

Regulated Project – refers to projects subject to the new and redevelopment standards in this Order.

Regulated Small MS4 – a Small MS4 that discharges to a water of the United States or to another MS4 regulated by an NPDES permit and has been designated as regulated by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board under criteria provided in this Order.

Retrofitting – improving pollution and/or flow control at existing developments and facilities to protect or restore beneficial uses and watershed functions.

Riparian Areas – plant communities contiguous to and affected by surface and subsurface hydrologic features of perennial or intermittent waterbodies. Riparian areas have one or both of the following characteristics: 1) distinctively different vegetative species than adjacent areas, and 2) species similar to adjacent areas but exhibiting more vigorous or robust growth forms. Riparian areas are usually transitional between wetland and upland.

Rural Area – encompasses all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area.

Sediments – solid particulate matter, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, gravity, or ice and has come to rest on the earth's surface either above or below sea level.

Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System – from 40 C.F.R. §122.26(b)(16) and (17):

(16) Small municipal separate storm sewer system means all separate storm sewers that are:

(i) Owned or operated by the United States, a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and

approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States.

(ii) Not defined as "large" or "medium" municipal separate storm sewer systems pursuant to paragraphs (b)(4) and (b)(7) of section 40 C.F.R 122.26(b), or designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of 122.26(b).

(iii) This term includes systems similar to separate storm sewer systems in municipalities, such as systems at military bases, large hospital or prison complexes, and highways and other thoroughfares. The term does not include separate storm sewers in very discrete areas, such as individual buildings.

(17) Small MS4 means a small municipal separate storm sewer system.

Smart Growth Projects – projects that produce multiple-benefits such as economic, social and environmental benefits. Smart growth projects commonly include high density development projects that result in a reduction of runoff volume per capita as a result of reduced impervious surface.

Source Control – land use or site planning practices, or structural or nonstructural measures, that aim to prevent runoff pollution by reducing the potential for contact with rainfall runoff at the source of pollution. Source control BMPs minimize the contact between pollutants and urban runoff.

Surface Drainage – any above-ground runoff (sheet, shallow concentrated, and open channel) that flows into the storm drain system.

Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) – a federal system for classifying establishments by the type of activity in which they are engaged, using a four-digit code.

Storm Drain System – basic infrastructure in a municipal separate storm sewer system that collects and conveys storm water runoff to a treatment facility or receiving water body.

Storm Season –the months of the year from the onset of rainfall during autumn until cessation of rainfall in the spring. Also referred to as rainy season.

Storm Sewer System Asset Management – the practice of managing stormwater infrastructure capital assets to minimize the total cost of owning, managing and operating the systems.

Stormwater – water from rain or snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces and does not percolate into the ground.

Structural Controls – any structural facility designed and constructed to mitigate the adverse impacts of storm water and urban runoff pollution.

Subwatershed – an area approximately 10,000 to 40,000 acres in area identified by Hydrologic Unit Code 12 in the federal Watershed Boundary Dataset.

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) – the State Water Board's program to monitor surface water quality; coordinate consistent scientific methods; and design strategies for improving water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting.

Surf Zone – the submerged area between the breaking waves and the shoreline at any one time.

Time of Concentration – the time it takes the most hydraulically-remote drop of water to travel through the watershed to a specific point of interest.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) – the maximum amount of a pollutant that can be discharged into a waterbody from all sources (point and nonpoint) and still maintain water quality standards. Under CWA section 303(d), TMDLs must be developed for all waterbodies that do not meet water quality standards even after application of technology-based controls, more stringent effluent limitations required by a state or local authority, and other pollution control requirements such as BMPs.

Targeted Audience – group of people the Permittee has targeted to receive educational message.

Trash and Debris – trash consists of litter and particles of litter. California Government Code Section 68055.1 (g) defines litter as all improperly discarded waste material, including, but not limited to, convenience food, beverage, and other product packages or containers constructed of steel, aluminum, glass, paper, plastic and other natural and synthetic materials, thrown or deposited on the lands and waters of the state, but not including the properly discarded waste of the primary processing of agriculture, mining, logging, sawmilling, or manufacturing.

Trash Provisions – Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) to Control Trash and Amendment to Part 1 Trash Provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California. The Trash Provisions establish a narrative water quality objective for trash and provide implementation requirements for permitted dischargers.

Treatment – any method, technique, or process designed to remove pollutants and/or solids from polluted storm water runoff, wastewater, or effluent.

Urban Areas –Densely developed areas identified by the US Census and used to identify MS4s to be regulated by NPDES permits.

The Census Bureau's urban areas represent densely developed territory, and encompass residential, commercial, and other non-residential urban land uses. The Census Bureau delineates urban areas after each decennial census by applying specified criteria to decennial census and other data.

For the 2020 Census, an urban area comprises a densely settled core of census blocks that meet minimum housing unit density and/or population density requirements. This includes adjacent territory containing non-residential urban land uses. To qualify as an urban area, the territory identified according to criteria must encompass at least 2,000 housing units or have a population of at least 5,000.

The universe of regulated Small MS4s automatically expands every 10 years based on where population growth has concentrated in certain areas of the country as identified by each decennial census.

In a June 2023 final rule, USEPA clarified that new Small MS4 designations will be based on whether the previously unregulated MS4s are located in urban areas with a population of 50,000 or more people. The clarification was necessary because the designation criteria in the Phase II regulations had previously been based on the location of "urbanized areas" (defined as urban areas with a population of 50,000 or more people), and the Census Bureau announced in March 2022 that it would no longer provide mapping information on such urbanized areas. The final rule ensures that the automatic designation criteria for MS4s remains the same as it has since the start of the Phase II program.

Waste – includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal.

Waste Load Allocation – the portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution. Waste load allocations constitute a type of water quality-based effluent limitation.

Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance – the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7 of the California Code of Regulations) took effect January 1 2010 and is designed to: (1) promote the values and benefits of landscapes while recognizing the need to invest water and other resources as efficiently as possible; (2) establish a structure for planning, designing, installing, maintaining and managing water efficient landscapes in new construction and rehabilitated projects; (3) establish provisions for water management practices and water waste prevention for existing landscapes; (4) use water efficiently without waste by setting a Maximum Applied Water Allowance as an upper limit for water use and reduce water use to the lowest practical amount; (5) promote the benefits of consistent landscape ordinances with neighboring local and regional agencies; (6) encourage local agencies and water purveyors to use economic incentives that promote the efficient use of water, such as implementing a tiered-rate structure; and (7) encourage local agencies to designate the necessary authority that implements

and enforces the provisions of the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance or its local landscape ordinance.

Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) – a Regional Water Board's master water quality control planning document that serves as the principal set of regulations for protection of water quality in a specific region. It designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the State within each Region, including surface waters and groundwater. It also includes programs of implementation to achieve water quality objectives and discharge prohibitions. Basin Plans are adopted and approved by the State Water Board, USEPA, and the Office of Administrative Law where required.

Water Quality Objectives – the limits or levels of water quality elements or biological characteristics established to reasonably protect the beneficial uses of water or to prevent pollution problems within a specific area. Water quality objectives may be numeric or narrative.

Water Quality Standards – State-adopted and USEPA-approved water quality standards for waterbodies. Water quality standards include three components:

- The designated use of the waterbody (e.g., recreation, public drinking water supply, protection of and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife);
- Water quality criteria that must be met to protect designated uses (i.e., identifying pollutant levels or conditions that support the designated uses); and
- Federal and state anti-degradation policy. Antidegradation requirements provide a framework for maintaining and protecting water quality that has already been achieved.

Watershed Management Zone – post-construction management zones based on common key watershed processes and receiving water type (creek, marine nearshore waters, lake, etc.).

Watershed Processes – functions that are provided by watersheds, including but not limited to, groundwater recharge, sediment supply and delivery, streamflow, and aquatic habitat.