

From: Pulupa, Patrick@Waterboards <Patrick.Pulupa@waterboards.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 9:57 AM
To: dcozad (dcozad@cvsalinity.org)
Cc: Walters, Anne@Waterboards; Laputz, Adam@Waterboards; Plachta, Walter J. @Waterboards
Subject: Stormwater and Wetlands NTCs Under the Salt Control Program

Hi Daniel,

The Board's CV-SALTS implementation team has been meeting internally with the Board's water quality programs to generate a list of permittees that will be receiving Notices to Comply under the Board's new Salt Control Program. In analyzing existing requirements, the Board will likely be following the below courses of action for stormwater and wetlands, and we wanted to make sure that the Coalition was kept informed of these tentative decisions.

Stormwater

After looking at how permittees under the State Water Board's Construction Stormwater, Industrial Stormwater, and Municipal Stormwater programs are regulated, we have concluded that the Board will not be issuing notices to these permittees. The rationale for this decision is as follows:

- * Construction Stormwater: No construction stormwater site that the Board is aware of discharges significant amounts of salts, and no construction stormwater site that the Board is aware of would have discharges in excess of the 700 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ EC threshold that would require participation in the Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach.

- * Industrial Stormwater: The Industrial Stormwater Permit currently in effect statewide has removed EC as a parameter ("[t]his General Permit removes the requirement to analyze for specific conductance as part of the minimum analytic parameters. Specific conductance is not required by U.S. EPA for any industry type"). All salt piles that may be mobilized in storm water discharges must be protected by BMPs to ensure that salts are not discharged in stormwater from industrial sites.

- * Municipal Stormwater: After reviewing monitoring reports, we are not aware of permittees under the Municipal Stormwater Program that would discharge in excess of the 700 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ EC threshold.

However, the Board reserves the discretion to add monitoring and reporting requirements to any of the above permittees to ensure that the relationship between salinity and stormwater is adequately assessed in the CV-SALTS Program Assessment Report, P&O Study and/or the Stormwater Recharge Master Plan Study. The Board may also require permittees to participate in the P&O Study should additional monitoring reveal categories or individual sites that exceed the 700 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ EC threshold. Such discussions regarding the status of these sites should continue between the Board and the Salinity Coalition.

Wetlands

In August of 2016, the Central Valley Water Board adopted a resolution directing Board staff to review whether managed wetlands should be included in the Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). After a review of water quality issues related to managed wetlands, it is becoming apparent that wetlands may not be a good fit to be regulated under the ILRP.

However, one of the few constituents of concern for certain managed wetlands is salt. This means that the Board has an interest in requiring certain managed wetlands to contribute to the P&O Study, even if they are removed from the ILRP. One proposal under consideration is to regulate many managed wetlands solely under a monitoring and reporting program. That monitoring program may require the payment of per-acre fees to the P&O Study similar to ILRP P&O assessments. These conversations are ongoing, and additional input would be appreciated.

With respect to tidal wetlands restoration projects, stakeholders have expressed concerns that the P&O study should adequately capture salinity impacts due to major restoration efforts currently planned for the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. While the Delta RMP will be studying these issues, it is the Board's expectation that the P&O Study will also take these restoration efforts into account as the P&O Study develops a comprehensive understanding of salinity impacts and tradeoffs in the Central Valley.

Again, thanks for all your help on this, and have a great new year.

Yours,
Patrick

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Phone: (916) 464-4818
Email: Patrick.Pulupa@waterboards.ca.gov<mailto:Patrick.Pulupa@waterboards.ca.gov>