

# Staff Update on NPDES Permit Revisions



January 20, 2022

Board of Public Utilities Meeting

# Timeline

- February 2020 – Regional Water Board (RWB) released City’s Draft NPDES Permit
- April 2020 – City provided 36 separate comments to RWB
- August 2020 – RWB modified permit to accept 18 of the City’s comments and adopted the permit




North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
 ORDER NO. R1-2020-0012  
 NPDES NO. CA0022764  
 WDID NO. 1B830990SON  
 WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
 FOR THE  
 CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
 SANTA ROSA REGIONAL WATER REUSE SYSTEM, LAGUNA TREATMENT PLANT  
 SONOMA COUNTY

The following Permittee is subject to waste discharge requirements (WDRs) set forth in this Order:

**Table 1. Permittee Information**

Permittee	City of Santa Rosa
Name of Facility	Santa Rosa Regional Water Reuse System, Laguna Treatment Plant
Facility Address	4300 Llano Road Santa Rosa, CA 95407 Sonoma County
Type of Facility	Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
Facility Design Flow	21.34 million gallons per day (mgd) (average dry weather design flow) 64 mgd (peak weekly wet weather design flow) 47.3 mgd (peak monthly wet weather design flow)

**Table 2. Discharge Locations**

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude (North)	Discharge Point Longitude (West)	Receiving Water
006A (Meadow Lane Pond D)	Disinfected Tertiary Treated Municipal Wastewater	38° 22' 00"	122° 46' 24"	Laguna de Santa Rosa

VALERIE L. QUINTO, CHAIR | MATTHIAS ST. JOHN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
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# Timeline

- September 2020 – The City filed a Petition for Review of the permit challenging specific provisions in the permit
    - Dissolved oxygen receiving water limit
    - No net load for phosphorus
    - Provisions in the Water Quality Trading Framework (WQTF)
  - February 2021 – City Council authorized staff to take Petition out of abeyance due to lack of progress in negotiations
  - March 2021 – RWB and City restarted negotiations
  - May 2021 – City put Petition back into abeyance
  - September 2021 – RWB adopted modified permit for the City and the Town of Windsor
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# Changes to WQTF in NPDES Permit

- Specifies that the version in the permit is the operative version of the WQTF, not the version adopted by the Regional Board in 2018
- Reduced trading ratios for multi-benefit projects clarified and created new class of projects Permanently Protected Environmental Enhancement Projects (PPEEPs)
- Maximum allowable credit banking went from project life to in perpetuity for PPEEPs
- Clarification of in-time to be consistent with credits lasting in-perpetuity



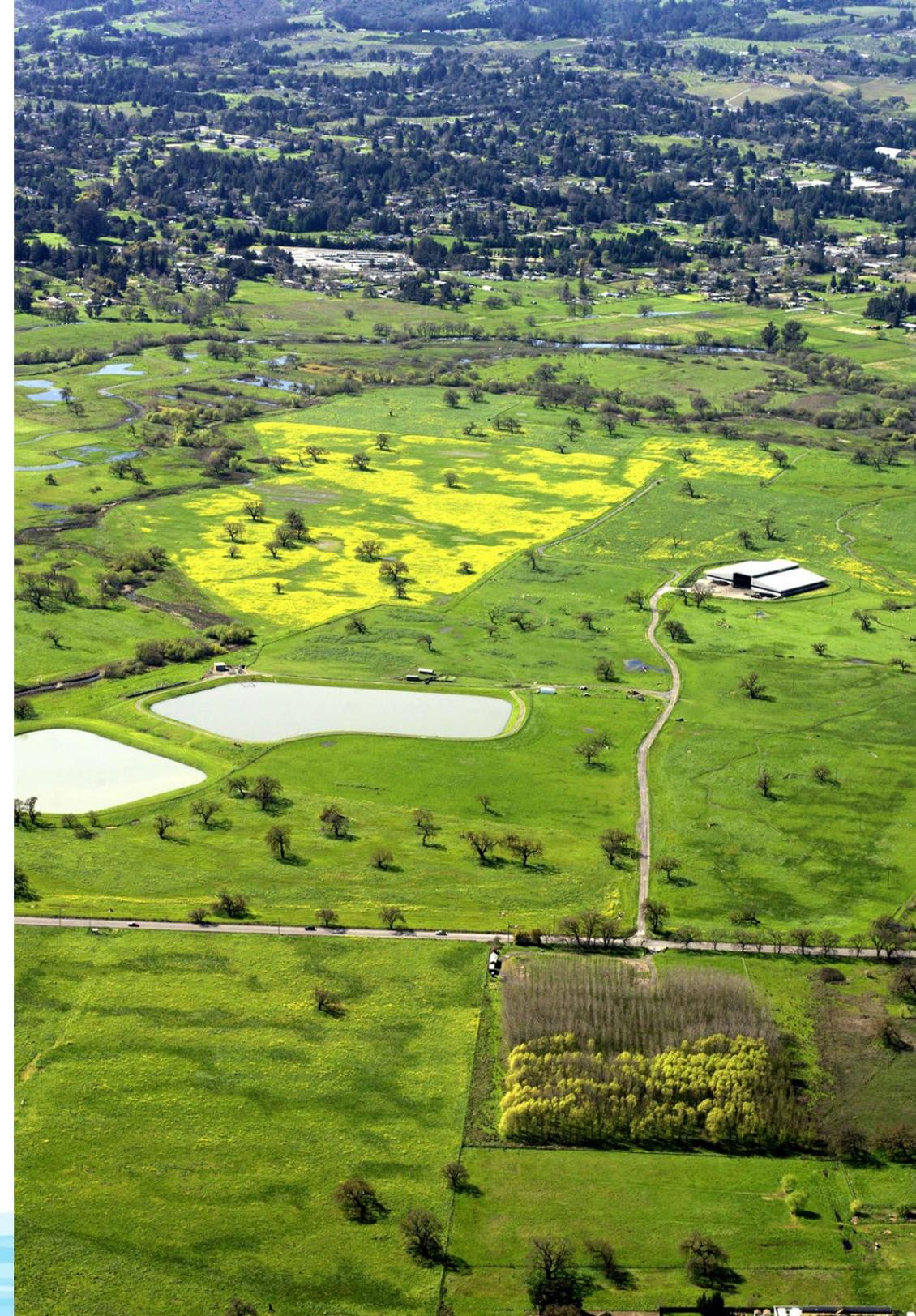
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# Next Steps

- City is participating in multi-agency planning effort to conduct large-scale restoration project on the Laguna de Santa Rosa
- Project is based on a four-year planning effort to restore the Laguna
- Projects would increase water quality, remove invasive species, provide greater flood protection, and give the City compliance certainty



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Questions?



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