

Committee Request for Board Action: None

Regular meeting: 31 attendees via Zoom representing 16 member agencies and the Regional Water Board.

Tentative Orders

The Regional Water Board has issued a tentative order NPDES permit for the [City of San Leandro](#)'s planned treatment wetland and shallow water outfall. Ian Wren discussed design of the planned nitrification process, the treatment wetland, and requirements in the tentative order. The proposed effluent limits are based on anticipated water quality. Additional information from the City of San Leandro is available [here](#). Regional Water Board staff noted that some aspects of the tentative order could be used as a guidance for permitting other wetland or nature-based treatment projects, such as the use of “internal” points of compliance for effluent limitations. The [Mt. View Sanitary District](#) tentative order was on the Regional Water Board's 12/15 consent calendar. It includes lower ammonia limits than the previous permit, but the District anticipates being able to comply. The [Napa Sanitation District](#) tentative order is scheduled for Regional Water Board consideration on 2/9/22.

Chlorine Blanket Permit Amendment

In October, the Regional Water Board adopted a [blanket permit amendment](#) modifying chlorine effluent limits and removing oil & grease monitoring requirements for BACWA members. The changes come into effect on the first day of the month after EPA approval. Members should make sure chlorine data have the right number of significant digits before uploading to CIWQS. Regional Water Board staff establish compliance based on the same number of digits as the limit. Regional Water Board staff announced that expected effective date is **March 1, 2022**.

Nutrients Update

A. Science program update – Materials from the 12/10 Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS) steering committee meeting are [here](#). Items of interest included chlorophyll-a and nitrate monitoring data from cruises of the South Bay shoals, and a Monitoring Advisory Group will be convening soon. The NMS science team has committed to producing some more outward-facing materials.

B. Group Annual Report - Flows and loads are expected to be lower than in previous years. HDR will present results at the 1/4/2022 BACWA Executive Board meeting.

C. 3rd watershed permit – In October, Regional Water Board staff tentatively indicated a willingness to include an enforceable load cap for all Bay dischargers as a group (a “one-Bay” approach, rather than multiple subembayments). Individual load caps for dischargers would still be included as a “trigger” for action. HDR is working on statistical analysis of historical loads through Sep. 2021 to identify representative baseline conditions.

NPDES Permit Amendment for Monitoring Requirements

The effective date for the [MRP Permit Amendment](#) is January 1, 2022. This Order reduces effluent mercury monitoring for most Bay dischargers, as well as influent mercury monitoring, influent VOC and BNA monitoring, and biosolids VOC and BNA monitoring for some dischargers with pretreatment programs. RMP invoices with supplemental fees linked to the new Order will be going out soon.

Other Announcements

- Development of the sampling and analysis plan for Phase 2 of the PFAS Regional Study is underway. The targeted window for sampling is March – May 2022.
- In January, the State Water Board intends to release a public review draft order for sanitary sewer systems (SSS-WDR) for a 60-day comment period.
- Regional Water Board staff have shared revised draft text for implementation of the statewide toxicity provisions in Region 2. BACWA requests comments from members by January 14, 2022. The language will likely start going into permits in Region 2 in mid-2022.
- Regional Water Board staff are planning to prepare an Executive Officer's Report item summarizing results of the climate change questionnaire.

Next BACWA Permits Committee Meeting: February 8, 2021, 12:30 PM via Zoom