Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Contra Costa County Marina to Pay \$26,963 For Waste Discharge Requirement Violations

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SACRAMENTO – The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board recently adopted an Administrative Civil Liability Order of \$26,963 for Holland Riverside Marina in Contra Costa County for failing to submit monitoring reports required by its Waste Discharge Requirements permit.

Holland Riverside Marina's waste discharge requirements and monitoring and reporting program require it to submit reports documenting the amount of wastewater pumped in and out of the its ponds, general wastewater monitoring information and groundwater quality data. These required reports help staff evaluate any impacts to the waters of the state from the discharge of wastewater, and are due on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis.

"This decision by our Board affirms the importance of compliance with waste discharge monitoring requirements," said Andrew Altevogt, assistant executive officer for the Regional Water Board. "The Board further acknowledged the importance of preventing dischargers from gaining an economic advantage through lack of compliance."

Holland Riverside Marina has a long history of failing to submit monitoring reports. Between June 2012 and January 2015 the marina was issued six Notices of Violation (NOVs) for failure to submit monitoring reports and other violations of its waste discharge requirements. Regional Water Board staff made multiple attempts, both in person and through phone calls and emails, to gain compliance. However, the marina failed to submit reports required by the monitoring and reporting program. Only after the original complaint was issued did the marina begin to submit its monitoring reports.

The marina did not contest the alleged violations of failing to submit the required monitoring reports, but said it could not pay any fine, regardless of the amount. However, expert testimony by the State Water Resources Control Board's economist found that the marina could pay the proposed fine based off the financial data the business provided.



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The Regional Board unanimously adopted the Order for \$26,963. This amount is the estimated economic benefit the marina gained by not supplying the reports, plus 10 percent for not complying with its waste discharge requirements.

It is imperative that the Regional Water Board have the required information from each discharger to assure the state's water quality is not impacted. The Board's action sends a clear message to the regulated community that compliance with waste discharge requirements is expected. To be consistent with the State Water Code and Enforcement Policy, the imposed penalty assured the marina received no competitive advantage over similar facilities under similar requirements due to lack of monitoring and reporting.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. For more information, visit its <u>webpage</u>.

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