

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
March 11, 2009

- ITEM: 7
- SUBJECT: New Waste Discharge Requirements: Master Reclamation Permit with WDRs for the SRTTP U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton (Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0021). (Robert Pierce)
- PURPOSE: The Regional Board will consider adoption of a Master Reclamation Permit for the discharge of tertiary treated water from Camp Pendleton's Southern Region Tertiary Treatment Plant (SRTTP) for landscape irrigation.
- PUBLIC NOTICE: A public notice of the tentative Order was published in the San Diego Union-Tribune on July 26, 2008. The tentative Order was posted on the Regional Board web site on August 11, 2008. The USMC and selected federal, state and local agencies were notified of the tentative Order and opportunity to comment in letters or emails sent August 13, 2008. The public hearing for the tentative Order was postponed from the September 10, 2008, November 12, 2008 and February 11, 2009 Board Meeting at the USMC request.
- DISCUSSION: The USMC maintained its request to discharge to the Santa Margarita River watershed, where water quality objectives, particularly total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate (or total nitrogen), are significantly more stringent than for the San Luis Rey River watershed. The USMC requested temporary increases in the discharge specifications for TDS from 1,200 mg/L to 1,300 mg/L and total nitrogen from 3.3 mg/L to 5.0 mg/L. Regarding TDS, the requested change was made for the daily maximum specification while maintaining 1,200 mg/L as a 12-month average specification. The 12-month average is established within the treatment capabilities of the SRTTP and protects the long-term beneficial uses of water resources; while the daily maximum allows for fluctuations due to natural concentration fluctuations in source water TDS. The discharge specifications for TDS (1,200 mg/L) will temporarily exceed

the water quality objective for the Santa Margarita River watershed; however, the applied water is not expected to percolate to groundwater. After five years (in March 2014) the discharge specification for TDS in treated wastewater discharges into the Santa Margarita River watershed will default to 800 mg/L. That concentration limit can be met pending the addition of the planned treatment (reverse osmosis) system. Regarding nitrogen, the requested change was made for the San Luis Rey River watershed, while phasing nitrogen specifications for Santa Margarita River watershed. After five years the discharge specification for total nitrogen in the Santa Margarita River watershed will default to 4.1 mg/L. That concentration limit can be met pending enhanced treatment or implementation of a required nutrient management plan beginning in 2014.

KEY ISSUES: None.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- No. 1- Location Map
- No. 2- Tentative Order No. R9-2008-0089 with errata.
- No. 3- Draft Technical Report for Order No. R9-2008-0089
- No. 4a- Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment
- No. 4b- Notice of Intent to Rely on Final Environmental Impact Statement to comply with the CEQA
- No. 4c- Affidavit of Publication for Notices
- No. 4d- Distribution List for Notice of Intent
- No. 5- CEQA Checklist
- No. 6a- USMC comments on draft Tentative Order
- No. 6b- Response to comments table
- No. 7- USMC Tracer Test Report
- No. 8- California Department of Public Health comments
- No. 9a- USMC WDR waiver request
- No. 9b- Conditional Waiver No. 7 enrollment
- No. 10a- USMC Comments on TDS discharge specification
- No. 10b- Response: Chart comparing TDS data
- No. 11a- USMC Comments on nitrogen discharge
- No. 11b- Response: Emails regarding nitrogen discharge
- No. 11c- Response: Chart comparing nitrogen data
- No. 12- USMC comments and request for postponement

RECOMMENDATION(S): The Regional Board staff recommends adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0021 with errata.