

## ATTACHMENT VIII - GLOSSARY

**Acute Toxicity.** A chemical stimulus severe enough to rapidly induce an effect; in aquatic toxicity tests, an effect observed within 96 hours or less is considered acute. When expressed as toxic units acute (TUa),  $TUa=100/96\text{-hour LC } 50\%$ . Acute toxicity can also be expressed as lethal concentration 50% (LC 50).

**Administrative Noncompliance.** Failure to comply with the procedural requirements of this Order. Examples include but are not limited to: failure to submit required reports or documents required by the Permit and/or SWMP, missed deadlines or late submittal, and/or failure to submit required information, failure to develop and/or maintain site-specific FPPP or to implement any other procedural requirement of the Permit.

**Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS).** Ocean or estuarine areas designated by the State Water Board that require special protection of species or biological communities to the extent where alteration of natural water quality is undesirable. The California Ocean Plan describes ASBSs as "those areas containing biological communities of such extraordinary value that no risk of change in their environment as the result of man's activities can be entertained". ASBSs are a subset of State Water Quality Protection Areas.

**Basin Plans.** Basin Plans (regional water quality control plans) are the principal regulatory mechanisms for protection of water quality in California. Basin plans describe: the beneficial uses that each water body supports, e.g. drinking, swimming, fishing, and agricultural irrigation; the water quality objectives necessary to protect those uses; and the program implementation needed to achieve the objectives, such as waste discharge permits and enforcement actions.

**Batch Plant.** A processing plant where concrete or asphalt is mixed before transport to a construction site. Batch plants are considered to be industrial activities as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) (iii) and are regulated under the Industrial General Permit.

**Beneficial Uses.** The uses of the water protected against degradation including, but not limited to, domestic, municipal, agricultural and industrial supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves.

**Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BAT).** Technology-based compliance standard established by the Clean Water Act. BAT is based on consideration of the age of the equipment and facilities involved, the processes employed, the engineering aspects of the application of various types of control techniques, process changes, non-water quality environmental impact (including energy requirements) and other factors as deemed appropriate. BAT effluent limitations guidelines, in general, represent the best existing performance of

treatment technologies that are economically achievable within an industrial point source category or subcategory.

**Best Conventional Pollutant Control Technology (BCT).** Technology-based compliance standard for the discharge from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including BOD, TSS, fecal coliform, pH, oil and grease. BCT is established by a two-part “cost reasonableness” test, which compares the cost for an industry to reduce its pollutant discharge with the cost to a POTW for similar levels of reduction of a pollutant loading. The second test examines the cost-effectiveness of additional industrial treatment beyond BCT. Limits must be reasonable under both tests.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs).**

Schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of “waters of the United States.” BMPs include structural and nonstructural controls, treatment requirements, operation and maintenance procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

**Non-Approved BMP.** Any BMP for maintenance, construction, design pollution prevention, and treatment that are not in the Department’s SWMP (CTSW-RT-02-008) or Statewide Storm Water Quality Practice Guidelines (CTSW-RT-02-009) approved for statewide use.

**Post-Construction BMPs.** Any structural or non-structural controls that detain, retain, or filter storm water to prevent the release of pollutants to receiving waters after final site stabilization is attained.

**Structural BMPs.** Any structural facility designed and constructed to mitigate the adverse impacts of storm water runoff (e.g. canopy, structural enclosure). The category may include both Treatment Control BMPs and Source Control BMPs.

**Source Control BMPs.** Any schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, managerial practices or operational practices that aim to prevent storm water pollution by reducing the potential for contamination at the source. Examples include treatment techniques that use natural measures to reduce pollution levels, do not require extensive construction efforts, and/or promote pollutant reduction by controlling the pollutant source.

**Treatment Control BMPs.** Any engineered system designed to remove pollutants by simple gravity settling of particulate pollutants, filtration, biological uptake, media absorption or any other physical, biological, or chemical process.

**California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan).** The water quality control plan for California near-coastal waters, first adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board in 1972. The purpose of the Ocean Plan is to protect the beneficial uses of the State’s ocean waters by identifying water quality objectives, setting general waste discharge requirements, and listing discharge prohibitions. In addition, the Ocean Plan is used

to develop and update statewide water quality control plans, policies, and standards involving marine waters.

**California Toxics Rule.** The Federal regulation, found at 40 CFR § 131.38. Sets water quality criteria (limits) for heavy metals and other toxic compounds for the protection of beneficial uses of surface waters in California.

**Chronic Toxicity.** The ability of a substance or a mixture of substances to cause harmful effects over an extended period of time. Expressed as toxic units chronic (TU<sub>c</sub>), TU<sub>c</sub>=100/NOEL, where NOEL is the No Observed Effect Level.

**Construction Activity.** Any construction or demolition activity, clearing, grading, grubbing, or excavation or any other activity that results in a land disturbance. Construction does not include emergency construction activities required to immediately protect public health and safety or routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility.

**Department Airspaces.** Any area within the Department's operating right-of-way that can safely accommodate a privately managed use such as: parking lots, self storage units, commercial businesses, light industry, and cellular telephone towers. The Department executes airspace leases with third parties for these uses.

**Discharge.** When used without qualification means the discharge of a pollutant.

**Discharge of a Pollutant -** means the addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to waters of the United States from any point source, or any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the contiguous zone or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. The term includes additions of pollutants to waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works.

**District Workplans (DWPs).** Annual workplans prepared by each District containing descriptions of all activities and projects to be undertaken in the District that are necessary to implement the SWMP and comply with the requirements of this Order. DWPs are submitted annually with the Annual Report. Formerly known as the Regional Work Plans.

**Disturbed Land.** An area in which the natural vegetative soil cover has been removed or altered and, therefore, is susceptible to erosion. This may also be referred to as disturbed soil area. Examples include but are not limited to: clearing, grading, grubbing, stockpiling, shoulder backing, areas of temporary or permanent unvegetated soil storage or disposal, and /or excavation, etc.

**Effluent.** Any discharge from the MS4.

**Emergency.** Any sudden, unexpected occurrence, involving a clear and imminent danger, demanding immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss of, or damage to, life, health, property, or essential public services. "Emergency" includes such occurrences as fire, flood, earthquake, or other soil or geologic movements, as well as such occurrences as riot, accident, or sabotage.

**United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).** USEPA works to develop and enforce regulations that implement environmental laws enacted by the United States Congress. USEPA is responsible for researching and setting national standards for the Storm Water Program.

**Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs).** Any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities or development. Areas include but are not limited to all Clean Water Act Section 303(d) impaired water bodies; areas designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance by the State Water Resources Control Board; water bodies designated with the RARE beneficial use in a Regional Water Board Basin Plan; and any other environmentally sensitive areas which have been identified by the Department.

**Erosion.** The diminishing or wearing away of land due to wind, or water. Often the eroded material (silt or sediment) becomes a pollutant via stormwater runoff. Erosion occurs naturally, but can be intensified by land disturbing and grading activities such as farming, development, road building, and timber harvesting.

**Department Facility.** A Maintenance Facility, Non-maintenance Facility, Highway Facility, Industrial Facility, or Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facility/Corporation Yard.

***Maintenance Facility.*** A facility under Department ownership or control that contains fueling areas, maintenance stations/yards, waste storage or disposal facilities, wash racks, equipment or vehicle storage and materials storage areas.

***Non-maintenance Facility.*** Laboratories, waste or disposal facilities, Oakland Railyard or office buildings used exclusively for administrative functions.

***Highway Facility.*** Highway structures such as road surfaces, support structures (bridges), or adjacent right-of way including park and rides, rest-stops, weigh stations, and toll-stations.

***Industrial Facility.*** A collection of industrial processes discharging storm water associated with industrial activity within the property boundary or operational unit.

**Facility Pollution Prevention Plan (FPPP).** A plan that identifies the functional activities specific to the maintenance facility and the applicable BMPs and other procedures utilized by facility personnel to control the discharge of pollutants.

**Hydrograph Modification (Hydromodification).** The alteration of the hydrologic characteristics of surface waters through watershed development. Under past practices, new and re-development construction activities resulted in urbanization, which in turn modified natural watershed and stream processes. Urbanization does this by altering the terrain, modifying the vegetation and soil characteristics, introducing impervious surfaces such as pavement and buildings, and altering the condition of stream channels through straightening, deepening, and armoring. These changes affect hydrologic characteristics in the watershed and affect the supply and transport of sediment in the stream system.

**Hydromodification Plan.** A plan to control and reduce the impacts of hydrograph modification from development activities in a watershed. The impacts of hydromodification include, but are not limited to, increased bed and bank erosion, loss of habitat, increased sediment transport and deposition, and increased flooding.

**Illegal Connection/Illicit Discharge (IC/ID).**

***Illegal Connection.*** An engineered conveyance that is connected to an MS4 without authorization by local, state, or federal statutes, ordinances, codes, or regulations.

***Illicit Discharge.*** Any discharge to an MS4 that is prohibited under local, state, or federal statutes, ordinances, codes, or regulations. It includes all non-storm water discharges except conditionally exempt non-storm water discharges.

**Illegal Dumping.** Discarding or disposal either intentionally or unintentionally, of trash and other wastes in non-designated areas that may contribute to storm water pollution.

**Impervious Cover.** Any surface in the landscape that cannot effectively absorb or infiltrate rainfall; for example, sidewalks, rooftops, roads, and parking lots.

**Land Use.** How land is managed or used by humans (e.g., residential and industrial development, roads, mining, timber harvesting, agriculture, grazing, etc.). Land use is generally regulated at the local level in the U.S. based on zoning and other regulations. Land use mapping differs from land cover mapping in that it is not always obvious what the land use is from visual inspection.

**Load Allocation.** The portion of a receiving water's loading capacity that is attributed either to one of its existing or future nonpoint sources of pollution or to natural background sources. Load allocations are best estimates of the loading, which can range from reasonably accurate estimates to gross allotments, depending on the availability of data and appropriate techniques for predicting the loading (40 CFR 130.2(g)).

**Low Impact Development (LID).** An approach to land development with the goal of mimicking or replicating the pre-development hydrologic regime through the use of design techniques to create a functionally equivalent hydrologic site design. Hydrologic functions of storage, infiltration and ground water recharge, as well as the volume and frequency of discharges are maintained through the use of integrated

and distributed micro-scale storm water retention and detention areas, reduction of impervious surfaces, and the lengthening of runoff flow paths and flow time. Other strategies include the preservation/protection of environmentally sensitive site features such as riparian buffers, wetlands, steep slopes, mature trees, flood plains, woodlands, and highly permeable soils.

**Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP).** The minimum required performance standard for implementation of municipal storm water management programs to reduce pollutants in storm water. Clean Water Act § 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires that municipal permits "shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants." MEP is the cumulative effect of implementing, evaluating, and making corresponding changes to a variety of technically appropriate and economically feasible BMPs, ensuring that the most appropriate controls are implemented in the most effective manner. This process of implementing, evaluating, revising, or adding new BMPs is commonly referred to as the iterative process.

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).** A conveyance or system of conveyances that is: (1) Owned by a state, city, town, village, or other public entity that discharges to waters of the U.S.; (2) Designed or used to collect or convey storm water (including storm drains, pipes, ditches, etc.); (3) Not a combined sewer; and (4) Not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works.

**New Development.** Any newly constructed facility, street, road, highway or contiguous road surface installed as part of a street, road or highway project within the Department's right-of-way.

**Non-Department Activities.** Third party activities that are primarily controlled by encroachment permits, leases, and rental agreements. They include both construction activities and non-construction activities.

**Non-Department Projects.** Same as Non-Department Activities.

**Non-storm Water.** Discharges that are not induced by precipitation events and are not composed entirely of storm water, except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the MS4) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities. These discharges include, but are not limited to, discharges of process water, air conditioner condensate, non-contact cooling water, vehicle wash water, concrete washout water, paint wash water, irrigation water, pipe testing water, lawn watering overspray, and hydrant flushing.

**Nonpoint Source.** Pollution that is not released through a discrete conveyance but rather originates from multiple sources over a relatively large area. Nonpoint sources can be divided into source activities related to either land or water use, including failing septic tanks, animal agriculture, forest practices, and urban and rural runoff.

**Nuisance.** Anything that meets all of the following requirements: (1) is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property; (2) affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal; (3) occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes.

**Pesticide.** Substances intended to repel, kill, or control any species designated a "pest" including weeds, insects, rodents, fungi, bacteria, or other organisms. The family of pesticides includes herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, algicides, and bactericides.

**Algicide.** A pesticide that controls algae in swimming pools and water tanks.

**Herbicide.** A pesticide designed to control or kill plants, weeds, or grasses.

**Insecticide.** A pesticide compound specifically used to kill or prevent the growth of insects.

**Rodenticide.** A pesticide or other agent used to kill rats and other rodents or to prevent them from damaging food, crops, or forage

**Fungicide.** A pesticide used to control or destroy fungi on food or grain crops.

**Bactericide.** A pesticide used to control or destroy bacteria, typically in the home, schools, or on hospital equipment.

**pH.** A measure of the degree of acidity or alkalinity in a water sample. The pH of natural waters tends to range between 6 and 9, with neutral being 7. Extremes of pH can have deleterious effects on aquatic systems.

**Point source.** Any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

**Pollutant.** Waste.

**Pollutants of Concern.** Pollutants in the Department's discharge with potential to cause a condition of pollution or nuisance due to the discharge of excessive amounts, proximity to receiving waters, or the properties of the pollutant. Pollutants that impair waterbodies listed under CWA section 303(d) are Pollutants of Concern. Pollutants in the Department's runoff that may be Pollutants of Concern include, but are not limited to, total suspended solids; sediment; pathogens (e.g., bacteria, viruses, protozoa); heavy metals (e.g., copper, lead, zinc, and cadmium); petroleum products and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons; synthetic organics (e.g., pesticides, herbicides, and PCBs); nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus

fertilizers); oxygen-demanding substances (e.g., decaying vegetation and animal waste), litter and trash.

**Pollution.** An alteration of the quality of the waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects the beneficial uses of the water or facilities which serve those beneficial uses.

**Redevelopment.** Any land-disturbing activity that results in the creation, addition, or replacement of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area on an already developed site. Redevelopment includes, but is not limited to: the expansion of a building footprint; addition or replacement of a structure; replacement of impervious surface area that is not part of a routine maintenance activity; and land disturbing activities related to structural or impervious surfaces. It does not include routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or the original purpose of a facility.

**Roadway.** Any road within the Department's right-of-way.

**Right-of-Way (ROW).** Real property that is either owned or controlled by the Department or subject to a property right of the Department. Right-of-way that is in current use is referred to as operating ROW.

**Sediment.** Soil, sand, and minerals washed from land into water, usually after rain.

**Slope Lateral Drainage.** Horizontal drains placed in hillside embankments to intercept groundwater and direct it away from slopes to provide stability.

**Spill.** The sudden release of a potential pollutant to the environment.

**Storm Water.** Storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage, as defined in 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(13).

**Storm Water Runoff.** The portion of precipitation that does not naturally percolate into the ground or evaporate, but flows via overland flow, interflow, channels or pipes.

**Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP).** Plans designating the Best Management Practices that must be used in specified categories of development and redevelopment. The State Water Board adopted a precedential decision (Order WQ 2000-11) upholding a SUSMP requirement imposed under a Phase I MS4 permit and requiring SUSMPs in all MS4 permits.

**Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP).** Description of the procedures and practices used to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to storm drain systems and receiving waters.

**Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP).** The State Water Board's monitoring, assessment, and reporting program for ambient surface water.

**Total Dissolved Solids (TDS).** A quantitative measure of the residual minerals dissolved in water that remain after evaporation of a solution. Usually expressed in milligrams per liter. TDS concentrations are used to evaluate the quality of freshwater systems.

**Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN).** The sum of organic nitrogen and total ammonia nitrogen.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).** A TMDL is the sum of the individual waste load allocations for point sources and load allocations for nonpoint sources and natural background, with a margin of safety. TMDLs can be expressed in terms of either mass per time, toxicity, or other appropriate measure.

**Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH).** A measure of the concentration or mass of petroleum hydrocarbons in a given amount of soil or water. TPH is a mixture of different compounds from different sources.

**Total Suspended Solids (TSS).** Suspended particulate matter: Fine material or soil particles that remain suspended by the water column. They create turbidity and, when deposited, can smother fish eggs or alevins.

**Toxicity.** The adverse response(s) of organisms to chemicals or physical agents ranging from mortality to physiological responses such as impaired reproduction or growth anomalies.

**Turbidity.** Murkiness or cloudiness of water, indicating the presence of suspended solids.

**Waste.** Includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal.

**Wasteload Allocation (WLA).** The portion of a receiving water's total maximum daily load that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution. Waste load allocations constitute a type of water quality-based effluent limitation.

**Water Quality Objectives (WQO).** The limits or levels of water quality elements or biological characteristics established to reasonably protect the beneficial uses of water or to prevent nuisance within a specific area. Water quality objectives may be numeric or narrative.

**Water Quality Standards (WQS).** State-adopted and USEPA-approved water quality standards for surface water bodies. The standards prescribe the use of the water body and establish the water quality criteria that must be met to protect designated uses.

**Waters of the State.** Any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within boundaries of the state.

**Waters of the United States.** All waters that are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide. Waters of the United States include all interstate waters and intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sand flats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds the use of which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce. The definition also applies to tributaries of the aforementioned waters. See 40 CFR 122.2 for the complete definition, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Watershed.** A drainage area or basin in which all water drains or flows toward a central collector such as a stream, river, or lake at a lower elevation.

**Wetlands.** Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

**Workplans.** See District Workplans