Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

30 June 2026

Vincent Cacciatore
Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil Corp.
1875 Elm Street
Pixley CA, 93636

CERTIFIED MAIL
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2021-0002-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR WINERY PROCESS WATER; CACCIATORE FINE WINES AND OLIVE OIL CORPORATION; PIXLEY WINERY; TULARE COUNTY

On 25 June 2025, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) received an electronic Notice of Intent (NOI) submitted on behalf of Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil Corporation (Discharger) requesting coverage under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ*, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Winery Process Water* (General Order) for discharges of winery process wastewater from its Pixley Winery (Winery) in Tulare County. The NOI and accompanying Technical Report were prepared by Lisa Rubin of Dellavalle Laboratory, Inc. A revised and signed NOI was submitted on 3 September 2025.

The Winery is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 98-157, but the Winery is currently closed for wine production and flows have reduced significantly. As discussed below, the Winery still generates wastewater while the remaining stored wine is sold. Based on the information provided in the NOI, the Winery's wastewater discharge meets the Tier 2 conditions of the General Order (30,001 to 300,000 gallons annually) and is therefore eligible for coverage under the general and specific conditions of the General Order. This Notice of Applicability (NOA) enrolls the Winery under the General Order and assigns the Winery enrollee number **2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007.** Please note that coverage under the General Order WQ 2021-002-DWQ will become effective upon rescission of WDRs Order 98-157 (tentatively scheduled for the August 2026 Board Meeting). Table 1 below provides information about the winery and enrollment.

Table 1. Winery and Enrollment Information

NOA Enrollee Number	2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007
General Order Tier	Tier 2
Permitted Annual Process Water Volume	300,000 gallons/year
Winery Address and GPS Coordinates	1875 Elm Street, Pixley, CA 93256 (35.958297, -119.288685)
Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs)	314-250-018, 314-250-019-000, 314-260-00
Discharge or Reuse Method(s)	Land application on 5.5 acres (wastewater)
Number of Process Water Ponds	0
CIWQS Place ID	212449
GeoTracker Global ID	WDR1000029188

The Winery and land application areas (LAAs) are situated on approximately 133 acres owned by the Discharger. A Site Location Map is provided as Attachment A, and an aerial image of the Winery and 5.5-acre LAA are shown on Attachment B, Site Plan.

ENROLLMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your Winery must be completed in accordance with the appropriate tier rating system of the General Order and the attached **Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) No. 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007**. The MRP was developed after consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached memorandum.

The General Order contains additional operational and reporting requirements that are not summarized in this NOA. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that are in the General Order and this NOA. Please review this NOA carefully to ensure it completely and accurately reflects the Winery name and location, and the details of the proposed discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, the General Order, with all attachments, and the MRP could result in enforcement action pursuant to the Water Code, including but not limited to administrative civil liability (i.e., monetary penalties). If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, the Discharger must submit a new NOI describing the new operation.

The Discharger is responsible for maintaining compliance with the General Order and its attachments, the information provided in the Winery's NOI and this NOA. A copy of the General Order and its attachments, including the MRP, and this NOA shall be

kept at the Winery for reference and key operating personnel shall be familiar with their contents.

FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Winery activities are classified as Tier 2 with a maximum permitted winery process water flow of 300,000 gallons per year (gpy). The NOI indicates that Winery has ceased wine production activities. The last crush was in 2023, and the vineyard was removed in 2024. Process solids are no longer generated or stored at the Winery.

While wine production has ceased, bulk sales of stored wine continue, and wastewater is generated when a holding tank is emptied and cleaned out. Once the tanks are emptied, the Winery will be closed and/or sold. As of June 2025, 66 tanks containing 554,464 gallons of wine remained.

Current discharges at the Winery consist of wastewater from washing the storage tanks and evaporative condenser blowdown. Wastewater is collected in a concrete sump and routed via pipeline to the west side of the 5.5-acre LAA for use as a supplemental source of irrigation for alfalfa. Source water is provided by the Pixley Public Utilities District, which obtains groundwater from three wells. Wastewater is discharged to the LAA via flood irrigation, which is divided into eight checks.

This NOA authorizes the discharge of winery process water to the LAAs.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting (Resolution R5-2018-0034). The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020 and were revised by the Central Valley Water Board in 2020 with Resolution R5-2020-0057. More information on CV-SALTS can be found at the CV-SALTS Website (https://www.cvsalinity.org/).

Pursuant to the Basin Plan amendments, the Discharger was sent a Notice to Comply on 5 January 2021 (**CV-SALTS ID: 1846**) with instructions and obligations for participation in the Salt Control Program. The Discharger submitted an NOI for the Salt Control Program and is participating in the Prioritization and Optimization (P&O) Study under the Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach. In accordance with the General Order, the Discharger is exempt from compliance with Discharge Specifications Section D.1.b and D.1.d, and Groundwater Limitations F.1 and F.2, as they apply to water quality objectives for salinity provided the Discharger is implementing the Phase I requirements of the Salt Control Program Alternative Permitting approach (i.e., full participation in the P&O Study). (See General Order, Finding 83.)

For the Nitrate Control Program, the Winery and LAAs are within a Priority 1 basin. The Discharger submitted an NOI to comply for the Nitrate Control Program on 5 May 2021 and has elected to enroll in Pathway B (Management Zone Permitting Approach) and has joined the Tule Basin Management Zone. More information on the Nitrate Control Program can be found at the CV-SALTS Nitrate website (https://www.cvsalinity.org/nitrate-program/).

As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. More information regarding this regulatory planning process can be found on the Central Valley Water Board CV-SALTS website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity).

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Dischargers authorized under the General Order are classified into regulatory tiers based on the permitted annual process water design flow. The Winery's total annual discharge flow (i.e., winery effluent flow) places the Winery in Tier 2. The fees and monitoring requirements are connected to and commensurate with the complexity of the discharge regulated under each Tier. General Order tier-specific requirements are summarized below for reference purposes. Refer to the General Order for the detailed requirements.

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections in the General Order, including:

A. Discharge Prohibitions

This section (A.1 through A.15) applies in its entirety.

B. Effluent Limitations

Sections B.1 through B.4 apply to this winery. Although not comprehensive, the following General Order effluent limitation requirements are highlighted here to support compliance:

1. The annual total process water discharge flow from the winery shall not exceed **300,000 gallons per year** (Effluent Limitation B.2).

2. Average BOD loading to the LAA shall not exceed **100 pounds per acre per day** over the course of any discharge cycle (i.e., irrigation cycle). BOD loading shall be determined using a moving average of the three most recent BOD process water sample results (Effluent Limitation B.3).

3. Nitrogen application rates shall not exceed the crop agronomic rate as defined in the General Order (Effluent Limitation B.4).

C. Discharge Specifications (Tier 1)

This section does not apply to this winery.

D. Discharge Specifications (Tier 2)

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections of the General Order, including:

- Section D.1 – General Specifications
- Section D.2 – Process Water Pond (Sump) Specifications
- Section D.3 – Land Application Specifications

The fixed dissolved solids **(FDS) threshold (in mg/L) is equal to the annual average flow-weighted FDS concentration (in mg/L) of the facility source water plus 320 mg/L** (Discharge Specification D.1.a.). The flow-weighted annual average FDS concentration of the process water from the winery is used to determine if the facility is meeting the FDS threshold.

As noted in the General Order, exceedance of the FDS threshold does not constitute a violation. Because the Winery is a Tier 2 facility, the Discharger may be required to submit a Salt Control Plan if the FDS threshold is exceeded. However, Discharge Specification D.1.a.ii.d. allows dischargers to participate in a regional Salt and Nutrient Management Plan in lieu of submitting an individual Salt Control Plan. As discussed above, the Discharger is participating in the P&O Study for the Salt Control Program and, therefore, provided the Discharger remains in good standing under the CV-SALTS Alternative Permitting Approach for Salinity, the requirement for a Salt Control Plan under Discharge Specification D.1.a.ii is satisfied.

The General Order states in Section D.1.a.ii.j, that the Discharger shall comply to the following setbacks (minimum horizontal distances) unless a different setback is approved by the regional water board based on site-specific conditions or except as otherwise required (e.g., California Plumbing Code, county or local agency requirements, California Well Standards, part II, section 8).

i. Waste shall not be discharged within 50 feet of any water supply well.
ii. Waste shall not be discharged within 50 feet of surface waters or surface water drainage courses.
iii. Waste shall not be discharged within 25 feet of the property line, except for land application areas where a 5-foot setback from the property line

shall apply, provided the irrigation system is managed to prevent discharges offsite.

E. Solids Specifications

This section does not apply to this winery.

F. Groundwater Limitations

This section (F.1 and F.2) applies in its entirety, except as otherwise noted in the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs section above (i.e., requirements related to water quality objectives for salinity).

G. Provisions

Sections G.1.b, G.1.f through G1.g, and G.2 through G.4 apply to this Winery. Although not comprehensive, the following General Order technical provisions are summarized here to support compliance:

1. The Discharger is required to self-certify that all applicable Best Practicable Treatment or Control (BPTC) measures and technical provisions shall be implemented by the time schedules listed below and in General Order Section G:
    a. Good housekeeping – Within **90 days** of NOA issuance, implement good housekeeping practices, such as employing dry sweeping instead of wet rinses for cleaning facility surfaces, using water conservation devices such as auto-shutoff nozzles, directing pomace and similar waste to a solids collection system instead of down process water drains, and initiating an employee education program on best practices.
    b. Sodium substitution – Within **180 days** of NOA issuance, replace sodium-based chemicals with potassium-based or other non-sodium-based chemicals unless technologically or economically infeasible.
    c. Chemical reduction – Within **180 days** of NOA issuance, implement measures to minimize chemical use, such as recovering and reusing chemical solutions.

ANNUAL FEE, OWNERSHIP CHANGES, ENROLLMENT TERMINATION

General Order section G.4 Standard Provisions includes specific requirements for fees and notice to the Central Valley Water Board. Key requirements are summarized below:

A. Annual fees

The Discharger shall pay an annual fee (waste discharge permit fee, per Water Code section 13260 et seq.) to maintain General Order coverage until coverage under the General Order is formally terminated. The fee amount due annually is provided via an invoice issued by the State Water Board fee program, covering the fiscal year of July 1 through June 30. A copy of the current fee schedule is available online at the State Water Board's fees webpage (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/).

B. Facility and Ownership Changes

The Discharger shall notify Central Valley Water Board staff prior to any significant changes in either the treatment or discharge methodologies, or the volume or character of the treated waste discharged from the facility. If the Discharger anticipates wastewater flow in excess of the maximum permitted flow, it shall submit a revised NOI and technical report to the Central Valley Water Board for the appropriate tier at least **120 days** before the anticipated change. Any proposed increase in flow shall not be implemented until it has been authorized by the Central Valley Water Board through issuance of a new or revised NOA. A change in tier classification may also necessitate an application fee and/or a change in the annual fee.

In the event of any change in control or ownership of the winery or process water discharge areas, the Discharger shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this NOA and the General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board. In addition, the succeeding owner shall submit an NOI request for General Order enrollment to the Central Valley Water Board for consideration at least 90 days prior to commencing operation of the Facility. Failure to submit the request shall be considered a discharge without Waste Discharge Requirements and a violation of the Water Code. The Central Valley Water Board will issue a new NOA when coverage of this General Order has been authorized for the new owner or operator.

C. General Order Enrollment Termination

To terminate coverage, the Discharger shall submit a Notice of Termination and a final Annual Report at least 120 days prior to termination of related onsite activities. The Notice of Termination form is provided in General Order Attachment D. The final Annual Report shall be submitted through GeoTracker.

The Central Valley Water Board reserves the right to inspect the Facility before approving a Notice of Termination. Filing a Notice of Termination of General Order coverage does not suspend or alter any requirement of the

General Order. The Discharger remains responsible for payment of all applicable fees and submittal of self-monitoring reports required by the General Order until written approval of the Notice of Termination is issued by the Central Valley Water Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the internet at Copies of the laws and regulations applicable to filing petitions (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jeff Pyle by phone at (559) 445-5145 or by email at Jeffrey.Pyle@waterboards.ca.gov.

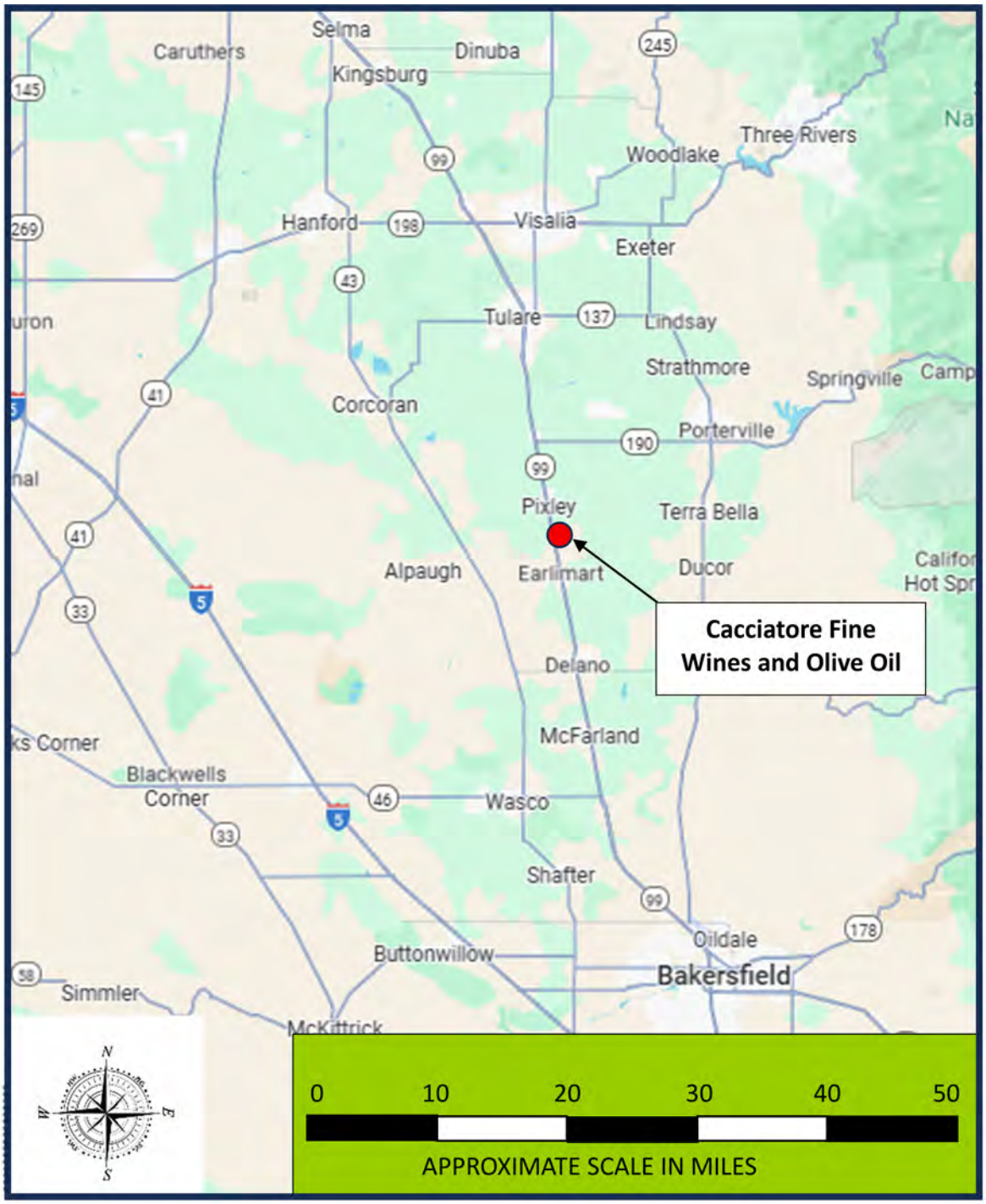
To conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of General Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ has been sent only to the Discharger. Others are advised that the General Order is available on the State Water Board's website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/docs/wqo2021-0002-dwq.pdf.

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan
For Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments:
- Attachment A – Site Location Map
- Attachment B – Site Plan

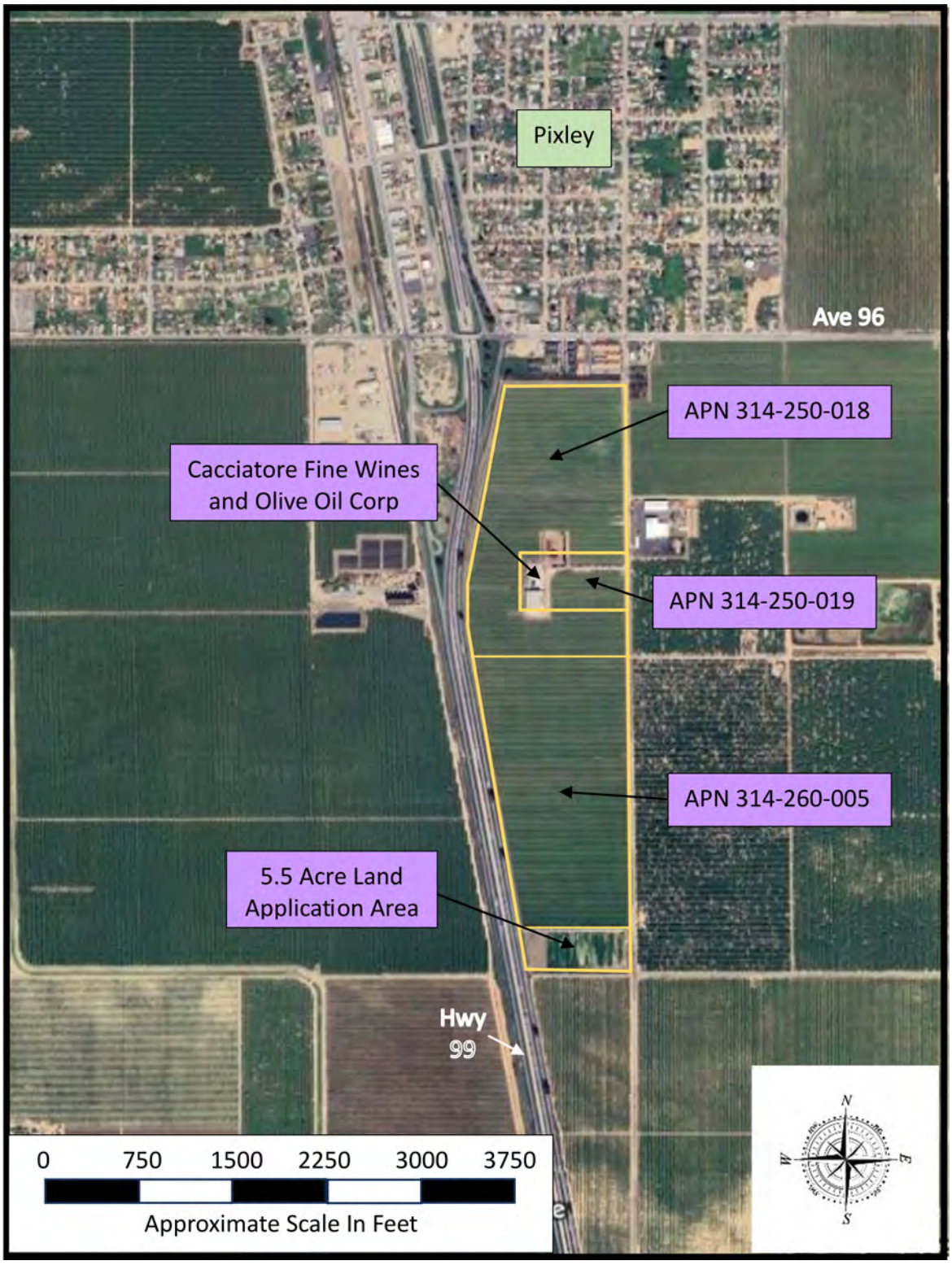
Enclosures:
- Monitoring and Reporting Program 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007
- Staff Review Memorandum for Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil, Corp.
- State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ (Discharger only)

cc's
- Christopher Moskal, State Water Resources Control Board, OCC (via email)
- Stephanie Torres, State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ (via email)
- Omar Mostafa, Central Valley Water Board (via email)
- Tulare County Environmental Health Division (via email)
- Lisa Rubin, Dellavalle Laboratory, Inc. (via email)



ATTACHMENT A – SITE LOCATION MAP

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007



ATTACHMENT B – SITE PLAN

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM ORDER WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007 FOR CACCIATORE FINE WINES AND OLIVE OIL CORP. PIXLEY WINERY TULARE COUNTY

Water Code section 13267 provides that the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) may require that any person who discharges waste within its region submit technical or monitoring reports that the Board requires to investigate water quality. This Monitoring and Reporting Program Order (MRP) is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267 to Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil Company (Discharger), Cacciatore Pixley Winery (Winery).

The Discharger shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Central Valley Water Board. Failure to comply with the requirements of this MRP may subject the Discharger to enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability (i.e., monetary penalties) up to $1,000 per violation per day. (Wat. Code, § 13268).

The Discharger was issued Notice of Applicability (NOA) **WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007,** enrolling the Winery under State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Winery Process Water* (General Order). The Winery is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 98-157, and discharge monitoring requirements are prescribed by MRP Order 98-157. NOA WQ 2021-0002-DWQ-R5F007 will become effective upon rescission of WDRs Order 98-157, at which point, this MRP will supersede and terminate MRP Order 98-157, previously issued to the Winery.

All reports required by this MRP are necessary to evaluate compliance with the NOA and the General Order and to assess water quality impacts resulting from the Winery's waste discharges. All monitoring and reporting conducted pursuant to this MRP shall meet the requirements specified in General Order sections G.2 and G.3.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The Discharger shall use clean sample containers and sample handling, storage, and preservation methods in accordance with approved U.S. EPA analytical methods or as recommended by the selected analytical laboratory. All analytical samples shall be labeled and records maintained to show the name of the sampler, date, time, sample location, sample type, collection method, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample. All samples collected for laboratory analyses

shall be preserved as required and submitted to the laboratory within the required holding time appropriate for the analytical method used and the constituents analyzed.

All samples submitted to a laboratory for analysis shall be identified in a properly completed and signed chain of custody form containing the sampler, date, time, sample location, sample type, collection method, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample. The chain of custody forms shall also contain custody information, including the date, time, transport method, and to whom samples were relinquished.

Consistent with Water Code section 13176, data produced and reports submitted for compliance with this General Order must be generated by a laboratory with accreditation from the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP), where accreditation is specific to the analyses required, or the laboratory must hold a valid certificate of accreditation for equivalent analytical test methods validated for the intended uses and approved by the State Water Board or regional water board. The laboratory must include quality assurance/quality control data in all data reports and submit electronic data as required by the State Water Board and regional water boards. Data generated using field tests are exempt pursuant to Water Code Section 13176. Field instruments may be used to test field parameters (such as for pH, electrical conductivity, and dissolved oxygen) provided that the operator is trained in the proper use of the instrument and each instrument is serviced and/or calibrated at the recommended frequency by the manufacturer and in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Field calibration reports shall be maintained for at least 3 years.

All sample and analysis field logs, laboratory reports, and quality assurance/quality control data shall be reported with the sample results to which it applies. The reports shall include applicable information such as the method, equipment, analytical detection, quantitation limits, recovery rates, an explanation for any recovery rate that is outside method specifications, results of method blanks, results of matrix spikes and surrogate samples, and the frequency of quality control analysis. Sample results shall be reported unadjusted for blank results or spike recovery. In cases where contaminants are detected in the quality assurance/quality control samples (e.g., laboratory blanks), the accompanying sample results shall be appropriately flagged.

SOURCE WATER MONITORING (SW-01)

The Discharger shall monitor the source water provided by the Pixley Public Utilities District that is used for the Winery’s processing activities and for supplemental irrigation of crops grown within the LAA (alfalfa). If the source of water supply used for the Winery processing activities is from more than one source (i.e., irrigation well and Pixley Irrigation District water), the Discharger shall also calculate the flow-weighted annual average FDS concentration using monthly flow data and the most recent chemical analysis conducted. Results collected by the Pixley Irrigation District and reported in their most recent report may be used. Source water monitoring shall include at least the following.

Table 1 – Source Water Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Frequency (see 1 below)
Flow	gpd	Metered or Calculated (see 2 below)	Continuous or Daily
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Annually
FDS	mg/L	Grab	Annually
TKN	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Nitrate + Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Ammonia as N	mg/L	Grab	Annually
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Calculated	Annually

1. Source water monitoring of water supply sources used for winery processing activities shall be collected when the facility is in operation and discharging process water.
2. Source water flowrate may be measured directly via a flowmeter or determined from customer billing information. Supplemental irrigation water flow from a canal or similar source may be determined using an accurate alternative method
3. The minimum constituents for General Minerals are listed in the glossary that is included at the end of this MRP.

EFFLUENT MONITORING (EFF-01)

Winery effluent measurements and samples are required when process water is generated and discharged. The Discharger shall measure/calculate winery effluent flow measurements and collect samples at the collection sump, but prior to discharge to the LAAs. Samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge. Time of collection of all samples shall be recorded. Effluent monitoring shall include at least the following:

Table 2 – Effluent Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Frequency (see 1 below)
Flow	gpd	Metered or Calculated (see 2 below)	Continuous or Daily
Days of Operation (see 3 below)	days	Observation	Daily
pH	pH units	Field	Bi-Weekly
EC	µmho/cm	Field	Bi-Weekly

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Frequency (see 1 below)
BOD_5	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
TDS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
FDS	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
TKN	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly
Nitrate + Nitrite as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly
Ammonia as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	Calculated	Quarterly
General Minerals (see 4 below)	mg/L or µg/L	Grab	Annually

1. Effluent monitoring shall be conducted and samples collected when the facility is in operation and discharging process wastewater.
2. Winery effluent flowrate shall be measured directly via a flowmeter or, for Tier 1 and Tier 2 facilities only, may be calculated using an accurate alternative method (e.g., assume effluent flow is equal to facility source water use, calculate effluent flow from a daily water balance of all effluent storage tank levels). The method of measurement must be specified.
3. Winery effluent observations for operating days are only required when winery process water is being generated.
4. The minimum constituents for General Minerals are listed in the glossary that is included at the end of this MRP.

SUMP MONITORING (SMP-01)

The Discharger shall inspect the wastewater collection sump and note the condition of the interior walls in field logs at least daily when wastewater is being generated and discharged. A summary of the observed conditions shall be included in the monitoring reports. The wastewater collection sump shall be monitored as follows:

Table 3 - Sump Monitoring

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Frequency
Freeboard	0.1 foot	Observation	Weekly
Liner Condition	NA	Observation	Daily

LAND APPLICATION AREA MONITORING

Land application area monitoring must be conducted when there is discharge to land. The Discharger must perform the following routine monitoring and loading calculations for the land application area. In addition, the Discharger must inspect the land application area and note the field conditions in field logs, a summary of

which must be included in the monitoring reports. Data must be collected and presented in tabular format for each individual management unit and must include the parameters as follows. In general, monitoring shall be sufficient to determine if wastewater is evenly applied, the disposal area is not saturated, burrowing animals and/or deep-rooted plants are not present, and odors are not present. Inspection of dosing pump controllers, automatic distribution valves, etc. is required to maintain optimum treatment in the disposal area (and any sand or media filter, if present). Monitoring of the leach field systems shall, at a minimum, include the monitoring specified in Table 4.

Table 4 – Land Application Area Monitoring

Parameter	**Units**	**Sample Type**	**Frequency** (see 1 below)
Field Conditions (see 2 below)	NA	Observation	Weekly
Cropping Activities (see 3 and 4 below)	NA	Observation	When it occurs
Application Field Number (see 4 below)	NA	Observation	Daily
Application Area (see 4 below)	Acres	Measurement	Daily
Days in Irrigation Cycle (see 4 and 5 below)	Days	Observation	Daily
Process Water Flow (see 4 below)	gpd	Metered or Calculated (see 6 below)	Daily
Process Water Loading (see 4 below)	in/ac/day (see 7 below)	Calculated	Daily
Supplemental water flow (see 4 below)	gpd	Metered or Calculated	Daily
Supplemental water loading (see 4 below)	in/ac/day (see 7 below)	Calculated	Daily
Precipitation	0.01 Inch	Rain Gauge	Daily
Total Hydraulic Loading (see 4 and 9 below)	in/ac/mo (see 7 below)	Calculated	Daily
BOD_5 Loading (see 10 below)			
Day of application	lb/ac	Calculated or estimated	Daily
Cycle average	lb/ac/day	Calculated	Daily
Nitrogen Loading (see 11 below)			

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	**Frequency** (see 1 below)
Nitrogen loading by source (see 12 below)	lb/ac/mo	Calculated	Monthly
Cumulative nitrogen loading (see 13 below)	lb/ac/yr	Calculated	Annually
Salt Loading (see 14 below)			
From process water	lb/ac/mo	Calculated	Monthly
Cumulative Salt Loading	lb/ac/yr	Calculated	Annually

1. Effluent to land application area monitoring shall be conducted when there is discharge to land. Average daily flow method means as measured or estimated during the first seven days of the discharge occurring each month.
2. Inspect the land application area for evidence of erosion, field saturation, runoff, or presence of nuisance conditions (e.g., flies, ponding, etc.).
3. Record the cropping activities (e.g., fertilizer applied [total pounds and pounds per acre], fertilizer nitrogen content, type of crop planted or landscape irrigated, planting and harvest dates, crop harvest yield [total wet tons and wet tons per acre], and crop tissue sampling dates/analytical results (if applicable) by land application area field or individual management unit number, as appropriate.
4. For land application fields divided into smaller management units (e.g., subfields, subareas, checks), identify the individual management unit number, its acreage, the amounts of process water and of supplemental water applied, and the cropping or planting activities at each individual management unit.
5. Identify the number of wet days (i.e., days with process water irrigation) and dry days (i.e., non-irrigation days following wet days) in each irrigation cycle by individual management unit.
6. Process water flowrate shall be measured directly using a flowmeter or, for Tier 2 facilities only, may be calculated using an accurate alternative method. The flow measurement method must be capable of determining the discharge flow to each individual management unit. The regional water board may specify a required flow measurement method.
7. Report to the nearest 0.1 inches per acre per day (in/ac/d) or 0.1 inches per acre per month (in/ac/mo).
8. National Weather Service or California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) data from the nearest weather station are acceptable.
9. Combined loading from process water, supplemental irrigation water, and precipitation.
10. The daily calculation or estimate is necessary to calculate the cycle average BOD loading rates for each individual management unit which shall be calculated using the applied volume of process water, applied acreage, and the moving average of the three most recent BOD process water results.

11. Nitrogen loading for each individual management unit shall be calculated using the applied volume of process water, applied acreage, and the average process water concentration for total nitrogen for that month
12. Loading from each source of nitrogen applied to each individual management unit shall be shown as applicable, e.g., from process water, supplemental water, fertilizers, process solids, soil amendments, etc.
13. Cumulative nitrogen loading shall be shown for each individual management unit.
14. Salt loading for each individual management unit shall be calculated using the applied volume of process water, applied acreage, and the average process water concentration for FDS for that month.

REPORTING

The Discharger shall submit Compliance Letters and Annual Reports.

A Compliance Letter shall be submitted any month in which a violation occurs. Additionally, the Compliance Letter shall serve as the transmittal letter accompanying each monitoring report. Standalone Compliance Letters are due by the **first day of the second month after the monitoring period**. For example, a Compliance Letter for January is due on March 1.

All monitoring results for the reporting year shall be reported in the Annual Report, which is due by **April 1 after the reporting year**. For example, the Annual Report for reporting year 2026 is due on April 1, 2027.

The reporting periods and reporting schedules are summarized in Table 5.

Table 6 - Reporting Schedule

Report	Reporting Period	Due Date
Compliance Letter (see 1 below)	Jan – Dec	First day of the second month after reporting period
Annual Report	Jan – Dec	April 1

1. Submit for any month in which a violation or exceedance occurs. Also submit as the transmittal letter for each monitoring report.

The Discharger must submit all monitoring reports and analytical monitoring results to the State Water Board GeoTracker database. GeoTracker is an internet-accessible database system used by the State Water Board, regional boards, and local agencies to track and archive compliance data from authorized or unauthorized discharges of waste to land, or unauthorized releases of hazardous substances from underground storage tanks. This system consists of a relational database, online compliance reporting features, a geographical information system (GIS) interface, and other features that are utilized by regulatory agencies, regulated industries, and the public to input, manage, or access compliance and regulatory tracking data.

GeoTracker Electronic Reporting Requirements: All monitoring reports and monitoring results shall be submitted to GeoTracker in accordance with the timeframes specified below and in searchable Portable Document Format (PDF). The Discharger shall follow the applicable Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) requirements under the Facility-specific **Global Identification Number WDR100029188** at the GeoTracker database (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/login.asp).

To submit reports electronically, the Discharger shall create a secure GeoTracker Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) account and log in credentials, claim their facility by requesting access in GeoTracker, and finally uploading PDF copies of the required reports via the ESI portal as outlined in the GeoTracker ESI Beginner's Guide for Responsible Parties (Beginner's Guide) linked below. The Discharger may complete the above tasks by accessing the 'Getting Started' section on the GeoTracker ESI webpage

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/index.html)

Additional GeoTracker support information can be found at the following:

a. 'Guides/Resources' document link in the "Tools" on the Discharger's GeoTracker ESI account.

b. Resources on the GeoTracker ESI website, such as the Beginner's Guide (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/electronic_submittal/docs/geotracker_esi_rp_beginners_guide_revisedoct2019.pdf)

c. General GeoTracker Help Desk contact information:

Phone: 1-866-480-1028, Email: geotracker@waterboards.ca.gov

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, groundwater, etc.), and reported analytical result for each sample are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to clearly illustrate compliance with waste discharge requirements and spatial or temporal trends, as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be reported in the next scheduled monitoring report.

Laboratory analysis reports shall be included in the monitoring reports. All laboratory reports must also be retained for a minimum of three years. For a Discharger conducting any of its own analyses, reports must also be signed and certified by the chief of the laboratory.

Monitoring information shall include the method detection limit (MDL) and the Reporting limit (RL) or practical quantitation limit (PQL). If the regulatory limit for a given constituent is less than the RL (or PQL), then any analytical results for that constituent that are below the RL (or PQL) but above the MDL shall be reported and flagged as estimated.

All monitoring reports that involve planning, investigation, evaluation or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of persons registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1.

A. Compliance Letters

Compliance letters shall include the following:

1. Discharger name, facility name, facility tier, MRP number, Waste Discharge Identification Number, and contact information (telephone number and email).

2. A discussion of any violations or exceedances that occurred during the reporting period, all actions taken or planned for correcting the violations and preventing future violations, such as operation or facility modifications, and a time schedule for completing the corrective actions. If the Discharger previously submitted a report describing corrective actions or a time schedule for implementing the corrective actions, reference to the previous correspondence is satisfactory.

3. This penalty of perjury statement shall be included and signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's duly authorized representative in compliance with the Reporting Provisions section of this General Order.
"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

B. Annual Report

An Annual Report shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board **by April 1st following the monitoring year.** The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Results of all required monitoring, including:
    a. Results of the monitoring specified in the Source Water Monitoring section of the MRP. Results shall include supporting calculations.
    b. Results of the monitoring specified in the Winery Effluent Monitoring section of the MRP by month for the reporting period. Results shall include supporting calculations.
    c. A comparison of the flow-weighted annual average FDS results from source water supplies and winery effluent monitoring to the FDS threshold by month for the reporting period.

d. Total monthly and annual days of operation and discharge volumes for the reporting period expressed in gallons. For each month, also calculate the maximum daily flow and the monthly average flow.

2. LAA Reporting Requirements including:

a. Results of the monitoring and loading calculations specified in the Effluent to Land Application Area Monitoring and Land Application Area Monitoring sections of the MRP.

b. Monthly and annual process water and supplemental water volumes applied to each individual management unit/land application area, expressed in gallons.

c. Calculation of the monthly and total hydraulic loading from process water and supplemental water applied to each individual management unit / land application area by month.

d. Calculation of the cycle average BOD loading rates for each individual management unit using the following formula. Include the number of days in each irrigation cycle.

$$M = \frac{8.345(CV) + M_x}{AT}$$

Where:

M = mass of BOD applied to each LAA field in lb/ac/day/irrigation cycle

C = concentration of BOD in mg/L based on a moving average of the three most recent BOD process water sample results

V = volume of wastewater applied to the LAA field in millions of gallons during the irrigation cycle

A = area of the LAA field irrigated in acres

T = Irrigation cycle length in days (from the first day water was applied to the last day of the drying time)

Mx = BOD mass from other sources (e.g., cattle manure) if applicable, in pounds

8.345 = unit conversion factor

e. Summary of land application area monitoring log notations. Copies of the field logs do not need to be submitted unless requested by the Central Valley Water Board.

f. An annual nitrogen balance showing the total annual nitrogen loading (in pounds per acre per year [lb/ac/yr]) to each land application field or individual management unit, as appropriate, as calculated from the sum of the monthly

loading from all sources of nitrogen applied to the land. The nitrogen balance shall include:

a. Types of crops grown or landscape irrigated, planting and harvest dates, and crop harvest yield.

$$M = \sum_{i=1}^{12} \frac{(8.345(C_i V_i) + M_x)}{A}$$

b. Nitrogen loading by source using the formula below (e.g., fertilizer, process water, process solids, compost, etc.). Indicate any estimated nitrogen losses that reduced plant available nitrogen used in the nitrogen balance calculations.

Where:

M	=	mass of nitrogen applied to LAA in lb/ac/yr.
Ci	=	Monthly average concentration of total nitrogen for month i in mg/L.
Vi	=	volume of wastewater applied to the LAA during calendar month i in millions of gallons.
A	=	area of the LAA irrigated in acres.
i	=	the number of the month (e.g., Jan. = 1, Feb. = 2, etc.).
Mx	=	nitrogen mass from other sources (e.g., fertilizer, manure, and compost) in pounds per acre.
8.345	=	unit conversion factor.

c. Crop uptake rates for each crop grown or landscape irrigated. Provide results of technical reference source of the crop up take rate values.

d. A comparison of the total nitrogen applied to the nitrogen taken up by the crop harvested or removed.

e. Total annual fixed dissolve solids loading (in lb/ac/yr) to each land application area field or individual management unit, as appropriate, as calculated from the sum of the monthly loading.

3. A comparison of monitoring data to the requirements (including the flow limitation), disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements.
4. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year.
5. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order.
6. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.

7. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Any person aggrieved by this Central Valley Water Board action may petition the State Water Board for review in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 et seq. To be timely, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the 30th day after the date of this Order; if the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 pm on the next business day. The law and regulations applicable to filing petitions are available on the State Water Board website (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality). Copies will also be provided upon request.

The Discharger shall begin implementing the above monitoring program on the first day of the month following rescission of WDRs Order 98-175 (tentatively scheduled for the August 2026 Central Valley Water Board Meeting).

Ordered by:

Digitally signed by Alex S. Mushegan
For PATRICK PULUPA,
Executive Officer

30 June 2026
(Date)

GLOSSARY

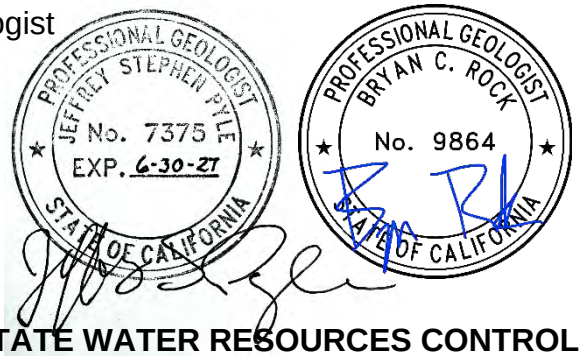
APN	Assessor Parcel Number
BOD_5	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
EC	Electrical conductivity at 25° C
FDS	Fixed dissolved solids
LAA	Land Application Area
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Bi-Weekly	Once every two weeks.
Weekly	Once per week.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
lbs/ac/day	Pounds per acre per day
lbs/ac/yr	Pounds per acre per year
gpd	Gallons per day
mgd	Million gallons per day
mgy	Million gallons per year
s.u.	Standard pH units
General Minerals	Analysis shall include; alkalinity (as $CaCO_3$), bicarbonate (as $CaCO_3$), boron, calcium, carbonate (as $CaCO_3$), chloride, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphate, potassium, sodium, sulfate, and verification that the analysis is complete (i.e., cation/anion balance).

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Alexander S. Mushegan
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer

FROM: Bryan Rock
Senior Engineering Geologist
PG 9864

Jeffrey Pyle
Engineering Geologist
PG 7375



DATE: 30 June 2026

APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2021-0002-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR WINERY PROCESS WATER; CACCIATORE FINE WINES AND OLIVE OIL CORPORATION; PIXLEY WINERY; TULARE COUNTY

On 29 August 2025, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) received a Notice of Intent (NOI) from Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil (Discharger) requesting coverage under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2021-0002-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Winery Process Water (General Order) for discharges of winery process wastewater generated at the Pixley Winery (Winery) in Tulare County.

This memorandum provides a summary of Central Valley Water Board staff's review of the NOI, and the applicability of the Facility's discharge to be covered under the General Order.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cacciatore Fine Wines and Olive Oil Corp. own and operates the Pixley Winery at 1875 Elm Street just south of Pixley in Tulare County. The Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 98-157, which authorizes the discharge of up to 20,000 gallons per day (gpd) and 2.44 million gallons annually or winery process wastewater to 5.5-acres of land application areas (LAA) cropped with alfalfa.

The Winery has been closed for wine production since 2023 and the vineyard was removed in 2024. Bulk sales of wine will continue until all the wine is sold or until a buyer is found for the Winery. Currently, wastewater is only generated when a holding tank is emptied, and the resulting wastewater is discharged to the 5.5-acre LAA. As of June 2025, 66 storage tanks containing about 554,000 gallons of wine remained. The Winery operates about 240 days per year. Following 2025, the Discharger estimates an annual discharge of 135,000 gallons of winery wastewater per year until the storage tanks are empty.

SOURCE AND REGIONAL GROUNDWATER QUALITY

Source water for the site is provided by the Pixley Public Utilities District from three wells. The June 2025 Technical Report contained source water results for electrical conductivity (EC) and nitrate as nitrogen dating from 2001 through 2024. The results for EC and nitrate as N are summarized in Table 1. The average is shown with the range of detections shown beneath in parentheses.

Table 1 – Water Supply Quality (2001 - 2024)

Constituent/Parameter) See 1 below	Units See 2 below	Result
EC	µmhos/cm	350 (185 – 360)
Nitrate as N	mg/L	5.3 (0.07 – 5.1)

1. EC = Electrical Conductivity. Nitrate as N = Nitrate as nitrogen.

2. µmhos/cm = micromhos per centimeter; mg/L = milligrams per liter.

The Technical Report indicates the average depth to groundwater is about 100 feet below ground surface (bgs) and the approximate distance to the nearest surface water (Deer Creek) is about 2.5 miles south of the Facility. Available depth to groundwater information from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGMA Data Viewer includes spring 2024 data indicating groundwater was about 175 feet bgs and the direction of groundwater flow was to the north/northeast, with an apparent groundwater mound occurring to the southwest. The depth to groundwater in the spring 2023 was about 245 feet bgs with a flow direction to the southwest, while spring 2022 data indicates the depth to groundwater as about 275 feet bgs with a flow direction to the west.

Water quality data is available on the State Water Resources Control Board Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program (GAMA). Recent (2018 through 2024) available water quality data within one mile of the Winery includes

information from three domestic wells to the east. Additionally, older groundwater quality results (1950s) from three supply wells within 1.2 miles of the Winery are available. Only results for nitrate as nitrogen are available and are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2 – Regional Groundwater Nitrate as Nitrogen Results

Well Number	Date(s)	Nitrate as N (mg/L)	Samples	Position to LAA
AGW080012750	12/2019 - 12/2021	2.4 (2.1 – 2.6)	3	Northeast
AGW080015362	11/2020 – 11/2022	1.3 (0.7 – 2.3)	3	Northeast
AGW100012328-D1029	10/2018 – 7/2024	1.1 (0.6 – 1.5)	7	Northeast
23S25E05P001M	9/4/1956	0.43	1	West
USGS-355705119181101	8/4/1958	0.32	1	West
23S25E09F001M	2/1957 – 7/1962	0.9 (0.8 – 1.0)	3	Southeast

Both recent and historical groundwater quality data illustrate good water quality with respect to nitrate as nitrogen. None of the wells has results greater than 10 mg/L.

POTENTIAL THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

WDRs Order No. 98-157 required effluent monitoring at the Winery, and the results of effluent monitoring from 2025 are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3 – Effluent Monitoring Results

Date	pH (see 1 below)	EC	BOD_5	Total Nitrogen	FDS
	s.u.	µmhos/cm	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L
6/13/2024	6.9	1,060	112	---	---
7/11/2024	3.9	2,630	7,170	44.9	1,620
8/15/2024	6.3	2,360	8,700	---	---
1/7/2025	7.3	290	10	4.12	122
2/5/2025	7.3	233	30	---	---

Date	pH (see 1 below)	EC	BOD_5	Total Nitrogen	FDS
	s.u.	µmhos/cm	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L
1/7/2025	7.3	290	10	4.12	122
2/5/2025	7.3	233	29.8	---	---
3/4/2025	6.9	399	142	---	---
4/2/2025	6.8	261	185	6.17	132
5/6/2025	7.8	3,300	565	---	---
6/3/2025	7.0	1,730	306	---	---
7/8/2025	5.8	1,930	1,350	27.4	988
8/6/2025	4.7	1,440	1,650	---	---
9/10/2025	5.8	4,670	5,010	---	---
10/8/2025	6.8	1,060	1,530	19.9	525
11/5/2025	6.6	1,140	786	---	---
12/4/25	7.0	441	10.3	---	---
Averages	**6.9 (Median)**	**1,408**	**965**	**14.4**	**442**

1. The value shown for pH is a median value, not an average

Based on the estimated annual discharge of 246,000 gallons in 2025 and a total nitrogen average of 14.4 mg/L as shown in Table 3, the discharge would add 30 pounds of nitrogen to the 5.5-acre LAA per year or about 5.4 pounds of nitrogen per acre per year (lbs/ac/yr). Salt loading calculated using FDS results would add about 498 pounds per year and about 91 lbs/ac/yr. The BOD_5 in effluent ranged from 10 mg/L to 5,010 mg/L and averaged 965 mg/L, and the average daily flow was 1,401 gpd. Based on the average BOD_5 concentrations and average daily flow, 2025 BOD loading was about 11 lb/ac/day. Generally, these loading rates are low and are expected to be even lower in subsequent years as flows decrease.

The Discharger is complying with the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs, the General Order requires application of nutrients at agronomic rates, and BOD is limited to 100 lbs/ac/day, which the Discharger can meet, so groundwater impacts are not expected as a result of the discharge.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following sections of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Effluent Monitoring

- Source Water Monitoring
- Land Application Area Monitoring

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting (Resolution R5-2018-0034). The Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020 and were revised by the Central Valley Water Board in 2020 with Resolution R5-2020-0057 (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/r5-2020-0057_res.pdf). The revisions to the Basin Plan amendments became effective on 10 November 2021.

For the Salt Control Program, the Discharger (**CV-SALTS ID: 1846**) selected Pathway 2 (Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach). According to our records, the Discharger is participating in Prioritization and Optimization Study to comply with the Salt Control Program.

For the Nitrate Control Program, he Discharger submitted a 6 May 2021 NOI electing to comply with compliance Path B and is an active participant in the Tule Basin Management Zone.

More information on the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs can be found at the https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/.