10 DECEMBER BOARD MEETING
UNCONTESTED AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA ITEM: 13

SUBJECT:

The following are proposed Waste Discharge Requirements Orders that regulate discharges to waters of the state. All agencies and the dischargers concur or have offered no comments. Items indicated as updates on the summary agenda make the requirements consistent with current plans and policies of the Board.

BOARD ACTION:

Consideration of Waste Discharge Requirements.

BACKGROUND:

BALDWIN CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., DBA KNIFE RIVER CONSTRUCTION, HALLWOOD PLANT, YUBA COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2010-0124

The Discharger owns and operates an aggregate mine partially located in the Yuba Gold Fields. Aggregate mining has occurred in the southern portion of the Facility since 1955. The Facility was expanded to the north and is referred to as the “Expansion Area”. Mining began in this area in 2007.

The Yuba Gold Fields have historically been mined for gold using mercury to amalgamate gold, resulting in the deposition of mercury in sediments. Because the southern mining area of the Facility is located within the gold mining area, there is the potential for mercury to be present in site sediments. Mercury in the Expansion Area is not likely present because gold mining did not occur in this area and this area is higher than the major flooding elevation of Yuba River.

Aggregate at the Facility is mined at a depth below the water table and occurs in excavation ponds. The aggregate is directed to the processing area where it is washed and rinsed to remove sediment. This wash water (effluent) is discharged to a settling/recycling pond. Water from this pond is recycled back to the processing area for use as wash water.

ISSUES

None.

CITY OF PATTERSON, CITY OF PATTERSON WATER QUALITY CONTROL FACILITY, STANISLAUS COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF AMENDED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2018-0070-001

The City of Patterson owns and operates the City of Patterson Water Quality Control Facility (WQCF), regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R5-2018-0070, which prescribed discharge requirements for the WQCF. The WQCF treats and disposes of domestic wastewater generated in the City of Patterson through three separate treatment systems before disposing the wastewater in a series of 15 percolation ponds. On 22 June 2023, WDRs Order R5-2018-0070 was amended by Order R5-2023-0030 to authorize a 0.2 MGD flow limit increase following the completion of facility upgrades. On 16 May 2025, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge Addendum to install four membrane bioreactor treatment trains, upgrade the headworks with a new dewatering screw press, screens, and a grit washer, converting existing clarifiers for recycled water storage, and transitioning three other ponds to be used only for emergency storage of screened influent. This Order amends Order R5-2018-0070-001 to describe the additional improvements listed above, and authorizes a flow increase up to 3.7 mgd following the completion of the planned improvements.

ISSUES

None.

HARRIS RANCH BEEF COMPANY AND TRI WEST INVESTMENTS, LLC, SELMA BEEF PROCESSING FACILITY, FRESNO COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2017-0021

Harris Ranch Beef Company (Harris) owns and operates the Selma Beef Processing Facility (Facility) located at 16277 South McCall Avenue in Selma. The Facility is an industrial food processing facility that processes cattle year-round and generates process wastewater from livestock receiving, washing, slaughtering, carcass processing, sanitation, truck washing, and related operations. Process wastewater is treated through a dissolved air flotation unit, anaerobic digestion, biological treatment, and clarification. Effluent is then stored in double-lined ponds prior to land application.

The Facility is currently regulated by WDRs Order R5-2017-0021, which authorizes the discharge of treated wastewater to approximately 186 acres of land application areas (LAAs) that are also owned by Harris. On 22 May 2025, the Discharger submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) requesting a 39-acre expansion of the LAAs to parcels owned by Tri West Investments, LLC. Subsequent revised RWDs identified changes in wastewater quality associated with the June 2025 cessation of certain processes within the Facility's Cook Plant and clarified that the treatment system's design capacity is 0.75 million gallons per day (mgd), rather than the currently permitted 1.0 mgd.

The proposed revised WDRs are necessary to reflect Facility's current operations, treatment design, and wastewater characteristics. The proposed Order would rescind and replace WDRs Order R5-2017-0021, and authorize the following:

- A monthly average daily wastewater flow limit of 0.75 mgd to the treatment system and an annual flow limit of 234 million gallons to the LAAs.
- Continued operation of the advanced wastewater treatment system, including dissolved air flotation, anaerobic digestion, biological nutrient removal, clarification, and lined storage ponds.
- Expansion of the LAAs by approximately 39 acres
- Compliance with the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) Salt and Nitrate Control Programs.
- A cycle-average biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) loading limit of 50 pounds per acre per day.
- A performance-based effluent limit of 850 mg/L for fixed dissolved solids (FDS), calculated as an annual average.
- Preparation and implementation of an updated Wastewater and Nutrient Management Plan.
- Ongoing groundwater monitoring and assessment, in accordance with the May 2018 Groundwater Assessment Work Plan submitted by the Discharger.

ISSUES

Written comments on the tentative Order were due by 5 November 2026. Comments were received from the Discharger and Ms. JoAnne Kipps. In response to the comments received, staff made revisions to the tentative Orders as appropriate. Staff responses to comments are included in the agenda package.

GROWERS IN THE GRASSLAND DRAINAGE AREA, FRESNO AND MERCED COUNTIES – CONSIDERATION OF AMENDED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2015-0095-07

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, FRESNO AND MERCED COUNTIES – CONSIDERATION OF AMENDED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2019-0077

ZAMORA PISTACHIO, LLC, ZAMORA PISTACHIO FACILITY, YOLO COUNTY – CONSIDERATION OF AMENDED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R5-2024-0035

Zamora Pistachio, LLC owns and operates a pistachio hulling and processing facility regulated under Waste Discharge Requirement (WDRs) Order R5-2024-0035, adopted on 21 June 2024 before construction was completed. The Facility can process up to 42,000 tons of pistachios per year and generate approximately 50 million gallons of processed wastewater annually. Per the WDRs, wastewater is screened, filtered, sent to a clay-lined pond, and then

applied to approximately 440 acres cropped with pistachio orchards and cover crops. The Discharger has requested amendments to the WDRs to reflect updated pond design, conveyance infrastructures, and land application operations, including replacing the proposed single clay-lined pond with two ponds constructed with a 60-mil high-density polyethylene liner.

ISSUES

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the proposed Waste Discharge Requirements.

REVIEWS

Management Review:	
Legal Review:	

BOARD MEETING LOCATION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

AND VIA VIDEO AND TELECONFERENCE