

ATTACHMENT K Glossary

Active Treatment System

A treatment system that employs chemical coagulation, chemical flocculation, or electrocoagulation to aid in the reduction of turbidity caused by fine suspended sediment.

Air Deposition

Total suspended particulate matter found in the atmosphere as solid particles or liquid droplets. Chemical composition of particulates varies widely, depending on location and time of year. Sources of airborne particulates include: dust, emissions from industrial processes, combustion products from the burning of wood and coal, combustion products associated with motor vehicle or non-road engine exhausts, and reactions to gases in the atmosphere. Deposition is the act of these materials being added to a landform.

Approved Signatory

A person who has been authorized by the Legally Responsible Person to sign, certify, and electronically submit Permit Registration Documents, Notices of Termination, and any other documents, reports, or information required by the General Permit, the State or Regional Water Board, or U.S. EPA. The Approved Signatory must be one of the following:

- a. For a corporation or limited liability company: a responsible corporate officer. For the purpose of this section, a responsible corporate officer means: (a) a president, secretary, treasurer, or vice-president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation or limited liability company; or (b) the manager of the facility if authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures;
- b. For a partnership or sole proprietorship: a general partner or the proprietor, respectively;
- c. For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency: a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, city manager, council president, or other public employee with managerial responsibility over the industrial facility (including, but not limited to, project manager, project superintendent, or resident engineer);
- d. For the military: any military officer or Department of Defense civilian, acting in an equivalent capacity, who has been designated;
- e. For a public university: an authorized university official;

- f. For an individual: the individual, because the individual acts as both the Legally Responsible Person and the Approved Signatory.
- g. For any type of entity not listed above: an authorized person with managerial authority over the industrial facility.

Beneficial Uses

As defined in the California Water Code, beneficial uses of the waters of the state that may be protected against quality degradation include, but are 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)

As defined by US EPA, BAT is a technology-based standard established by the Clean Water Act (CWA) as the most appropriate means available on a national basis for controlling the direct discharge of toxic and nonconventional pollutants to navigable waters. The 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)

As defined by US EPA, BCT is a technology-based standard for the discharge from existing industrial point sources of conventional pollutants including biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended sediment (TSS), fecal coliform, pH, oil and grease.

Best Professional Judgment

The method used by permit writers to develop technology-based NPDES permit conditions on a case-by-case basis using all reasonably available and relevant data.

Best Management Practices)

BMPs are scheduling of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Chain of Custody

Form used to track sample handling as samples progress from sample collection to the analytical laboratory. The COC is then used to track the resulting analytical data from the laboratory to the client. COC forms can be obtained from an analytical laboratory upon request.

Daily Sampling Average

Daily average value for any one constituent or parameter is the average of all individual field measurements (for pH and specific conductance it is the average of the values, not the logarithmic average), or, for samples sent to an analytical lab, the average of the analytical results.

Debris

Litter, rubble, discarded refuse, and remains of destroyed inorganic anthropogenic waste.

Direct Discharge

A discharge that is routed directly to waters of the United States by means of a discrete conveyance such as a pipe, channel, or ditch (including a municipal storm sewer system), or through surface runoff.

Discharger

The Legally Responsible Person (see definition) or entity subject to this General Permit.

Dose Rate (for ATS)

In exposure assessment, dose (e.g. of a chemical) per time unit (e.g. mg/day), sometimes also called dosage.

Drainage Area

The area of land that drains water, sediment, pollutants, and dissolved materials to a common outlet.

Effluent

Any discharge of water either to the receiving water or beyond the property boundary controlled by the discharger.

Effluent Limitation

Any numeric or narrative restriction imposed on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of pollutants that are discharged from point sources into waters of the United States, the waters of the contiguous zone, or the ocean.

Erosion

The process by which soil particles are detached and transported by the actions of wind, water, or gravity.

Erosion Control BMPs

Vegetation, such as grasses and wildflowers, and other materials, such as straw, fiber, stabilizing emulsion, protective blankets, etc., placed to stabilize areas of disturbed soils, reduce loss of soil due to the action of water or wind, and prevent water pollution.

Facility

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

Field Measurements

Testing procedures performed in the field with portable field-testing kits or meters.

First Order Stream

Stream with no tributaries.

Good Housekeeping BMPs

BMPs designed to reduce or eliminate the addition of pollutants to construction site runoff through analysis of pollutant sources, implementation of proper handling/disposal practices, employee education, and other actions.

Green Infrastructure¹ (GI): An adaptable term used to describe an array of products, technologies, and practices that use natural systems – or engineered systems that mimic natural processes – to enhance overall environmental quality and provide utility services. As a general principal, Green Infrastructure techniques use soils and vegetation to infiltrate, evapotranspire, and/or recycle storm water runoff.

Identified Organisms

Organisms within a sub-sample that is specifically identified and counted.

Index Period

The period of time during which bioassessment samples must be collected to produce results suitable for assessing the biological integrity of streams and rivers. Instream communities naturally vary over the course of a year, and sampling during the index period ensures that samples are collected during a time frame when communities are stable so that year-to-year consistency is obtained. The index period approach provides a cost-effective alternative to year round sampling. Furthermore, sampling within the appropriate index period will yield results that are comparable to the assessment thresholds or criteria for a given region, which are established for the same index period. Because index periods differ for different parts of the state, it is essential to know the index period for your area.

Legally Responsible Person

A person, company, agency, or other entity that is the operator of the industrial facility covered by this General Permit.

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/oaintrnt/glossary.htm#g>

Low Impact Development² (LID)

is a sustainable practice that benefits water supply and contributes to water quality protection. Unlike traditional storm water management, which collects and conveys storm water runoff through storm drains, pipes, or other conveyances to a centralized storm water facility, LID takes a different approach by using site design and storm water management to maintain the site's pre-development runoff rates and volumes. The goal of LID is to mimic a site's predevelopment hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff close to the source of rainfall.

Non-Storm Water Discharges

Discharges are discharges that do not originate from precipitation events. They can include, but are not limited to, discharges of process water, air conditioner condensate, non-contact cooling water, vehicle wash water, sanitary wastes, concrete washout water, paint wash water, irrigation water, or pipe testing water.

Non-Visible Pollutants

Pollutants associated with a specific site or activity that can have a negative impact on water quality, but cannot be seen through observation (ex: chlorine). Such pollutants being discharged are not authorized.

Numeric Action Level

Level is used as a warning to evaluate if best management practices are effective and take necessary corrective actions. Not an effluent limit.

Original Sample Material

The material (i.e., macroinvertebrates, organic material, gravel, etc.) remaining after the subsample has been removed for identification.

pH

Unit universally used to express the intensity of the acid or alkaline condition of 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.

Qualified SWPPP Developer

Individual who is authorized to develop and revise SWPPPs.

Qualified SWPPP Practitioner

Individual assigned responsibility for non-storm water and storm water visual observations, sampling and analysis, and responsibility to ensure full compliance with the permit and implementation of all elements of the SWPPP, including the preparation of the annual compliance evaluation and the elimination of all unauthorized discharges.

Qualifying Storm Event

² http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/low_impact_development/index.shtml

An event that meets the following criteria:

1. Occurs during facility operating hours;
2. Is a storm event that has produced a minimum of ¼ inch of rainfall as measured by an on-site rainfall measurement device; and
3. Is a storm event that was preceded by five consecutive days of dry weather. Dry weather shall be defined as five consecutive days of combined rainfall of less than ¼ inch as measured by an on-site rainfall measurement device.

Remaining Sub sampled Material

The material (e.g., organic material, gravel, etc.) that remains after the organisms to be identified have been removed from the subsample for identification. (Generally, no macroinvertebrates are present in the remaining sub sampled material, but the sample needs to be checked and verified using a complete Quality Assurance (QA) plan)

Runoff Control BMPs

Measures used to divert runoff from offsite and runoff within the site.

Run-on

Discharges that originate offsite and flow onto the property of a separate project site.

Sediment

Solid particulate matter, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, gravity, or ice and has come to rest on the earth's surface either above or below sea level.

Sedimentation

Process of deposition of suspended matter carried by water, wastewater, or other liquids, by gravity. It is usually accomplished by reducing the velocity of the liquid below the point at which it can transport the suspended material.

Sediment Control BMPs

Practices that trap soil particles after they have been eroded by rain, flowing water, or wind. They include those practices that intercept and slow or detain the flow of storm water to allow sediment to settle and be trapped (e.g., silt fence, sediment basin, fiber rolls, etc.).

Sheet Flow

Flow of water that occurs overland in areas where there are no defined channels where the water spreads out over a large area at a uniform depth.

Significant Materials

Includes, but is not limited to: raw materials; fuels; materials such as solvents, detergents, and plastic pellets; finished materials such as metallic products; raw materials used in food processing or production; hazardous substances designated under Section 101(14) of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); any chemical the facility is required to report pursuant to Section 313 of Title III of Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); fertilizers; pesticides; and waste products such as ashes, slag, and sludge that have the potential to be released with storm water discharges.

Significant Spills

Include, but are not limited to, releases of oil or hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities under Section 311 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311 (see also 40 C.F.R. §§110.10 and 117.21), or Section 102 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. § 9602 (see also 40 C.F.R. § 302.4).

Storm water

Storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and storm water surface runoff and drainage.

Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity

The discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. The term does not include discharges from facilities or activities excluded from the NPDES program under 40 CFR Part 122. For the categories of industries identified in Attachment A of this General Permit, the term applies.

Structural Controls

Any structural facility designed and constructed to mitigate the adverse impacts of storm water and urban runoff pollution

Total Suspended Solids

The measure of the suspended solids in a water sample includes inorganic substances, such as soil particles and organic substances, such as algae, aquatic plant/animal waste, particles related to industrial/sewage waste, etc. The TSS test measures the concentration of suspended solids in water by measuring the dry weight of a solid material contained in a known volume of a sub-sample of a collected water sample. Results are reported in mg/L.

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

The cloudiness of water quantified by the degree to which light traveling through a water column is scattered by the suspended organic and inorganic particles it contains. The turbidity test is reported in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) or Jackson Turbidity Units (JTU).

Waters of the United States

Generally refers to surface waters, as defined by the federal Environmental Protection Agency in 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.³

Water Quality Objectives

Water quality objectives are defined in the California Water Code as limits or levels of water quality constituents or characteristics, which are established for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses of water or the prevention of nuisance within a specific area.

Water Quality Standards Consist of beneficial uses, water quality objectives to protect those uses, an antidegradation policy, and policies for implementation. Water quality standards are found in Regional Water Quality Control Plans and statewide water quality control plans. The US EPA has also adopted water quality criteria (the same as objectives) for California in the National Toxics Rule and California Toxics Rule.

³ The application of the definition of “waters of the United States” may be difficult to determine; there are currently several judicial decisions that create some confusion. If a landowner is unsure whether the discharge must be covered by this General Permit, the landowner may wish to seek legal advice.