

# NPDES Permit

## Introduction and Status

*Presentation to NapaSan Board of Directors*  
January 6, 2021  
by Monica Oakley



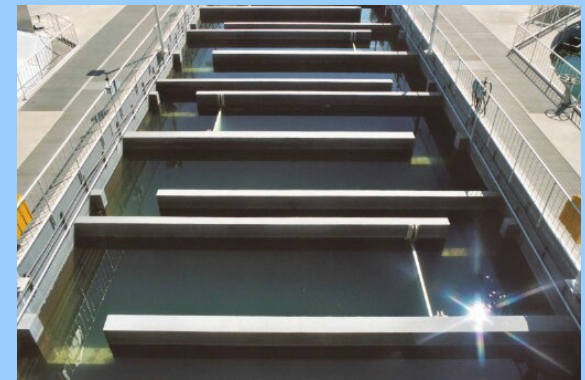
# Outline for Discussion

- Brief introduction to NPDES Permits
- What's in NapaSan's NPDES Permit?
- Activity completed so far for current permit cycle
- Anticipated new elements for 2021 NPDES permit
- Schedule going forward
- Concluding remarks



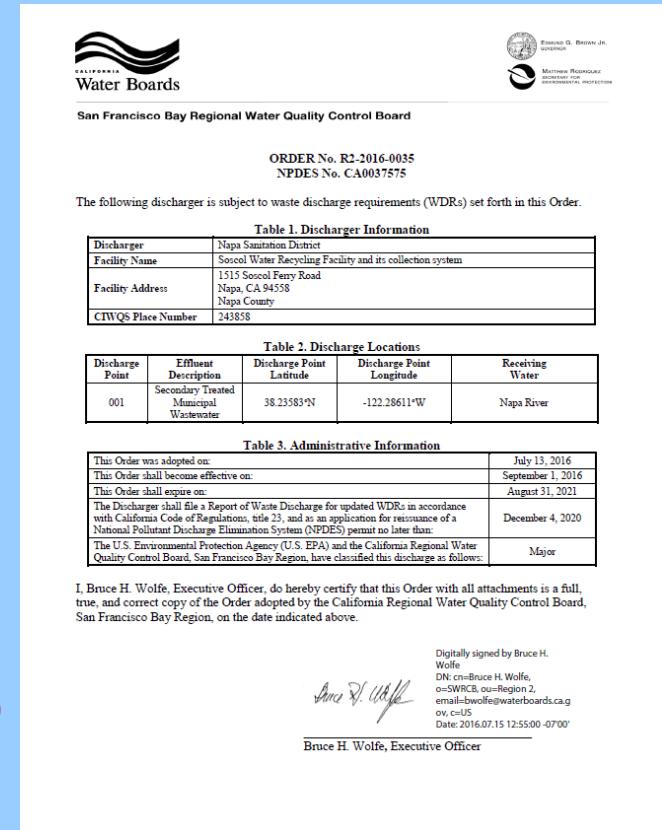
# About NPDES Permits

- NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Federal and State permit
  - Clean Water Act (federal)
  - Porter-Cologne Act (state)
- Issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (a state agency)
- Federal authority is delegated to the state by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Each NPDES Permit lasts for five years
- About 40 municipal wastewater treatment plants in the Bay Area have an NPDES permit, including NapaSan



# What's in an NPDES Permit?

- Basic Facts / Findings
- Discharge Prohibitions
- Effluent Limits
- Receiving Water Limits
- Provisions
- Definitions
- Facility Maps and Schematics
- Federal Standard Provisions
- Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP)
- Fact Sheet
- Regional Standard Provisions
- Pretreatment Requirements
- Biosolids Requirements



The image shows a sample NPDES permit document from the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. It includes the California Water Boards logo, the permit order number (R2-2016-0035), and the NPDES number (CA0037575). The document specifies the discharger as the Napa Sanitation District, located at 1515 Soscol Ferry Road, Napa, CA 94558. It details the discharge point (Secondary Treated Municipal Wastewater) and the receiving water (Napa River). The permit also includes administrative information such as the adoption date (July 13, 2016), the expiration date (August 31, 2021), and the date of the next report (December 4, 2020). The document is signed by Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer, and includes a digital signature.

**San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board**

ORDER No. R2-2016-0035  
NPDES No. CA0037575

The following discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements (WDRs) set forth in this Order.

**Table 1. Discharger Information**

Discharger	Napa Sanitation District
Facility Name	Soscol Water Recycling Facility and its collection system
Facility Address	1515 Soscol Ferry Road Napa, CA 94558 Napa County
CITWQS Place Number	243858

**Table 2. Discharge Locations**

Discharge Point	Effluent Description	Discharge Point Latitude	Discharge Point Longitude	Receiving Water
001	Secondary Treated Municipal Wastewater	38.23583°N	-122.28611°W	Napa River

**Table 3. Administrative Information**

This Order was adopted on:	July 13, 2016
This Order shall become effective on:	September 1, 2016
This Order shall expire on:	August 31, 2021
The Discharger shall file a Report of Waste Discharge for updated WDRs in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, and as an application for reissuance of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit no later than:	December 4, 2020
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, have classified this discharge as follows:	Major

I, Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of the Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on the date indicated above.

Digitally signed by Bruce H. Wolfe  
DN: cn=Bruce H. Wolfe, o=SWRCB, ou=Region 2, email=bwolfe@waterboards.ca.gov, c=US  
Date: 2016.07.15 12:55:00 -0700

Bruce H. Wolfe, Executive Officer

Existing permit is  
137 pages

<http://www.napasan.com/205/NPDES-Permit>

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**CALIFORNIA Water Boards**

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# Discharge Prohibitions

1. Not allowed to discharge treated wastewater to the Napa River except as described in the permit
2. Bypass around treatment units is not allowed (unless you meet requirements for an exception)
3. Average dry weather flow cannot exceed 15.4 MGD
4. Sanitary sewer overflows to waters of the US are prohibited
5. Discharge to Napa River is not allowed from July 1 to September 30 except in emergency



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# Effluent Limits

## Parameters

- Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)
- Total suspended solids (TSS)
- pH
- Total residual chlorine
- Copper
- Nickel
- Cyanide
- Dioxin
- Ammonia
- Percent removal of BOD and TSS
- Enterococcus bacteria
- Toxicity



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## Considerations

- Limits apply to treated effluent
- Different frequencies
  - Average weekly and monthly
  - Maximum daily
  - Instantaneous min and max
- Concentrations
  - mg/L
  - µg/L
  - Others
- Different limits by season
- 43 effluent limits in total
- Mandatory minimum penalties for noncompliance

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# Monitoring and Reporting Program

- Locations:
  - Influent flow
  - Effluent flow to Napa River
  - Recycled water delivered
  - Receiving water (Napa River)
  - Biosolids
  - Groundwater
- Variety of frequencies
- Approximately 5,400 measurements per year (based on discharging for 6 months)
- Monthly and annual reporting

Frequencies (depending on parameter):

- Once per hour
- Once per day
- Once per week
- Twice per week
- Once per month
- Once per quarter
- Once per year

# Rough Estimated Schedule

- “Tentative Order” public draft permit expected between March & June 2021
- Adoption between August & October 2021
- New NPDES permit in effect between November 2021 & January 2022
- Expiration of new permit between October & December 2026



# Concluding Remarks

- NPDES permit forms basis for many aspects of NapaSan operations and capital projects
- Permit renewal is technical and complex process
  - 137 pages, many customized to NapaSan
  - Regional permit policy often changes permit by permit
  - Permit terms negotiated with regulatory agency
- We work to maintain good relationship with Regional Water Board staff
- NPDES Permit Renewal is a Team Effort:
  - Tim Healy
  - Andrew Damron
  - Jim Keller
  - Chris Francis
  - Monica Oakley

