

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

MEETING DATE: August 8, 2018

ITEM: **4**

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: *August 2018*

A Monthly Report to the Board and Public

NEXT MEETING: August 8, 2018

WEBSITE: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/>

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City of Burlingame Collection System Improvements (Patrick Karinja)

At the June Board hearing for the reissuance of the City of Burlingame's NPDES permit for its Wastewater Treatment Facility, the Board requested more information about the City of Burlingame's efforts to improve its collection system. At the time, we presented a summary of sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) rates that did not appear to show a reduction in SSOs despite the City spending \$18 million on its collection system over the previous permit term. However, the summary did not include data prior to 2013, when the City identified and rehabilitated high-priority collection system segments. In fact, the City has significantly improved its collection system in recent years.

In October 2008, the City settled a lawsuit with the San Francisco Baykeeper to reduce sewage spills to San Francisco Bay. Among other things, the City agreed to substantially improve its collection system over the next ten years. The City used closed-circuit television (CCTV) and citywide flow monitoring to complete a full condition assessment of its system and identify high-priority points for pipe cleaning and replacement. These efforts substantially decreased the number of SSOs from the City's collection system, as shown below:

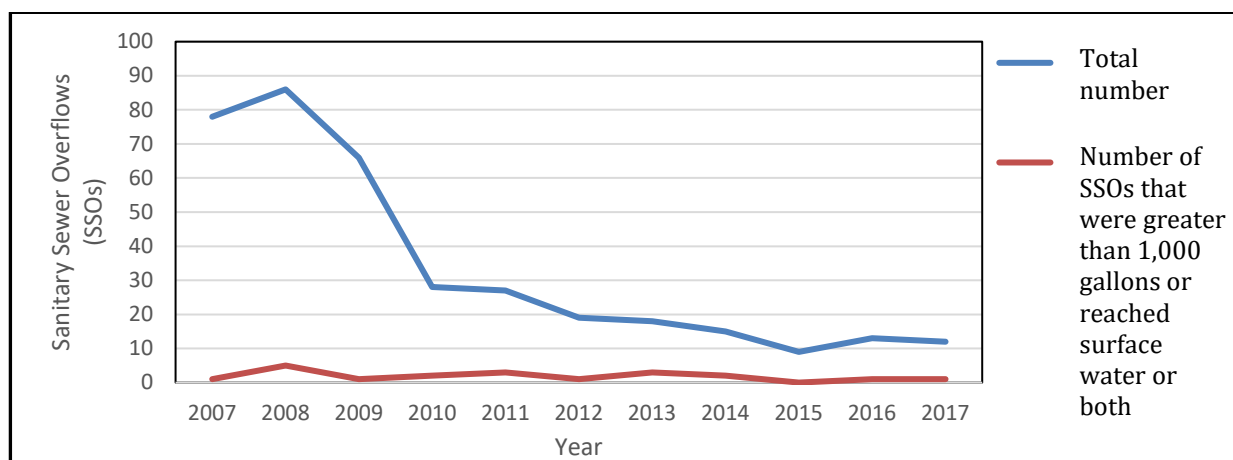


Figure 1: City of Burlingame Collection System SSOs per Year

While the City achieved significant reductions in SSOs from 2007 through 2012, its SSO rate has been fairly constant over the past five years because the City has addressed its most significant infrastructure issues and is now maintaining a systematic program to clean, inspect, and manage its collection system. The City inspects and cleans its entire collection system every three years and cleans sewer segments with a history of problems more frequently. Each year, it applies chemical agents to control roots and fats, oils, and grease at strategic locations. Over the past 15 years, the City has rehabilitated an average of two percent of its system each year. Moving forward over the next five years, the City plans to complete at least \$18 million of sewer rehabilitation and system improvements in accordance with its NPDES permit, which should result in an annual rehabilitation rate between one and two percent. This rate is comparable to the rates required of the East Bay communities through a 2014 consent decree.

The City's efforts have been successful. Since 2014, the City has had an average of only one SSO per year greater than 1,000 gallons or reaching surface water. (The City's other SSOs were small-volume spills to land.) This SSO rate is below the SSO rate for the San Francisco Bay Region as a whole and comparable to the SSO rate for the entire State.

Pretreatment Programs Comply with National Requirements (Mary Boyd)

Our Region's publicly-owned wastewater treatment works (POTWs) substantially comply with national pretreatment program requirements. "Pretreatment" is the practice of reducing or removing pollutants from industrial and commercial wastewater before discharging the wastewater to a POTW's collection system. U.S. EPA regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 403 require POTWs discharging more than five million gallons per day to implement pretreatment programs by imposing their own permits on their industrial dischargers through local ordinances. To comply with these local permits, industrial and commercial dischargers must employ pretreatment techniques and management practices to reduce or eliminate pollutant discharges to sanitary sewers. Their actions reduce or remove industrial pollutants, such as metals, corrosive substances, viscous materials, toxic constituents, excess heat, explosion hazards, oils, or other pollutants that can interfere with POTW operations or pass directly through a POTW's treatment process and pollute receiving waters.

Our Region's NPDES permits require pretreatment programs to be implemented at 29 POTWs. The programs specify requirements for legal authorities, program development, local limits, implementation, inspections, monitoring, reporting, and enforcement. These requirements are typically found in Attachment H of our permits. We receive semiannual and annual reports, and U.S. EPA contractors conduct compliance audits and compliance inspections on our behalf. Compliance audits are comprehensive reviews of all elements of each POTW's pretreatment program. Compliance inspections verify POTW compliance and evaluate each POTW's compliance monitoring and enforcement activities. With its contractor support, we have met U.S. EPA's expectations for auditing each POTW's program once and inspecting each program twice each five years. We also review pretreatment annual reports on our own as resources allow. During fiscal year 2017-2018, we reviewed all 29 annual reports. Based on our reviews of the annual reports, and the associated inspections and audits, we conclude that our Region's pretreatment programs are in substantial compliance with permit requirements.

U.S. EPA is phasing out its contractor support for pretreatment program audits and inspections, and State Water Board staff is looking for alternative means to ensure pretreatment oversight. In the interim, we do not anticipate any harm to POTW operations or water quality because the pretreatment program in our Region is well-established and mature and because POTW compliance is good.

General Permit for Vineyard Properties: Program Update (Mike Napolitano)

The Board's General Permit for vineyard properties (General Permit), adopted in July 2017, regulates parcels developed to include a 5 acre-or-larger vineyard that are located within the Napa River and Sonoma Creek watersheds. The initial compliance requirement for most properties is to enroll in the General Permit by July 31 of this year. However, where any part of an existing vineyard property was impacted by the North Bay wildfires, the deadline for enrollment was extended by one-year to July 31, 2019.

Based on a review of recent vineyard mapping, and overlapping our mapping with the wildfire perimeter, we estimate that approximately 43,000 acres of vineyard planted on parcels totaling about 86,000 acres are subject to the required to enroll by July 31 of this year. To facilitate compliance with the enrollment deadline, over the past few month, Board staff:

- a) Mailed out postcards to more than 1500+ vineyard property owners that are subject to the General Permit;
- b) Conducted five public meetings between early April and late June in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek watersheds to provide an opportunity for vineyard managers and owners to learn what the General Permit requires, how to enroll, where to go to get more information or assistance and to connect growers with Third-Party Programs;
- c) Worked with State Board staff to create an electronic General Permit enrollment form;

- d) Prepared plain English instructions that explained enrollment, and worked together with local agricultural organizations to get the word out about the meetings and enrollment deadlines;
- e) Provided immediate responses to numerous emails and phone calls related to the need for the General Permit and its requirements; and
- f) Sent targeted emails to all owners or managers of 100 acres-or-more of vineyards, to remind them of the requirement to enroll by July 31 (as applicable) and/or to thank those who had already enrolled.



Figure 2: *Mt. Veeder Vineyard*

As of July 31, 2018, 1265 properties have enrolled in the General Permit, corresponding to approximately 46,400 acres of vineyards planted on parcels totaling approximately 94,100 acres. This represents approximately 90 percent of the total acreage that is required to enroll by that date.

The successful rollout of the General Permit can also be attributed to outreach efforts provided by local agricultural organizations and Third-Party Programs. Four, Third-Party Programs were approved by the Executive Officer in January 2018; these programs role is to assist vineyard owners with the development of farm plans and to verify that the farm plans, when fully implemented, will achieve the performance standards set forth in the General Permit.

Following this year's grape harvest, beginning in late October, we will focus our outreach efforts on annual report submittals (due on December 15) and providing information and assistance about the farm planning element of the General Permit. We will also be working with the Napa County Farm Bureau and other local agricultural organizations to implement a group monitoring program. We will keep the Board informed of this program's progress.

In-house Training

In-house trainings are scheduled to resume in the fall.

Enforcement Actions (Mary Boyd and Brian Thompson)

The following table shows the proposed and settled enforcement actions since last month's report. In addition, enforcement actions are available on our website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/public_notices/pending_enforcement.shtml

Proposed Settlements			
The following have been noticed for a 30-day public comment period. If no significant comment is received by the deadline, the Executive Officer will sign an order implementing the settlement.			
Discharger	Violation(s)	Proposed Penalty	Comment Deadline
Schnitzer Steel Industries	Discharge limit violations	\$12,000	August 23, 2018
Ford Motor Company	Discharge limit violation	\$3,000	August 24, 2018
Settled Actions			
On behalf of the Board, the Executive Officer approved the following:			
Discharger	Violation(s)	Imposed Penalty	Supplemental Environmental Project
Dublin San Ramon Services District	Unauthorized discharge of chlorinated potable water resulting in a fish kill	\$72,500	\$36,250

401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received (Abigail Smith)

The table below lists those applications received for Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification from June 18 through July 11, 2018. A check mark in the right-hand column indicates a project with work that may be in BCDC jurisdiction.

Project Name	City/Location	County	May have BCDC Jurisdiction
Eden Canyon Road, Castro Valley - Culvert Replacement	Castro Valley	Alameda	
Oakland International Airport – Riprap Repair	Oakland		✓
Kirker Pass Road – Northbound Truck Climbing Lane	Concord	Contra Costa	
San Joaquin Valley Crude Pipeline Project	Martinez		✓
Dredging at 3 Bellevue Ave	Belvedere	Marin	✓

Pile Driving at 3 Bellevue Ave	Belvedere		✓
Sir Francis Drake Blvd Road Resurfacing	Inverness		
Shelter Bay Condominiums – Foundation Repairs	Mill Valley		✓
Stafford Road Extension	Novato		
58 Shady Lane Upper Bank Retaining Wall	Ross		
12 Barber Ave Upper Bank Retaining Wall	San Anselmo		
R-914 L-0219 – Pipeline Replacement Project	San Rafael		
1801 Cook Road Stream Bank Stabilization	Napa	Napa	
Dredging at CGC Aspen Mooring	San Francisco	San Francisco	✓
Bart Transbay Tube – Cathodic Protection Maintenance Work 2018	San Francisco / Oakland	San Francisco / Alameda	✓
Belmont Creek Bank Repair at 1647 Ralston Avenue	Belmont	San Mateo	
Crystal Springs – San Andreas Pipeline Erosion Repair	Burlingame		
Pillar Point Harbor – Boat Launch Ramp Dredging	Half Moon Bay		
Pilarcitos Dam and Reservoir - Improvements Project	Pacifica		
Cordilleras Creek Bank Stabilization at 2057 Eaton Avenue	San Carlos		
Newby Island Landfill – Tidal Channel Stabilization	San Jose	Santa Clara	✓
21229 Hyde Road in Sonoma – Culvert Extension	Sonoma	Sonoma	