• Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) Audits

• SSMP updates

• Compliance Evaluation Inspections utilizing USEPA recommended standards with a credentialed inspector.
Table of Contents

01 Updates/News
02 Recommendations (LROs, Supervisors, Managers)
03 Benchmarking Data
A. Draft WDRs
April 8, 2022


Fischer Compliance LLC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions on the Draft Sanitary Sewer Systems Waste Discharge Requirements (Draft SSS WDR) released on January 31, 2022. These comments and suggestions build on information previously presented to the State Water Board at its virtual Draft WDR workshop on March 15, 2022 available for download at: www.fischercompliance.com.

We first would like to thank Water Board staff for the extensive outreach and thoughtful approach taken soliciting input from stakeholders for this important regulatory program. We support many of the proposed requirements in the Draft Order including:

- Improved transparency and clarification of Water Board authority, regulatory priorities and policies established since adoption of the 2006 WDR to “encourage the regulated community to anticipate, identify and correct violations” as stated in Enforcement Policy.
- Optional regulatory oversight by regional boards for privately-owned sewer systems which often negatively impact professionally managed public systems.
- Reduced agency costs for compliance with extending timelines for SSMPs/Audits.
Draft WDRs

✓ Implementation Committee
✓ Bi-Annual review (regulation performance + NGO Lawsuits)
✓ More time to transition
✓ Reduce inspections via added transparency
✓ Flexibility for LROs
✓ Incentives for Certification
✓ “Fix-it-Ticket” (Close Small SSO Violations)
✓ Other fixes for improving current WDRs
B. Statewide Compliance/Enforcement
B. Statewide Compliance/Enforcement

Regional Board Enforcement (2017-2022)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Quality Violations</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settlement reached with sewer district that had hundreds of raw sewage spills</td>
<td>12/29/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Water Board reaches settlements with four companies for waste discharge violations $411,282 will be deposited in state’s cleanup account</td>
<td>12/22/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global real estate company agrees to pay $565,304 for unauthorized discharges at construction site Exeter reaches settlement with Santa Ana Water Board</td>
<td>09/29/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial Irrigation District settlement leads to water quality upgrade for disadvantaged households $549,000 fine will be used to provide Point of Entry water treatment</td>
<td>09/20/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monterey One Water to pay $800,000 for discharges of untreated wastewater into Monterey Bay</td>
<td>08/17/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement reached but monitoring continues of crude oil release in Ventura County watershed $330,218 in fines will be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund</td>
<td>06/30/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego Water Board orders federal treatment plant to stop discharge permit violations Agency also directed to make repairs at wastewater border facility</td>
<td>06/29/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG&amp;E settlement for once-through-cooling discharges at Diablo Canyon nuclear plant</td>
<td>06/22/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court decision upholds $2.8 million fine, clears path for long-awaited restoration of Point Buckler Island Unauthorized levee construction considered brazen and harmful</td>
<td>06/17/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laguna Beach reaches $1.5 million settlement for wastewater collection system failure</td>
<td>06/09/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pistachio processing facility in Tulare County will pay $221,440 fine for odor violations</td>
<td>06/07/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.5 million settlement reached for Mule Creek State Prison violations of Clean Water Act</td>
<td>03/29/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Colfax agrees to settlement for Bunch Creek sewage spill</td>
<td>03/26/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumiden Wire Co. agrees to settlement in industrial wastewater discharge case</td>
<td>03/11/2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Desert Water Agency agrees to pay $181,947 penalty for sewage collection system spill

Colorado River Basin Regional Board approves settlement

April 12, 2022  Contact: Ailene Voisin – Public Information Officer

PALM DESERT – Desert Water Agency, a public utility that owns and operates a wastewater collection system serving Cathedral City, agreed to pay a $181,947 penalty for discharging approximately 268,916 gallons of raw sewage into the Whitewater River Channel.

The incident occurred between Feb. 15-19 after a main pipe ruptured during a heavy storm, sending the untreated wastewater into the channel in Cathedral City. The agency successfully diverted the sewage when it became aware of the spill and later replaced the sewer line.

In the settlement approved today by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board, half of the penalty will be deposited in the State Water Resources Control Board’s Cleanup and Abatement Account. The remaining funds will be used to purchase and install the Cathedral Canyon Lift Station Flow Meter Monitoring Vault and Sample Box to detect flow variations that indicate pipe breakages and take water samples to identify pollution in the river channel and local groundwater.
Recommendations
A. Know Responsibilities
A. Know Responsibilities

LRO Responsibilities

Program Contact
- State Board Inspectors
- Regional Board Inspectors
- USEPA
- NGOs

Spill Certifications
- Data Submitter Data/Accuracy
- Field Staff Data/Accuracy
- QA/QC

Compliance
- Notification
- Reporting
- SSMP Implementation
- Record Keeping
- Spill Estimations

Enforcement
- Point of Contact
- Tech Reports
- 13267 Investigations
- Settlement Negotiations
- Other

SSMP Work Programs
- Provisions 1-11
- Other Requirements
- New Regulations
B. Get Resilient
B. Get Resilient
Get Resilient

1. Get Resilient

   B.

   **STEP 1**
   Evaluate your current SSMP compliance

   **STEP 2**
   Evaluate your most recent SSMP Audit

   **STEP 3**
   Evaluate your CIWQS reporting/records

   **STEP 4**
   Evaluate your training program

   **STEP 5**
   Complete Water Board Pre-Inspection Questionnaire
## Get Resilient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Compliance Points</th>
<th>2006 WDRs (#)</th>
<th>2022 Draft WDRs (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Definitions</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Findings</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prohibitions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specifications</td>
<td>(see Provisions)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRP</td>
<td>dozens</td>
<td>dozens</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSMP elements</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachments</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>
## B. Get Resilient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Requirements</th>
<th>2006 WDRs (23 pages)</th>
<th>2022 Draft WDRs (85 pages)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Findings</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Prohibitions</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Specifications</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provisions</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• MRP</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SSMP elements (with flexibility)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Attachments</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• LRO Licensing (operator cert.)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enforcement (Water Code 13267/13383)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SSMP (detailed/prescriptive requirements/CIWQS/public link)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Audits (detailed/prescriptive requirements/CIWQS/public link)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Risk assessment</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Resilience planning</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sewer rate/funding/budget detailed narrative including commitments</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Resource allocation/details</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal authority (expanded) including easements, storm drain access, lateral defined ownership and maintenance if applicable</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Category 4 spills/reduced reporting option (&lt; 50 gallons)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Condition assessment (detailed requirements)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sewer system boundary (GIS shape file)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Monitoring (large SSOs, 50,000 gallons or greater to waters of state)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use of current industry practices (equipment, tech, strategies)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SSMP AUDIT DASHBOARD

1. Goals 0 1 2
2. Organization 0 1 3
3. Legal 0 1 2
4. O/M 0 1 3
5. Design 0 1 3
6. OERP 0 1 4
7. FOG 0 1 3
8. SECAP 0 2 2
9. Monitoring 0 2 2
10. Audits 0 2 2
11. Communication 0 1 3
12. Implementation 0 2 3
13. Training/SOPs 0 1 3
14. Notification 0 1 3
15. SSOs 0 1 3
16. Reporting 0 1 6
17. Monitoring 0 2 2
Get Training

WDRs WORKSHOPS
(full-day in-person)
$299

8/18/2022
(830-1530)

Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Sanitary Sewer Systems
New Waste Discharge Requirements
for LRO’s, Supervisors, and Managers

- Expedite agency compliance to avoid violations.
- Reduce risks for enforcement and fines.
- Learn Regional Board insights to get your program ready before inspectors arrive.
- Learn SSMP Auditing Best Practices for resilience with Regulators/NGOs.

+Bring your Current SSMP/Audits for expert compliance feedback!
Get Training

1. Expedite SSMP/Audit compliance.

2. Avoid Common Violations

3. Reduce Enforcement/Fines

4. Gear-up for Anticipated New WDRs.

5. Resilience/hold-up to scrutiny.
APPENDIX 1
COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION (CEI) REPORT

FACILITY INSPECTED:
West Bay Sanitary District
500 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025

INSPECTED BY:
James Fischer, P.E.
NPDES Compliance Inspector
Principal, FISCHER COMPLIANCE, LLC
James Fischer
Date: 5/17/2022

REVIEWED BY:
Sam Rose
Principal, SAN ROSE CONSULTING

SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM (WASTEWATER)
Water Quality Order(s) 2006-003-DWQ/2013-0058-EXEC
CWWQS Phase ID 63167B
Regional Water Quality Control Board 2
County San Mateo
Population/Area 55,000
Miles of Sewers (gravity) 200.23
Miles of Sewers (force mains) 10.6
Sewer Connections (ff) 19,141
Lift Stations (ff) 12
Final wastewater disposal Silicon Valley Clean Water (WDID 255010190)

EXAMPLE CONTENT
(SSMP AUDITS)

Photo 9: Safety gas monitoring checked by operations staff prior to opening wet well hatch; no hazardous gas levels were observed by meter prior to inspection.

Photo 10: District staff inspecting wet well at station.

Photo 11: View inside wet well at station no significant buildup of grease, grit, or major corrosion observed.

Photo 12: Inspection with operations staff on station operations, maintenance, bypassing, wet well holding basin, and meter reading.

annual conference
August 10-12, 2023 | San Diego, California
REGULATORY BEST PRACTICES
CASA
Agency was not able to produce photo of spilling manhole

Was this spill under reported?

135 minutes x 2.5 GPM = 338 Gallons

135 minutes x 5.0 GPM = 675 Gallons

Spill Volume Under Reported?
WBSD Spills (SSOs), 2007-2021

Audit Benchmark

Initial SSS WDRs Implementation

# of Cat 1
2 2 5 6 0 0 0 3 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0

# of Cat 2
0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1

# of Cat 3
44 53 43 35 16 11 10 11 4 9 3 4 4 0 3

TAKEAWAY: WBSD spills dramatically reduced
Spill (SSO) Rates, 2007-2021

TAKENAY: WBSD lower than Region past 10 years
Spill (SSO) Rates, Region 2 Agencies

Audit Benchmark

TAKEAWAY: WBSD lower than many others in Region
**WBSD Cleanings/Inspections, 2007-2022**

Audit Benchmark

**TAKEAWAY:** WBSD maintains strong benchmarks
WBSD Certified Staffing, 2007-2022

Takeaway: WBSD increases cert. staffing
Conclusions

1. Comply with Current Order
2. Prepare for Changes
3. Know LRO Responsibilities
4. Get Resilient
5. Get Trained
What’s Next

1. More Benchmarking
2. Comparisons with CIWQS
3. More Audit Results
4. More WDRs Statewide Trainings
Conclusions

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(916) 606-5275