

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 79-41

APPROVAL OF EXCEPTION TO THE OCEAN PLAN  
FOR AQUACULTURE ENTERPRISES,  
NPDES NO. CA0047937,  
AND GRANITE CANYON MARINE CULTURE AND  
BIOASSAY LABORATORY,  
NPDES NO. CA0047741

WHEREAS:

1. On January 19, 1978, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a revised "Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California", hereinafter called the Ocean Plan; and
2. Aquaculture Enterprises currently discharges an average of 0.025 million gallons per day (94 m<sup>3</sup>/day) of mariculture aquarium water waste into the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States, at a point N 36° 37' 05" Lattitude, W 121° 53' 24" Longitude, via a short 2 inch diameter outfall near Point Alones at 810 Cannery Road, Monterey in Monterey County; and
3. The Granite Canyon Marine Culture and Bioassay Laboratory is run by the California Department of Fish and Game and discharges an average of 0.20 mgd (760 m<sup>3</sup>/day) of seawater which has passed through rearing and holding tanks containing marine animals into the Pacific Ocean, a water of the United States, approximately 4 miles south of Carmel Highlands via a drainage ditch on the site (Lattitude 36° 26' 22" N, Longitude 121° 55' 17" W) Toxic wastes from the bioassay laboratory are discharged to a sealed evaporation pond. Sanitary wastes are discharged to a septic tank system; and
4. On February 9, 1979, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Regional Board) adopted Orders Nos. 79-17 and 79-25 including the proposed exceptions; and
5. Both Orders Nos. 79-17 and 79-25 limit the allowable suspended solids concentration in the effluent seawater to an average 75 mg/l during any 30-day period and a maximum 125 mg/l, instead of the requirement in the Ocean Plan's Table A that 75% of suspended solids in the effluent be removed before discharge; and
6. By memorandum dated February 16, 1979, the Regional Board requested that the dischargers be granted the exception based on the points quoted below:
  - "1. At the time of adoption of the Ocean Plan, no consideration was given to simple, flow-through seawater systems which do not significantly alter the suspended solids concentrations of the intake water; and

- "2. These exceptions will not compromise protection of ocean waters for recognized beneficial uses; and
  - "3. The public interest will be served by not requiring the dischargers to remove 75% of the suspended solids contained in natural seawater."; and
7. As set forth in Chapter VI, Section G of the Plan, the State Board may, with the concurrence of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), grant exceptions to any provision of the Ocean Plan provided it determines:
- "1) The existence of unusual circumstances not anticipated at the time of the Plan's adoption,
  - "2) The exception will not compromise protection of ocean waters for beneficial uses, and
  - "3) The public interest will be served."; and
8. Based on evidence received during a public hearing held April 19, 1979, the State Board concurs with the Regional Board's points quoted previously.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Resources Control Board:

1. Approves the exception to the 75% suspended solids removal limitations in Table A of the Ocean Plan requested by the Regional Board and contained within Orders Nos. 79-17 and 79-25; and
2. Declares that the exception will become effective upon receipt of written concurrence from the EPA; and
3. Requests, by this resolution, that EPA provide its concurrence as soon as possible.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 19, 1979.

  
Larry F. Walker  
Executive Director