

**From:** Brandon Sanderson  
**To:** Douglas Valby  
**Date:** 12/21/2007 9:50:53 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Report of discharge incident on December 20, 2007 under  
WDID#344C348540

Doug,

Thanks for the quick response to contain and clean-up the turbid discharge and for notifying the Water Board of the discharge in a timely manner. It sounds like measures are being taken to prevent further discharges of the sort. Please make sure Spiess Construction Co. is aware of the Construction General Permit requirements and follows the SWPPP developed for the site. Provide training if necessary and log training attendees in SWPPP. Please revise SWPPP to include any changes they may have been developed per the discharge incident. Thanks again for the timely response to the matter and I look forward to receiving your follow-up report.

For future reference, I am handling all storm water issues for Santa Cruz Co. Please direct all communications to:

Brandon Sanderson  
Environmental Scientist  
Central Coast Water Quality Control Board  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Phone: (805) 549-3868  
Fax: (805) 788-3585  
bsanderson@waterboards.ca.gov

"Everyone lives downstream from someone else."

>>> "Douglas Valby" <DValby@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us> 12/20/2007 2:57:02 PM >>>  
Dear Mr. Innis,

On Thursday, December 20, 2007 near the intersection of Bay Drive and Iowa Drive in Santa Cruz, the City Water Department's contractor was building the fill pad for the temporary tanks at the Bay Street Reservoir Replacement Project (200 Cardiff Place), but used crushed concrete from the demolition, instead of the specified ¾" crushed drain rock. Consequently, the rainfall saturated and mobilized the concrete dust to the drain inlet and out to the City storm drain system and Bay Drive Creek. The contractor (Spiess Construction Co., Inc.) was and continues to work under the City's General Permit WDID#344C348540.

A complaint about cloudy water in Bay Drive Creek was received by the City Public Works Department and I was informed of the complaint at 9:55 AM. I was onsite to confirm complaint at 10:05 AM. By 10:15 AM I had found the source and shut the valve on the drain inlet to cease the flow. I then drove to a spot with cell phone reception and called for support in documenting the

turbidity. The first sampling began at 10:36 AM.

Water Quality Measurements:

5.27 ntu @ Discharge to Creek -visual cloudiness

4.69 ntu @ 15' downstream of convergence of the discharge and creek. -visual cloudiness

1.14 ntu @ 10' upstream of convergence

13.6 ntu @ 100' downstream of convergence -visual cloudiness

61.5 ntu @ bridge approximately 500' downstream of convergence. -visual cloudiness

11.1 ntu @ intersection of Bay and Escalona. -All visual cloudiness gone

Two samples were taken to the City's Water Quality Laboratory with pH found to be at 7.8 pH upstream and 8.3 pH downstream of the convergence.

The discharge entering the creek must have started at approximately 8 AM, when the contractor began work and was stopped at 10:15 AM with an estimated rate of flow of 25 gpm, translating to an overall discharge of 3,375 gallons of turbid water. Bay Creek does not provide habitat for any special status species. The creek runs year-round, being fed by an intercepted spring piped over to it, as well as storm drain runoff.

The reservoir has been isolated from the storm drain system while the contractor removes the crushed concrete spoils and cleans up the inlet sump and gravel bag inlet filter. The remaining turbid water will be pumped to the City's sanitary sewer system.

A follow up report will document the clean up effort and include a map and photos.

Thanks for your attention to this incident.

Doug Valby, P.E.

Associate Civil Engineer, City Water Department

809 Center St. Rm.102 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

tel:831.420.5212 fax:831.420.5201

email: [dvalby@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us](mailto:dvalby@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us) <<mailto:dvalby@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us>>