



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
May 1, 2024 – May 31, 2024

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1. Personnel Report – Sandra Lopez

Promotion

- Bryan Talmadge, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, as the Supervisor overseeing the Forestry/Dredge and Fill Unit (FDF). This position will manage a team of two Environmental Scientists, two Engineering Geologists, a Water Resource Control Engineer, and a Scientific Aid. The FDF is responsible for implementing the Forestry Activities Program and the Dredge and Fill Program throughout the Lahontan region.

Vacancies

- Environmental Scientist, Planning & Assessment Unit. This position will assess water quality data to help develop the 303(d) Impaired Waters List, work to restore impaired waters, and work on Basin Planning priorities. The position requires work based in science, policy, and public process.
- Environmental Scientist, Forestry/Dredge & Fill Unit. Responsibilities will include drafting permits, providing technical expertise, evaluating and assisting in the drafting of environmental documents, making policy recommendations, and performing sensitive assignments related to water quality issues and protection throughout the Lahontan Region. Evaluate and regulate the impacts of logging operations and other forest practices on the quality and beneficial uses of water. Prepare CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for project compliance with regulatory requirements.

- Water Resource Control Engineer Forestry-Dredge & Fill Unit. This position will coordinate with the federal land management agencies and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in reviewing timber harvest plans (THPs), Working Forest Management Plans (WFMPs), Non-industrial Timber Management Plans (NTMPs), utility corridor vegetation management plans, and timber harvest exemptions to evaluate the impact of logging operations and other forest practices on the quality and beneficial uses of water. Review projects that may affect waters of the US and state to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Basin Plan). Prepare Clean Water Action Section 401 water quality certifications and/or waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for project compliance with all regulatory requirements. Due to budgetary constraints, this vacancy will not be posted at this time.

2. 1st Quarter of 2024 Violations and Other Enforcement Actions – *Shelby Barker*

There were 27 violations documented for the first quarter of 2024. Violations consisted of 1 basin plan prohibition, 1 cannabis-related order condition violation, 1 land disposal Board Order violation for discharge of windblown material and debris, 2 unauthorized discharges, 3 exceedances of effluent limit concentration, 5 deficient monitoring violations, 6 late reports, and 8 deficient reporting of required information. The unauthorized discharges were for plowed snow with entrained sediment placed directly into Wa She Shu Creek (formerly known as Squaw Creek) and a discharge of wastewater from a cannabis facility into a stormwater basin.

Enforcement actions beyond those listed in the attached table may be taken as needed to protect water quality and environmental health within the region.

In addition to quarterly violations, four proposed formal enforcement actions were posted to the [Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board's Enforcement](#) website for public notice during the first quarter 2024 reporting period:

- 1) An updated hearing schedule notification was posted for the Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R6T-2023-0027 for David Park and Park Livestock Co for unpermitted activity in West Walker River that occurred first quarter 2019. This hearing has been scheduled for August 19, 2024.
- 2) In March 2024, a proposed settlement agreement for an ACL associated with the Coldstream Roundabout Construction Project (comment period ended April 5, 2024). The ACL is for third quarter 2021 through fourth quarter 2022 violations of the construction general permit.
- 3) In March 2024, proposed revisions to the Cleanup and Abatement Order for Big O Tires was posted to reflect changes made to address comments previously received. Since no substantial changes were made, the revision was not subject to an additional public comment period.

- 4) In March 2024, proposed revisions to the Cleanup and Abatement Order for Former Norma's Cleaners was posted to reflect changes made to address comments previously received. Since no substantial changes were made, the revision was not subject to an additional public comment period.

First Quarter 2024 Violations Report - January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Description	Corrective Action	Enforcement Action
Cannabis	B	Kern	Regal Green Remedies	Regal Green Remedies	6V15CC402490	BPP Regionwide #3 violation, unauthorized discharge to stormwater basin	Immediately cease discharge to stormwater basin. Develop Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address leaking infrastructure, prevent future unauthorized discharges, noncompliant business practices. CAP provided to Water Boards 5/20/24. CAP implementation by 7/20/2024.	Notice of Violation
						Cannabis Cultivation Policy, Attachment A violation, Leaking reverse osmosis wastewater system infrastructure resulting in unauthorized discharge of wastewater; Improperly sealed cultivation rooms resulting in unauthorized discharge of industrial process waters; Active unauthorized discharge of industrial wastewaters to a stormwater basin; Cleaning and disinfecting of cultivation equipment outside of facility buildings resulting in unauthorized discharge of industrial wastewaters.		
						Water Code section 13264 violation. The discharges of industrial cannabis wastewater to a stormwater basin at the facility are not permitted under the Cannabis General Order, nor has a RoWD been received by the Lahontan Water Board, as required by Water Code section 13260. The actual discharges of waste observed during the March 27th, 2024, inspection is therefore a violation of Water Code section 13264.		
Land Disposal	B	Kern	Golden Queen Mining Co LLC	Soledad Mountain Project	6B159708001	(1) Leachate Collection and Recovery System (LCRS) grab samples were not sampled for monitoring parameters arsenic, copper, iron, lead, mercury, nitrate, sulfate, total dissolved solids (TDS) during the 4th quarter 2023 monitoring period. (2) LCRS grab samples were not sampled for field parameters dissolved oxygen, electrical conductivity, pH, temperature, and turbidity during the 4th quarter 2023 monitoring period. Violations of Board Order R6V-2021-0020 Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP).	During the meeting conducted on 4/9/2024, the discharger stated sampling for the monitoring parameters and field parameters will occur when liquid is found in the LCRS.	Oral Communication
						(1) The electronic data files (EDF) for groundwater laboratory data for the October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 sampling and reporting period was not submitted by the due date (January 30, 2024). (2) Annual calibration documentation of instrument calibration and performance checks were not turned in. Violations of Board Order R6V-2021-0020 MRP.	During the meeting conducted on 4/9/2024, the discharger stated that missing reports and information will be turned in. The missing documentation was submitted on 5/2/2024.	
		Lassen	Lassen County	Bass Hill Sanitary Landfill (Lassen County Class III Landfill)	6A180013000	Failed to submit the 2023 second semi-annual groundwater monitoring report by January 15, 2024. Violation of Board Order 6-01-045-A1, MRP.	Lahontan Water Board staff are working with the Discharger to return to compliance.	Staff Enforcement Letter
			US Army Sierra Army Depot	Sierra Army Depot SWDS	6A180019000	Failed to submit the 2023 second semi-annual groundwater monitoring report by January 15, 2024. Violation of Board Order 6-93-102, MRP.	Lahontan Water Board staff are working with the Discharger to return to compliance.	Oral Communication

First Quarter 2024 Violations Report - January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024

Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Description	Corrective Action	Enforcement Action
		San Bernardino	American Organics	Victor Valley Regional Compost	6B369912001	(1) Wind direction is not recorded in the 4th quarter 2023 monitoring report. (2) Time-series do not include the applicable maximum contaminant level (MCL) or water quality protection standard (WQPS) limits for each respective constituent or monitoring parameter. Violations of Board Order R6V-2016-0031 MRP.	Discharger is working with Waterboard staff on next steps.	Oral Communication
Land Disposal	B	San Bernardino	American Organics	Victor Valley Regional Compost	6B369912001	(1) Discharge of windblown material and debris to the adjacent land north of the site. Violates Board Order R6V-2016-0031, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR).	Discharger used rakes, shovels, and bins to remove litter and winblown material from the adjacent land. A silt fence was re-installed along the north side of the property. Water Board staff are working with the discharger on the next steps.	Oral Communication
			Pacific Gas & Electric Company Hinkley	PG&E Hinkley Compressor Station	6B362031001	(1) During weekly inspection of LCRS, liquid was detected and was not sampled. Violates Board Order No. R6V-2013-0003, WDR. (1) Due to recent storms, stormwater needed to be pumped out of inactive Pond 7R. Pumping exceeded Greater than Rapid or Large Leakage Rates and no sample was collected. Violates Board Order No. R6V-2013-0003, WDR.	Sampling will occur when liquid is found in LCRS. Sampling will take place if next storm event exceeds Greater than Rapid or Large Leakage Rate.	Oral Communication
NPDES Wastewater	B	Lassen	Amedee Geothermal Venture I	Amedee Geothermal Power Plant	6A188410000	Semi-Annual Self-monitoring Report (SMR) for H2 2023 (2807111) was due on 15-JAN-24	Discharger was notified of late report and next semi-annual reporting due date to be submitted on time.	Staff Enforcement Letter
			Susanville Consol SD	Susanville CSD	6A181554001	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) (5-day @ 20°C) Monthly Average limit is 85% and reported value was 80% at EFF-001.	Discharger was informed that the 85% removal efficiency for BOD is required regardless of the influent BOD results.	Staff Enforcement Letter
						Total Coliform Weekly Average limit is 23 colony-forming unit (CFU)/100 milliliter (mL) and reported value was 92 CFU/100 mL at EFF-002.	Discharger Comment: We confirmed the UV units were all working properly, watched a video on proper sampling techniques, and had a meeting to discuss the need for a clean sample.	Oral Communication
						No TDS result for TDS for February 2024 sample at RSW-002.	Missed sample was discussed with Discharger during compliance inspection on 5/21/2024. It was found that TDS was missing from the Chain of Custody for the month of February 2024, but was corrected for the month of March 2024. No further action is required.	Staff Enforcement Letter

First Quarter 2024 Violations Report - January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024

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	A	San Bernardino	Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority	Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant	6B360109001	Ammonia, Total (as nitrogen) Monthly Average limit is 0.55 mg/L and reported value was 0.75 mg/L at EFF-001.	Sampling for ammonia analysis occurred late in the month, so additional samples could not be collected for the average. Sampling will be performed earlier in the month to avoid exceeding the average limit due to a single unusually high concentration.	To Be Determined - Enforcement Action Pending
WDR - Industrial Wastewater	B	San Bernardino	Green Valley Foods	Green Valley Foods	6B360704003	Late report violation. 4Q23 report due 1/15/24. Report received 3/1/24, 35 days late.	Discharger was notified of late report and that reports are to be submitted on time.	Staff Enforcement Letter
			Searles Valley Minerals	Argus Plant	6B368905004	(1) The list of chemical additives was not included with the annual report. (2) Flow Monitoring Data was not included with Quarter 4/Annual report. Violations of Board Order R6V-2005-0024 MRP.	Discharger stated that missing reports and information will be turned in.	Oral Communication
				Trona Plant	6B368020001	(1) The list of chemical additives was not included with the annual report. (2) Flow Monitoring Data was not included with Quarter 4/Annual report. Violations of Board Order R6V-2000-0053.		
WDR - Industrial Wastewater	B	San Bernardino	Searles Valley Minerals	West End Plant	6B368905005	(1) The list of chemical additives was not included with the annual report. (2) Flow Monitoring Data was not included with Quarter 4/Annual report. Violations of Board Order R6V-2000-0054 MRP.	Discharger stated that missing reports and information will be turned in.	Oral Communication
WDR - Municipal Wastewater	B	El Dorado	South Tahoe PUD	STPUD Wastewater Treatment Plant	6A095900700	Missing the total daily volume, in million gallons, of wastewater flow to Harvey Place Reservoir (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 4) and of treated wastewater released from Harvey Place Reservoir for delivery to the on-farm emergency disposal area (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 4). Did not sample in January 2023 due to access issues (Quarter 1), SW-06 in March due to access issues (Quarter 1), SW-02 due to access issues (Quarter 1), SW-07 due to no flow (Quarters 1, 4), SW-08 due to no flow (Quarter 3, 4), ACMW-06S due to access issues (Quarter 1)HVC-1, HVC-2, and HVC-3 in January and February due to access issues (Quarter 1), MW11 due to access issues (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 4). Did not test for Total Dissolved Phosphorus at Stations GW-05, -08, -11, ACMW-24, -25, -26 (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 4).	To send missing information to Lahontan in order to be in compliance with their board order.	Staff Enforcement Letter
		Lassen	US Army Sierra Army Depot	Sierra Army Depot Sewage Treatment Plant	6A180020000	4th Quarter 2023 SMR submitted on March 25, 2024 with a due date of January 15, 2024.	Discharger was notified of late reporting violation; no future action is required.	Staff Enforcement Letter
			USDA Forest Service Lassen National Forest, Eagle Lake District	Eagle Lake Rec Area	6A188505700	Report submitted on 3/7/24, due on 2/15/24. 21 days late.	Discharger uploaded the missing report to GeoTracker upon request and acknowledged that the report was late.	Staff Enforcement Letter
						Missing October pond monitoring and vadose monitoring samples. Violates Board Order R6T 2010 0056, MRP Section II.B.3 and Section II.C. Discharger notified, said samples were not taken, and is aware of requirement.	Discharger indicated he has spoken to new personnel at the lab to resolve issue with late bottle deliveries. Discharger was instructed to self-report violations in future SMRs.	Staff Enforcement Letter

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Program Category	Priority Violation	County	Responsible Party	Facility	WDID	Violation Description	Corrective Action	Enforcement Action
		San Bernardino	Adelanto Public Utility Authority	Adelanto WWTP	6B369805001	Discharger has not complied with the following sections of the Amendment to MRP: Section I.C.b - Identify latitude and longitude for surveyed sampling points for monitoring wells. Section I.C.c - surveyed elevation for a monitoring well. Section I.C.g - upload of boring logs for all groundwater monitoring wells in PDF format to the GeoTracker database.	The inspection report includes action items for the Discharger to meet for compliance.	Oral Communication
			CA Dept of Trans DO8 (San Bernardino-Riverside Office) Caltrans	C.V. Kane Safety Roadside Rest	6B369405003	MRP Sections I.A.1-3 and I.B were not included with the 2023 annual report.	These items were not observed with the 2022 annual report and were requested during a site inspection on December 5, 2022.	Oral Communication
WDR - Non-Municipal	B	Placer	Squaw Valley Resort LLC	Squaw Valley Ski Area	6A310118070	Plowed snow from East Lot and Bus parking Lot with entrained sediment placed/discharged directly into Squaw Creek/Wa She Shu Creek.	Summary for Implemented Corrective Actions due on March 29, 2024. Corrective action plan due on April 5, 2024.	Notice of Violation