State Water Resources Control Board



Division of Water Quality

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JUN 1 5 2009

Mr. Theodore Jackson, Director of Operations California Department of Parks and Recreation 1416 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Jackson:

ACCEPTED APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGES INTO AREAS OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE (ASBS)

On October 18, 2004, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) notified the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) of its discharges in violation of the California Ocean Plan's (Ocean Plan) ASBS waste discharge prohibition. On May 31, 2006, the State Water Board received your application package for an exception to the Ocean Plan for your ASBS discharges. On April 23, 2007, the State Water Board notified State Parks that its application was incomplete. On January 28, 2009, we met along with our respective staff to discuss the ASBS exception application and the potential for coverage of State Parks' facilities under the Phase II General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Permit. At that meeting, State Parks committed to providing technical assistance to the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) in its ASBS monitoring program funded by the State Water Board, and to providing our staff with any requested information regarding park facilities, in lieu of providing all of the information requested in our April 23, 2007 letter.

This letter serves to acknowledge that we have received confirmation from SCCWRP of your staff's assistance provided in the statewide water quality monitoring project performed during the 2008-2009 storm season. In addition, your staff has been cooperative in identifying your facilities and activities subject to regulation under an Ocean Plan ASBS exception and a subsequent permit. Your application is therefore accepted, and staff will recommend coverage of your storm water and nonpoint source discharges under the general exception. We expect the draft general exception to be released for public review soon.

If the exception is adopted by the State Water Board, staff anticipates coverage of State Parks' facilities with ASBS discharges to be designated under the Phase II General NPDES Storm Water Permit. Designation under this permit will require State Parks to implement a storm water management plan.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5458 (dpolhemus@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dominic Gregorio, Senior Environmental Scientist, Ocean Unit, at (916) 341-5488 (dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director Division of Water Quality

cc: Mr. Michael Stevens
California Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Environmental Protection Agency