

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Grizzly Ranch Community Services District Wastewater Reclamation Facility, Plumas County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal*

BACKGROUND: The Discharger owns a wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling facility, which is currently operated by PERC Water Corporation, and provides sewer service to the homes and businesses in the Grizzly Ranch Community Services District. The Wastewater Treatment Plant (Facility) is designed to treat 0.081million gallons per day of domestic wastewater (design flow). The treatment system consists of a headworks with flow metering and a rotary drum screen for solids removal; a sequencing batch reactor for waste strength reduction and nitrogen removal; multi-media filters for additional removal of biological oxygen demand (BOD), total suspended solids (TSS), and turbidity, an outfall diffuser, and a pumping station for irrigation of recycled water. Treated wastewater is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite. Wastewater used for irrigation is then transferred to the irrigation pond, and wastewater discharged to Big Grizzly Creek is dechlorinated with sulfur dioxide. Grizzly Creek Golf LLC has a recycled water use permit for the recycled water (R5-2007-0001). Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point No. EFF-001 to Big Grizzly Creek, a water of the United States, and a tributary to the Middle Fork of the Feather River within Sierra Valley Hydrologic Sub-area. From 16 November to the last Saturday in April, discharge of treated wastewater to Big Grizzly Creek is allowed if dilution of at least 100:1 can be maintained. Currently, not enough homes are occupied for the facility to operate and startup has been delayed. Therefore, wastewater from the Grizzly Ranch development is transported to an alternative wastewater treatment facility in Portola.

Public comments were received from the Discharger's consultant, and the Central Valley Clean Water Association (CVCWA). Detailed comments and responses are included in the Staff Response to Comments document included in this agenda item.

ISSUES: The main issue for this facility is that it has not had a discharge (due to the low volume of waste generated by the Grizzly Ranch Community Services District). All wastewater is being transported to a Publically Owned Treatment Works in Portola for disposal. As soon as the flows are adequate to operate the reclamation plant, the Discharger will be producing recycled water that will be available for reuse by the Grizzly Creek Golf Course.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review ___BJS___

Legal Review _____

30 November, 01/02 December 2011

11020 Sun Center Dr. #200

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

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