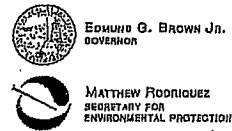




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State Water Resources Control Board

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[Certified Mail: 7003 1680 0000 6172 6416]

Mr. Thomas Harty  
Monterey County Resource Management Agency  
168 West Alisal Street, 2nd Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Director  Ass. Director  O.F.W.R.  
RFS # 100000016550  
Architect/Eng  
Const/Maint/Plan  
Finance  
Design  
Community Dev  
Project Dev  
Env/Svc/Traffic

Dear Mr. Harty:

*Note: Harty enclosure given to Tom H. RE Storm Water Management Program*

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF THE GENERAL EXCEPTION TO THE CALIFORNIA OCEAN PLAN WASTE DISCHARGE PROHIBITION FOR SELECTED STORM WATER AND NONPOINT SOURCE DISCHARGES INTO AREAS OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE, INCLUDING SPECIAL PROTECTIONS FOR BENEFICIAL USES; REQUEST FOR MONITORING PROGRAM REPORT

On May 12, 2008, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board notified Monterey County Resource Management Agency (Monterey County), as a responsible party, to cease storm water and nonpoint source waste discharges into Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) or to request an exception from the California Ocean Plan ASBS waste discharge prohibition. On December 23, 2008, Monterey County submitted a request for an exception to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). On March 20, 2012, the State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2012-0012, approving an exception to the California Ocean Plan for the ASBS Waste Discharge Prohibition for Storm Water and Nonpoint Source Discharges, with Special Protections for beneficial uses (General Exception). Enclosed please find the General Exception and Special Protections. These documents are also posted on the State Water Board Web site at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012\\_0012.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2012/rs2012_0012.pdf).

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the adoption of the General Exception and Special Protections and to require, pursuant to the General Exception and to California Water Code section 13383, information you must submit regarding your plans to initiate monitoring in the next storm season.

According to the General Exception, monitoring shall commence during the first storm season following adoption of the Special Protections, which is the 2012-13 storm season. You are required to perform both core monitoring for runoff and ambient seawater monitoring for receiving water and reference sites. There are two options for fulfilling your ambient water monitoring requirements: an individual monitoring program, or a regional integrated monitoring program. While we strongly encourage you to participate in a regional monitoring program, you may elect instead to perform individual monitoring. You must identify your selected option and report that decision in a letter to the State Water Board by August 1, 2012. Please feel free to

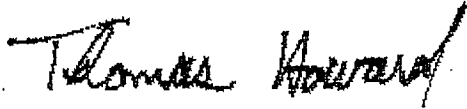
CHARLES R. HOPPIN, CHAIRMAN | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

contact staff if you need assistance in the development of a regional integrated monitoring program.

You should also be aware that the General Exception also requires Monterey County to submit to the State Water Board by September 20, 2013, an ASBS Compliance Plan. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall describe your strategy to comply with these special conditions, including the requirement to maintain natural water quality in the affected ASBS. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall include a description of appropriate non-structural and structural controls, and a draft implementation schedule to comply with the General Exception. The State Water Board recommends that you initiate development of your ASBS Compliance Plan. If you need assistance in planning, please feel free to contact our staff.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Maria de la Paz Carpio-Obeso, Ocean Unit Chief, at (916) 341-5858 or e-mail [mcario@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mcario@waterboards.ca.gov), or Mr. Dominic Gregorio, Manager of the Watershed, Ocean and Wetland Section, at (916) 341-5488 or e-mail [dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Thomas Howard  
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Roger W. Briggs  
Executive Officer  
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401