

**APPENDIX E – STATUS REPORT TO THE CENTRAL COAST  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**

**Status Report to the  
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**Submitted by the  
South County Regional Wastewater Authority**

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**September 2002**

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**SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL WASTEWATER AUTHORITY  
Status Report to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
September 2002**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The South County Regional Wastewater Authority (SCRWA) appreciates this opportunity to present the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) with an updated status report describing SCRWA's expected future wastewater disposal constraints, ongoing investigative efforts, and proposed measures to address these future constraints in the most environmentally sound manner.

### **Purpose of this Document**

The purpose of this document is to provide Board members with the necessary background information to understand the critical future wastewater disposal issues facing SCRWA and the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill. This document is also intended to provide a framework for discussion and comment on the key issues and proposed alternatives in order for SCRWA to implement a viable long-term wastewater management strategy in accordance with stakeholder goals and concerns.

### **Problem Statement**

Currently, SCRWA's Waste Discharge Order (No. 00-116) provides only for on-site disposal of secondary-treated wastewater in percolation ponds. The capacity of these percolation ponds is expected to be adequate for most conditions during most years. However, SCRWA anticipates that for some future high rainfall seasons, the capacity of the ponds may not be adequate due to the high groundwater conditions and increased wastewater flows that occur during wet weather. SCRWA anticipates a potential future need to discharge excess tertiary-treated wastewater to nearby receiving waters during years when extreme wet season conditions occur. While ongoing evaluations indicate that the probability of such a discharge appears low (less than 2 percent chance each year during the next decade), SCRWA would like to work with the Regional Board to proactively arrange for mutually agreeable conditions in the event that a wet season discharge becomes necessary. SCRWA believes that such provisions in a future NPDES permit would minimize the potential safety and public health risks associated with emergency events, and ensure that the most appropriate, environmentally sound arrangements are made for such events.

### **Background**

SCRWA presently handles the collection, treatment, and disposal of approximately 6.5 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater derived from the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill. The SCRWA Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), located in Gilroy, CA, includes approximately 7.5 MGD of advanced secondary treatment capacity (including biological nutrient removal of nitrates) and 3 MGD of tertiary treatment capacity. As depicted in the attached location map, Figure 1, the WWTP lies adjacent to Llagas Creek nearly three miles upstream from its confluence with the Pajaro River, which drains into Monterey Bay. SCRWA's current wastewater disposal practices include delivery of up to 3 MGD of tertiary treated effluent for reclaimed water use as

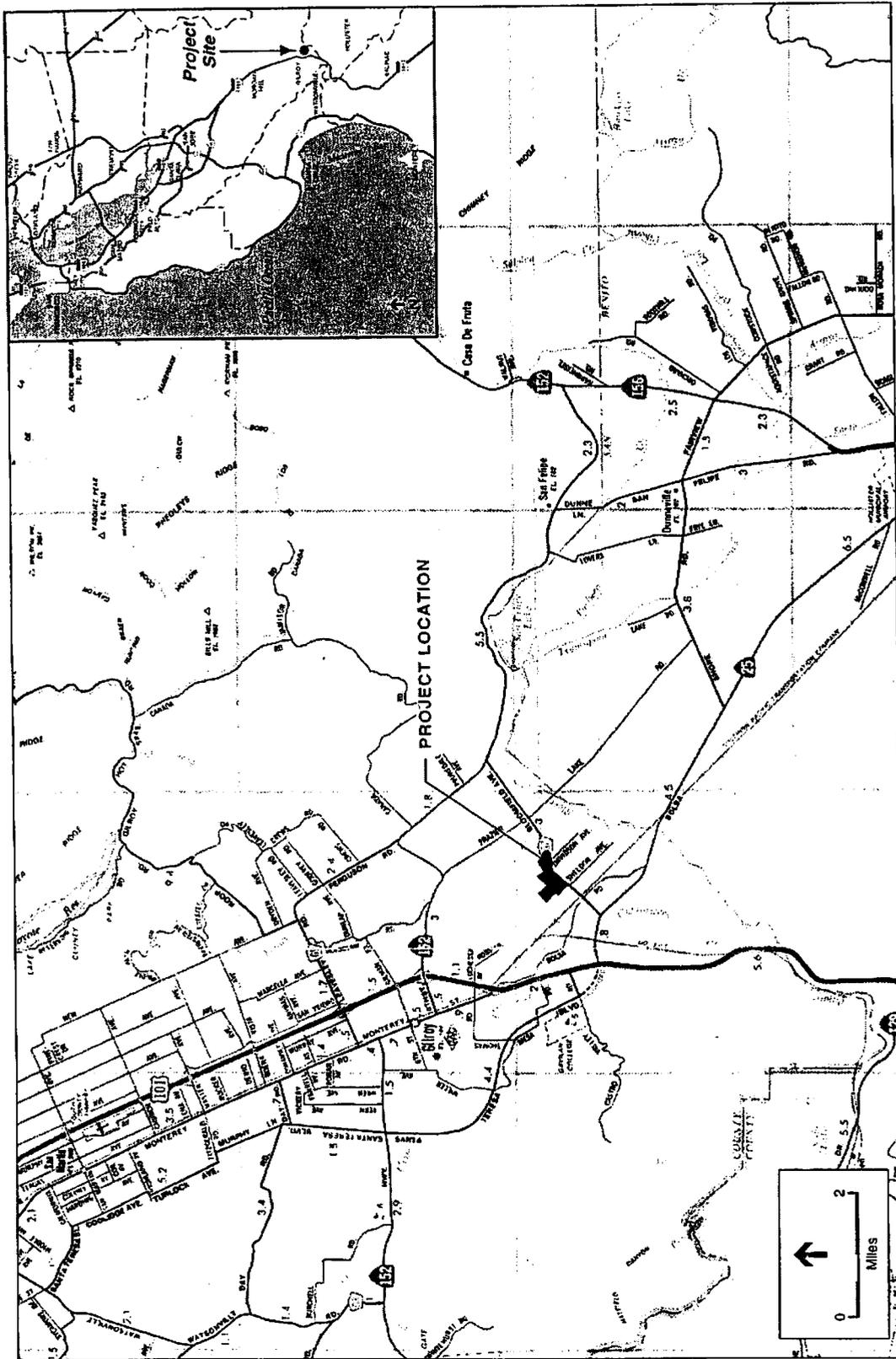


Figure 1: Project Location Map

demanded by users, with the remaining flow treated to secondary levels and disposed of in nearly 400 acres of percolation ponds adjacent to the WWTP. It is noteworthy that both the secondary and tertiary treatment systems are state-of-the-art facilities, built in the 1990's, with an excellent track record of success. In 2001, SCRWA operating staff received awards from the California Water Environment Association for regional Plant of the Year, Operator of the Year, and the annual Plant Safety Award. .

SCRWA and the communities it serves have been concerned about future wastewater disposal constraints for more than a decade. In 1990, SCRWA completed an EIR to examine the best environmental option for addressing its future wastewater disposal constraints. The EIR focused on five disposal alternatives:

- 1) Land Only, which would require buying additional adjacent land and forcing prime agricultural properties out of production;
- 2) Constructing underdrains to the Pajaro River to enhance percolation rates and provide an underground conduit directly to the Pajaro River;
- 3) A wet season discharge to the Pajaro, with land disposal on existing properties during the dry season;
- 4) Year round discharge to the Pajaro via an outfall pipeline; and
- 5) Year-round discharge directly to the ocean via an outfall pipeline.

The EIR concluded that Alternative 3, discharging to the Pajaro during the wet season only, would be the preferred alternative.

As described in this document, SCRWA is currently evaluating two alternatives which both involve dry season disposal in on-site percolation ponds with as-needed wet season discharge to nearby receiving waters. The first alternative would involve occasional wet season discharge to the adjacent Llagas Creek via a wetland, and the second would involve occasional wet season discharge to the Pajaro River via an outfall pipeline. The latter alternative is consistent in concept with the 1990 EIR recommendation. The former (Llagas Creek via a wetland) alternative, which has been designed in concept to provide a greater overall environmental benefit, would require additional CEQA review. It is noteworthy that each of these alternatives would involve less frequent discharge occurrences and reduced potential discharge flow volumes than those anticipated in SCRWA's previous ND PES permit application submitted to the Regional Board in 1998.

## **DESCRIPTION OF WET SEASON CAPACITY ISSUES**

This section describes the projected future wet season capacity issues at the SCRWA WWTP, including percolation and storage capacities, hydraulic modeling efforts, and related issues such as infiltration and inflow control and recycled water delivery.

### **Discussion of Wet Season Flow Patterns**

Like all wastewater systems, the SCRWA system experiences increased wastewater flows during wet weather as a result of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system.

While the influent wastewater flow rate fluctuates over the rainy winter season, only a finite amount of treated wastewater (roughly 10 MGD) can be percolated into the ground each day. Percolation capacity may also decrease during certain times of the wet season due to higher groundwater levels underneath the percolation ponds. Over the course of a typical winter, wastewater flows entering the SCRWA WWTP will occasionally exceed the percolation capacity of SCRWA's percolation ponds. On these occasions, SCRWA utilizes the storage capacity of the percolation ponds until the rainfall subsides, and the stored treated wastewater eventually percolates into the ground. In extremely wet seasons, however, such as the winter of 1997-98 which experienced over 33 inches of rain, stored water levels can reach a point where the pond levees are threatened and/or the ponds would not sufficiently dry out over the course of the summer to allow annual dry season pond reconditioning. SCRWA performs extensive pond reconditioning measures, which require completely dry ponds, during the summer months each year to ensure that adequate percolation rates are maintained throughout the year.

### SCRWA WWTP Hydraulic Model Projections

As part of its Effluent Management Plan efforts, described later in this document, SCRWA has been modeling the impacts of projected future increased flows on existing percolation and storage capacities at the WWTP. These hydraulic models involve superimposing historical wet season rainfall data on future (increased) base wastewater flows to predict the influent wastewater flows that could be expected at the SCRWA facility in the years up to 2020. In order to consider the near worst-case scenario, SCRWA is utilizing rainfall and influent wastewater flow data from the 1997-98 winter season and applying these data to future flows. This represents one of the wettest years on record and the wettest year for which daily flow data are available for the SCRWA facility. As shown in Figure 2, the 1997-98 winter season experienced nearly twice the 40-year average seasonal rainfall for the region.

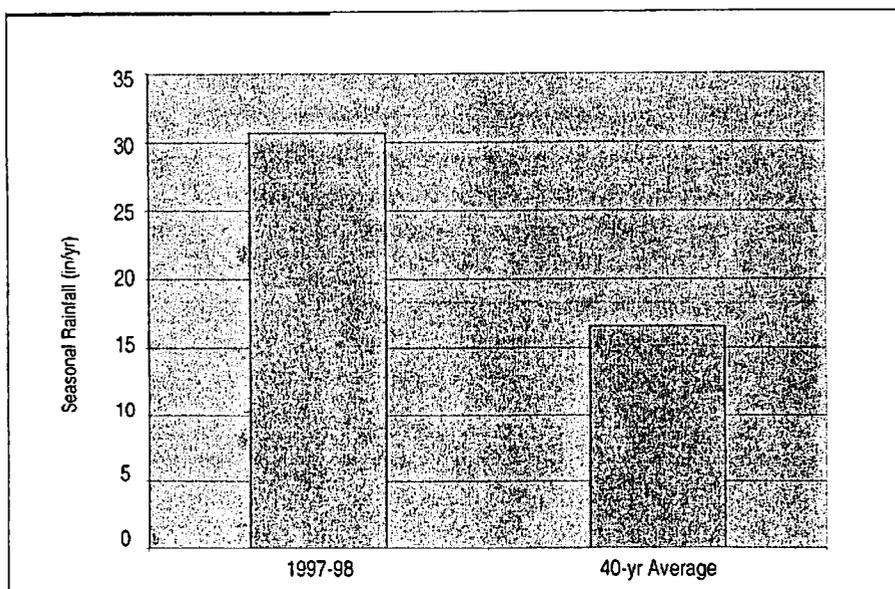


Figure 2: Comparison of 1997-98 Rainfall to 40-Year Average

Modeling efforts performed to date indicate that as SCRWA's base wastewater flows increase over the next 20 years, wet season flows will exceed SCWRA's percolation capacity more frequently. As shown in Figure 3 below, while ample capacity was available during 2000-2001, if a season comparable to the 1997-98 season were to occur in the future, SCRWA projects that its percolation capacity may be exceeded to such an extent that discharge would be required. The maximum expected wet season discharge required in 2020 would amount to roughly 4 MGD over a two-month period (for a total of approximately 240 MG).

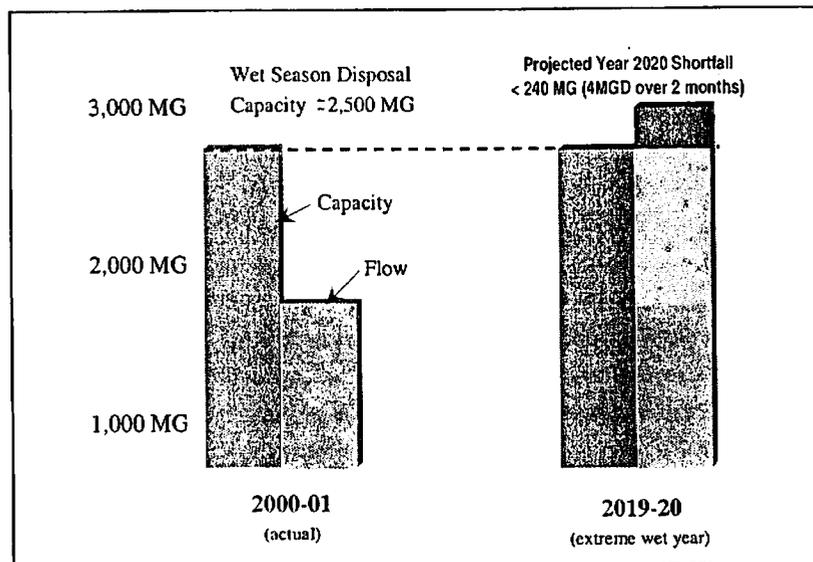


Figure 3: Limits of SCRWA Disposal Capacity

Because wet seasons such as the 1997-98 season have a low return frequency, the probability of SCRWA needing to discharge appears very low for the next 10-15 years. SCRWA's modeling efforts to date indicate that there is less than a one percent chance that the WWTP would need to discharge during each of the years between now and the year 2015. As SCRWA's base wastewater flow increases over the next 20 years due to population growth, the probability of needing to discharge is expected to increase.

It should be noted that SCRWA has been proactive in maximizing the WWTP's percolation disposal capacity. In 1999, SCRWA added the Shriner Ponds to provide an additional 1 MGD of capacity and made improvements to its effluent pond distribution system to maximize utilization of existing ponds. SCRWA also has an aggressive pond reconditioning program to maximize the percolation capacity of the ponds.

### Review of SCRWA Infiltration and Inflow Data

SCRWA has examined the potential for reducing infiltration and inflow into its collection system to alleviate the pending disposal constraint issues. As it turns out, SCRWA has very low infiltration and inflow compared to most wastewater systems, and among the lowest wet weather "peaking factor" in the region. Figure 4 presents a comparison of wet weather peaking factors among six wastewater systems in the Central Coast Region. The

peaking factors were calculated by taking the highest daily flow rate observed during 2001, and dividing it by the average daily flows observed during the 2001 summer dry season. While there is no “standard” when it comes to peaking factors, it is generally considered that any system with a peaking factor of less than 2.0 is a relatively tight system; many systems have peaking factors of 3 or higher. SCRWA’s peaking factor of roughly 1.4 is commendable. The results indicate that the SCRWA is unlikely to gain much in the way of reduced influent flows by investing in substantial additional infiltration and inflow control measures.

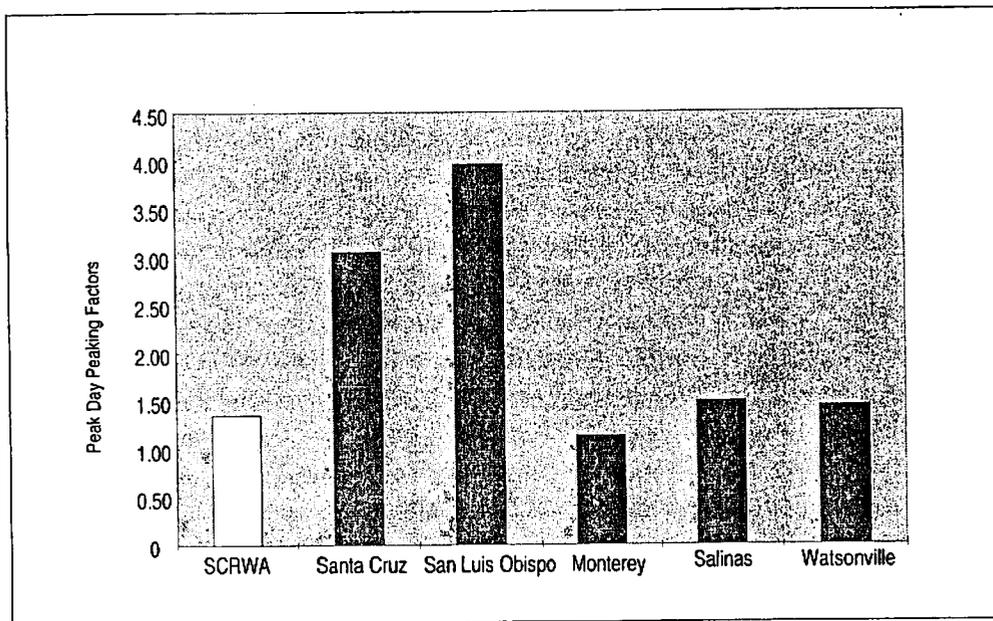
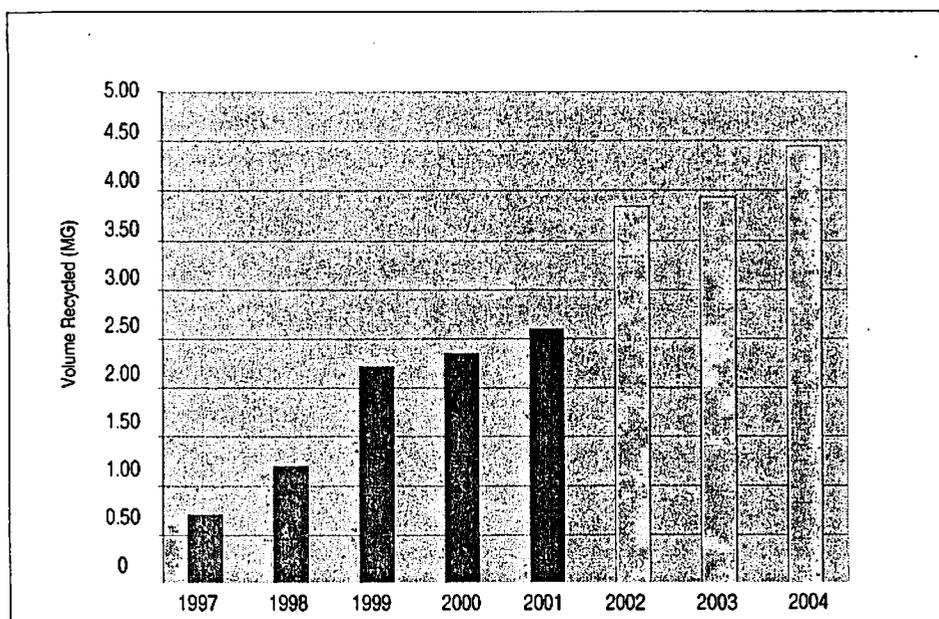


Figure 4: SCRWA’s Wastewater Collection System Has Low Infiltration/Inflow

### Review of SCRWA Reclaimed Wastewater Program

SCRWA is well aware of the potential for increased recycled water use in the region to reduce the stress on its percolation pond disposal capacity during summer months. In fact, increased recycled water delivery is a critical element of SCRWA’s plan to meet future dry season capacity requirements. Figure 5 below highlights SCRWA’s ambitious goals to expand its wastewater reuse practices through its partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Water District. SCRWA has increased the total volume of recycled flow every year since 1997, and intends to nearly double its historical reuse volumes in coming years.



**Figure 5: SCRWA and SCVWD Have an Ambitious Recycled Water Partnership**

It is important to note, however, that the primary demand for recycled wastewater occurs in the summer months, and recycled water delivery is limited during the winter months. While increased demand in the late spring and early summer would help free up additional percolation pond capacity for the summer pond reconditioning, SCRWA believes that the foreseeable increases in recycled water delivery would not be enough to eliminate the anticipated need to discharge during extreme wet years. Nevertheless, SCRWA will be continuing to promote recycled water use to the maximum extent possible.

### **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WET SEASON DISCHARGE ALTERNATIVES**

SCRWA is considering two options for discharging excess tertiary treated wastewater to nearby surface waters during those wet seasons when such a discharge would be necessary. Option 1, the option preferred by SCRWA, would be to pass the tertiary treated effluent through a 40-acre constructed wetland located on SCRWA land and discharge to Llagas Creek via a constructed riparian corridor. Llagas Creek runs adjacent to the SCRWA facility and flows into the Pajaro River a few miles downstream of the WWTP. Option 2 would involve discharging tertiary treated effluent directly from the SCRWA facility into the Pajaro River via a new, three-mile outfall pipeline. Under this option, the SCRWA effluent would enter the Pajaro River downstream of the confluence of Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River. Both options include discharging a tertiary treated effluent only during certain months of extreme wet seasons. As noted above, SCRWA does not anticipate needing to discharge more than 4 million gallons during any day, and does not anticipate needing to discharge for more than 60 days during any winter season between now and the year 2020.

### Option 1 – Wet Season Discharge to Llagas Creek Via a Constructed Wetland

Figure 6 depicts a schematic representation of SCRWA's preferred option for a wet season discharge to Llagas Creek. Tertiary treated (filtered) effluent would pass through a new UV disinfection facility and new constructed wetland. During wet season months of particularly wet years, SCRWA would discharge to Llagas Creek via a constructed riparian corridor.

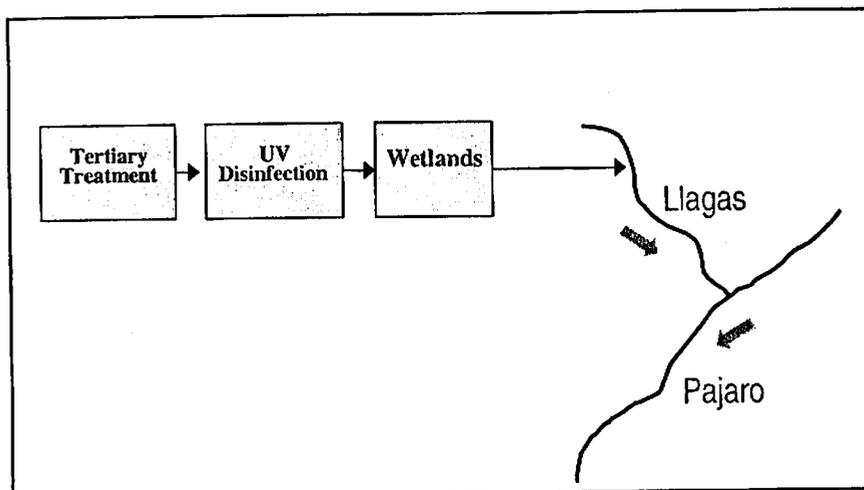


Figure 6: Option 1 -- Llagas Creek Discharge Via Wetland

It is noteworthy that discharge is only expected to occur during certain years with particularly heavy rainfall. During most years when discharge does not occur, the wetland facility would continue to receive flow as appropriate during summer and winter months to sustain the desired habitat. It is anticipated that SCRWA would effectively treat the wetland facility as another recycled water customer, and allocate the necessary flows for that customer to ensure the wetland habitat is adequately maintained for its desired purposes.

### Option 2 – Wet Season Discharge to the Pajaro River Via Outfall Pipeline

Figure 7 presents a schematic representation of SCRWA's second option for wet season discharge -- directly to the Pajaro River via a three-mile outfall pipeline. This option would include the same level of tertiary treatment and UV disinfection as Option 1. However, rather than passing flow through a wetland to Llagas Creek, the flow would be routed directly from the wastewater treatment plant to the river. While SCRWA believes that the Option 1 scenario of new wetland habitat and discharge to the adjacent Llagas Creek is a more environmentally sound option, it is noteworthy that the 1990 EIR determined that this Option 2 wet season discharge scenario would be an acceptable alternative for SCRWA.

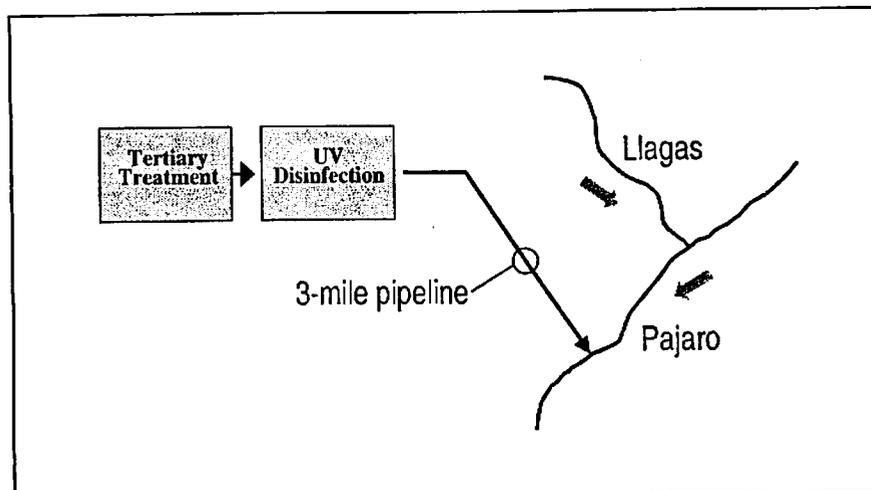


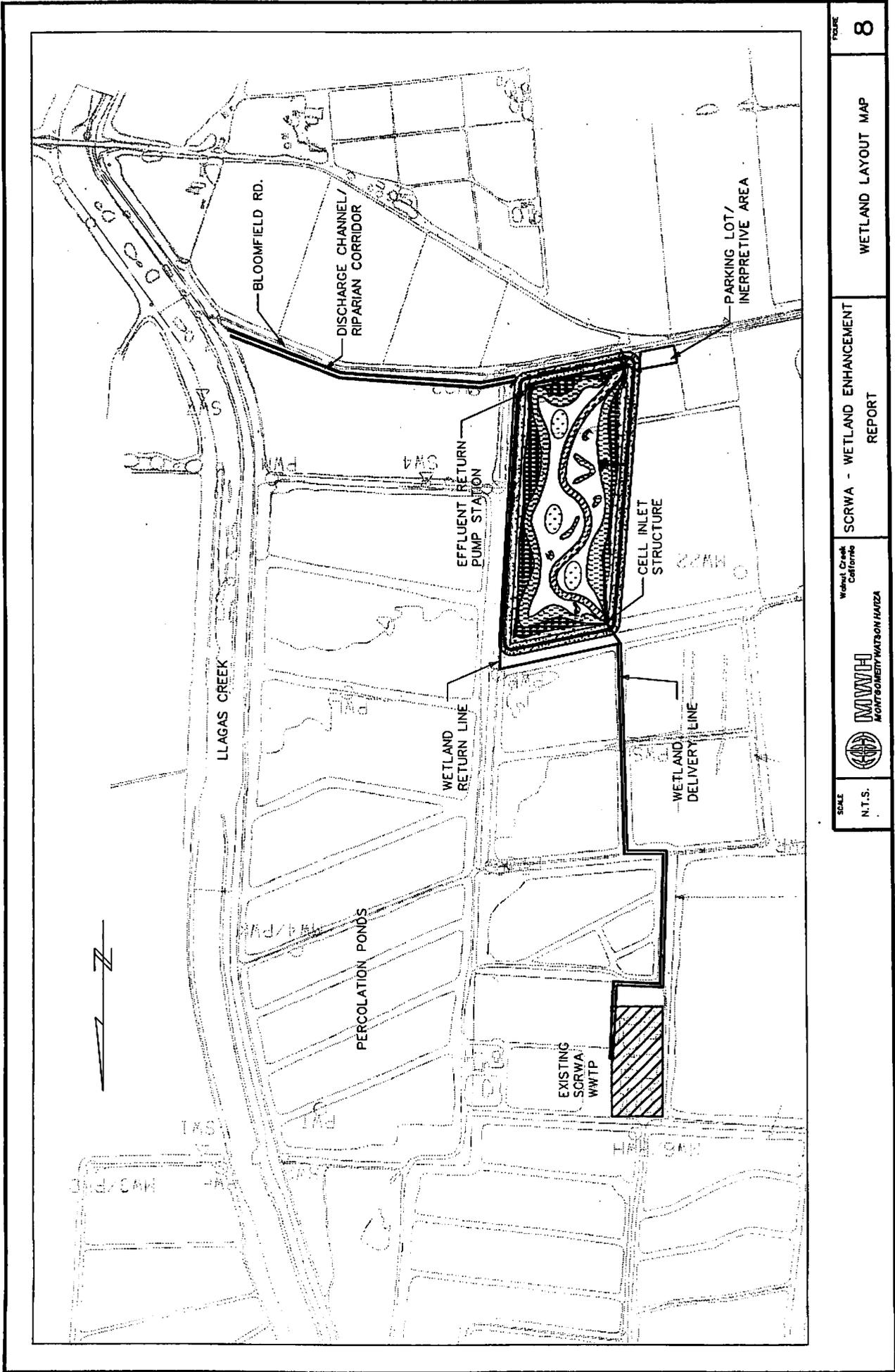
Figure 7: Option 2 – Pajaro River Discharge Via Pipeline

### Conceptual Design of New Wetland Habitat

SCRWA has commissioned conceptual design and EIR development efforts for a new wetland facility intended to provide additional habitat along Llagas Creek. SCRWA has completed a conceptual design report for the wetland (submitted to Regional Board staff in January 2002) and intends to prepare further documentation once additional stakeholder input is received.

The new wetland facility, shown in Figure 8, would be approximately 40 acres in size, located near the southern edge of the SCRWA property near Llagas Creek. This site has been fallow for several years and is not considered prime agricultural land since it stays wet too late into the season for farming. The intent of the wetland would be to provide a suitable habitat for various different plant and animal species. As such, various micro-habitats would be designed with different water depths and plant species present throughout the cell. Vegetation types would be consistent with existing wetland vegetation in the vicinity. Planting zones would be established to match specific plant types with appropriate water levels. Typically, these include an Upper Riparian Zone, a Lower Riparian Zone, an Emergent Marsh Zone, and a Deep Water Zone, although site-specific hydraulic constraints will need to be taken into consideration. Vegetation assemblages would be keyed to these strata within the wetland system to include submerged, floating, and emergent wetland species, as well as upland shrubs and trees to provide habitat, shading, and aesthetic value.

The conceptual wetland cross section, shown in Figure 9, highlights the different water depths and micro-habitats to be incorporated into the wetland design. Specific habitat enhancement features would be primarily aimed at attracting waterfowl and secretive birds, including Least Bell's Vireo. In general, the wetlands would provide a mix of open water and emergent marsh areas to maximize waterfowl use. Emergent vegetation and marsh areas attract and provide cover for bitterns, rails, sparrows, and warblers. Shallow, muddy margins are utilized by shorebirds and wading birds, including herons and cranes. Where feasible, the



SCALE  
N.T.S.



**MWH**  
WATSON HAZZARD

West Coast  
California

SCRWA - WETLAND ENHANCEMENT  
REPORT

WETLAND LAYOUT MAP

FIGURE  
**8**

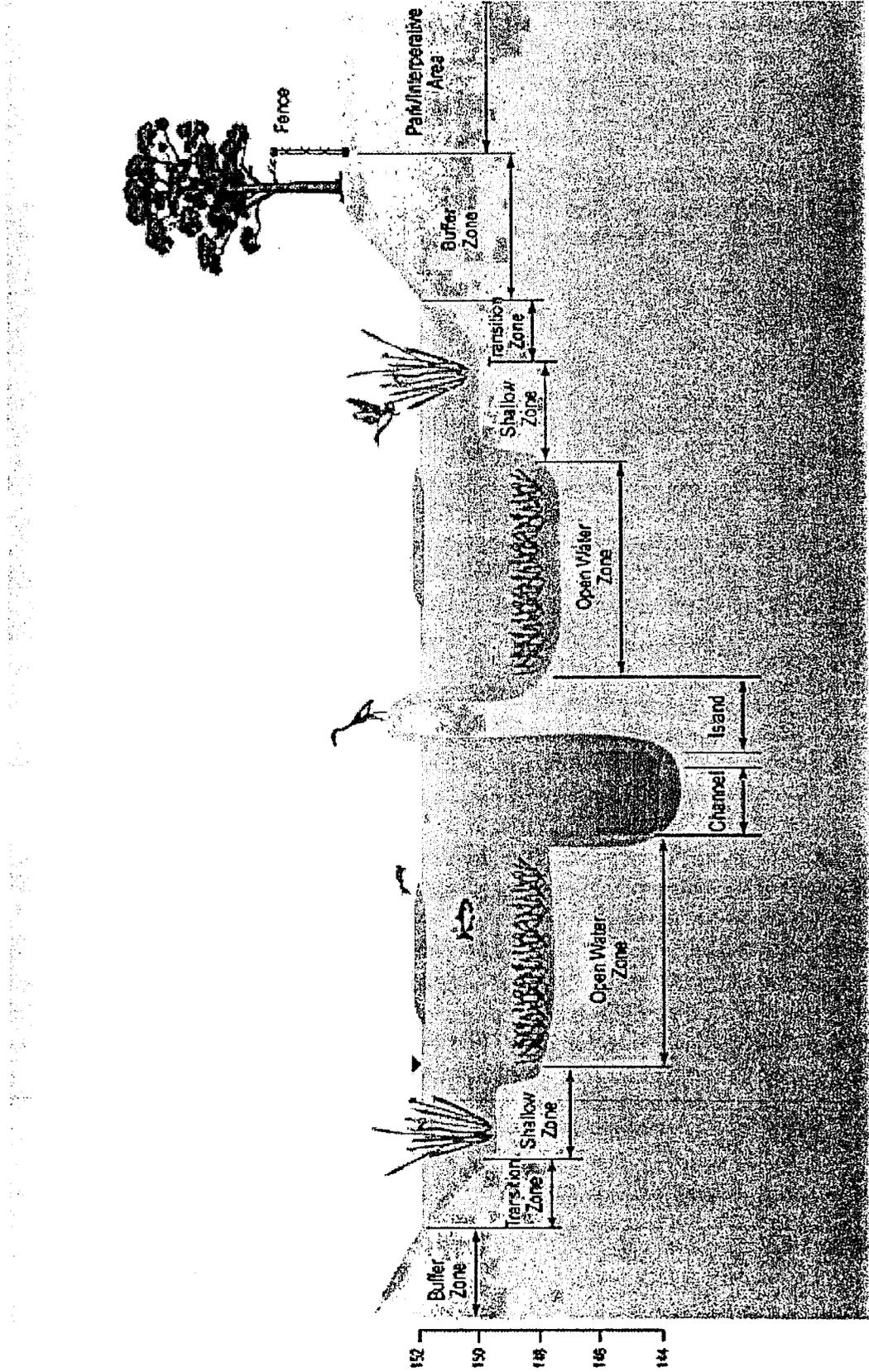


Figure 9: Conceptual Wetland Cross Section

establishment of willow on islands and along embankments would provide both nesting and roosting habitat for various bird species, including the Least Bell's Vireo.

As shown in Figure 10 below, the proposed operational scenario of the wetland would vary according to season. During the dry summer season, the wetland would be maintained as appropriate with disinfected secondary effluent. No discharge would occur from the wetland during the dry season. During the wet season, only disinfected tertiary effluent would be sent to the wetland. If discharge were required, a gate would be opened temporarily allowing flow to enter Llagas Creek.

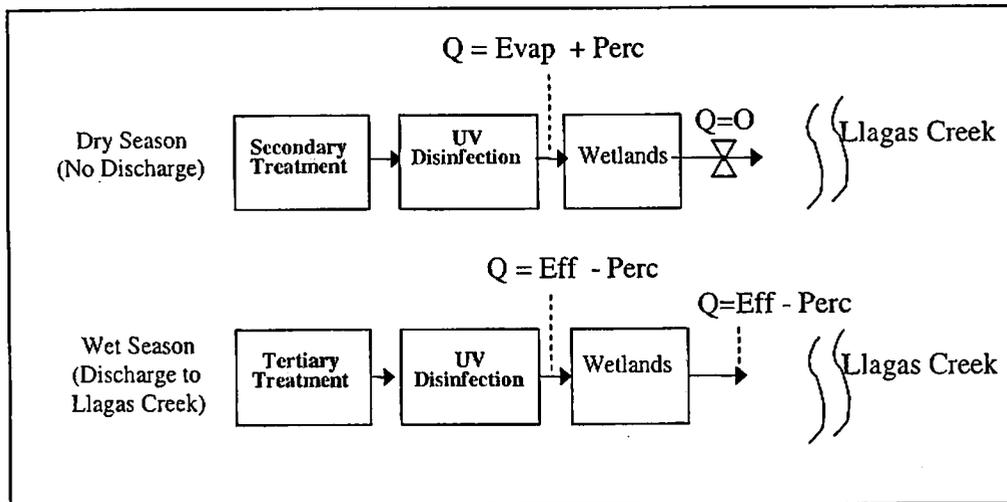


Figure 10: Wetland Operational Scenarios

SCRWA is excited about the prospect of providing additional community benefit as part of its proposed disposal solution. Expected benefits would range from additional potential habitat for birds and aquatic plant and animal species to a facility for walking, bird watching, and enjoying green space, and finally the wetland could provide added polishing for the wastewater in the form of nutrient uptake and cooling prior to discharge. SCRWA recognizes that certain water quality parameters can actually be adversely impacted by wetland systems (e.g., increased coliform levels as a result of waterfowl droppings), but such drawbacks are inherent to natural systems, and SCRWA believes that such a wetland would represent an overall win-win solution for SCRWA and the community.

## ONGOING SCRWA EFFORTS AND WORK PLANS

SCRWA is conducting a series of technical efforts to evaluate its options for a wet season discharge, and to proactively address potential stakeholder concerns. These efforts have focused on three primary areas:

- Water Quality Impacts Assessment
- Flow and Temperature Impacts Assessment
- Biological Resources Evaluation

SCRWA has designed and developed these technical efforts based on comments received during previous efforts to obtain a (year-round) discharge permit in 1998, and ongoing discussions with Regional Board staff. SCRWA plans to continue to coordinate these efforts with Regional Board staff and interested stakeholders as work plans and technical evaluations progress.

### **Water Quality Impacts Assessment**

SCRWA is performing a Reasonable Potential Analysis (RPA) to evaluate whether there is a reasonable potential for the SCRWA WWTP to exceed any existing regulatory criteria as a result of a wet season discharge to nearby receiving waters. The intent of this effort is to ensure stakeholders that receiving water quality will not be adversely impacted by an occasional wet season discharge from the SCRWA facility.

The RPA evaluation will include analysis of samples to assess the water quality characteristics of the SCRWA WWTP effluent, as well as those of Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River. These water quality data will be compared to the existing regulatory criteria found in the Central Coast Basin Plan and the California Toxics Rule (CTR). SCRWA has been closely coordinating these RPA efforts with Regional Board staff.

Two rounds of water quality sampling have been completed to date, in March and July 2002, and the final sampling round is scheduled for January 2003. Based on the early data received to date for the over 200 water quality parameters analyzed, SCRWA anticipates having no trouble complying with Basin Plan and CTR water quality criteria during a future wet season discharge event.

### **Flow and Temperature Impacts Assessment**

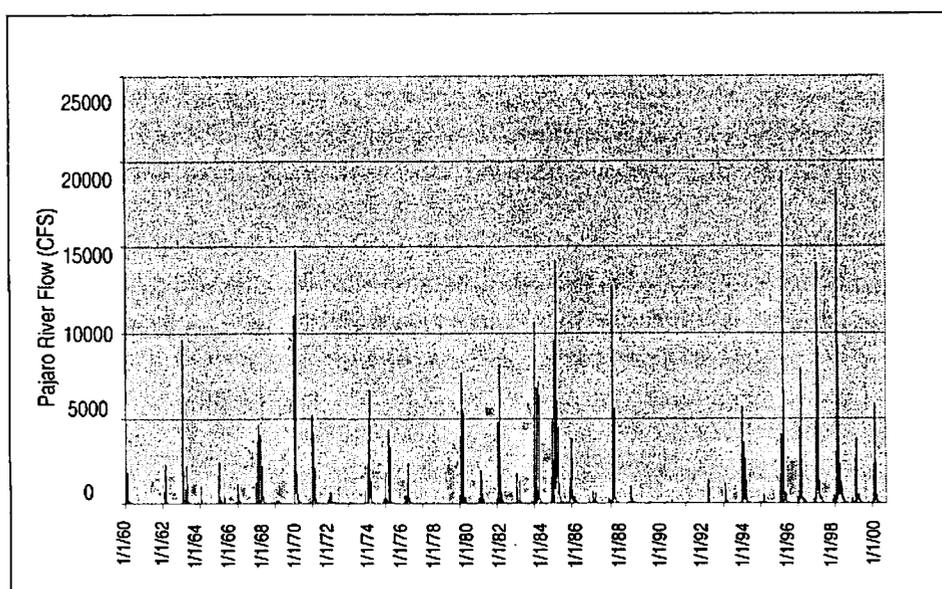
SCRWA is developing an Effluent Management Plan (EMP) to address potential stakeholder concerns related to a wet season discharge to nearby receiving waters. Based on past and ongoing discussions with agency and community stakeholder groups, the EMP will examine potential impacts on receiving water flows and temperature, as well as other issues such as potential impacts on the chemical "signature" of receiving waters with respect to fish migration impacts, as well as potential erosion or siltation impacts. While these evaluations are still underway, based on information compiled to date, SCRWA expects the discharge volumes to be extremely small in comparison to receiving water flows, likely resulting in negligible environmental impacts.

### **Potential Flow Impacts**

As discussed earlier in this report, initial Effluent Management Plan efforts have focused on estimating the expected frequency and volume of wet season discharges during 2002 to 2020. Modeling efforts have examined the potential future wet season discharge volumes from the SCRWA wastewater treatment facility in comparison to expected receiving water flows during wet weather events. Expected dilution factors will

determine expected impacts on receiving water flows, temperature, and pollutant loadings as a result of an intermittent SCRWA discharge.

Modeling efforts to date have used the wettest season on record (1997-98) for which wastewater flow data are also available. Using an extreme wet season for modeling purposes allows a conservative estimate of potential discharge frequency and volumes. Expected dilution factors are determined by taking the expected maximum discharge volumes from the SCRWA facility and dividing by typical flows expected in the Pajaro River during a winter season wet weather event. It is noteworthy that little data are available depicting historical flows in Llagas Creek. SCRWA is working with the Santa Clara Valley Water District to gather additional flow data for Llagas Creek this winter. When these data are obtained, similar models will be employed for the discharge alternative to Llagas Creek.



**Figure 11: Historical Flow Data for Pajaro River**

Figure 11 above depicts historical flows in the Pajaro River (at Chittenden) since 1960. As seen during this chart, the 1997-98 season represents one of only two seasons where the Pajaro River exceeded 15,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). This historical record confirms that using rainfall data from 1997-98 represents a suitably conservative basis for estimating future SCRWA wastewater discharges. The flow data illustrated in this chart will also be used as a basis for estimating potential dilution factors for the Pajaro River. SCRWA would expect to discharge only during times when the river flows are high, yet well below flood stage. For the purposes of this evaluation, SCRWA will explore a range of receiving water flows to estimate potential impacts of SCRWA discharges on receiving water temperatures and pollutant loadings.

Using a Pajaro River flow of 5,000 cfs (well below historical peak flows shown in Figure 11), and a maximum assumed SCRWA discharge volume of 4 MGD (6.2 CFS) that may

occur during a heavy rainfall season in the year 2020, the SCRWA discharge volume would represent less than 0.2 percent of the flow in the Pajaro River. Figure 12 below illustrates this calculation. SCRWA does not anticipate discharging more than 4 MGD over a two month period (a total of approximately 240 MG), and would be able to utilize the storage capacity of the percolation ponds to time the discharge in accordance with predetermined receiving water flow levels, as appropriate.

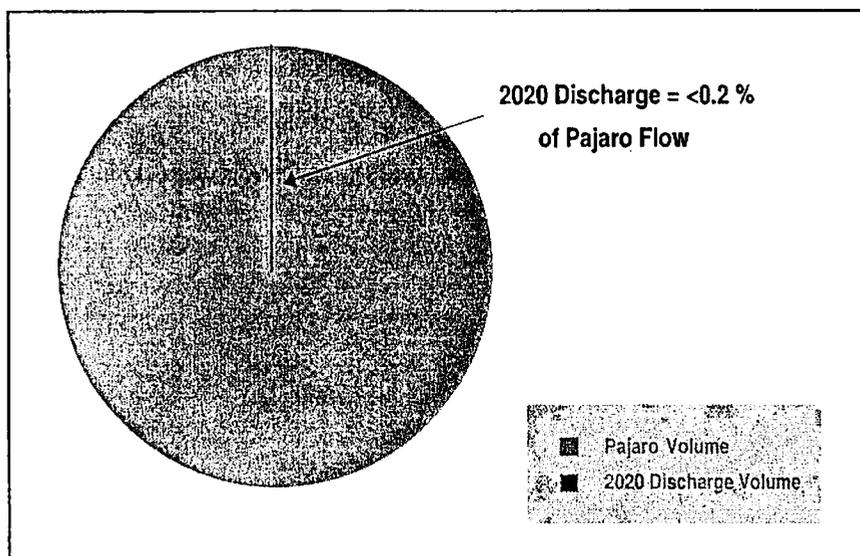


Figure 12: Comparison of Pajaro River Flow to Expected Discharge Flow

### Potential Temperature Impacts

SCRWA recognizes that receiving water temperatures are an important concern for many agency and community stakeholders interested in the protection of steelhead and other aquatic species. Historical wastewater effluent temperatures can be expected to be slightly higher than those observed in Llagas Creek and the Pajaro River during winter months. Factors mitigating this concern include the intermittent nature of the expected wet season discharge, the small effluent discharge volumes relative to receiving water flows (see charts on following pages), and potential cooling effects of the wetland and other potential treated effluent storage at the SCRWA facility.

While little data are available on Llagas Creek flows, a conservative interpretation of available data indicate that a 4 MGD discharge would raise the Llagas Creek temperature by less than one degree Fahrenheit during the short period of time that the discharge occurs. Once further data are available on Llagas flows, SCRWA will refine these temperature impact estimates.

Anticipated temperature impacts would be expected to be even smaller on the Pajaro River due to the larger receiving water flows. Assuming a Pajaro River flow of 5,000 CFS and a wet season discharge of 4 MGD (6.2 CFS), receiving water temperature changes in the Pajaro would be expected to be less than 0.1 degrees Fahrenheit. These estimates do not take into account any potential cooling effects of the wetland or on-site storage at the SCRWA facility. It is noteworthy that regardless of the discharge option

(to Llagas or directly to the Pajaro), flow ultimately ends up in the Pajaro River and the associated temperature impacts on the Pajaro would be the same with either discharge option.

### **Biological Resources Evaluation**

As part of its EIR review efforts, SCRWA is examining the potential impacts on endangered species habitat and ensuring that other species of concern are not adversely impacted by its proposed discharge scenarios. SCRWA accepts that certain listed species may be present in the area and potential impacts would need to be analyzed for the California Red Legged Frog (*rana aurora draytonii*), California Tiger Salamander (*ambystoma californiense*), Western Pond Turtle (*clemmys marmorata*), Steelhead (*oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*), and Least Bell Vireo (*vireo bellii pusillus*). SCRWA will ensure that all Endangered Species Act, California Toxics Rule, and Basin Plan objectives are met with respect to such listed species and other biological resources in the area. SCRWA will be reviewing steelhead habitat and migration patterns in detail to assess potential temperature and other impacts on this sensitive species.

### **Stakeholder Outreach Efforts**

SCRWA has been working closely with Regional Board staff and other interested stakeholder agencies and organizations to ensure that the proposed project is developed and refined into a form that is acceptable and potentially even beneficial to interested stakeholders as well as suitable to address SCRWA's wastewater disposal capacity needs. To date, SCRWA staff and their consultants, including Montgomery Watson Harza (MWH), Environmental Science Associates (ESA), and Merritt-Smith Associates, have met with Regional Board staff on several occasions, held a meeting with interested state and federal agencies in June 2002, and have recently conducted two informational outreach meetings in August for identified stakeholders in Watsonville and Gilroy. Stakeholders present at the June and August outreach meetings included the following:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
- South Valley Streams for Tomorrow
- California Department of Health Services
- Association of Monterey Bay Governments
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
- The Ocean Conservancy
- Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works
- City of Watsonville

SCRWA has distributed copies of its presentation to these and other organizations in an effort to solicit input and involvement, and will continue to work with interested parties in the coming year. A listing of the agencies and organizations that we have identified for ongoing outreach efforts is included as Attachment A to this report.

## Proposed Overall Project Schedule

SCRWA's proposed overall schedule for completing the necessary technical evaluations, environmental permitting, and stakeholder outreach efforts is shown below in Figure 13. SCRWA is currently in the midst of stakeholder outreach efforts, ongoing coordination with RWQCB staff, and further review of technical issues in order to identify and refine a recommended project to address its future wastewater disposal needs. In consideration of stakeholder and Regional Board comments, SCRWA will be continually refining its recommended project in the hopes of initiating the CEQA review and NPDES discharge permit application process in late 2002 and early 2003. As the project is further refined, SCRWA hopes to have the opportunity to provide another such informational briefing to Board members prior to submitting its application for an NPDES discharge permit.

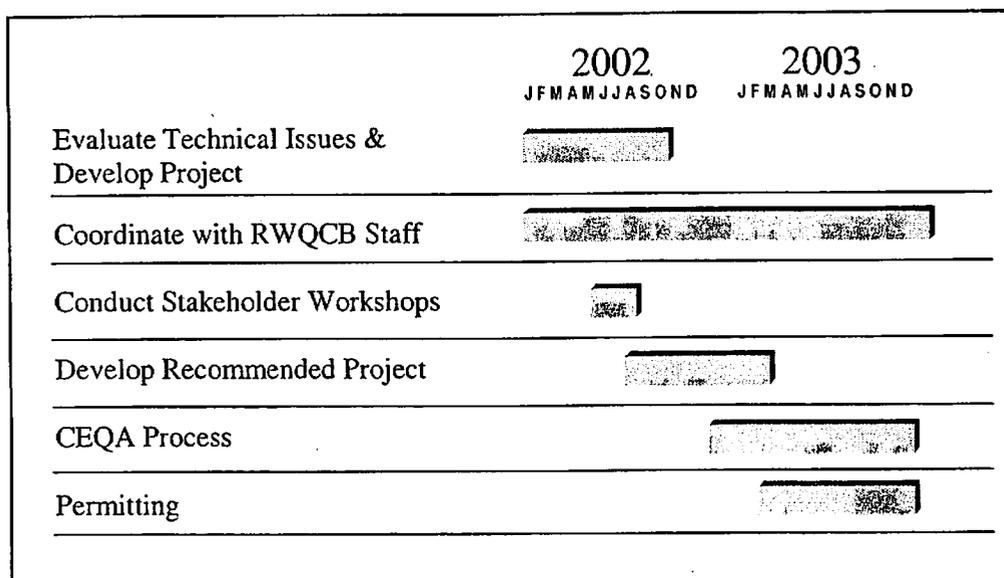


Figure 13: Proposed Overall Project Schedule

SCRWA appreciates this opportunity to provide an informational update to Regional Board members. SCRWA and its consultants intend to continue their ongoing working relationship with Regional Board staff and would hope to have the opportunity to provide another such informational update to the Regional Board in the future, as more data become available and technical evaluations and permitting efforts are further along.

## Attachment A

### Stakeholder Organizations Contacted by SCRWA:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
- South Valley Streams for Tomorrow
- California Department of Health Services
- Association of Monterey Bay Governments
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
- The Ocean Conservancy
- Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works
- City of Watsonville
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- San Lorenzo Valley Water District
- California State Water Resources Control Board
- Resource Conservation District
- California Coastal Commission
- California State Historic Preservation Office
- Santa Clara County Farm Bureau
- Santa Clara County Environmental Resources Agency
- Monterey County
- Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services
- City of Gilroy
- City of Morgan Hill
- Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Monterey County Department of Environmental Health
- Pajaro Sunny Mesa Community Services District
- The Nature Conservancy
- Ducks Unlimited
- Surf Riders
- Pajaro River Watershed Council
- Sierra Club
- Action Pajaro Valley
- Center for Healing and Serving the Earth

**SCRWA WORKPLAN**  
**(as of September 16, 2002)**

**ADMINISTRATION**

- River Discharge Permit Lawsuit
- California Toxic Workplan
  - Effluent Management Workplan
  - Biological Survey

Storm Water NPDES

~~Meeting with SCVWD~~

**ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION**

Design/Rehab of the Recycled Water Line

PreDesign/CEQA for Wetlands

8.5 mgd WWTP upgrade

~~Annual disposal BMP Analysis~~

~~Design/Construction of Recycled Pump Station~~

~~Design/Construction of Recycled Water Reservoir~~

**CALPINE**

Recycled water pipeline

Brine study

**STATUS**

Trial – setting conference October 15.  
Testing / work has begun  
Meeting RWQCB defining parameters  
In draft form – RWQCB has commented  
Will meet with stakeholders

TAC will review concept paper in October.

**Complete -- Meeting held July 23**

Bids rejected -- will rebid.

CEQA – Spring 2003  
November briefing of Regulatory Board

40% Construction complete

**Complete**

**Complete**

**Complete**

Bid August 2002

**Complete -- Board decided to site plant at Calpine**

XIDI