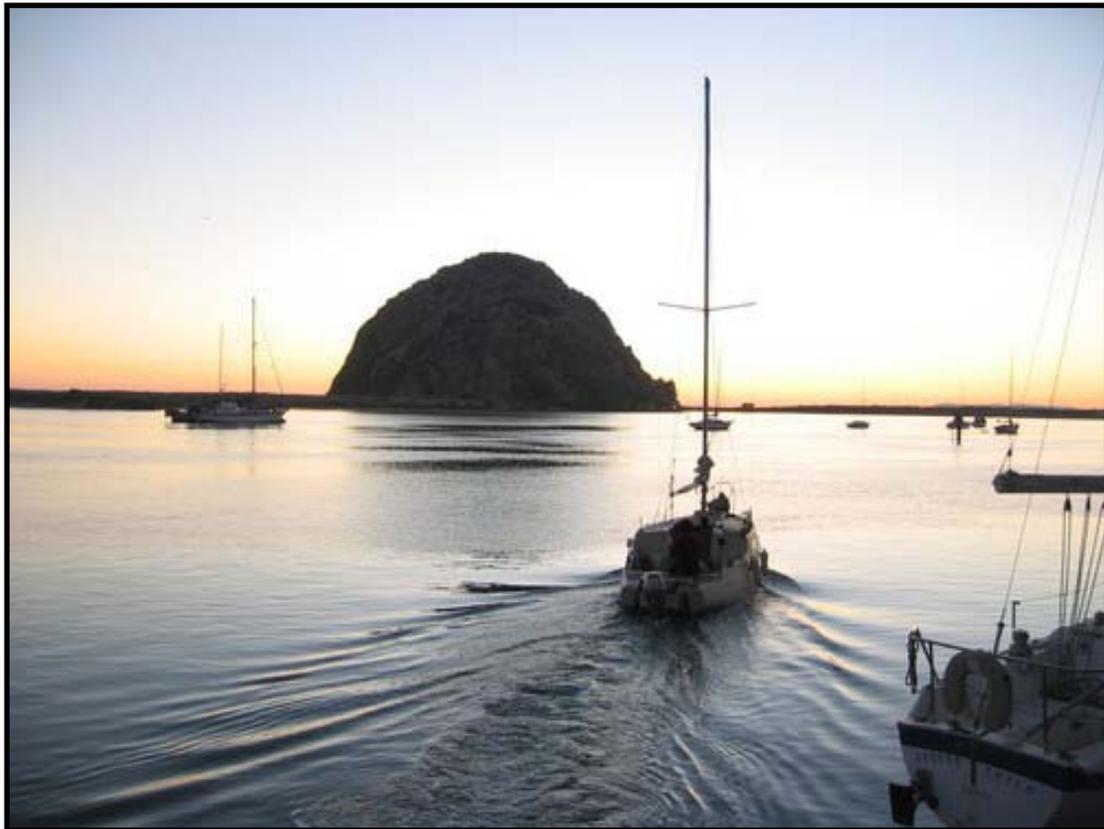


**City of Morro Bay  
Stormwater Management Plan  
February 2009 – February 2014  
Revised June 2011**



**Prepared by:  
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Public Services Department  
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Morro Bay, CA 93442**

# Certification Page

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision in accordance with the provisions of Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Technical Criteria for the City of Morro Bay Storm Water Management Plan.

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Robert A. Livick, Director of Public Services/City Engineer  
C61057 Exp 12/31/11

Date

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**Antidegradation** - A policy designed to prevent deterioration of existing levels of good water quality.

**Best Management Practice(s):** Practices implemented by private industry and public agencies that prevent or reduce water pollution.

**Buffer Strip or Zones:** Strips of grass or other erosion resistant vegetation located between a waterway and an area of more intensive land use.

**Catch Basin:** An entryway to the storm drain system, usually located at street corners.

**Conduit:** Any channel or pipe used to transport flowing water.

**Conveyance:** The process of water moving from one place to another.

**Culvert:** A short, closed (covered) conduit that passes storm water runoff under an embankment, usually a roadway. A rectangular or square concrete culvert is referred to as a box culvert.

**CWA:** The Clean Water Act (formerly the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972).

**Designated Uses** - Uses that society, through state and federal governments, determines should be attained in the waterbody. Examples include warm water aquatic ecosystems, public water supply, and recreational fishing.

**Detention:** A storm water system that delays the downstream progress of storm water runoff in a controlled manner. This is typically accomplished using temporary storage areas and a metered outlet device.

**Discharge:** The volume of water (and suspended sediment if surface water) that passes a given location within a given period.

**Effective Impervious Area** is the portion of impervious area that drains directly to a receiving surface waterbody via a hardened storm drain conveyance without first draining to a pervious area. Impervious surfaces tributary to pervious areas are not considered Effective Impervious Area (EIA).

**Effluent Guidelines** - National standards for wastewater discharges to surface waters and publicly owned treatment works (municipal sewage treatment plants). EPA issues effluent guidelines for categories of existing sources and new sources under Title III of the Clean Water Act. The standards are technology based (i.e., they are based on the performance of treatment and control technologies); they are not based on risk or impacts upon receiving waters.

**Ephemeral Streams** - Ephemeral waterbodies are streams, ponds, wetlands, etc. that contain water only a fraction of the time. Vernal pools and desert washes are examples. Sometime such waters are called "intermittent." As a general rule, a waterbody is NOT excluded from the CWA definition of "waters of the U.S., simply because it is intermittent.

**Erosion:** When land is diminished or worn away due to wind, water, or glacial ice. Often the eroded debris (silt or sediment) becomes a pollutant via storm water runoff. Erosion occurs naturally but can be intensified by land clearing activities such as farming, development, road building, and timber harvesting.

**Eutrophication:** Excessive levels of phosphorous, nitrogen, and nutrients in the water which leads to a decrease in oxygen levels. Often characterized by excessive growth of algae and aquatic vegetation (such as algae blooms), which often results in deteriorated water quality and beach closings.

**Excavation:** The process of removing earth, stone, or other materials from land.

**Exotic Plants:** Non-native plants that grow quickly, out-compete native plants, and are a threat to the natural ecosystem.

**Fertilizer:** Substances like nitrogen and phosphorus that provide nutrients for plants. Commercially sold fertilizers contain other chemicals as well.

**Filter Fabric:** A textile of relatively small mesh that is used to allow water to pass through while keeping sediment out (permeable) or prevent both runoff and sediment from passing through (impermeable).

**Filter Strip:** A long, narrow portion of vegetation used to retard water flow and collect sediment for the protection of watercourses, reservoirs, or adjacent properties.

**Flood:** A temporary rise in flow or stage of any watercourse or storm water conveyance system that results in storm water runoff exceeding its normal flow boundaries and inundating adjacent, normally dry areas.

**Flood Control:** The specific regulations and practices that reduce or prevent the damage caused by storm water runoff.

**Flood Plain:** Any land area susceptible to inundation by storm water from any source.

**General Permit:** A permit issued under the NPDES program to cover a certain class or category of storm water discharges. These permits reduce the administrative burden of permitting storm water discharges.

**Grading:** The cutting and/or filling of the land surface to a desired slope or elevation.

**Groundwater:** That portion of the water beneath the surface of the earth that can be collected with wells, tunnels, or drainage galleries, or that flows naturally to the earth's surface via seeps or springs

**Illicit Connection:** Any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of storm water, and is not authorized by an NPDES permit, or is not due to fire fighting activities.

**Infiltration:** The penetration of water through the ground surface into sub-surface soil or the penetration of water from the soil into sewer or other pipes through defective joints, connections, or manhole walls. Also, a technique where large volumes of wastewater are applied to land and allowed to penetrate the surface and percolate through the underlying soil.

**Inlet:** An entrance into a ditch, storm sewer, or other waterway.

**Maximum Extent Practicable:** The technology-based standards established by Congress in the Clean Water Act Section 402 that municipal discharges of stormwater must meet. Technology-based standards establish the level of pollutant reductions that dischargers must achieve.

**Mgd:** Million gallons per day.

**Monitoring Well:** A non-pumping well used for drawing water quality samples

**Mulch:** A natural or artificial layer of plant residue or other material(s) covering the land surface to conserve moisture, hold soil in place, help establish plant cover, and minimize temperature fluctuations.

**Native Plants:** Plants that are found by nature in a geographic location. Generally, it is preferable to use native plants vs. exotic plants, as introducing exotic plants can disturb the ecosystem.

**Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution** - Pollution that, unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, comes from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and manmade pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water. Loadings of pollutants from NPS enter waterbodies via sheet flow, rather than through a pipe, ditch, or other conveyance.

**Non-point Source (NPS) Pollutants:** Pollutants from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water.

**Notice of Intent (NOI):** An application to notify the permitting authority of a facility's intention to be covered by a general permit; exempts a facility from having to submit an individual or group application.

**NPDES:** "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System" - the name of the surface water quality program authorized by Congress as part of the 1987 Clean Water Act. This is EPA's program to control the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States (see 40CFR 122.2).

**Oil and Grease Traps:** Devices that collect oil and grease, removing them from water flows.

**Oil Sheen:** A thin, glistening layer of oil on the surface of water.

**Oil/Water Separator:** A device installed (usually at the entrance to a drain) which removes oil and grease from water entering the drain.

**Organic Pollutants:** Substances containing carbon, which may cause pollution problems in receiving bodies of water.

**Organic Solvents:** Liquid organic compounds capable of dissolving solids, liquids, or gases.

**Outfall:** The point where wastewater or drainage discharges from a sewer pipe, ditch, or other conveyance to a receiving body of water.

**Permeability:** The characteristic of soil that allows water or air to move through it. Described in inches/hour or inches/day.

**Phase II Regulations:** Requirements adopted by the U.S. EPA on October 29, 1999 and published in the Federal Regulations on December 8, 1999.

**Predevelopment:** (preconstruction) undeveloped soil type and vegetation.

**Point Source Pollutant:** Pollutants from a single, identifiable source.

**Point Source of Pollution** - Discrete conveyances, such as pipes or man made ditches that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. This includes not only discharges from municipal sewage plants and industrial facilities, but

also collected storm drainage from larger urban areas, certain animal feedlots and fish farms, some types of ships, tank trucks, offshore oil platforms, and collected runoff from many construction sites.

**Pollutant Loading:** The total quantity of pollutants in storm water runoff.

**Porous Pavement:** A man-made surface that allows water to penetrate through and percolate into soil. Porous asphalt, for example, is made of irregular shaped crush rock pre-coated with asphalt binder. Water is able to seep through into lower layers of gravel, then to the soil. Porous pavement and concrete are also made.

**Reclaimed Water** is water that has received at least secondary treatment and can be used for outdoor irrigation and industrial purposes.

**Recharge** is re-supplying of water to the aquifer. Recharge generally comes from snowmelt and storm runoff.

**Redevelopment** On any already developed site, the creation or addition of at least 5,000 square feet of impervious area.

**Residual:** The amount of pollutant that remains in the environment after a natural or technological process has taken place, such as the particulates remaining in air after passing through a scrubber.

**Retention:** A process that halts the downstream progress of storm water runoff. This is typically accomplished using total containment involving the creation of storage areas that use infiltration devices, such as dry wells, to dispose of stored storm water via percolation over a specified period.

**Retrofit:** The modification of Stormwater management systems through the construction and/or enhancement of wet ponds, wetland plantings, or other BMPs designed to improve water quality

**Reuse:** The application of reclaimed water for a beneficial purpose.

**Riparian:** Of, or pertaining to, rivers and their banks.

**Runoff:** Drainage or flood discharge that leaves an area as surface flow or as pipeline flow. Has reached a channel or pipeline by either surface or sub-surface routes.

**Sanitary Sewer:** A system of underground pipes that carries sanitary waste or process wastewater to a treatment plant.

**Sediment:** Soil, sand, and minerals washed from land into water, usually after rain. Sediment can destroy fish-nesting areas, clog animal habitats, and cloud waters so that sunlight does not reach aquatic plants.

**Sediment Trap:** A device for removing sediment from water flows, usually installed at points of outflow.

**Sedimentation:** The process of depositing soil, clay, sand, or other sediments that were moved by the flow of water.

**Sheet Erosion:** Erosion of thin layers of surface materials caused by continuous sheets (thin, even layers) of running water.

**Spill Guard:** A device used to prevent the spill of liquid materials from storage containers.

**Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC):** Plans to prevent and respond to spills of hazardous substances as defined in the Clean Water Act.

**Storm Water:** Precipitation that accumulates in natural and/or constructed storage and storm water systems during and immediately following a storm event.

**Storm Water Diversion:** The organized redirection of storm water flows to another point located within or outside of the watershed to reduce flooding downstream.

**Storm Water Facilities:** Systems such as watercourses, constructed channels, storm drains, culverts, and detention/retention facilities that are used for the conveyance and/or storage of storm water runoff.

**Storm Water Management:** Functions associated with planning, designing, constructing, maintaining, financing, and regulating the facilities (both constructed and natural) that collect, store, control, and/or convey storm water.

**Storm Water System:** The entire assemblage of storm water facilities located within a watershed.

**Storm Water Utility:** A means of establishing a dedicated and reliable source of revenue based on user fees rather than taxes to help solve storm water management problems. This steady revenue source ensures that funds will be available to support a local storm water management program.

**Sump:** A pit or tank that catches liquid runoff for drainage or disposal.

**Surface Impoundment:** Treatment, storage, or disposal of liquid wastes in ponds.

**Surface Water:** Water that remains on the surface of the ground, including rivers, lakes, reservoirs, streams, wetlands, impoundments, seas, estuaries, etc.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** - A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources.

**Urban Runoff:** Storm water from urban areas, which tends to contain heavy concentrations of pollutants from vehicles and industry.

**Waste:** Unwanted materials left over from a manufacturing or other process.

**Watershed:** That geographical area which drains to a specified point on a watercourse, usually a confluence of streams or rivers (also known as drainage area, catchment, or river basin).

**Water Quality Criteria** - levels of individual pollutants or water quality characteristics, or descriptions of conditions of a waterbody that, if met, will generally protect the designated use of the water.

**Water Quality Standards** - Includes three major components: designated uses, water quality criteria, and antidegradation provisions.

**Waters of the United States** - As defined in the CWA, "waters of the United States" applies only to surface waters, rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal waters, and wetlands. Not all surface waters are legally "waters of the United States." Generally, those waters include All interstate waters; Intrastate waters used in interstate and/or foreign commerce; Tributaries of the above; Territorial seas at the cyclical high tide mark; and Wetlands adjacent to all the above.

**Wetlands** - Lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface (Cowardin, December 1979). Wetlands vary widely because of regional and local differences in soils, topography, climate, hydrology, water chemistry, vegetation, and other factors, including human disturbance. Indeed, wetlands are found from the tundra to the tropics and on every continent except Antarctica.

For regulatory purposes under the Clean Water Act, the term wetlands means "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to

support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas."

**Wet Weather Flows:** Water entering storm drains during rainstorms.

**Wet Well:** A chamber used to collect water or other liquid, to which a pump is attached.

## **SECTION 1.0 Stormwater Management Plan**

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### **1.1 Introduction**

The Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) has been prepared by the City of Morro Bay to comply with mandatory requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Final Rule and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) General Permit. The Stormwater Management Plan provides an integrated approach for prevention of pollution from stormwater quality and quantity runoff control in the city of Morro Bay. The program relies on public outreach, education, and participation to help prevent pollution problems at the source.

The City of Morro Bay is not responsible for waters flowing from the County of San Luis Obispo or the non-traditional MS4s such as San Luis Coastal Unified School District and the State of California (Parks and Transportation) which are outside the jurisdiction of the City of Morro Bay and over which the city has no control.

The City was not automatically designated by the Environmental Protection Agency to comply with the Phase II rule; however, the rule allowed each state to individually designate communities based on high population density, high growth/high growth potential, significant contribution of pollutants to waters of the United States, or discharge of storm water to sensitive water bodies. The State Water Resources Control Board designated the City of Morro Bay based on population density and discharge to a sensitive water body. The Morro Bay estuary and Chorro Creek are both listed as an Impaired Waterbodies (Clean Water Act, 2006 303(d) list).

In order to address stormwater issues, the City will:

1. Provide general guidance and education
2. Provide for community input
3. Develop and maintain partnerships with community organizations and agencies
4. Review and revise ordinances, plans, and programs
5. Process new and/or revised ordinances, plans, and programs
6. Implement Best Management Practices
7. Review and report on program effectiveness

### **What is stormwater?**

Stormwater is the water from rain events that is not absorbed into the ground through pervious surfaces. When rainfall water is not absorbed, it is discharged from land and impervious areas, such as paved streets, parking lots, and building

rooftops, during and following rainfall events. As stormwater flows through a natural or man-made drainage system, it often collects pollutants in quantities that could adversely affect the quality of water. Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways, pesticides from lawns, sediment from construction sites, and carelessly discarded trash, such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers, and plastic bottles. Urban runoff and non-point source pollution are generally used to describe non-storm water discharges such as runoff from irrigation activities. In general, sources of non-point pollution include agricultural runoff, runoff from urban areas, and runoff from construction areas. Siltation and nutrients are the pollutants responsible for most of the non-point source impacts to the Nation's surface waters. Stormwater, urban runoff, and non-point source pollution are often used interchangeably. For the purposes of the City's program, the City will consistently use the term "stormwater."

### **Why manage stormwater?**

In addition to the many laws and regulations that require the management of stormwater, most communities implement stormwater management practices to reduce the pollutants that may discharge to a sensitive waterbody or a drinking water source.

In April 2003, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Water Quality Order No. 2003 - 0005 – DWQ National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit Number CAS000004 Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm sewer Systems (MS4s). The Permit contains the requirements for the City's Stormwater Management Plan. It also includes the following findings, which validate the need for municipal stormwater management.

1. Urban runoff is a leading cause of pollution throughout California.
2. Pollutants in urban runoff of concern include sediments, non-sediment solids, nutrients, pathogens, oxygen-demanding substances, petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, floatable, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), trash, pesticides and herbicides.
3. During urban development, two important changes occur. First, where no urban development has previously occurred, natural vegetated pervious ground cover is often converted to impervious surfaces; examples include paved highways, streets, rooftops, and parking lots. Natural vegetated soil can both absorb rainwater and remove pollutants, which provide a very effective purification process. Because pavement and concrete can neither absorb water nor remove pollutants, the natural purification characteristics of the land are lost. Second, urban development creates new pollutant sources as human population density increases and causes proportionately higher levels of vehicle emissions, vehicle maintenance wastes, municipal sewage, pesticides, household

hazardous wastes, pet wastes, trash, etc., all of which can be washed into the municipal separate stormwater system (MS4). As a result of these two changes, the runoff leaving a developed urban area may be significantly greater in volume, velocity, and/or pollutant load than predevelopment runoff from the same area.

4. A higher percentage of impervious area correlates to a greater pollutant loading, resulting in turbid water, nutrient enrichment, bacterial contamination, organic matter loads, toxic compounds, temperature increases, and increases of trash or debris.

5. Pollutants present in storm water can have damaging effects on both human health and aquatic ecosystems. In addition, the increased flows and volumes of storm water discharged from impervious surfaces resulting from development can significantly impact beneficial uses of aquatic ecosystems due to physical modifications of watercourses, such as bank erosion and widening of channels.

## **1.2 Regulatory Requirements for Stormwater Management**

The following sections provide brief reviews of the federal and state programs that either require the City of Morro Bay to develop and implement a Stormwater Management Program or are consistent with the goals of the stormwater management program.

### **Federal Regulations**

#### **Clean Water Act**

Growing public awareness and concern for controlling water pollution led to enactment of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. As amended in 1977, this law became commonly known as the Clean Water Act. The Act established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States. It gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards for industry. The Clean Water Act also continued requirements to set water quality standards for all contaminants in surface waters. The Act made it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters, unless a permit was obtained under its provisions. It also created grant programs to assist states and local governments with the construction of sewage treatment plants and the implementation of watershed management programs. The Act has been regularly amended (notable amendments in 1981 and 1987) since its enactment. The Act includes multiple programs to protect water quality. For more information about the clean Water Act, visit the EPA's website: <http://www.epa.gov/watertrain/cwa/index.htm>

## **Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act**

Under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the SWRCB is provided with the ultimate authority over state water rights and the water quality policy. However, Porter-Cologne also established nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) to provide oversight on water quality issues at a regional and local level. Morro Bay lies within the jurisdiction of the Central Coast RWQCB (Region 3). The State Board has overall responsibility for water quality regulation under division 7 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. This Act also divides the state into nine hydrological basins for local administration of the Act by the semiautonomous Regional Boards with coordination and oversight from the State Board. The Regional Boards have authority to regulate point source discharges, such as municipal stormwater discharges, through the adoption of waste discharge requirements under chapter 5.5 of the Act. In addition, the responsibility for implementing the NPDES permit program has been delegated to the State Board and its local Region Boards.

## **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program**

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) establishes the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The NPDES permit program sets nationwide permitting requirements for discharging pollutants into waterways. The limits vary by category of industry and are based on a level of treatment that is achievable using the best available technology. CWA Section 402 prohibits the discharge of pollutants into waters of the United States from any point source without an NPDES permit. Although this program initially focused on point-source discharges of municipal and industrial wastewater, results of a national urban runoff study identified contaminated stormwater as one of the primary causes of water quality impairment. To regulate stormwater (non-point source) discharges, EPA developed a two-phased NPDES permit program, commonly referred to as Phase I and Phase II.

In 1990, EPA promulgated rules that established Phase I of the NPDES storm water program. The Phase I program for Municipal Sanitary Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) requires operators of “medium” and “large” MS4s, that is, those that generally serve populations of 100,000 or greater, to implement a storm water management program as a means to control polluted discharges from these MS4s.

An “MS4” is a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (i) designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water; (ii) which is not a combined sewer; and (iii) which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

Storm water discharges from MS4s in urbanized areas are a concern because of the high concentration of pollutants found in these discharges. Concentrated development in urbanized areas substantially increases impervious surfaces, such as city streets, driveways, parking lots, and sidewalks, on which pollutants from concentrated human activities settle and remain until a storm event washes them into nearby storm drains. Another concern is the possible illicit connections of sanitary sewers, which can result in fecal coli form bacteria entering the storm sewer system. Storm water runoff picks up and transports these and other harmful pollutants then discharges them – untreated – to waterways via storm sewer systems. When deposited into nearby waterways through MS4 discharges, these pollutants can impair the waterways, thereby discouraging recreational use of the resource, contaminating drinking water supplies, and interfering with the habitat for fish, other aquatic organisms, and wildlife.

On August 7, 1995, EPA amended the NPDES permit application requirements in order to focus on Phase II stormwater discharges, such as discharges caused by:

- Commercial, light industrial and institutional activities,
- Construction activities under 5 acres, and
- Municipal storm drain systems serving populations under 100,000.

Similar to Phase I requirements, the NPDES Phase II permit program also requires the development and implementation of stormwater management plans to reduce such discharges. The Phase II program is based on the use of federally enforceable NPDES permits. The Phase II program:

- Encourages the use of general permits;
- Provides flexibility for regulated operators to determine the most appropriate storm water controls;
- Allows for the recognition and inclusion of existing NPDES and non-NPDES storm water programs in Phase II permits;
- Includes public education and participation efforts as primary elements of the small MS4 program;
- Attempts to facilitate and promote watershed planning and to implement the storm water program on a watershed basis; and
- Works toward a unified and comprehensive NPDES storm water program with Phase I of the program.

## **State Regulations**

### **California NPDES Permit Programs**

In many states, EPA has delegated administration of the NPDES permit program to the state water quality control authority. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and its Regional Boards administer the

NPDES permit program. Currently, discharges from construction, industrial, and municipal activities are regulated under the NPDES program, all of which are described further below.

## **NPDES Construction Permits**

Construction site stormwater management is governed by the State Board. These regulations prohibit discharges of stormwater to waters of the United States from construction projects that encompass one or more acres of soil disturbance unless the discharge complies with an NPDES permit.

The California General Permit (enforced by the nine Regional Boards) requires all dischargers where construction activity disturbs one acre or more:

- Develop and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which specifies Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will prevent all construction pollutants from contacting stormwater and with the intent of keeping all products of erosion from moving off site into receiving waters.
- Eliminate or reduce non-stormwater discharges to storm sewer systems and other waters of the nation.
- Perform inspections of all BMPs.

Construction activity subject to this General Permit includes clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground, such as stockpiling or excavation, which results in soil disturbances of at least one acre of total land area. Construction activity that disturbs less than one acre of soil is subject to the General Permit if the construction activity is part of a larger common development plan (encompassing one acre or more of disturbed soil) or if the construction causes significant impairment to local water quality. Construction activity does not include routine maintenance of original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility, nor does it include emergency construction activities required to protect public health and safety.

It is the responsibility of the landowner to obtain coverage under this General Permit prior to commencement of construction activities. To obtain coverage, the landowner must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) with a vicinity map and the appropriate fee to the State Board.

## **NPDES Industrial Permits**

Industrial site stormwater management targets a broad range of industrial activities, including mining, manufacturing, disposal, recycling, and transportation. Discharges of stormwater to waters of the United States is prohibited unless in compliance with a NPDES permit.

## **NPDES Municipal Permits**

The Regional Boards implement the municipal stormwater NPDES permit program. The State issues area-wide permits for urban areas that are considerable sources of pollutants or contribute to water quality standard violations. Regardless of population, the area-wide permits cover all municipalities within the defined urban area.

The main goal of the General Permit is to protect water quality from the impacts of storm water runoff from Small MS4s. The intent is that storm water quality impacts will be considered in all aspects of a municipality's activities and that multiple departments within the municipality will work together to implement stormwater BMPs. Many of the activities that a municipality already does can be recognized as a benefit to storm water or can be modified to add a storm water quality benefits.

The General permit states that the permittee shall maintain, implement, and enforce an effective SWMP, and develop adequate legal authority to implement and enforce the SWMP. The SWMP requirements are covered in Section 3.

On February 15, 2008 the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region sent a letter (Appendix A) notifying the City of Morro Bay of the new enrollment process for the NPDES permit. This letter also sets forth the RWQCB's expectations for SWMP content in order to be found in compliance with the General Permit. The letter stated that the SWMP must include additional control measures, including six minimum control measures to achieve the following conditions:

- I. Maximize infiltration of clean stormwater, and minimize runoff volume and rate
- II. Protect riparian areas, wetlands, and their buffer zones
- III. Minimize pollutant loading; and
- IV. Provide long-term watershed protection

In order to achieve MEP, the City has incorporated each of these conditions into the six minimum control measures.

### **1.3 Legal Authority**

The City's legal authority to enforce the SWMP includes the Local Coastal Program, existing ordinances, building and development plan review processes, approved Engineering Standards and Standard Specifications, and solid waste regulations. The City will maintain adequate legal authority to implement and enforce the SWMP, including right of entry/inspection. The SWMP is designed to

reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to protect water quality. The City will also develop an Ordinance for the Illicit Discharges Detection and Elimination (see section 4.3)

### **1.4 City Stormwater Management Plan Coordination**

Implementation of the City of Morro Bay’s SMWP involves several of the City’s departments and requires the City’s total involvement and support. The program will be managed by the Public Services Department and implemented by the Harbor Department, Recreation and Parks, and staff from the Public Services (street/storm drain maintenance, engineering, planning building). The City’s organization chart is included in Appendix B. Contact information for those directly involved in the implementation and planning is provided below. The main Public Services telephone number is (805)772-6261.

**Department Name Title Phone Number**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Phone number</b>	<b>Email</b>
Public Services	Bruce Ambo	Director of Public Services	772-6215	<a href="mailto:bambo@morro-bay.ca.uus">bambo@morro-bay.ca.uus</a>
Administration	Andrea Lueker	City Manager	772-6200	<a href="mailto:alueker@morro-bay.ca.us">alueker@morro-bay.ca.us</a>
Harbor	Rick Algert	Director of Harbor Department	772-6259	<a href="mailto:ralgert@morro-bay.ca.us">ralgert@morro-bay.ca.us</a>
Recreation and Parks	Joe Woods	Acting Director of Recreation and Parks	772-6278	<a href="mailto:jwoods@morro-bay.ca.us">jwoods@morro-bay.ca.us</a>