

**Forest Service Manual
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Forest Service Manual 7400 – Public Health and Pollution Control Facilities

Chapter 7430 - Wastewater

Amendment: 7400-2000-1

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Approved by: Mike Dombeck, Chief

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Responsible Staff:

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Digest: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

Posting Instructions: This is a technical amendment that converts the format and style of this FSM title from Applixware to the current corporate word processing application. Since this amendment replaces all text except Interim Directives (ID's), do not check for the last transmittal received for this title; instead place this transmittal sheet at the front of the title. DO NOT remove ID's when posting this amendment. ID's are not being reformatted at this time.

Please read the new posting instructions (above) carefully.

7400: The entire amendment text has been reformatted and replaced, so that the amendment text on the Service-wide Directives Home Page in the Forest Service Web/Intranet (<http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/directives/index.html>) corresponds with the amendment text on the Forest Service Directives Home Page in the Forest Service World Wide Web/Internet (<http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives>).

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Although some minor typographical and technical errors have been corrected, substantive direction has not been changed.

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7430.1 - Authority

1. Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (P.L. 92-500), October 18, 1972. This act extensively modified the original Federal Water Pollution Control Act and subsequent amendments. The objective of the act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

2. Federal Compliance With Pollution Control Standards (Executive Order 12088), October 13, 1978. The purpose of this order is to ensure that Federal agencies, in the design, construction, management, operation and maintenance of Federal facilities and activities under agency control, take all necessary actions for the prevention, control and abatement of environment pollution, in full cooperation with State and local governments.

3. Pretreatment Standards (40 CFR 403), February 2, 1977. This regulation establishes standards and procedures for controlling the introduction of industrial wastes into publicly owned treatment works.

4. Secondary Treatment Information (40 CFR 133), August 17, 1973, and (40 CFR 133), October 1977, September 20, 1984. This provides information on the level of effluent quality attainable through the application of secondary treatment. It also provides information on less stringent suspended solids limitations for wastewater treatment ponds.

7430.2 - Objective

The objective of this program is to develop and manage wastewater collection systems and treatment works to (1) avoid creating health hazards or nuisance conditions; (2) restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological quality of water resources; and (3) prevent future pollution or degradation of surface or groundwaters. Accomplishing these objectives requires, as a minimum, compliance with Public Law 92-500, and subsequent amendments and regulations.

7430.3 - Policy

Where these objectives cannot be met in the manner described in this chapter, the Forest Service shall apply management actions that provide for restricted use, temporary closures, or permanent closure. Forest Service policy on cost sharing with special-use permittees for recreation facilities located at concession sites is in FSM 2340.3.

Correction of health hazards or nuisance conditions not directly associated with point source discharges shall receive a high priority in the planning and execution of work programs.

7430.4 - Responsibility

7430.41 - Regional Foresters and Station Directors

These personnel shall:

1. Delegate responsibility for the preparation of engineering reports and design to those engineers qualified in the wastewater collection and treatment field.
2. Review and interpret new State legislative or administrative actions that affect the wastewater program. They shall provide full awareness and understanding of the sanitation aspects and requirements of these actions throughout the Region.
3. Review and approve project criteria and engineering reports for wastewater collection systems and treatment works before design, unless specifically modified by Regional supplement.
4. Review and approve design drawings and construction specifications for all wastewater collection and treatment systems. They may delegate the responsibility for review and approval of certain wastewater projects if the requirement for a qualified independent engineering review of design drawings and specifications can be met at the Forest level.
5. Monitor wastewater collection and treatment system construction activities to ensure competent performance for the duration of the project.
6. Coordinate all activities concerning the land management requirements of each project and review environmental reports for wastewater collection and treatment works.
7. Monitor operation, maintenance, and testing results for treatment works. They shall develop needed corrective actions to achieve the objectives of FSM 7430.2.

They may delegate to Forests, if review/approval authority is maintained.

Stations without qualified engineers shall obtain the necessary professional and technical expertise from Regional Offices to carry out these responsibilities.

7430.42 - Forest Supervisors and Project Leaders

These personnel shall:

1. Provide basic data, present and proposed uses, constraints, and other information as needed, for wastewater collection and treatment projects.
2. Provide for adequate inspection and supervision of project construction by qualified personnel.

3. Prepare engineering reports for wastewater collection and treatment systems as may be delegated by the Regional Forester.
4. Conduct environmental analyses of wastewater collection and treatment systems as required and prepare appropriate reports.
5. Monitor, operate, and maintain all wastewater treatment works in accordance with standards, permits, and regulations.
6. Design certain wastewater treatment facilities as may be delegated by the Regional Forester.
7. Perform condition surveys as required by FSM 7410.

7430.5 - Definitions

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

1. Discharge of Pollutants. Any addition of any pollutant to navigable waters, other than the territorial sea, from any point source; any addition of any pollutant to the waters of the territorial sea, the contiguous zone or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft.
2. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The system for issuing, conditioning, and denying permits for the discharge of pollutants from point sources into the navigable waters, the contiguous zone, and the oceans, by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. This program is now administered by most States.
3. Point Source. Any discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.
4. Pollution. The manmade or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water.
5. Secondary Treatment. Treatment of wastewater by physical, chemical, or biological means. The minimum level of effluent quality attainable by secondary treatment is described in 40 CFR 133.
6. Treatment Works. Any facility, method, or system for the storage, treatment, recycling, or reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature, including waste in combined storm water and sanitary sewer systems.

7431 - Wastewater Treatment Works

There are many processes available to the Forest Service for the solution of various wastewater treatment problems. The treatment mode selected for wastewater will be site specific, ranging from on-site disposal to advanced waste treatment works with off-site discharges. The National Forest role emphasizes that, to the extent practical, simple methods of wastewater disposal be provided (see FSM 2330). In all cases the application of sound, sanitary engineering principles in the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of wastewater treatment works is of extreme importance for the system to function as intended. Technical details are in FSH 7409.11.