

Santa Susana Field Laboratory

Advanced Stormwater Treatment System Factsheet

Year Constructed

2011

Target Constituents

Dioxins, lead, manganese, and others

Drainage Area

927 acres total

Treatment Processes

Filtration, coagulation, sedimentation

Stormwater Treatment Systems (SWTS)

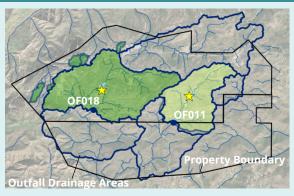
- Implementation (2011): Stormwater Treatment Systems (SWTSs) were established at Outfalls 011 and 018.
- Advanced Treatment: SWTSs employ coagulation and filtration systems for advanced stormwater treatment.
- Upstream Management: Existing ponds were strategically used to facilitate flow equalization and pretreatment sedimentation.
- Stormwater Treatment: When the pond volumes approach their storage capacity, advanced SWTSs are utilized to treat stormwater prior to discharge.



Pond Infiltration Study

- Investigating Migration Pathway: Concerns about stormwater infiltration in the ponds impacting groundwater quality prompted an infiltration study.
- Assessment Method: Utilizing water level measurements, rainfall, and evapotranspiration records, infiltration rates were assessed through mass balance analysis in ponds upstream of Outfalls 011 and 018 over a six-month period.
- Low Infiltration Risk: Modeling analyses and field estimates both confirm that stormwater infiltration in onsite ponds is very low. The average infiltration rates at Silvernale and R-1, and were 0.0006 and 0.03 inches per hour, respectively. COPCs in stormwater (e.g., metals and dioxins) are predominately in particulate form, which minimizes their downward migration as they are filtered and sorbed by sediment in the pond and underlying soils. Additionally, the four samples of untreated stormwater from the ponds met primary drinking water standards at R-1 or Silvernale ponds. Increased sample frequency will start in 2024.

LOCATION



- The SWTSs (stars) treat stormwater from R-1 and Silvernale ponds before discharging at Outfalls 011 and 018 (blue circles).
- The treated drainage areas (shaded green) includes most former operational areas.

SWTS PERFORMANCE

SWTSs are performing well as evidenced by near 100% compliance at Outfalls 011 and 018. Concentrations decreased from the influent to the effluent, for lead, dioxins, and other COPCs, at SWTS 011 and 018.

The table below summarizes the number of influent samples above a drinking water MCL or permit limit out of the total number of samples collected to date. Of the 918 NPDES constituents analyzed, only the five constituents listed below exceeded a water quality objective.

	Silvernale (018) SWTS Influent		R-1 (011) SWTS Influent	
		Above		Above
	Above	Permit	Above	Permit
Constituent	MCL	Limit	MCL	Limit
Iron*	0/2	2/2	0/2	2/2
TCDD TEQ (no DNQ)	0/2	2/2	0/2	1/2
Manganese*	2/2	2/2	0/2	0/2
Mercury	0/2	1/2	0/2	1/2
Oil & Grease	N/A	0/2	N/A	1/2

*Iron and manganese secondary MCL is based on aesthetics (taste/color), neither has a primary MCL.

There is no drinking water standard for oil & grease.

