

Unit Process Assigned_____

Student Activity #1
Impacts of Wet Weather Flows on
Treatment Plants and Unit Processes

As a group, list below the ways in which high flows and accompanying changes in wastewater characteristics impact the unit process assigned. These should be specific effects of the wet weather flow, not descriptions of what you do differently during wet weather. Additional pages are available if needed.

Student Activity #2

Analysis of Plant Data

Mo'town WWTF

Attached is a partial set of one month's plant data for the Mo'town wastewater treatment facility. The basic facility data is as follows:

Flow: Design	0.90 MGD	Preliminary:	Barscreen
			Detritter
Peak Day	2.0 MGD	Primary:	Circular clarifier
Primary Clarifier Volume	0.113 MG	Secondary:	Activated sludge
Secondary Clarifier Volume	0.225 MG		Rectangular clar.
		Tertiary:	Sand Filters
		Nutrient Removal:	Nitrification Only

Your task, as a group, is to analyze the attached data sheet and develop some assumptions and basic actions to be taken based upon the data. To guide the discussion within the group, consider the following questions.

1. What days of this month do you consider to be wet weather flow days?
2. What unit processes seem to be under stress during these times?
3. What process adjustments should be considered?
4. During which of these times do you think that the secondary process is stressed?
5. What other data would you like to have collected by the operators?
6. What month do you think this is?

Be prepared to present your groups opinions and answers to the class.

Activity #2 - Mo'town WWTF

				Influent							Barscreen	Quantity	Quantity	Primary Settling				Final Effluent	
Date	AirT	Rainfall	Flow	Temp.	SettS	SS	BOD	pH	P	TKN	Op	of	of	sludge	sludge	PESS	PEBOD	FESS	FEBOD
	F	(inch)	MGD	C	ml/l	mg/l	mg/l		mg/l	mg/l	Mode	Screen	Grit	depth	pumped				
												cu.ft.	cu.ft.	feet	gallons	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l
1	30	0	0.84	13	11	150	160	6.8	4.3	30	AUTO	<2	0	2.1	1500	72	64	4	2
2	32	0	0.82	13	12	145	165	6.5	4.2	32	AUTO	<2	0	2.2	1520	70	66	3	4
3	40	0	0.85	13	12	135	155	6.7	4.5	29	AUTO	<2	<2	2	1500	65	62	5	3
4	38	0	0.9	12	16	145	165	6.9	4.2	28	alar/con	4	2	2.3	1520	70	65	6	5
5	42	0.1	1.2	12	12	142	162	6.6	4.1	26	alar/con	2	0	2.1	1500	72	80	4	4
6	55	0	0.89	13	13	138	158	6.8	4.3	32	AUTO	<2	0	1.9	1500	66	63	3	3
7	65	0	0.86	14	11	143	163	6.7	4.4	30	AUTO	<2	<2	2	1500	69	65	6	4
8	70	0	0.85	13	11	146	164	6.7	4.3	29	AUTO	<2	0	2	1500	70	66	4	5
9	75	0	0.9	14	14	145	156	6.7	4.1	36	AUTO	<2	0	2.3	1500	66	70	5	4
10	50	0.8	1.76	14	15	80	140	6.4	3.4	24	alar/con	16	20	2.8	1520	95	110	15	25
11	55	0.4	1.45	15	13	85	145	6.8	3.6	26	alar/con	4	4	2.2	1600	45	65	6	12
12	60	0.1	1.2	14	12	120	155	6.9	3.9	28	alar/con	2	<2	1.3	1550	58	65	5	13
13	65	0	0.95	15	10	144	162	6.7	4.3	30	AUTO	<2	0	1.7	1400	69	65	4	10
14	63	0	0.84	15	11	142	163	6.6	4.2	32	AUTO	<2	0	2.2	1500	68	65	6	8
15	58	0	0.81	14	10	138	158	6.9	4.5	33	AUTO	<2	0	1.9	1500	66	63	4	7
16	65	0	0.85	15	11	143	165	6.8	4.3	31	AUTO	<2	<2	2	1500	69	66	5	2
17	66	0	0.88	15	13	145	165	6.6	4.3	29	AUTO	<2	0	2.3	1500	70	72	4	4
18	68	0.1	1.2	16	12	132	150	6.7	4.1	28	alar/con	<2	4	2.2	1520	75	70	5	4
19	70	0.2	0.98	15	13	137	157	6.8	4.2	30	alar/con	<2	2	1.8	1550	70	63	3	3
20	72	0	0.88	16	12	140	163	6.7	4.3	32	AUTO	<2	0	2.1	1480	67	65	6	4
21	75	0	0.85	15	11	137	164	6.9	4.4	29	AUTO	<2	0	1.9	1500	66	66	4	2
22	78	0	0.98	16	22	140	162	6.6	4.1	34	AUTO	<2	<2	2.5	1500	75	60	6	5
23	62	1.8	1.95	17	14	100	140	6.6	2.8	22	alar/con	10	12	2.8	1560	100	120	15	32
24	55	0.2	1.75	18	13	90	105	6.8	3.2	25	alar/con	4	4	2.2	1600	72	62	8	20
25	58	0.1	1.25	18	12	95	110	6.7	3.8	28	alar/con	2	2	1.7	1550	65	60	5	17
26	60	0	0.92	17	14	115	155	6.9	4.1	29	alar/con	<2	0	1.9	1480	60	62	4	12
27	62	0.1	1.2	17	11	130	162	6.7	4	30	alar/con	<2	0	2.2	1500	62	65	5	13
28	65	0	0.88	16	10	140	164	6.8	4.3	30	AUTO	<2	<2	2.1	1500	67	66	4	8
29	63	0	0.87	17	13	140	163	6.7	4.4	31	AUTO	<2	0	1.9	1500	67	65	6	5
30	65	0.1	1.1	17	10	143	158	6.9	4.2	29	AUTO	<2	0	2	1500	69	63	3	3

Student Activity #3

Impact of Activated Sludge Mode Changes

Three plant configurations are shown in the diagram on the following page. Each plant has a total aeration tank volume of 2 million gallons and a total clarifier surface area of 20,000 ft². Mixed liquor suspended solids concentrations, process flow rates, and aeration zone volumes are shown in the attached diagram. For each of the three configurations, answer the following questions:

1. How many pounds of MLSS are there in the aeration tanks?

Conventional _____

Step Feed _____

Contact Stabilization _____

2. What is the clarifier surface overflow rate?

Conventional _____

Step Feed _____

Contact Stabilization _____

3. What is the clarifier solids loading rate?

Conventional _____

Step Feed _____

Contact Stabilization _____

4. What would the clarifier solids loading rate be if the primary effluent flow increased to 20 mgd?

Conventional _____

Step Feed _____

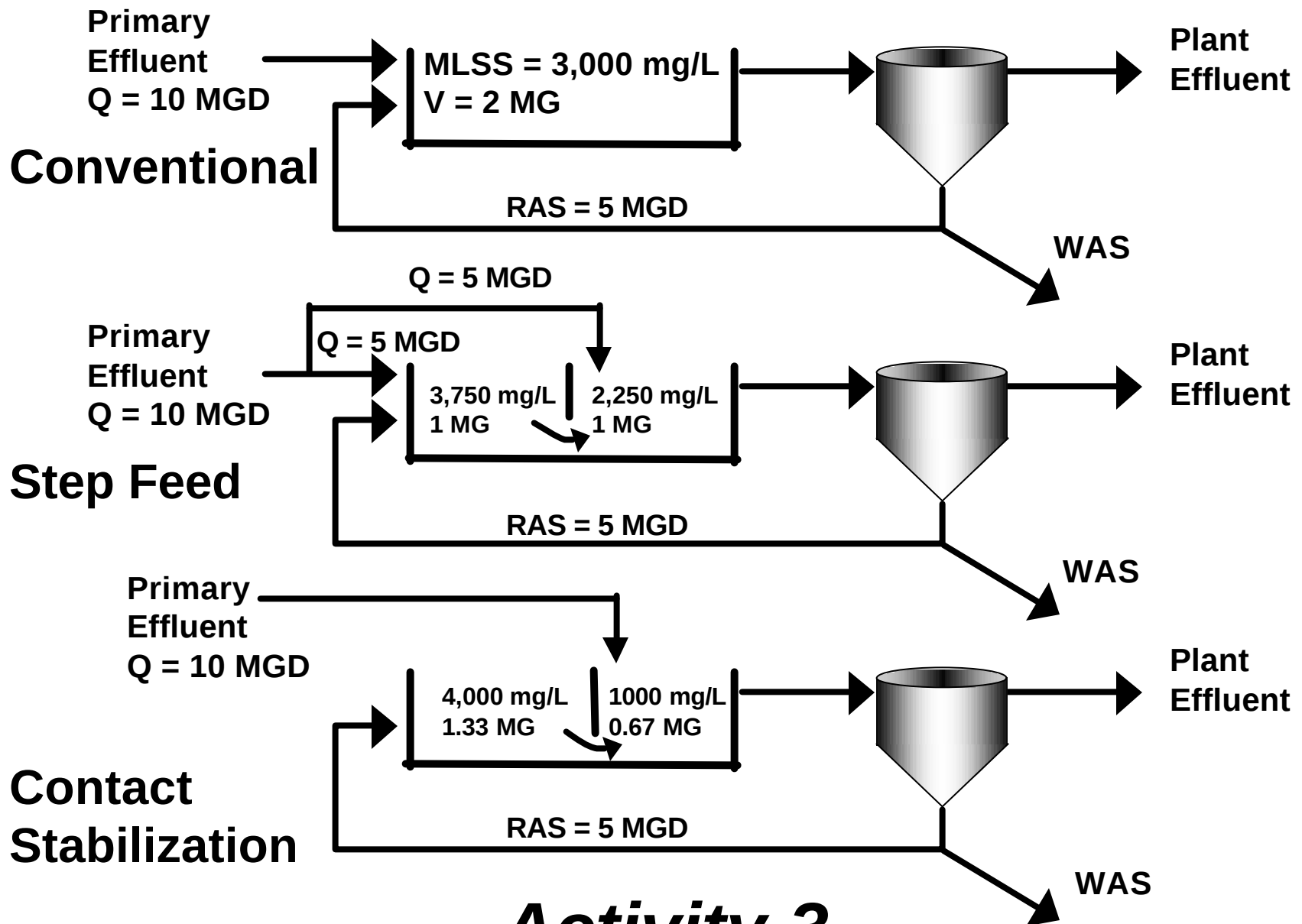
Contact Stabilization _____

5. At the wet weather flow of 20 mgd, using the allowable solids loading rates on the attached chart, what would be the required SVI in each mode?

Conventional _____

Step Feed _____

Contact Stabilization _____



Activity 3

Solids Loading Rate Circular Clarifier

Required Input Data

- (1) Clarifier Diameter (D_c) _____ ft
- (2) Number of Clarifiers (N) _____
- (3) Flow (Q) (NOTE - Flow DOES include RAS flow) _____ mgd
- (4) Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) _____ mg/l

Surface Area of One Clarifier

- (5) $A_s = (\pi)(D_c^2/4)$
- (6) $A_s = (3.14)(\text{_____}^2/4) = \text{_____} \text{ ft}^2$
- Enter from line (1) 

Total Surface Area

- (7) $A_{s(TOTAL)} = (N)(A_s)$
- (8) $A_{s(TOTAL)} = (\text{_____})(\text{_____}) = \text{_____} \text{ ft}^2$
- Enter from line (2)  Enter from line (6) 

Solids Loading

- (9) $SL = (Q)(8.34)(MLSS)$
- (10) $SL = (\text{_____})(8.34)(\text{_____}) = \text{_____} \text{ lbs / d}$
- Enter from line (3)  Enter from line (4) 

Solids Loading Rate

- (11) $SLR = SL / A_{s(TOTAL)}$
- (12) $SLR = \text{_____} / \text{_____} = \text{_____} \text{ lbs / ft}^2/\text{d}$
- Enter from line (10)  Enter from line (8) 

Surface Overflow Rate

Circular Clarifier

Required Input Data

- (1) Clarifier Diameter (D_c) _____ ft
- (2) Number of Clarifiers (N) _____
- (3) Flow (Q) _____ mgd

NOTE - Flow does NOT include RAS flow

Surface Area of One Clarifier

- (4) $A_s = (\text{Pi})(D_c^2/4)$
- (5) $A_s = (3.14)(\text{_____}^2/4) = \text{_____} \text{ ft}^2$
- Enter from line (1) 

Total Surface Area

- (6) $A_{s(TOTAL)} = (N)(A_s)$
- (7) $A_{s(TOTAL)} = (\text{_____})(\text{_____}) = \text{_____} \text{ ft}^2$
- Enter from line (2)  Enter from line (5) 

Surface Overflow Rate

- (8) $SOR = (Q)(10^6) / A_{s(TOTAL)}$
- (9) $SOR = (\text{_____})(10^6) / \text{_____} = \text{_____} \text{ gpd / ft}^2$
- Enter from line (3)  Enter from line (7) 

Activity 3

Example Clarifier Solids Loading Guidelines

SVI mL/g	Solids Loading Capacity at Avg. Daily Flow lbs/d/ft²
75	30
100	25
125	22.5
150	20
175	17.5
200	15

Student Activity #4

Troubleshooting Exercise

Potope WWTP

General Data

The Potope wastewater treatment facility serves the community of Potope (pop. 7000). The community is residential with only the “normally” associated commercial discharges (gas stations, restaurant, etc.). The plant accepts a limited amount of septage through a separate pretreatment and storage facility. The plant is an oxidation ditch design, with no primary clarifiers preceding secondary treatment. The facility was built in the late 1970’s and the solids process was upgraded in the late 1980’s. Solids processing consists of aerobic digestion followed by belt filter press dewatering and solids storage for spring land application.

The basic plant design data is:

Design Flow:	0.850 MGD	Preliminary Treatment:	Bar screen Comminutor
Peak hourly flow:	1.8 MGD	Primary Treatment:	None
Collection system:	Combined	Secondary Treatment:	Oxidation ditch Circular clarifier
Aeration tank volume: (1 used)	0.750 MG	Tertiary Treatment:	None
Final clarifier volume: (2 used)	0.250 MG	Disinfection:	Cl ₂ (no dechlorination)

Operation Mode

The plant is operated as an extended aeration plant. Normal operation is with one of the two oxidation ditches on line (this has been so since start-up). RAS flow rate is manually adjusted to approximately 75% of influent flow rate. Both secondary clarifiers are on line at all times, but RAS is only drawn from one of them. The solids in the other are collected and wasted to the aerobic digester every other day. The clarifiers are alternated every other day so that any solids not sent to the digester are returned to the aeration tank. This procedure assures high solids concentration in the waste line to the digester.

Effluent quality is always below 5 mg/l for both BOD₅ and TSS. The discharge permit limit is 30 mg/L for BOD₅ and TSS. During high flow events flows increase very rapidly and at 1.5 MGD an alarm is sent to operators and aeration is stopped (the plant essentially maintains primary treatment with the aeration tank and final clarifiers providing treatment). During these times effluent TSS values are maintained near normal and BOD₅ rises slightly, but still remains well within permit requirements. Reaeration takes between twelve and 24 hours to resuspend the contents of the aeration tanks.

The Problem

During the last two storms the effluent quality has deteriorated significantly. TSS has nearly exceeded permit values and BOD₅ has risen significantly. These two recent storms do not

appear to be unlike any other storms and there have been no process changes or plant modifications recently.

Activity #4 (continued)

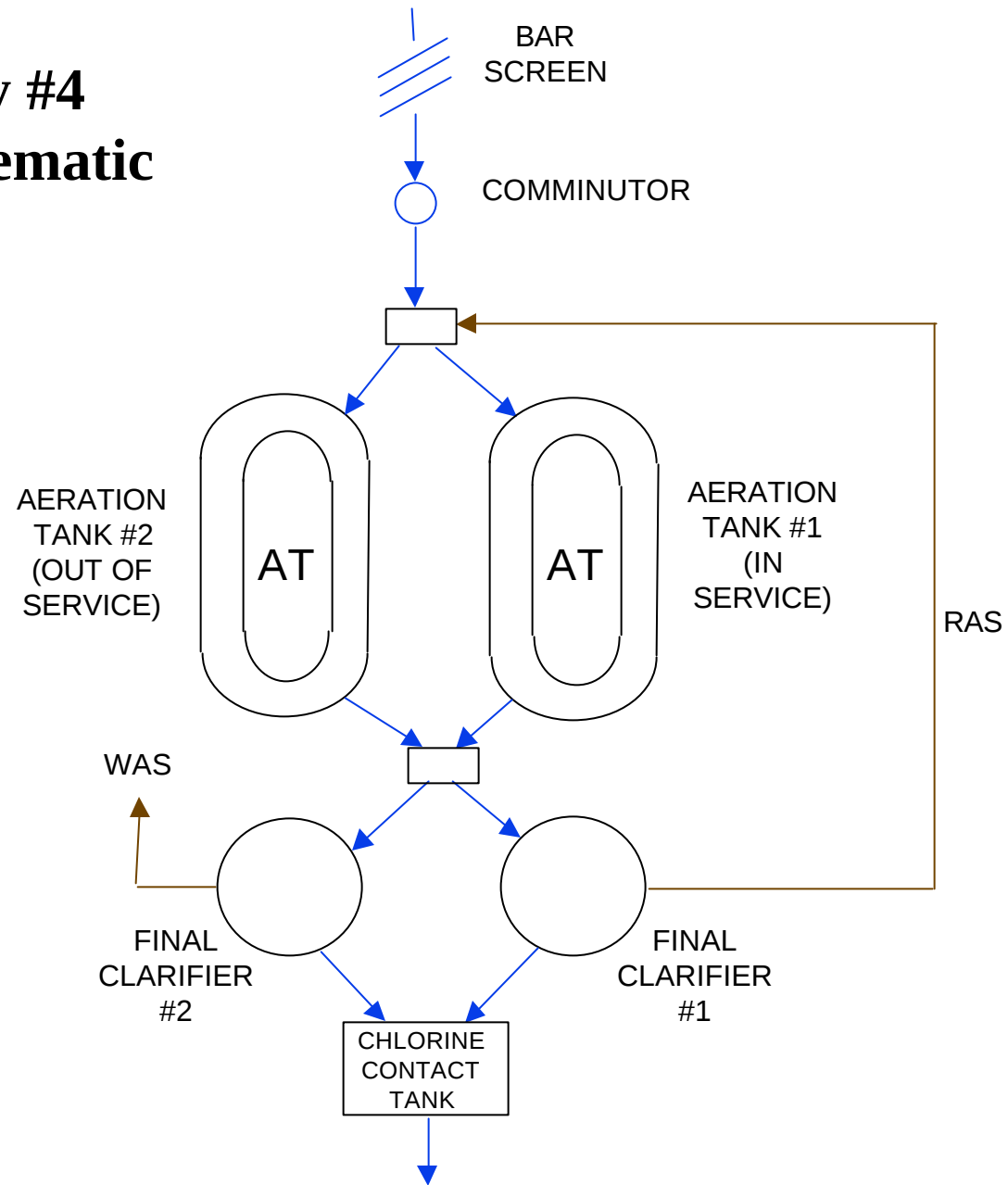
Your Task

Your task is to help the award winning operators from Potope maintain their sterling record of permit compliance. It is now Thursday and there are severe thunderstorms forecast for the weekend. The following questions might help guide you through the problem solving exercise.

1. What is the problem? What caused the TSS and BOD₅ to increase during the recent storms?
2. What actions could be taken to help reduce the impact this weekend?
3. What are the intermediate solutions to this problem?
4. What additional data needs to be collected?
5. What long-term operational changes do you suggest?

Activity #4

Plant Schematic



Potope WWTP Last Month

Date	Rainfall (inches)	Flow (MGD)	Influent				Aeration Basin		Waste Sludge (lbs)	Final Effluent	
			Temp (deg C)	pH	TSS (mg/L)	BOD ₅ (mg/L)	30 min sett (mL/L)	MLSS (mg/L)		TSS (mg/L)	BOD ₅ (mg/L)
1	0	0.79	18	6.8	180	220	280	2700	1850	3	3
2	0	0.75	19	6.5	185	240	290	3100		1	4
3	0	0.78	18	6.6	187	230	265	2650	1900	2	2
4	0	0.8	20	6.7	176	225	270	3050		3	1
5	0	0.77	18	6.6	184	234	285	2610	1875	4	2
6	0	0.76	19	6.8	165	243	295	3010		2	3
7	0	0.78	17	6.7	185	235	265	2590	1920	1	4
8	0.5	1.9	18	6.8	105	95				20	35
9	0.3	1.6	19	6.5	95	110			1865	25	40
10	0	0.9	20	6.6	165	210	300	2200		3	10
11	0	0.8	17	6.7	185	225	320	2450	1885	4	5
12	0	0.74	18	6.5	145	234	335	3100		5	4
13	0.1	1.2	17	6.7	120	150			1890	3	5
14	0	0.75	19	6.5	156	265	345	2000		4	3
15	0	0.72	20	6.6	185	253	360	2440	1875	5	5
16	0.8	1.9	18	6.8	120	92				24	40
17	0.3	1.7	18	6.5	93	85			1880	26	45
18	0.1	1.5	20	6.6	130	98	395	2100		15	20
19	0	1	18	6.8	165		400	2420	1890	10	
20	0	0.8	19	6.7	184		390	2950		12	
21	0	0.75	18	6.5	176		410	2350	1874	15	
22	0	0.78	20	6.8	165		420	2850		14	
23											
24											
25											
26											
27											
28											
29											
30											
31											

STUDENT ACTIVITY #5

WET WEATHER OPERATING STRATEGIES FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Instructions: Complete the following chart for your facility. In the “application at my plant” column, describe the implications for application of this strategy at your facility. Include necessary purchases and changes in operating procedures. If a strategy will not work, explain why. Also try to develop other strategies not listed below that may be applicable to your plant. You may only mark Not Applicable (NA) for those processes which you do not have in your facility.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
General	1. Assure that unused tankage and equipment are available and ready for use when high flows occur.	1.
	2. Controlled bypassing of secondary treatment process.	2.
	3. Develop sampling and testing regimes to identify the flow rate at which process upsets will occur.	3.
	4. Low cost piping additions which increase plant flexibility.	4.
	5. Reduce recycle flows (digester supernatant, filtrate, etc.) during wet weather events.	5.
	6.	6.
	7.	7.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Collection System	1. Implement regular program for inspecting and cleaning sewers, manholes and catch basins. 2. Adjust weir heights/regulator settings at combined sewer overflow points to maximize system storage. 3. Throttle plant influent gate to increase storage in collection system. 4. Implement regular program to reduce I/I which may include TVing, testing and sealing. 5. Remove unnecessary storm sewer connections. 6. Install simple regulation devices (vortex-type throttling devices, surface retention, manhole cover inserts) to reduce rate of inflow into system. 7. 8.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Pump Stations	1. Modify pump control system to maximize wet well storage. 2. Modify pump control system to dampen flow surges to treatment processes. 3. Bring stand-by pumps on line. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Screening	1. Place all screening units in service. 2. Increase cleaning frequency (or run mechanical screens continuously) 3. 4.	1. 2. 3. 4.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Grit Removal	1. Place all grit removal units in service. 2. Shut off or reduce air to aerated grit chambers. 3. Increase grit removal rate or frequency (e.g. run grit collector continuously). 4. Adjust velocity of velocity controlled grit chambers. 5. Utilize alternative grit removal systems. 6. 7.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Primary Settling	1. Maintain low sludge blanket levels/increase sludge pumping rate or frequency. 2. Improve flow splitting to settling tanks. 3. Improve tank hydraulics through baffle addition. 4. Improve tank hydraulics through weir modifications. 5. Chemical addition and flocculent aids to maximize solids removal. 6. Increase scum removal rate or frequency. 7. Monitor primary sludge concentration more often, especially during early flow. 8. 9.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Activated Sludge	1. Turn off aeration.	1.
	2. Turn down aeration.	2.
	3. Cycle aeration.	3.
	4. Operate in step feed mode to save biomass in aeration basin.	4.
	5. Operate in contact stabilization mode to save biomass in aeration basin.	5.
	6. Reduce return sludge pumping rate.	6.
	7. Increase return sludge pumping rate.	7.
	8. Maintain low MLSS (don't use your aeration/clarifier system for storage of excess solids).	8.
	9. Decrease wasting rates to save biomass. Store biomass in extra tankage until flow decreases.	9.
	10. Control filamentous growth problems to improve sludge settleability.	10.
	11.	11.
	12.	12.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Trickling Filters	1. Adjust distributor arm speed. 2. Reduce or stop filter recycle or recirculation flows. 3. Place trickling filters in parallel operation. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Secondary Settling	1. Maintain low sludge blanket levels. 2. Improve flow splitting to settling tanks. 3. Improve tank hydraulics through baffle addition. 4. Improve tank hydraulics through weir modifications. 5. Chemical addition and flocculent aids to maximize solids removal. 6. Dye test clarifiers. 7. 8.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Sand Filtration	1. Place all filter units in service. 2. Adjust backwash mode. 3. Backwash before storm surge hits. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Disinfection	1. Increase chlorination rates to handle increased chlorine demand from solids losses from clarifiers. 2. Clean solids from contact tank periodically. 3. Place all units in service. 4. Clean UV equipment prior to storm surge. 5. 6.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.

Process	Strategy	Application at My Plant
Solids Processing	1. Assure maximum available solids storage capacity prior to wet weather season	1.
	2. Assure all solids processing equipment is in operating condition prior to wet weather conditions	2.
	3. Consider alternative solids disposal during wet weather events	3.
	4. Reduce solids volume in digesters prior to wet weather events	4.
	5.	5.
	6.	6.

Student Activity #6
Development Worksheets for Wet Weather Operating Plan

Select one major unit process area for your plant to use for development of a wet weather operating plan. Using the attached worksheets, develop the pertinent data for the selected process for use in your wet weather operating plan.

BEFORE WET WEATHER EVENT

Plant Area: _____

Sheet ID: _____

Unit Process/Equipment: _____

Date: _____

A. We have decided that we need to get ready for a wet weather event.
What do we do before the flow starts to climb?

1. What operating adjustments do we make?

2. What do we look at, what do we observe?

3. What do we measure, what do we record?

4. What maintenance do we perform?

5. Anything else?

DURING WET WEATHER EVENT

Plant Area: _____

Sheet ID: _____

Unit Process/Equipment: _____

Date: _____

B. The flow has just started to increase at this unit. **What do we do as the flow climbs, reaches it's peak and begins coming back down?**

1. What operating adjustments do we make?

2. What do we look at, what do we observe?

3. What do we measure, what do we record?

4. What maintenance do we perform?

5. Anything else?

AFTER WET WEATHER EVENT

Plant Area: _____

Sheet ID: _____

Unit Process/Equipment: _____

Date: _____

C. The flow continues to drop and approaches normal. **What do we do to return this to normal service?**

1. What operating adjustments do we make?

2. What do we look at, what do we observe?

3. What do we measure, what do we record?

4. What maintenance do we perform?

5. Anything else?

Student Activity #7
Wet Weather Operating Plan Preparation

Using the information developed in Activity 6, develop a section of your wet weather operating plan. Fill in the plan information on the attached form.

SECTION__ - _____

___ **Unit Processes and Equipment List**

UNIT PROCESS	EQUIPMENT

___ **Wet Weather O&M Practices**

WHO DOES IT?		WHAT DO WE DO?
SUPERVISORY	IMPLEMENTATION	
<i>Before Wet Weather Event</i>		

WHO DOES IT?		WHAT DO WE DO?
SUPERVISORY	IMPLEMENTATION	
<i>During Wet Weather Event</i>		

WHO DOES IT?		WHAT DO WE DO?
SUPERVISORY	IMPLEMENTATION	
<i>After Wet Weather Event</i>		

WHO DOES IT?		WHAT DO WE DO?
SUPERVISORY	IMPLEMENTATION	

WHY DO WE DO THIS ?
WHAT TRIGGERS THE CHANGE?
WHAT CAN GO WRONG?

SECTION __ (Continued):