County of Yolo

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Environmental Health Division
292 W. Beamer Street, Woodland, CA 95695
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Wet Weather Groundwater Determination Procedure

The purpose of this procedure is to capture seasonal high groundwater elevation data in the proposed primary and 100% replacement area. Where a conflict exists between the depth of groundwater observed through the wet weather groundwater determination and the depth at which soil mottles are observed, the direct observation of actual groundwater levels govern.

Wet weather groundwater determination approvable methods can be conducted by monitoring port, backhoe excavated profile holes or other methods approved at the discretion of Division of Environmental Health (DEH).

SITE INFORMATION

Address:	City:	Zip Code:
APN:	Owner(s) Last Name:	
Project Contact:	Phone Number:	

APPLICATION:

Prior to this procedure, a complete application shall be submitted to DEH for review and approval. A complete application shall include the following:

1. A cover letter with the intent to conduct Wet Weather Testing, signed by the Qualified Professional. The letter shall include the following:

    a. The site address and APN, and
    b. The property owner name, and their understanding that DEH will access their property for necessary inspections, and
    c. The proposed method of wet weather determination (e.g., monitoring ports or excavation holes - see attached policy for requirements).

2. A site plan showing the area to be tested, including:

    a. The locations of the monitoring ports (if applicable),
    b. The location(s) of the excavation hole(s) (if applicable), and
    c. How to enter the property for inspections.

3. A timeline of work to be done, if possible.
    a. To include, if possible, a day/time request for DEH inspection (most applicable to the excavated pit/hole method).

DEH will review, approve the application if complete, and conduct inspections when scheduled.

ACCEPTABLE GROUNDWATER DETERMINATION METHODS:

1. **Monitoring Ports (aka: piezometer)**

   a. Groundwater Observation Period:

   The wet weather testing period will be open between November to April when rainfall has reached at least 50% of the average annual rainfall, or as determined by DEH. DEH will announce the wet weather testing season opening based on the weather station data for the area from California Irrigation Management Information System (http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/). The Qualified Professional can challenge DEH determination by providing his/her own data for review and approval by DEH.

   b. Collection of Groundwater Data:

   Every two weeks during the monitoring period

   Additional readings shall be collected within 2 days following a significant rain, such as when there has been >1 inches of rainfall within a 24-hour period. If the site condition does not warrant a timely measurement of groundwater within 2 days, EH should be notified and effort should be made to take a reading as soon as the site condition improves, but no later than 5 days after the significant rain. Daily observation may be necessary during elevated groundwater periods to identify maximum groundwater levels.

   Confirmatory observations will be made periodically by DEH staff.

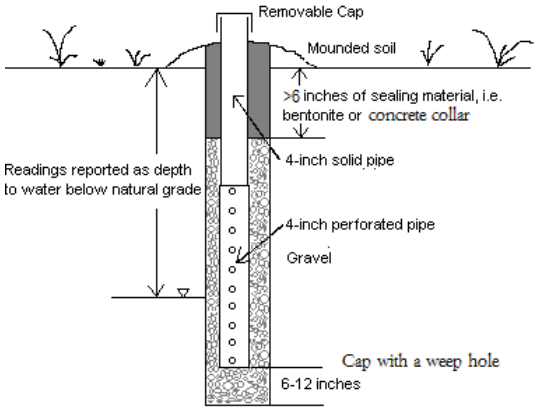
   At least one (1) monitoring port in the septic primary and one (1) monitoring port in the septic replacement area.

   c. Monitoring Port Design

   Monitoring Port depth should be equal to or greater than the required depth to groundwater necessary for project approval. The usual depth is eight (8) feet. For larger flow systems, deeper wells may be required to assess Groundwater mounding.

   Monitoring Port design should generally be as shown in this diagram. Holes will be constructed using an auger and 2-4 -inch diameter pipe shall be used. However, approval of alternate designs will be considered on a case-by-case basis by DEH staff.

   Monitoring Port must be staked and flagged so that they can be readily located by DEH staff.



2. Excavated Profile Pits/Holes

a. Groundwater Observation Period:

November to April, or other period as determined by DEH, when rainfall has reached 50% of the average annual rainfall at two or more stations representative of the site **and** at least 3 inches in the last 30 days. Depending on meeting or not meeting the second criteria (at least 3 inches in the last 30 days), the testing season can be open or closed intermittently.

DEH will announce the wet weather testing season opening based on the weather station data for the area from California Irrigation Management Information System (http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov/). The Qualified Professional can challenge DEH determination by providing his/her own data to DEH for review and approval.

b. Collection of Groundwater Data:

The profile holes shall remain open for 30 minutes minimum, but that time may be extended by DEH, dependent upon site variables, in order to collect accurate data.

The profile holes shall be adequately supervised or barricaded until observed and inspected by DEH.

At least one (1) pit in the septic primary and one (1) pit in the septic replacement area.

c. Excavated Profile Pit/Hole Design:

Pit/Hole depth should be equal to or greater than the required depth to groundwater necessary for project approval. The usual depth is eight (8) feet. For larger flow systems, deeper pits/holes may be required to assess Groundwater mounding.

RAINFALL DATA SOURCES:

- http://wwwcimis.water.ca.gov
- http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/reports/PRECIPOUT.2016
- Other reputable sources approved by DEH

Office Use Only

Approved By: _____ Date: _____

FA#: _____ SR#: _____ Rec'd Date: _____