Definition and Purpose
Procedures and practices to prevent discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system or to watercourses as a result of the creation, collection, and disposal of non-hazardous liquid wastes.

Appropriate Applications
Liquid waste management is applicable to construction projects that generate any of the following non-hazardous byproducts, residuals, or wastes:

- Drilling slurries and drilling fluids.
- Grease-free and oil-free wastewater and rinse water.
- Dredgings.
- Other non-storm water liquid discharges not permitted by separate permits.

Limitations
- Disposal of some liquid wastes may be subject to specific laws and regulations, or to requirements of other permits secured for the construction project (e.g., National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NPDES] permits, Army Corps permits, Coastal Commission permits, etc.).
- Does not apply to dewatering operations (see BMP NS-2, “Dewatering Operations”), solid waste management (see BMP WM-5, “Solid Waste Management”), hazardous wastes (see BMP WM-6, “Hazardous Waste Management”), or concrete slurry residue (see BMP WM-8, “Concrete Waste Management”).
- Does not apply to non-stormwater discharges permitted by any NPDES permit held by the pertinent Caltrans District, unless the discharge is determined by Caltrans to be a source of pollutants. Typical permitted non-stormwater discharges can include: water line flushing; landscape irrigation; diverted stream flows; rising ground waters; uncontaminated pumped ground
water; discharges from potable water sources; foundation drains; irrigation water; springs; water from crawl space pumps; footing drains; lawn watering; flows from riparian habitats and wetlands; and, discharges or flows from emergency fire fighting activities.

**Standards and Specifications**

**General Practices**

- The Contractor’s Water Pollution Control Manager (WPCM) shall oversee and enforce proper liquid waste management procedures and practices.

- Instruct employees and subcontractors how to safely differentiate between non-hazardous liquid waste and potential or known hazardous liquid waste.

- Instruct employees, subcontractors, and suppliers that it is unacceptable for any liquid waste to enter any storm drainage structure, waterway, or receiving water.

- Educate employees and subcontractors on liquid waste generating activities, and liquid waste storage and disposal procedures.

- Hold regular meetings to discuss and reinforce disposal procedures (incorporate into regular safety meetings).

- Verify which non-stormwater discharges are permitted by the Caltrans Statewide NPDES permit; different regions might have different requirements not outlined in this permit. Some listed discharges may be prohibited if Caltrans determines the discharge to be a source of pollutants.

- Apply the NS-8, “Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning” BMP for managing wash water and rinse water from vehicle and equipment cleaning operations.

**Containing Liquid Wastes**

- Drilling residue and drilling fluids shall not be allowed to enter storm drains and watercourses and shall be disposed of outside the highway right-of-way in conformance with the provisions in Standard Specifications Section 7-1.13.

- If an appropriate location is available, as determined by the Resident Engineer (RE), drilling residue and drilling fluids that are exempt under California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 23 §2511(g) may be dried by infiltration and evaporation in a containment facility constructed in conformance with the provisions concerning the Temporary Concrete Washout Facilities detailed in BMP WM-08, “Concrete Waste Management.”

- Liquid wastes generated as part of an operational procedure, such as water-laden dredged material and drilling mud, shall be contained and not allowed to flow into drainage channels or receiving waters prior to treatment.
■ Contain liquid wastes in a controlled area, such as a holding pit, sediment basin, roll-off bin, or portable tank.

■ Containment devices must be structurally sound and leak free.

■ Containment devices must be of sufficient quantity or volume to completely contain the liquid wastes generated.

■ Take precautions to avoid spills or accidental releases of contained liquid wastes. Apply the education measures and spill response procedures outlined in BMP WM-4, “Spill Prevention and Control.”

■ Do not locate containment areas or devices where accidental release of the contained liquid can threaten health or safety, or discharge to water bodies, channels, or storm drains.

Capturing Liquid Wastes

■ Capture all liquid wastes running off a surface, which has the potential to affect the storm drainage system, such as wash water and rinse water from cleaning walls or pavement.

■ Do not allow liquid wastes to flow or discharge uncontrolled. Use temporary dikes or berms to intercept flows and direct them to a containment area or device for capture.

■ If the liquid waste is sediment laden, use a sediment trap (see BMP SC-3, “Sediment Trap”) for capturing and treating the liquid waste stream, or capture in a containment device and allow sediment to settle.

Disposing of Liquid Wastes

■ Typical method is to dewater the contained liquid waste, using procedures such as described in BMP NS-2, “Dewatering Operations”, and BMP SC-2, “Sediment/Desilting Basin”; and dispose of resulting solids per BMP WM-5, “Solid Waste Management”, or per Standard Specifications Section 7-1.13, “Disposal of Material Outside the Highway Right of Way”, for off-site disposal.

■ Method of disposal for some liquid wastes may be prescribed in Water Quality Reports, NPDES permits, Environmental Impact Reports, 401 Water Quality Certifications or 404 permits, local agency discharge permits, etc., and may be defined elsewhere in the special provisions.

■ Liquid wastes, such as from dredged material, may require testing and certification whether it is hazardous or not before a disposal method can be determined.
For disposal of hazardous waste, see BMP WM-6, “Hazardous Waste Management.”

If necessary, further treat liquid wastes prior to disposal. Treatment may include, though is not limited to, sedimentation, filtration, and chemical neutralization.

Maintenance and Inspection

Spot check employees and subcontractors at least monthly throughout the job to ensure appropriate practices are being employed.

Remove deposited solids in containment areas and capturing devices as needed, and at the completion of the task. Dispose of any solids as described in BMP WM-5, “Solid Waste Management.”

Inspect containment areas and capturing devices frequently for damage, and repair as needed.