



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

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# San Luis Obispo County Local Agency Management Program

The Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) is the culmination of the actions required by Assembly Bill 885 (AB 885).

The purpose of the LAMP is to allow the continued use of Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) within the jurisdiction of the County of San Luis Obispo as well as to expand the local program to permit and regulate non-conventional OWTS while protecting water quality and public health. The LAMP also applies to OWTS on federal, state, and tribal lands to the extent authorized by law or agreement.

Tier 2: Permitted new or replacement OWTS through customized management programs that address conditions specific to the local jurisdiction and allow local permitting per an approved LAMP.



# Tier 2 Permitting

- Conventional OWTS - Individual disposal systems, community collection and disposal systems, and alternative collection and disposal systems that use subsurface disposal.
- Non-conventional OWTS (NOWTS) - It provides additional treatment of the effluent to reduce Nitrogen (N), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and the Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD). It may also provide disinfection against pathogens, or alternate methods of effluent dispersal.



# Los Osos Basin History

- Wastewater loading from OWTS can potentially degrade groundwater quality and contribute to nutrient enrichment of surface waters. Impacts to groundwater are of most concern in San Luis Obispo County. Nitrogen occurs in high concentrations in domestic wastewater, typically in the range of 50 to 90 mg-N/L.
- A 2018 County-led study conducted by Questa Engineering analyzed 20 focus areas for groundwater nitrate concentration impacts based on the potentially high density of OWTS under full build-out conditions. Elevated groundwater nitrate concentrations have been documented in several areas of San Luis Obispo County over the years, notably in the Los Osos area.

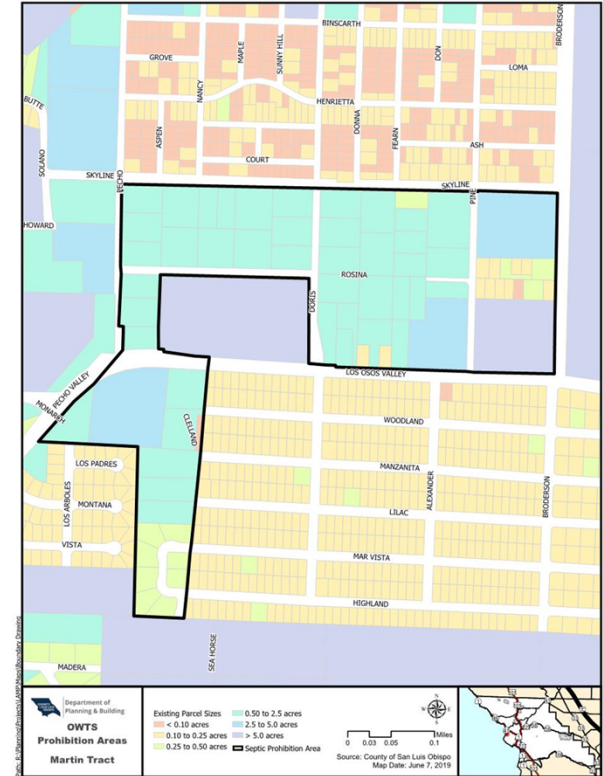
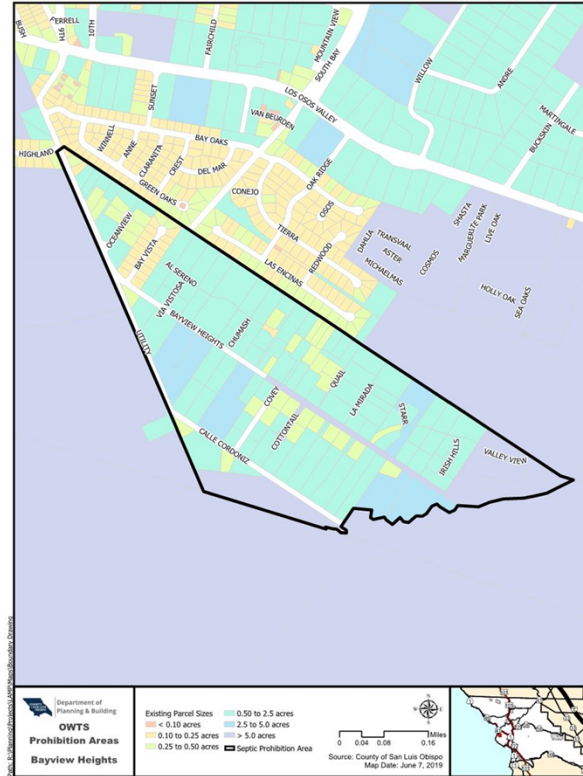
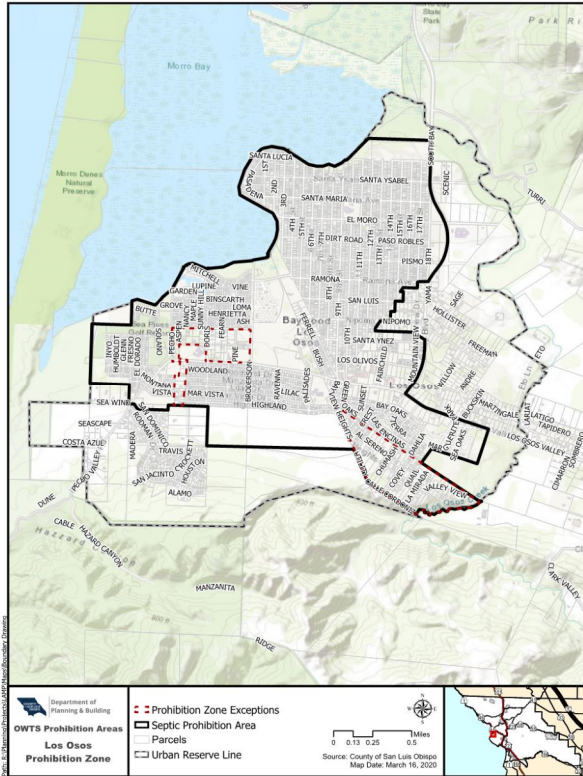


# Los Osos Basin History cont.

- Of the 20 focus areas, four areas may experience potentially severe impacts, six areas may experience moderate impacts, and ten would likely experience minimal impacts. Los Osos in particular has been susceptible to elevated nitrogen loading and groundwater degradation and is identified in many locations as severely or moderately impacted which are identified in Table 4, Figure 7, 8, and 9. Certain areas have been identified as septic prohibition areas which are identified in Figure 4 and 5 and exemption areas identified in figure 2 and 3.



# Los Osos Septic Prohibition Area & Exception Zones

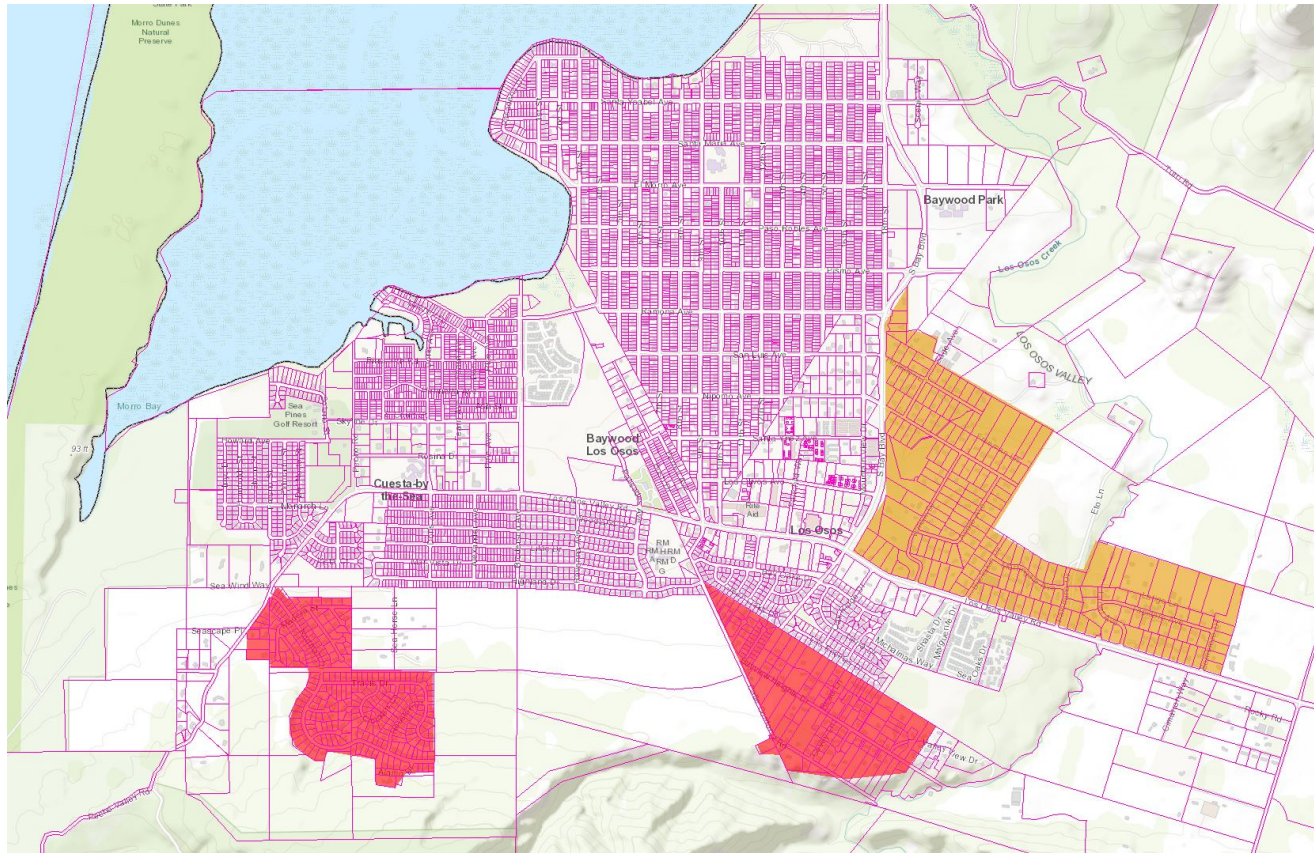


# Bayview Heights & Martin Tracts

- Per Order No. R3-2000-12, the Central Coast Water Board retains authority for permitting of new OWTS or OWTS repairs in the Bayview Heights and Martin tracts in the community of Los Osos (as indicated in Figures 2 and 3). County P&B does not have the authority to permit new OWTS or repairs of existing OWTS in these areas.
- At such time that the Central Coast Water Board rescinds Order R3-2000-12, the Bayview Heights and Martin tracts will migrate under the permitting authority of the County of San Luis Obispo. At that time, OWTS in these areas will be subject to the provisions of this LAMP.



# Los Osos Severe & Moderate Nitrogen Loading Areas cont.





# Restrictions

- The Los Osos septic prohibition areas are restricted from utilizing an OWTS for new development or repair. They must connect to the Los Osos Wastewater Treatment Plant.



# Los Osos Severe & Moderate Nitrogen Loading Areas

- New and repair OWTS in Moderate or Severe Impact areas shall require the installation of a Supplemental Treatment System (STS) in accordance with Section 8 of this LAMP. The requirement for installing a Supplemental Treatment System (STS) may be waived by the County of San Luis Obispo if the results of a site-specific hydrogeologic investigation, performed by an engineer, geologist, or environmental health specialist determines that the following conditions are present:



# Los Osos Severe & Moderate Nitrogen Loading Areas cont.

- a. 3D modeling of groundwater related to nitrogen percolation which demonstrates that discharge will not impact groundwater.
- b. The nitrogen concentration in the groundwater underlying the subject property is 1.0 mg-N/L or less. Investigation must be performed by an engineer, geologist, or environmental health specialist.



# Repairs to Existing OWTS in Severe & Moderate Nitrogen Loading Areas

- Non-conforming Repair - When the owner of the system being repaired declares a financial hardship and records a declaration on the property deed stating that the OWTS has been repaired in a non-conforming manner, this serves as acknowledgement that the installation of a conforming NOWTS will be required at the time of property transfer.



# Repairs to Existing OWTS in Severe & Moderate Nitrogen Loading Areas cont.

- OWTS components covered by section 11.1 and 11.2 in the State OWTS Policy shall be required to meet the current standards located in the San Luis Obispo Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) (Tier 2) unless permitted by the RWQCB. Section 11.1 and 11.2 are segregated by OWTS component type, either dispersal field or septic tank. If a septic tank requires corrective action, the dispersal field is not required to meet current standards, and vice versa. A local agency may authorize repairs that are in substantial conformance, to the greatest extent practicable, with Tier 2 in accordance with section 9.2.3 in the State OWTS Policy if there is an approved LAMP. See Section 9.A(j) or Section 2.D.7.(a) and (b) in the SLO LAMP for exemptions.



# Requirements for NOWTS

- For new residential systems, or systems generating only domestic wastewater in Moderate or Severe Impact areas, NOWTS shall achieve an effluent concentration of  $\leq 10$  mg/l Total Nitrogen and/or a 50% reduction in nitrogen mg/l, and  $\leq 30$  mg/L Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD).
- NOWTS require an operating permit issued by County P&B. The operating permit shall be required prior to the final inspection of the system.



# Questions?



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