Operating Procedure
Locating High Ammonia Discharge to Mud Creek POTW

1. The Mud Creek WPCP has two main lines bringing influent to the plant, the Mud Creek line and the Knights Creek line. The influent sampler at the facility collects sample after the conversion of these two lines. The first step will be to place automatic composite samplers on each line to attempt to identify which line is bringing the high strength waste to the plant. These samples can be tested for ammonia daily using field test strips as an indicator. If the test strip indicates a high ammonia level, the sample will then be processed at the city wastewater laboratory to quantify the ammonia concentration. Once the City can identify which line is bringing the high levels to the plant, the sampler will be moved upstream to eliminate sections of the collection system until the source can be found. Once a possible source is identified, a sampling program can be initiated at that industrial user's discharge to confirm the high-level discharge and an industrial inspection will be conducted.
2. The Mud Creek line brings wastewater from two industrial parks to the Mud Creek WPCP. This line is currently suspected, but only by circumstantial evidence. The industrial park on Gil Harbin Industrial Blvd. is served by three separate collection mains that join to form the Mud Creek trunk line. The city has purchased three new automatic composite samplers to monitor these three lines. Each line can be sampled individually daily. Again, the collected samples will be tested using ammonia test strips and visually inspected. If there is an indication of any unusually high ammonia or any other unusual condition, the samples will be properly preserved and delivered to the laboratory for proper testing. If one line can be identified as the line carrying the high strength wastewater, the sampler can be moved upstream along the main until the source can be found. This sampling can be done at the industrial park at the same time as the sampling at the plant, which may reduce the time needed to identify the source.
3. The Environmental Services Division is engaged in an active industrial user inspection program, including industrial users not currently permitted under the Industrial Pretreatment Program. This will allow the division to identify any industrial users that should be operating under a permit or that may be contributing to the ammonia issues at the Mud Creek Facility.