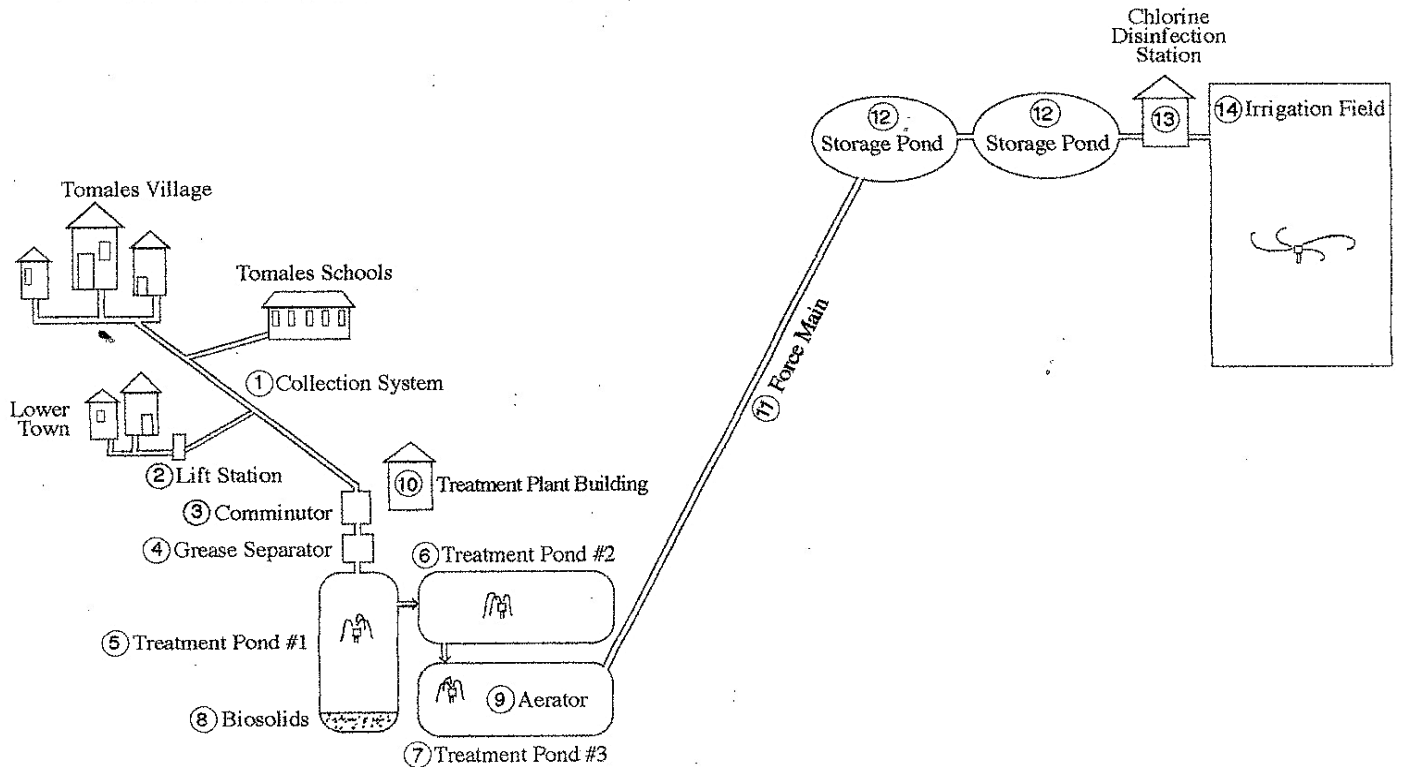


Overview of the Tomales Wastewater System



① Collection System

This is the system of pipes that carries the wastewater to the treatment ponds from the town and schools.

② Lift Station

The Lower Town lift station pumps wastewater uphill to the treatment ponds.

③ Comminutor

The comminutor shreds up the solids into smaller particles.

④ Grease Separator

The grease separator captures fats, oils, greases, and some of the biosolids (also called sludge). Primary treatment begins here.

⑤ Treatment Pond #1

Primary and secondary treatments occur here. In the secondary stage, microorganisms and oxygen break down organic wastes. The cleanest water of Pond #1 moves to Pond #2.

⑥ Treatment Pond #2

More primary and secondary treatments occur here. The cleanest water of Pond #2 moves to Pond #3.

⑦ Treatment Pond #3

More treatment occurs here, making the effluent even cleaner. The third treatment pond is also called a Polishing Pond.

⑧ Biosolids

Biosolids, also called sludge, settle to the bottom of the pond.

⑨ Aerators

Aerators spray the wastewater into the air, to supply oxygen for the treatment process. Each of the three ponds has an aerator.

⑩ Treatment Plant Building

This building houses the equipment used in operating the wastewater facility. Included are electrical systems, the SCADA monitoring and alarm systems, and two high-lift pumps.

⑪ Force Main

This pipe carries the wastewater uphill to the storage ponds, atop Cerini Road.

⑫ Storage Ponds

The storage ponds hold the treated wastewater until it can be sprayed onto the irrigation field.

⑬ Chlorine Disinfection Station

Chlorine is added to further disinfect the treated wastewater before it is sprayed onto the irrigation field.

⑭ Irrigation Field

The treated wastewater is spray-irrigated onto this field for final dispersal during the dry season.