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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

6 June 2017

Chris Goddard  
United States Army Corps of Engineers  
1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

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***ORDER AMENDING CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 TECHNICALLY CONDITIONED WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION; UNITED STATES OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, 2016 STOCKTON DEEP WATER SHIP CHANNEL MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT (WDID#5B39CR00272A1), SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY***

This Order responds to the 3 May 2017 request for an amendment of the 2016 Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel Maintenance Dredging Project Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WDID#5B39CR00272). The original Water Quality Certification (Certification) was issued on 26 August 2016. The requested amendment is hereby approved. The original Certification is therefore amended as described below. Please attach this document to the original Certification.

**AMENDMENT:**

The United States Army Corps of Engineers is requesting an amendment to the original Certification to perform emergency dredging activities. The emergency dredging is needed to remove increased sediment accumulation in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel in two areas: from River Mile (RM) 11.21 to RM 11.25 and RM 39.68 to RM 40.02. The increased sediment is as a result of higher than average rainfall and water flows in January and February 2017. The emergency activities will occur at dredging at sites STK 1 and STK 2, and will need to continue through 31 July 2017. **This amendment does not allow 2017 annual maintenance dredging, which will require a separate Water Quality Certification from the Central Valley Water Board.**

The Certification is amended as shown in underline/strikeout format below:

This Order responds to the 27 July 2016 application submitted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Applicant) for the Water Quality Certification of the 2016 Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel Maintenance Dredging Project (Project), permanently impacting 443.07 ~~459.03~~ acres/~~38,600~~ 40,600 linear feet of waters of the United States.

Project Information Sheet is amended as shown in underline/strikeout format below:

**Approved Months of Project Implementation:** 26 August 2016 to ~~31 October 2016~~ 31 July 2017

**Project Description:** The 2016 Stockton DWSC Maintenance Dredging Project (Project) will dredge the Stockton DWSC to a 35-foot depth (plus tow-foot allowable overdredge) for navigation of ship traffic to the Port of Stockton.

Dredging Activities

The Discharger will conduct dredging and dredge material disposal activities at the following ~~46~~ 18 reaches and dredge material disposal (DMD) sites as described in Table 2.

**Table 2: Dredging and Placement Sites**

Reach	Approximate River Mile		Station		Length (ft)	Placement Site	Location	Amount of Dredge Material (cubic yards)
	From	To	From	To				
1	7.48	7.88	395.00	416.00	2,100	Scour Pond	Sherman Island	6,374
2	8.60	9.28	454.00	490.00	3,600	McCormack Pit		6,173
3	10.95	11.36	578.00	600.00	2,200			9,132
4	11.61	11.88	613.00	627.00	1,400	Bradford Island	Bradford Island	2,849
5	13.26	13.64	700.00	720.00	2,000			10,095
6	15.25	15.38	805.00	812.00	700	Twitchell North	Twitchell Island	3,597
7	15.49	16.21	818.00	856.00	3,800			143,220
8	18.62	19.00	983.00	1003.00	2,000	Roberts Island 2	Roberts Island RM 36.5	45,023
9	20.74	21.65	1095.00	1143.00	4,800			48,494
10	22.65	23.01	1196.00	1215.00	1,900			20,460
11	23.64	24.17	1248.00	1276.00	2,800	Roberts Island 1	Roberts Island RM 34.5	10,429
12	29.55	30.11	1560.00	1590.00	3,000			12,894
13	30.49	30.97	1610.00	1635.00	2,500	Rough and Ready Island	Rough and Ready Island	11,221
14	31.06	31.44	1640.00	1660.00	2,000			7,051
15	35.70	36.08	1885.00	1905.00	2,000	Rough and Ready Island	Rough and Ready Island	2,730
16	39.68	40.02	2095.00	2113.00	1,800			9,812
<u>STK 1</u>	<u>11.21</u>	<u>11.25</u>	<u>592.00</u>	<u>594.00</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>Rough and Ready Island</u>	<u>Rough and Ready Island</u>	<u>4,010</u>
<u>STK 2</u>	<u>39.68</u>	<u>40.02</u>	<u>2095.00</u>	<u>2113.00</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>Rough and Ready Island</u>	<u>Rough and Ready Island</u>	<u>150,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>								<b>349,554</b> <b>503,564</b>

Dredged material will be removed by hydraulic cutter head suction dredge and transported by pipeline for placement into the DMD sites listed above.

The Port of Stockton received a Notice of Applicability No. R5-2004-0061-001-0001, dated 26 August 2016 for the disposal of the dredge materials, and an

amended Notice of Applicability No. R5-2004-0061-001-0001A, dated 22 May 2017, for Reaches STK 1 and STK 2.

#### Delta Regional Monitoring Plan Participation

The Delta waterways are listed pursuant to Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) as impaired for chlorpyrifos, DDT, diazinon, Group A pesticides, mercury, unknown toxicity and has recently been listed for pathogens near the Port of Stockton turning basin. A portion of the Delta is listed for electrical conductivity, and low dissolved oxygen impairment in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel from Channel Point to Disappointment Slough. The Delta Regional Monitoring Program (Delta RMP) was created to coordinate the Delta-wide monitoring, reporting, and assessment of water quality necessary for understanding regional water quality conditions and trends. Currently the Delta RMP Monitoring Design is focusing on pesticides and toxicity, pathogens, nutrients, and mercury, and is monitoring several of these constituents at various locations throughout the Delta.

Project activities will change the geometry of the channel and water residence time, which has the potential to affect the methylation of mercury, dissolved oxygen levels, and exacerbate the effects of nutrient concentrations which may lead to increased production of blue-green algae, macrophytes (water hyacinth and *Egeria densa*), shifts in algal species composition, and taste and odor problems in drinking water. Dredging activities also have the potential to impact chlorpyrifos, DDT, diazinon, and other pesticide levels by disturbing sediment which may mobilize these chemicals. Because dredging activities will impact these long-term Delta water quality concerns, the Applicant is required by this Certification to adequately participate in the Delta RMP through in-kind services or financial contributions to support the monitoring and reporting efforts of the RMP. The Delta RMP Steering Committee will determine what constitutes adequate participation in the Delta RMP. Confirmation of participation in the Delta RMP must be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board by 26 September 2016.

#### Summary of Impacts

No dewatering will occur within the Project area. No wet concrete will be placed into the San Joaquin River or Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel. The Project will permanently impact ~~443.07~~ 459.03 acres/~~38,600~~ 40,600 linear feet of waters of the United States.

**Dredge Volume:** Approximately ~~349,554~~ 503,564 cubic yards of dredge material will be dredged from ~~443.07~~ 459.03 acres of waters of the United States.

**California Integrated Water Quality System Impact Data:** The Project will permanently impact ~~443.07~~ 459.03 acres/~~38,600~~ 40,600 linear feet of stream bed habitat from dredging activities.

**Table 3: Impacts from Dredging Activities**

Aquatic Resource Type	Temporary			Permanent					
				Physical Loss of Area			Degradation of Ecological Condition Only		
	Acres	Cubic-yards	Linear-feet	Acres	Cubic-yards	Linear-feet	Acres	Cubic-yards	Linear-feet
Stream Channel	-	-	-	443.07	349,554	38,600	-	-	-
				459.03	503,564	40,600			

**APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:**

No fees were submitted for this amendment. Total fees of \$600.00 for the original Certification were submitted to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board as required by Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and by Section 2200(a)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

**PUBLIC NOTICING:**

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice for this amendment on 5 May 2017. Emergency conditions – including increase in sediment transport and accumulation due to the high flows during January and February 2017 – warrant issuing this amendment immediately with an abbreviated public notice period, as authorized under California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 3858.

**CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD CONTACT:**

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**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT:**

The Central Valley Water Board has determined that this project meets the Categorical Exemption under: 1) Section 15301 of the California Code of Regulations, which exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination; and 2) Section 15304 of the California Code of Regulations, which exempts minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation and includes maintenance dredging where the spoil is deposited in a spoil area authorized by all applicable state and federal regulatory agencies.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby issue an Order amending the existing Clean Water Act, Section 401 Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification for the 2016 Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel Maintenance Dredging Project (WDID#5B39CR00272A1). All other conditions and provisions of the original Water Quality Certification and any previously approved amendments remain in full force and effect, except as modified based on the conditions of this Order. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the original Water Quality Certification, previously approved amendments, or of this Order may result in suspension or revocation of the Water Quality Certification.

*Original Signed By Adam Laputz for:*

Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

Attachment: Figure 1 – Rough and Ready Island Placement Site

cc: Distribution List, page 6

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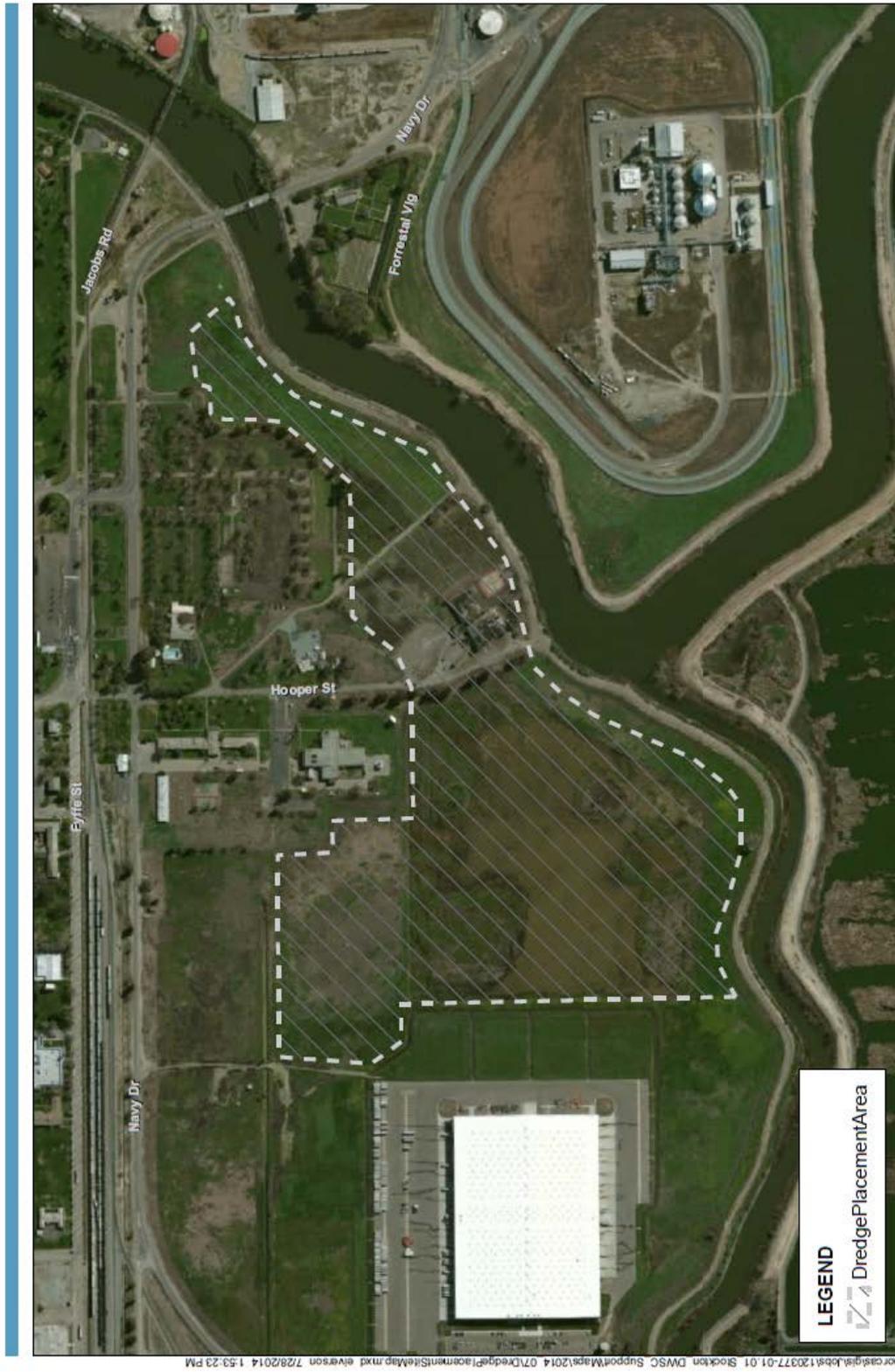


Figure 1 – Rough and Ready Island Placement Site

Figure 2  
Site Map  
Rough and Ready Placement Site  
Port of Stockton