
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

8 August 2025

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**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER WQ 2022-0048-DWQ,
ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTORATION PROJECTS
STATEWIDE, RANCHO CALETA FLOODPLAIN ENHANCEMENT PROJECT
(WDID#5A06CR00083), COLUSA COUNTY**

On 24 June 2025, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for Restoration Projects Statewide (Order).

The Central Valley Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed your enrollment materials and finds the Rancho Caleta Floodplain Enhancement Project (Project) meets the requirements of, and is hereby enrolled under, Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ. You may proceed with your Project in accordance with the Order. This Notice of Applicability is being issued under the General Certification Order pursuant to Section 3838 of the California Code of Regulations.

A copy of [Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2022/wqo2022-0048-dwq.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2022/wqo2022-0048-dwq.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ. You are responsible for complying with all applicable Order requirements. Coverage under the Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified. Failure to comply with Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The 43-acre Project consists of restoring floodplain connectivity for the benefit of Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed fish and other wildlife. The project benefits juvenile salmonids by removing impediments to floodplain access, increasing the frequency of floodplain inundation, and improving the quality of rearing habitat.

The Project plans for:

Removing the earthen berm to allow floodplain inundation at approx. 22,000 cfs.

Grading 0.24 acres to improve floodplain connectivity, increase frequency of swale inundation, and create positive drainage towards the Sacramento River.

Restoring 27 acres of riparian habitat to benefit fish and wildlife.

Monitoring and adaptively managing the floodplain restoration.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include grading the existing swale and on-site spoiling of earthen material. The Project will permanently impact 0.15 acre/112 linear feet of riparian area and 0.25 acre/237 linear feet of streambed/ stream bank.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located at 3269 Butte Slough Road, Colusa, CA. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 39.1935881°N and longitude 121.9845097°W.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Earth work is expected to begin 1 September 2025 and end 28 February 2026, and revegetation planting is expected to begin 1 March 2026 and end 30 April 2026.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

Federal dischargers involved in Dredge and Fill Operations only are not subject to permit fees as required by Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and Section 2200(a)(3) of the California Code of Regulations.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT:

On 6 November 2024, Colusa County, as lead agency, adopted an initial study/negative declaration (IS/ND) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2024100080) for the Project and filed a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH on 20 November 2024.

REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Permittee shall follow notification and reporting requirements described in this Notice of Applicability (NOA), and those found in Attachment D of the Order WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, unless specified as an optional requirement and excluded from this NOA.

1. Annual Reporting

The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year within one month of the

anniversary of the effective date of this Notice of Applicability. Annual reporting shall continue until the active discharge period is complete and the project enters the post-construction monitoring phase where upon the Permittee shall annually submit a Post-Construction Monitoring Report (Report Type 2) The Post-Construction Monitoring Report shall be submitted on the anniversary of the date that the project restoration activities were completed.

The Annual Report and Post Construction Monitoring Report shall include the information specified in Attachment D, Part A of Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ. The Permittee shall submit the report in accordance with the report submittal instructions in Attachment D of Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ and email it to centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov and cc Carter Cook at Carter.Cook@waterboards.ca.gov.

2. Notification for In-Water Work and Diversions

The project proponent shall notify the Water Board at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating work in flowing or standing water or stream diversions. Notification may be via e-mail, delivered written notice, or other verifiable means.

3. Water Quality Monitoring Plan for In-Water Work or Diversions

The Applicant must adhere to the provided Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Standards for in-water work or diversions are discussed in General In-Water Measures, specifically IWW-6, presented in Attachment A. The Permittee shall comply with the approving Water Board-specific water quality control plan water quality objectives and reporting requirements.

4. Environmental Monitoring

Per General Protection Measure 5 (GPM-5) of the Order, a resource specialist shall ensure that all applicable protective measures are implemented during project construction. The resource specialist shall have authority to stop any work if they determine that any permit requirement is not fully implemented. The resource specialist shall prepare and maintain a monitoring log of construction site conditions and observations, which will be kept on file.

ADDITIONAL CONDITION:

The Applicant must follow the mitigation measures specified in the CEQA documentation and the proposed Avoidance and Minimization Procedures.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

Upon completion of the Project, you shall submit a Notice of Completion (NOC) no later than 30 days after Project completion. The NOC shall demonstrate the Project was carried out in accordance with the Project description, include a map of the Project location with final boundaries of the restoration area, and include post-project photographs. More information on the NOC is listed in section B.6 of the Order.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Carter Cook by phone at (916) 464-4699 or by email at Carter.Cook@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Anne Walters for:
Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Enclosure: *State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. WQ 2022-0048-DWQ, Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for Restoration Projects Statewide*

Attachments: Figure 1: Project Boundary
Figure 2: Construction Map

cc: [Via email only]

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Figure 1: Project Boundary

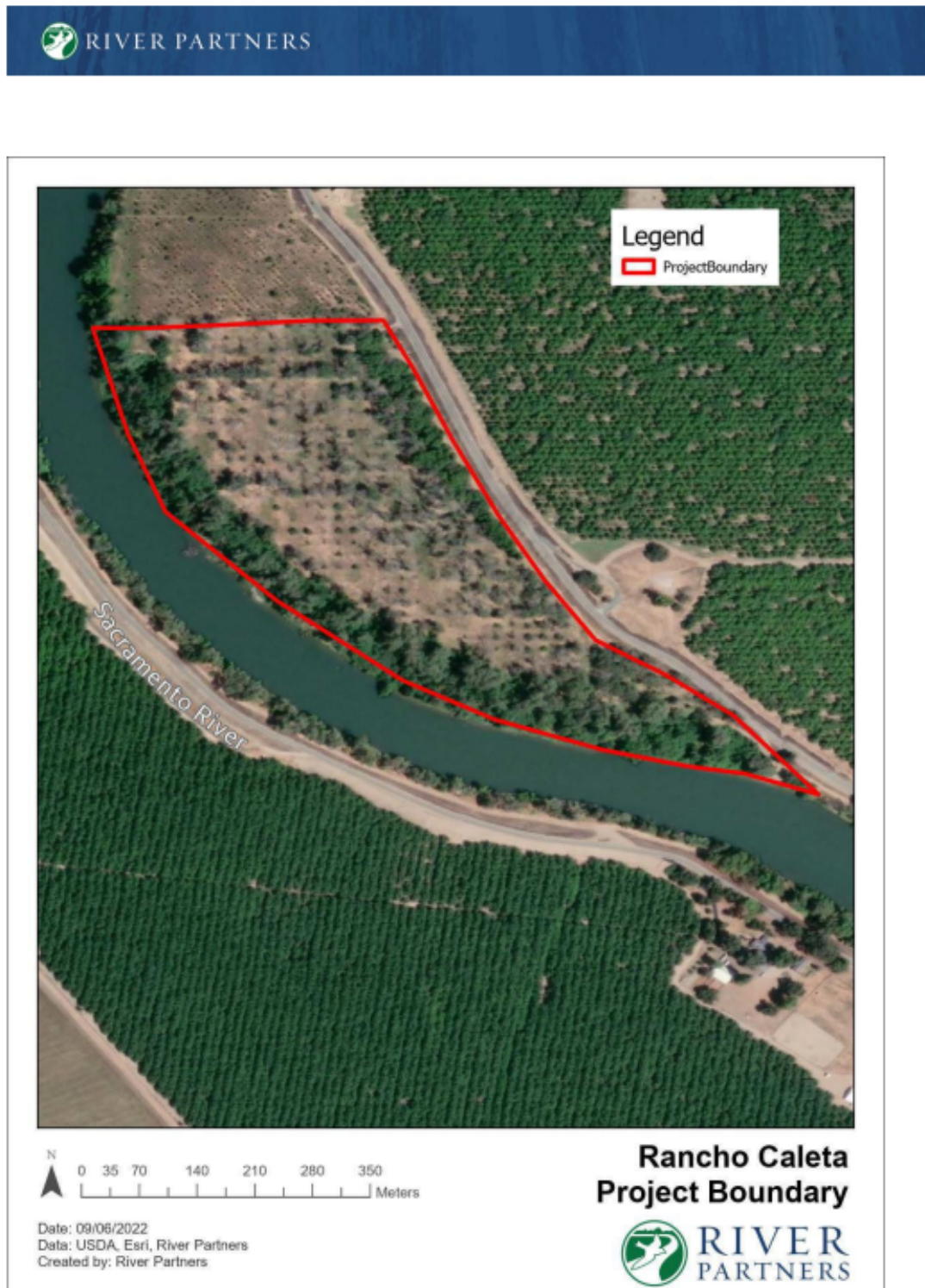


Figure 2. Project Boundary, Rancho Caleta, Colusa County, California.

Figure 2: Construction Map

