



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 November 2021

Maria J. Ellis, Ph.D.
Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, LLC
21451 Cassel Road
Cassel, CA 96016

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS FILE NO. SB12006GN FOR SPRING RIVERS ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES, LLC, ROCK CREEK MEADOW SHASTA CRAYFISH HABITAT AUGMENTATION PROJECT, SHASTA COUNTY, WDID NO. 5A45CR00611

On 19 October 2021, Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, LLC (Applicant) filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) requesting coverage under the 27 March 2013 State Water Resources Control Board Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No. SB12006GN (General Certification Order) for the Rock Creek Meadow Shasta Crayfish Habitat Augmentation Project (Project). After review of the application and the supplemental material submitted by the applicant, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under the General Certification 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 the General Certification Order is enclosed. The General Certification Order may also be accessed on the [State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water Act Section 401 – Certification and Wetlands Program Web Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders_wb.shtml) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/generalorders_wb.shtml).

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project, as described, is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project purpose is to create additional habitat for the federally and state-listed endangered Shasta crayfish (*Pacifastacus fortis*). The project goal is to ensure there is adequate high-quality and contiguous habitat to provide for a viable, self-sustaining Shasta crayfish population in the refuge habitat. Placing gravel and cobbles in the streambed in the restored meadow stream section will augment the current breeding, rearing, and sheltering habitat for Shasta crayfish.

Up to 40 cubic yards of pre-washed gravel will be hand placed into select portions of the restored Rock Creek channel to increase gravel depth to approximately 3 inches at those locations. Placement will be done by filling 5-gallon buckets with gravel, carrying them to the stream bank by hand or with a cart or wheelbarrow, placing them on a small work barge, which will be guided to the desired placement locations using ropes and pulleys temporarily set up along the banks.

Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

Total Project fill/excavation quantities for all impacts are summarized in Table 1. Permanent impacts are categorized as those resulting in a physical loss in area and also those degrading ecological condition.

Table 1: Total Project Fill/Excavation Quantity for Temporary Impacts¹

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Streambed/Stream bank	0.06	40	100

Approximate Timeframe of Project Implantation

The Project is estimated to be conducted over 12 to 16 weeks in total. Extended habitat placement activities may be conducted over a period of 5 years to fine tune habitat additions.

Project Location

Address: 20029 Cassel-Fall River Road

County: Shasta County

Assessor's Parcel Number: 031-520-006

Section 5, Township 35 North, Range 4 East, MDB&M.

¹ Includes only temporary direct impacts to waters of the state and does not include area of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state. Temporary impacts, by definition, are restored to pre-project conditions and therefore do not include a physical loss of area or degradation of ecological condition.

Latitude: 40.924167° and Longitude: -121.540278°

FINDINGS OF APPLICABILITY

This letter serves as formal notice that Order No. SB12006GN is applicable to this wildlife habitat restoration project. Your waste discharge identification (WDID) number is 5A45CR00611.

REPORTING

A Notice of Completion (NOC) shall be submitted by the applicant no later than 30 days after the work has been completed. The NOC shall demonstrate that the work has been carried out in accordance with the description provided in the applicant's Notice of Intent.

Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of Order No. SB12006GN may expose Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, LLC to enforcement action pursuant to the Clean Water Act and California Water Code.

If you require further assistance, please contact me by phone at (530) 224-3295 or by email at Michael.Crook@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Lynn Coster, Senior Environmental Scientist of the Storm Water and Water Quality Certification Unit, by phone at (530) 224-2437 or by email at Lynn.Coster@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Clint Snyder

(for) Patrick Pulupa,
Executive Officer

MC: db

Enclosure: Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File No. SB12006GN (Applicant Only)

cc email: U.S. EPA, Region 9, San Francisco
Water Quality Certification Program, SWRCB, Sacramento
Hillary Kraft, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Redding
Jeff Cook, Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, LLC, Cassel