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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

5 January 2023

Ray Cablayan  
Stanislaus National Forest  
Calaveras Ranger District  
5519 Highway 4  
Hathaway Pines, CA 95233

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER SB12006GN,  
AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER  
QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS,  
LITTLE RATTLESNAKE TRIBUTARY PROJECT (WDID#5B05CR00109),  
CALAVERAS COUNTY**

On 2 November 2022, the Calaveras Ranger District, Stanislaus National Forest submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. SB12006GN, Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

The Central Valley Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed your enrollment materials and finds the Little Rattlesnake Tributary Project (Project) meets the requirements of, and is hereby enrolled under, Order No. SB12006GN. You may proceed with your Project in accordance with the Order.

A copy of [Order SB12006GN](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/srhcpcert032713.pdf) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/srhcpcert032713.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/srhcpcert032713.pdf)) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage and is enclosed.

Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of Order No. SB12006GN. You are responsible for complying with all applicable Order requirements. Failure to comply with Order No. SB12006GN constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the Order.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The 3.14-acre Project consists of stabilizing an active head-cut by partially filling the incised channel with rock riffles and laying back banks. Riffles will be configured in 20 pool-riffle sequences. Bank material will be used for structure core material, and rock will be imported to cap the structures.

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MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include restoration of the head-cut and gullied channel segment in the unnamed tributary has the potential to increase stream sedimentation and potentially impact water quality in the short-term. The gullied channel segment will be filled-in with earthen materials, reshaped, and held in place by a series of rock grade stabilizers imbedded in the channel at intervals. It is expected that sedimentation may be increased the first several years after project implementation as the channel adjusts to a stable form and then subsequently decrease as vegetation becomes established.

The Project will permanently impact 0.08 acres/480 linear feet of Streambed/stream bank.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

The Project is located at the unnamed tributary to Little Rattle Snake Creek in Dorrington, CA 95233. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 38.33918° and longitude -120.14799°.

**PROJECT SCHEDULE:**

June 2023 through September 2023

**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.

**MITIGATION AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES:**

You must implement the mitigation and minimization measures proposed in your Mitigation Plan.

- **RA-1 Big Rattlesnake Creek:** Two miles of stream channel will be planted by hand using native species collected near the project area and purchased native plants. Temporary barriers will be installed around planting areas to reduce browse in the riparian zone (see Table 6 in EA). Sections of barriers along riparian areas will be less than 0.25 mile in length.
- **RA-2 Unnamed Tributary of Little Rattlesnake Creek, near Whittles Upper Camp:** The down-cut portions of the channel will be filled-in with onsite earthen materials. A rock structure will be constructed downstream at the Little Rattlesnake Creek confluence. Riparian hardwoods will be planted. Temporary barriers will be placed around newly planted areas.
- **RA-3 Tributary to Big Rattlesnake Creek:** Remove conifers along the banks of the stream channel. Hardwood browse pressure will be monitored at the site.
- **RA-4 Tributary to Big Rattlesnake Creek, Alder and Aspen retention:** Reduce encroaching conifers. Hardwood browse pressure will be monitored at the site.
- **RA-5 Whittles Upper Camp Special Aquatic Features:** Construct barriers along the perimeter of three special aquatic features (spring/wet meadow/fen), less than 0.30 acres each.

**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 Sara Gevorgyan by phone at (916) 464-4710 or by email at [Sara.Gevorgyan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Sara.Gevorgyan@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original Signed by Adam Laputz for:*  
Patrick Pulupa  
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects File # SB12006GN

cc: [Via email only]

United States Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District Office  
Regulatory Division  
[SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil](mailto:SPKRegulatoryMailbox@usace.army.mil)

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2  
[R2LSA@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:R2LSA@wildlife.ca.gov)

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
[R9CWA401@epa.gov](mailto:R9CWA401@epa.gov)

CWA Section 401 WQC Program  
State Water Resources Control Board  
[Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Stateboard401@waterboards.ca.gov)

Bill Jennings  
CA Sportfishing Protection Alliance  
[DeltaKeep@me.com](mailto:DeltaKeep@me.com)

Leslie Mink  
Plumas Corp  
[leslie@plumascorp.org](mailto:leslie@plumascorp.org)