

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

13 August 2025

Carlos Gonzalez
Tulare County Resource Management Agency
5961 South Mooney Boulevard
Visalia, CA 93277

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ORDER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AVENUE 376 TRAVER CANAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, (WDID# 5C54CR00159), TULARE COUNTY

On 1 July 2025, Tulare County Resource Management Agency (Permittee) filed a notification requesting coverage under the 12 October 2021 State Water Resources Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permits (Order No. WQ 2021-0048-DWQ) for the Avenue 376 Traver Canal Bridge Replacement Project (Project). After review of the notification and the supplemental material submitted by the Permittee, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the Project qualifies for enrollment under this General Certification Order. The proposed activity will take place within less than 0.1365 acres of waters of the United States.

The Central Valley Water Board is certifying this Project under United States Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 14, Linear Transportation, subject to the conditions and the notification requirements described in the Nationwide Permit ("Special Conditions"). 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](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage.

The Project must proceed in accordance with the requirements contained in this Notice of Applicability and General Certification Order. The Project is described in the notification form requesting coverage under the General Certification Order, dated 1 July 2025, and supplementary information (Application Package). Coverage under the General Certification Order is no longer valid if the Project (as described) is modified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project includes the replacement of the structurally deficient bridge with a four-cell, cast-in-place, reinforced concrete box culvert that would consist of 11-foot travel lanes on each side of the bridge. The total width of the replacement bridge would be approximately 26.5 feet, approximately 22 feet wide from curb to curb, including new crash cushion on both sides of the southwestern portion of the bridge and a new crash cushion on the northeastern portion of the bridge.

Construction of the new bridge would require removal and replacement of the existing weir structure, as well as the existing concrete channel lining. Relocation of the existing weir structure would be conducted in coordination with Alta Irrigation District. Grove Ditch, which is also owned by Alta Irrigation District, is located at the southwestern corner of the bridge, parallel with Avenue 376; however, the Project would not impact this facility. The new channel lining within Traver Canal would be located approximately 22 feet from the north of the replacement bridge and approximately 35 feet from the south of the replacement bridge; rip rap would be placed approximately five feet beyond the channel lining to prevent scour. The Project would also include shoulder transitions and approach roadway reconstruction approximately 275 feet beyond each side of the bridge.

Construction is anticipated to begin immediately following the irrigation season so that construction activities would be completed by May 2026. Construction is anticipated to last approximately six months. Avenue 376 would be closed during the entire six-month construction period. A detour route of approximately 3.14 miles would be provided along Road 40 to the west, Avenue 384 to the north, and Road 44 to the east. No improvements are proposed along the detour routes. It is anticipated that construction staging would occur along the existing roadway; however, temporary construction easements would be required to the north and south of the bridge to complete the project. The Project would likely require the relocation of public utilities located within the Project area; all relocations would be conducted in coordination with the service providers.

The Project will temporarily impact 0.13 acres/122 linear feet and permanently impact 0.006 acres/19 linear feet of stream channel. Additionally, a temporary impact of 0.000528 acres/11 linear feet will impact wetlands. Temporarily impacted areas will be restored to pre-Project condition.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located 2.2 miles east of London, CA. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 36.473681 Degrees and longitude -119.479061 Degrees.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The Project has a proposed commencement date of November 2025 and a construction completion date of May 2026.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

An application fee of \$4,212.00 was received on 1 July 2025. The fee amount was determined as required by California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3) and was calculated as Category A - Fill & Excavation Discharges (fee code 84) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

A Project fee of \$1,044.00 was received on 14 July 2025.

If you have any questions regarding this Notice of Applicability, please contact Ernesto P. Garcia at (559) 445-6281 or at Ernesto.Garcia@waterboards.ca.gov. You may also contact Brandon Salazar at (559) 445-6278 or at brandon.salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

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