



### Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mr. Paul Edelman Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority 5810 Ramirez Canyon Rd. Malibu, CA 90265 VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED No. 7009 2820 0001 6537 7214

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED WILSON CANYON MITIGATION PROJECT (Corps' Project No. 2013-00602-JWM), PACOIMA WASH, UNINCORPORATED SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, LOS ANGELES COUNTY (FILE No. 13-144)

Dear Mr. Edelman:

Board staff has reviewed your request on behalf of Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (Applicant) for a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the above-referenced project. Your application was deemed complete on September 9, 2014.

I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law. This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003 - 0017 - DWQ, "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges that have received State Water Quality Certification" which requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Certification.

Please read this entire document carefully. The Applicant shall be liable civilly for any violations of this Certification in accordance with the California Water Code. This Certification does not eliminate the Applicant's responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws, requirements and/or permits.

Should you have questions concerning this Certification action, please contact Dana Cole, Section 401 Program, at (213) 576-5733

Samuel Unger, P.E.

**Executive Officer** 

Oct. 6, 2014

Date

#### **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

Bill Orme (via electronic copy) State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Quality P.O. Box 944213 Sacramento, CA 94244-2130

Brock Warmuth (via electronic copy) California Department of Fish and Wildlife Streambed Alteration Team 3883 Ruffin Rd Suite A San Diego, CA. 92123-4813

John Markham U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Branch, Los Angeles District P.O. Box 532711 Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325

Paul Amato (via electronic copy) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Jim Bartel U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 6010 Hidden Valley Road Carlsbad, CA 92011

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1. Applicant:

Mr. Paul Edelman

Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority

5810 Ramirez Canyon Rd.

Malibu, CA 90265

Phone: (310) 589-3230 Ext:128 Fax: (310) 589-2408

2. Project Name:

Wilson Canyon Mitigation

3. Project Location:

Unincorporated San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles County

<u>Latitude</u>	Longitude
34.33255	118.44543
34.33541	118.43967
34.33108	118.4443
34.33385	118.43852
34.33214	118.56352
34.33533	118.43941
34.33087	118.44414
34.3368	118.43841

4. Type of Project:

Restoration

5. Project Purpose:

As part of the Forest Lawn Expansion Project, mitigation is required by Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (Permit No. 2006-01951), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) (Streambed Alteration Agreement 1600-2010-0351-R5) and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) (File No. 10-146). The proposed Wilson Canyon Mitigation Project (Project) will create, enhance, rehabilitate, and restore two main tributaries in Wilson Canyon Park.

6. Project Description:

An Agreement was signed between Forest Lawn and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in November 2010, stating mitigation parameters for the Forest Lawn Expansion

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Project. An amendment to the original Agreement was signed in September 2013. A total of six acres of in-lieu fee credit is to be purchased by Forest Lawn. MRCA will install six acres at this Wilson Canyon site (Designated areas D and E) to fulfill the Forest Lawn mitigation requirements stated in the regulatory permits.

## **USACE Permit states:**

"Prior to initiating construction in waters of the U.S., and to mitigate for impacts to 1.6 acres of waters of the U.S., the Permittee shall provide documentation verifying purchase of 6.0 acres of credits for the rehabilitation of degraded riparian habitat, including 1.6 acres of waters of the U.S., from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) Corps-approved in-lieu fee program (ILFP)."

### CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement states:

"Additional Off-site Mitigation Requirements (6 acres). The Permittee shall mitigate for the remaining six acres of impacts through the preservation/restoration/enhancement of mitigation lands. The Permittee intends to mitigate Project impacts to streams through the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) or a SMMC joint-powers authority, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA). The Permittee submitted the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan - Wilson Canyon and Lopez Canyon (Plan or HMMP) (March 2012) prepared by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The Plan describes a large scale restoration project within Wilson and Lopez Canyons, Los Angeles County, of which the Permittee will implement thru MRCA six acres of preservation/ restoration/ enhancement. The location of the six acres within the mitigation proposal shall be submitted to CDFW within 60 day of the execution of the Lake and Streambed Agreement # 1600-2010-0351-R5."

Regional Board File No. 10-146, Attachment A, Item 17. a) states: "off-site restoration of 6 acres (including at least 1.6 acres of restoration and/or enhancement of waters of the U.S.) pursuant to an In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Agreement with the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority"

Wilson Canyon is located north of Sylmar in the unincorporated portion of the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles River watershed. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy owns the 258-acre Wilson Canyon Park. The MRCA maintains the park

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under an agreement with the Conservancy.

The canyon bottoms of the two selected tributaries of Wilson Canyon have in the past 50 years been exposed to various land uses prior to its acquisition as parkland in approximately 1998. Evidence of this land use includes old foundations, large diameter iron water pipes, debris basins, and extensive nonnative vegetation growth particularly in the understory of the mature oak woodlands on adjacent District property. In addition, the management of Los Angeles County debris basins kept a double track low grade road open to the dams in both drainages.

This road will be used by work trucks only to access the work site.

In November 2008, the Sayre Fire ignited just east of Wilson Canyon and quickly spread throughout the Park, burning most of the vegetation in the greater mitigation area. By the summer of 2009, a minimum of a meter of sediment had been deposited over the entire approximately 28-acre palmate-shaped alluvial fan area. In some areas the depth of the sediment exceeded two meters. The winter rains had also cut deep channels with steep walls through the post-fire deposited sediment beds. Re-growth of native perennials was minimal and disturbance specialists such as tree tobacco had grabbed a strong foothold over much of the site.

By 2014, many of the primary drainage channels had been reestablished, but there are also areas where the sediment load has prevented any primary channel. The hydrologic system is likely not in balance. Recent drought conditions have probably attenuated both the distribution of sediment and the growth of vegetation. The system exhibits more traditional streambed characteristics upstream and more alluvial fan characteristics downstream.

The Project activities will include modifying the disturbed tributaries at Wilson Canyon Park. The proposed plan will guide the two hydrologic systems to greater stability, greater water infiltration, and better conditions for vegetation establishment and growth.

The rehabilitation effort will use native rock check dams to build up sediment in down cut areas and to gently spread flows where beneficial to increase establishment of higher resource value

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riparian vegetation.

Check dam dimensions will vary at each location but they are not expected to be less than 6 wide and no more than 20 feet wide. Width will be determined by contact with higher terrain on each end. All check dams are to be about two- to two and a half feet high above grade. Check dams are not designed to be rigid immovable barriers. They will be loosely built only using manual labor. They will only be built with native San Gabriel front-range sourced rock already found within the project's vicinity. No heavy equipment will be used to assemble the check dams.

All check dam planned locations are approximate because channel configuration at the time of install may change from hydrological events. For this reason, linear impacts are an estimated average. As part of the preparation, check dam locations will be staked and flagged for the manual labor crew. Installation of check dams will be under the direct supervision of the restoration biologist.

The use of heavy equipment will be limited to pre-existing roads. No heavy equipment shall enter jurisdictional waters. Equipment storage and rock stockpiling will occur outside of the stream channels.

Native plants will be installed and exotic species abated. All plantings will be field fitted per a planting plan, under the direct supervision of the restoration biologist. Plantings will be spaced in irregular clusters to emulate natural surface hydrological conditions and existing vegetation patterns. In general, the plan includes tree, shrub, and herb container plantings in addition to broadcast seeding of native shrubs and herbaceous annuals and perennials. The planting consists of an assemblage of native plant species (Habitat Mitigation Development Plan received by this Regional Board September 10, 2014). All container planting will occur between November 1 and March 21 on any given year, and will not occur outside this timeframe. Any and all distribution of onsite collected seed will occur between October 15 and February 1. Collected seed will be stored in a cool dry place at an MRCA facility until it is distributed no earlier than October 15th. Seed collected onsite between October 15 and February 1 may be sown or broadcast unless a period of refrigeration is recommended by experts.

The exotic species abatement plan will remove non-native plants.

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Non-native grasses will be hand pulled and left onsite if no viable seed heads are present. Because of the post-fire condition, the site is lacking in organic matter and will benefit from extra soil cover to reduce both moisture loss and soil surface temperatures. If viable seed heads are present they will be bagged and removed from the site. Tree tobacco will be cut by hand and the fresh stem cuts treated with Rodeo herbicide. The number of cut and paint cycles will depend on the cumulative success of the prior treatments. All viable seed shall be removed from the site. The smallest seedlings can successfully be removed by hand. Mustard and tocalote will be both hand pulled and foliar sprayed with Rodeo. All viable seed from both species shall be removed from the site. When plant quantities and densities make it possible, herbicide will be avoided and plants can successfully be removed by hand or by hand-operated power tools.

All of the above non-native plant removal methods will be employed year-round beginning with the first day of field work. At the end of the mitigation effort there should be no individuals of any of the above species in the mitigation areas and surrounding buffer. Vegetation removal will be avoided during the nesting season (February 1 to July 30 for most birds). Where not feasible, a qualified biologist will conduct bird nesting surveys. Activities within 300 feet of active nesting areas will be prohibited until the nesting pair/young have vacated the nests.

7. Federal Agency/Permit:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers NWP No. 27 (Permit No. 2013-00602-JWM)

8. Other Required Regulatory Approvals:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Streambed Alteration Agreement

California
 Environmental Quality
 Act Compliance:

The proposed project is Categorically Exempt from CEQA pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15307. Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources. The Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority filed a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse on September 4, 2014 (SCH # 2013098030.

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10. Receiving Water:

Pacoima Wash (Hydrologic Unit Code. 180701050206)

11. Designated Beneficial Uses:

MUN\*, GWR, , REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD, RARE,

\*Conditional beneficial use

12. Impacted Waters of the United States:

Non-wetland waters (streambed): 0.088 temporary acres (676 liner feet)

13. Related Projects
Implemented/to be
Implemented by the
Applicant:

The Applicant has not identified any related projects carried out in the last 5 years or planned for implementation in the next 5 years.

14. Avoidance/
Minimization
Activities:

The Applicant has proposed to implement several Best Management Practices (BMPs), including, but not limited to, the following:

## Check Dam Installation:

- Check dam locations will be staked and flagged for the manual labor crew.
- Equipment storage and rock stockpiling will occur outside of the stream channels.
- Check dams will only be built with native San Gabriel frontrange sourced rock already found within the project's vicinity.
- No heavy equipment will be used to assemble the check dams.

### Vehicles and Equipment:

- Vehicles and equipment will be periodically checked to ensure that there are no leaks or defective equipment.
- No equipment maintenance shall be done within or near any stream channel where petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment may enter these areas under any flow.

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- No equipment shall be operated or parked within the dripline of oak trees.
- Staging, storage, fueling, and maintenance of equipment and materials shall be located in a designated location outside of waters of the state.
- The use of heavy equipment will be limited to pre-existing roads.
- · Heavy equipment shall not enter jurisdictional waters.
- Any equipment or vehicles driven or operated along pre-existing roads shall be checked and maintained daily to prevent leaks of materials.
- Vehicles that are leaking fuel, oil, hydraulic fluid or other pollutants shall be immediately contained and either repaired immediately or removed from the site.
- One or more emergency spill containment kits shall be placed onsite in easily visible locations, and personnel will be trained in proper use of disposal methods.

#### Trash and Debris:

- · Littering will be prohibited.
- Trash receptacles will be provided in sufficient size and number to contain solid waste generated by project.
- Staff will remove artificial materials from the site at the end of each day.
- Stockpiled areas will be located away from obvious drainage areas.
- All solid wastes will be placed in covered receptacles.
- No hazardous or polluting materials will be allowed to enter into waters of the state, and will be properly stored and handled so that soil or surface waters are not contaminated.

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 All trash and debris from the project area will be taken to a legal point of disposal.

### Biological Resources:

- Prior to commencing restoration activities, a biologist will inform the crew of sensitive biological resources that occur in project vicinity.
- Workers will be required to report the occurrence of any special status species observed at the project site to the supervisor onsite.
- If any special status species observed at the project site, then species protection measures will be implemented.
- Soil or invasive plant seed transfer from clothing, shoes, or equipment will be minimized through monitoring of personnel or equipment transfers between sites.
- Clearing of all vegetation will be restricted to within the designated restoration project work areas.
- Vegetation removal will be avoided during the nesting season (February 1 to July 30 for most birds). Where not feasible, a qualified biologist will conduct bird nesting surveys. Activities within 300 feet of active nesting areas will be prohibited until the nesting pair/young have vacated the nests.

#### Weather and Rain:

- Five day weather forecasts will be conducted in order to identify potential storm events.
- Equipment, materials, and debris will be removed from the channel before storm events.

#### Crew:

- Crew will have on hand hard-copies of regulatory permits.
- · Crew will also have on site a listed/sensitive species pamphlet

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for use as reference if and when animals are encountered.

- Crew will be educated on identification of solid waste storage and removal.
- Crew will have appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while at the Project Site.
- 15. Proposed Compensatory Mitigation:

None; the project is restoration.

16. Required Compensatory Mitigation:

See Attachment B, Conditions of Certifications, Additional Conditions for modifications and additions to the above proposed compensatory mitigation.

## Conditions of Certification File No. 13-144

#### STANDARD CONDITIONS

Pursuant to §3860 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR), the following three standard conditions shall apply to this project:

- 1. This Certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to §13330 of the California Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with 23 CCR §3867).
- 2. This Certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent Certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR Subsection 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
- 3. Certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required pursuant to 23 CCR Chapter 28 and owed by the Applicant.

### ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

Pursuant to 23 CCR §3859(a), the Applicant shall comply with the following additional conditions:

- 1. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board copies of any other final permits and agreements required for this project, including, but not limited to, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (ACOE) Section 404 Permit and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Streambed Alteration Agreement. These documents shall be submitted prior to any discharge to waters of the State.
- 2. The Applicant shall adhere to the most stringent conditions indicated with either this Certification, the CDFW's Streambed Alteration Agreement, or the ACOE Section 404 Permit.
- 3. The Applicant shall comply with all water quality objectives, prohibitions, and policies set forth in the *Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region (1994)*, as amended.
- 4. The Avoidance/Minimization activities proposed by the Applicant as described in Attachment A, No. 14, are incorporated as additional conditions herein.
- 5. The Applicant and all contractors employed by the Applicant shall have copies of this Certification, and all other regulatory approvals for this project on site at all times and shall be familiar with all conditions set forth.

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- 6. Fueling, lubrication, maintenance, operation, and storage of vehicles and equipment shall not result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. At no time shall the Applicant use any vehicle or equipment which leaks any substance that may impact water quality. Staging and storage areas for vehicles and equipment shall be located outside of waters of the State.
- 7. All excavation, construction, or maintenance activities shall follow best management practices to minimize impacts to water quality and beneficial uses. Dust control activities shall be conducted in such a manner that will not produce downstream runoff.
- 8. No construction material, spoils, debris, or any other substances associated with this project that may adversely impact water quality standards, shall be located in a manner which may result in a discharge or a threatened discharge to waters of the State. Designated spoil and waste areas shall be visually marked prior to any excavation and/or construction activity, and storage of the materials shall be confined to these areas.
- 9. All waste or dredged material removed shall be relocated to a legal point of disposal if applicable. A legal point of disposal is defined as one for which Waste Discharge Requirements have been established by a California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and is in full compliance therewith.
- 10. The Applicant shall implement all necessary control measures to prevent the degradation of water quality from the proposed project in order to maintain compliance with the Basin Plan. The discharge shall meet all effluent limitations and toxic and effluent standards established to comply with the applicable water quality standards and other appropriate requirements, including the provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act. This Certification does not authorize the discharge by the applicant for any other activity than specifically described in the 404 Permit.
- 11. The discharge shall not: a) degrade surface water communities and populations including vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species; b) promote the breeding of mosquitoes, gnats, black flies, midges, or other pests; c) alter the color, create visual contrast with the natural appearance, nor cause aesthetically undesirable discoloration of the receiving waters; d) cause formation of sludge deposits; or e) adversely affect any designated beneficial uses.
- 12. The Applicant shall allow the Regional Board and its authorized representative entry to the premises, including all mitigation sites, to inspect and undertake any activity to determine compliance with this Certification, or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code.
- 13. Application of pesticides must be supervised by a certified applicator and be in conformance with manufacturer's specifications for use. Compounds used must be appropriate to the target species and habitat. All pesticides directed toward aquatic species must be approved

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by the Regional Board. Pesticide utilization shall be in accordance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order Nos. 2011-0002-DWQ and 2004-0009-DWQ.

- 14. The Applicant shall not conduct any construction activities within waters of the State during a rainfall event. The Applicant shall maintain a five-day (5-day) clear weather forecast before conducting any operations within waters of the State.
- 15. The stabilization and re-vegetation will be phased to limit the exposed or working face such that the graded area can be stabilized within 24 hours after the first prediction of rain during the 5-day forecast or within 24 hours after final grading of the phased area.
- 16. The Applicant shall utilize the services of a qualified biologist with expertise in riparian assessments during any vegetation clearing activities. The biologist shall be available on site during construction activities to ensure that all protected areas are marked properly and ensure that no vegetation outside the specified areas is removed. The biologist shall have the authority to stop the work, as necessary, if instructions are not followed. The biologist shall be available upon request from this Regional Board for consultation within 24 hours of request of consultation.
- 17. No activities shall involve wet excavations (i.e., no excavations shall occur below the seasonal high water table). A minimum 5-foot buffer zone shall be maintained above the existing groundwater level. If construction or groundwater dewatering is proposed or anticipated, the Applicant shall file a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) to this Regional Board and obtain any necessary NPDES permits/Waste Discharge Requirements prior to discharging waste.
- 18. All project and maintenance activities not included in this Certification, and which may require a permit, must be reported to the Regional Board for appropriate permitting. Bank stabilization and grading, as well as any other ground disturbances, are subject to restoration and revegetation requirements, and may require additional Certification action.
- 19. All surface waters, including ponded waters, shall be diverted away from areas undergoing grading, construction, excavation, vegetation removal, and/or any other activity which may result in a discharge to the receiving water. If surface water diversions are anticipated, the Applicant shall develop and submit a **Surface Water Diversion Plan** (plan) to this Regional Board. The plan shall include the proposed method and duration of diversion activities, structure configuration, construction materials, equipment, erosion and sediment controls, and a map or drawing indicating the locations of diversion and discharge points. Contingency measures shall be a part of this plan to address various flow discharge rates. The plan shall be submitted prior to any surface water diversions. If surface flows are present, then upstream and downstream monitoring for the following shall be implemented:

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- temperature
- dissolved oxygen
- turbidity
- total suspended solids(TSS)

Analyses must be performed using approved US Environmental Protection Agency methods, where applicable. These constituents shall be measured at least once prior to diversion and then monitored for on a daily basis during the first week of diversion and/or dewatering activities, and then on a weekly basis, thereafter, until the in-stream work is complete.

Results of the analyses shall be submitted to this Regional Board by the 15th day of each subsequent sampling month. A map or drawing indicating the locations of sampling points shall be included with each submittal. Diversion activities shall not result in the degradation of beneficial uses or exceedance of water quality objectives of the receiving waters. Downstream TSS shall be maintained at ambient levels. Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), increases shall not exceed 20%. Where natural turbidity is greater than 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 10%. Any such violations may result in corrective and/or enforcement actions, including increased monitoring and sample collection.

- 20. The Applicant shall submit to this Regional Board **Annual Monitoring Reports** (Annual Reports) by **January 1**<sup>st</sup> of each year for a minimum period of **five (5) years** following this issuance of 401 Certification or until mitigation success has been achieved and documented. The Annual Reports shall describe in detail all of the project/construction activities performed during the previous year and all restoration and mitigation efforts; including percent survival by plant species and percent cover. The Annual Reports shall describe the status of other agreements (e.g., mitigation banking) or any delays in the mitigation process. At a minimum the Annual Reports shall include the following documentation:
  - (a) Color photo documentation of the pre- and post-project and mitigation site conditions;
  - (b) Geographical Positioning System (GPS) coordinates in decimal-degrees format outlining the boundary of the project and mitigation areas;
  - (c) The overall status of project including a detailed schedule of whether or not work has begun on the Project;
  - (d) Copies of all permits revised as required in Additional Condition 1;
  - (e) Water quality monitoring results for each reach (as required) compiled in an easy to interpret format;
  - (f) A certified Statement of "no net loss" of wetlands associated with this project;

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- (g) Discussion of any monitoring activities and exotic plant control efforts; and
- (h) A certified Statement from the Applicant that all conditions of this Certification have been met.
- 21. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Board shall be signed:
  - (a) For corporations, by a principal executive officer at least of the level of vice president or his duly authorized representative, if such representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which discharge originates.
  - (b) For a partnership, by a general partner.
  - (c) For a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor.
  - (d) For a municipal, State, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee.
- 22. Each and any report submitted in accordance with this Certification shall contain the following completed declaration:

"I declare under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who managed the system or those directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Executed on the	day of	at	·
			(Signature)
			(Title)"

- 23. All communications regarding this project and submitted to this Regional Board shall identify the Project **File Number 13-144** Submittals shall be sent to the attention of the 401 Certification Unit.
- 24. Any modifications of the proposed project may require submittal of a new Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification application and appropriate filing fee.

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- 25. The project shall also comply with all requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) **General Permit** for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Order No. 2012-0011-DWQ. All stormwater treatment systems shall be located outside of any water of the State and shall not be used as a wetland or riparian mitigation credit.
- 26. Coverage under this Certification may be transferred to the extent the underlying federal permit may legally be transferred and further provided that the Applicant notifies the Executive Officer at least 30 days before the proposed transfer date, and the notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new Applicants containing a specific date of coverage, responsibility for compliance with this Certification, and liability between them.
- 27. The Applicant shall report any noncompliance. Any such information shall be provided verbally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the Applicant becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

### 28. Enforcement:

- (a) In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under State law. For purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Certification.
- (b) In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Certification, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) or Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) may require the holder of any permit or license subject to this Certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the SWRCB deems appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall be a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.

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- (c) In response to any violation of the conditions of this Certification, the SWRCB or RWQCB may add to or modify the conditions of this Certification as appropriate to ensure compliance.
- 29. This Certification shall expire **five (5) years** from date of this Certification. The Applicant shall submit a complete application at least 90 days prior to termination of this Certification if renewal is requested.