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# Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

#### **CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER**

**Effective Date:** 11 December 2020

**Expiration Date:** 10 December 2025

**Program Type:** Fill/Excavation

**Project Type:** Ecological Aquatic/Stream/Habitat Restoration

**Project:** Bobcat Flat Phase III Floodplain and Channel Restoration Project

(Project)

**Applicant:** Tuolumne River Conservancy

**Applicant Contact:** Allison Boucher

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**Water Board Contact Person:** If you have any questions, please call Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) Staff listed above or (916) 464-3291 and ask to speak with the Water Quality Certification Unit Supervisor.

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#### I. Order

This Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401 Water Quality Certification action and Order (Order) is issued at the request of Tuolumne River Conservancy (hereinafter Permittee) for the Project. This Order is for the purpose described in application submitted by the Permittee. The application was received on 15 September 2020. The application was deemed complete on 3 November 2020. Prior to receiving a complete application, Central Valley Water Board staff issued a notice of incomplete application and the Permittee responded to the request for application information on the following date(s):

Date of Notice of Incomplete Application: 8 October 2020

Date all requested information was received: 3 November 2020

#### II. Public Notice

The Central Valley Water Board provided public notice of the application pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 from 25 September 2020 to 16 October 2020. The Central Valley Water Board did not receive any comments during the comment period. Public notice regarding the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is described in Attachment C, CEQA Findings of Fact.

### **III.** Project Purpose

The 334.89-acre site known as Bobcat Flat was purchased for the purpose of long-term restoration and preservation of the Tuolumne River and its floodplain, specifically restoring salmonid habitat. Restoration of this property has taken place in phases, with Phases I and II having already been completed. The focus of salmonid restoration on the Tuolumne River has been to rebuild a naturally reproducing population of fall-run Chinook Salmon and steelhead of adequate number to maintain a viable population. Phase III restoration focuses on ecological and geomorphic aspects that will allow the river to function normally under contemporary flow and sediment regimes.

# IV. Project Description

The 190-acre Project has four primary objectives:

- Scale surfaces adjacent to the mainstem channel and reconnect the river to its floodplains so adjacent surfaces can function under the contemporary regulated flow regime;
- 2. Create low-gradient riffles appropriate for salmonids by redistributing the elevation drop of the short, steep riffles and to restructure the lake–cascade channel morphology to be a more natural pool–riffle morphology;
- 3. Reduce predator habitat; and
- 4. Increase off-channel rearing habitat for fry and juvenile salmonids via construction of low-flow side channels and annually inundated floodplain benches.

The Project will restore 30.08 acres of stream channel and 4.75 acres of wetland habitat.

# V. Project Location

County: Stanislaus

Assessor's Parcel Number(s): 008-021-011, 008-021-026

Nearest City: La Grange

Section 33 (32), Township 3 South, Range 13 East, MDB&M.

Latitude: 37°37'48"N and Longitude: 120°32'49"W

Maps showing the Project location are found in Attachment A of this Order.

### VI. Project Impact and Receiving Waters Information

The Project is located within the jurisdiction of the Central Valley Water Board. Receiving waters and groundwater potentially impacted by this Project are protected in accordance with the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins, Fifth Edition, May 2018 (Basin Plan). The plan for the region and other plans and policies may be accessed at the <a href="State Water Resources Control Board's Plans">State Water Resources Control Board's Plans and Policies Web page</a>

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\_policies/). The Basin Plan includes water quality standards, which consist of existing and potential beneficial uses of waters of the state, water quality objectives to protect those uses, and the state and federal antidegradation policies.

Additionally, the Project is subject to applicable State Water Resources Control Board policies and requirements, including the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (Procedures). The Procedures include requirements to ensure (1) a sequence of actions has been taken to first avoid, then to minimize, and lastly compensate for adverse impacts that cannot be practicably avoided or minimized to waters of the state; (2) the potential impacts will not contribute to a net loss of the overall abundance, diversity, and condition of aquatic resources, (3) the discharge of dredged or fill material will not violate water quality standards and will be consistent with all applicable water quality control plans and policies for water quality control; and (4) the discharge of dredged or fill material will not cause or contribute to significant degradation of the waters of the state.

Permitted actions through this Order will inundate approximately 34.83 acres of floodplain habitat more frequently and for longer periods of time compared to existing conditions. Sediment in the Tuolumne River is enriched with mercury due to historical gold mining and ongoing deposition from the river. The Project boundary likely has deposits of mercury-containing sediments. Studies have shown that inundation and cycles of wetting and drying can cause methylmercury production. Therefore, the Project is expected to create additional methylmercury within the Tuolumne River.

Methylmercury is a bioaccumulative neurotoxin that is harmful to humans and wildlife when ingested at elevated levels over a sustained period. The portion of the Tuolumne River in the Project boundary is identified on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List as impaired by mercury because of elevated methylmercury concentrations in fish that, when consumed, pose a risk to wildlife and humans.

Project impact and receiving waters information can be found in Attachment B. Table 1 of Attachment B shows the receiving waters and beneficial uses of waters of the state impacted by the Project. Individual impact location and quantity is shown in Table 2 of Attachment B.

# VII. Description of Direct Impacts to Waters of the State

The Project involves excavating armored surfaces of the floodplain in order to reconnect the river during various flow regimes. Coarse sediment, consisting of gravel, cobbles and sand, harvested from the floodplain will be reused onsite to reconstruct point bars, medial bars, pools, and riffles in the main channel. Additionally, side channels will be constructed to provide off-channel rearing habitat for salmonid fry and juveniles, as well as western pond turtle. Lowering the floodplains will allow for plantings and natural recruitment of riparian species by providing additional habitat of the reclaimed armored surfaces with access to groundwater.

Existing remnant mining channels and instream pits will be converted to useful habitat through placement of clean gravel and cobble. Prior to placement in the channel, rock will be washed. Rock wash water areas will be located more than 500 feet from the river and will include a sediment basin for all wash water to be collected and percolated through the ground. Following percolation, the sedimentation basin will be filled and remain upland habitat to protect potentially mercury rich sediment from exposure to wetland or stream channel habitat. Silt fencing will be installed to protect the river from adverse impacts associated with floodplain modifications and fill of instream pits. Additional monitoring for mercury will be conducted to evaluate the Project impact to methylation of mercury within the Project area.

No dewatering will occur within the Project area. No wet concrete will be placed into wetland or streambed habitat. The Project will permanently impact 14.86 acres of stream channel habitat. The project will result in the ecological restoration and enhancement of 30.08 acres of stream channel habitat and 4.75 acres of wetland habitat.

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 Permanent Physical Loss of Area Impacts

Aquatic Resources Type	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet		
Stream Channel	14.86		6,766		

#### VIII. Avoidance and Minimization

To minimize the potential effects of construction on water quality and resources, the Permittee shall implement all measures required as described in the Order. According to the Permittee, the following measures will be in place during construction activities to avoid, reduce, and minimize impacts to waters of the state:

**Dust Control Plan**: Prior to commencing construction, the Project proponent will prepare a Dust Control Plan in compliance with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) Regulation VIII (Fugitive Dust Prohibitions).

**Environmental Awareness Training**: Construction bid packages and contractual requirements will include a requirement for tail-gate training by the project's designated qualified biologist and cultural resource professionals. All contractors involved in site development and environmental specialists will attend a mandatory Environmental Awareness Training prior to any site disturbances. The program will address proper implementation of minimization and avoidance measures.

**Work Window for Fisheries**: Project activities involving in-stream work will occur outside the critical spawning period for steelhead and salmon (e.g., June through September).

Install Barrier /Silt Fencing to Protect Water Quality: Prior to implementing staging, construction, or ground disturbing activities install temporary silt fencing, fiber rolls, or equivalent erosion and sediment control devices as necessary to protect water quality. Silt fencing or other materials, as required, will be installed consistent with the applicable water quality requirements specified in the Project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Fencing or other erosion control materials or devices will be shown on the final construction documents. These areas will be monitored by the project manager throughout construction.

Preconstruction Surveys Birds: Prior to construction occurring between February 1st and August 30th (e.g., staging, excavation, ground disturbance, or vegetation removal) a preconstruction survey for nesting birds will be conducted by a qualified biologist and a no-disturbance buffer will be established, if necessary. If equipment staging, site preparation, vegetation removal, grading, excavation or other project-related construction activities are scheduled during the avian nesting season (generally February 1 through August 30), a focused survey for active nests will be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to the beginning of project-related activities. If an active nest is found, the bird shall be identified to species and the approximate distance from the closest work site to the nest estimated. Disturbance of active nests

shall be avoided to the extent possible until it is determined that nesting is complete, and the young have fledged.

**Hours of Construction**: Project construction shall be limited to 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. unless an emergency situation exists.

Avoid Inadvertent Animal Trapping During Construction: To avoid inadvertently trapping special status or common animal species during construction, all excavated steep-walled holes or trenches more than two feet deep shall be covered at the end of each working day with plywood or similar material, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks, or equivalent, at each end of the trench. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they will be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If at any time a tapped animal is discovered, the contractor shall place an escape ramp or other appropriate structure to allow the animal to escape. Alternatively, the contractor shall contact the project biologist or California Department of Fish and Wildlife for assistance. Similarly, stored pipes or other materials providing potential cover for animals will be inspected prior to installation or use to ensure that they are unoccupied.

Minimize the Spread of Invasive Plant Species: Throughout project construction all hay, straw, hay bales, straw bales, seed, mulch or other material used for erosion control on the project site shall be free of noxious weed seeds and propagules. All equipment brought to the project site shall be thoroughly cleaned of all dirt and vegetation prior to entering the site to prevent importing noxious weeds and shall be cleaned of all dirt and vegetation prior to exiting the site to prevent exporting noxious weeds. All material brought to the site, including rock, gravel, road base, sand, and topsoil, shall be free of noxious weeds and propagules.

**Spill Prevention Plan**: Prior to site disturbance, prepare a spill response plan to address the appropriate methods for containing accidental spills of toxic materials.

### IX. Compensatory Mitigation

No compensatory mitigation was required for permanent impacts because the restoration of water resources result in a net benefit to water quality.

### X. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

This Order adopts an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2020110089) and approves the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for the Project. Pursuant to CEQA, the Central Valley Water Board has made Findings of Facts (Findings) which support the issuance of this Order and are included in Attachment C.

#### XI. Petitions for Reconsideration

Any person aggrieved by this action may petition the State Water Board to reconsider this Order in accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3867. A petition for reconsideration must be submitted in writing and received within 30 calendar days of the issuance of this Order.

#### XII. Fees Received

An application fee of \$520.00 was received on 23 September 2020. 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 D - Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Projects (fee code 85) with the dredge and fill fee calculator.

#### XIII. Conditions

The Central Valley Water Board has independently reviewed the record of the Project to analyze impacts to the environment and designated beneficial uses within the watershed of the Project. In accordance with this Order, the Permittee may proceed with the Project under the following terms and conditions:

#### A. Authorization

Impacts to waters of the state shall not exceed quantities shown in Table 1.

### **B.** Reporting and Notification Requirements

The following section details the reporting and notification types and timing of submittals. Requirements for the content of these reporting and notification types are detailed in Attachment D, including specifications for photo and map documentation during the Project. Written reports and notifications must be submitted using the Reporting and Notification Cover Sheet located in Attachment D, which must be signed by the Permittee or an authorized representative. The Permittee must submit all notifications, submissions, materials, data, correspondence, and reports in a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF). Documents less than 50 MB must be emailed to: centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov

In the subject line of the email, include the Central Valley Water Board Contact, Project name, and WDID No. Documents that are 50 MB or larger must be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board Contact.

### 1. Project Reporting

- **a. Monthly Reporting:** The Permittee must submit a Monthly Report to the Central Valley Water Board on the 15th day of each month beginning the month after the submittal of the Commencement of Construction Notification. Monthly reporting shall continue until the Central Valley Water Board issues a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee.
- **b. Annual Reporting:** The Permittee shall submit an Annual Report each year on the 1st day of December. Annual reports shall continue until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued to the Permittee.

# 2. Project Status Notifications

- a. Commencement of Construction: The Permittee shall submit a Commencement of Construction Report at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities and include the corresponding Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID#) issued under this Order. Additionally, if applicable, the Report shall also include the Enrollee number issued for coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002).
- b. Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter: The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter following completion of active Project construction activities, including any required restoration and permittee-responsible mitigation. This request shall be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities. Upon acceptance of the request, Central Valley Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee which will end the active discharge period.
- c. Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter: The Permittee shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter when construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, and no further Project activities will occur. Completion of post-construction monitoring shall be determined by Central Valley Water Board staff and shall be contingent on successful attainment of restoration and mitigation performance criteria. This request shall be submitted to Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities. Upon approval of the request, the Central Valley Water Board staff shall issue a Notice of Project Complete Letter to the Permittee which will end the post discharge monitoring period.

# 3. Conditional Notifications and Reports:

The following notifications and reports are required as appropriate.

# a. Accidental Discharges of Hazardous Materials<sup>1</sup>

Following an accidental discharge of a reportable quantity of a hazardous material, sewage, or an unknown material, the following applies (Water Code, Section 13271):

- i. As soon as (A) Permittee has knowledge of the discharge or noncompliance, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures then:
  - first call 911 (to notify local response agency)
  - then call Office of Emergency Services (OES) State Warning Center at:(800) 852-7550 or (916) 845-8911
  - Lastly, follow the required OES, procedures as set forth in the Office of Emergency Services' Accidental Discharge Notification Web page
    - (http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Spill\_Booklet\_Feb2014\_FINAL\_BW\_Acc.pdf)
- ii. Following notification to OES, the Permittee shall notify Central Valley Water Board, as soon as practicable (ideally within 24 hours). Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
- iii. Within five (5) working days of notification to the Central Valley Water Board, the Permittee must submit an Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report.
- **b.** Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards: The Permittee shall notify the Central Valley Water Board of any event causing a violation of compliance with water quality standards. Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
  - i. This notification must be followed within three (3) working days by submission of a Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Hazardous material" means any material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material that a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. (Health & Safety Code, Section 25501.)

#### c. In-Water Work and Diversions:

- The Permittee shall notify the Central Valley Water Board at least fortyeight (48) hours prior to initiating work in water or stream diversions.
   Notification may be delivered via written notice, email, or other verifiable means.
- ii. Within three (3) working days following completion of work in water or stream diversions, an In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report must be submitted to Central Valley Water Board staff.

# d. Modifications to Project

Project modifications may require an amendment of this Order. The Permittee shall give advance notice to Central Valley Water Board staff if Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority by submitting a Modifications to Project Report. The Permittee shall inform Central Valley Water Board staff of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with this Order. Notification may be made in accordance with conditions in the certification deviation section of this Order.

# e. Transfer of Property Ownership:

This Order is not transferable in its entirety or in part to any person or organization except after notice to the Central Valley Water Board in accordance with the following terms:

- i. The Permittee must notify the Central Valley Water Board of any change in ownership or interest in ownership of the Project area by submitting a Transfer of Property Ownership Report. The Permittee and purchaser must sign and date the notification and provide such notification to the Central Valley Water Board at least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership. The purchaser must also submit a written request to the Central Valley Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.
- ii. Until such time as this Order has been modified to name the purchaser as the permittee, the Permittee shall continue to be responsible for all requirements set forth in this Order.

# f. Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance:

If maintenance responsibility for post-construction BMPs is legally transferred, the Permittee must submit to the Central Valley Water Board a copy of such documentation and must provide the transferee with a copy of a long-term BMP maintenance plan that complies with manufacturer or designer specifications. The Permittee must provide such notification to the Central Valley Water Board with a Transfer of Long-Term BMP

Maintenance Report at least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.

### C. Water Quality Monitoring

#### 1. General:

If surface water is present continuous visual surface water monitoring shall be conducted during active construction periods to detect accidental discharge of construction related pollutants (e.g. oil and grease, turbidity plume, or uncured concrete). Sampling is not required in a wetland where the entire wetland is being permanently filled, provided there is no outflow connecting the wetland to surface waters. The Permittee shall perform surface water sampling:

- a. when performing any in-water work;
- **b.** during the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions;
- **c.** in the event that the Project activities result in any materials reaching surface waters; or
- **d.** when any activities result in the creation of a visible plume in surface waters.

# 2. Accidental Discharges/Noncompliance:

Upon occurrence of an accidental discharge of hazardous materials or a violation of compliance with a water quality standard, Central Valley Water Board staff may require water quality monitoring based on the discharge constituents and/or related water quality objectives and beneficial uses.

#### 3. In-Water Work or Diversions:

For projects involving planned work in water or stream diversions, a water quality monitoring plan shall be submitted to Central Valley Water Board staff for acceptance at least 30 days in advance of any discharge to the affected water body. Water quality monitoring shall be conducted in accordance with the approved plan.

- a. Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that cause nuisance, result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, or otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.
- **b.** Activities shall not cause turbidity increases in surface water to exceed:
  - where natural turbidity is less than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTUs), controllable factors shall not cause downstream turbidity to exceed 2 NTU;
  - ii. where natural turbidity is between 1 and 5 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 1 NTU;

iii. where natural turbidity is between 5 and 50 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 20 percent;

- iv. where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 NTUs:
- v. where natural turbidity is greater than 100 NTUs, increases shall not exceed 10 percent.

In determining compliance with the above limits, appropriate averaging periods may be applied provided that beneficial uses will be fully protected. Averaging periods may only be used with prior permission of the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer.

Sampling during in-water work or during the entire duration of temporary water diversions shall be conducted in accordance with Table 2 sampling parameters.<sup>2</sup> The sampling requirements in Table 2 shall be conducted upstream out of the influence of the Project, and approximately 300 feet downstream of the work area.

The sampling frequency may be modified for certain projects with written approval from Central Valley Water Board staff. An In-Water Work and Diversion Water Quality Monitoring Report, as described in Attachment D, shall be submitted within two weeks on initiation of in-water construction, and every two weeks thereafter. In reporting the data, the Permittee shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the sampling locations, date, constituents, and concentrations are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized in such a manner to illustrate clearly whether the Project complies with Order requirements. The report shall include surface water sampling results, visual observations, and identification of the turbidity increase in the receiving water applicable to the natural turbidity conditions specified in the turbidity criteria in XIV.C.3.

If no sampling is required, the Permittee shall submit a written statement stating, "No sampling was required" within two weeks on initiation of in-water construction, and every two weeks thereafter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pollutants shall be analyzed using the analytical methods described in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 136; where no methods are specified for a given pollutant, the method shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff. Grab samples shall be taken between the surface and mid-depth and not be collected at the same time each day to get a complete representation of variations in the receiving water. A hand-held field meter may be used, provided the meter utilizes a U.S. EPA-approved algorithm/method and is calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A calibration and maintenance log for each meter used for monitoring shall be maintained onsite.

**Table 2: Sample Type and Frequency Requirements** 

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
Turbidity	NTU	Grab	Every 4 hours
Visible construction related pollutants <sup>3</sup>	Observations	Visual Inspections	Continuous throughout the construction period

# 4. Mercury:

Sampling for aqueous total and aqueous methylmercury shall occur at a frequency described in Table 3 at sampling points located upstream outside of the influence of the project, a minimum 300 feet downstream from the project area, and at a minimum of one strategic location within the Project area that has a high potential for mercury methylation. Prior to the submittal of the commencement of construction notification, the Permittee shall consult with Central Valley Water Board staff to establish the specific receiving water monitoring locations. Aqueous total and aqueous methylmercury sampling shall occur at the same locations throughout the sampling period. After each sampling event, the Permittee shall submit the laboratory results to Central Valley Water Board staff and upload the results to the <a href="California Environmental Data Exchange Network's website">Central Valley Monitoring Templates for data submittal can be found on the same website.</a>

Table 3: Aqueous Total Mercury and Aqueous Methylmercury Sample Type and Frequency Requirements

Parameter	Unit of Measurement	Type of Sample	Minimum Frequency
Aqueous Total Mercury	ng/L	Grab	Every 6 months during construction and monthly for one year beginning after construction activities are completed
Aqueous Methylmercury	ng/L	Grab	Every 6 months during construction and monthly for one year beginning after construction activities are completed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Visible construction-related pollutants include oil, grease, foam, fuel, petroleum products, and construction-related, excavated, organic or earthen materials.

#### 5. Post-Construction:

Visually inspect the Project site during the rainy season for one year to ensure excessive erosion, stream instability, or other water quality pollution is not occurring in or downstream of the Project site. If water quality pollution is occurring, contact the Central Valley Water Board staff member overseeing the Project within three (3) working days. The Central Valley Water Board may require the submission of a Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report. Additional permits may be required to carry out any necessary site remediation.

#### D. Standard

- 1. This Order is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to Water Code section 13330, and California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Chapter 28, article 6 commencing with sections 3867-3869, inclusive. Additionally, the Central Valley Water Board reserves the right to suspend, cancel, or modify and reissue this Order, after providing notice to the Permittee, if the Central Valley Water Board determines that: the Project fails to comply with any of the conditions of this Order; or, when necessary to implement any new or revised water quality standards and implementation plans adopted or approved pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, section 13000 et seq.) or federal Clean Water Act section 303 (33 U.S.C. section 1313). For purposes of Clean Water Act section 401(d), the condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with water quality standards and appropriate requirements of state law.
- 2. This Order is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license, unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to subsection 3855(b) of chapter 28, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
- **3.** This Order is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations and owed by the Permittee.
- 4. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this Order, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under state and federal law. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), the applicability of any state law authorizing remedies, penalties, processes, 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 Order.

# E. General Compliance

- 1. Failure to comply with any condition of this Order shall constitute a violation of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the Clean Water Act. The Permittee and/or discharger may then be subject to administrative and/or civil liability pursuant to Water Code section 13385.
- 2. Permitted actions must not cause a violation of any applicable water quality standards, including impairment of designated beneficial uses for receiving waters as adopted in the Basin Plans by any applicable Regional Water Board or any applicable State Water Board (collectively Water Boards) water quality control plan or policy. The source of any such discharge must be eliminated as soon as practicable.
- 3. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this Order, the Central Valley Water Board may require the holder of this Order to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Water Boards deem appropriate, provided that the burden, including costs, of the reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. The additional monitoring requirements ensure that permitted discharges and activities comport with any applicable effluent limitations, water quality standards, and/or other appropriate requirement of state law.
- **4.** The Permittee must, at all times, fully comply with engineering plans, specifications, and technical reports submitted to support this Order; and all subsequent submittals required as part of this Order. The conditions within this Order and Attachments supersede conflicting provisions within Permittee submittals.
- 5. This Order and all of its conditions contained herein continue to have full force and effect regardless of the expiration or revocation of any federal license or permit issued for the Project. For purposes of Clean Water Act, section 401(d), this condition constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements of state law.
- **6.** The Permittee shall adhere to all requirements in the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) which is incorporated herein by reference and any additional measures as outlined in Attachment C, CEQA Findings of Fact.
- 7. Construction General Permit Requirement: The Permittee shall obtain coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ; NPDES No. CAS000002), as amended, for discharges to surface waters comprised of storm water associated with construction activity, including, but not limited to, demolition, clearing, grading, excavation, and other land

disturbance activities of one or more acres, or where projects disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres.

#### F. Administrative

- **1.** Signatory requirements for all document submittals required by this Order are presented in Attachment E of this Order.
- 2. This Order does not authorize any act which results in the taking of a threatened, endangered or candidate species or any act, which is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish & Wildlife Code, sections 2050-2097) or the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. sections 1531-1544). If a "take" will result from any act authorized under this Order held by the Permittee, the Permittee must comply with the California Endangered Species Act and federal Endangers Species Act prior to any construction or operation of the portion of the Project that may result in a take. The Permittee is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable endangered species act for the Project authorized under this Order.
- 3. The Permittee shall grant Central Valley Water Board staff, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a Water Board representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, permission to:
  - a. Enter upon the Project or compensatory mitigation site(s) premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are kept.
  - **b.** Have access to and copy any records that are kept and are relevant to the Project or the requirements of this Order.
  - **c.** Inspect any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order.
  - **d.** Sample or monitor for the purposes of assuring Order compliance.
- 4. A copy of this Order shall be provided to any consultants, contractors, and subcontractors working on the Project. Copies of this Order shall remain at the Project site for the duration of this Order. The Permittee shall be responsible for work conducted by its consultants, contractors, and any subcontractors.
- 5. A copy of this Order must be available at the Project site(s) during construction for review by site personnel and agencies. All personnel performing work on the Project shall be familiar with the content of this Order and its posted location at the Project site.

6. Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement: The Permittee shall submit a signed copy of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement or other authorization letter to the Central Valley Water Board immediately upon receipt and prior to any discharge to waters of the state.

#### G. Construction

### 1. Dewatering

- **a.** No dewatering will occur within the Project area.
- b. If water is present, the Permittee shall develop and maintain on-site a Surface Water Diversion and/or Dewatering Plan(s). The Plan(s) must be developed prior to initiation of any water diversions. The Plan(s) shall include the proposed method and duration of diversion activities and include water quality monitoring conducted, as described in section XIV.C.3, during the entire duration of dewatering and diversion activities. The Plan(s) must be consistent with this Order and must be made available to the Central Valley Water Board staff upon request.
- **c.** For any temporary dam or other artificial obstruction being constructed, maintained, or placed in operation, sufficient water shall at all times be allowed to pass downstream, to maintain beneficial uses of waters of the state below the dam. Construction, dewatering, and removal of temporary cofferdams shall not violate section XIV.C.3.
- **d.** The temporary dam or other artificial obstruction shall only be built from clean materials such as sandbags, gravel bags, water dams, or clean/washed gravel which will cause little or no siltation. Stream flow shall be temporarily diverted using gravity flow through temporary culverts/pipes or pumped around the work site with the use of hoses.
- **e.** This Order does not allow permanent water diversion of flow from the receiving water. This Order is invalid if any water is permanently diverted as a part of the project.
- 2. Directional Drilling Not Applicable
- 3. Dredging Not Applicable

### 4. Fugitive Dust

Dust abatement activities can cause discharges of sediment to streams and uplands through application of water or other fluids. Dust abatement chemicals added to water can be hazardous to wildlife and, if allowed to enter streams, detrimental to water quality. Therefore, dust abatement activities shall be conducted so that sediment or dust abatement chemicals are not discharged into waters of the state. Dust abatement products or additives that are known to be detrimental to water quality or wildlife shall not be used,

unless specific management needs are documented, and product-specific application plans are approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

# 5. Good Site Management "Housekeeping"

- a. The Permittee shall develop and maintain onsite a project-specific Spill Prevention, Containment and Cleanup Plan outlining the practices to prevent, minimize, and/or clean up potential spills during construction of the Project. The Plan must detail the Project elements, construction equipment types and location, access and staging and construction sequence. The Plan must be made available to the Central Valley Water Board staff upon request.
- b. Refueling of equipment within the floodplain or within 300 feet of the waterway is prohibited. If critical equipment must be refueled within 300 feet of the waterway, spill prevention and countermeasures must be implemented to avoid spills. Refueling areas shall be provided with secondary containment including drip pans and/or placement of absorbent material. No hazardous materials, pesticides, fuels, lubricants, oils, hydraulic fluids, or other construction-related potentially hazardous substances should be stored within a floodplain or within 300 feet of a waterway. The Permittee must perform frequent inspections of construction equipment prior to utilizing it near surface waters to ensure leaks from the equipment are not occurring and are not a threat to water quality.
- **c.** All materials resulting from the Project shall be removed from the site and disposed of properly.

#### 6. Hazardous Materials

a. The discharge of petroleum products, any construction materials, hazardous materials, pesticides, fuels, lubricants, oils, hydraulic fluids, raw cement, concrete or the washing thereof, asphalt, paint, coating material, drilling fluids, or other substances potentially hazardous to fish and wildlife resulting from or disturbed by project-related activities is prohibited and shall be prevented from contaminating the soil and/or entering waters of the state. In the event of a prohibited discharge, the Permittee shall comply with notification requirements in sections XIV.B.3.a and XIV.B.3.b.

### 7. Invasive Species and Soil Borne Pathogens

Prior to arrival at the project site and prior to leaving the project site, construction equipment that may contain invasive plants and/or seeds shall be cleaned to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.

### 8. Post-Construction Storm Water Management - Not Applicable

#### 9. Roads

- **a.** The number of access routes, number and size of staging areas, and the total area of the activity must be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve the project goal. Routes and work area boundaries must be clearly demarcated.
- **b.** Bridges, culverts, dip crossings, or other structures must be installed so that water and in-stream sediment flow is not impeded. Appropriate design criteria, practices and materials must be used in areas where access roads intersect waters of the state.
- c. Temporary materials placed in any water of the state must be removed as soon as construction is completed at that location, and all temporary roads must be removed or re-contoured and restored according to approved revegetation and restoration plans.
- d. Any structure, including but not limited to, culverts, pipes, piers, and coffer dams, placed within a stream where fish (as defined in California Fish and Game Code section 45) exist or may exist, must be designed, constructed, and maintained such that it does not constitute a barrier to upstream or downstream movement of aquatic life, or cause an avoidance reaction by fish due to impedance of their upstream or downstream movement. This includes, but is not limited to, maintaining the supply of water and maintaining flows at an appropriate depth, temperature, and velocity to facilitate upstream and downstream fish migration. If any structure results in a long-term reduction in fish movement, the discharger shall be responsible for restoration of conditions as necessary (as determined by the Water Board) to secure passage of fish across the structure.
- **e.** A method of containment must be used below any temporary bridge, trestle, boardwalk, and/or other stream crossing structure to prevent any debris or spills from falling into the waters of the state. Containment must be maintained and kept clean for the life of the temporary stream crossing structure.

#### 10. Sediment Control

- a. Except for activities permitted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, soil, silt, or other organic materials shall not be placed where such materials could pass into surface water or surface water drainage courses.
- **b.** Silt fencing, straw wattles, or other effective management practices must be used along the construction zone to minimize soil or sediment along

the embankments from migrating into the waters of the state through the entire duration of the Project.

- **c.** The use of netting material (e.g., monofilament-based erosion blankets) that could trap aquatic dependent wildlife is prohibited within the Project area.
- d. During Project construction, the Permittee shall implement reasonable and feasible practices to control erosion of mercury-containing soils and minimize discharges of mercury and methylmercury. The goal is to minimize erosion of the mercury-containing soils in order to protect beneficial uses in the Tuolumne River and to reduce mercury and methylmercury loads moving downstream.

# 11. Special Status Species

Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Delta smelt, Hardhead, Central Valley Steelhead, Western pond turtle, Swainson's hawk, Bald eagle, Golden eagle Least Bell's vireo, Oak titmouse, Song sparrow, Yellow-billed magpie, Nuttall's woodpecker, and San Joaquin kit fox.

#### 12. Stabilization/Erosion Control

- **a.** All areas disturbed by Project activities shall be protected from washout and erosion.
- **b.** Hydroseeding shall be performed with California native seed mix.

#### 13. Storm Water

- **a.** During the construction phase, the Permittee must employ strategies to minimize erosion and the introduction of pollutants into storm water runoff. These strategies must include the following:
  - i. An effective combination of erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be implemented and adequately working prior to the rainy season and during all phases of construction.

### H. Site Specific - Mercury

1. Gravel wash water areas shall be located more than 500 feet from the river and will include a sediment basin for all wash water to be collected and percolated through the ground surface. Following percolation, the sedimentation basin will be filled and remain upland habitat to protect potentially mercury rich sediment from exposure to wetland or stream channel habitat. Any runoff related to gravel cleaning activities will adhere to these provisions. Dry screening for gravel cleaning will use screens of sufficient size to eliminate sands with the potential to contain mercury.

# I. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

This section of the Tuolumne River is identified on the Clean Water Section 303(d) List as impaired by chlorpyrifos, diazinon, Group A pesticides, mercury, temperature, and unknown toxicity impairments. TMDL for group A pesticides and mercury are currently being developed. There are no established TMDLs for the 303(d) listed impairments at this time.

### J. Mitigation for Temporary Impacts – Not Applicable

### K. Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts - Not Applicable

# L. Ecological Restoration and Enhancement

The quantity of waters of the state permanently gained by the Project is shown in Table 3. [Establishment (Est.), Rehabilitation (Reh.), Enhancement (Enh.)].

Table 4: Total Ecological Restoration and Enhancement Quantity

Aquatic Resource Type	Restoration Type	Units	Est.	Reh.	Enh.
Stream Channel	Permittee-Responsible	Acres			30.08
Wetland	Permittee-Responsible	Acres			4.75

#### M. Certification Deviation

- 1. Minor modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may be necessary as a result of unforeseen field conditions, necessary engineering re-design, construction concerns, or similar reasons. Some of these prospective Project modifications may have impacts on the environment. Some modifications of Project locations or predicted impacts may qualify as Certification Deviations as set forth in Attachment F. For purposes of this Certification, a "Certification Deviation" is a Project locational or impact modification that does not require an immediate amendment of the Order, because the Central Valley Water Board has determined that any potential environmental impacts that may result from the change are sufficiently addressed by the Order conditions and the CEQA Findings. After the termination of construction, this Order will be formally amended to reflect all authorized Certification Deviations and any resulting adjustments to the amount of water resource impacts and required compensatory mitigation amounts.
- 2. A Project modification shall not be granted a Certification Deviation if it warrants or necessitates changes that are not addressed by the Order conditions or the CEQA environmental document such that the Project impacts are not addressed in the Project's environmental document or the

conditions of this Order. In this case a supplemental environmental review and different Order will be required.

# XIV. Water Quality Certification

I hereby issue the Order for the Bobcat Flat Phase III Floodplain and Channel Restoration Project, WDID# 5B50CR00097, certifying that as long as all of the conditions listed in this Order are met, any discharge from the referenced Project will comply with the applicable provisions of Clean Water Act 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). The Central Valley Water Board, as lead agency, hereby adopts an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) (State Clearinghouse (SCH) No. 2020110089) and approves the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for the Project.

The Central Valley Water Board will file a Notice of Determination (NOD) at the SCH within five (5) working days of issuance of this Order. This discharge is also regulated pursuant to State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ which authorizes this Order to serve as Waste Discharge Requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code, section 13000 et seq.).

Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all Order actions are contingent on: (a) the discharge being limited and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the conditions of this Order and the attachments to this Order; and, (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of Statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies, the Regional Water Boards' Water Quality Control Plans and Policies.

#### Original Signed By James Marshall for:

Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Attachment A: Project Maps

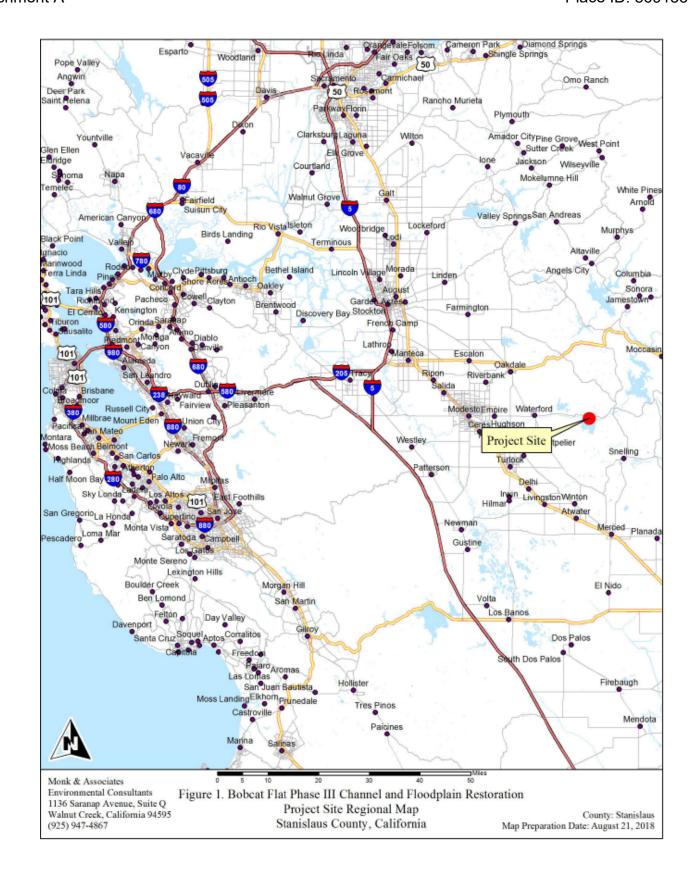
**Attachment B:** Receiving Waters, Impacts, and Mitigation Information

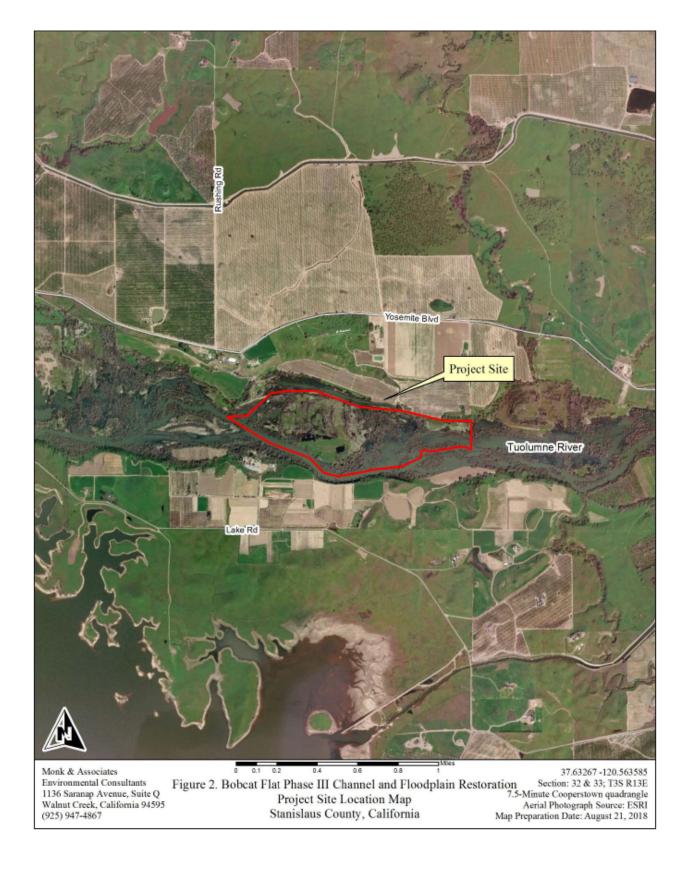
**Attachment C:** CEQA Findings of Facts

**Attachment D:** Report and Notification Requirements

**Attachment E:** Signatory Requirements

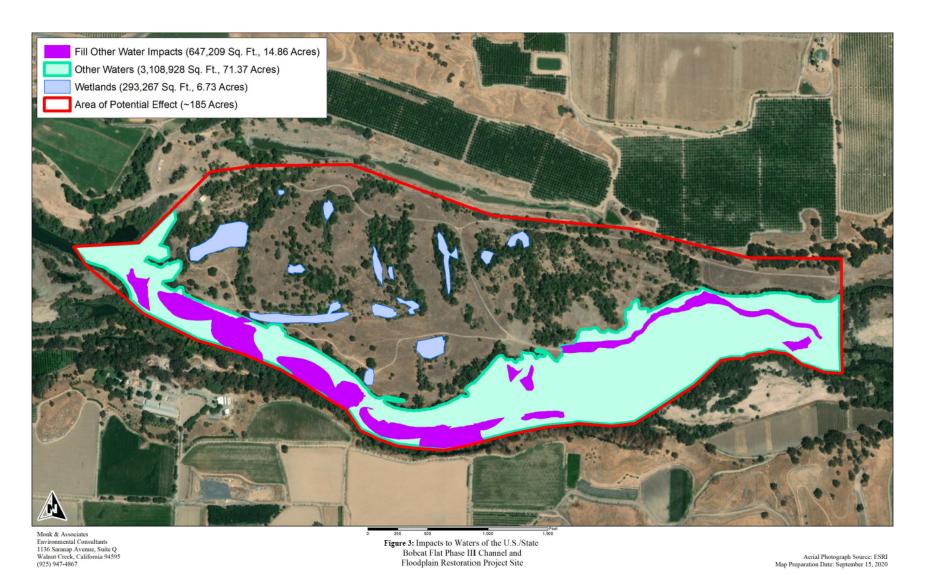
**Attachment F:** Certification Deviation Procedures

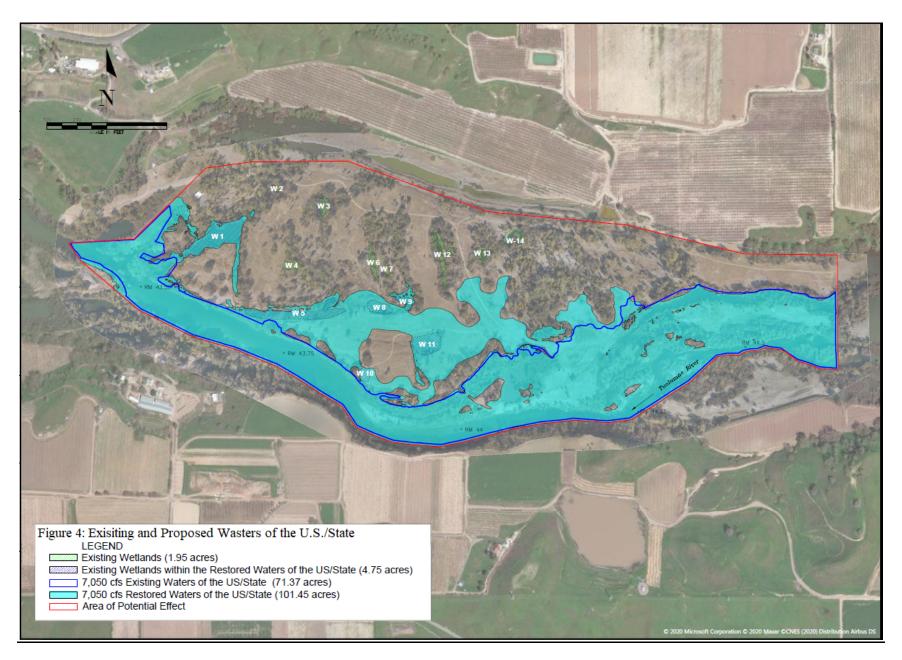




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# **Receiving Waters, Impacts and Mitigation Information**

The following table shows the receiving waters associated with each impact site.

**Table 1: Receiving Water(s) Information** 

Impact Site ID	Waterbody Name	Impacted Aquatic Resources Type	Water Board Hydrologic Units	Receiving Waters	Receiving Waters Beneficial Uses	303d Listing Pollutant	California Rapid Assessment Method ID	
Other Waters	Tuolumne River	Stream	535.60	Tuolumne River	AGR, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, COLD, MIGR, SPWN, WILD	Chlorpyrifos, Diazinon, Group A Pesticides, Mercury, Temperature, Unknown Toxicity	N/A	

# **Individual Direct Impact Locations**

The following tables show individual impacts.

**Table 2: Individual Permanent Fill/Excavation Impact Information** 

Impact Site ID	Latitude	Longitude	Indirect Impact Requiring Mitigation?	Acres	Cubic Yards	Linear Feet
Other Waters	37.631693°	-120.562275°	No	14.86		6,766

#### A. Tribal Consultations

On 8 April 2020, the Central Valley Water Board reviewed the identified contact persons for each California Native American tribe traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the Project that has requested notice. Within the geographic area of the Project there are no California Native American tribes that have requested notice. As such, no notice was provided. (Public Resources Code, section 21080.3.1)

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### **B.** Environmental Review

On 5 November 2020, the Central Valley Water Board, as Lead Agency, issued a draft initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) for public review and filed a notice of intent to adopt with the State Clearinghouse (SCH). (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15072 and 15073.) The public comment period for the draft IS/MND was from 5 November 2020 through 4 December 2020. The Central Valley Water Board received and evaluated comments on the draft IS/MND. A comment letter was submitted by California State Lands Commission (Commission) regarding cultural resources mitigation measures. The letter requests consultation with State Lands Staff Attorney should any cultural resources be discovered during construction on State lands and acknowledge final disposition of resources recovered on State land must be approved by the Commission, as well as 24-hour notification to the Commission should human remains be discovered on State lands. These conditions were incorporated into the existing mitigation measures as requested. The final IS/MND and the findings contained therein reflect the Central Valley Water Board's independent judgment and analysis. The Central Valley Water Board has developed a mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) for all mitigation measures that the Central Valley Water Board has adopted for the Project to reduce potential impacts. (Public Resources Code, section 21081.6, subd. (a)(1); California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15074, subd. (d).)

### C. Incorporation by Reference

Pursuant to CEQA, these Findings of Facts (Findings) support the issuance of this Order based on the Project IS/MND, the application for this Order, and other supplemental documentation.

All CEQA project impacts are analyzed in detail in the Project Final IS/MND which is incorporated herein by reference. The Project IS/MND is available at: 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

The MMRP developed to ensure that the mitigation measures are implemented is incorporated herein by reference.

The Permittee's application for this Order, including all supplemental information provided, is incorporated herein by reference.

### D. Findings

The Central Valley Water Board has analyzed the environmental effects of the Project as shown in the IS/MND. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, sections 15064 and 15074.) Having considered the whole of the record, including comments received during the public review process, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that the proposed Project will not result in a significant effect on the environment (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15074, subd. (b)) and makes the following findings:

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- (1) Revisions in the project plans or proposals made by, or agreed to by the applicant before a proposed mitigated negative declaration and initial study are released for public review would avoid the effects or mitigate the effects to a point where clearly no significant effects would occur, and
- (2) There is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before the agency, that the project as revised may have a significant effect on the environment. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15070.)

# a.i. Potential Significant Impact:

Potential to expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations or result in other emissions adversely affecting a substantial number of people. Potential to have an adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Potential to have an adverse effect on riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service. Potential to have an adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means. Potential to conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance. Potential to cause an adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Potential to cause an adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, or disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. Potential to result in environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources during project construction. Potential to result in soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. Potential to generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have an impact on the environment. Potential to create a hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials, or create a hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the

release of hazardous materials into the environment. Potential to be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Potential to violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise degrade surface water quality. Potential for generation of methylmercury within the environment. Potential for generation of a temporary increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies, or excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels. Potential to cause an adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe.

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### a.ii. Facts in Support of Finding:

**Mitigation:** Dust Control Plan – Prior to commencing construction, the Project proponent/Contractor shall prepare a Dust Control Plan in compliance with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) Regulation VIII (Fugitive Dust Prohibitions).

**Mitigation:** Construction Equipment – To the extent feasible, the following measures shall be incorporated into Project design and construction: Properly tune and maintain construction equipment and vehicles; On-site idling of construction equipment shall be minimized (no more than five minutes maximum); Biodiesel shall be used as an alternative fuel diesel for at least 15 percent of the construction vehicles/equipment used if there is a biodiesel station within five miles of the Project site.

**Mitigation:** Environmental Awareness Training – Construction bid packages and contractual requirements shall include a requirement for tail-gate training by the project's designated qualified biologist and cultural resource professionals. All contractors involved in site development and environmental specialists will attend a mandatory Environmental Awareness Training prior to any site disturbances.

**Mitigation:** Valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB) Protection – All ground disturbance within 100 feet of the driplines of elderberry shrubs shall occur outside the flight period for VELB (March 15th to June 15th). Prior to ground disturbance, erect brightly colored temporary fencing (e.g., safety fencing): Along the boundary of the buffer area designated for elderberry shrub protection (20 feet from the dripline of the shrub). Temporary fencing shall be maintained throughout project construction and restoration activities.

**Mitigation:** Biological Monitor – Throughout Project construction, a qualified biologist shall be present on-site to monitor all Project activities with the potential to harm Western pond turtles (WPT). The Project Biologist may be

absent only when, in the opinion of the Project Biologist, activities to be conducted during the biologists' absence are not expected to impact WPTs.

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**Mitigation:** Preconstruction Survey/Relocation for Western Pond Turtles – Within 48 hours of commencing site disturbances, a qualified biologist shall survey for and, if present, relocate any non-nesting western pond turtles from construction areas or other areas where turtle disturbance may occur.

**Mitigation:** Tree Replanting – Native oak trees 5-inch or greater in diameter at breast height damaged or removed in conjunction with Project activities shall be replanted on the Project site. Two blue oak trees will be planted for every blue oak tree removed or damaged. Six Valley oaks will be planted for every valley oak tree removed or damaged.

**Mitigation:** Unanticipated Cultural Resource Discoveries – If a cultural resource is discovered during construction activities, the construction contractor shall comply with the following provisions: The person discovering the cultural resource shall notify the project's designated qualified cultural resource professional by telephone within 4 hours of the discovery or the next working day if the department is closed; When the cultural resource is located outside the area of disturbance, the project's designated qualified cultural resource professional shall be allowed to photo document and record the resource and construction activities may continue during this process. The area of disturbance is defined to include grading and vegetation removal areas and/or access roads or processing areas plus 100 feet; When the cultural resource is located within the area of disturbance, all activities that may impact the resource shall cease immediately upon discovery of the resource. All activity that does not affect the cultural resource as determined by site's designated qualified cultural resource professional may continue. The project's designated qualified cultural resource professional shall be allowed to conduct an evaluative survey to evaluate the significance of the cultural resource; When the cultural resource is determined to be not significant, the project's designated qualified cultural resource professional shall be allowed to photo document and record the resource. Construction activities may resume after authorization from the project's designated qualified professional; When a resource is determined to be significant, the resource shall be avoided with said resource having boundaries established around its perimeter by the project's designated qualified cultural resource professional or a cultural resource management plan shall be prepared by the project's designated qualified professional to establish measures formulated and implemented in accordance with Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to address the effects of construction on the resource. The project's designated qualified cultural resource professional shall be allowed to photo document and record the resource. Construction activities may resume after authorization from the project's designated qualified cultural resource professional.

**Mitigation:** Human Remains – If human remains, burial, cremation of other mortuary feature are uncovered during construction activities; upon discovery, secure the location, do not touch or remove remains and associated artifacts; do not remove associated spoils or go through them; document the location and keep notes of activity and correspondence. All work within 100 feet of the discovery shall stop until the County Coroner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the California Native American Heritage Commission to obtain the Most Likely Descendent (MLD) and follow state law. No further work or disturbance shall occur within 100 feet until all of the preceding actions, as applicable to the discovery, are implemented and completed. Preserve associated spoils without further disturbance, do not touch or remove remains or associated artifacts, document the location and maintain notes of activity and correspondence. Preservation in situ is the preferred treatment of human remains and associated burial artifacts.

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**Mitigation:** Project Scope Changes – If the project develops beyond the scope and project description, further archaeological study may be required.

**Mitigation:** Sediment Control – Throughout Project construction excavation areas will be limited to areas with slopes of less than a 10 percent gradient; Re-contouring the floodplain after coarse sediment excavation will result in slopes with a 2:1 ratio to ensure slope stability and prevent erosion in those areas where the floodplain will be day-lighted back to the existing slopes; All materials excavated from the project site will be used on the project site. No excavated materials will be transported or sold off the project site; Excavated gravels and cobbles will be cleaned prior to placement in the river. Sediments will be cleaned (wet-washed or dry-screened) prior to placement in the river channel; River water is proposed to be pumped temporarily from the river for the cobble and gravel washing process (dust-control). A sediment pond will be constructed at the wash site, adjacent to the stockpile area, to control any sediment runoff from the Project site.

**Mitigation:** Paleontological Resources – If paleontological resources are encountered during Project construction and no paleontological monitor is present, all ground disturbing activities within 50 feet of the find shall be redirected to other areas until a qualified paleontologist can be contacted to evaluate the find and make recommendations. Adverse impacts to significant paleontological resources shall be mitigated, which may include monitoring, data recovery and analysis, a final report, and the curation of all fossil material to a paleontological repository, museum, or academic institution, as appropriate. Upon completion of Project ground-disturbing activities, a report documenting methods, findings, and recommendations shall be prepared and submitted to the paleontological repository

**Mitigation:** Authority to Construct/Permit to Operate – Prior to commencing project activities, the Project Proponent/Contractor shall secure an Authority to Construct Permit and Permit to Operate or waiver from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District for equipment used for processing, constructing or improving access roads and related activities. The Authority to Construct Permit shall ensure that equipment used is certified for compliance with noise and air quality requirements of the State of California.

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**Mitigation:** Construction Material – To the extent feasible, at least 10 percent of the building material used for the proposed project shall be local, and at least 50 percent of construction waste or demolition materials shall be recycled.

**Mitigation:** Spill Prevention Plan – Prior to site disturbance, a spill response plan to address the appropriate methods for containing accidental spills of toxic materials will be prepared.

**Mitigation:** Mercury – Gravel wash water area(s) shall be located more than 500 feet from the river and shall include a sediment basin for all wash water to be collected and percolated through the ground. It is anticipated that some water will be pumped from the river as necessary to implement dust-control measures, therefore, any runoff from gravel cleaning activities will include these provisions. Dry screening for gravel cleaning will use screens of sufficient size to eliminate sands with the potential to contain mercury.

# E. Approval of Environmental Document

As the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer, I hereby find that: (1) the final IS/MND has been completed in compliance with CEQA; (2) the final IS/MND reflects the Central Valley Water Board's independent judgment and analysis; and (3) the information in the final IS/MND and comments received have been reviewed and considered. The Central Valley Water Board will file a Notice of Determination with the SCH within five (5) working days from the issuance of this Order. (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15075, subd. (a).) The environmental document and other materials, which constitute the record, are located at 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. (Public Resources Code, section 21081.6, subd. (a)(2).)

# REPORTS AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

## I. Copies of this form

In order to identify your project, it is necessary to include a copy of the Project specific Cover Sheet below with your report; please retain for your records. If you need to obtain a copy of the Cover Sheet, you may download a copy of this Order as follows:

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A. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Adopted Orders Web page

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\_decisions/adopted\_orders/401\_wqcerts/)

**B.** Find your Order based on the County, Permittee, WDID No., and/or Project Name.

#### II. Report Submittal Instructions

- A. Check the box on the Report and Notification Cover Sheet next to the report or notification you are submitting. (See your Order for specific reports required for your Project)
  - Part A (Monthly & Annual Reports): These reports will be submitted monthly and annually until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued.
  - Part B (Project Status Notifications): Used to notify the Central Valley Water Board of the status of the Project schedule that may affect Project billing.
  - Part C (Conditional Notifications and Reports): Required on a case by case basis for accidental discharges of hazardous materials, violation of compliance with water quality standards, notification of in-water work, or other reports.
- **B.** Sign the Report and Notification Cover Sheet and attach all information requested for the Report Type.
- **C.** Electronic Report Submittal Instructions:
  - Submit signed Report and Notification Cover Sheet and required information via email to: <u>centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov</u> and cc: <u>Nicholas.White@waterboards.ca.gov</u>
  - Include in the subject line of the email:
     ATTN: Nicholas White; Project Name; and WDID No. 5B50CR00097

# **III. Definition of Reporting Terms**

A. <u>Active Discharge Period</u>: The active discharge period begins with the effective date of this Order and ends on the date that the Permittee receives a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter or, if no post-construction monitoring is required, a Notice of Project Complete Letter. The Active Discharge Period includes all elements of the Project including site construction and restoration, and any Permittee responsible compensatory mitigation construction.

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- **B.** Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter: This request by the Permittee to the Central Valley Water Board staff pertains to projects that have post construction monitoring requirements, e.g. if site restoration was required to be monitored for 5 years following construction. Central Valley Water Board staff will review the request and send a Completion of Discharges Letter to the Permittee upon approval. This letter will initiate the post-discharge monitoring period and a change in fees from the annual active discharge fee to the annual post-discharge monitoring fee.
- C. Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter: This request by the Permittee to the Central Valley Water Board staff pertains to projects that either have completed post-construction monitoring and achieved performance standards or have no post-construction monitoring requirements, and no further Project activities are planned. Central Valley Water Board staff will review the request and send a Project Complete Letter to the Permittee upon approval. Termination of annual invoicing of fees will correspond with the date of this letter.
- D. <u>Post-Discharge Monitoring Period</u>: The post-discharge monitoring period begins on the date of the Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter and ends on the date of the Notice of Project Complete Letter issued by the Central Valley Water Board staff. The Post-Discharge Monitoring Period includes continued water quality monitoring or compensatory mitigation monitoring.
- E. Effective Date: 11 December 2020

#### IV. Map/Photo Documentation Information

When submitting maps or photos, please use the following formats.

### A. Map Format Information:

Preferred map formats of at least 1:24000 (1" = 2000') detail (listed in order of preference):

 GIS shapefiles: The shapefiles must depict the boundaries of all project areas and extent of aquatic resources impacted. Each shape should be attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. Features and boundaries should be accurate to within 33 feet (10 meters). Identify datum/projection used and if possible, provide map with a North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) in the California Teale Albers projection in feet. Google KML files saved from Google Maps: My Maps or Google Earth Pro.
Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of
aquatic resources impacted. Include URL(s) of maps. If this format is used
include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of
aquatic resources impacted.

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- Other electronic format (CAD or illustration format) that provides a context for location (inclusion of landmarks, known structures, geographic coordinates, or USGS DRG or DOQQ). Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
- Aquatic resource maps marked on paper USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps or Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quads (DOQQ) printouts. Maps must show the boundaries of all project areas and extent/type of aquatic resources impacted. If this format is used include a spreadsheet with the object ID and attributed with the extent/type of aquatic resources impacted.
- **B.** <u>Photo-Documentation:</u> Include a unique identifier, date stamp, written description of photo details, and latitude/longitude (in decimal degrees) or map indicating location of photo. Successive photos should be taken from the same vantage point to compare pre/post construction conditions.

V. Report and Notification Cover Sheet Project: Bobcat Flat Phase III Floodplain and Channel Restoration Project Permittee: **Tuolumne River Conservancy** WDID: 5B50CR00097 Reg. Meas. ID: 440563 Place ID: 869183 Order Effective Date: 11 December 2020 Order Expiration Date: 10 December 2025 VI. Report Type Submitted A. Part A - Project Reporting Report Type 1 ☐ Monthly Report Report Type 2 ☐ Annual Report B. Part B - Project Status Notifications ☐ Commencement of Construction Report Type 3 Report Type 4 ☐ Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter Report Type 5 ☐ Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter C. Part C – Conditional Notifications and Reports ☐ Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report Report Type 6 Report Type 7 ☐ Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report Report Type 8 ☐ In-Water Work/Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report Report Type 9 ☐ Modifications to Project Report

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Report Type 10 ☐ Transfer of Property Ownership Report

Report Type 11 ☐ Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report

Bobcat Flat Phase III Floodplain and Channel Restoration Project Attachment D

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

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Print Name <sup>1</sup>	Affiliation and Job Title
Signature	Date
<sup>1</sup> STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION (include if authorization has changed since application was submitted)	
	to act in my behalf as my representative nish upon request, supplemental information in
Permittee's Signature	Date

\*This Report and Notification Cover Sheet must be signed by the Permittee or a duly authorized representative and included with all written submittals.

# A. Part A - Project Reporting

# 1. Report Type 1 - Monthly Report

**a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of the Project status and environmental compliance activities on a monthly basis.

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**b. When to Submit** - On the 15th day of each month after the submittal of the Commencement of Construction Notification until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued to the Permittee.

# c. Report Contents -

#### i. Construction Summary

Describe Project progress and schedule including initial ground disturbance, site clearing and grubbing, road construction, site construction, and the implementation status of construction storm water Best Management Practices (BMPs). Best Management Practices (BMPs) is a term used to describe a type of water pollution or environmental control If construction has not started, provide estimated start date.

### ii. Event Summary

Describe distinct Project activities and occurrences, including environmental monitoring, surveys, and inspections.

#### iii. Photo Summary

Provide photos of Project activities. For each photo, include a unique site identifier, date stamp, written description of photo details, and latitude/longitude (in decimal degrees) or map indicating location of photo. Successive photos should be taken from the same vantage point to compare pre/post construction conditions.

# iv. Compliance Summary

- List name and organization of environmental surveyors, monitors, and inspectors involved with monitoring environmental compliance for the reporting period.
- List associated monitoring reports for the reporting period.
- Summarize observed incidences of non-compliance, compliance issues, minor problems, or occurrences.
- Describe each observed incidence in detail. List monitor name and organization, date, location, type of incident, corrective action taken (if any), status, and resolution.

# 2. Report Type 2 - Annual Report

a. Report Purpose - Notify the Central Valley Water Board staff of Project status during both the active discharge and post-discharge monitoring periods.

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- b. When to Submit Annual reports shall be submitted each year on the 1st day of December. Annual reports shall continue until a Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued to the Permittee.
- c. Report Contents The contents of the annual report shall include the topics indicated below for each project period. Report contents are outlined in Annual Report Topics below.

#### **During the Active Discharge Period**

- Topic 1: Construction Summary
- Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status
- Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status

### **During the Post-Discharge Monitoring Period**

- Topic 2: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status
- Topic 3: Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status
- i. Annual Report Topic 1 Construction Summary

**When to Submit -** With the annual report during the Active Discharge Period.

**Report Contents -** Project progress and schedule including initial ground disturbance, site clearing and grubbing, road construction, site construction, and the implementation status of construction storm water best management practices (BMPs). If construction has not started, provide estimated start date and reasons for delay.

- 1) Map showing general Project progress.
- 2) If applicable:
  - a) Summary of Conditional Notification and Report Types 6 and 7 (Part C below).
  - b) Summary of Certification Deviations. See Certification Deviation Attachment for further information.
- ii. Annual Report Topic 2 Mitigation for Temporary Impacts Status

**When to Submit -** With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.

#### **Report Contents -**

 Planned date of initiation and map showing locations of mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and all upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.

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- 2) If mitigation for temporary impacts has already commenced, provide a map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the restoration plan.
- iii. Annual Report Topic 3 Compensatory Mitigation for Permanent Impacts Status

**When to Submit -** With the annual report during both the Active Discharge Period and Post-Discharge Monitoring Period.

## Report Contents - \*If not applicable report N/A.

#### 1) Part A. Permittee Responsible

- a) Planned date of initiation of compensatory mitigation site installation.
- b) If installation is in progress, a map of what has been completed to date.
- c) If the compensatory mitigation site has been installed, provide a final map and information concerning attainment of performance standards contained in the compensatory mitigation plan.

## 2) Part B. Mitigation Bank or In-Lieu Fee

- a) Status or proof of purchase of credit types and quantities.
- b) Include the name of bank/ILF Program and contact information.
- c) If ILF, location of project and type if known.

# B. Part B - Project Status Notifications

#### 1. Report Type 3 - Commencement of Construction

- **a. Report Purpose** Notify Central Valley Water Board staff prior to the start of construction.
- **b. When to Submit** Must be received at least seven (7) days prior to start of initial ground disturbance activities.

#### c. Report Contents -

- i. Date of commencement of construction.
- ii. Anticipated date when discharges to waters of the state will occur.
- iii. Project schedule milestones including a schedule for onsite compensatory mitigation, if applicable.

- iv. Construction Storm Water General Permit WDID No.
- v. Proof of purchase of compensatory mitigation for permanent impacts from the mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program.

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### 2. Report Type 4 - Request for Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter

- a. Report Purpose Notify Central Valley Water Board staff that postconstruction monitoring is required and that active Project construction, including any mitigation and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation, is complete.
- **b. When to Submit** Must be received by Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project construction activities.

# c. Report Contents -

- i. Status of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.
- ii. Status of post-construction storm water BMP installation.
- iii. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all Project activity sites where the discharge of dredge and/or fill/excavation was authorized.
- iv. Summary of Certification Deviation discharge quantities compared to initial authorized impacts to waters of the state, if applicable.
- v. An updated monitoring schedule for mitigation for temporary impacts to waters of the state and permittee responsible compensatory mitigation during the post-discharge monitoring period, if applicable.

# 3. Report Type 5 - Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter

- a. Report Purpose Notify Central Valley Water Board staff that construction and/or any post-construction monitoring is complete, or is not required, and no further Project activity is planned.
- **b. When to Submit** Must be received by Central Valley Water Board staff within thirty (30) days following completion of all Project activities.

#### c. Report Contents -

- i. Part A: Mitigation for Temporary Impacts
  - A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for Project site upland areas of temporary disturbance which could result in a discharge to waters of the state.
  - A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the restoration plan have been met for restored areas of temporary impacts to waters of the state. Pre- and post-photo documentation of all restoration sites.

- ii. Part B: Permittee Responsible Compensatory Mitigation
  - 1) A report establishing that the performance standards outlined in the compensatory mitigation plan have been met.

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- 2) Status on the implementation of the long-term maintenance and management plan and funding of endowment.
- 3) Pre- and post-photo documentation of all compensatory mitigation sites.
- 4) Final maps of all compensatory mitigation areas (including buffers).
- iii. Part C: Post-Construction Storm Water BMPs and Monitoring
  - 1) Date of storm water Notice of Termination(s), if applicable.
  - 2) Report status and functionality of all post-construction BMPs.
  - 3) Dates and report of visual post-construction inspection during the rainy season as indicated in XIV.C.4.

#### C. Part C – Conditional Notifications and Reports

- 1. Report Type 6 Accidental Discharge of Hazardous Material Report
  - **a. Report Purpose** Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff that an accidental discharge of hazardous material has occurred.
  - **b. When to Submit** Within five (5) working days of notification to the Central Valley Water Board of an accidental discharge. Continue reporting as required by Central Valley Water Board staff.
  - c. Report Contents
    - i. The report shall include the OES Incident/Assessment Form, a full description and map of the accidental discharge incident (i.e. location, time and date, source, discharge constituent and quantity, aerial extent, and photo documentation). If applicable, the OES Written Follow-Up Report may be substituted.
    - ii. If applicable, any required sampling data, a full description of the sampling methods including frequency/dates and times of sampling, equipment, locations of sampling sites.
    - iii. Locations and construction specifications of any barriers, including silt curtains or diverting structures, and any associated trenching or anchoring.

# 2. Report Type 7 - Violation of Compliance with Water Quality Standards Report

**a. Report Purpose** - Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff that a violation of compliance with water quality standards has occurred.

**b. When to Submit** - The Permittee shall report any event that causes a violation of water quality standards within three (3) working days of the noncompliance event notification to Central Valley Water Board staff.

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c. Report Contents - The report shall include: the cause; the location shown on a map; and the period of the noncompliance including exact dates and times. If the noncompliance has not been corrected, include: the anticipated time it is expected to continue; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and any monitoring results if required by Central Valley Water Board staff.

# 3. Report Type 8 - In-Water Work and Diversions Water Quality Monitoring Report

- a. Report Purpose Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of the start and completion of in-water work. Reports the sampling results during inwater work and during the entire duration of temporary surface water diversions.
- b. When to Submit At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of inwater work. Within three (3) working days following the completion of inwater work. Surface water monitoring reports to be submitted two (2) weeks on initiation of in-water construction and during entire duration of temporary surface water diversions. Continue reporting in accordance with the approved water quality monitoring plan or as indicated in XIV.C.3.
- **c. Report Contents** As required by the approved water quality monitoring plan or as indicated in XIV.C.3.

# 4. Report Type 9 - Modifications to Project Report

- **a. Report Purpose** Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff if the Project, as described in the application materials, is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
- **b. When to Submit** If Project implementation as described in the application materials is altered in any way or by the imposition of subsequent permit conditions by any local, state or federal regulatory authority.
- **c. Report Contents** A description and location of any alterations to Project implementation. Identification of any Project modifications that will interfere with the Permittee's compliance with the Order.

## 5. Report Type 10 - Transfer of Property Ownership Report

- **a. Report Purpose** Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of change in ownership of the Project or Permittee-responsible mitigation area.
- **b. When to Submit -** At least 10 days prior to the transfer of ownership.

# c. Report Contents -

i. A statement that the Permittee has provided the purchaser with a copy of this Order and that the purchaser understands and accepts:

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- the Order's requirements and the obligation to implement them or be subject to administrative and/or civil liability for failure to do so; and
- responsibility for compliance with any long-term BMP maintenance plan requirements in this Order. Best Management Practices (BMPs) is a term used to describe a type of water pollution or environmental control
- ii. A statement that the Permittee has informed the purchaser to submit a written request to the Central Valley Water Board to be named as the permittee in a revised order.

### 6. Report Type 11 - Transfer of Long-Term BMP Maintenance Report

- **a. Report Purpose** Notifies Central Valley Water Board staff of transfer of long-term BMP maintenance responsibility.
- **b. When to Submit** At least 10 days prior to the transfer of BMP maintenance responsibility.
- **c. Report Contents** A copy of the legal document transferring maintenance responsibility of post-construction BMPs.

# **SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS**

All Documents submitted in compliance with this Order shall meet the following signatory requirements:

**A.** All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) must be signed and certified as follows:

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- **1.** For a corporation, by a responsible corporate officer of at least the level of vice-president.
- **2.** For a partnership or sole proprietorship, by a general partner or proprietor, respectively.
- **3.** For a municipality, or a state, federal, or other public agency, by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
- **B.** A duly authorized representative of a person designated in items 1.a through 1.c above may sign documents if:
  - **1.** The authorization is made in writing by a person described in items 1.a through 1.c above.
  - **2.** The authorization specifies either an individual or position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated activity.
  - **3.** The written authorization is submitted to the Central Valley Water Board Staff Contact prior to submitting any documents listed in item 1 above.
- **C.** Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

# **CERTIFICATION DEVIATION PROCEDURES**

#### I. Introduction

These procedures are put into place to preclude the need for Order amendments for minor changes in the Project routing or location. Minor changes or modifications in project activities are often required by the Permittee following start of construction. These deviations may potentially increase or decrease impacts to waters of the state. In such cases, a Certification Deviation, as defined in Section L of the Order, may be requested by the Permittee as set forth below:

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# **II. Process Steps**

- **A.** Who may apply: The Permittee or the Permittee's duly authorized representative or agent (hereinafter, "Permittee") for this Order.
- **B.** How to apply: By letter or email to the 401 staff designated as the contact for this Order.
- C. <u>Certification Deviation Request:</u> The Permittee will request verification from the Central Valley Water Board staff that the project change qualifies as a Certification Deviation, as opposed to requiring an amendment to the Order. The request should:
  - 1. Describe the Project change or modification:
    - a. Proposed activity description and purpose;
    - b. Why the proposed activity is considered minor in terms of impacts to waters of the state and the environment;
    - c. How the Project activity is currently addressed in the Order; and,
    - d. Why a Certification Deviation is necessary for the Project.
  - 2. Describe location (latitude/longitude coordinates), the date(s) it will occur, as well as associated impact information (i.e., temporary or permanent, federal or non-federal jurisdiction, water body name/type, estimated impact area, etc.) and minimization measures to be implemented.
  - 3. Provide all updated environmental survey information for the new impact area.
  - 4. Provide a map that includes the activity boundaries with photos of the site.
  - 5. Provide verification of any mitigation needed according to the Order conditions.
  - 6. Provide verification from the CEQA Lead Agency that the proposed changes or modifications do not trigger the need for a subsequent environmental document, an addendum to the environmental document, or a supplemental EIR. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15162-15164.)

# D. Post-Discharge Certification Deviation Reporting:

 Within 30 calendar days of completing the approved Certification Deviation activity, the Permittee will provide a post-discharge activity report that includes the following information:

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- a. Activity description and purpose;
- b. Activity location, start date, and completion date;
- c. Erosion control and pollution prevention measures applied;
- d. The net change in impact area by water body type(s) in acres, linear feet and cubic yards;
- e. Mitigation plan, if applicable; and,
- f. Map of activity location and boundaries; post-construction photos.

# E. Annual Summary Deviation Report:

- 1. Until a Notice of Completion of Discharges Letter or Notice of Project Complete Letter is issued, include in the Annual Project Report (see Construction Notification and Reporting attachment) a compilation of all Certification Deviation activities through the reporting period with the following information:
  - a. Site name(s);
  - b. Date(s) of Certification Deviation approval;
  - c. Location(s) of authorized activities;
  - d. Impact area(s) by water body type prior to activity in acres, linear feet and cubic yards, as originally authorized in the Order;
  - e. Actual impact area(s) by water body type in, acres, linear feet and cubic yards, due to Certification Deviation activity(ies);
  - f. The net change in impact area by water body type(s) in acres, linear feet and cubic yards; and
  - g. Mitigation to be provided (approved mitigation ratio and amount).