
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

21 April 2026

Keith Stone
Sequoia National Forest, Kern Ranger District
11380 Kernville Rd.
Kernville, CA 93238

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER SB12006GN,
AMENDED ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 GENERAL WATER
QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR SMALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS,
JACKASS MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT (WDID# 5C54CR00173),
TULARE COUNTY**

On 3 March 2026, the Sequoia National Forest, Kern Ranger District submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order No. SB12006GN, Amended Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 General Water Quality Certification for Small Habitat Restoration Projects.

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

A copy of [Order SB12006GN](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/hrpcert032713.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/generalorders/hrpcert032713.pdf) can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board's General Orders webpage and is enclosed.

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Project consists of restoring wet meadow and stream channel hydrologic and geomorphic function through low-tech process-based restoration. The goal is to enhance wetland and riverine habitat, increase floodplain connectivity, raise groundwater levels, and reverse incision trends in Jackass Creek.

Project elements that affect aquatic resources include installation of approximately 51 biogenic habitat structures such as beaver dam analogs (BDAs) and post-assisted log

structures (PALS) within Jackass Creek. These structures are constructed by hand crews using hand tools only (chainsaws, saws, loppers, shovels, sledgehammers). All materials (conifer, sagebrush, willow, and site-sourced sediment) will be locally harvested. No machinery or staging areas are required; access is via existing Forest Service roads with walk-in entry. The structures are designed to mimic natural beaver dams and wood accumulations, slowing water, promoting overbank flow, and initiating floodplain aggradation processes. The BDAs and PALS will be field-fitted based on actual channel conditions at the time of construction. Field crews will adjust the number, spacing, crest elevation, and sizing of structures to match local topography, hydrology, and geomorphic objectives.

The Project will permanently impact 0.06 acre/167.3 linear feet of stream channel. Approximately 32 acres of meadow (wetland) will be re-established due to the restoration of hydrologic and geomorphic functions of the meadow.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The Project is located at Jackass Meadow within the Sequia National Forest. The approximate center of the Project area is located at latitude 36.09409 Degrees and longitude -118.22763 Degrees.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

The Project is scheduled to begin construction September 2026 and end November 2028. Construction will occur during low-flow summer months, when in-channel conditions are suitable for hand-built restoration work.

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED:

Federal dischargers involved in Dredge and Fill Operations only are not subject to permit fees as required by Section 3833(b)(3)(A) and Section 2200(a)(4) of the California Code of Regulations.

NOTICE OF COMPLETION:

Upon completion of the Project, you shall submit a Notice of Completion (NOC) no later than 30 days after Project completion. The NOC shall demonstrate the Project was carried out in accordance with the Project description, include a map of the Project location with final boundaries of the restoration area, and include post-project photographs. More information on the NOC is listed in section B.6 of the Order.

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Brandon Salazar by phone at (559) 445-6278 or by email at Brandon.Salazar@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original signed by Alex S. Mushegan

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

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

cc: [Via email only]

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Appendix A – Project Map

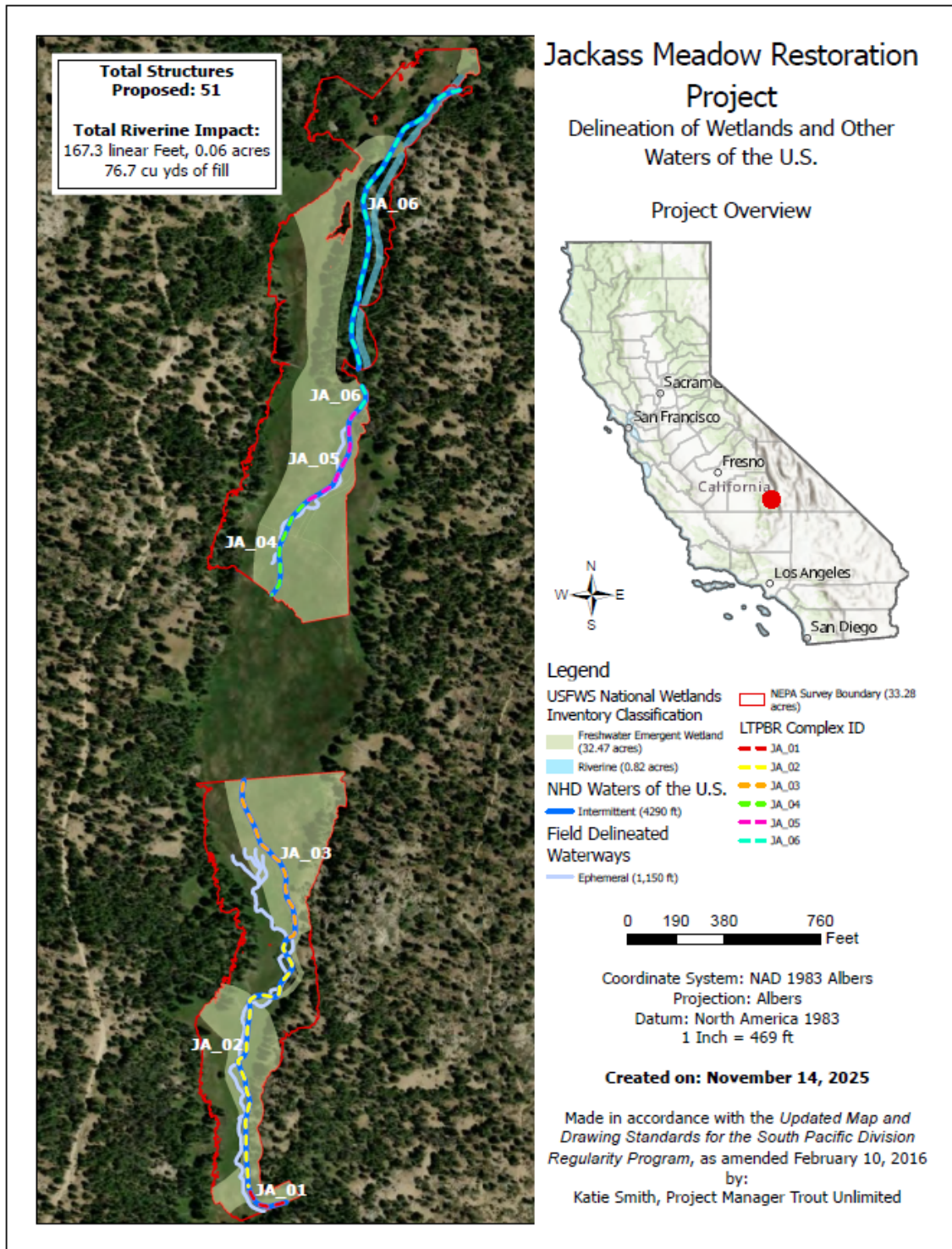


Figure 1: Project Impact Map