



Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

Certified Mail: **9589 0710 5270 1144 3083 25**

November 6, 2024

Jim Dominique, Project Manager
Colorado River Community Association (CRCA)
1658 Riviera Drive
Blythe, CA 92225
Hostvendinginc@gmail.com

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY FOR COVERAGE UNDER ORDER WQ 2021-0048-DWQ, GENERAL ORDER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION ACTION, CRCA RIVIERA DRIVE CLEAN UP PROJECT (WDID 7B333042001), RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Dear Mr. Dominique,

On September 5, 2024, the Colorado River Community Association (CRCA or Discharger) submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll under and comply with State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ, *General Order for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Action* (General Order). CRCA has applied for a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit 3(a) (NWP 3(a)), for activities required for the Riviera Drive Clean Up (Project). This requires a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification by the state. The General Order is a statewide order pre-certifying NWP 3(a) Projects.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) has reviewed your enrollment materials and finds that the dredge or fill discharges associated with the Project meet the requirements for enrollment. You are hereby enrolled under the General Order and may proceed with the Project in accordance therewith.

A copy of the General Order is attached to this notice. The General Order can also be found on the State Water Board's Adopted Orders webpage at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/docs/2021/certification-denial-corps-nationwide-permit-project-general-order-10122021.pdf

PETER SATIN, CHAIR | MICHAEL PLACENCIA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Please familiarize yourself with the requirements of the General Order. You are responsible for complying with all applicable requirements. Failure to comply with the General Order constitutes a violation of the California Water Code and may result in enforcement action or termination of enrollment under the General Order.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION, IMPACTS, AND MITIGATION

The CRCA will perform maintenance in a backwater channel adjacent to the Colorado River to restore wet season water flow and provide recreational access from private docks and a community boat ramp. Overgrown vegetation near the banks will be cleared and accumulated sediment from the center of the channel and outlet will be moved back to its original location near the shorelines to allow boats to launch, navigate, and exit the channel safely. Approximately 0.2 acres of temporary impacts to Waters of the U.S. will occur due to the maintenance work.

Site access and staging will occur on existing roadways outside any waters. Living vegetation will be allowed to regrow naturally so no reseeded will be required. The topography of the channel bed and banks will be restored to original conditions.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Project site is located along Riviera Drive, approximately 1.6 miles south of Interstate 10 and the City of Blythe, Riverside County, California, 92225.

The latitude and longitude of impacted sites are listed below in Table 1. Maps showing the Project locations and areas of impacted waters are found in Attachment A: Project Maps.

Site	Latitude	Longitude
1	33.58308° N	114.54370° W

Table 1. Project site location

APPLICATION FEE RECEIVED

A check in the amount of \$3,384 was received on September 5, 2024, for payment of the application fee (\$2,985) and a portion of the project fee (\$399 of a total project fee of \$2,337 based on total Project impacts). The payment of the remaining project fee (\$1,938) was received on October 28, 2024. Fee amounts were determined as required by California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Sections 3833(b)(3) and 2200(a)(3) and were calculated as Category A - Fill & Excavation Discharges (Fee Code 84) with the FY 23/24 Dredge and Fill Fee Calculator.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The Colorado River Basin Water Board has determined that the Project is exempt from the procedural requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061) under a Class 4 categorical exemption (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15304 et seq.). Class 4 categorical exemptions consist of "minor public or private

alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes.”

The Colorado River Basin Water Board concludes that the enrollment of this Project and the activities described herein meet the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) and no exceptions to the exemption apply (Pub. Resources Code, § 21084; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15300.2).

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Project at the State Clearinghouse (SCH) within five (5) working days of issuance of this General Order (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15062).

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES

The Discharger must implement the measures identified in the Restoration Plan submitted with the Project NOI, as well as comply with all applicable conditions in the General Order.

TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

Upon completion of the Project, CRCA shall submit a Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter notifying Water Board staff that all Project activities are complete and requesting to be disenrolled from the General Order. Requirements for the content of the Request for Notice of Project Complete Letter are detailed in Attachment B and Section VI.E of the General Order.

If you require further assistance, please contact Logan Raub, 401 Water Quality Certification Program Manager via phone at (760) 776-8966 or email at Logan.Raub@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Michael Placencia
Executive Officer
Colorado River Basin
Regional Water Quality Control Board

Enclosures: 1) Attachment A Project Maps
2) State Water Board Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ

AD/

File: WDID: 7B333042001, RM: 458625, Place ID: 896757, CRCA Riviera Drive Clean Up Project, Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ

cc: [via email only] (with enclosures):

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Attachment A
Project Maps



Figure 1. General vicinity of the Project site.¹

¹ Figures and photos submitted by CRCA with the Notice of Intent (NOI) and supporting documents for the CRCA Riviera Drive Clean Up Project received by the Regional Water Board on September 5, 2024.



CRCA - Riviera Drive Clean Up Project

100 ft

Temporary impact area (0.2 acres)



Figure 2. Temporary impact area.



Figure 3. Aerial image of the Project area (view south).



Figure 4. Aerial image of temporary impact area showing locations of Project activities.

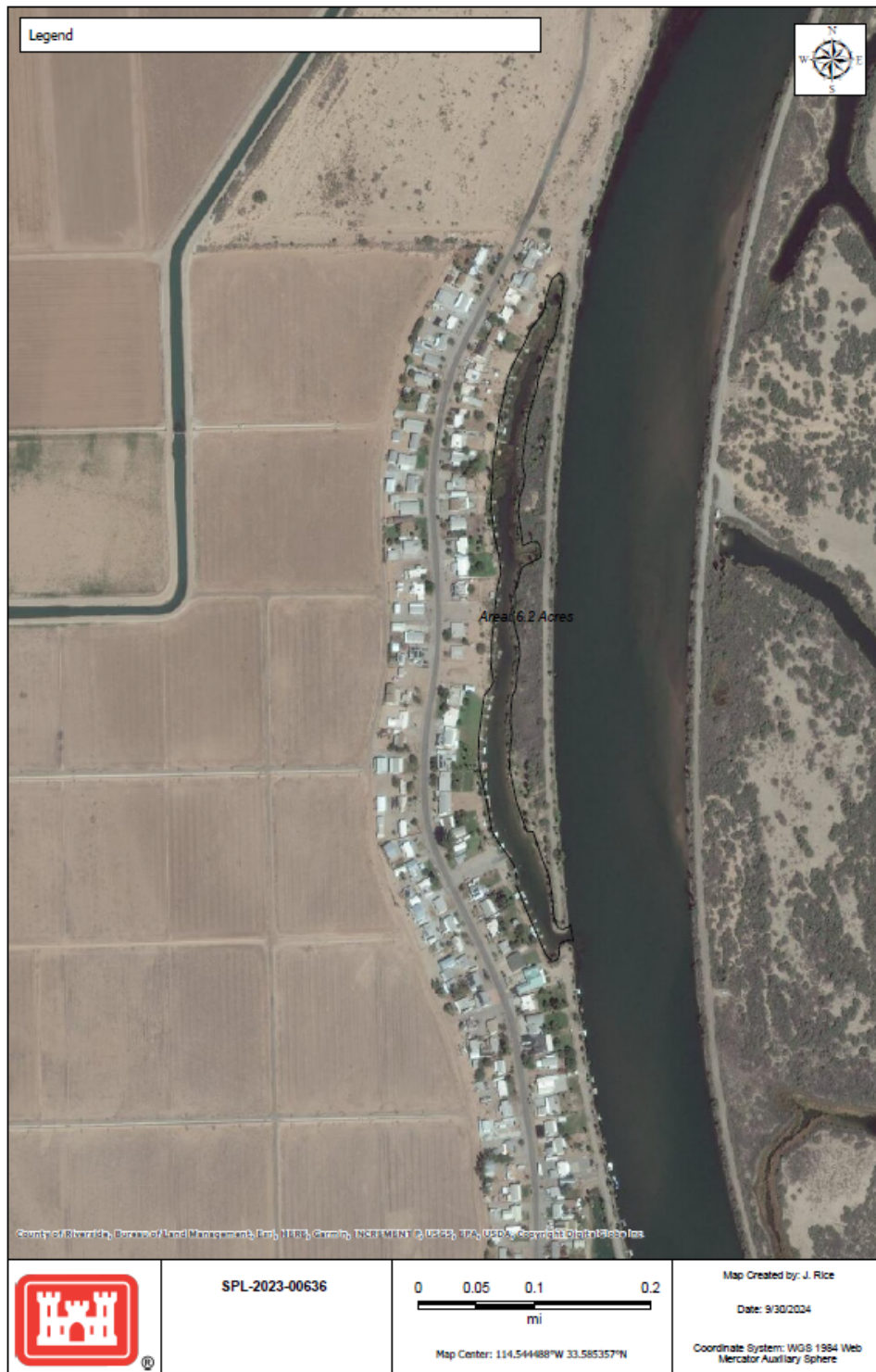


Figure 5. Waters of the U.S. in the Project area.

State Water Board Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ

A copy of Order WQ 2021-0048-DWQ can be found on the State Water Board's Adopted Orders webpage at:

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